



A wrist-watch I was once given as a present included the following note in its accompanying information: *For best results, keep to the makers' instructions.* It is good advice for life as well.  
Steve Carter (Reader).

### ALDERTON

**Heating.** The heating in the Church is fully functional again, following some teething problems. Many thanks to Steve Bowles and Steve Webb for their perseverance.

**The Hedge.** Tom Cullimore has now finished cutting the hedge, and will undertake this on

an annual basis. Many thanks to all for helping to remove the clippings.

**The Rev'd Michael Hand.** Many thanks to Michael for taking the 10.00 pm Parish Communion Service on Christmas Eve, in addition to the Christingle Service earlier in the month. We are so grateful to him and other clergy who help us with services.

**Church Cleaning.** Very many thanks to the volunteers on the Cleaning Rota who during 2016 helped to keep the Church looking so clean and well kept. It is very rewarding when visitors comment on the upkeep of the Church and the flower arrangements. We need more volunteers to go on the cleaning rota. It is organised for 2 people together to clean church 2 weeks in succession. The more people on the rota the fewer times their turn will come round in the year! Please speak to Carla if you feel you could help (620600)

**Books.** Just a reminder that there are a large number of books for sale in the Church Porch and at the back of the Church at 50p each - there is something for everyone, novels, fiction, romance, thrillers, travel, science, cookery, sport etc. All proceeds go to Church Funds.

### MOTHERS' UNION

On January 19th the Branch held its AGM at which the annual accounts were accepted, reports given and elections taken place. As in previous years it was decided to continue with Carla as Secretary and Lilian as Treasurer (with Beryl's help), and members helping and giving their support. We now have 14 members.

This month we meet on February 16th at Beryl's house 2.30 pm when we have Anna Venables, the Deanery Leader, coming along to give us a power-point presentation. We will also decide what donation we will send to the Make a Mothers' Day Appeal.

### GREAT WASHBOURNE

**Church Cleaning and upkeep of the Churchyard 2016.** Very many thanks to all those on the rota for cleaning the Church and arranging the flowers. Also many thanks to those who mow the Churchyard and keep it tidy and to all who Open and Close the Church during the summer months. Your time and help is very much appreciated. Visitors often comment on how well the Church and Churchyard are kept.

**Churchyard** Tidy up on Saturday 11th February starting at 9.00 am. We are planning to

cut back some of the trees and generally tidy up, so please come along with your gardening tools and help us - many hands make light work!!

**Lent.** During Lent prayers will be said daily in St. Mary's Church as in previous years. There will be some Lent books in the Church should you wish to use them. Please sign the rota in the Church for the days you are able to participate. It will start on Ash Wednesday March 1st.

**Great Washbourne Family Fun Quiz in St. Mary's Church Friday 31st March from 6.30—10.00 pm.** As in previous years, this is suitable for all ages and we hope you will

### GREAT WASHBOURNE

advance from Jane Kent/Karen Cox (Washbourne) or Carla Edelston (Alderton)

There will be a pay bar and a raffle. All proceeds are for Church Funds.

**The Great Washbourne Summer Supper this year will be held on Friday June 23rd** in the garden of Great Washbourne House. Please make a note of the date in your diaries.

### DUMBLETON

**Coffee mornings** at the Cricket Pavilion on 7th and 21st February 10.30 - 12 noon

Open to all who would like to come along.

**Creative Cards Craft Morning, St. Peter's Church on Friday 3rd March 10 am-12 noon** £5 to include all materials and refreshments. You'll be amazed by your artistry.

To book your place, please phone Gail Braham (01386 882092) mobile (07521750087) or Email: [gailbraham@aol.com](mailto:gailbraham@aol.com)

**R.I.P.**

January 5th - John Harry Mitchell -Thanksgiving Service followed by interment of ashes on January 6th

January 25th - Susan Whybrow

### WORMINGTON

**Thank You.** A big 'thank you' to all who donated their old Christmas Cards for the Cobalt Unit and stamps for Lifeboats

**WVS Village Lunch - Monday 20th February 12.noon.**

Come and enjoy a sociable two course meal followed by tea/coffee at £5. Open to all. To be held at Dairymead. Please book by Friday 17th with Angela Piercy 013

### KINDLY SPRING

Kindly spring again is here,  
Trees and fields in bloom appear;  
Hark! The birds with artless lays  
Warble their creator's praise.

Where in winter all was snow,  
Now the flowers in clusters grow;  
And the corn, in green array,  
Promises a harvest-day.

Lord, afford a spring to me,  
Let me feel like what I see;  
Speak, and by thy gracious voice,  
Make my drooping soul rejoice.

On thy garden deign to smile,  
Raise the plants, enrich the soil;  
Soon thy presence will restore  
Life to what seemed dead before      John Newton