

Welcome to Ch@t (Church at Thornbury)

The newsletter of the Parish Church of St Mary, Thornbury with St Paul's at the Hackett

April 2018

Welcome to the April Edition of Chat. After the recent “surprise” fall of snow, we look forward to some spring weather! Thank you to those who made the Lent Supper such a success (p4)—and to Ruth Piolle and her Team who took part in the Thornbury Swimathon, raising money for our local charities. Well Done! Next month's (May) Chat will have reports and photos of all our Easter Events and Services which were due to take place through-out April. The Deadline for our May edition is April 5th; please email contributions as always to aj.swan1@btinternet.com.



Rev'd Jan writes

***“Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.”***

Every Eucharist we proclaim these words which in a nutshell summarise our faith. We should shout them really; give it real ‘welly’, since this is the heart of everything. Past, present and future are here. The past is done - he has dealt with all human sin and evil; the present is here - his risen presence is with us always and everywhere; the future is assured - it is in his hands. These are eternal truths which we can trust, whatever is happening around us.

As we celebrate **Easter Day on 1st April** our rejoicing in these truths begins afresh. We are ‘Easter people’, people whose faith springs from Christ’s rising from the dead, defeating death and evil and bringing a new quality of life, eternal life, to us. May our rejoicing be deep indeed and may it continue all through the Easter season and beyond.

Rev. Jan

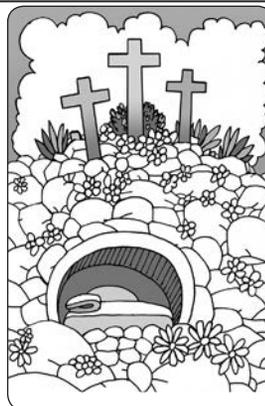
Easter Day is also April Fools’ Day!! St Paul would approve: ***“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”*** 1 Corinthians 1.18.

6am on Easter Day April 1st

Early birds can enjoy the Easter vigil service - starting out-side with lighting of Easter fire and Paschal candle - pro-claiming the empty tomb with great noise and rejoicing – including bells!

This is the perfect way to start Easter Day!!

BRING LOTS of BELLS TO RING!



Annual Parish Church Meeting

**Sunday 29th April, 11.30am St Mary's,
following the Benefice Eucharist at 10am.**

Come and Vote!

OK, a meeting doesn't sound very exciting: but it IS very important, as this is when the governance of our parish is reviewed over the last year, and set up for the coming year.

On this occasion, the churchwardens are elected (or renewed), new PCC members are elected, and Deanery Synod representatives are elected. Everyone on the electoral roll can vote (have you returned your form in time?).

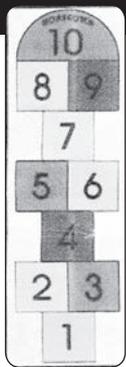
The annual review includes the activities of all the many groups that operate in the parish (so much goes on behind the scenes) - everyone should read this! And we have the all-important Financial Report from our Treasurer, Gill Young.

Are you a committed and responsible member of the church?

Do try to be there!

Rev'd Jan





Hopscotch!!!

For babies and little ones under school-age and their parents or carers.

9am at St Mary's every Thursday in Term-time. Newcomers welcome!



Please remember Sheila and Vicky will be stepping down from leading Hopscotch in the summer. Please contact Revd Jan or any of the Team if you feel you could help with this valuable Ministry.

This week after snack time at Hopscotch some children played with the dressing up clothes while others found more inventive ways of playing with the scarves together!



EASTER

All Age Easter Day Eucharists

9.15 and 10.30am services on Easter Day are suitable for families and young children – children are encouraged to take part, Lots of FUN activities for children - Easter Egg Hunts! And much more !



Join us for **Kids Praise**
St Mary's at 4pm Sunday 8th April

Join us for **Muddy Church**
Sunday 15th April
2.45 at St Mary's



**FLOWER FESTIVAL
AT ST MARY'S**

Dates 8th– 11th June inclusive!
"AIR, EARTH, WATER and FIRE "

