

Dronne Valley Church News



**Part of the worldwide Anglican church,
meeting at the landmark Church of St Peter and St Paul, Bertric Burée**

July 2018

*The News can be printed out in whole or in part, or read on your computer
– in which case the underlined links will take you to further content.*

For the clearest result, download and read in Adobe Reader, rather than viewing in your browser



**In The News
this month:
Wine Bingo
Farewell to
Madeleine
Ramble
Crafty Natterers
Apero Concert
Speed Limits
Europe Link
Environment
Upper Room
and more**



Sunday 1 July	10:30	Service of the word, with Steve Long
Sunday 1 July	18:00	Evensong, with Sheila Marshall
Sunday 8 July ♦	10:30	Holy Communion, with Ven Chris Sims
Wednesday 11 July	11:00	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion, with Revd Tony Lomas
Sunday 15 July	10:30	Family Service, with Janis Adams
Sunday 22 July	10:30	Holy Communion, with Revd Andy Horlock
Sunday 29 July	10:30	Taizé Service led by one of our home groups

♦ There will be a **Bring-and-Share lunch** following this service, in the Upper Room. Please bring a dish to share and your own cutlery, plate and glass. We invite a donation of 1€50 towards the cost of bread and wine which will be supplied.

Please join us for tea and coffee across the road in the Upper Room after each of the Sunday morning services

The Book Barn is open after each morning service too



**The church Summer Fair
- Bertric Burée 28th July**

A Thought for the Month

Steve Long

Four weddings and a Bishop

Were you one of the 18 million of us Brits who watched Harry and Megan get married? Or one of the 24 million Brits who watched William and Kate get married, or maybe one of the 28.4 million who watched Charles marry Diana. What is your lasting memory of those occasions? A shy, coy-looking Diana singing 'I vow to thee my country'? Pippa Middletons's derriere? Meghan's mum being the lone member of Meghan's family? Do you remember the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie's sermon at Charles and Diana's wedding? How about the Bishop of London, Richard Chartres' at William and Kates? No, you don't recall them? OK, how about Bishop Michael Curry's at Harry and Meghan's? Right – everyone was talking about it, weren't they? Many still are!

So, what was the difference?

Charles and Diana had 28.4 million people in Britain, and 750 million world-wide, tune in to their wedding ceremony. William and Kate - 24 million Brits watched their ceremony, with somewhere in the order of 200 million watching world-wide. Harry and Meghan – only a paltry 18 million in the UK, but an estimated global figure of 2 billion! Even the least of these figures is quite mind-boggling!

Bishop Michael had an audience of *a third of the world's population* and his passion for Christ and his love of the message shone like beacons in the night. He had this one chance to speak to the world and, boy, did he take it! "God loves you," he said, "God is love."

Let me quote a piece of his sermon...

"... well, there were some old slaves in America's Antebellum South who explained the dynamic power of love and why it has the power to transform. They explained it this way. They sang a spiritual, even in the midst of their captivity. It's one that says "There's a balm in Gilead..." a healing balm, something that can make things right.

"There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole," and one of the stanzas actually explains why. They said:

"If you cannot preach like Peter, and you cannot pray like Paul, you just tell the love of Jesus, how he died to save us all."

Oh, that's the balm in Gilead!

This way of love, it is the way of life. They got it. He died to save us all. He didn't die for anything he could get out of it. Jesus did not get an honorary doctorate for dying. He didn't... he wasn't getting anything out of it. He gave up his life, he sacrificed his life, for the good of others, for the good of the other, for the wellbeing of the world... for us."

Bishop Michael let his passion for Christ and for telling the Good News of Jesus loose on the world – and the world listened. No dead-pan, ultra-conservative presentation in subdued monotones designed to say little and offend no-one. But alive, animated,

passionate, a man with an exciting message, a message to gladden the hearts of the world.

You know what? If we had the same passion for Jesus and for telling His good news the world would listen to us. If our vicars showed the same passion the churches might be full again, if our bishops showed the same zeal our country might once again find the right path.

As Bishop Michael said:

"When love is the way, we know that God is the source of us all, and we are brothers and sisters, children of God. My brothers and sisters, that's a new heaven, a new earth, a new world, a new human family."

