

THE PARISH POST

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

18TH JULY 2021

Welcome to our Holy Communion service at St Swithun's Church, Sandford at 9.30am.

BOUNTY TABLE – THANK YOU

The bounty table is in the under gallery and an incredible pot pourri of salads, plants and preserves turn up each week. It is **cash only** so please leave your donation in the pot provided. The PCC have decided to again support **Water Aid** via the Bounty Table so please continue to bring goods and donate generously.

DEANERY SYNOD – WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY IN THE BONIFACE CENTRE

This will be the first face to face meeting for the Synod for some time. The churches in the Deanery will share the different ways they have responded to lockdown in their villages and hearing about the way forward. Matthew Tregenza is the Rural Dean and Laura Armstrong is the Lay Chair. Carole and Jean are your Sandford reps.

SCARECROW TRAIL – TOYS TAKE OVER THE CIRCUS

This coming week you will notice scarecrows popping up all over the place adding colour to the village and a fun activity for children through the summer. The Open the Book team have been working hard on Noah and his Performing Animals which you will find in the churchyard by the Fanny's Lane gate. A special thanks to all those who donated animals and Renate and Graham.

SUMMER THEATRE – SATURDAY 31ST JULY ON THE MILLENNIUM GREEN

The Common Players, a travelling band of actors who are spending the summer touring Devon, will be offering 'a theatrical feast for the whole family' based on the story of Robin Hood. Bring your own chair and (possibly) blanket and prepare to be entertained. Refreshments and a bar from 5pm and the actual show starts at 7pm.

CELEBRATION PARISH WALK AND CREAM TEA – SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

A guided walk to Swannaton Farm and a cream tea on arrival courtesy of Jim and Karen Stephens to celebrate all that the community has done in 'Pulling Together' through the lockdowns. There will be lifts for anyone needing them, just sign the sheet in the Community Shop. The walk is approximately two and a half miles. If you can offer a raffle prize of any description, please let Margaret Phillips know, 775185. If you can help with the catering, contact Karen on 774835. There will be musical entertainment by the Dartmoor Pixie Band. Money raised will be split between the Sandford Play Park and Devon Air Ambulance.

CREDITON FOODBANK

This week think of items families might be glad of during long, hot school holidays. Thank you to all who regularly support the Foodbank. If you want to make a cash donation, which goes towards buying fresh produce to supplement the food parcels the details are: Crediton Foodbank, sort code 40/20/30 and a/c no. 12600641.

FROM THE ARCHIVES 90 YEARS AGO

One of the heaviest downpours in recorded memory occurred at the end of June at the Shute, according to the Parish records. Nine houses were flooded to a depth of 3' (that's a metre high) and furniture floated out into the road. Apparently the Star Inn had a butcher's attached and joints of meat were found in hedges downstream days later. The report concludes '*The damage to houses and furniture cannot be readily set right. It may be that the fortunate among us may desire to show practical sympathy with some of the sufferers on whom the loss has fallen heaviest. The Rector will be glad to receive any subscriptions and with a small committee, he will see that the money is discreetly used.*' Those were the days before house buildings and contents insurance and before state aid!

IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Pray for the wedding of Sam and Anna on Saturday and their future married life together.
- Remember the communities in Germany and the low Countries that have been hit with devastating floods.
- As schools are breaking up for the summer, pray for our children and young people as with all that's happened over the last two years, they will be a generation that will be known for their resilience, kindness and creativity.

- As people move out of Covid restrictions, some gingerly, some with gay abandon, we pray that along with personal responsibility there will be a sense of joy and thankfulness.

SUNDAYS READINGS: JEREMIAH 23:1-6; PSALM 23; EPHESIANS 2:11-22; MARK 6:30-34, 53-56

Identity is in the forefront these days. I received a covering letter from a large company this week and it was signed *Ann. Underneath was written *Ann Brown (she/they)*. Now I will never need to write to this person or meet them, but they felt it was important to record their identity. Being attacked on the basis of one's identity is one of the downsides of social media platforms, as we saw last weekend with the racist abuse directed by a small group of people at some of the England football team. Identity can become divisive - but not in God's kingdom! The reading today from Ephesians makes this very clear.

Christ brought us together through his death on the Cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of hostility. Christ came and preached peace ... He treated us as equals and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father. Ephesians 2:16-18, (The Message Bible.) Amen!

*NAME CHANGED