



# *St John-in-Bedwardine Parish Magazine*

SEPTEMBER 2013

40p



## WHO'S WHO – ST JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICERS

|   |  |                  |
|---|--|------------------|
| <b>Churchwardens</b>                        | Margaret Morris<br>Gordon Templeton<br>gordtemp@btinternet.com | 426153<br>749025 |
| <b>Verger</b>                               | Catherine Templeton  | 749025           |
| <b>PCC Lay vice-chair</b>                   | Sue Bale   | 423257           |
| <b>Secretary</b>                            | Graham Evans   | 428667           |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                            | John English   | 427822           |
| <b>Stewardship envelopes</b>                | Irene Allen  | 422684           |
| <b>Estates Manager</b>                      | Brian Askew<br>brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk            | 424811           |
| <b>Parish Administrator</b>                 | Liz Edwards<br>office@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk                 | 420490           |
| <b>Education &amp; Heritage Officer</b>     | Philip Evans<br>edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk             | 428667           |
| <b>Child Protection Officer</b>             | Jane Askew   | 424811           |
| <b>Pastoral Care Coordinator</b>            | Sylvia Render<br>sylvia.render@talktalk.net                    | 422654           |
| <b>Press Officer</b>                        | Philip Evans<br>pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk          | 428667           |
| <b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>           | John Brierley  | 358474           |
| <b>Music Group</b>                          | Peter Yates<br>pjyates194@btinternet.com                       | 422565           |
| <b>Ringing Master</b>                       | Nicki Sysum  |                  |
| <b>Church Flowers</b>                       | Eileen Cantrill<br>Di White                                    | 422579           |
| <b>Magazine Editors</b>                     | Sue & Graham Evans<br>magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk        | 428667           |
| <b>Magazine Distributor &amp; Treasurer</b> | Philip Evans<br>pjevans@physics.org                            | 428667           |

---

### COVER PICTURES (courtesy of Colin Nash)

The Wifys children's choirs who visited St Johns:

- Top: The Domino Choir from the Czech Republic
- Middle: The Versme Choir from Lithuania
- Bottom: The Do-re-mi choir from Austria

---

The church of St John-in-Bedwardine is a registered charity, number 1152583.

## PASTORAL LETTER

Dear friends

I'm very pleased that the theme of our Magazine this month is 'Education.' I'm not sure we really value education in this country. Yes, we invest a lot of money in it, but I suspect the reason we have to invest so much money is that neither we, or by extension our children, are particularly excited by "education." Fostering a deeper love of learning can, I suspect, do a lot more than targets and exams to boost achievement.

The same is often true of Christians. If Church is boring, it's perhaps because we've lost the love of learning about God.

God is vast, beyond our comprehension: there is so much more to learn about him. And yet for so many of us, learning about God ends with Sunday School. Yet part of the joy of a relationship is that it takes time, and that by spending time with the other person you grow closer and closer to them. So it can be with God: we can, if we are prepared to learn, discover more and more depth to God, and find our faith deepened in return.

For some, study might mean 'book learning,' and I'm pleased to see that the church library is well used by some (though not enough!) in our congregation; but it might also mean spending time with God in prayer, or serving God actively – volunteering at the Foodbank, for example, and asking yourself as you do it what the work can teach you about God.

The magazine editors have asked me to write something about my PhD. Well, that feels uncomfortably like banging my own drum (!) but as it seems to touch on what I've just been saying, I'll give it a go.

The PhD has taken six years to complete (part-time) at the University of Durham. With the Bishop's agreement, I set aside one day each week to work on it (though, in practice, all that really meant was that I tried to cram six days' of parish work into five – not easy when the typical working week for a cleric is eighty hours).

The point of a PhD is to contribute something new and original to the sum of human knowledge: you have to discover something that no-one else has written about before. My PhD came in at just under 100,000 words, and was a study of the theology of two former Archbishops of Canterbury: William Temple (1942-1944) and Michael Ramsey (1961-1974). Basically, I wanted to understand what kind of God Temple and Ramsey believed in – what, for them, is God like, and how does that character help us understand Christ's life and work?

I discovered that both Temple and Ramsey believed that Christ lived a human life amongst us not, first and foremost, to draw attention to human sin and failure: Christ didn't come primarily to cancel out our sins; rather, he came in order to deepen the

fellowship between God and humanity. Yes, Christ had to ‘pay’ for our sins, but that was only a part of a much bigger purpose: creating an intimacy between us and God that was richer than that which existed even before “the Fall.” Both men believed that even if there had been no sin in the world, Christ would still have come amongst us, as the means of deepening our fellowship with God.

Well, as you can imagine, wrestling with Temple and Ramsey forced me to wrestle more deeply with my own faith. I understand God differently now, and I think more deeply – and as you can imagine, that has impacted on every aspect of my life and ministry. You can catch a glimpse of Temple and Ramsey in my sermons; or when I am sitting at the bedside of a dying man; or preaching at a wedding; or trying to help us focus on what the Church is for.

To study is to pray. There are all kinds of ways to learn about God, but unless we want to learn, and actively engage in learning, our faith will become stale. Learning about God is something we should all be doing, because to learn about God is the greatest blessing that any of us can experience.

*Yours in Christ  
Christopher*

---

## **A WORD FROM THE EDITORS**

It’s September, the Summer holiday is over and it’s time for the schools to go back. Our theme for this issue is education. We’ve picked as our historical Christian figure St John Chrysostom, who is described in the lectionary as “teacher of the faith”. Being a “St John” we’ve noted him in passing, but never learnt anything about him. We now learn that he was an important Early Church Father, known for his eloquence in preaching and public speaking. He was given the Greek epithet chrysostomos, meaning "golden mouthed" in English, and anglicised to Chrysostom. See our article on page 22 for more information about him.

Picking up the theme, the Vicar has told us something about his PhD, and written us a very educational piece responding to questions like ‘why does God allow so much evil in the world?’ or ‘why do bad things happen to good people?’

We’ve also got an article by Neil Morris, the headteacher of Christopher Whitehead Language College.

We’re trying some small changes to layout and typography in this issue. We’ll be happy to hear your feedback on any aspects of this.

As we all pick up the pace into the autumn, we pray that you will find the Holy Spirit with you in whatever you have to do.

*Graham and Sue Evans*

## DATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

Unless otherwise stated, the venue for all the events below is  
St John's Church, or one of the church rooms.

See  
page

---

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September:** Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

See the **back cover** for Sunday services on this day

---

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:** Gregory the Great, bishop, teacher of the faith, 604

6.30 p.m. Licensing of Nick Kaleniuk Priest-in-Charge of St Michael  
& All Angels Norton and St James Wollaston

5

---

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September:** Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

See the **back cover** for Sunday services on this day

---

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September:**

2.00 p.m. Thursday at Two (Blakefield Room)

6

---

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September:** John Chrysostom, bishop, teacher of the faith

---

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September:** Holy Cross Day

10.30 a.m. Bridge day at St John's (play starts at 11 a.m.)

