



Four Beautiful Churches - Three Parishes – One in Christ

## Meon Bridge Benefice Pew News – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### Mothering Sunday

#### Dates for the Diary:

**Lent Lunch** – 1200 19Mar18 – St Andrew's Church – See Mthr Samantha for details.

**Stainer's Crucifixion from Scratch** 5pm (with rehearsal at 2.30pm),  
Sunday 25th March 2018 St Andrew's Church, Meonstoke

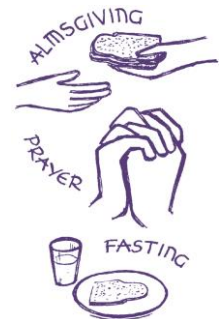
EVERYONE is welcome to come and sing this wonderful piece of music!

Please bring a score if you have one, but some spares will be available. Entry is FREE and there will be a retiring collection. Refreshments will be available during the performance. Please contact Sally on 01489 877983 if you would like to sing.

#### APMs and APCMs 2018

Calling potential churchwardens and PCC new members.

Exton	Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Corhampton & Meonstoke	Monday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2018
Droxford	Tuesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2018



#### Further Ahead

Bring and Buy **Coffee Morning** in aid of Wilfrid's Café in Droxford Church - 10.00am – 1.00pm, Wednesday 9th May

**Rogation Sunday** – with Beating the Bounds – 6 May 18

**Christian Aid Walk** – Wickham – 1 pm 20 May 18

Droxford **Country Fair** Saturday 2nd June 2018

Meonstoke and Exton **Church Fete** Saturday 16th June 2018

#### Thanks

- For the Droxford Safari Supper that raised £1000 for the new build.
- For the successful Lent Lunch on Tuesday (27Feb) in Droxford.
- For all those who came or helped at our first 'Messy Church' on Thursday
- For to Nicola Hulbert and the team who assembled our posies for Mothering Sunday.

**Confirmation:** Preparation for confirmation on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018 will begin soon after Easter. If you or your children are considering being confirmed please speak to Fr Tony.

#### LENT COURSES 2018 Continue - All Immensely Welcome

#### Please volunteer as a reader for the Passion on Palm Sunday!

We are currently seeking potential Church Wardens, PCC members, PCC Secretaries, Health & Safety representatives; Safeguarding representatives; volunteers to help as sidesmen/ women, with refreshments, with reading or leading prayers, assisting at the Eucharist, and many other opportunities besides. If you feel you might be able to help in some way, please speak informally to someone who already does one of those jobs, to Mthr Samantha or Fr Tony.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 11 Mar 18 – Mothering Sunday (Lent IV)

<b>Second Sunday</b> 11 Mar 18  Lent IV/ Mothering Sunday ( <i>Laetare</i> )	8.00 am Lent IV	Meonstoke Readings:	Holy Communion (BCP), p.229 Ephesians 2.1–10; John 3.14–21
	10.30 am	Droxford  Hymns AMNS Choir  Readings:	Family Service and then Communion Special Booklet 104: For the beauty of the earth; 473: I come with joy; 198: Ye holy angels bright; 422: Tell out my soul Exodus 2.1–10; Luke 2.33–35
	No Evening Service		




## Mothering Sunday



Tues 13 Mar 18	8.30 am	Exton	Morning Prayer - Red Book p.238 Ps 79; Ex 2.23—3.20; Heb 9.15–end
Wed 14 Mar 18	8.30 am	Meonstoke	Morning Prayer - Red Book p.238 Ps 90; Ex 4.1–23; Heb 10.1–18
	5.00 pm	Droxford	Evening Prayer - Red Book p.244 Ps 91; Jer 18.13–end; John 10.11–21
Thurs 15 Mar 18	10 am	Droxford	HC (CW) and Lent reflection Exodus 32.7–14; John 5.31–end Lent Booklet: Each Prayer: E

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 18Mar18 – Passion Sunday (Lent V)

<b>Third Sunday</b> 18Mar18 Lent V Passion Sunday 	8.00 am	Exton	<b>Holy Communion</b> (BCP) p.229 Romans 4.13–18; Matthew 1.18–end
	9.45 am	Droxford	Informal Service: St Patrick
	10.30 am	Corhampton	<b>Mattins</b> (BCP) Black Book p.62; 123 Jesu. lover of my soul Psalm 51 vs 1-13 66 Glory be to Jesus 235 O Jesus, I have promised 72 Lift high the cross, Omit * Vv Readings: Jeremiah 31.31–34; John 12.20–33



Through Jeremiah, God promises to plant a new law in the people's hearts. Jesus' example of the grain of wheat that shrivels and dies to bear its crop foreshadows His glorification through suffering, death and resurrection. A voice from heaven promises that God's name will be glorified again.

