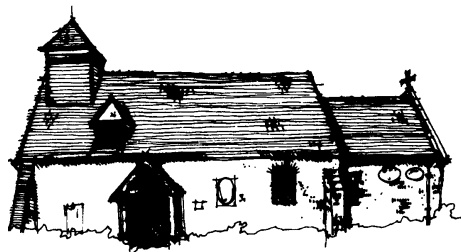


Five Alive!



A Monthly Magazine

for the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge,
Braishfield, Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne June

June 2021

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BRAISHFIELD

including the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge, Braishfield,
Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne

Rector: Vacant

Associate Priest: Revd Jane Thompson 01794 502035

Jane.Thompson@me.com

Hon. Assistant Priest: The Very Revd. Trevor Beeson

Church Wardens

Awbridge	Mr Fred Tucker	01794 340709
	Mrs. Mary Savage	01794 367908
Braishfield	Mr. Andrew Brooks	01794 523928
	Miss Sarah Boothman	01794 368143
Farley Chamberlayne	Mr. Iain Chisholm	01794 368250
	Miss Hannah Boothman	01794 368143
Michelmersh	Mrs. Clare Harvey	01794 368789
	Mr. Peter Hill	01794 523364
Timsbury	Mrs. Catherine Baker	01794 368364
	Dr. John Glasspool	01794 368017

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Benefice Administrator: Sarah Boothman

Items for 5 Alive

may be sent to Sarah at the
Benefice Office by post or
email.

**Deadline for
next edition**

Monday 21st June

next edition
of Five Alive
will be available by
Sunday 27th June

New beginnings!

New beginnings are all around us: the winning combination of sun and rain has taken over from drought and frost and creation has sprung into life. It has been a strange spring but summer is on its way; unlocking is happening and, now that we can have six people indoors, across the country families are being reunited while, here in our Benefice, after a two-year vacancy, we have a new rector on his way! The excitement is palpable and the anticipation is building for the next phase of growing our church-life together.

However, there are plenty of things that aren't changing... and one of them is that I'm not going anywhere! I love being part of the team here in our Benefice, and the commitment I made to God, with you, at my licensing as Associate Priest eighteen months ago, has not changed. A big thank you to everyone for making me feel so much part of team, for your constant support and effusive thanks. Some have kindly asked if I would consider applying for the position of Benefice Rector; it is certainly something that I thought about - briefly - but for a number of reasons it very quickly didn't feel like God was calling me to that role, and now, with Tom's appointment, I am absolutely certain that this was the right decision. God guides in a number of ways and, in this instance, one of the many reasons that it wasn't the right thing for us as a Benefice, is that *if* I had been the successful candidate, then we wouldn't have grown our team! We have so much to do, so many people to be alongside, so many to tell about Jesus through the way we live our lives and sharing our experiences, there are so many wonderful people doing so much... that we need to be looking to grow our team, not just the same team with different roles! And... a team with two clergy has to be better than one?!

Summer is approaching and this post-Pentecost time of year that the church calendar calls 'Ordinary Time'. 'Ordinary Time' might have a slightly boring ring to it - but far from it! Newly empowered with the Holy Spirit the church began to grow, in fact it mushroomed! And for us too, filled with the Holy Spirit, ordinary time is never boring, never ordinary... in fact the opposite, it is dynamic, it is exciting. God is at work in us and in the world; God is at work in the church and in people from all four corners of the earth.

During June our daily emails will be thinking about this generosity of God to us: the gift of the planet, the gift of the church, of one another, of the Holy Spirit at work, of the love of the Father, the friendship of Jesus, of all that we have and all that we can do. In response there is so much to

be thankful for, for us to be generous with. Each day of June we will explore the theme a little further - under the title *Generous June*.

