



# CHURCH NEWS



[www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](http://www.corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk)

From the Anglican churches of Corsham, Gastard, Lacock with Bowden Hill and Neston

November 2017

Team Rector: Revd Dr. Andrew Johnson 01249 713232 Team Vicar: Revd Adam Beaumont 01249 730984 Team Curate: Revd Dr. Phill Harrison 01225 810839

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sunday 29 Oct – Bible Sunday

Readings: *Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 8-12; Colossians 3:12-17; Matthew 24:30-35*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Matins at Corsham and Neston  
Holy communion at Gastard
- 10:30 Praise and Worship at Lacock
- 12:15 Baptism event at Corsham
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham
- 6:30 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill

### Sunday 5 Nov – All Saints/All Souls

Readings: *(All Saints) Revelation 7:9-end; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12*  
*(All Souls) Rom 8:31-end; Ps 109:20-26,29-30; Luke 13:31-end*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Holt Communion at Bowden Hill  
Jump Start Sunday at Neston
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham and Gastard
- 10:30 Morning Worship at Lacock
- 12:15 Baptism event at Corsham
- 6:00 All Souls Service at Corsham
- 6.30 Informal Worship at Lacock

### Sunday 12 Nov – Remembrance Sunday

Readings: *Amos 5:18-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-end; Matthew 25:1-13*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Remembrance Service at Gastard and Neston
- 10:15 Remembrance Service at Lacock
- 10:50 Remembrance Service at Corsham
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham

### Sunday 19 Nov – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent

Readings: *Zephaniah 1:7, 12-end; 1 Thess 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9:00 Matins at Bowden Hill  
Early Birds at Corsham
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Corsham  
Family Service at Neston
- 10:30 Family Service at Lacock
- 4.30 Sunday Club at Neston
- 6.30 Team Service at Corsham

### Sunday 26 Nov – Christ the King

Readings: *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephes 1:15-end; Matthew 25:31-end*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 9.45 Breakfast Service at Corsham (Town Hall)
- 10:00 Holy Communion at Gastard and Neston
- 10:30 Holy Communion at Lacock
- 6:00 Holy Communion with Healing Ministry at Corsham
- 6:30 Evensong at Lacock

### Sunday 3 Dec – Advent Sunday

Readings: *Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-end*

- 8:00 Holy Communion at Corsham
- 10:00 Matins at Corsham and Neston  
Holy communion at Gastard
- 10:30 Praise and Worship at Lacock
- 12:15 Baptism event at Corsham
- 6:00 Evensong at Corsham
- 6:30 Holy Communion at Bowden Hill

## Midweek Services

- Wednesday 10am BCP Communion at Corsham *(Weekly)*
- Thursday 10am Holy Communion at Neston *(1<sup>st</sup> Thurs of the month)*
- Friday 3.30pm Messy Church at Corsham *(1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month)*  
*[please note that the December Messy Church will be on 8 Dec because of the Corsham Town Light Switch-on]*

## THE RECTOR WRITES

One of the books I read on my sabbatical was about the challenges of ministering to multiple churches. It encouraged leaders in such contexts to be a 'non-anxious presence in the midst of anxious systems', recognising that the stresses and strains experienced in teams of churches such as ours can be substantial. I don't know whether I manage to be a 'non-anxious presence' as your Team Rector, but whatever calmness I may communicate on the surface, I am often paddling furiously under the water! So when we are told not to worry about anything in Paul's letter to the Philippians I don't find it easy to take this advice to heart.

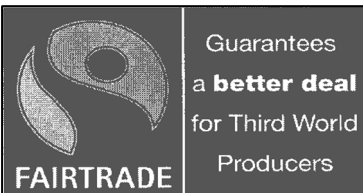
My own experience is that I find it very difficult to surrender control to God when I am worried about something. This is usually because I think I am able to take care of the situation myself. Even if I have brought something to God in prayer I still find myself carrying my troubles around with me and considering different strategies for dealing with the outcome of a worrying situation. If things turn out alright I wonder why I wasted time worrying about them and usually forget to thank God for a satisfactory result. However, if things go wrong after I have handed them over to God I am tempted to blame him for the outcome and forget that he has been there to comfort and support me in the midst of it all.

How about you? If you also struggle with giving your worries to God in prayer, perhaps we can agree to make the effort to focus on all that we have to thank God for, to trust him to be near when we need him, and above all to offer up our prayers and requests to him. May we be able to say that we have experienced that peace which the world cannot give as we hand over our worries and concerns to God during the coming month.

*With love in Christ, Andrew*

## 6.30PM TEAM SERVICE - SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER

Please join us in Church House in Corsham at 6.30pm, when we shall be exploring the theory and practice of contemplative (silent or centring) prayer and also meditating on a Bible passage together.