Tues 20Mar18 Cuthbert	8.30 am	Exton	Morning Prayer - Red Book p. 250 Ps 35; Ex 8.20-end; Heb 11:32-12:2
Wed 21Mar18 Thomas Cranmer	8.30 am	Meonstoke	Morning Prayer - Red Book p.250 Psalm 55; Ex 9.1–12; Heb 12.3–13
	5.00 pm	Droxford	Evening Prayer - Red Book p.257 Ps 62; Jer 22.20—23.8; John 12.1–11
Thurs 22Mar18	10 am	Droxford	Holy Communion. Euch Prayer: E. Genesis 17.3–9; John 8.51–end







Cuthbert



Thomas Cranmer

## Upcoming Sundays and Holy Days

<b>11Mar18</b> <b>4th Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday</b>		See Centre Pages of Pew Sheet
<b>18Mar18 5th Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Passiontide begins</b>	
<b>25Mar18 Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Holy Week</b>	
Holy Communion (BCP)	Corhampton	8 am
'Bridge the Gap' (BtG) on Palm Sunday All Age Informal Service	Meonstoke	9.30 am
Palm Procession & Eucharist	Exton	10.30 am
Rehearsal of <i>Crucifixion</i>	Meonstoke	2.30 pm
Stainer's <i>Crucifixion</i> from Scratch	Meonstoke	5 pm
<b>26Mar18 Holy Monday</b>		
Morning Prayer	Meonstoke	8.30 am
Stations of the Cross & Compline	Meonstoke	7 pm
<b>27Mar18 Holy Tuesday</b>		
Morning Prayer	Exton	8.30 am
Holy Week Reflection & Compline	Exton	7 pm
<b>28Mar18 Holy Wednesday</b>		
Morning Prayer	Meonstoke	8.30 am
Evening Prayer	Droxford	5 pm
Stations of the Cross & Compline	Droxford	7 pm
<b>29Mar18 Maundy Thursday</b>		
Holy Communion (Said)	Droxford	<b>9 am</b>
Diocesan Chrism Mass	Portsmouth Cathedral	11 am
Holy Communion	Corhampton	7 pm
Stripping of the Altar and The Watch	Corhampton	8.15 pm
<b>30Mar18 Good Friday</b>		
Morning Prayer	Exton	8.30 am
<b>Walk of Witness Part 1</b>	Exton	9.30 am
	Corhampton	10.10 am
	Meonstoke	10.30 am
All Age Good Friday Activities	Meonstoke	11.00 am
<b>Walk of Witness Part 2</b>	Meonstoke	12 noon
	Droxford	1.15 pm
An Hour at the Foot of the Cross	Droxford	1.45 pm

<b>01 Apr 18 Easter Day Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</b>		
Easter Fire and Blessing Paschal Candles	Meonstoke	6 am
First Eucharist of Easter & Bringing in the Light	Corhampton	6.15 am
Easter Breakfast	Meonstoke	7.30 am
Holy Communion (BCP)	Exton	8 am
Family Easter Eucharist	Droxford	10.30 am
Family Easter Eucharist	Meonstoke	10.30 am
Collections at Meonstoke and Droxford for St Luke's Health Care, which supports clergy who are unwell and the Clergy Pension Fund, which supports clergy in retirement.		
<b>2 Apr 18 Easter Monday</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>	
<b>3 Apr 18 Easter Tuesday</b>		
Moring Prayer	Exton	8.30 am
<b>4 Apr 18 Easter Wednesday</b>		
Moring Prayer	Meonstoke	8.30 am
Evening Prayer	Droxford	5 pm
<b>5 Apr 18 Easter Thursday</b>		
Holy Communion (Said)	Droxford	10 am

### Some other Special Services in the Weeks Ahead

<b>8 April 18 2nd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Meonstoke</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>
Songs of Praise including a Celebration of the Centenary of the Formation of the Royal Air Force. Please think about favourite hymns to nominate.		
<b>15 Apr 18 3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Droxford</b>	<b>10 am</b>
Informal Service – Singing in Praise. Please think about favourite hymns to nominate.		
<b>22 Apr 18 – St George</b>	<b>Exton</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
Family Service followed by Holy Communion. Come and celebrate our country's Patron Saint		
<b>10 May 18 – Ascension Day</b>	<b>Meonstoke</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>
Special Deanery Sung Eucharist with combined Deanery Choir Preacher: The Ven. Gavin Collins (Archdeacon of the Meon)		
<b>13 May 18 – The Fire Service</b>	<b>Meonstoke</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>
An Informal family service of prayers, music and readings featuring some of our young people and focussing on the Holy Spirit		
<b>20 May 18 Pentecost Eucharist</b>	<b>Corhampton</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
<b>31 May 18 Corpus Christi</b>	<b>Meonstoke</b>	<b>7.00 pm</b>
A Festal Eucharist in Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion and to Celebrate, Thank and Commission all those who assist as Eucharistic Assistants in the Benefice. All servers, all those who serve as Lay Chalice Assistants, and all who set up for Communion Services are cordially invited.		
<b>Ordination</b> of the Rev'd Samantha Martell to the Priesthood at the Cathedral Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Portsmouth at 4 pm on Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2018. Please pray for Samantha in the weeks ahead.		
<b>01 Jul 18</b>	<b>Meonstoke</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
Mthr Samantha's first Holy Communion Service as priest and president. A celebratory Benefice Eucharist.		
<b>08 Jul 18</b>	<b>Corhampton</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>
Choral Evensong with the Athanasian Consort		
<b>29 Jul 18</b>	<b>Tithes, Exton</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
A Lammastide Celebration of Creation: Farms and Gardens – We are planning a Pet Service too later in the Summer.		