Following Generous June it feels the right time to draw our daily emails to a close and reduce to a weekly one. Life is opening up, we can meet again in church, we can visit one another in our homes and we will be welcoming couples for their weddings and families for baptism. But, although life is starting to fill up with lots happening, it would be a shame if we lost the momentum many of us have gained from taking time each day to reflect on scripture and worship through art and music. I would like to draw up a resource list of all the sources we collectively use or have found useful for a daily time of quiet. They don't need to be long or anything else - just something that has touched you and I will share the list anonymously next month.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon, in church or at the Benefice picnic, (see p6) if not before!

Jane

(Revd Jane Thompson, Associate Priest)

As Jane has mentioned, we have good news to share: the Rev Tom Benson has accepted the post of Rector! We hope it will be possible for him to be licensed towards the end of July so that he can begin work in August, but the exact date has yet to be confirmed by the diocese. More news when we have it.

A message from Rev Tom Benson:

Hello everyone,

Even though there is a little while before we get to meet each other in person, I thought I would drop you a line to introduce myself as your new Rector. Starting at the beginning as it were, I am originally from Derbyshire where I trained as a psychiatric nurse before moving to Devon in 1995. I am married to Maryanne and we have four grown-up children, a cat and two chinchillas. We are country folk at heart, having been fortunate enough to live in both Exmoor and Dartmoor and are really looking forward to exploring Hampshire. We are now just realising how much clutter we have to sort out before we move over to you around mid July.

I was ordained deacon in 2009, served my curacy in North Devon and I am currently the Team Rector in the Dart and Avon Mission Community in South Devon where we have been for the past 9 years.

That's all for now, so if you see a slightly puzzled stranger in your midst over the next few months be kind to him because it will probably be me.

God Bless,

Tom

Back into church again!

A bright sunny morning welcomed those who attended the first service to be held in All Saints, Braishfield on Sunday, 25th April since Covid closure in early January. The Reverend Kelvin Taylor held Holy Communion and everyone gave thanks to the Lord and his son, Jesus Christ. The All Saints annual PCC meeting followed in the church afterwards to hear the last year reports and elect officers and council for the ensuing year.

Our Associate Priest, Jane Thompson, deserves much praise and thanks for helping to keep so many of us together within the 5 parishes in worship via ZOOM and is continuing to do so via ZOOM on the 1st and 5th Sunday every month until further notice.



Stephen Treglown

LINK for all our benefice Zoom services and events on line

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82198001568?pwd=UUFzSDVBTGVweTVNQk82d3JrUCs5UT09>

Meeting ID: 821 9800 1568

Passcode: 021153



Braishfield Benefice Picnic in Awbridge

Sunday 27 June 2021

**At the home of Lynda and Fred Tucker
Chanwel, Romsey Road,
Awbridge SO51 0HG**

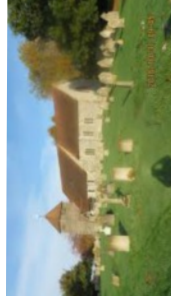


**All Welcome
Arrivals from 12 30pm.**

**Please bring your own picnic for yourself and your family including drinks
and something to sit on.**

There will be some chairs, marquee cover if needed and toilet facilities.

Parking is on site or along the road outside.



**No booking required,
if you need more information,
please ask *your* churchwardens.**

Dogs in church

Reading a book about sheep (as you do), I came across this little gem;

In the past, in many parts of Britain, shepherds' dogs often accompanied their master to church.

An Edinburgh minister was taking the service one Sunday in a remote country kirk where dogs formed a substantial part of the congregation. When the minister rose at the end of the service to pronounce the blessing, to his surprise, the congregation remained seated.

He looked around waiting for them to rise, but none moved. At length the clerk looked up from his desk below and shouted out that he shouldn't worry, it was just to cheat the dogs! Experience had told them that if the congregation stood, the dogs thought that the service had concluded and would get up to leave, disturbing the solemnity of the occasion with various noises, yawnings, scratchings and stretchings!

Sounds a bit like some of us!

