



# SVB Outlook

*June - July 2023*



The magazine of the churches of The Sodbury Vale Benefice:  
Chipping Sodbury, Old Sodbury,  
Little Sodbury and Horton.

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

# Our Team



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Awaiting  
Photo

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Contact Hannah if you have a concern about  
suspected abuse of a child or a vulnerable  
adult

## A Word from Jane

Dear Friends

It seems we love a good bit of ceremonial celebration in this country. We've hosted the Eurovision Song Contest, followed by the BAFTAs. All in the wake of the Coronation of King Charles III. Indeed, this edition of Outlook has input from several of our readers with their experiences of the Coronation weekend.

As I write this, we celebrate Jesus' ascension to his father in heaven and the baton passing to his followers.

For Jesus, his mission is accomplished. He reigns as King. The glory surrounding Jesus' ascension was a celebratory turning point in history, and yet what we sometimes overlook is the humanness of Jesus' followers tasked with carrying God's story to all the world – humans just as we are.

But I also note that this time last year, my letter for the June/July Outlook celebrated the Queen and her 70 years of faithful service. The whole country celebrated, and then within months, the country grieved the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. The baton passed to King Charles.

The Coronation of a monarch brings a significant moment of change and yet also a continuation of the story of our nation and Commonwealth. As head of the church, our late Queen understood and sought to serve God and the people. For King Charles, at the start of the Coronation service, many of us were emotional as the young boy welcomed the King with the words, 'Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings', to which Charles replied, 'In his name and after his example I come not to be served but to serve'.

We are called in many ways, but we are all called to serve and seek the well-being of our neighbours. The importance of community and shared lives is why King Charles has chosen to emphasize the things he has at the start of his reign.

Jesus is the servant king and so King Charles and indeed all of us are called to serve in imitation of him. Let us then pray for His Majesty that he may find joy in service to the one true God whom we are all invited to know through Jesus. **Jane**



*We are called in many ways, but we are all called to serve and seek the well-being of our neighbours.*

# Coronation Prayer

Dear Lord

Please help the King and watch over him.

Please help him do the best job he can.

Please help him to get through difficult times.

Please support him in making difficult decisions when he needs to.

Thank you Lord

**Amen**

**By Will Parsons**

# Thank You Prayer

Dear Lord

Thank you for our new King and Queen.

Thank you for their beautiful crowns.

Thank you for making the King and Queen kind.

Thank you for the coronation, it was beautiful.

Thank you for the corgis and the royal pets.

Please help them through their glorious reign.

**Amen**

**By Nancy Parsons**

## Have your emails to the Editor not been responded to?

If so then please accept my apologies. The reason for this is that I never received those emails. There was a technical problem with the address "outlook@svbcofe.org.uk" (*I have no idea what they were!*) and emails sent to that address stopped being forwarded to me.

This has, hopefully, been resolved by creating a new address to which to send items for inclusion in the magazine. This has been tested and appears to work well.

So the address to send material for inclusion in the magazine, or kind words to the Editor, is: [svboutlook@svbcofe.org.uk](mailto:svboutlook@svbcofe.org.uk)

I look forward to hearing from you with exciting articles. **Editor**

**Copy Deadline** Please send all copy for the Aug - Sept issue to the church office by **Tuesday July 15**

**Front Cover:** Part of a stained glass window in which church?



# Simple Steps to Living Sustainably

## Your ideas!

Following the article in the last Outlook on *Simple steps to save energy and to keep warm* here are some more ideas from SVB congregations, this time on how we can live more sustainably for the health of our planet



### Travel

Don't take the car for those really short trips  
Avoid or reduce flying  
Bus, cycle or walk whenever possible.

### Shopping

Use LOAF principle when shopping – **L**ocal, **O**rganic, **A**nimal friendly, **F**airtrade  
Buy fruit and vegetables in season  
Buy food only for immediate use (not too much that will be wasted)  
Plan to cook extra meals or cakes at a time and freeze extra  
Reduce meat consumption to once or twice a week  
Avoid or reduce single use plastic wrapping where possible  
Use soap and shampoo bars – less plastic waste  
Use refillable cleaning products  
Choose natural fibres and recycle/repurpose as much as possible



### Garden and wildlife

Leave parts of your garden to grow wild to increase wildlife

Use less plastic and avoid peat.

