



*St John-in-Bedwardine  
Parish Magazine*

APRIL 2014

40p



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

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<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Graham Evans	428667
<b>Treasurer</b>	John English	427822
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Unless otherwise directed, please send all written correspondence for the magazine and the church to the Parish Office address on the inside back cover.

The deadline for items for the May edition is Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April (See page 19).

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### COVER PICTURE

Image: Colin Nash

## CORRECTION

**The evensong service at St Clement's church on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April is at 6pm, not 6.30pm as shown on the back cover.**

We apologise for this mistake. Our colour covers are printed externally, so they have to be finalised before the rest of this magazine. Unfortunately, despite the checks that were made, this mistake did not come to light until after the covers had been printed.

## LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends

On 6<sup>th</sup> August 1945, at two seconds past 08:16 in the morning, an atom bomb was detonated over the heads of the 320,000 residents of Hiroshima. For a brief millionth of a second, the heat generated was equivalent to the surface of the sun – one million degrees Celsius.

The winds generated by the recent typhoon in the Philippines travelled at over 200km per hour; the blast wave created by the bomb travelled at 440km *per second*, 26,000km per minute, and a ridiculous one and a half million kilometres per hour. The pressure generated by the blast reached thirty-two tonnes per square metre. Then came the firestorm.

Hiroshima disappeared. Most of you will have seen the photos of the city after the bombing: nothing left, only ashes.

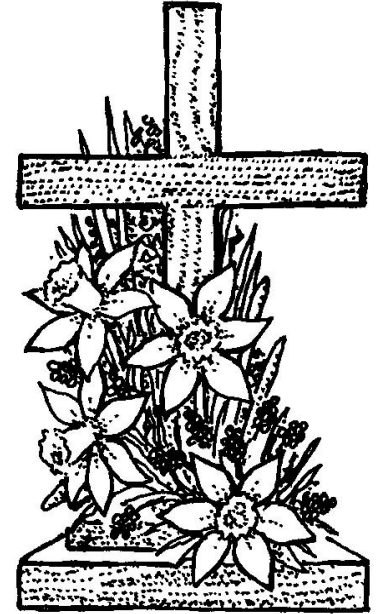
But here's the extraordinary thing: sixty days after the bomb was dropped, *directly under the focal point of the explosion*, the first grasses re-emerged; not only that, but insects – ants, bugs – were found at the blast site. Crops began to grow. Nature proved itself stronger. And if nature is a thing, an object, a creation, then the thing that made nature – the creator – must be stronger still.

'For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.'

The disciples could never have imagined, as they looked at the devastation of the cross, that this was anything other than the end.

And yet, three days later, Christ rose from the tomb. God is at work once again, and there is hope.

For us as Christians, hope is seeing what God is doing, and then joining in. Seeing the green shoots in the midst of the ash, and joining in.



But it takes time to learn to see; our eyes have to adjust to the dark. The hopes that God creates in this world are tiny, delicate things, like moths searching the darkness for the light, the one true light.

Easter is a season for reflection and study, no less than Lent. Take time to study God this month; read, learn, pray; try and see those moths, see what God is doing – see what God has done, and where God is leading us, where all this is going.

*Where this is going...* God, overcoming the impossible; the green blade rising through the ash.

God took the evil of the cross and made it into a thing of hope: here is judgement, but here is hope, the hope that we are loved with a love strong enough to overcome death. There are the fingers of God at work, weaving the threads of history into a new pattern. And, says James, we must do the same – we must follow the example of those who have gone before us.

We Christians hope in the impossible, and we dare to do it, because we have seen that the impossible has begun. We have seen the green blades in the ash.

*God Bless  
Christopher*

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### **A WORD FROM THE EDITORS**

Welcome to our April edition. The Romans gave this month the Latin name Aprilis and the traditional etymology is from the verb aperire, "to open", alluding to the season when trees and flowers begin to open. So we've picked a cover picture which shows the daffodils opening in the churchyard – these are the new daffodils planted by a group of hardy volunteers last year and now opening for the first time. The idea of opening - opening oneself to God - gave us our link to our historical Christian figure, Richard of Chichester, who also has a Worcestershire link. See the article on page 16.

This edition is full of forthcoming events when the church is "open": events for fun, fellowship and fund-raising; events for mission and outreach; and many moving services up to and over the Easter season. We hope and pray that the church will welcome you to some of these events and that we all may be open to the endless ways that God loves us this Spring.

