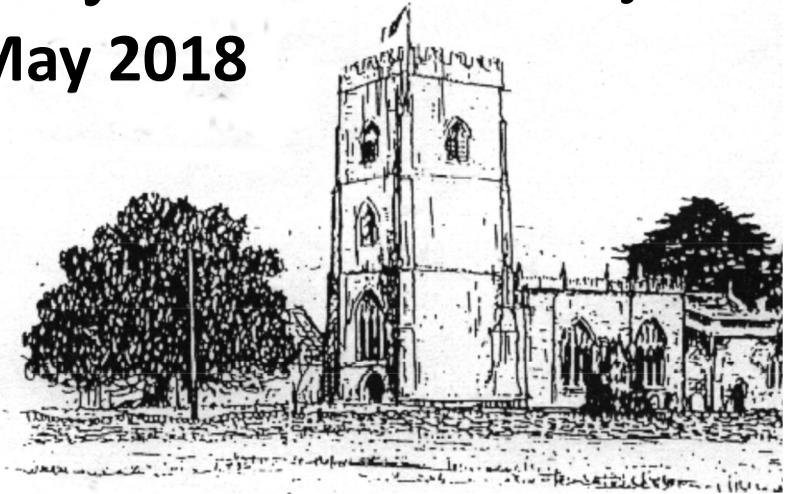


The Parish Churches of Rodney Stoke and Draycott May 2018



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Licensee (1956)
Letter from Joan
Salmon
APCM Draycott
2018
Shall we sing all the
days of our lives
Jane Holmes retires
Don's Poem and
Mary's Recipe

50p



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Golden Charter
Funeral Plans

Extract from Rector's tribute to Rodney Stoke Licensee in 1956

'The funeral service was held at St. Leonard's Church, Rodney Stoke, of Mr. Roland Hale (73) licensee of The Rodney Stoke Inn for the past 41 years. The service was conducted by the Rev. C.G. Chitty (Rector of Rodney Stoke and Vicar of Draycott). The Rector said that there had been an inn at Rodney Stoke for hundreds of years.



He continued: "Its proper name is 'The Sugar Loaf,' probably so called after Dr. Sugar, who was a famous Chancellor of Wells Cathedral, and whose shield bore upon it a design of three conical loaves.

The parson and the publican stand or fall by their appearance in the face of the onlooker. They are spared nothing, for they are always in the flickering and uncertain limelight of village life. Each can be a force for good or ill, because around him in concentric circles revolves the life of the place.

A badly-kept church, ill-cared for, and slovenly in its services, can be a disgrace, so can a badly run inn. Both can taint the air of a village. A well-run and clean church doing its duty, a well-run and decent inn with a good name – these can keep up the tone of a community. And let no man blame me for mentioning church and inn in one breath, for in many of our villages the past history of one has been entangled with the other."

Alan Rowntree

Editor's note: This reminded me of the Math School in Rochester. We shared a chaplain with the rather forbidding Borstal Institution at Fort Borstal on the edge of the city. He was to us a very popular, outspoken, soap-box style orator of a clergyman who enjoyed debate and encouraged audience participation – much to the alarm of the school's 'powers that be'. 'Do you know', he said on one occasion, 'there is more real fellowship in the public bar of The Bull Hotel (a place just up the road much frequented by Charles Dicken's Mr Pickwick) of a Friday Night than ever you would find in a place like this (the city parish church next door to the cathedral) on a Sunday.....'

Pastoral Letter to the Benefice from Judith Rose

If you live in Cheddar or drive through the village you will be aware that many new houses are being built. It is recognised that there is a national need for more homes. The Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking on television a few weeks ago noted that we need to build not just houses but also communities. One of the problems in society is that of loneliness, so building communities where people feel they belong is more important than ever. For many, family life gives that sense of belonging, but many of us do not have strong local family ties.



In Draycott and Rodney Stoke there are groups, where people come together with a common interest, where friendships can flourish and mini communities are built. Yet even in our villages there are individuals who are isolated and may feel that nobody knows or cares.

