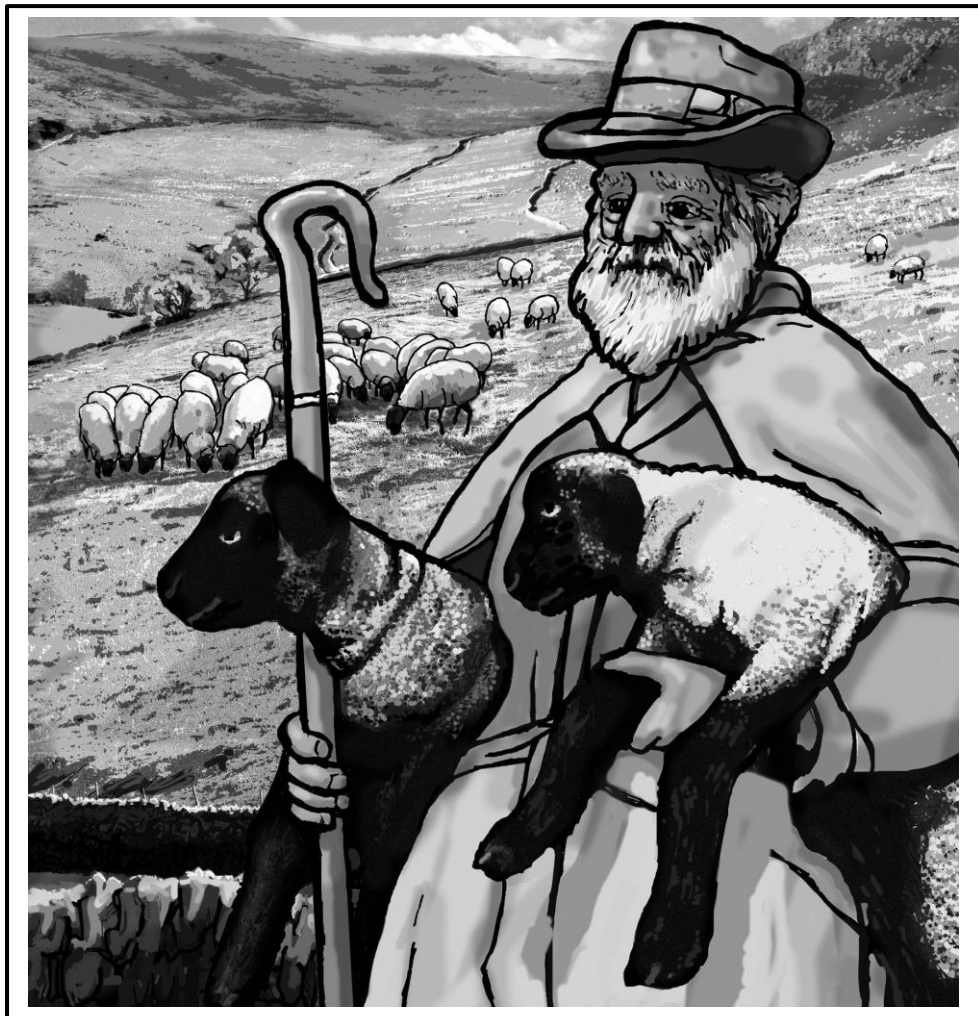


Charlton St. Peter, Rushall & Upavon
TOGETHER
Church & Village News



May



2025

WHO TO CONTACT:

Team Rector: Revd. Canon Rhona Floate, The Rectory, Pewsey, SN9 5DL (day off Friday) Tel: 01672 705130 rhonafloate@aol.com

Team Vicar: Revd. Mark Windsor, The Vicarage, Wilcot, Pewsey, SN9 5NS (day off Thursday), Tel: 01672 564265 markwindsor923@btinternet.com

Associate Priest and Rural Dean: Revd. Canon Gerald Osborne, Tel 01672 563459 gerald.osborne@lawnfarm.co.uk

Team Vicar for Community Outreach & Mission: Revd. Hazel Davis, Tel: 07393 116123 revhazeld@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: Revd. Matthew Haynes; Tel: 07884 070173 mhaynes100@aol.com

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Anne Mantle 01672 564252 anneimantle@gmail.com

Libby Turner 01672 851141 libbyturner537@gmail.com

PEWSEY TEAM OFFICE: Bouverie Hall, Pewsey 01672 562221

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 11am to 3pm; Wednesday 12noon to 3pm.