God bless, Steve

Farewell to Madeleine

Madeleine Holmes, after living in France and ministering to people here for many years, is re-locating to England



Madeleine, some years ago, with other newly appointed Anglican 'Readers', on the left of the former Bishop of Europe, Rt Revd Geoffrey Rowell

Local Warden, Rosemary Robinson, writes:

Madeleine has left us to go and live with her daughter in Stoke Newington, and later she will move to an apartment in a Christian retirement home in Sussex. She will be greatly missed. Always elegant and never dull Madeleine was one of the leaders at Chapdeuil, which merged with the Ribérac congregation, and became Bertric Burée. She also served in many capacities including Environment Officer, about which she was passionate, and the vital role of prayer co-ordinator.

Others have known her far better and far longer than we have, and their tributes follow.

We celebrated with Madeleine, before sending her on her way with our love and blessing

Fiona Coxhall writes:

On Sunday 10th June, members and friends of The Dronne Valley Church toasted Madeleine Holmes and shared stories during a lively lunch to wish her well as she heads back to the UK.



Arriving in France twenty-five years ago, Madeleine has been with the Dronne Valley Church since its origins as the 'home church' at Petits Cotes, through the years in Chapdeuil, qualifying as a licensed reader and onto the present day at Bertric Burée.

Having known Madeleine for sixteen years, we are sure that many, like us, will miss her passion, enthusiasm and of course her inimitable style and smile.

From your friends in the Dordogne, Madeleine, it is not *Goodbye*, but *Au Revoir* - until we meet again.

Fiona and Andrew

Cathy Wheatcroft writes:

Madeleine and I have been friends for over 16 years, ever since we first met up when the house church at Petites Cotes had just moved to the little church in Chapdeuil under her leadership. Her enthusiasm for her faith was inspiring and I enjoyed the years we journeyed together there. I particularly remember when we decided to do a night of prayer and Madeleine and I were last ones left awake in the wee small hours, as the others had gone home and Brian had fallen asleep on the carpet in front of the altar!

She has a real heart for the people outside the church and has always tried to reach out. I joined her on Radio Liberté in Ribérac a few times and was interested in the wide network of people she knew and cared about.

Madeleine is particularly creative and artistic, so we have shared many a happy hour patchworking, sewing, painting and experimenting with craft ideas. Anyone who has been home with her will have seen the beautiful quilts she has made.

We enjoyed exploring prayer together and undertook a course with a group for 'Centring Prayer' which included a silent retreat at Echourgnac Abbey. Amazingly we managed to keep quiet despite our usual tendency to chatter.

We have both been through some very difficult times and she has always been a true and supportive friend. Brian and I value that friendship highly even though we have not seen as much of each other in recent years due to geography and commitments. Our daughters and grandchildren love Madeleine to bits and we all wish her every happiness on the next stage of her journey.

Cathy and Brian



And Steve Long adds:

Madeleine is passionate about the environment. As Creationtide drew close she would seek out all the articles and resources necessary for any of us worship leaders to base our services on. She was so concerned about climate change that she almost convinced me, an avowed climate-change skeptic, of her position. She was the Diocesan Environmental officer for many years, speaking authoritatively at churches and conferences throughout the Diocese of Europe and several of her impressive talks can be found in various places on the internet.

The services she took at Bertric Burée ranged from formal *Morning Worship* to highly enthusiastic contemporary *Services of the Word*. She was a significant player in the northern sector of the Chaplaincy right back in 2002 when she appeared in the Diocesan Handbook as the person from whom information about the church at Chapdeuil could be obtained (and she was at Petites Cotes long before that).

She was very influential in the development of the church at Chapdeuil, Tocane and eventually Bertric-Burée.

She was a regular contributor to Radio Liberté in Ribérac putting together a half-hour programme each week on a Christian theme.

Madeleine is one of the pillars of our community and will be greatly missed.