10

Historic Churches Trust "Ride and Stride"

21

---

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September:** Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

See the **back cover** for Sunday services on this day

---

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September**

7.00 p.m. Craft Evening

10

---

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September:** Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

7.00 p.m. Worcester Male Voice Choir Concert

20

---

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September:** Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

See the **back cover** for Sunday services on this day

---

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September:** Ember Day

7.00 p.m. Quiz Evening

10

---

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September:** Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

See the **back cover** for Sunday services on this day

---

### LICENSING SERVICES

---

Rev'd Nick Kaleniuk will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of the parishes of St Michael & All Angels Norton and St James Wollaston on Tuesday 3rd September at 6.30pm. The service will take place at St James Church, Bridgnorth Road, Wollaston, Stourbridge DY8 3PY.

---

Rev'd Phillip Bradford will be licensed to serve in the West Worcester Group of churches at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th October. The service will take place at St John's Church.

## IN MEMORIAM

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mrs RI Dobbins         | 1 September 1996  |
| George Herbert Mayall  | 2 September 1970  |
| Charles William Warner | 3 September 1954  |
| Bessie Sage            | 4 September 1995  |
| Alice Beatrice Ingham  | 5 September 1999  |
| Willian Henry Lewis    | 6 September 1963  |
| Gordon William Taster  | 8 September 1963  |
| Beatrice Eva Jones     | 11 September 1987 |
| Martha Ricketts        | 13 September 1996 |
| Reg Brunyee            | 16 September 2006 |
| Florence Smith         | 17 September 1996 |
| Joan Pauline           | 19 September 1996 |
| Elizabeth Goodsell     | 21 September 2003 |
| Charles Trevor Edmunds | 24 September 1975 |
| Doreen Hall            | 24 September 1987 |

## THURSDAY AT TWO



Are you bereaved or lonely? Come along and join us for a cuppa, cake and a chat.

We meet on the second Thursday every month, from 2pm in the Blakefield Room, St John's Church. Our next meeting is on Thursday 12th September.

Just come along; but if you want to speak with someone first then ring

Catherine (749025) or Sylvia (422654).

*Catherine Templeton, Sylvia Render*

## ST JOHN'S PARISH MAGAZINE

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August. The magazine contains items about Parish news, events and other articles.

We have an extensive archive of our historical Parish Magazines stretching back to the 1870s. If you'd like to obtain a particular copy or view a copy from the archive, please email [edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

The magazine costs 40p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £4 per year. **We encourage you to subscribe as this means that we know more closely in advance how many copies to print and makes things easier for our printing team.**

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**Baptisms, weddings and funerals which took place in June and July.**

**BAPTISMS:** *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

|      |  |
|------|--|
| June | Freddy William Fowler<br>George Charles Fowler<br>Poppy Alice Holland<br>Elena Williams<br>Charlie Samuel Thompson<br>Piper Rose Tilbury |
| July | Olivia Grace Errington-Evans<br>Hannah Phoebe King-Smith<br>Charlie Francis Knapp<br>Amelia Grace Lewis                                  |

**WEDDINGS:** *Those whom God has joined together*

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> July | Robert Jones and Cherize Sawyer<br>Michael Staiger and Kate Templeton |
|----------------------|---|

**FUNERALS:** *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| d. 26th May  | Eric Minchin    |
| d. 29th May  | Bill Roberts    |
| d. 27th June | Maureen Hart    |
| d. 3rd July  | Brian Howrth    |
| d. 10th July | Margaret Grange |

**FROM THE REGISTER OF SERVICES FOR JUNE 2013 (5 Sundays):**  
Communicants 376. Total attendance at all services 714.

**FROM THE REGISTER OF SERVICES FOR JULY 2013 (4 Sundays):**  
Communicants 388. Total attendance at all services 1089.

---

### FUNDING FOR NEW CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM

For many months now, on an intermittent basis, the sound quality during services and at other times has been very poor detracting from our worship. After consultation the PCC made the replacement of the system its top priority for this year. A faculty for the replacement is about to be granted and to date £3,700 has been donated towards a total cost of £10,000 to £11,000. Your help would be greatly appreciated if you feel able to donate towards the outstanding amount. Help is also being sought in the form of a grant and/or loan from the Feoffees to enable the work to be completed as soon as possible.

If you are able to help please contact me.

*John English, PCC Treasurer*

## NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

Talking to one of my students one morning recently, I heard about a small grandchild who was already singing along to music on the TV and then carrying on with the singing long after the programme was over. Educational psychologists who specialise in pre-school child development will talk of how, even from a very early age, music has a huge impact on children. Learning to play an instrument takes dedication and practice but we are all born with a voice and even tiny babies are drawn to people singing, showing amazing focus and concentration on the sounds. Older pre-schoolers will dance and sing with real freedom and none of the self-consciousness that we all seem to develop as we grow up.



This spontaneity and joy in sound is something that we can all regain. Singing in a choir does take discipline but it also brings us back to the soundscape that is within each one of us, reminding us of the singing child. On Sunday mornings when I am in the choir I am of course raising my voice in praise but I am also listening to the world of music around me, not just from my fellow choristers but also from the congregation. I can't tell you how wonderful it is to hear the whole church filled with song. I like to think too that God is appreciating our sound and smiling as we reconnect with the music from within.

*Luise Horrocks*

---

## WORCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR CONCERT

SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 7.00pm

St John's church will be the venue for a rare musical treat on Saturday 21st September at 7.00pm when we host a concert by the Worcester Male Voice Choir. The programme will include many well-known items in a variety of styles and we hope as many people as possible will support and enjoy the evening.

Worcester Male Voice Choir was formed in 1987 and has been on many overseas tours and raised significant sums for charities. The proceeds from this concert will be for St John's Church.

Tickets £10.00 (concessions £8.00) will be on sale in advance and on the door and includes interval refreshments. Please contact Ron Cantrill on 01905 422579 for tickets and further information or the Parish Office on 01905 420490.

*Ron Cantrill*

---

## SONGS OF PRAISE

There will be "SONGS OF PRAISE" with Malvern Chase Brass Band on Sunday 8th September at 4 p.m. at the Alfrick Showground, to be followed by tea in the Village Hall.



## FRIENDS OF ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE CHURCH

We all talk about the Village in the City and the Church is at the heart of this village. St. John's Church is a Grade 2\* listed Norman building. This means that there is always something that needs to be done to keep the building in good condition. We have learnt from experience that we need to constantly spend money on the building to avoid enormous repair bills.



We have formed a 'Friends of St John in Bedwardine Church' group, whose sole purpose is to help fund the upkeep of the building. If you are interested in joining us please read the enclosed literature.

In return for becoming a Friend of St John in Bedwardine you will be invited to a function that will be free for a Friend and sent a yearly update.

## FROM THE PARISH MAGAZINE ARCHIVES

June 1949

### ST JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL FLOWER SERVICE

ONE of the most beautiful services at St. John's Church for many years has been the one dedicated to the children of our Sunday Schools. It has always been known as the "Children's Flower Service", and held each year on the last Sunday afternoon in June. To see the throng of happy little faces quietly walking up the aisle to the altar steps, each proudly carrying their own particular gift to God of flowers, fruit or jam, presented to Him through the hand of the Vicar is a joy remembered and treasured by many. How lovely then it will be to see once again at 3 p.m. on the afternoon of June 26th our new Vicar receiving and blessing the children's gifts.

People are saying St. John's Church is always full now-a-days! Do come along and join with the children and teachers in praise and thanksgiving to God for all His goodness to us. If you have a little boy or girl who would also like to bring their own little gift to God they are most welcome. After the service all the gifts are taken and given to the old people living at Hillsborough. Only those who have seen the joy and pleasure on these old people's faces can realise how deeply the children's gifts are appreciated. Wonderful it is to give with no thought of gain. "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for such are the Kingdom of Heaven."