Make a compost heap

Use toilet roll centres to make tubes for planting seeds by folding the bottom in (after making several cuts). You could use a spot of glue



### Respect and care of our environment

We must make an attempt to preserve God's Creation in this our beautiful country and over all the world.

If you have any "Eco-tips" to share, do let me have them by email or via the Church Office.

**Chris Axford**, [chris@robaxford.plus.com](mailto:chris@robaxford.plus.com)

# Ring for The King at Chipping Sodbury

At 3.00pm on Saturday 6th May after the flypast over Buckingham Palace had finished, 8 of the Chipping Sodbury bell ringers assembled in the tower to spend the next 30 minutes joining other ringers throughout the UK in ringing the 8 bells to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. We rang what is known as Call Changes in which the bells are called by the Conductor, in



this case Tower Captain Dave Clark, to sound various sequences of bells, each of which has a name. On this special occasion, Dave ensured that we rang the two sequences, known as changes, called Kings and Queens. Since the Coronation took place in London, Dave also called the change Whittingtons, named after the former Mayor of London who allegedly heard the bells of London when he approached the city.

As with all the other ringing for the Coronation throughout the UK, the Chipping Sodbury performance will be published in the bell ringers' weekly newspaper and can be viewed on the paper's website Bellboard at:

<https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/view.php?id=1624437>

For those unable to access the website, it is also shown below

## **Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association**

**Chipping Sodbury**, South Gloucestershire, St John the Baptist

**Saturday, 6 May 2023** in 30m (16-0-8 in E)

**Call Changes:** Call changes including Kings & Queens

David J Clark (C), Christopher K Cooper, Frederick J Willington

David I Lee, Andrew W L Sleath, Antony Gay, Marion Sleath

Edna M Cooper

To celebrate the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

If you would like to learn more about the fascinating art of bell ringing come along on a Monday evening at 7.30 to find out more and try it out for yourselves. Give me a ring first on 07831 266071 to let me know you will be coming and to confirm that we will be practising on that evening.

**Chris Cooper**

Deputy Tower Captain, St John the Baptist, Chipping Sodbury

# Tea and Chat

Tea and Chat helpers and guests welcomed St. John's Mead School choir to their March meeting in the Church Centre. Everyone was delighted by the three songs sung with enthusiasm by the 40 plus pupils under Rachel Clarke's leadership. The applause had hardly died away before we were being asked when the choir could come back. It is always a pleasure when the children visit and very much appreciated by all.



Tea and Chat meets in the Church Centre on the fourth Tuesday of the month between 2:00 and 4:00pm. Everyone is welcome to come to this informal social afternoon.

**Christine Stephens**

# Tea and Chat Coronation Celebration



Our 'Tea and Chat' afternoon tea held before the actual Coronation was a great success. Bunting, balloons and a red, white and blue theme completed the afternoon. We were also honoured with the presence of a very 'special' guest



(aka Rev. Steve Abbott). Grateful thanks to everyone who supplied cake and with a special thank you to Dorothy for the excellent Coronation Cake! Obviously in red, white and blue.



**Tea and Chat** is held in the Church Centre on the fourth Tuesday of the month and everyone is welcome. Come and meet new and old friends and enjoy a cup of tea and lots of cake, we would love to see you.

**The Pastoral Care Team**

# Fish and Chip Supper

at the Church Centre  
Wednesday 12th July  
7.00pm start

Please come and join us for a takeaway!

This is a pay as you feel event.  
*What does that mean?*

We are suggesting a ticket price of £10:

If you can afford that, please pay £10,  
If you would struggle to afford £10, pay what you  
can and come and enjoy the evening, even  
nothing is fine.

If you are in the happy position that you could  
manage a little more please consider paying  
extra to subsidise someone else's meal.  
*(All ticket money will go into an envelope so no  
one will know what you paid)*

If we end up with any surplus funds we will put  
them towards Church Centre essential  
maintenance.

Fish and Chip Supper (Vegetarian alternative possible, so please let us know when  
you reserve a place), followed by tea or coffee.