Wendy Quarendon



If
the Earth were
only a few feet in diameter,
floating a few feet above a field
somewhere, people would come from
everywhere to marvel at it. People would walk
around it marveling at its big pools of water, its
little pools, and the water flowing between the pools.
People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes
in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer of gas
surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The
people would marvel at all the creatures walking around
the surface of the ball and at the creatures in the water.
The people would declare it as sacred because it was the
only one, and they would protect it so that it would not be
hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and
people would come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain
knowledge, to know beauty, and to wonder how it
could be. People would love it and defend it with
their lives because they would somehow know
that their lives, their own roundness,
could be nothing without it. If the
Earth were only a few feet in
diameter.

- Joe Miller, 1975

A reminder of how amazing the world we inhabit is. What a gift
God has given us!



Finding joy in God's creation: more care, less convenience

It's been said that the basics of reducing our environmental footprint are the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. But is this enough? To just cut down a bit, try to re-use the occasional bag or bottle, and recycle when we remember to?

The threats to our planet can be seen with our own eyes: plastic in the oceans, the loss of our garden insects and birds and the climate change which is disrupting weather patterns across the world.

A group of young people aged 14 - 19 have made a video with Tearfund - "Burning down the House". The young people challenge their parents' generation to be more aware of the damage that is being done to our earth.

One of the young men says : "We need more care - less convenience". www.greenchristian.org.uk has plenty of ideas to set us thinking about how we show concern and care for the environment as an expression of our Christian belief.

Generous June

A new initiative that seeks to engage churches, communities and individuals with generosity throughout the month of June. Check out <https://www.generousjune.co.uk> to sign up for daily podcasts.



This has been developed through a partnership between the Diocese of Sheffield and the Diocese of Winchester

The pilot last year it was an inspirational encouragement to adopt a more generous life-style, as exemplified by Jesus in so many ways which might have passed us by; one which we have seen being modelled in many ways by the actions of people across communities during the pandemic. This year's podcasts, based on the message in 2 Corinthians, should be just as insightful. It's not about being generous with money, but if we can learn to live generously, we will want to give generously, too.

Michelmersh Prize Draw

May 2021 Winners

1st Prize Peta Hunt £51.80
2nd Prize Sue Phipp £25.90
3rd Prize Stuart Sachs £17.60

Contact Mr Peter Hill 01794 523364 or the Benefice Office if you would like to join in the monthly draw which raises funds for St Mary's PCC.

Giving to your church through the Parish Giving Scheme

Did you know you can now contact the Parish Giving Scheme directly on line? Go to www.parishgiving.org.uk and search in the "find your parish" section. You can set up regular giving, or if you already belong to the scheme, you will be able to set up access to your account so you can check on your donations and alter them as need be.

And a reminder to us all, in whatever way we give - if we intend our giving to remain static, not decrease, we actually need to increase it slightly each year - by a few pence in the pound!

From the Chairman

Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust

Lady Appleyard
Vine Cottage
Old Vicarage Lane
King's Somborne
SO20 6PZ

May 2021

www.hihct.org.uk

Dear Clergy, Churchwardens, PCC members and Parishioners

We would be delighted to welcome everyone from our churches in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to our livestreamed AGM at Winchester Cathedral on Tuesday 22 June at 7pm.

There is no sight of the viewers on livestream but they can watch the event as it happens from their homes. They cannot join in at any point. The livestreaming details are: <https://youtu.be/outK6f3koG4>


This is a wonderful and rare opportunity for us to show you what we do through Ride & Stride fund raising, how we hand out that funding, the churches that have benefited from our Grants and the extra financial benefit to churches who participate in Ride & Stride. Hampshire County Council also contribute £25,000 annually to our Grants funding.

We have some outstanding news to give all our churches this year, not only with the staggering amount raised despite COVID - our highest record ever - but over £10,000 more than in 2019! This means even more grant money for our beautiful churches. We also have Friends of our Trust to which many of our churches belong and for whom we organise various outings and events.