*Graham and Sue Evans*

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### **THE EASTER STORY THROUGH SONG**

The St Clements school choir will be performing the Easter story through song on Wednesday 9th April at 6pm in St Clements church. The performance will last about half an hour. There will be a fair trade cafe afterwards with proceeds going to our partner school in Kenya. Free entry.

*Amy Rees*



## DATES FOR APRIL 2014

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

See  
page

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### Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

2.00 p.m. Tea at Two on Tuesday

6,21

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### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April: Fifth Sunday of Lent

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

12 noon Church Annual Meetings

8

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### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April: Palm Sunday

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April: Maundy Thursday

7.30 p.m. Maundy Thursday service

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### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April: Good Friday

12 noon Good Friday devotion 12noon to 3pm

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### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Sunday

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

7.00 p.m. Craft Evening

7

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### Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April

10.00 a.m. Fund Raising Coffee Morning at the Guildhall 10am-1pm

7

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### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April: Second Sunday of Easter

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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### Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May:

3.00 p.m. Disabled Christian Fellowship meeting

5

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## INCENSE AT OUR EASTER SERVICES

Incense will be used at two services at St John's over Easter:

- The Three Hours' Devotion (Noon to 3pm on Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April)
- Easter Day Parish Eucharist (10.30am on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April)

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## DISABLED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The DCF is a group that meets on the first Saturday of each month at different churches on a rota basis. They have a short, informal service followed by tea.

The St John's Pastoral Care group has agreed to host the meeting on Saturday 3rd May. The service starts at 3pm and the meeting will end by 5pm.

If any members of the congregation would like to join us for this event, they would be most welcome.

*Catherine Templeton and Sylvia Render*

## IN MEMORIAM

Eileen Bosworth	2 April 1955
Ethel Mary Teague	4 April 1973
Florence A Lewis	4 April 1994
Phyllis Manton	5 April 1974
Sydney Roberts	5 April 1980
Patricia Rosalie Surman	7 April 1986
Rev'd James William Newton	10 April 1988
Florence Lewis	12 April 1975
William Henry Fox	18 April 1984
Doris Drinkwater	18 April 1989
Alice Tipton	24 April 1972
Amelia Thomas	27 April 1942

## FROM THE REGISTERS

**Baptisms, weddings and funerals which took place in February 2014.**

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

Freya May Beardsmore  
Max Charlie Ryan Edwards  
Theo Leighton Bayfield  
Harriet Rose Denham

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

15th February Dieter Denham and Rebecca Amos

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

d. 16th January 2014 David Atkinson  
d. 30th January 2014 Joan Witts  
d. 16th February 2014 Michael Faulks

FROM THE REGISTER OF SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2014 (4 Sundays):  
Communicants 373. Total attendance at all services 755.

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~~Thursday at Two ....~~  
is now ....

**TEA AT TWO ON TUESDAY**

Please see page 21 for details.

## Fund Raising Events at St John in Bedwardine Church



Do come along  
and join us in  
2014

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Saturday  
5<sup>th</sup> April

Indoor Table Top Sale.  
9am to 12 noon (setting up from 7am)  
Telephone 749025 to book a table (£10).  
Lots of bargains, refreshments.

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Wednesday  
23<sup>rd</sup> April

Craft Evening 7.00pm  
£5.00 to include all materials and refreshments.  
Tel 424811 for details.

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Friday  
25<sup>th</sup> April

Fund Raising Coffee Morning at the Guildhall  
10.00am - 1.00pm  
Do come and join us.

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**FUTURE DATES TO KEEP FREE**

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Saturday  
24<sup>th</sup> May

Plant Sale

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

Thank you to all of you who have supported our fund raising events in any way. We do hope you have enjoyed yourselves. If there are any events you would like to see at St John's do get in touch with us. We hope to see you all soon.

*Jane, Sue and Catherine*

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### **PROMISES AUCTION – CHANGE OF DATE**

It has become necessary to change the date of the Promises Auction. The event will now be run later in the year, probably as part of a bigger fundraising evening.

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged something and to those who are planning what to offer but we will still be needing those promises in a few months' time.

Watch this space!