An important role for the Church is to encourage community life and indeed to be an inclusive community where friendships can be built with support given when needed. One of the oldest commandments of God is to love your neighbour and Jesus often said, 'You must care for one another'. There is an invitation from all our churches, to come and belong. Lifts can be arranged if we know the need. If you find the more formal Church Services difficult, then start with the less formal gatherings such as the Coffee and Cake at St Peter's on the 1st Saturday morning each month or the 4th Sunday Elevenses. Look out for the banners outside Draycott Church with dates and times

You are welcome to belong even if you can't yet believe all the words of the Christian creeds. If you are not able to come, but would like a member of the church to visit you, let one of the church leaders know. You will find names and contact numbers on the back page of this magazine.

The church has a role, alongside other groupings, to help us be part of a community. We all need houses, homes and communities. Let us help you feel that you belong.

Judith Rose (retired priest)

Letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells

So much to celebrate

Pride is something we all need to be careful about. It is regarded as one of the 'seven deadly sins' and it is often said that 'Pride comes before a fall'. John Ruskin captured that thought when he said that 'Pride is at the bottom of all great mistakes'. And that is probably true. Misplaced pride, over-exaggerated pride, egotistical pride probably does lie behind the great tragedies of human history. Wars are often fought because pride is involved somewhere. And as we know to our own cost, pride can seriously affect and undermine the relationships we have with friends and family.



But pride may not always be bad. Writers and philosophers have at times tried to distinguish between 'good pride' and 'bad pride'. And whilst it may not be possible to differentiate completely between them, I think we have a sense of what 'good pride' looks like. And 11 May is a day to celebrate 'good pride', for that is Somerset Day. It was chosen, because on 11 May 878AD King Alfred the Great roused the people of Somerset to fight and subsequently defeat the invading Viking army. And whilst people argue about whether or not he can be regarded as the first true King of England, he is the only English monarch to be accorded the title "the Great".

I think I am right in saying that Somerset was the third largest county in England although the original county boundary now includes other local authorities. Somerset Day however celebrates all that is good about the wonderful county of Somerset. It seeks to give Somerset more identity and is an occasion for all of us who live here to give thanks for the beauty and diversity which we sometimes take for granted. It is too easy to drive through villages and towns, through the stunning landscapes which come alive in different seasons and to fail to thank God for the gifts of his creation all around us.

On Somerset Day let's make an effort to pray for our local communities and those who serve us in every walk of life. There is so much to celebrate, so much to thank God for and so much to be proud of.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Peter Hancock

Benefice Events and Notices



Would you enjoy a friendly chat, a bite to eat and a time to appreciate being with others?

Come and join us in Cheddar Village Hall

12.30— 2.30

Monday 21 May 2018

Everyone is welcome at the monthly SALT lunch

Music at St. Andrews, Cheddar

Saturday 2 June: 7.30 PM Worle Wind Band

Tickets £10 - Contact: 01934 710573

Friday 29 June: 7.00 PM Anne Higgs Brass

Tickets - Contact: 01934 74383

Saturday 30 June: 7.00 PM St Andrew's Fabric Fund Concert.

Mendip Consort Of Recorder Players, The Somernotes (male singing group), with special guest, talented young local violinist Poppy McGhee

Tickets £10 (students under 18 £5, children 10 or under – free)

Home Communion

It is one of the great privileges in ministry to be able to bring communion to the elderly and housebound or those who are temporarily unable to get to church due to injury – do let us know if you, or someone you know, would appreciate this aspect of the Church's care.

Contact the Parish Office on 01934 742535.



‘The Homecoming—1918’ SOSP 4 August 2018

Last month we wrote about the plans for SOSP's Homecoming event on 4 August. We thought you might like a few ideas of who or what you can celebrate or commemorate.

Did you have a relative who served in the war? Perhaps you know of someone who lived in your house at that time, find out which regiment they were in and make a poster of their flag or perhaps you can find a photo of them.