Steve and Jenny

Wine Bingo

Mark and Kathy Carter entertained us again on 1st June with their brilliant invention - WINE BINGO

Everyone had a terrific evening and 75€ was raised for the new Upper Room windows



The Upper Room – some thoughts from Ann Knight

Food safety and hygiene

Summer and the warmer weather has finally arrived 🌞 However, it also brings along flies. Although there's an insecticuter on the wall, don't encourage flies by leaving food waste in the bin after events. PLEASE take it away even if the bin bag is not full.

Whilst warmer weather provides the perfect opportunity to make use of the garden for Bring and Share Sundays, it also carries risks! Food, particularly fish, meat and anything with mayonnaise or cream (foods high in protein), if left out approximately 20 minutes in warm temperatures can prove harmful and people should be mindful of this.

Volunteering

The Upper Room provides the church with many opportunities for social activities and outreach. Your help in volunteering however small can help us make events a success. As they say, 'many hands make light work' 🤝🤝🤝🤝🤝🤝🤝🤝

Volunteering lists are posted on the notice board or speak to **Ann Knight** to find out how you can help.



Craft
Stalls



Free
entry

Summer FAIR

July 28th 11am-3pm
at Bertric-Burée



Hog
Roast

Much to see, do
and eat. Fun for
all ages.



Cream
Tea



Carnival
Games



PosterMyWall.com

Prayer Ministry

Prayer ministry is offered at Bertric Burée by members of the team at the services on Sundays in the side chapel. Please take advantage of this for anything for which you would like prayer support.

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays this is available after the service and on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the serving of communion

Prayer ministry is also available after each service in the Upper Room

To help you to identify members of the team, we will be wearing these white dove badges.

Cathy and Brian Wheatcroft 05 53 90 62 85
chezmillifleurs@aol.com



APERRO CONCERT

SUNDAY 29th JULY @ 17:00
In the church at Bertric Burée



The renowned guitarist Eleftheria Kotzia presented a concert in church a couple of years ago. She is visiting France again at the end of next month and will be performing for us again

We have arranged an Aperro Concert in church at 17:00 and this will be followed by drinks and nibbles afterwards in the garden of the Upper Room. The concert will round off a full weekend with the Summer Fete on Saturday 28th and a Taize-like service on Sunday morning

Ellie's programme is not to be missed
Look out for ticket details soon

- contact **Mike Duncan** for more information

A Mediterranean Journey

Mediterranean music for the guitar inspired by or arranged from folklore. Exploring its diversity and richness our journey will take us from Greece, via North Africa, to France and will include the soulful music of Andalucia

Music by Albeniz, Dyens, Theodorakis,
French Songs (Barbara, Piaf,) Mc Guire ('Zalongos' Dance Elegy)

Not so fast!

Richard Heeley reminds us about that new limit

Yes, 80kph is for real, and there will be NO "soft" introduction. It applies to ALL two-lane roads without a central divider, unless a lower speed is posted. Other limits are unaffected: 130 or 110 for autoroutes; 110 for dual carriageways on the RN system unless otherwise posted; and still 50 for urban areas unless otherwise posted once you cross the sign posting the name of the agglomeration.

To recap, as of 1st July 80kph will be the law of the land, and you should not expect to get just a warning. Fines will range from 68€ for minor violations (plus loss of points, I suppose) to 750€, plus immediate confiscation of vehicle for gross excesses of speed. As always, this applies to overtaking as well as cruising along, and "going with the flow of the traffic" is not excused.

Prime Minister Edouard Philippe says that the new limits will save 300 to 400 lives per year plus countless tragic injuries.

I have confirmed this information on several websites and by talking with Micheline, who has read about the change in Le Figaro. So, it is **out with 90 and in with 80!** Let us hope lives are saved.

For sure, our carbon footprint will decrease. For short distances it will make little difference in time of travel; for long distances, pay the tolls and take the autoroutes--they are generally safer.

To all of us: Godspeed in our daily lives, but not on the highways!

Richard



Our Diocese of Europe publishes a regular newsletter
to help keep the members
of this vast
church community
in touch.

