

CELEBRATING HARVEST AND TOWARDS ADVENT

You can always find a digital copy of our latest Courier, including contact details, on our benefice website westerndownlandchurches.org. We now also circulate the Courier digitally; if you would like a digital copy, please contact the Editor. Gill Scott would like to thank everyone who attended or donated to Swashbuckling Brass last month as they donated £580 to Mercy Ships.

KEEP THE DATE – In Memoriam. Saturday 16th October at 6.00 p.m. St. Andrew's Church Rockbourne and Rockbourne Village Hall. Music provided by the Laudamus and Rockbourne Church Choir with the Ringwood and Burley Brass Ensemble. An evening to remember and celebrate the lives of friends and loved ones who've passed away during the last two years, beginning with a concert of music in the church reflecting the character of some of those people, followed by wine and canapés in the Village Hall to further reminisce over good times together. Tickets at £15 and available from **Gill Scott** on 01725 518497, Lloyd on 07886 767479 or emailing gill.mary.scott@gmail.com

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

St George, Damerham	26th September	Thomas Bell
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Marriage

St George, Damerham	18th September	Rose Gore Browne & Stuart Homewood
All Saints, Martin	11th September	Sophie Bentall & Josh Morris
St Andrew, Rockbourne	21st August	Edward Snowball & Georgina Cox

Funerals & Thanksgivings for Life

St George, Damerham	2nd August	Julian Penny (Ashes)
	2nd September	Alf Pearman (Ashes)
	7th September	Bridget Rogers (Ashes)
	13th September	Heather Osborne (funeral)
St Andrew, Rockbourne	2nd August	Ali Carmichael (Ashes)
	9th August	Jill Wilcox (Ashes)
	15th August	Peter Hood (Ashes)
	21st August	Roy Sollars (Ashes)
	27th August	Meryl Lobb (at Salisbury Crematorium)
St Leonard, Whitsbury	23rd August	Janet Fanton (Ashes)
	19th September	Ronald Cox

NB. For general enquiries please contact, in the first instance, the Benefice Team Administrator for the four parishes of Western Downland, Harriet Roe. Tel. (01725) 519220. Email: harriet_tazzi@hotmail.com

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	Fran Eardley (01725) 519423	
Rockbourne	Patrick Thompson (01725) 518246	
Whitsbury	Chris Harper (01725) 518324	Chris Cobb-Smith (01725) 518313

Please send contributions for the next Courier to the Editor Arron Shutt (arron@ashutt.myzen.co.uk). The deadline is 12th October 2021.

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

THE COURIER

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2021

A Newsletter for the Communities of the Western Downland

A Word from the Rector



Blackberries growing in Damerham

Photo: Arron Shutt

Thank you for sticking with us over the past 18 months of Coronavirus disruption. Life continues to be unpredictable for us all, so thank you for your understanding where we're still working to find the new shape to our activities and service patterns. In the meantime, we are hopeful we can offer you worship and events which inspire, nourish and comfort, which help you to reflect, and which have the ring of authenticity about them. Please support us financially where you can, as we continue to face significant financial pressures in a number of our parishes; pressures which we'll be tackling in various ways over the coming years. Do speak to a warden or treasurer if you would like to find out how to give on a regular basis, or if you would like to make a one-off donation. Several of our parishes now have a JustGiving page to which you can donate at any time.

St George, Damerham <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/snowdropappealdamerham>

St Andrew, Rockbourne <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/leslie-player-4>

St Leonard, Whitsbury <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/leslie-player-4w>

All Saints, Martin will also soon have a direct donation facility.

As you have stood with us, so we want to stand with you. This is reflected in the opportunities we will be giving over the coming months to provide opportunities for thanksgiving (see Harvest services), as well as prayer for those who are struggling (see 17th Oct: Healing & Wholeness) and to remember those who have died (See 31st Oct: A Service of Prayer & Remembrance, which this year is on-line, as well as Remembrance Sunday and Armistice commemorations)

In addition through All Saints we will be supporting Encircles, a small charity established by a former resident, Molly Fisher, which is based in Salisbury and seeks to improve the lives of those who, for various reasons, find themselves in challenging circumstances (see All Saints Nominated Charity <https://encircles.org>). Working together, caring for one another, and relieving those most in need is at the very heart of the Christian understanding of what it means to be human, and to please God.

Rev'd Les Player

BIG AUTUMN CLEAN

We encourage willing hands to come and spruce up the Church after a long period of emptiness. This is our chance to make a difference and brighten the interior up for the Winter.

The spring clean originally planned for St. George's in March 2020 is finally taking place on SATURDAY 6th NOVEMBER at 10am. All are welcome. Cleaning materials are available at the church, but, if you are able to bring some of your own, that would be very helpful. Refreshments will be available to sustain us. Please come, even if you are only able to stay for a short time.

