

Five Alive!



A Monthly Magazine

**for the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge,
Braishfield, Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne**

February 2024

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BRAISHFIELD

including the parishes of Michelmersh, Awbridge, Braishfield,
Timsbury and Farley Chamberlayne

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Associate Priest: Revd Jane Thompson 01794 502035

Jane.Thompson@me.com

Church Wardens

Awbridge	Mr Fred Tucker	01794 340709
	Mrs. Mary Savage	01794 367908
Braishfield	Mr. Andrew Brooks	01794 523928
	Miss Sarah Boothman	01794 368143
Farley Chamberlayne	Mr. Iain Chisholm	01794 368250
	Miss Hannah Boothman	01794 368143
Michelmersh	Mrs. Clare Harvey	01794 368789
	Mr. Peter Hill	01794 523364
Timsbury	Mrs. Catherine Baker	01794 368364
	Dr. John Glasspool	01794 368017

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Romsey

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Benefice Administrator: Sarah Boothman

Items for 5 Alive

may be sent to Sarah at the
Benefice Office by post or
email.

**Deadline for
March edition**

Mon 19th February

This edition
will be available by
Sunday 25th February

From the Rector: Rev Tom Benson

Dear friends,

We are at the beginning of a brand new year with all the challenges and joys that that will inevitably bring with it. I am sure that I am not alone in sometimes feeling that we seem to have more challenges than joys to look forward to over the coming months. However, it is also true, I think, that there is still much to be grateful for. We are fortunate to live in a great part of the country, places that still have such a strong sense of community and where by and large we can live our lives in safety. When there seems to be so much chaos in terms of finance, politics and conflict etc it can skew our view of the world, it can seem a very dark and cruel place, and although there are cruelties and there is darkness those things do not dominate on a day to day basis. The truth is that the world still turns on kindness, those small acts of love that get us through and that we can give and receive every day. It is very often these kindnesses that help to hold us until better times come around. Giving and receiving kindness helps to maintain our hope.

At the start of 2024 we find ourselves once again in a world in which open conflict has broken out in so many regions. The Middle East, Africa and Ukraine are in our news feeds daily. Across our churches we hold everyone affected by these events in our prayers in every service, and I would encourage everyone to keep praying for them (in whatever form that may take) as we go about our daily lives. On the 7th of February at 7.30pm we will be holding a service of prayer and lament at All Saints Braishfield where we can join together in witness to the pain and loss that happens when neighbour turns against neighbour. You are all invited to come along; whether you have a faith or not, you are most welcome.

February sees the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday on the 14th. Christians use the six weeks before Easter to prepare themselves for Holy Week and the great joy of Easter Sunday itself - the most important in the Christian calendar when we celebrate that Jesus rose again. It is in the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus that we can see what kindness, love and hope look like.

God Bless,

Tom

Glimpse Videos - something to explore

We can all do with something to encourage us and make us think, especially in the darker days of winter!

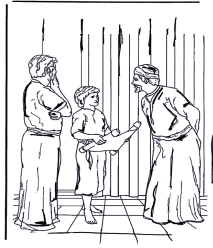


Adam Clewer, son of Trevor and Sheila of Awbridge, is lead pastor at South Shore Community Church in Boston, Massachusetts. Alongside this ministry he makes short uplifting videos - like a 'Thought for the Day.' They are called 'Glimpse videos'. They have a wide reach - with followers all around the world.

The videos are designed to be inspiring and to give a taste of the good news of Jesus in a very accessible format. You can access the videos free on YouTube. You can also find them on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. Have a look and see what you think! The link is below.

<https://youtube.com/@GlimpseSeries?si=rQVUlsQAZRdb1e4v>

Or just google 'Adam Clewer Glimpse videos' for lots of options!



Friday 16 February 2024

All Welcome 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**Braishfield Church Room, Church Lane, Braishfield,
SO51 0QH**

MESSY ACTIVITIES CELEBRATION FEAST

Messy Church is organised by the members of the local village churches for all families to attend,

Children to be accompanied by parent/carers.