HEDLEY T. COOMBS.

## Fun and Fund Raising at St John's



- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September Bridge Day 10.00am - 3.00pm  
£10.00 to include lunch. Booking required.
- Wednesday 18 September Craft Evening 7.00pm. - 9.00pm  
£5.00 to include all materials. The start of our Christmas crafts.
- Saturday 21 September Worcester Male Voice Choir concert 7.00pm.
- Saturday 28 September Quiz night 7.00 p.m.

Check the Church noticeboards for more details about our events. Further details from Worcester 423257, 749025 & 424811

### Can you help?

Do you have a craft that you would like to share with our craft group? We make something in each session to get a taste of that particular craft. We are looking for ideas for each session next year. If you would like to come and share your craft with us please telephone 424811.

---

### **NEXT CHARITY BRIDGE DAY**

The next opportunity to come and play friendly Rubber Bridge at St John-in-Bedwardine Church is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September: Meet at 10.30am for coffee, with play starting at 11am. Buffet lunch, then more play until approximately 3pm. £10 per person.

Please phone Catherine or Gordon on 01905 749025 to book your place, or email [cathtemp@btinternet.com](mailto:cathtemp@btinternet.com). All proceeds to St John-in-Bedwardine Church.

---

### **QUIZ**

There will be a Quiz Night in church on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7 p.m. Free drink and nibbles, modest prizes. This “inexpensive evening with inexpensive prizes” has always been greatly enjoyed by those who have attended it, so please come along. Come and join with others to make up a team on the night; or come as a ‘ready made’ team. No individual questions! Tickets are £3.50 on the door or in advance from the Evans family. All proceeds to church funds.

*The Evans Family*

# St John's Toddler Group



Hello, my name is Zoe and I have taken over the toddler group. I have an NVQ and worked at Swanpool Children's Nursery for three years. I have also worked at Worcester Royal Hospital for twelve years.

I am now a stay at home mummy to my toddler and am looking forward to being part of this group and working to build it up.

We meet every Friday in the Blakefield Room at the back of the Church, (Bromyard Road side) from 10am to 12.00 mid-day. Please come along and see us. We will be carrying on through the summer holidays.

If there is anything you would like to find out please give me a ring on 07921829892.

I look forward to welcoming you to our group.

Zoe Adams

---

## FROM THE PARISH MAGAZINE ARCHIVES

April 1924

### GIRLS' SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

On February 28th an entertainment was given by the girls of St. John's Senior School. As usual the room was filled to overflowing, and a very good entertainment was enjoyed by all. If the audience enjoyed the evening as much as the performers, we know that they had a very good time. Grateful thanks are due to those who so kindly supported us by taking tickets, by giving in the collection, and by lending chairs. It is always a great encouragement to see so many friends and supporters of the school gathered together to appreciate the children's efforts.

---

## DOWN IN THE JUNGLE

The brambles and other plants had totally taken over outside the Burroughs' Room and the Vicar's office, and you could not see out of the windows. I snapped Philip Evans as he was cutting all the vegetation back. You can now see out of the windows; well done Philip!

*Graham Evans*



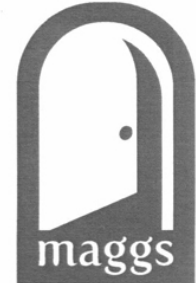
## MAGGS DAY CENTRE

The letter below came to me from Maggs. As you can see, they are fulsome in their praise of all the continuing support that we provide for the centre. We have provided a good deal of financial, material and human resources for them and I think it is only fair that our members appreciate how much our help is valued by Maggs.

*John Prangnell*

6 July 2013

John Prangnell  
C/o St John's Church  
1a Bromyard Road  
St John's  
Worcester  
WR2 5BS



Registered Charity  
700852

Company Limited by  
Guarantee 2278501

Dear John

Just a quick note to say that it was great to be able to have a conversation with you yesterday and to thank you for the donations. Without the continued support of organisations like St John's Church, Maggs Day Centre would find it much more difficult to provide our services to the homeless and socially isolated in Worcester.

As you may be aware, Maggs receives no funding from either central or local government therefore we rely on charitable donations and bidding for grants, which are ever decreasing in this very challenging economic environment.

We have had a very successful year at Maggs with our refurbishment of the shower and toilet facilities and the establishment of our Activity Centre, which goes from strength to strength. The year ahead presents a serious financial challenge but with continued support and donations, however large or small, we aim to meet that challenge - the goodwill of St John's Church, and many others, gives us the confidence to do just that.

Thank you once again,

Yours sincerely



Steven Glazzard

Team Leader

## ONSIDE ADVOCACY

You may have read in your pew sheet that the charity committee has chosen Onside Advocacy as one of the possible charities for our church to support this year, along with Worcester Wheels.

For some years now I have been working as a volunteer for Onside and thought I would share some of my experience with you. Onside supports vulnerable adults and elderly people by running a wide range of projects across the whole county of Worcestershire. I have been involved in both advocacy and befriending/ enabling projects. Advocacy aims to provide a voice for those who would otherwise struggle to be heard: the elderly, those with mental health problems or those with learning disabilities. This might mean attending meetings with health professionals or supporting individuals with their finances. My advocacy projects have included helping an elderly person with her bills and finances and representing the views of a man with learning disabilities during a period of transition in his life.

Onside also aims to enable vulnerable adults to live as fulfilling a life as possible, participating in the community or pursuing a hobby. My enabling work has included finding opportunities for people to undertake voluntary work and to take up new skills such as dancing, accompanying them for the first few visits and stepping away when they felt comfortable to go it alone. My befriending work involves phoning two elderly people once a week to make sure that they have someone to talk to, as they frequently go for days without speaking to anyone. Volunteers with more time to spare make befriending visits on a regular basis.

I have found my experience as a volunteer very rewarding and feel that I gain more than I receive by doing it. I certainly feel that I get just as much out of my telephone befriending as the two ladies I befriend and look forward to chatting with them both every weekend.

Onside's services have always been free at the point of delivery, but running them is expensive and funding cuts are beginning to threaten this principle, particularly in the valuable area of befriending. Volunteers have to be trained and receive a qualification on completing the course. Obviously they must all be CRB checked, and all of this costs money. St John's support of Onside will help to ensure that vulnerable people, who might otherwise become invisible, are given a voice.

If you would like to find out more about Onside or if you are interested in volunteering, speak to me, or visit the website [www.onside-advocacy.org.uk](http://www.onside-advocacy.org.uk) .

*Sarah Stuart*

## GRILL A VICAR

Back in May, we had our Deanery Mission. We invited people to write down questions about the faith that had always bothered them, with the idea that the vicar would give them some thought, and write a reply in the parish magazine.

There were perhaps a dozen or so questions, but by far the most common was some variation on the question ‘why does God allow so much evil in the world?’ or ‘why do bad things happen to good people?’

### *Two Important Things to Remember*

The first and most important thing to say is this: God does not will bad things to happen to us.

Trying to explain evil is, I think, ultimately impossible because of the very nature of evil. “Good” makes sense to us – we see it and understand it; if “evil” is the opposite of “good,” then there must be something about evil that makes no sense – that is random, cruel and inexplicable.