You can subscribe to it [HERE](#)

“The Crafty Natterers”

meet **Thursday 5th and 19th July**
at **14:00** for crafting and socialising in
the **Upper Room**



Please come and join us
Contact: **Jean Stocks**



Rauzet priory church in Combiers – a little north east of La Rochebeaucourt-et-Argentine – and a restored ancient monument - is staging an exhibition / sale of paintings, hand-painted porcelain, patchwork, wood objects, jewellery, etc. by amateur and professional artists. **Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July**

This is in aid of a charity helping and encouraging women suffering from cancer.

There's more information here -

www.fleurdisa.org

Tony Stephens would like to add a postscript to last month's item about his friend Paddy Waring

Paddy died in January this year. His personal effects were auctioned in May, raising a considerable sum for the INSPIRE foundation, of which he was the Scientific Director, I understand. He was affectionately known as 'The Admiral'. This foundation is for quadriplegic and paraplegic people, and I ask if, possibly, our Church in Bertric Burée might consider them as a worthy Charity in the coming financial year. Paddy's courage in his wheelchair, and adversity, for over 40 years, is not unusual in the members of this wonderful organisation.

Tony Stephens



Cleaning the Church and Upper Room

I am sure we all appreciate a clean Church and Upper Room. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have given their time and energy to achieve this.

However, a few more volunteers would make everyone's task easier.

Is there anyone out there who is willing to give two hours of their time every few months to help?

To find out more, or to volunteer(!), please contact me -
Chris Hodgkiss 05 53 91 02 76

thanks
Chris

Randonée

The next walk will be Wednesday 11th July
Please note the change of date

Annie Key is very kindly leading this walk and it will be around the St Severin area, with lunch in the village

Please let me know if you hope to be walking and if you have guests to bring along too.

Hope to see you on the 11th
RSVP to **Jaki Moorhouse**



September *Break Away*

We are planning another Bertric Burée Randonée Group two-night 'break away' on the Route St Jacques for September.



We shall be staying in a hotel east of Sarlat, with two half-day walks and a one day - a total of no more than 30 (optional!) kilometres.

There is plenty in this region to keep non-walkers well and truly occupied, and relatively gentle, undulating, walking for Randonées.

If you are at all interested in this expedition, please contact me.
(A maximum of 20, so early application is advised)

Jaki

Jakimoorhouse@aol.com

Micheline Heeley is our Environment Officer for the Dronne Valley Church
Here are her thoughts about **electricity consumption**

About EDF electricity bills...

I recently read some additional advice from an office manager

Lighting: 10 minutes unnecessary lighting 3 times a day will add up to 5 days of continuous unnecessary lighting at the end of the year.

All of that home office equipment we can't survive without:

Saving paper by double sided printing, of course.

Computers left idling on stand-by - they use between 30% and 40% of energy used during "active status"

Laptops: no need to keep them plugged if the battery is fully charged

Screens: they don't mind being turned off frequently - one can program them to shut down after x minutes of idling and the light intensity can be lowered too.

Switched power strips can be used to turn off all equipment on unnecessary standby.

Contact EDF's English version on line to set up of cheaper night electricity rates at (midnight to 8 am) "heures creuses", costing around 30% less, EDF never advertises it but keeps it available. The savings can be substantial, even if the fixed part of the bill "abonnement" is a little higher.

Program the washing machine (85% of electricity used for the heating of the water) and dishwasher to operate at night.

Christmas gifts? A trip to a fancy light fixture store which sells beautiful, artsy **led** fixtures...

Impact: on bills, of course, and on the nationwide use of energy: potentially huge, as I once read that if all French households turned off their electronics on standby, it would save the equivalent of the yearly output of two nuclear reactors."

Voilà!

Micheline Heeley

*"Where you go, I will go, and where you stay,
I will stay"*

- an old story of immigrants

Jennifer Gray writes

The Book of Ruth is a book of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. In the Christian canon it is treated as a history book and placed between Judges and 1 Samuel.

It is named after its central figure, Ruth the Moabite, the great-grandmother of David.

The book tells of Ruth's accepting the God of the Israelites as her God and the Israelite people as her own.

I have always loved the story of Ruth - her loyalty, her hard work, her loving nature and finally her reward in becoming Naomi's daughter-in-law, remaining loyal and loving even after her husband's death.