Water will be provided, if you'd like to drink something else please bring it along!

Let Christine Stephens (314621) or Michelle in the office (325160  
[sodburyvalebenefice@gmail.com](mailto:sodburyvalebenefice@gmail.com) ) know if you would like to come,

**Reservation is essential.**

If you require transport, it can be arranged, please let Christine know.

***Please come along and join us for a  
fun evening of conversation and chips!***





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# Coronation Day street party in Old Sodbury

As soon as the date for the coronation of King Charles was announced, the Friends of Old Sodbury church started planning an indoor street party to be held in the village hall on 6th May.

Long tables were laid the length of the hall and the hundred guests, both young and old, and dressed in red, white and blue, with crowns and tiaras chatted together as they



pondered their answers to the photo quiz featuring royal babies and royal residences. A menu of Coronation chicken and Queen of puddings was served together with jacket potatoes, coleslaw, salads, sausage rolls, jelly with ice cream, fresh fruit, cupcakes and scones. Maria Danishvar, an accomplished soprano, then entertained us with some popular operatic pieces, and as the sound of the “Sailors’

Hornpipe” resounded through the hall, guests stood waving their flags and bobbing up and down as the tune became faster and faster. Maria then led us all in a Last Night of the Proms-style singalong featuring all the usual favourites. Prizes were awarded for the best fancy dress costumes and the Coronation-themed raffle was drawn. The atmosphere throughout the evening was fabulous and the event raised a total of £860



towards the upkeep of our beautiful church. Many thanks to all those who came along and supported the street party. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

**The Friends’ committee**

King Charles by  
Daisy age 6 and her  
sister Poppy age 2.



“It’s the King’s  
Coronation what will  
we do?”

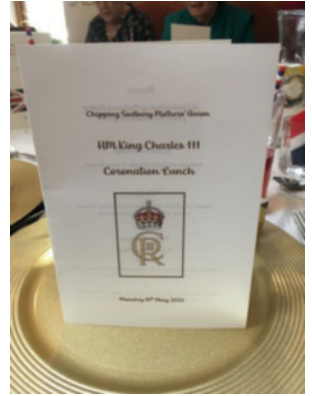
Watch the TV.”

# Mothers' Union Coronation Celebration

Monday 15th May saw 14 of our members meet at Sue Webb's home for a celebratory lunch. Our grateful thanks to Sue, husband Michael and daughter Helen for the amazing spread they created for us and their wonderful hospitality.



The meal commenced with a very refreshing elderflower cocktail with frozen berries. Our starter was the famous Coronation quiche, the recipe provided by Royal Chef Mark



Flanagan. The main course followed the theme of the four nations, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and England. Finishing off with old fashioned Victorian trifle or spiced Bramley apple crumble. We ended up with a past and present Royal trivia game, which was great fun. Needless to say we toasted the King with a glass of bubbly!!!

Our meetings are held in the Church Centre on the second Monday of each month at 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome and we have a very varied programme of speakers lined up for this year. We would love to see you.



# A new beginning for Yate Choral Society.

On Saturday 13th May, Yate Choral gave their annual Charity concert in St Mary's Church, Yate. However, this was not the normal concert as it was the first public performance for the choir since the unexpected death of our conductor of 50 years, Geoff Wickham.

One of our own very talented members, Carol Cook, stepped up into the role of conductor and musical guide for the choir and brought us up to the high standard that was seen in this concert.

The concert, A Spring Serenade, started in our traditional way of singing choral pieces such as a chorus from Handel's Messiah, and "Come Gentle Spring" by Haydn.

After a few more of the lighter classical pieces, we moved onto two spiritual pieces, "Steal Away to Jesus" and "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" woven together, followed by pieces from the musicals and culminating in Morecambe and Wise's "Bring me Sunshine".