God does not will evil, but – and perhaps here’s the point of everything I say below – he can bring good out of it: as St Paul says, ‘Do not be overcome by evil, but use evil for good.’ And that, I think, gets to the heart of how we should live in this world. God can use evil, even though he doesn’t want it to exist – and so should we.

Second, a word of caution. For two thousand years Christians have wrestled with ‘the problem of evil,’ and yet *still found within themselves a sense of God, and a faith in him*. They weren’t blind, and they weren’t stupid, and it’s foolish and arrogant to think they were – they were just as thoughtful and observant as we are, and the evils of the world were no less potent then than they are now. They, and their arguments, deserve our respect, even if we don’t agree with them. Their faith in the face of adversity ought at least to make us stop and think, and hesitate to dismiss God.

### *An Opening Thought*

Much of the evil in the world comes about by human choice: humans choose to do evil things to one another. That freedom comes from God: he wants us to choose good over evil, and above all, he wants us to choose him. If God forced us to choose him, it wouldn’t be freedom at all: one of the things that makes an action “good” (or bad) is the fact that we choose to do it.

God wants us freely to choose “good,” and freely to choose him. It seems that freedom must be very, very important to God, because freedom opens the door to a great deal of evil. But we can only have the option of choosing “good” if we also equally have the option of rejecting the good in favour of evil – if God intervened like a parent every time we are tempted to do the evil thing, we wouldn’t actually be free at all, and we wouldn’t learn from the consequences of our mistakes.

It seems that freedom, and that the good that can arise out of that freedom, is more valuable to God than a world where there is no freedom, and consequently where there can be no good.

Well, maybe... But what about the evil that arises out of natural disasters – earthquakes, floods and the like?

### *A Letter*

In April 1944, a woman wrote the following letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple. Although this is an example of the evil that humans choose to do to one another, Temple's reply seems to me to apply to the evils that arise out of natural disasters too. I've kept her spelling/grammar/punctuation:

Dear Sir

No doubt you will be wondering why I should write to you, but who else is there fitted to hear our perplexities than you.

Well, it is like this. When my only son went abroad, I gave him straight into God's keeping, to keep him safe from dangers to his body & soul. I had perfect faith in him that that he would not let me down & now I have had the final notice of how he died of wounds in Italy.

I have lost complete faith in God because I have always confided in him in my troubles & brought my family up to trust & be as Christian as possible & my dear son carried the good morals I influenced in him & would go anywhere in the battlefield for a simple and devote service of the Church he lived a silent worship. [And?] now all this as spoilt the beauty of life & the quiet contentment I used to feel when I had reverently [reverently?] communed with God. So I ask you, as head of the church, what good is faith & trust in the Lord.

Perhaps you will forgive me writing to you, but one cannot pour out one's soul to any vicar where just the same artificial services pour out, coldly night & morning services. I have 3 daughters & husband who have always admired my way of living & my son did too, it is a shock to them to find me like this but I cannot help it, so I am writing for some enlightenment from you

It's a very moving letter, and the sort of letter that every cleric at some level dreads. Here's William Temple's reply, dated 24th April 1944:

Dear Mrs \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot say how deeply I sympathise with you in your sorrow and the shock that it has brought to your faith. I trust that as time heals the surface of the wound, which of course it does, though never perhaps its depth, you will see things in a rather different proportion and be able once more to trust in God

If we are Christian, we cannot possibly suppose that we have a right to expect God to save either us or those we love from death. If He, as St Paul puts it, "spared not His own Son", it is quite clear that the way of suffering may be the way by which we are

to fulfil His purpose. When Our Lord says that God cares even for the sparrows, He does not for a moment conceal or ignore the fact that they do fall to the ground and die; what He says is that when this happens, it is within the loving care of the Father of all creatures. And Christ, by His Resurrection, has made clear to us that death after all is not the end, nor of necessity any great evil; it is the one thing in life that some time or other we all have to face; it is therefore part of God's ordering of the world for us, and we must trust to Him not so much to save us from it but to uphold us through it and beyond it.

I hope that as you think of these things you may begin once again to feel that your only son is still in God's keeping as truly as when he was here, and that you too are in his keeping and can look forward to the happiness of renewed fellowship in God's closer presence in the world beyond

*"If we are Christian, we cannot possibly suppose that we have a right to expect God to save either us or those we love from death."* Those sound like hard words, don't they? I think William Temple is saying: if God could not stop his son dying, then what right have we to hope that God will stop bad things happening to us? Something to think about, and deeply, before you read on to the next part of this letter.

#### *An Analogy*

Some people have gone further, and drawn an analogy based on their experience of parenthood. Sooner or later, as every parent knows, there comes a point when you have to 'let go', and allow your son or daughter to go out into the world and take risks – take risks, make mistakes, and sometimes get hurt. Even the little things can be painful to watch – like seeing your daughter break up with her first boyfriend, and all the grief and tears that go with it.

But, unless we want to trap our children in eternal childhood and stop them growing up and fulfilling their full potential, we have to learn to let go: that hurt is part of life, part of growing up and growing wiser – a part of our coming into bloom as human beings. And – so the argument goes – the hard things that happen to us in life can help us grow and mature *in a way that would not otherwise be possible*. The sum of that growing and maturing in the human race is, it seems, more valuable to God than if we lived lives of perpetual childhood, always shielded from harm.

God does not will evil, but evil can be the spur that helps us to grow into something richer and fuller than we were before. And exponents would want to say that the knowledge of God's love and blessing can give us a strength not only to survive the harsh times, but to grow through them too.

Well, maybe! Except, of course, that not all people are able to turn the tables on evil, and grow through the experience. What then? Then, perhaps, we should remember those words of Temple: "When Our Lord says that God cares even for the sparrows, He does not for a moment conceal or ignore the fact that they do fall to the ground and



die; what He says is that when this happens, it is within the loving care of the Father of all creatures.”

### *The Resurrection...*

Let me take you back to what I said at the beginning: that evil makes no sense, that it is destructive and cruel – but that we can turn the tables on evil, and use it for good. Consider the cross, and consider the resurrection.

In the cross we see how much human beings matter – matter, whether they overcome evil and grow to fullness or not. We also see God in Christ *suffering*, and suffering *terribly*. And God doesn't stop it – it seems, God cannot stop it. Evil does its very worst. And then what?

Then, God turns the tables on evil. Two things happen. First, we learn something: God loves us – loves us more than we ever realised; now we have seen that God will, in Christ, *die for us*. What more could he give for us than his own life? When you come face to face with a love like that, it can give you the strength to live – to face up to the hard times, knowing that nothing – not even death – is stronger than that love. Not all find that strength, of course: but it's worth remembering that a *God who would die for us would not, finally, let anything that is good or valuable in his sight be lost*.

And second? Second: Christ rose from the dead on Easter morning. Not even death, the worst that the world can do to us, has the final say. God is, finally, stronger than death: he may not be able to stop bad things happening to us, and we may not always be able to overcome the evils we see in life – to mature and flourish – but at the end, God will not let evil have the final say. God knows what we go through in this life, and God knows our struggles to overcome that evil. And, at the end, he stands ready to welcome us into a place where, at last, no evil can touch us.

### *A Final Thought*

None of the above quite convinces, I think – but then, evil is a problem for everyone, even the atheists. Yes, there is ‘the problem of evil’, but there is also (I think) the ‘problem of good...’