But recently she has been in my mind more than ever. Today, as we watch on television, we are being made aware of the awfulness of homelessness, of being dispossessed, or losing one's own family. Tragic stories which sadly are becoming almost too commonplace in our news programmes.

We see mostly young men, but some girls too, looking so forlorn, bewildered by their situation. Ruth was not in this particular set of circumstances, but she might be found somewhere in the crowd.

Elimelech and Naomi and their two sons, Mahlon and Kilion had voluntarily (presumably) left Bethlehem. They were all Ephrathites from Judah and chose to move to Moab to live. We are not told why. Were there other relatives involved - had others gone to Moab previously and they were joining them? Or did they move for economic reasons, as so many adventurous people do, when they believe they might find a better form of living elsewhere? It takes courage and fortitude to make a major decision of this kind and a determination not to be dependent but to provide for oneself and one's family in a more rewarding environment.

Doubtless this is the motive behind many of today's emigrants and immigrants who feel they must do something either to avoid war or starvation. Perhaps Elimelech made the decision to move to Moab for one of these reasons. The story continues. The boys married local girls (what did the parents of the boys and the girls think of that?!) Then tragedy struck, but we are not told what happened. Did they men get killed in a battle or uprising? Were they infected by some local virus? Were they poisoned by local envious men?

Naomi was left without sons or a husband. Her reaction eventually was understandable. She decided to go back home to Judah, where she understood the language or dialect, probably had family herself there and could put the recent past behind her. So she told the daughters-in-law to go back to their own homes in Moab. She told them 'God has dealt me a hard blow' but seemed to be fatalistic about this and told them that they would find it easier to take another husband by staying in Moab.

Orpah decided to take her advice but Ruth refused. Famously she said the words of such loyalty and love:

'Where you go, I go; and where you live, I shall live. Your people are my people and your God my God. Where you die, I'll die, and that's where I shall be buried, so help me God - not even death itself is going to come between us.'

Things settled down and the story continues when Ruth 'that foreign girl from Moab who speaks with a funny accent and has strange clothes' (we might assume that is how she would be considered and perhaps laughed at) settles down to work, gleaning in the fields (on a minimum wage?) and trying to be happy. She has Naomi and she has a home and some work. The rest of her story is happy. She meets another older member of Naomi's family, Boaz, is attracted and lives with him.

What a very contemporary story!

© Jennifer Gray 2018



Home Groups ***– are a key part of Dronne Valley church life***

There are four to choose from:

Alternate Tuesday mornings near Verteillac 10.00 for 10.30am. All are welcome.
For more information contact **Mike Duncan** 05 53 91 30 64

Fortnightly on Tuesday mornings, 10.00 for 10.30am
For dates and venue this month please contact **Brian Cook** on 05 45 98 43 00

Fortnightly on Thursdays at 2.00pm at Ann Knight's home, Chez Foucaud,
Montboyer, between Chalais and Montmoreau
Contact Ann for dates and directions – **Ann Knight** 05 45 98 22 17

A new group is starting up at Steve and Jenny Long's home, La Gare, St Aulaye
Further info from **Steve or Jenny** 05 53 91 96 48

*The groups are made up of friendly people who get together
to talk over a small part of the Bible or another Christian
book and enjoy a cup of coffee and cake.*

*All of the groups are keen to welcome newcomers,
but it's a good idea to phone, so that we know you're coming.*



Encouraging Sermons

A selection of recent sermons from around the Chaplaincy is available on line **HERE**

Editor's note:

We are leaving the contacts list out of this and future editions of the News, until we are confident that we are fully complying with the GDPR legislation

**The people in our church
come from a wide range of
church backgrounds and our
worship reflects this diversity
We warmly welcome you,
wherever you are on your
journey of faith**

CLASSIFIED CHURCH ADVERTS



Near GURAT, Dordogne/Charente border, a beautiful and tranquil setting for our - **light and airy STUDIO Flat**, totally self-contained.

To LET fully furnished and equipped, recently converted.

Spacious LIVING Room, DINING area + excellent KITCHEN corner. (Double sofa bed).

DOUBLE/TWIN BEDROOM,
SHOWER room.

Good storage-space throughout.

