

St Olave's Church, Gatcombe

September 2021



Our recent trip to Wales saw us travelling along the now familiar A470 from Mid Wales to Merthyr, as well as narrow country lanes that were completely unknown to us. Being sensible cyclists and walkers, we plotted a route, uploaded it to our various navigation devices and duly set off, (with rain gear ready!).

Once again, we wanted to climb Pen y Fan, which now didn't seem quite so frightening. At the summit of the (first!) hill, God showed us that sometimes we cannot always have sunshine. Having donned the water-proofs, we pressed on, only to be told by the route navigation that we needed to continue along the same path, and that it was straight up.

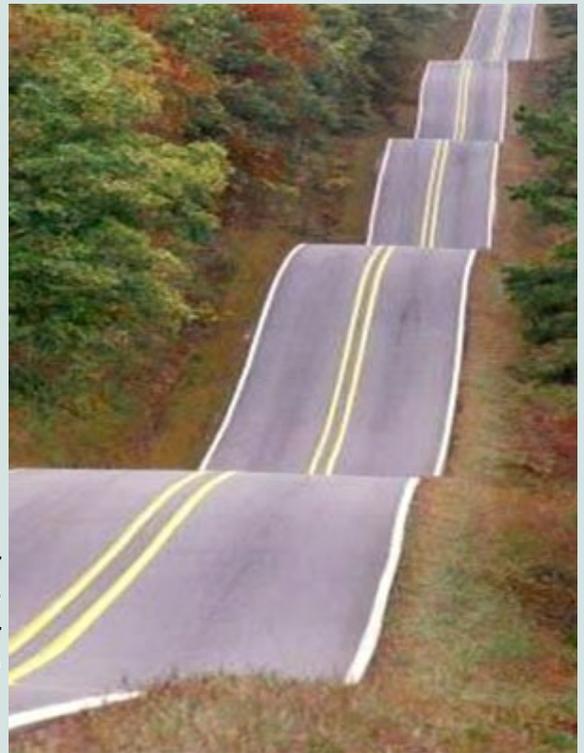
After a lung-busting climb, and a sweaty red-faced rest at the top, we continued on our way, until we came to a right turn. Surely not! It was a sheep track up, yet another hill towards Brecon. A quick look at the map and alternative route was found, still giving us a spectacular view of the valleys.

What we hadn't appreciated when planning our route was the contours and the path surfaces involved. If you look at the picture the route looks simple, and the elevation under the picture doesn't do justice to what it was in "real life."

Sometimes we think we have got our faith clearly mapped out. We may even think we can take a shortcut. However, it is only when we start out on the journey of faith that the up and downs become apparent. We may have to rest along the way, we may have to "get off and walk", but God is there to guide us. When we have to make a change of direction, he will guide us along the correct path, and who knows what we will see along the way.

Prayer: *Almighty God, show us the way you want us to travel. We know it may not be easy. There will be rain as well as sunshine. There will be ups and downs. We may have to change direction. However, we know that you will guide us safely home, and you will show us the wonder of your creation along the way. AMEN*

Leonie Terry



Services and Readings for September

Sunday 5th September	11am	Holy Communion	James 2:1-10, 14-17 Mark 7:24-end
Sunday 12th September	11am	Holy Communion	1 Timothy 2:1-7 Matthew 6:25-33
Sunday 19th September	6.30pm	Evensong	James 3:13 – 4: 3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37
Sunday 26th September	11am	Holy Communion	James 5:13-end Mark 9:38-end

In Your Prayers...

We Pray

For your help and comfort for the people of Afghanistan and ask that you bring peace to those engaged in armed conflict and all who live within its shadow.



We Pray

For the people of Haiti who are once again facing the fear and devastation from the recent earthquake. Comfort and strengthen them in their time of need.

We Pray

For those still suffering physically or mentally from the Covid Pandemic and ask that you help and support us all as we look forward with optimism and hope for the future.

We Pray

For the Parish of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe, as we continue to work together to strengthen our unity.

Tony Taylor (Hon Treasurer)

Chillerton Show

The good old British weather triumphed again with its rain for Chillerton Show! Were we downhearted? Not a bit (well, maybe a little when trying to protect our stall with flimsy plastic whilst holding an umbrella!!).