I cannot explain evil; all we can do is set the evil that we see in a bigger context. The context of the cross, and of the love of God, and of God's call to us to follow the example of Christ, and to fight evil wherever we find it with all our heart, mind and soul; never losing sight of the vision of heaven, the final reality, the biggest possible picture.

What does all this boil down to? Forgive a glib answer: read John 11: 35; spend a lifetime meditating on those words, and perhaps we might begin to make some sense of evil. But it takes a lifetime, and it takes more than reason to understand.

*If this article has raised new issues and concerns for you, please don't hesitate to contact me: I'm always willing to discuss these things further. Chris Stuart*

## THE VIEW FROM CHRISTOPHER WHITEHEAD

It was a great sadness but no surprise that the politicians' annual 'moan' about educational standards occurred when thousands of hard working young people were about to sit their GCSE exams. Imagine as a young person waking up to headlines such as:

- "tougher GCSE's revealed"
- "coursework too easy"
- or (from the 'Good Old' Daily Mail) "teenagers will have to study more Dickens.... to bring an end to discredited qualifications".

Students who worked hard must have despaired at their situation and, added to the pressure, their choice of 'where' next was reduced by the cutting of 'A' levels at the College of Technology!

I get 'bored' by the frenzied media portrayal of all people between the age of 12-30 as hoodlums, part of the 'gang' culture. These are not the people I meet and I think we do them a discredit if we do not acknowledge the work they do in the community. For example at Christopher Whitehead each of the six houses has worked for the last six years with a variety of local charities. Worcester Food Bank has benefited with 2,000+ items being delivered, so necessary when 7,000 separate families will access this charity in our short school Summer holidays; or St Richard's Hospice has received donations totalling £900+ essential when over 2,300 families in Worcestershire are supported, or our work with the fabulous Air Ambulance or the amazing charity Acorns. Clearly the money is necessary for these charities but the raising of awareness of the students and the engagement of young people with our community is an invaluable experience, seen as worthwhile by all concerned. This is not headline news but is worth commenting upon, and is the standard work of the majority of our young people.

*Neil Morris, Headteacher CWLC*

---

### GOVE CALLS FOR CONTINUING PARTNERSHIP WITH CofE

Education Secretary Michael Gove has praised the standards and popularity of church schools and urged a continuing partnership. He was taking part in a recent seminar at Lambeth Palace on 'Church of England: Education and our Future'.

---

### GENERAL SYNOD

The General Synod has this summer reaffirmed its commitment to women bishops and called, less than a year after the previous proposals were rejected, for new draft legislation to be introduced. It will be considered by the Synod in November 2013, with the aim of reaching the stage of Final Approval in July or November 2015. The General Synod passed the motion by 319 votes to 84.

## TEEN MEETS GOD – LUKE’S STORY

Luke is 16 and lives in the Midlands. He’s the co-founder of the website shown on the right:

[www.forchristianteens.com](http://www.forchristianteens.com)

Here is his story.

I grew up in a Christian household, but my parents left the decision to me over whether I’d decide to become a Christian. I attended church regularly with them and built up a nucleus of friends there, but ultimately I was left to make my own choice.

When I was 11, I attended a ‘Saltmine’ camp, which was a Christian summer camp. I got this amazing buzz through being in the meetings – a kind of spiritual ‘high’ - and this was the first time I began to feel like God was real. I made a decision that week that I would follow Jesus.

However, life quickly settled back into its status quo and a few years later I found myself fairly unhappy, and so looked to my Bible for help. I continued attending summer camps and, aged 14, felt a renewed sense of purpose. I decided that year to get baptised, and this is when I believe I truly became a Christian. I didn’t want to just be a Sunday Christian and I wanted my faith to be for always. I didn’t want to lose the feeling that I got at these camps and I knew that was only achievable through getting to know God better.

Since that point my life has slowly flourished. I began standing up for my faith at school and to my surprise people began to accept it. Of course there’s a lot of banter around these sorts of things, but actually I’ve felt enabled to strengthen my friendships with people and tell them about God. I’ve begun reading my Bible more and have found that the more things I give over to God (exams, sports, etc.) the more things seem to grow and prosper.

I now have a solid church family, and a sense of belonging that is so important. I’ve now co-founded a Christian website for teenagers, and I’ve even begun to preach, which is something I’m extremely passionate about for the future. Loads of exciting things have happened since I became a Christian!

Luke made a decision to follow Jesus. He prayed, asking God to forgive him for the things he does wrong, and then he promised to live God’s way. To find out more about the Christian faith, visit <http://www.lookingforgod.com>

*Courtesy of Parish Pump*



**St John-in-Bedwardine Church**

**St John's, Worcester**

**WR2 5BS**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2013**

**at 7.00 pm**

**WORCESTER**

**MALE VOICE**

**CHOIR**

**A popular programme of  
old and new favourites**

**Tickets £10.00 may be obtained from:-**

**St John's Parish Office 01905 420490**

**On 01905 422579**

**and on the door on the night**



## Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Ride+Stride is a sponsored bike ride or walk in which people from all over the country walk or cycle between churches, exploring and enjoying the countryside. The money they raise helps to preserve some of Britain's 47,000 churches, chapels and meeting houses which are at risk of falling into serious disrepair.

Supported by The National Churches Trust and in partnership with County Churches Trusts, Ride+Stride crosses 34 counties and opens the doors to some of Britain's most rare and unusual churches, chapels and meeting houses.

The event raises money through events and volunteers getting sponsorship to either cycle or walk from church to church. Their sponsorship money is shared between their local churches trust (in our case the Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust) and the church of their choice (hopefully St. John's!!!).

St. John's Church received £10,000 from WDHCT in aid of the Tower Appeal and it would be good for us to give something back.

***Philip Evans***

### **How can you help?**

- We need volunteers to take part in the sponsored walk or cycle ride. I would like to organise a group/s of people to go around together. If you might be interested, please speak to me or ask me for more information.
- Come and join us for an "Afternoon Tea" (a Coffee Morning in the afternoon!) of tea, coffee and homemade cakes between 3pm and 5pm.

**Come and join us at St. John's for an Afternoon Tea**

**Serving delicious homemade cakes**

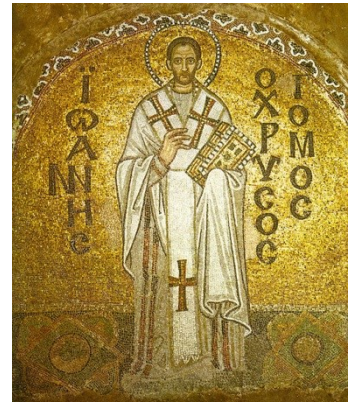
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**3pm - 5pm**

*All sponsored participants raising at least £5 will get a free drink & cake!*

## ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

John Chrysostom (347 – 407) is the saint for anyone who applies their Christianity to public life, and also for anyone who hates travelling in bad weather. Chrysostom did both, and had trouble both times.



Born into a wealthy home in Antioch, John Chrysostom studied both oratory and law. In 373 he became a monk, where his talents were soon spotted by the bishop, who put him in charge of the care of the many poor Christians in the city.

Chrysostom's oratorical skills made him a popular preacher – even when he spoke out against the riots against the emperor's taxes. The emperor, in fact, liked him so much that he had him made Archbishop of Constantinople in 397. Then the trouble began: because Chrysostom had firm moral views, and wanted to reform the corrupt morals of the court.

