



Two Shires Link - Weekly News

for the Parishes of
**Tatworth, Chaffcombe, Winsham,
Thorncombe and Cricket Malherbie**
September 21st, 2025



® FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

This year Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 22nd September until 5th October. Our benefice is registered as a Fairtrade organisation and wherever possible we use Fairtrade products for church activities. This year I am inviting church members to look at what they do and consider if they can Do it Fair.

Fairtrade will be celebrating the difference we can all make when we choose Fairtrade and campaigning as part of a UK-wide movement calling for a fairer system behind the things we consume every day. With the world in a tailspin, fairness isn't a given. But the power to get there is in our hands. Together, our actions can have a positive impact on real people's lives. Fairer pay. Fairer treatment. Fairer futures. That's Fairtrade. It's not just a label – it's a movement. So, whatever you do, and however you do it: Do it Fair.

This year the concentration is on Tea – after all, everyone thinks of tea as the British staple drink, so we're asking the UK government to Brew it Fair. Like all of us, the people growing and picking our tea deserve to be able to plan for their futures, and to protect themselves from the impacts of climate change. Take action by signing the petition, link below: https://action.fairtrade.org.uk/page/171071/petition/1ea.tracking.id=ftf_landing_page or asking your MP, Adam Dance to Brew it Fair.

And here is the 2025 Fairtrade Prayer:

Dear God, Oh how I love my cuppa,
Five a day, breakfast, elevenses, Dinner, tea and supper.

I scarcely stop to think of those
Working the fields wherein it grows,
Bent over double through the day
And often getting little pay.

They want their families to thrive,
but there are many challenges to survive

So when I put the kettle on
To share with friends and have a natter,
Make sure that we call to mind,
That BREW IT FAIR's what really matters. Amen

This Week's Services in the Benefice

Tatworth 10:30am Holy Communion

Cricket Malherbie 11:30 am Harvest Festival and Lunch

Collect for this Sunday

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This Sunday's Readings

2 Corinthians 4 verses 1-6

Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

Matthew 9 verses 9-13

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ¹³ But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Next Sunday's Services

Tatworth 8am Holy Communion

Thorncombe 10am Holy Communion

Winsham 6:30pm Service of Light

Chaffcombe 6:30pm Evening Prayer

Next Sunday's readings

1Tim 6: 6-19 and Luke 16: 25 to end



*Loving God,
you are close to the brokenhearted and you hold the
weary in your arms.
Be near to all who are unwell, bringing them peace and
strength.
Be gentle with those who grieve, surrounding them with
your love and the hope of eternal life.
May they know they are never alone, for you walk beside
them, today and always. Amen.*

Dear Lord,

In this autumn season, when the harvest is gathered, we thank You for Your provision for us. We have so much, and yet we see terrible images of starving children on our televisions and smartphones and in our newspapers. Lord, prompt us to do what we can to change things, whether that is by writing a letter or email to someone with influence, or by contributing in some way to aid agencies.

Lord, we ask You to touch the hearts of those leaders of nations whose decisions cause such hunger and suffering. Soften those hard hearts, Lord. Fill them with Your compassion. May there be a new harvest of love – and a kinder world. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Welcome to the Two Shires Link. Available weekly by email or at your local church. We hope to share the great things that are happening in the Benefice. If you would like a copy, have an event that you would like to add to the diary and/or some news to share please contact Revd Anne at thelinktwoshires@gmail.com or call 07504 338529 The deadline is Tuesday each week.

Revd Anne Perez

Dates for your diary:

Benefice Skittles competition

Friday 19th September 6:30pm at the Poppe inn near St John's Tatworth All welcome



**Concert by Stanchester Quire
at St Stephen's Winsham
on Sunday 21st September at 3pm.**



The concert theme is love and courtship!
Refreshments during the interval. Free entry but
retiring donations very welcome. Please come along
for what promises to be a fun afternoon.

Contact Us

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