



# Royal Wootton Bassett United Reformed Church November 2019 Newsletter



## Services

Sunday services begin at 10:30am

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Terry Riches  
including Holy Communion
- 10<sup>th</sup> Worship led by congregation
- 17<sup>th</sup> Bryan Elkington
- 24<sup>th</sup> Bernard Crabb (followed by church meeting)

Tea and coffee will be served after the service. Please stay and enjoy this time of fellowship with us. Welcome to any visitors today, please make yourself known to any one of us.

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## Murmurings from the Manse

What does November mean to you?

For many people the first word that comes to mind is Remembrance, this is the month words like sacrifice and duty and peace come to the fore.

What is it that we remember?

Very few were there, yet the clamour for their stories seems to only increase, photos of family members who never returned become a source of sadness and pride and children take them to school, thrilling to talk about that special person they never knew but who is connected to them regardless.

And what does it mean in 2019, 80 years since World War Two began, when Europe, instead of being United seems to be heading for division.

Someone asked me this week if I thought it a good idea that we became more inward looking at this time, concerned primarily for ourselves ...

I shook my head, was this what past generations fought for?

What does our current situation do to honour the names of those who gave their lives for freedom?

Jesus taught us to consider all people, not just our own, our community, those who think and live like us.

Have we done that - does our current situation reflect well on us?

So we remember, we give thanks, we celebrate our freedom ... but let us prove worthy of it.

And let us remember our common humanity and be united by a shared humility.

In the name of the one called the Prince of Peace,

**Sarah**

Members of the church joined family and friends for the funeral of **Bob Adams**, who died on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Bob and his wife June, who died in 2010, were part of our church for over 90 years. I remembered that in 1999, for our bicentennial celebration of the beginning of our church in Wood Street, June wrote of her life in the church. Here is what she wrote.

“My parents Dorothy (nee Chequer) & Harry Townsend were married on the 13th April 1925 in this church which was then known as The Congregational Church, (The Congs). My sister Betty & I were both baptised here in 1926 and 1928 respectively, and both attended Sunday School.

I commenced Sunday School at the young age of three years, and in those days we had Sunday School Anniversaries which were always held on Whit Sundays. At the afternoon service most of the scholars took part either by reciting or singing and the teachers and children rendered musical items from special Anniversary leaflets. The varied programme was quite a long one, there being between thirty and forty children attending the Sunday School. Miss Hilda Chequer who was my mother's cousin and who I always addressed as Aunty Hilda was then Church organist, And together with Mr Theophilus Angelinetta (who was the father of Mrs Violet Lewis who in her nineties still attends Church services) and Superintendent and other teachers trained us for many weeks before the big day.

I remember Miss Chequer (Aunty Hilda) teaching me a little four lined hymn "Saviour stay beside me" when I was three in 1931 and when it was my turn to take part on the programme, she stood me on the organ stool so that I should be seen.

These Anniversary services were extremely well attended and extra seating accommodation had to be put down the aisles for these occasions.

Mr Bert Rouse followed Mr Theophilus Angelinetta as Sunday School Superintendent, and afterwards Mr Leslie Angelinetta, and during that time, John Russ, Betty, Bob and I, Ann Lynch (nee Norris) and her sister Joy were teachers and several senior scholars assisted in the Sunday School. We spent many happy years working together with the children.

Sunday School outings to the seaside took place in early August and a "Party & Prize Giving" for regular attendance was held in January.”

June Adams, November 1999

### Rotas for November

	Church Flowers	Welcome	Vestry	Notices	Readers	Communion	Tea
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jenny	Lorna	Joy	Jenny	Andrew, Jade	Joy, Jack	Andrew, Joy
10 <sup>th</sup>	Angela	Joy	Jenny	Jenny	Ron, Margaret		Jack, Isobel
17 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret	Jack	Andrew	Jenny	Jack, Lorna		Lorna, Eileen
24 <sup>th</sup>	Eileen	Eileen	Fiona	Jenny	Fiona, Nicky		Jenny, Tom



Bible Study at St Bart's Church Croft  
7pm Wednesdays  
November 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> December 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>

**For your December Diary**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> St Bart's 6-7pm  
Special Joint Songs of Praise service

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 10-midday  
Musical Christmas Morning, with mince pies

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall  
RWB Orchestra Concert

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm  
Christmas Eve Carol Service

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Four teams enjoyed the church quiz on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Thanks to Lorna for setting original and challenging questions. £75.37 was raised, the winning team nominated the charity Mind and a donation of £60 will be sent, the rest to church funds.

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The URC pens could make a great Christmas gift !!  
Still available for £1.50

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Our windows have been restored by neighbours of the church and volunteers from the RWB Shed and are ready to be put up for Advent.



## Church Diary for November

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November pm

**Act of Remembrance** at the War Memorial. Parade leaves Iceland car park 2pm, ceremony at the War Memorial 2.15/2.30, followed by **Service of Remembrance** in St Bartholomew's Church

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm St Bartholomew's Church

**Requiem by Gabriel Faure** Sung by St Bartholomew's Choir and friends

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm Steam Museum, Swindon

**Swindon Symphony Orchestra** presents A Night at the Movies - featuring Nicky on 'cello. Tickets £15 adults, £5.00 children online at [swindonsymphonyorchestra.org.uk](http://swindonsymphonyorchestra.org.uk)

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> **Church meeting** following service, then lunch at 5 Bells. Please let Joy know to be included in lunch booking.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am Putting Christmas Decorations up in church, please come along and help if you can.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> St Bartholomew's Church

**Opening evening of St Bart's Christmas Tree Festival**, Our string quartet playing 6.45-7.15, 7.30-8pm

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> High Street 6-8.30pm

Christmas Lights switch on and shopping

29<sup>th</sup> November - 2<sup>nd</sup> December **St Bart's Christmas Tree Festival**



**Hive Toddler Group** for parents, carers, and babies and toddlers, meets Thursday mornings, 9.30-11.30

### Contact details

#### Minister

Revd Sarah Simpson 32 Niebull Close Reeds Farm Malmesbury SN16 9TX Tel: 01666 826866

#### Church Secretary and Serving Elder

Joy Mattis 01793 848328

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

Fiona Butler 01793 849075

#### Church Treasurer and Serving Elder

Jenny Stratton 07818 450651

#### Serving Elder

Andrew Crown 01793 330502

#### Pastoral Visitor and Serving Elder

Mrs E.Henly 01793 848712

#### Hall Booking Contacts

Ron & Margaret Wills  
[ronwills1940@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ronwills1940@tiscali.co.uk)

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

Find us on Facebook  
Twitter @rwburc

#### Web-site and newsletter editor

Jenny Stratton 01793 850310  
[jennystratton35@gmail.com](mailto:jennystratton35@gmail.com)