Nobody at court liked that at all – especially the Empress, whose make-up, clothes and behaviour were all criticized by Chrysostom. (It's as if Justin Welby began calling the Queen's dress sense or Kate's lipstick immoral.) When his enemies claimed that he had gone on to call her a 'Jezebel', the emperor had to exile him – until an earthquake scared everyone into recalling this strict Archbishop – just in case God was trying to tell them something. Even the Empress was shaken – for a while.

A few years later, Chrysostom was exiled again over another false charge – and forced to travel for many miles in appalling weather. If you've been stranded in any heat-waves or thunderstorms this summer, imagine walking up the M6 in that – for weeks on end. In the end, Chrysostom died in September, on the road to Pontus.

His body was later brought back to Constantinople, and over the ensuing centuries, the Church came to see him as having been a great church leader, in fact, one of the Four Greek Doctors (with Athanasius, Basil and Gregory of Nazianzus).

*From Parish Pump*

---

## ROOM HIRING AT THE CHURCH

The church has two meeting rooms (the Blakefield Room and the Burroughs' Room) and a large space in the church available for hire. All rooms have access to the church car park.

All access to the church is level and therefore suitable for wheelchairs. A toilet for the disabled is available.

For more information, please email [hire@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:hire@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

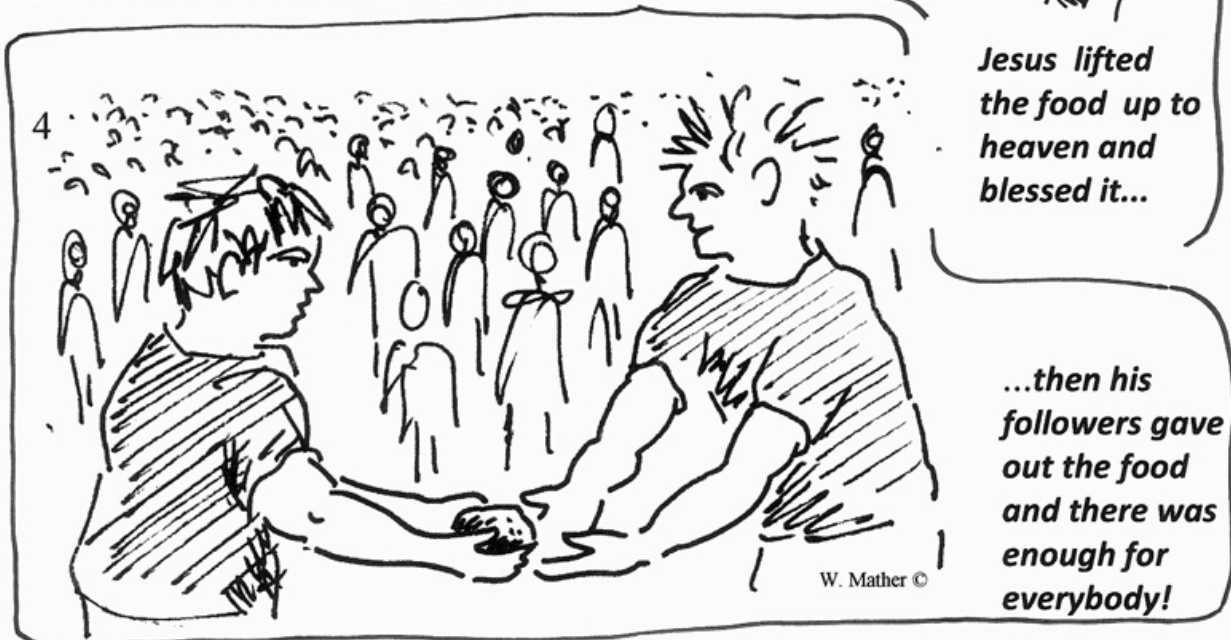
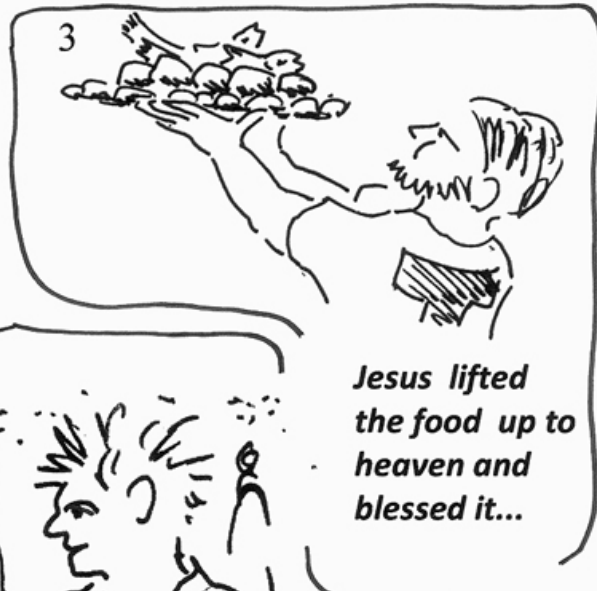
# Big catering headache!

## Bible Sketchbook



What a catering head-ache! Thousands of people following Jesus with nothing to eat. Jesus told his followers "You feed them." Impossible - all they could find were two fishes and five small loaves. Undaunted Jesus gave thanks to God, blessed the food and gave it to his followers to give out. They trusted Jesus, and amazingly, at least 5,000 were fed with 12 baskets left over. His followers trusted Jesus to provide; how about you?

**Read more in Matthew 14: 13-21**



## WORDSEARCH

Luke 4 tells the story of one of the greatest moments in world history: the day Jesus first began his public ministry, and proclaimed that it was he whom Isaiah had been talking about. He was in the synagogue in Nazareth, and on that Sabbath morning he stood up to read: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor...to proclaim freedom...release the oppressed...to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’ The Messiah had begun his work on earth.

*Find the words below from this story, in the wordsearch grid.*

**Nazareth**  
**Countryside**  
**Jesus**  
**Synagogue**  
**Isaiah**  
**Scroll**  
**Spirit**  
**Lord**  
**Anointed**  
**Me**  
**Proclaim**  
**Freedom**  
**Prisoners**  
**Recovery**  
**Sight**  
**Blind**  
**Release**  
**Oppressed**  
**Proclaim**  
**Year**  
**Favour**  
**Stood**  
**Prophet**  
**Good**  
**News**  
**Sat**  
**Written**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | B | E | S | L | O | I | P | P | F | L | E | E | R |
| A | L | S | U | T | O | R | I | R | A | A | U | E | N |
| M | I | A | L | C | O | R | P | L | V | G | O | A | G |
| E | N | E | N | P | O | O | D | N | O | R | Z | O | N |
| E | D | L | H | O | E | U | D | G | U | A | S | T | S |
| R | P | E | A | D | I | E | A | N | R | P | O | L | E |
| N | T | R | A | E | Y | N | F | E | S | R | L | S | E |
| M | E | D | I | S | Y | R | T | N | U | O | C | J | R |
| N | I | W | S | S | E | H | S | E | R | C | S | E | R |
| G | O | L | S | E | O | O | U | C | D | L | P | R | T |
| V | O | N | D | R | O | N | S | I | S | A | I | A | H |
| E | E | O | H | P | E | N | E | T | T | I | R | W | G |
| W | M | E | D | P | A | E | J | R | O | M | I | R | I |
| N | R | E | C | O | V | E | R | Y | S | A | T | N | S |

**The solution is on page 36**



## THE MAGAZINE

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes, cartoons, puzzles and anecdotes from anyone are welcome for inclusion in the Magazine. Do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact; the more we learn about one another the better our understanding will be. What you think is important, but please add your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered.