## Meon Valley Food Bank - PLEASE HELP

A very Big 'Thank You' for all your kind donations, MVFB. The items needed for the coming week are part baked baguettes; tinned: peas, carrots and fruit; tea, and shower gel. Thank you.

Follow MVFB on twitter @MeonValleyFB or at [www.meonvalleyfoodbank.co.uk](http://www.meonvalleyfoodbank.co.uk).

### Prayers

Today we pray for the Mother Church; our cathedral; mothers and all those who care for children.

In the morning, we pray for the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; and, in the evening for peace; individuals and their needs.

Please pray for all those who struggle in the cold weather.

In Lent, please pray for: all those preparing for baptism and confirmation (including Amelia); those serving through leadership, including those in charities and NGOs, in the church, in local & national government, those seeking to end gun-crimes in the USA, especially in schools and colleges, and those on the international stage; those looking for forgiveness; those misled by the false gods of this present age; and, all who are hungry, including the homeless in our diocese and in war-torn cities.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Bishop, Christopher Foster, and all those listed in the Daily Prayer Guide (<https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/news-and-events/prayer-diary>). We pray for Samantha as she approaches her ordination as priest on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

Please pray: For the Diocesan Live Pray Serve Strategy and the next phase of our own LyCiG process: for our growth as a Benefice in spiritual depth and theological understanding, growth in our servanthood to the community and beyond, and growth in numbers and for our planning.

Please pray for 'Messy Church @ The Meon Bridge', a new initiative for school-aged children and their families.

We pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ghana, especially in the Diocese of Wiaswo in western Ghana and linked to our deanery, and for our brothers and sisters in the Deanery of Hackney and our deanery link.

We pray for our local Street Pastors on the streets of Portsmouth.

For those to be married this year:

Matthew Teague & Amy Tilt; Bradley Golshahi & Alexandra Green;  
John Carey & Bonnie Mobey; Ian Compton & Anna Marie Coward  
Scott Rumble & Victoria Walton; Steven Simmons & Vanessa Soul;  
Hugh Frere-Cook & Charlotte Emery; Simon Tanner & Catherine McGhee; and  
David Jones & Jenny Minors

For those suffering the pain of separation and the breakdown of a relationship;

For all those who grieve including Paul Buxton and his family;

And, or those recovering from operations or undergoing treatment or who are unwell in mind, body or spirit, including those with long-term conditions and Jojo Buchanan, Rosemary Denham, Peter Melson, Tony Farnell and James Whitehead.



## **News from the Valley – The Future of our Neighbouring Parishes in Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon**

The plans to provide for the future ministry in Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon continue to progress, and at PCC meetings earlier this month, each of the three PCCs agreed to a proposal to form a United Benefice by which the three parishes of Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon would be brought together under the ministry of a full-time stipendiary priest, with each retaining their separate parish identities and PCCs.

In addition, in order to maintain and develop the natural links and mission opportunities that exist across Meon Valley, the Archdeacon and the Deanery envisage that the new incumbent of Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon and the Rector of the Bridge Benefice (Droxford, Exton, Meonstoke and Corhampton), the Rev'd Tony Forrest, will both additionally be "cross-licensed" as Associate Priests to one another's benefices.

Legally, they will become Curates in the linked benefices, whilst remaining incumbents in their own parishes. This will give a visible expression of the parishes' commitment to mutual collaborative support and working, and also encourage initiatives to develop across that wider area. It will also be a valuable practical means to help avoid the pressures of clergy isolation which can particularly impact clergy in rural areas.

This is a model that the Diocese has already established in a number of areas in adjacent parishes, with the incumbents of one church additionally cross-licensed as associate clergy in one another's churches in an informal mission partnership arrangement. As well as a sign of mission commitment and cross-parish working, this also serves as a catalyst for other forms of joint working to develop across the parishes concerned in the years ahead.

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

<http://www.bridgechurches.org.uk/> & <https://www.facebook.com/MeonBridgeBenefice/>

RECTOR: Fr Tony Forrest (01489)877422 [rector.meonbridge@btinternet.com](mailto:rector.meonbridge@btinternet.com)

Usual rest day is Monday.

CURATE: The Revd Samantha Martell, 232041 [RevSamantha@alpha-omega.me](mailto:RevSamantha@alpha-omega.me),

Usual rest day is Friday

ASSISTANT PRIEST: The Rev'd Canon Anthony Hulbert 878289

LICENSED LAY MINISTERS:

Cathy Mathews 877804 - Reader

Pauline Quarendon 877392 - Reader Emerita

CHURCH WARDENS

Droxford: Ann Symes 877643 & Sheila Matthissen 877867

Exton: Hugh Parry 878860 & Richard Pepys 878035

Meonstoke with Corhampton: Angela Peagram 878725

and Ruth Shipley 878436

WEDDINGS: Mrs Sue Wells 01329 834130 - [sjwells@meonwood.co.uk](mailto:sjwells@meonwood.co.uk)