Sponsors for arrangements still needed Tel 416220

Despite the snow and freezing temperatures outside,

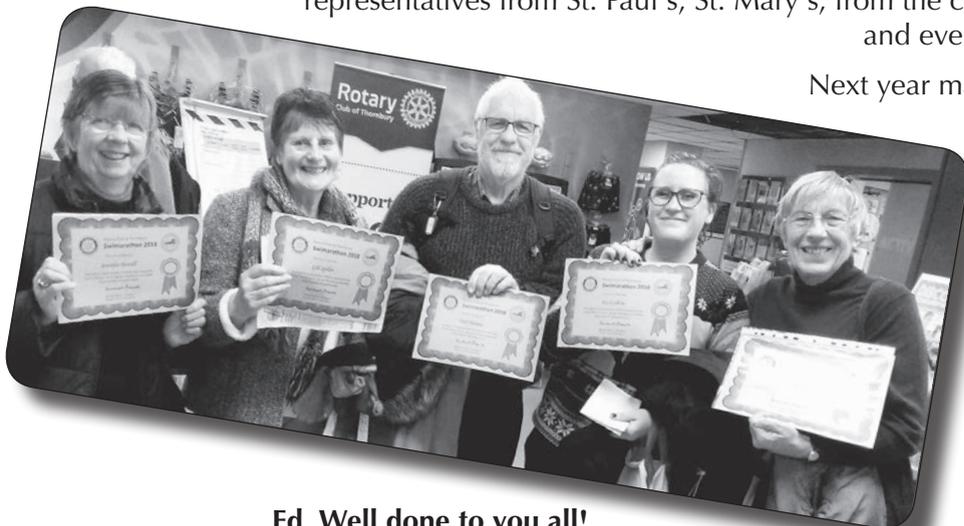
the Annual **Thornbury Swimarathon** took place!

Our intrepid team of Gill Spiller, Jenny Powell, Polly Davies (one of our Young Servers), Rev'd Joy Ludlow, myself Ruth Piolle and my brother Neil, once more enjoyed taking part in this well organised event. One organisation, six swimmers, loads of sponsors and volunteers and 55 minutes later between **£700** and **£800** was raised for Cystic Fibrosis, Jigsaw, and Butterfly Space. This sum will rise with gift aid.

No one could have done that on their own. Thornbury owes a debt of gratitude to the Rotary Club for making it possible for so many people to help others in need. It was fitting that our team was diverse. There were representatives from St. Paul's, St. Mary's, from the clergy and the laity, across the generations and even an outsider.

Next year maybe more people would like to take part.

There is no upper or lower age limit. All you have to be able to do is swim a length. It's not a race. **Thank you so much to all those who supported us.**
Ruth Piolle



Ed Well done to you all!





Sunday Afternoon Recitals at St Mary's

On the 4th Sunday of the month All concerts start at 4pm and are followed by refreshments Watch this space for details of future recitals



The Sunday Recital at St Mary's on 25th February was given by St Mary's Organist and Choirmaster **Malcolm Kittle**.

Just a year ago, St Mary's organ was formally inaugurated after an extensive overhaul and up-grade. And in this recital, Malcolm really showed off the colours of the upgraded instrument! The recital began with the Suite Gothique by Boëllmann. A grand piece—plenty of good tunes— with the third movement a more gentle contrast— and a good choice for an opening item.

The Mendelssohn Sonata no 3 in A major, begins with an impressive tune, developing through a fugal passage into a chorale melody in the pedals. It sparkles through a rapid development section— before returning to the original noble theme. The sonata closes with a gentle reflective prayer. A lovely performance by Malcolm!

Jehan Alain's piece "Le Jardin Suspendu" was impressively played, and is full of colourful effects—but was possibly not everyone's cup of tea because of the lack of a "good tune"! Perhaps we need to hear it again to appreciate the writing. Bach's familiar Concerto in D Minor was immediately recognised and enjoyed by the appreciative audience.

The recital finished with a Rhapsody by our local composer Herbert Howells, and this once again demonstrated Malcolm's ability to "bring to life" the Englishness of the composer- and to conclude a most enjoyable recital with a real flourish! All in all this was a wonderful performance! A fine start to Malcolm's time with us in Thornbury. Thank you, Malcolm

ED. Thanks to Kate Phillipson Masters for this article.



St Paul's Church closed for 2 weeks For refurbishment

Following agreement by the PCC a new woven carpet (similar to the existing one) has been ordered for St Paul's and will be installed in the church in early July, after resealing of the parquet floor. This may seem a long time away but this is a busy time with a Benefice weekend service at St Arilda's - Rev'd Joy's first Eucharist as President. St Paul's Church will be closed for approximately two weeks.

Most of the pews will be stored securely in the church marquee away from inclement weather while the floor is being resealed. Other work to be done is the erection of two Sheffield Stands, to secure bicycles, as well as repairs to the external notice boards and gate. *Phil Jones*



Environment News

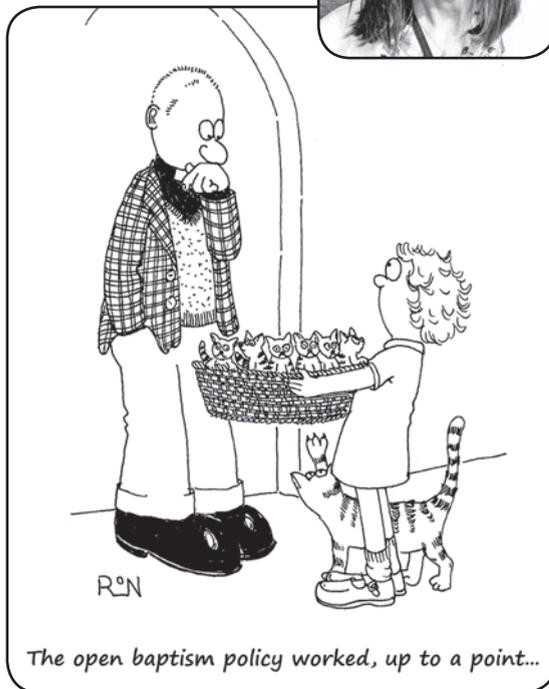
Marian Stephens writes,

We thank Becky for her work as Environment Champion and are

sorry that she has had to step down due to other commitments. We give a warm welcome to Guy Rawlinson as a new Environment Champion for our Church.