Opinions expressed in this magazine are personal opinions of the authors concerned and may not represent the views of the editors, our PCC or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

Copy should reach us by Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> September for the October edition. If you can, please use e-mail: [magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

Additions to In Memoriam are not automatic following a funeral but must be specifically requested via the clergy.

If you wish to advertise in the Magazine please contact Sue Hussell on 01684 893397 in the first instance.

Sue & Graham Evans, Joint Editors



Feel right  
at home in  
Red Hill

Shaw Redhill offers a safe and secure home from home environment; for elderly people including those living with dementia.

- Specialist dementia care
- Nurse led caring
- First class catering & freshly prepared meals
- Spacious, single rooms with en-suite facilities
- Tailored activity schedules
- Home from home environment

Care enquiry line

0800 902 0092

[customercare@shaw.co.uk](mailto:customercare@shaw.co.uk)

[www.shaw.co.uk](http://www.shaw.co.uk)



# Information & Advice Hub

**43-49 St. John's WR2 5AG (Access via our St. John's shop)**

- Free one-to-one advice service on Tuesdays  
10am till 1pm
- Free Legal Surgery - 2nd Thursday in the month  
between 10am and 1pm
- Opening 8th April 2013



---

**Please call in or tel: 01905 724294**



# Smile Denture Clinic

## **Dentures that don't move, 100% guaranteed**

Dr Peter and his team of denture experts have more than 20 years experience in denture making.

### **You will benefit from:**

- Excellent fitting dentures
- Rock solid dentures
- An extremely natural look
- Non-Surgical facelift effect
- Difficult dentures cases solved
- Enjoyment in eating regained
- Ability to eat normal foods
- You will smile with confidence
- Revolutionary new denture technology

**Tel: 01905 887631**

No 1 Bromyard Road, St Johns, Worcester WR2 5BS

[www.smiledentalcareclinic.com](http://www.smiledentalcareclinic.com) • [info@smiledentalcareclinic.com](mailto:info@smiledentalcareclinic.com)

Opening hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6pm



# La Fleur Florist

Weddings    Funeral Tributes    Everyday Flowers  
Corporate Flowers    Special Occasions  
Garden Plants

Victoria Phelps  
36 Woodstock Road  
Worcester, WR2 5NE  
Tel: 01905 421820 or 07842258936  
lafleur@hotmail.co.uk  
www.lafleurflorist.co.uk



- ✓ *Prompt, reliable & friendly service.*
- ✓ *All types of flues & appliances cleaned.*
- ✓ *Cowls and Chimney Pots fitted.*
- ✓ *Fully qualified by the Guild of Master Sweepers and fully insured.*
- ✓ *Guild certificates issued after every sweep.*
- ✓ *Stove Installations/Chimney lining.*
- ✓ *HETAS Registered.*

**NO MESS      NO DUST      NO FUSS**



***Call Eddie***

***Tel. 07895 612915 / 01905 679950***





**HOME. There's no place like it.**

**Being able to live at home can be one of the most important comforts in an older person's life and because family and friends can't always be there, Home Instead Senior Care are here to help in your area.**

Our Award winning Services Include:

- Companionship
- Light housekeeping
- Local transportations and errands
- Meal preparation
- Convalescence support
- Shopping
- Personal care
- Specialist dementia and Alzheimer's care *and much more...*

For us nothing is more important than providing a convenient and reliable care solution that works for everyone, from an hour to full time cover.

**For an informal, no obligation chat to discuss your needs, OR if you feel you have the right qualities to become one of our CAREGivers please call: *Samantha Smith on 01905 420404.***





# RELAX...

**...with the assurance of knowing that all your travel arrangements are in the safest possible hands.**

**Beach holidays, City breaks, Honeymoons, Weddings abroad, Adventure holidays, Ski, Cruise, Tailormade trips, Flight only, Car hire, Foreign exchange, Airport hotels and parking and much more...**

**Worcester Based Independent Travel Agent  
Contact ANNE LONG – 0845 058 7808**

**Email – [anne.long@travelcounsellors.com](mailto:anne.long@travelcounsellors.com)**

**Mobile – 0798 4420292**

**No extra or hidden fees to pay for booking through Travel Counsellors.  
Everything booked through Travel Counsellors is 100% financially protected  
for your peace of mind.**



Travel Counsellors ensures complete financial protection on every booking

**travel counsellors**



*Where will your conversation take you?*

# Abbeyfield

WORCESTER



12 GREENHILL  
LONDON ROAD  
WORCESTER  
WR5 2AA

INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR THE  
ELDERLY WITHIN A CARING  
COMMUNITY

Abbeyfield is a National Charity which provides supported, independent and affordable accommodation within easy access of the city centre

**We currently have vacancies**

If you are interested and would like to have a look around call Carole Stirling, House Manager on

**01905 352106**

(mornings only)

or visit [www.abbeyfield.com](http://www.abbeyfield.com)



# R.A. Barley

## Electrical Services

Sockets • Lighting • Showers • Wiring  
Electrical Condition Reports • Smoke Alarms  
Security Lights • Fault Finding • Heating

**City & Guilds**  
Qualified



**01905 820545**



**07941 581330**

Free Estimates

No job too small

Call out service

[www.rabarley.co.uk](http://www.rabarley.co.uk)

**Brian Askew Lic. Ac., M.B.Ac.C.**  
**Traditional Five Element Acupuncture**

Member of the British Acupuncture Council

Established 1994

18 Stanmore Road  
Hanbury Park  
Worcester WR2 4PW

Tel: 01905 424811  
Home visits available

火  
土  
金  
水  
木



*Styling in the  
comfort of your  
own home!*

# KAREN'S

*Mobile Hairdressing*

**RELIABLE,  
FRIENDLY & WITH  
OVER 30 YEAR'S  
EXPERIENCE**

**01905 748863**





## YOUR PICTURE FRAMER

(Member of the Fine Art Trade Guild)

- We can frame almost anything
- Specialist computerised mount cutting
- No obligation advice available
- Latest techniques and top quality materials
- Home/Office visits available
- Computerised pricing – no guessing

[YOURPICTUREFRAMER.CO.UK](http://YOURPICTUREFRAMER.CO.UK)

[INFO@YOURPICTUREFRAMER.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@YOURPICTUREFRAMER.CO.UK)

We are also on Twitter and Facebook

01905 339 366 / 07730 539 168

Podiatrist/Chiropodist

State Registered

HPC No. 14966

## ***FOOT-NOTES UK***

Rachael Sharman

BSc (Hons), MChS, SRChS

Worcester Dental Practice


St John's Church

Worcester WR25BS

DiabetesAppointments: 01905 422530

General Foot CareMob: 07929 843 172

# Superb Organic Cleaning of Carpets, Curtains, Upholstery & Leather

Safe Organic Cleaning 

- Carpet and upholstery organically cleaned
- Oriental rug cleaning
- Curtains & mattresses deep cleaned
- Dust mite control
- Guardsman stain protection plans
- Spot & stain removal
- Anti-bacterial and anti-viral treatments available
- Leather cleaned and conditioned

Remove dust mites



Remove odour



Remove bacteria



For your free non-obligational quote call:

0808 144 8172

[www.safeclean.co.uk](http://www.safeclean.co.uk)

**Safeclean**<sup>®</sup>  
*The finishing care specialists from GREAT BRITAIN*

# Jobs Done

**Interior Exterior Property Maintenance  
Painting - Decorating - Tiling - Brickwork  
Fencing - Pruning - Paving - Decking**

*No Job Too Small*

**Colin Davis**

**Tel: 07767 025 574**

**Office: 01905 452 950**



# **TRUCARE**

## **Home Care Agency**

**in Worcester, Droitwich, Malvern  
& surrounding areas**

Offering help, and caring for you in your home with a friendly and respectful approach.

