

FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING: –

ALL SAINTS' NOMINATED CHARITY: MORNING STAR (SALISBURY)

The Collection for All Saints,' Martin's nominated charity this year was £640. We are very grateful for the donations and are pleased to be able to pass this sum to the charity.

Thank You!

SNOWDROP WEEKEND:

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Snowdrop weekend in February. It was a great success with more people than ever coming to view the snowdrops in St. George's Churchyard. Gallons of tea and coffee and delicious homemade cakes were consumed. Many thanks to everyone who helped, made cakes, supplied snowdrops, jams and lovely lavender goods. The magnificent sum of £2207.74 including donations, was raised.



In mid-February the target of £10,000 to provide a sum towards replacing the lead that was stolen from St George's Roof at the beginning of January was achieved.

The Rev'd Les Player wrote on the Just Giving site: -

'Yes! As you may already have seen, because of your extraordinary generosity, we've reached our target. It's been a remarkable week. Last weekend our Snowdrop event raised £2,600 to help the congregation meet its financial commitments, of which some £400 were donations to the Roof Appeal. Now we have a solid base to tackle the repairs with confidence. A planning application will go in shortly & we hope the work can begin, as part of a larger programme of repairs, over the summer. Words can't convey our deep gratitude for all you've done for us.'

FROM THE REGISTERS.

There are no entries in the Registers for January and February 2019.

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	

THE COURIER

Please send contributions for the next Courier to the Editor, Midge Connell - meconnell53@gmail.com

The deadline is 7th May 2019. The Courier can be delivered by email, please contact the Editor.

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

THE COURIER

APRIL – MAY 2019

A Newsletter for the Communities of the Western Downland

A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

In our Rector's absence on sick leave I have been asked to write the Leader for this issue of The Courier. As I sit before my computer, I am very conscious that yesterday Churches across this nation and beyond celebrated Ash Wednesday. An event that signals the start of the Ecclesiastical season of Lent. 40 days set aside in order to help Christians prepare for Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter. It is a season of preparations marked by penitence expressed through prayer and fasting.

For the second year running Salisbury Diocese has provided for every church member to have a Lenten prayer book, 'Praying Together', as a discipline towards daily reading of the Bible. I cannot overstate the benefit of having a copy of this little booklet and using it. If you would like a copy (free of charge) these should be available from each of the four Churches of the Benefice, many of which are open every day. And even if Lent is well on its way you can still benefit from acquiring a copy.

Bishop Nicholas opens the first day's reading and reflection on the first four verses of Luke's Gospel. He writes: Lent is an orderly time. 40 simpler days to work out what matters through taking on prayer, fasting, being generous and giving to others. 40 days is really 46 days because Sundays are extra, the first day of the week, the resurrection and a new order. For us the order through these days will include the discipline of reading, reflecting, praying and acting together. Christ who is the way, truth and life beckons us along towards the joy of God's new order in Easter.

Rev'd Rob Eardley