EMAIL: team.office@valeofpewsey.org website: <http://www.valeofpewsey.org>

Churchwardens

Upavon	Dr Bill Coker	01980 630803
	Mrs Linda Ward	07976 805592
Rushall	Mr Richard Wohanka	07920 067563
Charlton St Peter	Mrs Rosie Cunningham	01980 630321

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Mr Bill Bracher 01980 630173; Mrs Anne Prince 01980 630008

Hospital visits - If you need a visit in hospital or know someone who has been taken in who would like a visit, please contact a member of the clergy.

Home Communion If you know someone who is unable to get to church and wishes to receive Communion, please contact Bill Bracher on 01980 630173 and he will make arrangements for this to happen.

Please contact a member of the clergy to discuss Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Confirmation, the Blessing of your home, Service of Prayer and Dedication, Renewal of Wedding Vows. To visit in hospital, and the dying at home or in hospital. The clergy are here to help and serve, with our Lay Pastoral Assistants

Catholic Parish Priest: Father Saji Mathew 01980 622177

Services at Christ the King, Lords Croft, Amesbury SP4 7EP

Weekday mass 10.00 am; Vigil Mass 6.00 pm Saturdays; Mass 11.00am Sundays

Methodist Minister: Revd. Stephen Skinner 01672 512457 rev.stephen.skinner3@gmail.com
Pewsey Methodist Church, Sunday services 10.30am

Upavon Baptist Chapel Contact: Mary Jarvis 07876193640
Services 2nd Sunday of each month at 3.30 pm

UPAVON RUSHALL & CHARLTON LINK

07501 004349

TOGETHER MAGAZINE ADVERTISING AND REVENUE and items of news or notices for the next issue, please contact stef.cascarini@gmail.com by the 14th of the month.

The Ministry Letter

What gives us hope? One of the things that gives me hope and joy is planting seeds in the Spring. I'm ever hopeful of a bountiful and flower filled garden over the coming months! Have you spent time and effort nurturing tender plants against the vagaries of our Spring weather? When is it safe to plant out or will a late frost ruin all my hard work?

Compared to other parts of the world though, we have it easy, and our climate is good for growing. In much of the world, the changing climate is having devastating effects. Through St Timothy's Foundation, our local churches offer support to the people in Nzara in South Sudan. They have suffered both floods and heatwaves, which have destroyed crops and brought real hardship.

The middle of May is Christian Aid week. This year the focus is on rural farmers from indigenous communities in Guatemala, a small republic in central America. As in Africa, gruelling heatwaves, savage storms and unpredictable seasons are ravaging the land. Many of the vital crops that the rural communities depend on are withering and dying before their eyes.

Christian Aid brings hope to poor and marginalized communities throughout the world, regardless of their religious beliefs. It works through local community enterprises and does not seek to preach. In Guatemala Christian Aid is bringing hope through building structures to conserve water, providing specialist support to plant more resilient crops, and helping with making home-made fertilizer.

The incredible work of Christian Aid around the world is supported with funds raised locally. As part of our support for Christian Aid we are holding a Big Brekkie. Everyone is welcome – please do come along. (**See advert in this magazine**)

Ultimately, we can find hope in God's love for us all through Jesus Christ. And it is that hope which gives people, gives us, the courage to bring hope to others.

May the God of hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit, fill you with joy and peace, so that you may bring hope to others.

Anne Mantle

Church Services at Upavon, Rushall and Charlton St Peter

4 May (3rd Sunday of Easter)

St Mary's, Upavon, 9.30am Informal Worship

11 May (4th Sunday of Easter)

St Mary's, Upavon, 9.30am Parish Communion

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Holy Communion BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6.00pm Evensong

18 May (5th Sunday of Easter)

St Mary's, Upavon, 8.00am Holy Communion BCP

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Parish Communion

25 May (6th Sunday of Easter)

St Matthew's, Rushall, 11.00am Matins BCP

St Peter's, Charlton St Peter, 6.00pm Parish Communion

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

Harry Hunt	Funeral at Salisbury Crematorium on 28th February
Terry Eyles	Funeral at St John the Baptist, Pewsey on 25th March
Tony Perry	Funeral at St James, North Newnton on 3rd April

THE ST TIMOTHY FOUNDATION

Dear All

Lent Lunches have continued and generous donations received. Thank you so much to all who made soups, provided beautiful homes for the events and supported them by coming along. There was quite a bit of competition however, from the good weather providing gardening opportunities that were not to be missed! Although we haven't raised sufficient funds to cover the Water Project, 80% has been covered since we first appealed for support of the Water Project last year. Thank you so much!