We normally have supper in the Cathedral after our AGM but not this year, hence my open invitation to join our livestreamed event. All this is achieved with few expenses as everyone involved in the Trust's work is a volunteer. It is great value for money and we are incredibly lucky to have this support!

With my very best wishes
Joan Appleyard
Chairman

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

A black and white photograph of Nelson Mandela speaking at a podium with two microphones. He is wearing a dark suit, a light blue shirt, and a patterned tie. The text 'THE LIFE & INFLUENCE of NELSON MANDELA' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

THE LIFE & INFLUENCE of NELSON MANDELA

An invitation to a fund-raising talk in aid of Alabaré

Dear Friends

Please join us for this fascinating online talk from Rev Colin Chambers, who was chaplain to Nelson Mandela for eight years on Robben Island. Colin is now an Alabaré chaplain, helping us to support veterans who have become homeless to rebuild their lives.

Colin will talk about Mandela, focussing particularly on forgiveness and reconciliation including an introduction to apartheid, and after his talk there will be an opportunity to ask questions through the Question and Answer facility.

**This event will be held via Zoom at 7pm
on Tuesday 8th June.**

The evening should provide fascinating insights into Nelson Mandela and life on Robben Island and it would be wonderful if you would promote this event to your congregation and those you feel might be interested.

The cost of a ticket to join the event is £15, and tickets can be bought by following the link on our website www.alabare.co.uk. Details on how to join the webinar will be sent to ticket holders a few days before the event.

More details can also be found by following the link above.

With many thanks for your support

With kind regards

Helen Inglis

Church Engagement Officer h.inglis@alabare.co.uk

Five Myths about modern Slavery in Rural Areas

Several months ago we printed an article on modern slavery. Here are some further thoughts.

Myth 1: Modern slavery is an urban thing.

Wrong! Modern slavery is present in all communities. In cities, when streets are full of people and activity, it can be hidden amongst the hustle and bustle. In rural areas, it is often hidden in remote locations, off the beaten track.

Myth 2: The only form of modern slavery in rural areas is forced labour

Wrong! Every form of modern slavery is possible in rural areas. Forced labour is common but so is sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and county lines. In fact, over the last few years, there has been a growing trend for criminal gangs to rent remote holiday cottages and turn them into “pop up brothels”, keeping women against their will and selling their services online.

Myth 3: Forced labour is only present on farms and in factories

Wrong! Labour exploitation is the second most common form of modern slavery in the UK and can occur in every sector and industry. It is particularly prevalent in the agriculture, horticulture, food processing and packaging, shellfish gathering, warehousing and logistics, beauty, hotels, catering, cleaning, construction, manufacturing, and car wash sectors.

Myth 4: If slaves are found in a business, it is the fault of the employer

Wrong! It can be extremely hard to spot signs of modern slavery and criminal exploiters go to great lengths to hide the evidence. They are extremely savvy and sometimes provide forged documents to get past reputable employers who are doing the appropriate checks. What's more, workers who are employed in lawful employment can still be subjected to exploitation outside of their working environment, in their home lives. That is why it is so important that employers know the signs to look out for.

Myth 5: There is nothing that can be done to prevent modern slavery in rural areas

Wrong! We all have a part to play in knowing what to look out for. Spotting signs of modern slavery and reporting suspicions to the Police could result in victims being rescued and criminal networks thwarted. Also, if employers know how to follow best practice recruitment policies and find licensed labour providers, they will be able to avoid traffickers and illegal labour providers.

