

# The Seeker

## June ~ July

# 2012

The church magazine for *St Mary the Virgin, Sixpenny Handley with Gussage St Andrew and St Rumbold's, Pentridge*

### Who's who?

#### Vicar

Rev Mel Durrant  
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Sixpenny Handley  
01725 552608  
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#### Curates

Rev Paul Skinner  
01725 552785  
Rev Dr Michael Foster  
01258 830764

#### Churchwardens

*St Mary's with  
Gussage St Andrew*

Carole Wyatt 552572

*St Rumbold's, Pentridge*

Mary Ferguson 552222

Jane King 552231

#### Licenced Lay Minister

John Cullingford 516453

#### Lay Pastorial Assistants

Ted Cox 552801

Lydia Carter 552720

Margaret Durrant 552608

Margaret Jones 552358

Maureen Lockyer 552492

Jean Mayne 552692

David Salmons 552721

Carole Wyatt 552572



Remember to call into both St Mary's and St Rumbold's and enjoy the Jubilee decorations over the long weekend of the celebrations

And come for a coffee in the morning and a cream tea in St Mary's in the afternoon of Monday 4th June.



#### Visit by Rev. Dr. John Arul – Sunday 17th June, St Mary's

Rev. Dr. John Arul is coming to Sixpenny Handley to talk in both morning services about his ministry in India.

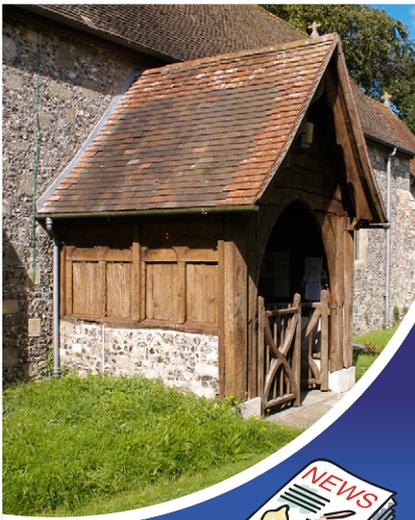
He is a pastor in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, south east India, leading his church as well as ten children's homes and a slum project. The clothes sale in The Shed back in April raise nearly £2,000 for the charities supporting his work. Come along and hear about where the money has gone and how it is making a difference in the children's lives.



#### All the Bells work

Friday 27 July 2012 will be no ordinary morning. At 8am on the first day of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, a work by Turner Prize-winning artist and musician Martin Creed, will be performed throughout the UK. 'Work No.1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes' is exactly what it says. And by ringing any kind of bell – hand bell, church bell, bicycle bell, door bell – you can be part of the performance and involved in welcoming the Olympics to the UK. Go to [www.AllTheBells.com](http://www.AllTheBells.com) for details. Everyone who signs up will receive an exclusive Martin Creed ringtone.

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



News items and articles welcome!

Please drop them in to the Vicarage, or email; rev.mel@handleychurch.org.uk

Thanks!

## FROM THE REGISTERS



Evan Harry Hewitt was baptised on 18th March at St Mary's

Callum Nathaniel Darby was baptised on 22nd April at St Andrew's

Joshua Evan Styles was baptised on 22nd April at St Mary's

Lisa and Jason Fisher were married on 14th April at St Mary's

Sion and Joanna Woodget were married on 14th April at St Mary's

Guy and Amy Sommerville were married on 5th May at St Rumbold's

George Marskell's Thanksgiving Service was held on 16th March at St Mary's

Andrew Russell was cremated at Salisbury crematorium on 23rd April

Alice Lewis was buried on 1st May at St Mary's



Need a lift to Church?

Please ring Paul Skinner on 01725 552785 and we should be able to arrange transport.



But with so many jobs to do around the house and garden at this time of year, it is often quite difficult to think of Sunday as a 'holy' day. However, we need to remember what Sunday is intended to be about. It might not be the original 'Sabbath', but God still wants us to keep some special time, a 'Sabbath Moment' when we can focus on Him away from all the stresses and strains of all the other days.