What about the newly formed RAF? Celebrate the centenary of this

branch of the services. Don't forget the women who served too, both in the forces and in other roles, you could set up a tea station like the ones in the railway stations for the troops in transit.

Animals played their part, the story of Warhorse is familiar to many but pigeons and dogs played a part, some of them heroic beyond belief.

It would be wonderful to see Draycott and Rodney Stoke covered in a sea of flags to celebrate the centenary of the end of this terrible time.

We will have a walking trail so that no-one misses any of the decorations so we ask that when you fill in an entry form you let us have a couple of lines on what you are commemorating and why.

For more information please contact Tricia Lumley 07886733840.

Christian Aid Week 2018
*together we're stronger than
the storms*



The focus of this year's Christian Aid week is to support people around the world who have lost their homes through natural disasters, such as Haiti's 2016 hurricane. The money raised from this year's house-to-house collection will help build new homes for displaced families; £210 will pay for two days' construction training for a local builder in Haiti. The builder can then build secure, comfortable homes for people, giving them a safe place to weather the next disaster, and a fighting chance to build a better life.

If you think you would like to take part in this year's house-to-house collection and would like to find out more, please speak to either Trisha Heckbert (01934 742145) or Karen Percival (01749 870067). We are particularly looking for people to help with the collection in Rodney Stoke this year.

Community of the Sisters of the Church

82, Ashley Road,
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BS6 5NT



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March 2018

Thank you for the Easter Eggs!

Dear Friends

Thank you for your wonderful response to our recent Easter Egg appeal, and for delivering the eggs so promptly. We are so grateful to everyone for the generosity and for helping us to make Easter a bit more special for our callers. The eggs were given out in the week before Easter.

And we thank you for your continuing deliveries of food, at Easter and at other times in the year. Already in the first seven weeks that the house has been open since the New Year, we have handed out over 1,700 carrier bags of food to our callers. The basic foods that they contain include 6 tins (meat or fish, beans, fruit, custard and rice pudding), milk, pasta or rice, tea bags and cereal. To these are added other items depending on what is donated. Callers are also offered a hot drink while they are here, and a pack of sandwiches to take away.

This keeps us very busy on open days, and we would welcome more volunteers! Please get in touch with Sister Teresa Mary (numbers above).

With thanks again for all your help and support

Sr Teresa Mary

Sr Rosina

At St. Peter's we support the Sisters throughout the year. Please could you bring in any gifts to the Church- or to: The Old Forge, Stoke Street, Rodney Stoke. Or ring for a collection- 01749 870554.



Letter from Joan Salmon

11 Capel Court
The Bungage
Prestbury
Cheltenham
GL52 3EL

3 April 2018

Dear friends

I had intended (and expected) to write to you sooner than this but I had not realised how time consuming it would be to down-size and organise my flat here! The flats are very adequate – all on the ground floor and each has a small hall, a sitting room with kitchenette, a bathroom and a bedroom and we each have a patio where we can sit out and indulge our Interest in gardening.

Meals are all provided but we can opt out and eat in our own rooms if we prefer. There is a Scrabble club (one of my favourite games), a book club which is also attended by some from the local church, a bible study group and two short exercise sessions each week. Regular services are held in the chapel here but some weeks I go to the village church to be part of the community.

My fellow residents are all very pleasant (a few well into their nineties) with a variety of interests, I go with one to meetings in a local church and with another to the W.I.. The bus service from the end of the lane is frequent and of course saves car parking problems.

The amaryllis which you gave me was a lovely cheerful red and lasted until well after Christmas – thank you.

One week-end when the weather is appropriate I will turn up at Rodney Stoke Church and take you by surprise!

With best wishes and love to you all.

Joan. (Salmon)



Annual Parochial Church Council for Draycott - 2018

St Peter's had its annual meeting on Sunday 8th April, a week after Easter. We attended to practical things - such as the election of new church officers (this year Patricia Heckbert stepped down as church warden, and her place was taken by John English). It is also a time for taking stock of the year just past - and looking forward to the one ahead.