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## DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Items for the next issue should be submitted not later than  
**MIDDAY on WEDNESDAY 29 Nov 2017.**

Email to: [news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](mailto:news@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk) or

Post/deliver to: 1 Park Lane, Corsham. ☎ 01249 701783 (answering machine available).  
If you would like to receive this Information sheet by email every month then please send a request to the above email address.

**TEAM CURATE ON PLACEMENT**

Our hardworking Team Curate Phill Harrison is on placement in the Greenway Group of Churches in Chippenham returning to work in our Team on Wednesday 15 November. During this period he will not be available for duty in our Team, so please contact either Revd Andrew or Revd Adam with any enquiries.

Please also pray for Revd Phill as he extends his ministerial experience to another team of churches during this period.

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S WALKING GROUP**

Our October walk was led by Charles Todd along an interesting route from Neston to Atworth, Broughton Gifford and Great Chalfield. Lunch was taken in front of the 15<sup>th</sup> century Manor but no sign of Cap'n Poldark visiting the Penvenen family of Killewarren House, Cornwall today! On an increasingly warm and pleasant day we resumed our journey through Little Chalfield, Stonar and Lower Wadswick. Returning to St Philip's and St James' we enjoyed tea, coffee and home-made cake kindly provided by Pat Craddock, a fitting finale to a lovely day for 18 happy walkers. Photos on the church website, click on 'Activities' and scroll down.

Our November walk, of about 10 miles, will be on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in the car park of the Hare and Hounds PH, Pickwick, Corsham, SN13 0HY. Permission kindly given for car parking, please use far end of car park. Suggest bringing snack/picnic. **Please note:-** for those who have asked for shorter walks, the distance can be reduced to about 5 miles by bringing your bus pass or bus fare!

**ST. BART'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

St Bart's will be holding its annual Christmas Tree festival from 1 -10 Dec 17. This year's theme is "God rest ye merry, Gentlemen". The festival will be open from 3pm on Fri 1 Dec for tea/coffee/mince pies then at 5.30pm we will be selling Mulled Wine and Mince Pies. There will be the pop up market and craft stall. There will also be the opportunity to sit and sing carols from 6.50pm until 7.00pm.

From 2 – 10 Dec the festival will be open during daylight hours Mon – Sat and on Sundays from midday until 4.30pm.

**MEN'S GROUP**

The group next meets on 27th November 2017 at 8.00 pm in The Royal Oak, Corsham, when Charles Todd will give us a talk entitled 'Lacock Abbey'.

**THE MOTHERS' UNION**

Our speaker at our next meeting of the Corsham MU on Wednesday 1 November will be Tom Daley from Bristol Refugee Rights. The centre in Bristol helps refugees to learn English and Maths and also provides them with food.

Thank you to all who gave rice etc for Refugees. Once again this year the MU are supporting 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence which commences on Sunday 26 November 2017. We are focussing on combating the stigma surrounding gender- based violence, by breaking the power of silence, lifting the shame placed on

survivors, and shifting the blame from victim to perpetrator. On 26 November we are inviting people around the world to take part in a global moment. Please pray for the MU and all affected in any way.

**MISSION SHAPED MINISTRY**

The **Mission Shaped Ministry** course helps to make 'Mission Impossible' to become 'Mission Possible'. It helps you to find effective ways in which you can share your faith with friends and neighbours, without scaring them away. It shows you that mission is not difficult and anyone can do it!

What could God be calling YOU to do to change your town or village?

The course will focus especially on mission and ministry in a rural context, in market towns and villages like Chippenham and the surrounding area.

A **Taster Day** is being held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 10:00 am -1:00 pm at St Peters' Church in Chippenham. The speaker will be Tim Lea from Fresh Expressions. There will be an opportunity to share what God is doing in your local area and to ask questions.

This will launch the **Mission Shaped Ministry** course starting on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2018

For more information about MSM, go to: <http://www.missionshapedministry.org/>  
For more details of the 2018 course, contact: [msmnorthwilts@gmail.com](mailto:msmnorthwilts@gmail.com)

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday 25th November**  
10am – 12.30pm  
Corsham Town Hall

**Winton Market**

Tombola ★ Refreshments  
Local Bacon Rolls  
Fair Trade ★ Craft Stall  
"Pop Up" Market ★ Raffle  
Christmas Cards  
Homemade Cakes and more...

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**NESTON DRAMA GROUP**

presents

**Laughter in the Dark**

at Neston Memorial Hall

23,24 &amp;25 November at 7.30pm

Tickets £6 – available by calling 01225 812633  
or from Corsham Print Stationery (Pickwick Road)

**For More information:**

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Team Administrator: Ted Davies - [office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk](mailto:office@corshamandlacockchurches.org.uk)

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*Opening Hours: (Telephone answering machine/email available outside of these times)*

Monday 7-8pm; Wednesday 10-12.30 and 2-4pm; Saturday 10-11am