Services offered include

- Shopping / pension collection
- Cleaning
- Meal preparation & serving
- Administering / prompting medication
- Personal care – washing & dressing
- Sitting service whilst main carer has a break
- Light gardening, lawn mowing, handyman

We offer visits from as short as 15 minutes or up to 24 hour care. For an informal, no obligation chat to discuss your needs call -

**Karen on 01905 769929**

Male and female carers (C.R.B. checked)

Registered and regulated by The Commission for Social  
Care Inspection

And registered with the Local Authority

# PHILIP TOMLINS LTD

## *The Funeral Director*

A sympathetic and respectful service provided by a traditionally run business.

Every care and attention given.

Funeral Pre-payment Plan available.

### WORCESTER

Telephone 422666

37 Bromyard Terrace

St John's

Members N.A.F.D.



### PUZZLE SOLUTION



# BEDWARDINE FUNERAL SERVICES

A COMPLETE & COURTEOUS 24 hr SERVICE

PERSONAL ATTENTION

HOME ARRANGEMENTS

PRIVATE CHAPEL of REST

DAIMLER FLEET

MONUMENTAL MASONS

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

GOLDEN CHARTER PRE PAYMENT PLAN

**01905 748811**



*INDEPENDENT & LOCALLY OWNED BUSINESS*

*OFFERING*

*EXCELLENCE AS STANDARD*

*TO THIS COMMUNITY and SURROUNDING AREAS*

1, St John's, Worcester WR2 5AE



## DIFFERENT HARVESTS

The beginning of autumn and the time of harvest is here again – a time when we thank God for all his blessings.

The Harvest Festival service in churches and schools are full of tins of beans and boxes of fruit and vegetables. There are flowers and lots of different sights and smells. Harvest Festival is a very popular service but while we are busy saying 'thank you' we have to remember that there are lots of different harvests.



Very few people work on the land nowadays and most people don't grow their own food but buy it from

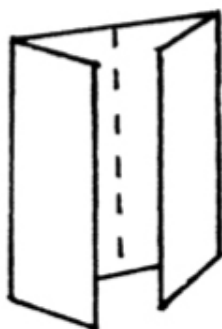
the supermarket. Perhaps our harvest isn't one that others can easily see. We might not make or grown things but we can offer whatever we do to God as our harvest.

Outside, the trees are beginning to lose their leaves but you can

## MAKE YOUR OWN FOREST

Take a piece of stiff card or thin paper and fold it in half, creasing it down the centre. Then open it out and fold both sides to the centre crease.

Fold the paper as shown and draw half a tree on the top fold. Cut round the tree then glue the centre faces together. This makes a three sided tree.



You can paint the tree before gluing it or afterwards. A forest of them would look good as name cards for a party or you could make just one as a different birthday card for a friend.



**What is a tree's least favourite month?**

Sep-timber.

## ST JOHN'S CLERGY

Vicar Rev'd Christopher Stuart 01905 429773  
e-mail: [chris.stuart@orangehome.co.uk](mailto:chris.stuart@orangehome.co.uk)

## OTHER WEST WORCESTER GROUP CLERGY

Rural Dean Rev'd David Sherwin 01886 888664  
e-mail: [Davidwin56@aol.com](mailto:Davidwin56@aol.com)

Minister, St Clement's with St David's Rev'd Christopher Stuart

Vicar of St Michael, Dines Green with Rev'd Robin Charles 01905 749995  
Crown East & Rushwick e-mail: [fr.robin@talktalk.net](mailto:fr.robin@talktalk.net)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**This is the usual pattern. Please see the back cover for the actual services in September.**

|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| 8.00 a.m.  | Every week  | Holy Communion (BCP)                                       |
| 10.30 a.m. | Every week  | Parish Communion with<br>Children's Church                 |
| 5.00 p.m.  | 1st & 3rd Sundays in Month<br>Last Sunday in Month<br>Other Sundays | Evensong (BCP)<br>Healing Service<br>Evening Prayer (said) |

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

|            |                                  |                |
|------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 5.00 p.m.  | Usually each day except Saturday | Evening Prayer |
| 10.00 a.m. | Thursday (at St Clement's)       | Holy Communion |

## PARISH OFFICE

From the church car park, walk up the Bromyard  
Road side of the church to the green door.

Answerphone outside office hours

e-mail: [office@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:office@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

Open for general enquiries and messages

Open specifically for booking baptisms and weddings

1a Bromyard Road  
St John's, WR2 5BS  
01905 420490

Thursday 10am to 12.30pm.  
Friday 10am to 11.30am.

Thursday\* 6.45pm until  
7.30pm.

\*Changed from Saturday to Thursday with effect from 1st September 2013.



Parish Website: [www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](http://www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk)

The church of St John-in-Bedwardine is a registered  
charity, number 1152583.



## Sunday services at St. John's, St. Clement's, St. David's and St Michael's, September 2013.

|                                      | <b>St. John's</b>  | <b>St. Clement's</b>                                    | <b>St. David's</b>                         | <b>St Michael's</b>      |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup><br/>September</b>  | 8am Holy Communion (BCP)<br>10.30am Parish Communion<br>with Children's Church<br>5pm Evening Prayer (BCP) | 9am Parish Communion<br>10.45am Worship<br>for Everyone | 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)                      | 10.30am Parish Communion |
| <b>8<sup>th</sup><br/>September</b>  | 8am Holy Communion (BCP)<br>10.30am Parish Communion<br>with Children's Church<br>5pm Evening Prayer (BCP) | 9am Parish Communion<br>10.45am Worship<br>for Everyone | 11.15am Holy Communion                     | 10.30am Parish Communion |
| <b>15<sup>th</sup><br/>September</b> | 8am Holy Communion (BCP)<br>10.30am Parish Communion<br>with Children's Church<br>5pm Evensong(BCP)        | 9am Parish Communion<br>10.45am Worship<br>for Everyone | 11.15am Morning Prayer                     | 10.30am Parish Communion |
| <b>22<sup>nd</sup><br/>September</b> | 8am Holy Communion (BCP)<br>10.30am Parish Communion<br>with Children's Church<br>5pm Evening Prayer (BCP) | 9am Parish Communion<br>10.45am Worship<br>for Everyone | 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)                | 10.30am Parish Communion |
| <b>29<sup>th</sup><br/>September</b> | 8am Holy Communion (BCP)<br>10.30am Parish Communion<br>with Children's Church<br>5pm Healing Service      | 9am Parish Communion<br>10.45am Worship<br>for Everyone | Joint at St Clement's at<br>9am or 10.45am | 10.30am Parish Communion |

**The information above is correct at the time of going to press, but please watch the weekly church newsletters and website for the latest information.**