Some things to celebrate this past year: regular Sunday morning worship at Draycott - and joint ones with our sister-churches in Cheddar and Rodney Stoke (five away matches, one home); our ministry team, headed by our rector Stuart Burns, which allows us to enjoy a variety of leaders and preachers; our wonderful church school, which fills our church every week for regular assemblies; and a varied programme of events and activities throughout the year. And we continue to pay our way.

Looking forward, we are trying to address a long-standing issue for many churches - the lack of children and young families attending Sunday worship. Do our services seem irrelevant? Are they at the wrong times? So we have just launched a new format of Sunday worship designed for the young family - the 'elevenses' service (the clue is in the name), held on the third Sunday of the month after the main service. They are organised and led by Thea Oliver, who has a talent for creating events that are fun and not too 'churchy'. If you have young children at home on a Sunday morning, why not give it a try?

Churches are sometimes accused of being too inward-looking. Do we take enough notice of the needs of the communities around us? We have all been distressed by the plight of the homeless, of refugees and asylum seekers, but it is hard for rural churches to do very much. So we are delighted to join with Rodney Stoke and Cheddar in an event this year that celebrates food and music of folk from other countries and cultures who are temporarily housed in Bristol. It will take place in the Memorial Hall in October. Look out for further announcements!

The full set of reports of this and past meetings is on our website: www.RodneyStokewithDraycott.org.uk - go to Parish of Draycott, then Reports. And of course we continue to publicise our activities in our wonderful monthly church magazine - also available on-line!

Chris Green, Reader and PCC Secretary

Music Matters

Shall we sing all the days of our lives in
the temple of the LORD?



Singing music in church has a long history. The Western church had adopted Latin plainchant by the ninth century, and later the pipe organ, and the distinctive sound of English church music was born, at first in the monasteries and then in the great cathedrals, including Wells.

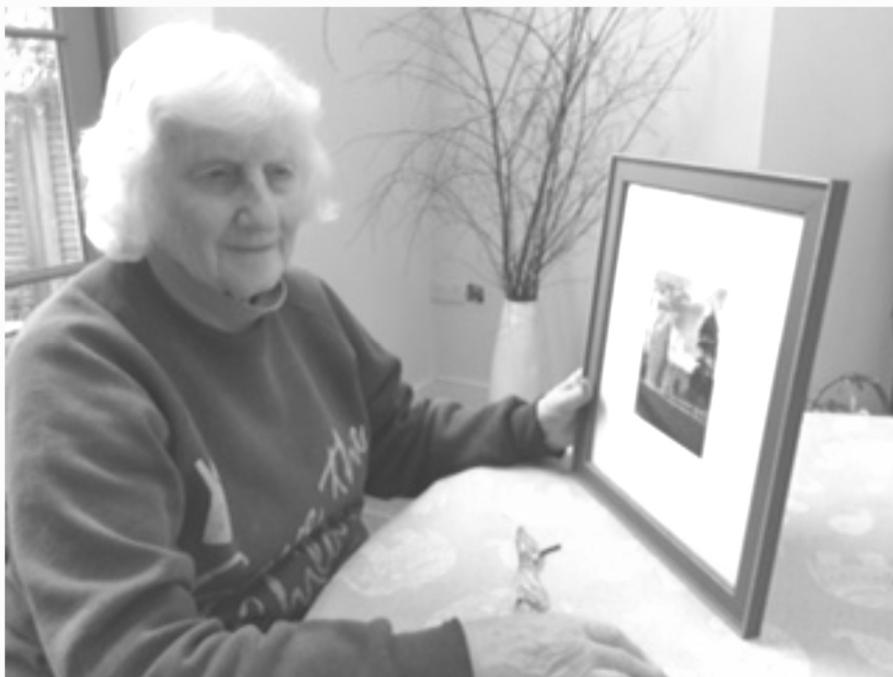
Originally those who sang the daily offices and the divine service on Sundays and feast days were all monks or priests. However during the tenth century new lines were experimentally added to the basic plainsong chant, and this led to the rise of polyphony or 'multi-voiced' music. With this increasing complexity, men were appointed for their musical skills alone, and no longer had to be priests or monks. Some music required high and low notes to be sung together, and the solution was to train young boys to sing alongside the men, the first choirboys.