For info contact:

Rev Jane Thompson jane.thompson@me.com 01794 502035

Free event - donations always welcome

JAZZ NIGHT

**17th
FEBRUARY**

**THE RETURN OF
THE MOSS
BROS**

**£25
only**

**INCLUDES
2 COURSE MEAL**

**JAZZ FROM
THE OLD AND NEW
AMERICAN SONG BOOK**

Music

OLD BOOK FEATURES:

**Irving Berlin
George Gershwin
Cole Porter**

NEW BOOK FEATURES:

**Steve Wonder
Dolly Parton
Billy Joel**

**Starts 7pm at
Awbridge Village Hall**

To book tickets contact
chanwel@yahoo.co.uk
or **07740027007**

Reflections and Thoughts of a Ukrainian Family after a Year in Hampshire

Never mind a pin, you couldn't hear a piece of thread drop when Vlad came to the end of his extremely powerful talk at Michelmersh Barns at the end of November.

Vlad is a 22 year old Ukrainian who has lived in Michelmersh with his girlfriend, Katya and their host, Sue for the last 18 months. He was speaking at the monthly Friends of Michelmersh Church talk about his reflections on his flight from Kyiv in February 2022.

It was delivered with confidence and fluency and punctuated with short videos and slide shows. Together they told graphically of his and his family's life and houses before the Russian invasion and the carnage that remains after they have been bombed and looted. Vlad also shared his vision of his future, which he hopes will be in the UK.

The 40 strong audience was literally stunned to silence whilst we dwelt internally on the personal horror Vlad, Katya and their family have endured, and continue to endure. As Vlad pointed out, theirs is just one story of many.

We are unanimous in our heartfelt thanks to Vlad and Katya for putting together such an inspirational evening; we all returned home with our heads full of sadness and admiration.

Franny Hornblow



A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza

*Heavenly Father, we pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart
by conflict in Israel and Gaza.*

*We pray especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured
and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies.*

Strengthen and support the work of all relief organisations.

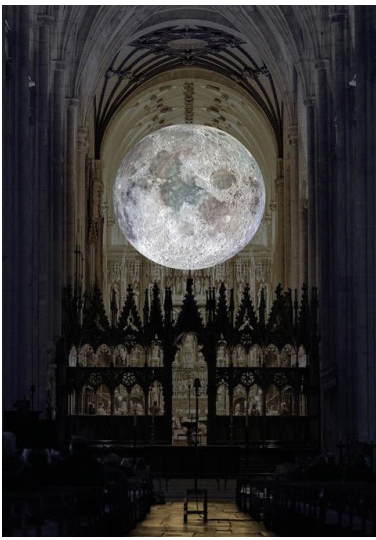
*We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be
touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness.*

*Lord hear us as we pray in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our
Lord.*

Amen.

Wednesday 7th February 7.30pm All Saints, Braishfield

**A whole benefice service of Prayer and Lament
for the areas of the world which are in conflict**



The Moon is coming to Winchester Cathedral!

The Museum of the Moon artwork by artist Luke Jerram is coming to Winchester for the first time in February 2024.

Already experienced by over 20 million people worldwide, the moon will finally arrive in Winchester for the very first time in February 2024. It was dubbed as one of the National History Museum's most popular exhibits of all time, after 2 million+ visitors congregated there to appreciate its beauty. Entry to see the Museum of the Moon artwork is included with your general admission ticket.

Image credit: Simon Newman

Visit the moon from 5th - 18th February during Cathedral opening hours

'Measuring seven metres in diameter, the moon features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface. At an approximate scale of 1:500,000, each centimetre of the internally lit spherical sculpture represents 5km of the moon's surface. Wander the majestic nave of Winchester Cathedral by moonlight and feel amazed by this breathtaking installation.'

Remember that each of our benefice churches has 6 free admission tickets for you to borrow and use. Your churchwardens should know where the tickets are - ask for them and use them!

