Wellsprings Benefice Newsletter

Hello!

Some of us will have watched the TV adverts from the 1970's and 80's and may remember the yellow cartoon bird promoted by BT called Buzby. His voice was provided by the renowned British actor and comedian, Bernard Cribbins, who also sang novelty songs such as 'Hole in the Ground' and 'Right said Fred'. Buzby's tag line was 'make someone happy with a phone call'. Last Saturday morning was my Buzby moment.
A friend from many years ago who I have kept in contact mainly through cards and letters, came across my name in her address book and decided on the off chance to ring. An hour later we drew breath! We had gone down memory lane, caught up on the latest news from her church which I once knew well and promised that as we had both enjoyed the chat so much, not to leave it so long next time.
I'm sharing this in the hope that it might encourage someone else to do as my friend did. Reach out and make that call. An unexpected catch up really brightened my day just as much as the yellow cartoon bird promised. Go on 'make someone happy with a phone call'. Thanks, Buzby!

Lots of news to share this week. Rev. Gerry has included information about services this Sunday, Confirmations at the Cathedral and news from the Diocesan Synod. Meanwhile our friends in Potterne have more events to fill your calendar
Have a lovely weekend.
Best wishes,
Gill Murray
Wellsprings Benefice Administrator
Email: contact.wellsprings@gmail.com

Communion on Sunday
All five of our churches will have a Remembrance Sunday service at **10.50 am** this week. These will be non-Eucharistic services, and there does need to be a celebration of Holy Communion somewhere in the Benefice every Sunday, so this will take place at **6 pm** in **St Mary's, Potterne** according to the Book of Common Prayer.

Remembrance Sunday isn't an easy day for everyone, so in mind of that the Holy Communion service will follow the normal readings and prayers for the Third Sunday before Advent - meaning it's also a good chance to keep up with the way we've been following Matthew's Gospel over the past months.
Best regards,
The Rev'd Gerry Lynch



Confirmations in the Cathedral

Congratulations to Bob, Henry, and Mark who were confirmed by Bishop Karen in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday evening, 31 October in a service that was a great display of God's light on Hallowe'en. If you would like to be confirmed or know someone who would, we are planning to run another set of confirmation classes in the spring aiming at the Cathedral confirmation due in May 2027. Adult baptism classes are also available on request.

Acting Bishop's Address



At Diocesan Synod on 17 October, Bishop Karen, acting Bishop of Salisbury, gave her Presidential Address at a difficult time for the diocese. Bishop Stephen remains suspended while two complaints go through the Clergy Discipline Measure process. She also had good news to share: new priests, deacons and Licensed Lay Ministers; a pilgrimage along St Edward's Way; continuing links with Sudan and South Sudan; and the start of the process to appoint a new Bishop of Ramsbury, who could be in post by next summer and will work closely with our large military community.

She explained how the diocese is cutting central costs, now gives about £200,000 a year in Aldhelm Mission Funding grants, and is putting more support into parishes. That includes help with giving, volunteers and rural administration, and more training for Lay Worship Leaders so smaller churches can keep meeting for worship and study. She also spoke plainly about money. The budget has to respond to unpaid parish share and falling stipendiary vocations, and she asked everyone to keep giving generously to the shared ministry fund. The address was recorded so it could be shared in deaneries and parishes, and it's worth reading or watching in full. You can find it here: https://salisbury.anglican.org/bishop-karens-diocesan-synod-address-2/

Rev Gerry's Photo Talks Autumn 2026

The remaining photo-illustrated talk this season. Don't miss these excellent opportunities to travel the world in your imagination. Proceeds are for church funds and you can book through the links below.

Change and Charm in China

7 pm, Friday 20 November, Poulshot Village Hall

High tech cities harbour ancient temples in a vast country which has never been more prosperous, or more powerful.



Click to book ticket for £7.50.

Table Decoration Workshop

St Mary's Church, Potterne on Saturday 28th November from 10 till noon. Materials and refreshments provided for £15 but bring your own fresh/artificial flowers if you wish to use them Contact Raye Twiney on 07580 805040 to sign up.





Potterne Christmas Market

Dec 4th, 4pm to 7pm. St Mary's Church will be doing its Christmas Draw at this event. Donations for hampers gratefully received, there is a box in St Mary's Church. Raffle books also available in the Church. Stalls are available if anybody would like to join us. Email Nesta on npudney1@sky.com

Bratton Brass Band Christmas Concert

Friday Dec 11th in Potterne Village Hall raising money for the RBL and St Mary's Church. Tickets £8 on the door or email Nesta on npudney1@sky.com.



"The Spirit of Christmas"

Holy Cross Church, Seend
Saturday 12th December at 7:30pm
Tickets £12 pp (£10 in advance) £4 students/children (£2 in advance) in aid of Seend Church.
www.wegottickets.com/ThePhilomelSingers or telephone 07977 576647
A concert of superb choral and other music for the Christmas Season with guests: Justin Chen, Roseanna Hawkins, Patrick & Taliesin Williams



Mulled wine and mince pies will be served!

The Patch Charity Shop and Café in Potterne – a tempting update!

We are having tremendous support, lots of people coming back, yes, how can you go wrong £3 for a refillable cuppa and a piece of homemade cake.

We have been blessed by the community baking amazing things and finding little treasures in our charity cupboard, which is overflowing!
We also have started our "Old School picture board" as everyone is coming along with their pictures to share. So please drop by with yours to add on!
Our opening times are:
Monday from 10am to noon
Tuesday from 10am to noon
Wednesday from 10 am to noon
We hope to extend our hours subject to extension of our volunteer team.

By the way, our AGM is on November 12th @18.30 if you want to be part of the Community Hub, it is the place to be!

The Patch team
info@thepatchinpotterne.org

Evening Home Group for working Adults

Are you interested in joining a home group that meets in the evening, for people who work during the day, to pray, socialise, and explore faith together? There are at least four people interested in attending one. If you'd like to join them, let Gerry know on rev@gerrylynch.co.uk or 07521 440 622.

The Open the Book Team in Potterne and Worton needs your help please!

Open the Book (OtB) is an exciting storytelling project. As invited guests in school, teams prepare and present a 10–15-minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly, involving the children as much as possible
If you would like to know more about this valuable outreach role, please have a chat with Jean Lane at Christ Church, Worton or Jackie Sawyer at St Mary's, Potterne.
Jean Lane: phone: 01380 722069, email - joje@talktalk.net
Jackie Sawyer: phone: 07810 132036, email - jackiesawyer50@gmail.com

Upcoming services

This Sunday 7th November (Remembrance Sunday / 3rd Sunday before Advent)

10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Bulkington
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Potterne
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Poulshot
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Seend
10.50am	Remembrance Sunday Service	Worton
6.00pm	Communion (BCP)	Potterne

Next Sunday 13th November (Safeguarding Sunday / 2nd Sunday before Advent)

8.00am	Communion (BCP)	Potterne
9.30am	Communion	Worton
9.30am	Morning Praise	Bulkington
11.00am	Communion	Seend
11.00am	Morning Praise	Potterne
4.00pm	Evensong (BCP)	Poulshot

Every Tuesday, 9am Said Matins at Poulshot

Churches are open for private prayers during the week.

Please visit our website www.wellspringsbenefice.co.uk for more details of all our services, latest updates and to keep in touch.

Best wishes and every blessing from all of the Ministry team