For centuries cathedral choirboys were ill-treated and badly educated, except for their musical training. They were expected to sing for every single office and service, the year round, and were hawked around to perform in secular settings outside these times. There was no time for general education. A reformer called Maria Hackett went about improving 'the neglected situation' of cathedral choirboys in 1811, calling for better conditions and proper education for them.

These days, most cathedral choirs sing for the offices only in academic term times, and for the major festivals, Easter and Christmas. This leaves many weeks of the year when other choirs are invited to come and sing, to maintain the liturgical life of the cathedral. Sometimes choirs come from abroad and sing every service for a week, some choirs just come for the day, and local choirs sometimes provide the music for just one service. The choir of St Andrew's, Cheddar recently sang Evensong in Wells Cathedral, during the Easter vacation. St. Peter's choir has yet to reach the dizzy heights of singing in the Cathedral, but we have been invited to sing in the Bishop's Palace chapel on 3rd June. Do come and listen!

Nikki Devitt

Jane Holmes retires as a Church Warden at St Leonard's



After 38 years, as a Church Warden at St Leonard's, Jane Holmes has retired to become St Leonard's honorary vergger on the occasion of the 2018 Annual Parish Council Meeting (APCM).

She succeeded her late husband Claude who was 'not so keen on putting things out and putting them away afterwards'. For many years Jane acted single-handedly as Church Warden but in reality it was a double-act with Claude. He did the writing and reading leaving Jane to get on with the practical side. She has rarely, if ever, missed a service and all the necessary accoutrements were always put out.

Working at St Leonard's still means a lot to Jane. Indeed she describes it as a compulsion. For years at a stretch it seemed St Leonard's was without a vicar to call its own and it was a lonely responsibility. One of Jane's hallmarks is that she always goes out of her way to make sure everyone who helps in any way is properly thanked. Over the years this has built up a tremendously valuable backlog of goodwill, and sometimes

forbearance, for when it comes to ‘the next time’.

In her time, Jane has seen through several changes and innovations including:

- the Pet Service, not to mention the Pet Show, explaining ‘animals are more important than human beings’
- the Christmas Eve ‘Carols by Candlelight’ Service which remains an ever-popular fixture in the Rodney Stoke and Draycott year.

That said Jane thinks it is important that St Leonard’s has remained reasonably traditional in its ethos as well as its physical presentation and she would like it kept that way.

Jane has always enjoyed helping out with weddings to make sure the participants have, as far as is possible, the wedding they want, although she said some of them were ‘unbelievable affairs’.

On such special occasions, a major challenge has always been fitting in everyone. St Leonard’s has 86 pew seats but it has accommodated at least 174 for a funeral and 150 for a wedding. The record is for the Christmas Eve ‘Carols by Candlelight’ service of course with over 200 and still counting! That is what they really mean by ‘standing room only!’.

There was a presentation to Jane at the APCM including a much appreciated framed photograph of St Leonard’s as well other gifts including a bible for the church with an inscription marking Jane’s service as Church Warden. She asked me to pass on her thanks to everyone who has helped her over the years and everyone who has contributed to the gifts.

Rob Walker

**Wells Cathedral Choir
Evensong at St Leonard’s Rodney Stoke
Sunday 23 September**





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of 12th Century St. Leonard's

Friends of St. Leonard's
Somerset Day Celebration



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6pm till late

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Fourth Sunday Elevenses service at St Peter's



Everyone of any age or faith is invited to join us for half an hour (or so) of all-age worship at St Peter's Church on the fourth Sunday each month to include music, songs, stories, prayer, refreshments & fun! If you have ever joined us on Christmas morning you may find the style very similar.

So please come along, **on Sunday 27th May at 11am, which will be Trinity Sunday** bring your family & friends & see what you think.

