

## FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING: –

**SUNDAY CLUB:** Our 'Sunday Club' has activities for those from 3 to early teens. Look out for the words 'Sunday Club' next to particular services in our List of Services.

**THE FOOD BANK.** A local Food Bank provides emergency short-term support to families in crisis. Much of the produce gathered at our Harvest Services will be donated to the local Food Bank, whilst some will also be distributed locally in the communities. If you know of someone in urgent need of support, please speak to a member of the clergy locally, or to our local school Headteacher, Mrs Wilcox.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all those who have responded so far to the new Stewardship Scheme for St Leonard's, Whitsbury. Your help and commitment is vital and much appreciated.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all those who are contributing in various ways to the improvements at St George's, Damerham. A major programme of work has been identified which is likely to cost several tens of thousands of pounds over the next four years (including repair and renewal work on the windows, the bell tower roofing and the porch). Any help would be very much appreciated.

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### FROM THE REGISTERS:

#### Marriages & Services of Thanksgiving for Marriage

##### St George, Damerham

30<sup>th</sup> June

Lisa Harris & Tom Whittington

6<sup>th</sup> July

Charlie Parker & Tiffany Pain

##### St Leonard, Whitsbury

23<sup>rd</sup> June

Stuart & Hazel Watts (Thanksgiving)

#### Funerals

##### St George, Damerham

21<sup>st</sup> May

Catie Tiller

17<sup>th</sup> July

Audrey Pople

##### St Leonard, Whitsbury

4<sup>th</sup> June

Marjorie Heezer (Salisbury Crematorium)

16<sup>th</sup> June

Mary Houghton-Brown

18<sup>th</sup> July

Bill Currie (Ashes)

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**For all pastoral enquiries including baptisms, marriages, funerals and other related matters, please contact the Rector, Rev'd Les Player, The Rectory, Mill End, Damerham, SP6 3HU (01725) 518642. For information concerning individual parishes including matters of a general nature, please contact the Churchwarden: -**

Damerham	John Godber (01425 650044)	Cathy Godber (01425 650044)
Martin	Michael Rhodes (01725) 519715	Fran Eardley (01725) 519423
Rockbourne	Patrick Thompson (01725) 518246	
Whitsbury	Chris Harper (01725) 518324	

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### THE COURIER

Please send contributions for the next Courier to the Editor, Midge Connell [meconnell53@gmail.com](mailto:meconnell53@gmail.com). The deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018. The Courier, with the benefit of a bit of colour printing, can be delivered by email, please contact the Editor to be added to this list.

**NB. Please note the new email address for the Editor and the changed contact details for the new Church Wardens in Martin.**

News and Views from the Church of England  
in Damerham, Martin, Rockbourne and Whitsbury

# THE COURIER

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2018

A Newsletter for the Communities of the Western Downland

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## A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

### Everyone deserves a Holiday

If you're anything like me, life is constantly crowding in with its loud demands for attention and action. This is exacerbated by our availability through technology. So it's good to find those periods in our lives when we can step away from our normal routines and catch our breath. The very design of God's creative act in the opening two chapters of the Bible contained within it the space for rest, reflection and renewal, both in the concept of a sabbath, or rest day and also in the language of God walking with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in the cool of the evening.

After our recent heat haze (I write this in early July), I can appreciate just how pleasant it can be to walk in the cool of the evening! But seeking places of rest and renewal has to be intentional; they rarely happen by accident. Jesus intentionally spent time away from the crowds; time to be with his closest friends, time to pray, time to recover, reflect and prepare for new encounters and rising challenges. So, can I encourage you to make time not only for a holiday, but also to make times in your lives which can be holy days (which is the original meaning of the word holiday) and holy hours, when you can be renewed and find new energy and inspiration. To do so will enrich not only you, but those around you.

Rev'd. Les Player



**On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018.** A sponsored Bike Ride or Walk to raise money for historic churches, chapels and meeting houses. Check the website for local participants in Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset: -

[www.rideandstrideuk.org](http://www.rideandstrideuk.org)