And Sunday is also, traditionally, a family day, when families have the opportunity to be together, to eat together and to catch up on all that is going on. All through history, sharing a meal has been seen as a very significant event. 'Going out for a meal' is still one of the most accepted ways of celebrating something special, such as an anniversary or a birthday. Think of weddings and christenings, birthday parties and so on – they all involve eating together. In almost all societies everywhere, sharing a meal together denotes relationship, special bonds of friendship. As members of God's family we meet for some Sabbath time together on Sunday. Together we listen to God's Word and share his table, as a family

At the Last Supper, Jesus introduced us to the idea of a very special meal being the focus, the centre of worship for Christians. It wasn't completely new; he was taking the ancient idea of the Passover meal, the celebration of God delivering his people from slavery in Egypt into freedom in the

Promised Land – taking that and bringing it to a whole new level of meaning: A new level of freedom. And the truly amazing part of the celebration is that Jesus *shares his meal with us*. He shares his meal, and his life in this 'Sabbath Moment.'

The Queen has anointed sovereign sixty years ago. I'm sure this was her 'Sabbath Moment.' Indeed, it was considered too special, too *holy* to be filmed at the time. She says little in public about her faith, but what she does say – usually at the end of her Christmas Day broadcast – is powerful in its directness. Having discussed the celebrations, tragedies and anxieties of the past year, the Queen affirms, naturally but unflinchingly, her faith in Jesus Christ. In her message last Christmas, she said, *'although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves – from our recklessness or our greed.'*

*'God sent into the world a unique person – neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive. Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love.'*

And we can all have our own 'Sabbath Moment'. When we choose to be still and listen to God, and accept his love and forgiveness. It is completely extraordinary and yet also completely *natural* that Jesus calls each one of us, commoner, citizen and royalty, to be with him in the power of God's love.

Your friend and vicar, Mel



### Teddy Bear drop in!

Our term time drop-in for preschool children and their carers has got off to a good start, meeting in St Mary's from 9.30am on Thursday.

Come along for some play, a coffee and company, and maybe a story or two.



The Queen is the second longest serving monarch in our history. She was born on 21st April, 1926, and christened on 29th May, 1926 in the Private Chapel at Buckingham Palace. She was confirmed on 28th March, 1942 in the Private Chapel at Windsor Castle and came to the throne in 1952. Only five other kings and queens in British history have reigned for 50

years or more. They are: Victoria (63 years), George III (59 years), Henry III (56 years), Edward III (50 years) and James VI of Scotland (James I of England) (58 years).

The Queen is the fortieth monarch since William the Conqueror. During her reign there have been six Archbishops of Canterbury: Geoffrey Fisher, Michael Ramsey, Donald Coggan, Robert Runcie, George Carey and Rowan Williams. There have also been six Popes: Pius XII, John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul I, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI. Over the last sixty years The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh have sent some 45,000 Christmas cards.

If you look at any coin with the Queen's portrait you will see round her head 'ELIZABETH II D.G. REG. F.D.' This is short for 'Elizabeth II Dei Gratia Regina Fidei Defensor', which is Latin for 'Elizabeth II, by the Grace of God, Queen, Defender of the Faith'.

As 'Defender of the Faith' the Queen has a specific role in the United Kingdom in both the Church of England and the Church of Scotland. As established Churches, they are recognised by law as the official Churches of England and Scotland. The Church of England, and the monarch's relation to it, was established through a series of Parliamentary Acts in the 1530s, which brought about the English Reformation. In both England and Scotland,

they are subject to the regulation of law and the principle of religious toleration is fully recognized - both for those of other creeds and for those of none. (The Church in Wales was disestablished in 1920, and in Northern Ireland in 1869).

As a country we are in the privileged position of having a monarch who has a deep personal faith. The Queen has said, 'I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.'

At her Golden Jubilee, she said, 'I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.'

In another broadcast she said, 'Even in our very material age the impact of Christ's life is all around us. If you want to see an expression of Christian faith you have only to look at our awe-inspiring cathedrals and abbeys, listen to their music, or look at their stained glass windows, their books and their pictures. But the true measure of Christ's influence is not only in the lives of the saints but also in the good works quietly done by millions of men and women day in and day out throughout the centuries.'

'Many will have been inspired by Jesus' simple but powerful teaching: love God and love thy neighbour as thyself - in other words, treat others as you would like them to treat you. His great emphasis was to give spirituality a practical purpose.'

'To many of us our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example.'

## Sixpenny Handley Summer Fayre

**Saturday 7th July from 11.00am**

Don't forget to come along to St Mary's as part of the Summer Fayre. There will be the usual attractions, including Cream Teas and jams, plants, books, and displays - and a lot of fun!

## Handley's Got Talent!

**Saturday 14th July**

It is time for our *third* annual Summer Village Concert. If you would like to take part or help in any way, please contact John Cullingford on (01725) 516453. We are hoping to have our own community choir as part of the event, so please contact John if you would like to join in. We have always had a very high standard of very varied music from our talented village, so do join in or make a date to come along.