For more information please call Thea Oliver 01934 744739

SOSP (Supporters of St Peter's)

'My life as a Pharmacist'



St Peter's Church 7pm for 7.30pm Friday 11 May

Tickets: £5 (adults) £3 (children) Thea Oliver 01934 744739 or Draycott Post Office

Do join us for a glass of wine & light refreshments as Terry Grist regales us with fascinating, amusing tales about his time working as an Apothecary & Pharmacist from when he qualified in 1958 until his retirement & beyond!

Terry has been sharing his wealth of knowledge about the history of mixing & dispensing remedies for years by giving talks to raise money for the 'Norton Down Africa Fund' that supports a children's nursery school in Kenya.

Profits shared between St Peter's Fabric Fund and Norton Down Africa Fund.

Brangay Farm Plant Sale & Coffee Morning



We'd love to see you all at Brangay Farm, Rodney Stoke on **Saturday 26 May from 10.30 am onwards.**

It has been a cold, wet winter and so any spare plants you have would be very well received and welcomed.

Come and have a coffee, cake, a look around the garden and a good natter anyway.

Ann and Steve 01749 870530

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Don's Poem and Mary's Recipe



He wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

W B Yeats (1865-1939)

Fastest-ever lemon pudding



**100g/4oz cast-
er sugar
100g/4oz
softened butter
100g/4oz self
raising flour
2 Eggs
Zest of 1 lemon
1tsp vanilla ex-
tract
4tbsp lemon
curd
Crème fraiche
or ice cream to
serve**

1. Beat together the sugar, butter, flour, eggs, & vanilla extract until creamy, then spoon into a medium sized microwave proof baking dish. Microwave on high for 3 mins. Trning the dish around halfway through cooking, until the sponge is evenly risen & cooked set all the way through. Leave to stand for 1 minute.

2. Meanwhile heat the lemon curd for 30 seconds in the microwave & stir until smooth. Pout over the top of the pudding & serve with a dollop of crème fraiche or scoops of ice cream.

Sunday Services in May 2018

	Cheddar	Draycott	Rodney Stoke
6th May	8am BCP Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
Easter 6	10am Morning Prayer	Parish Communion	Parish Communion
13th May	10am Parish Communion	9.30am Worship followed	8am BCP Communion
Sunday after Ascension		with coffee and discussion	
20th May	8am BCP Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Parish Communion
Pentecost	10am Parish Communion		
27th May	8am BCP Communion	9.30am Parish Communion	11.15am Mattins
Trinity Sunday	10am Parish Communion	11am Elevenses Family Service	

Readings May 2018

	Psalm	First Reading	Gospel
6th May	98	Acts 1 10:44-end	John 15:9-17
Easter 6			
Page	562	561	563
13th May	1	Acts 1:15-17, 21-end	John 17:6-19
Sunday after Ascension			
Page	565	564	566
20th May	104:	Acts 2:1-21	John 15:26-27, 16: 4b-15
Pentecost	26-end		
Page	570	567	572
27th May	29	Isaiah 6:1-8	John 3:1-17
Trinity Sunday			
Page	574	573	576

Regular Weekly Events in May 2018

Monday	9.30am	Line Dancing, Cheddar Village Hall
	10.30am	Absolute Beginners Line Dancing, Cheddar Village Hall
Tuesday	8pm	Bell ringing, Cheddar
	7.30pm	St Peter's Choir Practice, Draycott
Wednesday	9.15am	Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School Service in Church (term time only)
	10am	Holy Communion, Cheddar (except 2 nd Weds at 11.30)
	10am-12pm	Strawberry Tots, Draycott Memorial Hall
	1pm-4pm	Administrator in Benefice Office, Cheddar (except 2nd May)
Thursday	9am	LMG Morning Prayer – see Pew Notes for venue
	10am-3pm	Administrator in Benefice Office, Cheddar (except 3rd May)
	7.30pm	Bell ringing, Rodney Stoke
Friday	10-11.30am	St Andrew's Toddlers, up to School Age, Cheddar Village Hall (term time only)
	6.15pm	St Andrew's Choir practice
Saturday	9.30am	Morning Prayer, Cheddar
	10 – 11.30am	Rector usually available for drop-ins in the Den (please make appointments for certainty) Except the first Saturday in each month, when he will be available at St Peter's

