

# THE PARISH POST

NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

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## September 8th & 15th 2024

Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter

**Sunday 8th - Communion service at St Swithun's Church, Sandford at 9.30am with Jeremy Putnam.**

**Sunday 15th September - NO SERVICE AT St SWITHUN'S** but join Holy Cross Church, Crediton at 9.30am for Lewis' last service in this Mission Community before he takes up his new post with Catherine at The White Cross Mission Community. There will be a bring and share lunch for all afterwards.

Should you want different styles or times of services, the full rota for the Crediton Hub is always pinned up in the church porch or can be found at the end of the monthly digital or paper Hub Post.

### --- Diary Dates ---

**Wednesdays from 10.30am to midday - Coffee and Company** (and yummy homemade cake).

**Fridays at 10.30am - Contemplative Time**, an oasis of peace in a busy week.

**Saturday 7th - Craft Fair** at the Boniface Centre, Crediton from 10am -1pm.

**Saturday 7th - Come and Pray** at Holy Cross Church, Crediton a day of prayer running from 10am - 4pm with a variety of prayer experiences for adults and children.

**Saturday 14th September - DHCT (Devon Historic Churches Trust) Ride and Stride.** All 3 churches in this parish are open with refreshments available for folk to **walk, jog, ride, cycle or use any other form of transport** to get from one to another. It's between 2.5 and 3 miles from Beacon Church to St Swithun's Church and between 1.5 and 2 miles from St Swithun's and St Mary's Church, Upton Hellions, depending on the route you choose. Donations to DHCT of at least £1 per mile at St Swithun's, cash or card. Help us travel 100 miles on the day!

**Also on Saturday 14th - Open Day at St Swithun's from 10am - 4pm** to see the plans for the **Community Churchyard Path**. With children's activities, handbells to ring and of course refreshments. Drop in and bring a friend.

**Thank you to those who have either offered some refreshments or said they would pop in during the day and offer some help .. or even just stay for a coffee and chat. A few more of both would be very welcome! Please let me know.**

**Parish Harvest Supper - Saturday 5th October** so save the date.

### **--- Community News ---**

**Thank you's** - it's lovely to see Andrew MM on his feet again able to renew the locking of the church in the evenings. Thank you Andrew. Thank you also to Linda G, Rita and Linda BS who organise different rotas to make sure Sunday services run smoothly, the Under Gallery is kept spotless and Wednesday's Coffee and Company is organised. Unsung heroes all of you.

**Just Giving** - under this scheme you could choose specific charities, like St Swithun's, to receive a donation, when you shopped online. Just Giving has now expanded and become **Give as you Live**. It is well worth signing up to so please see Jim King for how you can take part or amend your previous Just Giving details.

### **--- And Finally ---**

For some years, churches around the UK and in Ireland have designated September as a time to focus on Creation and the natural world. This year the theme is 'to hope and act with creation'. We need a mind shift from seeing the earth as a resource to be used, to relating to it as a gift from our Creator. To 'hope' in a biblical sense is not a passive thing but an active striving, doing all we can in every area of our lives.

In many Psalms David can't help himself but burst into praise for the created world he sees around him. Here is part of Psalm 104 taken from Psalms Now by Leslie Brandt.

*'There was clean air.*

*Pure water from snowcapped mountains*

*flowed through green valleys*

*and gathered together in great lakes.*

*The skies shone with a million lights.*

*The land brought forth flowers and fruits*

*to delight the eye and palate of God's creatures.*

*Your power and beauty were spread*

*throughout the universe,*

*but it was only upon the heart of*

*human creatures that You imprinted Your image.  
And these creatures  
in their short stay on this world,  
were appointed to be Your coworkers  
in the ever-continuing process of creation.'*

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