Easter brings the season of opening the Tea Rooms and selling plants in aid of St Timothy's on the May Bank Holidays (5th and 26th) between 10am and 2pm. A dedicated plant sale at Fairacre, North Newton, SN9 6JT on the 17th May will be between 10am and 2pm. Do come along, parking on site, refreshments available.

In June and July, when the marquee is up at Fairacre, we will have three events (All Event Drinks included in the ticket price)

7th June Call My Bluff Wine Tasting Tickets £25

21st June Afternoon Tea Tickets £17.50 (The Pelican Morris Men will be with us!)

5th July A Wedding Murder Mystery Tickets £35

All details are on the website where tickets can also be purchased. If you have difficulty finding any information or buying tickets then please call Ann on 01980 630256 or email as below. If you would like to help at any event then please do let me know how you would like to help. We are always looking for help!!

Donations continue to be very welcome for the Water Project at St Timothy's School via our donate page on www.sttimothy.org.uk where you can gift aid your donation if you are able. If you prefer to donate offline the Gift Aid form can be downloaded and the donation made by bank transfer to Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account No: 00101395 Account Name: The St Timothy Foundation or just drop it into me. Every penny you give will go towards the Water Project.

I also ask you to continue to keep in your thoughts and prayers the people of South Sudan as tensions are high and full scale civil war is feared. Please note that our website: www.sttimothy.org.uk will give you more information of the work that we support in South Sudan. Our schedule of events and fund raising activities for May through July are also on the website.

With abundant thanks, for your support.

Ann (Chair)
The St Timothy Foundation

01980 630256
info@sttimothy.org.uk
www.sttimothy.org.uk

Rushall & Charlton St Peter Village Hall

We have a most comfortable hall with under-floor heating, a large fitted kitchen, off-street parking and Wi-fi.

Morning, afternoon and evening sessions are available to book so please get in touch. Why not come and see us at one of our Hall Fund Raising Events.

Sat 3rd May – Coffee Morning and Plant Sale 10am - 12pm

(Plant Donations gratefully received, preferred drop-off 4 - 6pm on 2nd).

Thu 8th May - AGM 7pm (please come along and have your say).

Sat 7th June - Coffee Morning 10am - 12pm.

Fri 27th June Quiz Night - 7pm

(Bring a team - details on the Rushall Hall Web Site).

Sat 5th July Coffee Morning 10am - 12pm.

For all enquiries and bookings regarding the hall please contact us on:

Email: RCVH2000@gmail.com

Phone: [07407 216763](tel:07407216763)

Website: www.rushallcharltonvh.org.uk or

Facebook: [Rushall & Charlton Village Hall](#)


Antelope Inn Quiz Night

We run a monthly quiz evening **every 1st Sunday of each month from 1800 hrs.** A professional quiz master will conduct the important business! Book your teams by calling 01980 630025 or pop into the pub.

Next quiz Sunday May 4th




Come to our Big Brekkie!



Ready to change the world over breakfast? We'll be serving a delicious morning meal, while raising money to fight poverty and injustice worldwide.

Come and join us for bacon and vegan butties - and croissants.

At St John's Church, Pewsey
Sat. 17th May 8:30-10:30am
ALL WELCOME



ENFORD GARDENING CLUB



“Sustainable floristry”

Susanne Kennedy
Milston Flower Barn

Tuesday 13th May 2025

Bring and buy plant stall, Raffle
Tea and coffee

7.00 for 7.15 pm Enford Village Hall
Entrance £5

Contact steve.stringer@outlook.fr Tel 07899 758222



St Matthew's Church, Rushall, Pewsey

19th June 2025 at 7.00pm

**A Concert With
ANDREW RUMSEY
(Bishop)**



Andrew will be playing songs from his New Album just released
Collodion (recorded at St Matthew's)

Tickets £20 per person
Including Interval Refreshments

Payment: PCC Rushall, Acct 01724895, Sort Code, 30-92-63
Ref: AR Concert
Please pre-notify Colin Gale of purchases – co_jac@talktalk.net

The Arts Society – Pewsey Vale

May and June lectures.

The May lecture of The Arts Society - Pewsey Vale will take place on Tuesday 6th May at 2.30pm in the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey.