ROCKBOURNE CHURCH CHOIR RECRUITMENT

Following the restrictions of the last year we're urgently looking for new members to swell our numbers, and would love to welcome singers of all voices into the choir. Please ring **Gill Scott**: Tel: 01725 518497 or Email: **gill.mary.scott@gmail.com** for more details.

BRITISH LEGION ANNUAL MEETING

Early notice: Western Downland Branch Royal British Legion Annual Meeting: Tuesday 12th October, 7.30pm. Damerham Village Hall. All are welcome (assuming Covid restrictions are removed)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Royal British Legion Annual Meeting 12th October 7.30p.m. (Damerham Village Hall). All welcome.
25 Oct Rockbourne PCC 10am. Townend Gate, Rockbourne
26 Oct Damerham PCC 7.00 pm. Damerham Village Hall
2 Nov Martin PCC 7.00 pm. Blandford Hall
9 Nov Whitsbury PCC 6.30 pm. Whitsbury Village Hall

GROWING & LEARNING

For details of our learning groups please contact:
Nigel Cumming (01725) 518248, Rob Eardley (01725) 519423 or Les Player (01725) 518642. Details will be published locally.

O LORD HEAR MY PRAYER...

Would you like to someone to pray for you, or for someone for whom you're concerned?
There will be a space for prayers for healing & wholeness in our services on Sunday 17th October within the morning services at Martin & Rockbourne (see service schedule for details).
Prayer requests can also be left in our churches.

SPECIAL SERVICES

14th November Remembrance Sunday

A time to remember those who died in two world wars. Two services will be held – The first at Martin at 9.30am, and 10.50am at Damerham.

28th November From Darkness to Light

This is the traditional and popular candlelit advent service seen as the prelude to Christmas – which is held at All Saints Martin at 5.00pm

RBL CENTENARY CONCERT

A Centenary Concert to mark the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal British Legion is being held in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday 16th October at 7p.m. Details, including ticket prices and booking information can be found here: <https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/events/royal-british-legioncentenary-concert>. A complimentary return coach to transport local residents and their guests to the concert, probably from Damerham, is available subject to a minimum number being achieved. To arrange a seat(s) on the coach, contact **Mike Richardson** **mikerichardson25@btinternet.com**. Important Note: the seat on the coach does not include tickets for the event, which you must book separately.

***** SERVICES DURING DURING AUGUST & SEPTEMBER *****

As mentioned in the last issue - we are transitioning to a pattern of Sunday services based largely in our parish Churches. Going forwards, the style of services developed in our online (Zoom) services will be reflected across our range of physical services. We are also hoping to live-stream a number of physical services on Zoom denoted by three asterisks (***). These will be recorded and uploaded onto the Western Downland Churches YouTube channel so that those who cannot attend physical services can either watch live or can experience the recorded programme.

3rd October
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
18th Sunday after Trinity
Rockbourne Matins (Book of Common Prayer 1662)
Martin Harvest Thanksgiving***

10th October
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
19th Sunday after Trinity
Damerham Parish Communion (CW1)
Whitsbury All Age Harvest Thanksgiving***

17th October
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
20th Sunday after Trinity (St Luke the Evangelist)
Martin Parish Communion: Healing & Wholeness
Rockbourne Harvest Thanksgiving***

24th October
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
Last Sunday after Trinity (BIBLE SUNDAY)
Whitsbury Holy Communion (1662)
Damerham All Age Worship***

31st October
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
4th Sunday before Advent (All Saints Day; transferred)
Martin Patronal Communion (CW1)
Zoom: A Service of Prayer & Remembrance (co-host: Rockbourne)



A shot of St George's Damerham decorated for the harvest festival (Photo: Arron Shutt)

7th November
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
3rd Sunday before Advent
Whitsbury Patronal Communion (Traditional Language)
Rockbourne Iona Community Style Morning Prayer***

Thursday 11th November
10.50a.m. - Armistice Commemoration at Damerham War Memorial

14th November
9.30a.m.
9.45a.m.
10.50a.m.
2nd Sunday before Advent
Martin All Age for Remembrance***
Wreath Laying at Rockbourne War Memorial
Damerham Service of Remembrance

21st November
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
Christ the King (Sunday next before Lent)
Rockbourne Parish Communion (CW1)
Martin Parish Worship: Crown him with many Crowns***

28th November
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
5.00p.m.
Advent Sunday
Whitsbury Holy Communion (1662)
Rockbourne Patronal Communion (CW1)***
Martin - Darkness to Light

5th December
9.30a.m.
11.00a.m.
Second Sunday of Advent
Damerham Holy Communion (1662)
Rockbourne Parish Communion (CW1)***