The Rev'd Edwina Fennemore *Liaison Lead Against Modern Slavery,
Diocese of Portsmouth & Winchester*

TOGETHER IN Prayer

- We give thanks that we can look forward to the arrival of a new Rector, Rev Tom Benson
- We pray for Tom and his wife Maryanne and their family as they prepare to move to their new home with us
- We give thanks for the effectiveness of the continuing vaccination programme in our country, and for the tireless dedication of everyone working in the NHS to support our healthcare
- We pray for communities where there are still many cases of corona virus, and pray we may all be sensible and careful as we are able to mix more freely
- We pray for countries where cases are high and health services are struggling to cope, and for the Covax programme
- We give thanks for creation and the beauty of God's world, for his generous gifts to mankind
- We pray for a growing understanding of how we can care for the environment and a deeper commitment to make changes which will make a difference to the lives of those across the world who are most adversely affected by climate change
- We pray for peace in the Middle East
- And a prayer for our benefice:

God of love, who alone breathes life into your church,
send your Holy Spirit to give clarity in our thinking,
vision to our planning,
wisdom to our decisions and unity in all we do.
Help our churches
to grow in depth
and in love,
so that as we serve you our communities would see
your love at work.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Bible readings for Sunday 30th May - Sunday 4th July 2021

Trinity Sunday 30th May

Old Testament Isaiah 6.1-8

Epistle Romans 8.12-17

Gospel John 3.1-17

Psalm 29

Sunday 6th June - 1st Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Genesis 3.8-15

Epistle 2 Corinthians 4.13 – 5.1

Gospel Mark 3.20-end

Psalm 130

Sunday 13th June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Ezekiel 17.22-end

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5.6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Gospel Mark 4.26-34

Psalm 92.1-8

Sunday 20th June - 3rd Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Job 38.1-11

Epistle 2 Corinthians 6.1-13

Gospel Mark 4.35-41

Psalm 107.23-32

Sunday 27th June - 4th Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Lamentations 3.23-33

Epistle 2 Corinthians 8.7-end

Gospel Mark 5.21-end

Psalm 30

Sunday 4th July - 5th Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament Ezekiel 2.1-5

Epistle 2 Corinthians 12.2-10

Gospel Mark 6.1-13

Psalm 123

Services in the Benefice

For the moment, we will continue to worship on Zoom on the 1st Sunday of each month, and the 5th Sunday should there be one.

TRINITY SUNDAY 30th MAY and

SUNDAY 6th June - 1st SUNDAY after TRINITY

10.00am **WORSHIP ON ZOOM** (link - see P.5)

SUNDAY 13th JUNE - 2nd SUNDAY after TRINITY

9.30am	Awbridge	MORNING WORSHIP	CW	J.Bridger
9.30am	Braishfield	MORNING PRAYER	CW	A.Ashdown
11.00am	Timsbury	FAMILY SERVICE	CW	K.Taylor
6.00pm	Michelmersh	HOLY COMMUNION	CW	K.Taylor

SUNDAY 20th JUNE - 3rd SUNDAY after TRINITY

9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION	CW	K.Taylor
10.00am	Timsbury	HOLY COMMUNION	CW	J.Thompson
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	FAMILY SERVICE	CW	J.Thompson
6.00pm	Michelmersh	EVENING PRAYER	BCP	K.Taylor
6.00pm	Braishfield	EVENING PRAYER	BCP	J.Thompson

SUNDAY 27th JUNE - 4th SUNDAY after TRINITY

9.30am	Awbridge	FAMILY WORSHIP with baptism	CW	J.Thompson
9.30am	Braishfield	HOLY COMMUNION	CW	K.Taylor
11.15am	Farley Chamberlayne	MORNING PRAYER	BCP	K.Taylor
6.00pm	Timsbury	EVENING PRAYER	BCP	J.Thompson

SUNDAY 4th JULY - 5th SUNDAY after TRINITY -

if worship is held in our churches. The service may be on Zoom at 10.00am.
Keep an eye out for confirmation.

9.30am	Awbridge	HOLY COMMUNION	CW
9.30am	Braishfield	FAMILY SERVICE	CW
10.00am	Michelmersh (<i>and Timsbury</i>)	MORNING WORSHIP	CW
6.00pm	Farley Chamberlayne	EVENING PRAYER	BCP

Updated information on www.asbchurch.org