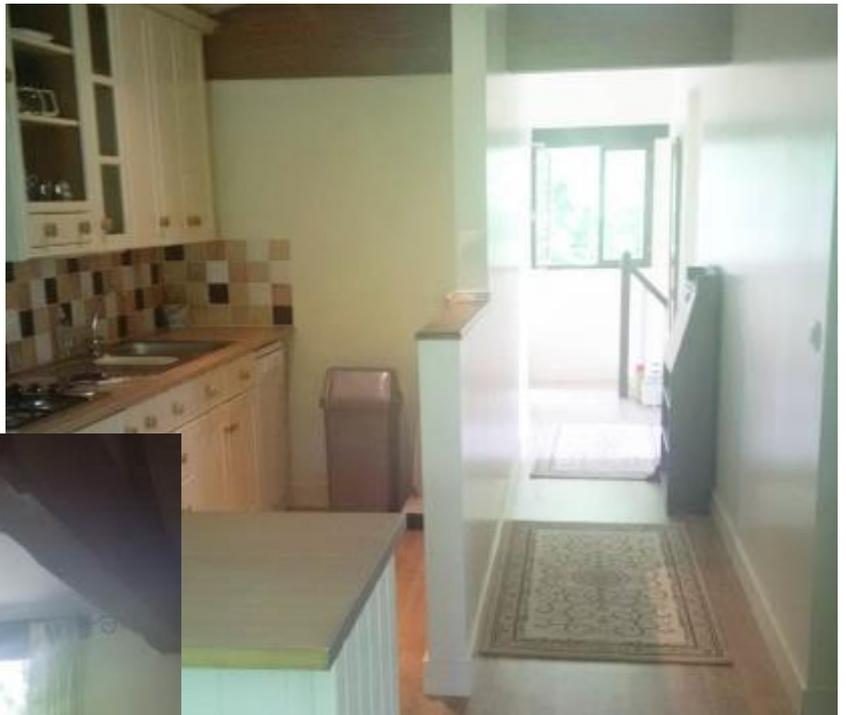
HALL, Service room with washing machine.

Use of POOL by arrangement: private designated area for outdoor living available for tenants.

£500 pcm + outgoings. Long Let preferred, shorter considered.

References essential:

Contact Janey or Dominic +44 7923 069 377





Greetings Cards

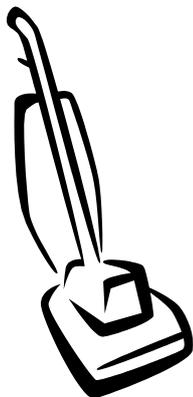


Pam's handmade cards for all occasions, in aid of Church funds, are available following all services.

Orders are welcome for special occasions:

Pam Davies - 05 53 91 19 90 briandpam1@hotmail.co.uk

I am a registered, fully insured, cleaner



Available for temporary or permanent work and can do one-off 'pre-opening' cleans for holiday rentals, clean up after your party or just a few hours as and when required.
Commercial or domestic premises.

I am based in the Charras / Montbron area, but I am 'cleaner can travel'.
For a several hours in a day I would be willing to travel as far as Bertric Burrée.
I can be contacted initially at radloulou@yahoo.co.uk

Laura Connor

Siret no 750803009 00018 under the Auto Entrepreneur scheme

Would you like to use a qualified & registered builder from your own congregation?

ENTREPRISE SIMON GEGG – Laudibertie, 24410 FESTALEMPS Restoration & conversion of old stone buildings.

Project management

- *Carpentry: wide board oak flooring; chestnut & pine floors; balconies; windows, doors & stairs supplied & fitted*
- *Drylining; plastering; tiling; terracing*
- *Roofing & General building*
- *All masonry work including Pierre de taille, moellon, rendering & pierre apparete*



Tel: 0553 90 36 22 (7pm to 9pm) or email Simongegg@outlook.com

SIRET: 4353639300011 DECENNALE Insurance Registered for TVA



ANN KNIGHT – Soft furnishings, curtains, upholstery

Do you have an old but comfy chair or sofa that needs sprucing up? Need some new curtains?

Why not ask Ann for a professional quotation?
Call 05 45 98 22 17

Siret Number 529 194 946 00016