Barbara Askew will speak on **Charles 1 - King and Collector.**

This lecture celebrates the 400th Anniversary of Charles I's accession to the throne in 1625. Charles I's obsession for collecting works of art began when, as a 22-year-old prince, he travelled to Spain and saw the magnificent collection of the Spanish king, Philip IV. On becoming King in 1625 Charles purchased the fabulous collection of the Gonzaga Dukes of Mantua which included works by Titian, Raphael and Andrea Mantegna's astonishing series of paintings "The Triumphs of Caesar". Charles engaged Peter Paul Rubens to paint the ceiling of the Banqueting House in Whitehall and he appointed Anthony van Dyck as his Court Artist. By the end of his reign Charles had amassed over 2000 works of art but in doing so he had bankrupted England and alienated his people. His life ended on the scaffold in 1649 and most of the collection was sold in what was known as "The Commonwealth Sale" in 1650. While many works were retrieved by Charles 2nd during the Restoration, others now hang in the great Art Galleries of Europe.

Barbara Askew is an historian and has been a London Blue Badge Guide since 1988. She is a Lecturer, Examiner and Course Director on Blue Badge Guide Training Courses and an acknowledged expert on Royalty and Windsor Castle and the only Blue Badge Guide accredited to guide the Albert Memorial.

Doors open at 2.00pm and non-members are always welcome - £7 card or cash on arrival.

The June lecture of the Arts Society - Pewsey Vale, will take place on Tuesday 3rd June at 2.30pm in the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. This is the last lecture before the summer break and lectures will resume in September.

Frank Woodgate will speak on **The Bird in Art from Pre-history to the Present Day.**

Most people love watching and listening to birds, from colourful jays to squawking parakeets, and this lecture enables us to look at them in all their glory. From Aboriginal rock decorations, millennia ago, to the present day, birds appear in many different guises: as hunters and hunted, doves as symbols of peace or the holy spirit. Or we find them as attributes or the alter ego of gods: for example Juno's peacocks, Jupiter's eagle or Minerva's wise owl. This lecture not only celebrates the beauty of these wonderful wild creatures, but also shows the huge variety of ways in which artists have painted or sculpted them over the years. As Sir David Attenborough said: "Everyone likes birds. What wild creature is more accessible to our eyes and ears, as close to us and everyone in the world, as universal as a bird?"

Doors open from 2.00pm, but refreshments will be served AFTER the lecture. Non-members are very welcome to attend - £7 cash or card on arrival.

We hope you can join us.

Arts Society - Pewsey Vale website: taspv.org.uk

* THE PRE-LOVED * FASHION EVENT

catwalk show and sale

Tuesday May 20, 6.30pm
Marlborough
Town Hall

Tickets £25, including
glass of wine on arrival

Doors open 6.30pm, fashion
show 7pm, exclusive access
to pre-loved sale, 7.45pm

Exquisite pre-loved clothes,
accessories and jewellery

Pre-loved sale continues on
Wednesday May 21,
9.30am to 3pm, **free entry**



Secure your seats at:

wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk/future-events



Upavon Village Hall

Large, well maintained hall available for hire

Competitive hourly rates: village residents £8.00 per hour
(non-residents £9.00)

Suitable for large gatherings for up to 60 people with ample
plates, cups and saucers etc.

Free Wi-Fi

A well equipped kitchen

For enquiries or to book please email

upavonvillagehallbookings@gmail.com or call Lesley

07545543861

**We are always looking for new people to join our committee.
If you feel you could help please contact us!**

CHARLTON ST PETER 100 CLUB

(Licensed by Wiltshire Council for the Vale of Pewsey Team of Churches)

Our March 100 Club Draw took place after our service on Sunday 23rd March at
6pm.

Congratulations to the lucky winners:-

£100	S. Goldsmith (Charlton) No.48
£50	S. Newport (Charlton) No.64
£50	T. Baker (Devizes) No.43
£25	T. Kirby (Charlton) No.100
£25	H. Mansell (Manningford) No.53

Our April 100 Club Draw will take place after our Easter Service on Sunday 20th
April at 6pm and published in the next edition of the magazine.

We still have a few numbers available, so if you are interested in purchasing
number for £5 a month, please contact Ali Lacey 630385.

The Saxon Cemetery at Blacknall Field, Pewsey.

The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Blacknall Field, Pewsey, Wiltshire, offers a profound glimpse into early medieval England, particularly during the late fifth to mid-sixth centuries. Excavated between 1969 and 1976, this burial ground revealed over 100 graves, encompassing men, women, and children, many accompanied by a diverse array of grave goods. These findings have significantly enhanced our understanding of the period's burial customs, social structures, and material culture.