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

All Saints Church Braishfield again looked especially nice for Christmas this year with the Flower Group and the Children combining their talents to decorate the church prior to the candlelit carol service and festive period. The children's festival is now firmly entrenched and as younger souls regularly arrive, it is an opportunity for them to connect with the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Our thanks go to the following who brought their trees together with a theme...

Ben Russell
Messy Church
Sparks Club
Lucy Rocques
The Morey's & Coughlin's
Braishfield Primary School

Connecting at Christmas
Nativity
Nativity Animals
Christmas Tree
A Woodland Christmas
Christmas Book Club



Yet again, I am especially indebted to Carole Renvoize for all her efforts in arranging the advertising around the village and overseeing the entry forms etc. All of us look forward and hope that there will continue to be the interest shown from children bringing their trees ...and ideas.....next December.

StephenTreglown



LENT

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 14th February
We will have a special service of Holy Communion with
imposition of ashes at St Mary's, Michelmersh at
7.30pm. Everyone is very welcome!

Christians use the season of Lent as a time to prepare for Holy Week and the joyful celebration of Easter. This is a good time to discover more about the bible and to grow in our faith. Here are the details of this year's Lent Course, planned to help us to do just.



Lent Course, Tuesday lunch time or Wednesday evening

What does Mark's Gospel say about the Easter Story?

What does Mark's Gospel say about the Easter Story? Put yourself in the place of Herod, Pilate, one of the bystanders - how might the events have appeared to them?

Five sessions, one each week during Lent, held at two venues:
either

Tuesday 12 noon (prompt!) to 2.00pm in Braishfield Church Room
including soup lunch, beginning **Tuesday 20th Feb** (12.30pm without lunch)

or

Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.00pm at Poppies, Choice Plants
including coffee/tea & cake beginning on **Wednesday 21st February**

Choose the session which suits you best. Vary from week to week if you need to.

No need to book, but if you would like lunch and have a specific dietary requirement, please let Sarah (seboothman@aol.com 01794 368143) know at least 24hrs before.



New car park at All Saints, Awbridge!

A great day in the life of Awbridge Church shortly before Christmas when Fred Tucker (churchwarden) signed the legal papers to finalise the provision of a church car park adjacent to All Saints, with a keen witness watching over. This project has been going on for a very long time, at least 10 years, and Fred

has persevered through many setbacks to ensure the provision of an excellent amenity for the church. Congratulations to Fred and everyone who has helped bring this project to fruition.

MARRIED OR BAPTISED AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH, AWBRIDGE?



An exhibition is being held 4th - 6th May 2024
9am - 5pm in the church to celebrate all
marriages and baptisms held there over the years.

If you would like to contribute photos and memories
of your special days, we would love to hear from you.
Please email: katiawalton1308@gmail.com for further details.
Closing date: 19th April 2024





St Andrew's Church Timsbury
presents

The Star of Bethlehem

A talk by Professor Julian Evans OBE, DSc, FICFor

Saturday 24th February
St Andrew's Church
6.30pm for 7pm start

Refreshments will be served afterwards

**BACK BY POPULAR
REQUEST**

Attendance by reserved seats

**ALL
WELCOME**

Please contact

Bryony Murphy: 01794 368355 bryonymurphy@hotmail.com

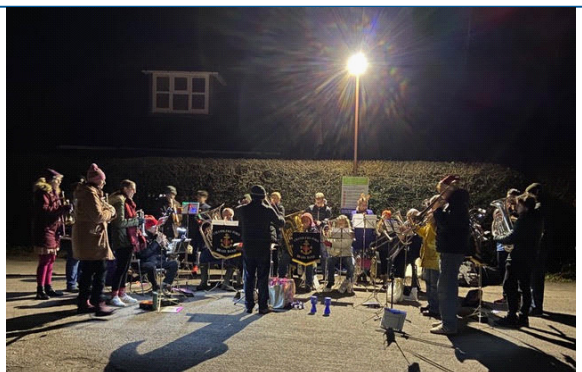
Maggie Hatfield: 07951 125370

**A collection will be made for our current fundraising project,
which is the installation of a toilet in the church grounds**

**Please share cars where possible to allow everyone
access to the church carpark.**

Looking back at Christmas

Carols on the Rec' at Braishfield
150 + people enjoyed singing along with the Chandler's Ford BB Brass Band. Mulled wine and hot dogs were available. £339.29 was donated to Action for Children.



