



Sunday Snippets

Looking Ahead – A Rocha

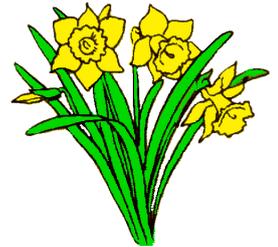
In a fortnight's time (12th February) there will be an eco church themed morning service with the guest speaker Dr Hilary Marlow from 'A Rocha' and we will be considering the stewardship of creation. A Rocha, meaning the rock in Portuguese, is an International Christian environmental and nature conservation movement. A Rocha UK states: "If everyone waits for someone else to act, nothing will change. Our aim is to help you do something practical as an individual, living in your local community, perhaps as a member of a local church, and as part of the global community."



Goodbye to January



We have almost survived January with its mixture of weather – a mainly cold and frosty month with some strong winds but also some lovely sunny days with superb sunrises and clear skies. A couple of pleasant short trips out to see any signs of spring could be to Saltram House where in the gardens the snowdrops are beginning to put on a fine display. Some daffodils are not far behind. At Mount Edgecombe many of the camellias are beginning to bloom, the white ones being particularly impressive. Surprisingly, few flower heads seem to have been caught by the frost or otherwise damaged. The Orangery near the entrance of the Country Park is open for business and serving up some most acceptable light refreshments.



New Growth Group

Bob and Margaret Hall's new weekly (in term time) Growth Group met for the first time on Monday. If you missed it, do not fret; you can go along tomorrow evening to 24 Blandford Road, Compton from 7.30-9.00pm. There will be coffee and tea, Bible study and time for prayer.



February Magazine

Copies of the February Parish Magazine are available at the back of the church. There is news of the Associate Minister (Designate) for Church Planting, Evangelism and Discipleship, Rev Keith Murphy, who, with his family, expect to be starting with us before Easter. In the meantime, we will be welcoming Rev Leisa McGovern, who is a Curate on placement for the whole of February. She will be conducting a research project to explore the possible opportunities for a faith community being established on the new housing estate at Seaton. Most of us should have the chance to meet and offer Leisa hospitality as she intends worshipping with us whilst here. The magazine also contains a comprehensive article outlining the proposals for the refurbishment of the church hall as well as a record of happenings over the past couple of months.



Established Groups Also Offer a Welcome

The first Thursday in the month afternoon Group meets again at Vicki Hocking's house, 6 Orchard Avenue, this week (2nd February) at 2.30pm. There is plenty of space and a warm welcome for newcomers as indeed there is at 1 Crown Gardens, Miles Mitchell, the home of Peter & Maureen Anderson. Their Group meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7.30pm





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John's Gathering

There was a very pleasant gathering of John Hawken's family and friends at Silvermead on Friday afternoon. There were members of the Clergy, past and present, church members, some who have known John for many years and others whose friendships are more recent. John was delighted to share his memories through his photograph album and all enjoyed a warming cuppa as well as sandwiches and cake. Please remember John in your prayers as he awaits the result of medical tests.



Looking Ahead – Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday, 9th April may seem a long way off but that is the date chosen for the APCM and written reports will be sought during the coming month from all the lead persons of the various parochial activities and responsibilities. One of the tasks to be completed before the APCM is the revision of the church Electoral Roll. If you are not registered, please watch out for the relevant notices so that you can add your name and enjoy the entitlements this brings



Looking Ahead – Sides-persons & Readers



At the APCM, the list of sides-persons for the following year is drawn up. However, there is no need to wait until then and if you are willing to undertake sides-person duties once every few weeks, please let one of the Churchwardens know. Likewise they would be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to be included on the rota for reading of the Lessons.

STOP PRESS: Standing Ovation for Choir

Those who were absent missed a treat when the Plymouth Area Choir came to St Edward's on Friday evening. With still some original members from its beginnings 42 years ago, the quality of the Choir's singing has remained constantly high. You would expect no other under the musical direction of Brian Gerry. The powerful but mellow, well-balanced sound filled the church and song after song evoked memories of Music of the Night at the Citadel. Aply accompanied by Rosemary Fox, the Choir deservedly received a lengthy standing ovation at the close. It was well worth braving the rain for such entertainment.



Only Joking!

A motorist is sitting at the roadside looking miserable. A passer-by, seeing how unhappy he looks, asks what the problem is. "I've locked myself out of my car" said the motorist. "Don't worry," says the passer-by. "Let me try rubbing my backside on the door." The motorist, in desperation, agrees so the passer-by put his backside against the door and slowly moves it up and down. Suddenly, the lock clicks open. "That's unbelievable," says the motorist, "How did you do it?" "With ease," says the passer-by. "I'm wearing khaki shorts."



The world's best chat up line:
"Inheriting £50 million doesn't mean much when you have a weak heart."