Historical Context

Situated in the Vale of Pewsey, Blacknall Field lay near the western frontier of early Anglo-Saxon expansion, bordering territories inhabited by the Britons. This strategic location suggests that the community may have experienced frequent interactions, and possibly conflicts, with neighbouring groups. Analysis of the skeletal remains indicates a population that, while generally healthy, bore evidence of weapon-inflicted injuries, underscoring the turbulent nature of the era.

Excavation and Findings

Directed by Ken Annable and later completed by Dr. Bruce Eagles, the excavation uncovered 104 inhumation graves and four cremation burials. The graves were predominantly oriented west-east, with the majority of individuals interred in a supine position. Notably, one grave (Grave 71) contained an adult male buried prone with evidence of post-mortem amputations, suggesting possible social deviance or unique burial practices.

Grave Goods and Material Culture

The cemetery yielded a rich assortment of grave goods, reflecting the community's material culture and social stratification. Weapons such as swords, spears, and shields were commonly found in male graves, indicating the martial nature of the society. Female burials often contained items like brooches, beads, and jewellery, signifying personal adornment and possibly social status. Notably, some graves included Roman coins repurposed as jewellery, suggesting a continuity of cultural practices and the symbolic value attributed to these items.

Organic Material Preservation

Remarkably, organic materials were preserved on some metal artifacts due to mineralization processes. This preservation allowed for the identification of textiles and leather, providing insights into clothing and accessory construction. For instance, remnants of purses and garments were reconstructed from these materials, offering a tangible connection to the daily lives of the interred individuals.

Social Analysis

Detailed analyses of the burial practices at Blacknall Field have illuminated aspects of the Community's social structure. The distribution of grave goods, variations in grave construction, and demographic data suggest a society with defined roles based on age, gender, and possibly status. For example, the presence of weapon burials predominantly among adult males points to a warrior ethos, while the inclusion of jewellery and domestic items in female graves highlights the importance of adornment and household roles.

Publication and Legacy

The comprehensive findings from Blacknall Field were meticulously documented in "The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Blacknall Field, Pewsey, Wiltshire" authored by F.K. Annable and B.N. Eagles. Published in 2010, this monograph stands as a significant contribution to the study of early medieval Wessex, offering detailed analyses and interpretations of the site's archaeological data.

Conclusion

The Blacknall Field cemetery serves as a vital archaeological site, shedding light on the complexities of Anglo-Saxon life during a period marked by migration and cultural transformation. Through the careful study of burial practices, grave goods, and skeletal remains, researchers have gained invaluable insights into the health, social organization, and cultural affiliations of this early medieval community.

Bob McDonald

Nurture Nature: May 2025

We read daily of animals and birds driven to extinction, here's one of the extinct species which could be regenerated. It's 10,000 years since there were woolly mammoths here on planet earth, but scientists in the US are working towards bringing it back from extinction. They have engineered mice to grow thick, warm coats by using DNA from mammoths remains. The future aim is to use this technique on elephants so that they become woolly mammoths.

Elephants in a California wildlife park demonstrated their remarkable intelligence recently – they can detect early warnings of earthquakes through their feet and formed what is known as an 'alert circle' during the 5.2 magnitude earthquake that shook Southern California last month, showing the pachyderms scrambling to protect their calves by surrounding them in an alert circle.

Some readers might have watched BBC TV Planet Earth III, narrated by Sir David Attenborough. In central Africa 95% of the elephant population is slaughtered for their ivory. Their near extinction alters the whole eco system of the area. Nature must be allowed to restore its own balance. We need to ensure that we assist Nature to survive and restore and nurture these fine balances. Another excellent series currently on BBC TV is 'The Americas' (both North and South), narrated by Tom Hanks, which demonstrates the fragile balances in the different eco systems.

Those readers who bought the Royal Mail's special Wildlife stamp issue will recognise how much of nature is around us and in our own gardens to enjoy, as we wrote in the August 2024 column. Now is the time that nestlings are becoming fledglings and are at their most vulnerable to predators, especially from corvids, grey squirrels, raptors and our own domestic moggies. So please do all you can to ensure that nestlings and fledglings are protected, the latter until they have learned to fly. Please remember to keep your feeding stations and bird baths scrupulously clean because there is still avian flu about. Also, as reported in earlier years be aware, especially if you are a beekeeper, that Asian hornets are now more prevalent. Let us ensure our own habitats are safe for nurturing nature.

The Princess of Wales told scouts of the healing benefits of Nature on a visit to the Lake District in mid-April, describing how she had found a very spiritual and very intense reconnection with nature.

Otis Tarda