



# Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church July 2016 Newsletter

## Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Revd Sarah Simpson including Holy Communion
10 <sup>th</sup>	Terry Riches
17 <sup>th</sup>	Bryan Elkington
24 <sup>th</sup>	Julian Priddle
31 <sup>st</sup>	Revd Andrew Francis

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## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Minister's Ordination

On 12<sup>th</sup> June our two congregations came together in Malmesbury URC for a joint service to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Revd Sarah Simpson's ordination. A memorable moment was when Sarah produced a space hopper she'd received at a previous celebration, but this time she didn't demonstrate it. Young Poppy looked disappointed when it was put away.

Our string trio joined with Malmesbury's guitar, descant recorder, piano and organ in various combinations to accompany the hymns. The closing hymn, that Sarah sings at all important occasions, was a rousing 'How Great Thou Art'.

Afterwards, refreshments were enjoyed in the church, and Sarah's dog was brought in to join the party.



## New logo

The URC has a new logo in use from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016. For the past six months, the URC's design team has been working to make the denomination's visual identity more positive, striking and adaptable.



The previous logo was composed of 14 different elements and the typography was similarly intricate.

Lead designer Chris Andrews said: 'There was a real need to take the logo, pare it back, make it simpler and more functional.'

'We now have something much more contemporary. We're using a brighter, sharper colour than before, and the rough, loose edges of the cross give a new feeling of energy. We wanted to reflect a church that is vibrant and dynamic.'

## Strawberry Tea

Cricklade United Church is holding a Strawberry tea on Saturday 2 July in the grounds of Prior Park school (Opposite the Church) from 3 - 5pm. Tickets are £3.50 and all funds raised will go to Embrace the Middle East - a charity working in Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Israel- Palestine with the disadvantaged including refugees. We would be delighted to see you - if wet the event will be held in the Church Hall.

This invitation given by Mary Coole of Cricklade United Church. She says If you would like to come along please feel free to pay for tickets on the day - but it would be useful to know numbers for catering purposes! So please let Jenny know if you will be going.

Happy Birthday this month to  
Elizabeth Shaw

## Rotas for July

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Readings	Junior Church	Tea
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Isobel	Jack	Andrew	Jack, Richard	Jenny, Joy	Joy, Fiona
10 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny	Eileen	Jack	Ron, Margaret	Angela, Elizabeth	Jack & Isobel
17 <sup>th</sup>	Angela	Elizabeth	Fiona	Joy, Andrew	Jenny, Isobel	Elizabeth & Jenny
24 <sup>th</sup>	Doreen	Richard	Elizabeth	Fiona, Jack	Jenny, Fiona	Ron & Margaret
31 <sup>st</sup>	Margaret	Jack	Jenny	Jenny, Richard	Eileen, Nicky	Andrew & Fiona

## Murmurings from the Manse

The recent Referendum vote almost split the country equally, some woke up on Friday morning happy, whilst others were devastated, with one interviewee saying she felt it was almost a bereavement, and it is fair to say that whichever side of the debate you sat on, one thing was certain, this was an incredibly important and emotive decision, far more than simply a x on a ballot paper.

Much has been made about the difference of views between the younger and older generations, some have even suggested another vote needs to be taken and more effort made to engage with the 18-25 age group.

The fact remains that the vote has been taken and now the whole country has the responsibility not just to make this work, but more importantly to come together remembering that there is more that unites us than divides us, whatever we may believe right now.

We see fragmented and divided communities in the Gospels, Jesus spent a great deal of his time trying to bring people together, so they could know unity and unity brings strength and strength helps to dissipate fear and that is needed now, not just in our country but in Europe and beyond.

So let us pray for unity, for the strength to cope with what lies ahead, let us give thanks for democracy and freedom and resolve to never take them for granted.

Yours in Christ  
Sarah

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## For your August diary

Pencil in 13<sup>th</sup> August for Eleven-sey's at Jack and Isobel's

## Church Diary for July

Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> **Sarah's last service before her 3 month sabbatical leave.**

Followed by **Sunday lunch at the Cross Keys**, RWB, function room - in newly refurbished venue. Roast beef £9.95, less for a small portion. Senior citizens menu available. Please let Joy know if you will be coming.

### Larks Bible Study

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 10.15am

### Joint Pastorate Elders Meeting with Synod Moderator

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

### Church BBQ

The Minister invites members of groups that meet in our church to join congregation members for a barbeque in the church garden.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 4pm

### Owls Discussion Evening

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm

### Badminton in the church hall

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> evening

### Church Walk at Stanton Country Park, Stanton Fitzwarren

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Meet 10.00am in the car park



**Hive Coffee Club** for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers, meets Thursday mornings, 9:30 till 12.

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## Contact details

### Minister

Rev'd Sarah Simpson 32 Niebull Close Reeds Farm Malmesbury SN16 9TX Tel: 01666 826866

### Church Secretary and Serving Elder

Mrs E. Shaw 01793 855676

### Serving Elder, Preacher Booking, Foodbank Voucher Holder

Fiona Butler 01793 849075

### Church Treasurer and Serving Elder

Richard Jacob 01793 852689

### Hall Booking

Richard Jacob 01793 852689

### Pastoral Visitor and Serving Elder

Mrs E. Henly 01793 848712

### Serving Elder

Andrew Crown 01793 330502

**Web-site** [wburc.org.uk](http://wburc.org.uk)  
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