## Gussage St Andrew Garden Party

**Sunday 19th August, 4 - 7.00 pm**

Make a date in your diary for *the* Garden Party at Woodcutts Farm. There will be music from the Alec James Quartet and all the usual garden party treats. Entry is £3, including a Pimms or soft drink. Tickets available from Clarkes the butcher, the Post Office or Pearl James on (01725) 552834

### Kids' Club - Thanks

Thanks to everyone who came - and all those who helped - the Diamond Jubilee Kids' Club in St Mary's. You can see our creative results as part of the decorations in the church over the Jubilee weekend and half term.



### ✦ Bible Study

As we hope you see from *The Seeker*, the Bible is THE Book! Read it and understand more in good company on a Thursday evening once a month, 7.30pm. Mike Carter (552720) for details.

### Midweek Holy Communion

Join us for a gentle service in St Mary's on the second Wednesday of the month at 11.30pm, followed by coffee.

### Come and meet friends

#### ▼ Drop into St Mary's!

Saturday afternoons in the church from 2.30pm for a cup of tea and a chat with someone trained to listen.

#### \* Drop into the Post Office

Coffee Shop on the first Wednesday of the month from about 11 o'clock for a coffee and chat with the vicar.

#### T Teady Bear Drop-in

Thursday's 10.30-12 noon, following term times. Carers and small children are welcome for a chat, coffee and play, and maybe a story or two, in St Mary's Church

#### ◆ Fellowship Group –

Meeting every Tuesday for chat, laughter and biscuits, some talk around serious themes and sometimes a steak supper or a Chinese takeaway! Phone Paul Skinner (552785).

☕ **Men's Group** – A beer and a chat usually on the last Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Phone David Lockyer (552492) for details.

☀ **Mothers' Union** – Tea, company and a good talk, usually on the second Thursday afternoon of the month, from 2.45pm. Phone Sheila (553133) or Mary (552041) for details.

## Join us for June and July

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary the Virgin Sixpenny Handley Informal service includes children's time			St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew	
	9.30am ☕	11.00am	6.00pm	11.15am	9.30am	
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	HC		Informal	Evensong	#	#
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	MP		Informal	HC	HC	HC
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	HC	(10.30am)	Informal	Evensong	MP	#
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	MP		Inf & HC	HC	#	HC
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	MP		Informal	HC	HC	HC
July 15 <sup>th</sup>	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#
July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	MP		Inf & HC	HC	HC	HC
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	HC		Informal	S of P	#	#

HC = Holy Communion | MP = Morning Prayer | SofP = Songs of Praise | # = No service

### Evensong with Laudamus Singers, St Mary's

On Wednesday 25th July we welcome Laudamus singers who will be taking a Sung Evensong at St Mary's Sixpenny Handley, beginning at 6pm. Come along to enjoy some beautiful music together.

### June 2012

See side panel for key to symbols

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 ▼
3	4	5 ◆	6 *	7	8	9 ▼
10	11	12 ☀◆	13 HC	14 T	15	16 ▼
17	18	19 ◆	20	21 T ☀+	22	23 ▼
24	25	26 ◆	27	28 T ☕	29	30 ▼

Sun 3rd  
Mon 4th  
3.00pm  
Tues 12th  
Thurs 21st  
Sat 30th 12.00 noon

Jubilee! St Mary's and St Rumbold's decorated as we celebrate Morning coffee and biscuits in St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley  
Cream Teas in St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley  
Mothers' Union outing to Athelhampton Gardens  
Mother's Union Quiet Day at Green Pastures, Poole  
Wedding of David Moralee and Kara Amey, St Mary's

### July 2012

Updated weekly on our website

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 ◆	4 *	5 T	6	7
8	9	10 ◆	11 HC	12 T ☀	13	14 ▼
15	16	17 ◆	18	19 T +	20	21 ▼
22	23	24 ◆	25	26 ☕	27	28 ▼
29	30	31				

Mon 2nd 9.30am LPA Meeting, the Vicarage  
7.30pm Worship Leaders Meeting, the Vicarage  
Sat 7th 11.00am Sixpenny Handley Summer Fayre  
Sat 14th 7.30pm Sixpenny Handley Village Concert  
Wed 18th 1.45pm School Praise Assembly, St Mary's  
Wed 25th 6.00pm Evensong with Laudamus Singers, St Mary's  
Fri 27th 8.00am Ring bells for the Olympics for three minutes