Carol Cook Interim  
Conductor for Yate Choral

This programme was also interspersed with two sessions of brass band music from our guest performers, Oldland Brass, who gave us a rousing performance. Not content with this wonderful selection of music, the programme also included a solo by Sian Walters singing Handel's "Where Ere You Walk" and one from Carol herself who sang an amusing piece from the musical "Kiss Me Kate", "I Hate Men". The concert also included a monologue, "Albert and the Privy" beautifully delivered with northern accent and comic timing by Jan Hazelby. The concert was rounded off by two verses of the National Anthem,

accompanied by the Brass Band, with the first verse sung in harmony by the choir and the audience joining in, having been given the words for both verses.

The concert was very well received by our audience who congratulated Carol for achieving great success after taking on such a difficult task and showered complements on the singing of the choir and the soloists. The evening was seen as a wonderful display of music and singing and seemed to have been enjoyed by all who were there.

As mentioned, the concert was our annual charity event and this year the charity, chosen by Geoff Wickham's daughters, is Save the Children. There was a bucket collection during the concert and a total of £467 was collected and that along with the profit from the concert means that we have presented Save the Children with £847.

**Carol's next concert is in St John's, Chipping Sodbury on 14th October.  
Look out for more details to come.**

**Michael Stephenson**



# SVB Strollers

March saw a group of nine strollers set off from Marshfield over the rolling Wiltshire countryside. Unfortunately, the previous days of rain had left the bridleways extremely muddy and at least one of our number, who shall be nameless, had an unexpected sit down! We enjoyed the open views and completed our walk in a timely fashion just as the heavens opened.



Disappointingly, the pub was closed but a quick decision saw us retire to The Dog at Old Sodbury for a well deserved lunch.

In April the SVB Strollers ventured over to Sherston, a delightful Wiltshire village near Badminton. A bit like a smaller version of Chipping Sodbury with a lovely wide High Street and many historic buildings, it is well worth a visit, not least because it sports two very good cafes! We completed a circular walk leaving Sherston by little used country lanes and a bridleway, then crossing fields to another quiet lane to return. There were long views over as far as the Arboretum at Westonbirt and a number of ancient hedgerows and old buildings to enjoy. In the middle of one field we came across a very nice barn conversion.



On chatting to the owner we discovered that they made the renowned meat pies for the nearby Old Royal Ship Inn at Luckington! Surprising what you can learn on our walks! There was a hill on the last leg back into Sherston, but no-one flinched as The Rattlebone Inn beckoned. This ancient inn with an interesting history and serving excellent food provided the perfect post walk relaxation. A very pleasant time was spent there in most convivial company.

We are a very relaxed and friendly group; do join us any third Wednesday of the month if you are free, you will be most welcome. For full details, please look at the SVB website."



## *A Date for Your Diary,*

St John's Church,  
Chipping Sodbury is holding a

### **Flower Festival**

The dates Friday 15th September  
through to Sunday 17th September

The Theme **Disney**

In celebration of 100 years since Walt  
Disney brought  
Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck  
into our lives.

Keep an eye out for more details.



Tom is holding a picture of the Union flag that he designed as part of a school competition. To celebrate the Coronation, pupils at Old Sodbury school dressed in red, white and blue and enjoyed a picnic of sandwiches and scones.



Poppy is wearing her Coronation crown that she made at the Storkies pre-school group in Chipping Sodbury.





## Archdeacon Hilary visits St Adeline's

On Sunday 14th May, the Venerable Hilary Dawson, Archdeacon of Gloucester, visited us at St Adeline's to take our 6pm Evensong service. She said this was her first visit to our church and she was as pleased to be here as we were to receive her. She said it took a bit of effort to find the church, but she made it without a problem.

Hilary thanked us for the invitation to come and said that it was a pleasant change to lead a B.C.P. Evensong again.



She was enchanted by the stained glass of our East window and she took a photo, which, I hope, will show the window to better advantage than the photo included here. It was a very enriching service which everyone enjoyed with much fellowship afterwards, and we all said to Hilary that she was welcome back at any time.

**Michael Stephenson**



# The Extended Team

## Honorary Assistant Ministers

Meet the members of the extended team who support our worship. They consist of retired clergy and lay readers, who take services and help with other events across the benefice.



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*This magazine is brought to you **Free** by the four churches of the Sodbury Vale Benefice. If you would like to make a small donation towards printing costs which are 65p a copy that would be most welcome. **Thank you.***