Engrossed in activities at Messy Church shortly before Christmas- a great turn out of parents and children (and helpers!) for activities, worship and food.



All the crib Services were happy occasions. The participants at Farley dressed up!

Inspired by Chris Chisholm - who did a huge amount of work herself - Farley parishioners and their friends contributed an amazing 145 filled shoeboxes to this year's Benefice collection for House of Opportunity. £560 was donated towards the costs of transporting the boxes. A marvellous achievement!



Melting snowmen for the children at the Sparks After School Club!

And many other memorable events and celebrations across our parishes!

Dementia Sing Along

Hosted by Braishfield Ukulele Music Society



Come and join us for a fun afternoon, singing songs you will know. All welcome bring a Carer, Friend or Partner to this event. We will provide song sheets and refreshments will be served.

All Saint s Church Room, Braishfield, Romsey.
SO51 0QH

Parking on Site, Disabled Access and Toilet
Facilities

3rd Monday of the Month 19th Feb, 18th
March, 15th April 2024, then
every month except July and August.
from 2.30pm -4.00pm,

If you require further information please email:
dementiasingalong@gmail.com

This is a free event, if you would like to make a donation to
cover expenses, this would be appreciated.

**Men's Breakfasts - Sat 3rd
February and Sat 6th April**

8.30am Chambers, Romsey

Book in with Trevor Clewer on

0743 4593953



*Illustration
only!*

Explore the **Awbridge** pages on
the A Church Near You website.
Here's the link -
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18493/>

More about this next month.

Michelmersh Prize Draw

December 2023 Winners

1st Prize Peter Hatcher £72.80

2nd Prize Name withheld £36.40

3rd Prize Name withheld £20.40

Christmas Bonus Name withheld £25.00

January 2024 Winners

1st Prize Norton Welch £71.40

2nd Prize Name withheld £35.70

3rd Prize Bob Tyler £20.40

Contact Mr Peter Hill 01794 523364 or the Benefice Office if you would like to join in the monthly draw which raises funds for St Mary's PCC.

Overview of events in the Benefice in January/February

General

Men's Breakfast Sat 3rd February (see p.13)

Service of Prayer and Lament Wed 7th Feb 7.30pm All Saints Braishfield

Messy Church - Friday 16th February 3.30 Braishfield Church Room (see p.4)

Lent Courses starting week beginning 19th February (see p.9)

Awbridge

Jazz Night Sat 17th Feb 7.00pm Village Hall (see p. 5)

Coffee Hub Every Tuesday, 9 15-11 30 am Church Rooms. All welcome

Prayer Meeting Tuesdays 6th Feb, 20th February 8.45 am in Church Rooms before Coffee Hub

Awbridge Housegroup Wed 7th February 7 for 7.30pm at Chanwel

Craft & Chat Group Friday 26th Jan, 9th Feb, 23rd Feb at 10.30 am Committee Room, Awbridge Village Hall contact Sue Franklin 322185

The Ark, church Baby and Toddler group, every Friday except 16th February 9.30 - 11.00am

Braishfield

Dementia Singalong Mon 19th Feb 2.30 - 4pm Church Room (see p.13)

Village Voices Mon 22nd Jan, 26th Feb 2 - 4pm Church Room

Churchyard Working Party Sat 27th Jan 9.30am with refreshments

Michelmersh

Morning Prayer in the church at 9.15am every Thursday.