Diary for May 2016

Tue 1	10.30am	Greenhill Communion	Cheddar
	2.15pm	Mother's Union Totslot with Mary Earle	Cheddar Village Hall
Wed 2	6pm	Wedding Meeting	Den
	7.45pm	St Peter's PCC	Jeff's Home
Thur 3	12.30pm	Lunch Club	Riverside
Sat 5	10.30am	SOSP Coffee and Cake	St Peter's
Tue 8	2pm	The Laurels Communion	Draycott
	3pm	Sealey Close Communion	Draycott
Wed 9	10am	Holy Communion	St Andrew's
Thur 10	9.30am	Bristol Bus	Cheddar
	10.30am	KOW School Ascension Day Service	St Andrew's
Friday 11	7pm	Supper and evening talk by Retired Pharmacist	St Peter's
Sat 12	6pm	Somerset Day	Rodney Stoke, Brangay Farm
Mon 14	7.30pm	Village Hall Management Committee Meeting	Den
Tue 15	4.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal	St Leonard's
Wed 16	9am	DRS School Service	St Peter's
	11am	Court House Communion	Cheddar
	2pm	St Andrew's Standing Committee	Den
Thurs 17	12.30pm	Wedding of Cameron Riley & Katrina Douglas	St Leonard's
	2.30pm	The Homestead Communion	Cheddar
	7pm	Visitation of Archdeacon	St Andrew's
Mon 21	12.30pm	St Andrew's at Lunch Time (SALT)	Cheddar Village Hall
Sat 26	10.30-12.30	Coffee Morning and Plant Sale	Brangay Farm, Rodney Stoke
Wed 30	6pm	Wedding Rehearsal	St Andrew's

SOSP (supporters of St Peter's) invite anyone & everyone no matter who you are to join us on

The First Saturday of every Month

from 10.30am to 12 noon for coffee/tea of cold drink with cake/biscuits to just get together and "put the world to rights" or just chat, or even just to enjoy a "companionable silence"!



Please feel free to just drop in & try it out. Don't worry if you have difficulty getting to St Peter's: we can pick you up so if you would like a lift just contact one of us:

Thea 744739, Karen 01749 870067, Janette 744945.

We are looking forward to seeing you all there....

May 2018 Rotas

DRAYCOTT	6	13	20	27	June 3
Sidesman	C Jeff	N Devitt	G Jeff	L Whittle	C Jeff
Intercessor	A Jeffries	C Green	T Oliver	G Jeff	R Dingley
Organist	D Cheetham	I Ames-White	B Rose	B Rose	TBA
Readers	T Oliver	G Dury	T Oliver	C Green	T Lumley
	A Jeffries	G Jeff	L Whittle	L Whittle	R Dingley
Coffee	S Burns	P Mullay	F Irving	C Jeff	T Lumley
		C Fulton			
Cleaning		P Mullay	H Robinson	T Lumley	
		C Jeff			
Flowers	L Whittle	T Lumley	T Lumley	C Jeff	C Jeff
RODNEY STOKE					
Sidesman	B Buse	A Percival	A Newman	J Newman	S Percival
Organist	Joanne	Joanne	Michael	Barry	Joanne
Reader 1	A Percival	H Neave	S Percival	J Turner	I Turner
Reader 2	J Symes	S Walker	A Newman	S Walker	A Percival
Cleaning	J Newman		A Percival		L Moore
	K Percival				H Neave
Flowers A	D Johnson	V Andrews	A Percival	F Pitman	TBA
Flowers P	I Sealey	H Neave	J Newman	J Holmes	

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Baptism:

We welcome into the Church family:

Jack John Daniel Ingram

Funerals:

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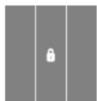
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