However, the stoic attending public were coerced into spending their money, clearing the tombola stall and making a big dent in the bric-a-brac. The amazing result was a fantastic £189 raised for Church funds. A huge thank you for all the generous prizes donated for the tombola stall and items for the bric-a-brac.



A big thank you to those who organised the stall and to the Chillerton Show Committee for inviting us. Our very own Rev. Steve Sutcliffe opened the Show and familiarised himself with the village and its people; thank you, Steve (and we know you didn't prolong your stay in the hall just to get out of the rain!!!).

Hilary Jones

Saying Goodbye to Elizabeth

Choose a person, living or dead, famous or not, who had a tremendous impact on people's lives and it would be difficult not to bring to mind St Olave's lovely Lay Reader, Fund Raiser, PCC Secretary and much-loved friend, Elizabeth Peace – and this became obvious by the number of people who gathered together to pay their respects at her funeral on July 29th.

It was a tribute to the years of Elizabeth's selfless service, love and care that St Olave's was filled to capacity with family, close friends and representatives from the various associations and interests to which she belonged.

The Lord Lieutenant of the Isle of Wight, Mrs Susie Sheldon spoke very movingly of the time Elizabeth became her Chaplain during her year as the Island's High Sheriff, the fun they had enjoyed and how they had remained such good friends.

Our own Revd. Stephen had known Elizabeth for many years and spoke of the help and encouragement she had always given him, her strong and unfailing faith, and what a tremendous loss she would be to all who knew her – and as he said, 'they broke the mould' – she was very special.

The Venerable Peter Leonard, Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight, and Team Rector of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe, read the lesson; Canon Hilary Spurgeon, Deputy Warden of the Readers, read 'Crossing the Bar' by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and Lay Reader, Richard Smout represented Elizabeth's fellow Lay Readers by reading 'A Celtic Blessing'.

The church looked beautiful - filled with glorious flowers in her honour. We are planning to hold a Memorial Service sometime in early spring 2022 and will let everyone know the date well in advance.

Liz Taylor (Churchwarden)



The Marriage of
Natasha Pitt & Andrew Burden
took place on
Saturday June 12th 2021
at Gatcombe Church



The Funeral of
Gavin Paul Williams
took place on
Wednesday August 25th 2021
at Gatcombe Church



Your Memories of Elizabeth Peace...

Many of you will have fond memories of Elizabeth and we would like to gather and compile these into a booklet. Please send your recollections to Harriet (spottydogs@hotmail.com)

There will be a Memorial Service for Elizabeth, at St Olave's, in spring 2022.

Contact Us...

Revd Steve Sutcliffe:
01983 520884

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Curate, Revd Hannah Barraclough:
hannah.barraclough@cofenewportandcarisbrooke.org

Churchwardens:
Liz Taylor - 840575
Harriet Robinson - 721766



Coming Events & Services

(Listed in date order)

Lots coming up over the next few weeks. Gosh, you can hardly bear the excitement after the past eighteen months, so diaries at the ready!!!

Saturday 4th September

Autumn Fayre & Produce Sale from 10am till noon.

St Olave's Coffee Shop will be open for drinks and homemade cakes; stalls, including Roy Early's wonderful flowers and produce and, wait for it... **A Christmas Corner.** As we aren't holding our Christmas Market this year, come and get ahead with your Christmas shopping. What a good idea.

Saturday 11th September

Harvest Supper at St Olave's at 7pm. 'Ploughman's and Puddings'

Donations to charity, but please let Liz on 840575 or Harriet on 721766 know if you would like to come as we don't want to run out of Ploughmen!! Small groups at socially distanced tables, this year.

Also on **Saturday 11th September**

Ride & Stride round the historic churches on the Island. More details on www.hihct.org.uk

Sunday 12th September

Harvest Festival Service at 11am.

Please bring non-perishable food stuff and toiletries that will be donated to The Food Bank.

Sunday 19th September

Choral Evensong at St Olave's at 6.30pm with Cantus Vesperi.

What a treat. Do join us for this very special Service.