Michelmersh & Timsbury Lunch Club Thursday 15th February in the Jubilee Hall 1pm Contact Sarah Medley

Timsbury

Star of Bethlehem Talk Sat 24th Feb, St Andrew's (see p.11)

Coffee and Cake Tuesday 13th February 10.30am in the church

Next Celtic Prayer Tues 23rd January, Tues 27th February 11.00am in the church

Play Reading Group led by Olivia Murphy every Tuesday afternoon 2-3.30pm in the church

Like to check information online? For Braishfield see www.asbchurch.org
Awbridge <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18493/>

Both have links to Five Alive so you can read it in colour!

Bible readings for FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY - SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Old Testament Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Epistle Colossians 1.15-20

Gospel John 1.1-14

Psalms 104.26-end

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Old Testament 2.Kings 2.1-12

Epistle 2.Corinthians 4.3-6

Gospel Mark 9.2-9

Psalms 50.1-6

WEDNESDAY 14th FEBRUARY – ASH WEDNESDAY

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5.20b - 6.10

Gospel John 8.1-11

SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY – 1st SUNDAY OF LENT

Old Testament Genesis 9.8-17

Epistle 1 Peter 3.18-end

Gospel Mark 1.9-15

Psalms 25.1-9

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY – 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

Old Testament Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16

Epistle Romans 4.13-end

Gospel Mark 8.31-end

Psalms 22.23-end

SUNDAY 3rd MARCH – 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

Old Testament Exodus 20.1-17

Epistle 1 Corinthians 1.18-25

Gospel John 2.13-22

Psalms 19

SERVICES FOR JAN/FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY 28th JANUARY – CANDLEMAS **PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE**

10.00am King's Somborne **UNITED BENEFICE** A.Newport
HOLY COMMUNION & T.Benson

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY - 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION** T.Benson
9.30am Braishfield **FAMILY WORSHIP** J.Thompson
10.00am Timsbury (and Michelmersh) **MORNING WORSHIP** A.Newport
6.00pm Farley Chamberlayne **EVENING PRAYER** BCP J.Thompson
7.00pm Awbridge **INFORMAL BENEFICE WORSHIP** T.Benson

SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY - Sunday next before LENT

8.00am Farley Chamberlayne **HOLY COMMUNION** BCP T.Benson
9.30am Awbridge **MORNING WORSHIP** J.Thompson
9.30am Braishfield **MORNING WORSHIP** T.Benson
11.00am Timsbury **FAMILY SERVICE** J.Rennie
6.00pm Michelmersh **HOLY COMMUNION** T.Benson

WEDNESDAY 14th FEBRUARY - ASH WEDNESDAY

7.30pm Michelmersh **HOLY COMMUNION and imposition of ashes**
T.Benson/J.Thompson/A.Newport

SUNDAY 18th FEBRUARY – 1st SUNDAY OF LENT

9.00am Awbridge Village Hall **FAMILY BREAKFAST SERVICE** J.Thompson
10.00am Timsbury **HOLY COMMUNION** BCP T.Benson
11.15am Farley Chamberlayne **FAMILY SERVICE with BAPTISM** T.Benson
6.00pm Braishfield **EVENING PRAYER** BCP J.Thompson
6.00pm Michelmersh **EVENING PRAYER** BCP T.Benson

SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY - 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00am Michelmersh **HOLY COMMUNION** BCP T.Benson
9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION** T.Benson
9.30am Braishfield **HOLY COMMUNION** J.Thompson
11.15am Farley Chamberlayne **MORNING PRAYER** BCP J.Thompson
6.00pm Timsbury **EVENING PRAYER** BCP T.Benson

SUNDAY 3rd MARCH - 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

9.30am Awbridge **HOLY COMMUNION** T.Benson
9.30am Braishfield **FAMILY WORSHIP** A.Manners
10.00am Michelmersh (and Timsbury) **MORNING PRAYER** BCP J.Thompson
6.00pm Farley Chamberlayne **EVENING PRAYER** BCP T.Benson
7.00pm Awbridge **INFORMAL BENEFICE WORSHIP** J.Thompson

BCP - Book of Common Prayer - traditional language