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THE PARISH POST

NEWSLETTER OF SANDFORD, NEW BUILDINGS AND UPTON HELLIONS CHURCHES

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July 13th & 20th 2025

Welcome to our

fortnightly newsletter

Sunday 13th - Communion service at St Swithun's Church, Sandford at 9.30am

Sunday 20th - Communion service at St Swithun's Church at 9.30am

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 ---

Sunday 13th at 6pm - St Swithun's Patronal Festival at Shobrooke.

Because both Sandford and Shobrooke have their churches dedicated to St Swithun, we have always shared the patronal festival. This year the service is to be a Songs of Praise with the added bonus of the gifting and blessing of an icon to Shobrooke by a Ukrainian artist. It promises to be a very special evening. Extra parking is on the right on the grass at the top of the churchyard.

Sandford Storytellers - Monday 14th at 3pm at Sandford School, our last session this year. We very much enjoy the welcome that Hannah (head teacher) and the children offer us and are often challenged by their follow-up questions as they reflect on the story we have shared.

Wednesday 16th - Deanery Synod meeting at 7.30pm at the Boniface Centre. This is an opportunity for us to meet with reps from other churches and share what's happening. Bishop Moira, the new Bishop of Crediton is also attending and it will be good to hear her vision for the future.

Thursday 17th - PCC meeting at 2.30pm in the Under Gallery. If you have any items for the agenda please contact Linda G our parish secretary.

Thursday 24th - Communion at Summerhayes at 11am. All are welcome.

Friday 25th July at 7pm - Music for a Summer's Evening. Nigel and Tina Guthrie have kindly offered a concert for voice, flute, piano and organ to help

raise funds for the churchyard path renewal, The Wildlife Way. Tickets for £8 can be bought in advance from the shop, Jean, Linda BS or Charlotte or on the door on the night. Charlotte is in charge of refreshments in the interval so if you can offer savoury nibbles please ring her on 07733 110356.

Coffee and Company every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12 - Bring a friend and make new friends while enjoying tea/coffee and lush home made cakes.

Contemplative Prayer - every Friday from 10.30am to 11am. A mindful oasis of peace.

--- Community News ---

Archdeacon's Visitation - last Tuesday 8th July in Tiverton. Our two churchwardens were duly licensed last week, but a huge well done to Chris who performed CPR on another churchwarden who collapsed at the beginning of the evening, until the ambulance arrived.

Janet - Janet saw the surgeon today and had her dressings removed. All is looking good and she awaits an oncology visit to talk about upcoming radiotherapy. She said, *'God is good and I am blessed. I am filled with joy and gratitude and am praising God for keeping me held in his mighty and loving arms.'* Let's continue to pray for her and Alfred and family.

Beacon Church - If you have reason to go through New Buildings, slow down as you go past Beacon Church and admire their garden which looks amazing. Well done the team for creating such a colourful border.

Thank you's - where to start?

Thank you to **Rosamund** who after many years of devoted care for St Mary's Church at Upton Hellions and being their representative on the PCC, has reluctantly had to step back from these roles.

Thank you to all the willing and cheerful **Hosts and Bakers** who every single Wednesday morning of the year serve coffees and cakes to folk at Coffee and Company. Thank you to **Linda BS** for organising the rota too.

Thank you to all those who beaver away behind the scenes in the churchyard, especially **Stephen, Chris, Anne T, Jean and Rebecca.**

Thank you to the Sandford Storytellers team who go into the school with a dramatised bible story 6 times every term. That involves a run through on the Friday morning prior to the performance on Monday afternoons. They are **Richard, Renate, Rosanne, Rita, Karen, Keith, Pamela L, Linda BS and Jean.**

Thank you to **Andrew MM** who locks and checks the church every evening and keeps the memorial book up to date. And thank you to **Linda BS and Jean** who unlock the church in the mornings.

Thanks to all the cleaners (**Rosanne, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Teresa and Bridget**) who make sure the church is swept, dusted and polished. Thank you to **Rita**

and her merry band who ensure the undergallery is also sparkling.

Thanks to our amazing flower arrangers - *Jill, Elaine and Linda T* in particular - who ensure that there are fresh flowers and foliage in church every week.

If you wish to get involved in any of these activities and join one of the teams, please speak to our churchwardens Chris and Paul. You would be welcomed with open arms!

--- And Finally ---

End of summer term, no homework, teenagers with time on their hands - so the church, both inside and the porch, are a draw for kids to mess around! If you are passing through the churchyard and have time to walk into the church, your very presence will deter any rascally behaviour. If anything seems untoward please contact Chris or Paul our churchwardens. We want to continue to keep the church open and available to all during daylight hours and would welcome your help in this.

We are also aware of older members of our congregation who would welcome a visit as their circumstances have changed. Ronald who moves into Summerhayes today, Margaret in Crofts, Patrick in Kenwyn and John in Upton Hellions immediately spring to mind. Thank you to all those of you who do keep an eye on neighbours or regularly ring up or visit folk. Maybe you too could check in on someone and brighten their day.



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