Thanks also to our PCC who have agreed that St Mary's and St Paul's Churches should participate in the Eco Church award scheme—see details at [https:// ecochurch.arocha.org.uk](https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk)

We are already well on our way to gaining the Bronze Award



The open baptism policy worked, up to a point...

Mothers' UNION Christian care for families

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17 April in St. Mary's Church Hall. All are welcome to come and hear speaker Shirley Wyse talk about "**Help for Heroes**". For info about MU activities please speak to Ruth Parker (tel. **850667**), or other Committee Members.

News from MU in Ghana
This MU is working hard to move communities forward and challenge the old beliefs and practices that are holding them back. They are concentrating on raising awareness on reproductive health, sanitation and nutrition— via health talks, marches, keep fit classes and screening. **They ask us to pray with them that they can sustain their commitment**

Special Diary Dates April 2018

These dates are additional to the regular Sunday Services 8.00am, 10.30am, and 6.00pm St Mary's. 9.15am St Paul's. Hopscotch - 9.15am Thursday in term time St Mary's. All-age services highlighted. *Special adult occasions italic*

Easter Sunday 1 April

6am Dawn Vigil Service St Mary's - lighting of Easter Fire (bring a bell !)

8am Eucharist (said) St Mary's

9.15am All Age Eucharist, St Paul's with Easter egg hunt

10.30am All Age Eucharist, St Mary's with Easter egg hunt

No evening Service

Sunday 8 April 4pm St Mary's, Kid's Praise

Sunday 15 April 2.45pm St Mary's, Muddy Church

Thursday 17 April 7.30pm Church Hall MU Meeting

Sunday 29 April 10am St Mary's, Benefice Eucharist

Sunday 29 April 11.30 am St Mary's, Annual Parish Church Meeting

Easter Services at Oldbury

Sunday 1 April

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP Book of Common Prayer) at **Sheppertine** with Revd Michael

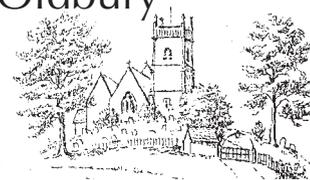
11am Family Eucharist at **St Arilda's** with Revd Chris

Sunday 8 April 10.30am REFRESH at **St Arilda's** with Revd Joy plus activities, refreshments

Sunday 15 April 6pm CW communion **St Arilda's** with Revd Jan

Sunday 22 April Evensong at **St Arilda's** with Revd Joy

Sunday 29 April 10am Benefice Service **St Mary's Thornbury**

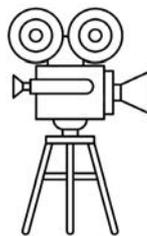


Church Hall Film Night

Looking forward to Autumn

Mike Spiller writes.

No more films this season! So we're publicising the programme for September to Christmas 2018 well in advance! Please keep this sheet by you for reference.



Sept 22nd Title '**What we did on our Holiday**' Cert 12.

Husband & wife (David Tennant, Rosamund Pike) take their 3 young children to Scotland to attend Grandfather's (Billy Connolly's) birthday party. The visit is full of laughs!

Oct 20th Title '**Queen of Katwe**' Cert Disney. Inspirational! True story of a Ugandan village girl who discovers she has amazing talent for chess! A good impression of life/country as in our Bufumbo link. Uplifting and Cheering!

Nov 24th Title '**Vanity Fair**' Cert PG - love interest- violence / battle images. Bob Hoskins, Jim Broadbent. Reese Witherspoon is Becky Sharp who schemes her way up the social ladder. Is all fair in love or war?

Dec 15th Title **TBA - a film for Christmas.**

Films will be advertised briefly, in Chat and weekly Newsletters two weeks before the showing. *Mike/Gill.*

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK EVENTS:
PHOTOS FOR CHAT

Chat Editors would be grateful for any photographs you may take of any Easter and Holy Week events which you attend for inclusion in the May edition. Angela and Tim cannot always be there with cameras and help with this aspect of Chat would be much appreciated.

Lent Soup Lunch



On Sunday 4th March 48 people came to the Lent Soup Lunch at the Church Hall and enjoyed DELICIOUS soup, bread and fellowship together.

The lunch was followed by an excellent talk and presentation from Martin Canning, a USPG Trustee, who told us about the charities' work in many different countries. Donations were taken and a generous sum raised to go towards this work

Thank you to the cooks and all who helped.

Ch@t

The Editorial Committee of Ch@T is: Angela Swan (Editor)
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