*Catherine Templeton*

# PARISH OF ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

THE

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

(for the election of churchwardens)

AND THE

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

(to receive reports and accounts and to elect members to the Parochial Church

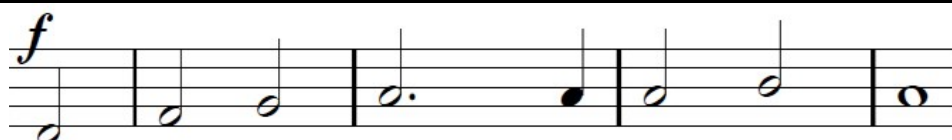
Council and Deanery Synod)

will be held in the church on Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014 commencing at noon.

*Christopher Stuart, Minister of the Parish*

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## NOTES FROM THE CHOIR



Choral Evensong on the first and third Sundays of every month at 5.00pm in St Johns has become a regular part of the life of the choir. As we were rehearsing one of the settings of the ‘Mag’ and ‘Nunc’, I found myself wondering why they were included in Evensong and indeed, just how far back in history were the origins of the whole service. After asking questions and doing some research, I was slightly surprised to learn that Evensong really came about through the adoption of the Book of Common Prayer in 1549. Bishop Thomas Cranmer established Evensong using elements from the last two of the ancient Canonical Hours for Divine Office – which would have marked the passage of the day in Monastical foundations- called Vespers and Compline. Some modifications later and the modern form of Evensong emerged in 1662 in the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England. So this ‘modern’ service is really over 350 years old!

Why the inclusion of the Canticles of Mary (the Magnificat) and Simeon (the Nunc Dimittis) though? The explanation seems to be that these canticles, whilst coming from the New Testament, form a link between the Old and the New as Christ arrives to bring to fruition all that has gone before and to pave the way for our redemption. Powerful stuff indeed and composers from the 16th century to the 21st century have been inspired to set these words to music. Evensong as a whole is wonderful way to celebrate the joining of the past and the present, with the traditions of worshipping God giving us now a chance to praise and reflect on God’s goodness in the midst of our busy modern world.

*Luise Horrocks*



## FUND RAISING AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH

April sees another of our indoor table sales, which have proved to be very popular. Do come along and see all the fantastic bargains on sale or have your Spring Clean early and hire your own table. Not got anything to buy or sell, then it is worth coming along for the bacon rolls!!

The Craft Fair showed how talented local people are with a wide range of crafts on sale but also some to have a go at. Keep the date free for our next one on Saturday June 21st.

The Promises Auction, another new venture, is in May. This is a fund raising event for not only the church but one of the most deserving charities, St Richards Hospice. We still need offers of items to auction. Give Catherine a ring on 749025 if you can help.

The nice weather has suddenly hit us and already we are nurturing baby plants to sell at the plant sale in May. When you are out in the garden splitting overgrowing shrubs, remember us and donate them so we can sell them on. We also need clean plant pots, if you have any you do not need Tel 423257 or 424811.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our future events and thank you for the support you have been giving us.

*Sue Bale, Catherine Templeton, Jane Askew*

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## ST JOHN'S TOWNWOMEN'S GUILD

At our recent meeting, the talk was given by one of our members, Karen Hill and her husband Phil. Last year they travelled to China and took many photos which they showed to us.

They landed in Beijing. One of the first places they visited was Tiananmen Square which was vast. In the distance they could see their next destination, the Forbidden City. This was again breath-taking with many courtyards and weird and wonderful carvings. They finished in Beijing by visiting parts of the old city in a rickshaw.

They next place was Shanghai and then the Great Wall of China which was again massive and very steep in places. Phil took some remarkable photos. After this they called into a jade factory and visited the Summer Palace on their way to Tianjin where they admired the Terracotta Army. There were thousands of these soldiers as well as horses and they were only half excavated.

Karen and Phil travelled to Wuhan where they took a boat up the River Yangtze where the views of the pyramid shaped hills are again stunning and then they proceeded to see the pandas at Chongquin Zoo.

Finally they arrived back in Shanghai and admired the bizarre shaped skyscrapers.

*Elizabeth Chambers, Press Secretary*

## PARISH BREAKFAST

You will be delighted to learn that our second parish breakfast held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March was a great success.

Our thanks go in particular to Jenny for so ably organising the event and to the cheerful and hardworking band of volunteers who helped to make it such a joyful occasion.

We were able to build successfully on our first breakfast of last May and draw into church a far more eclectic mix of visitors as well as friends from St John's. In all 80 cooked breakfasts were served and over 100 patrons attended. Although the occasion was completely free of charge, a number of generous donations were made such that not only were all the costs covered, but sufficient remained for a float to be available to go forwards for the next parish breakfast.

As we were blessed with such a large group of volunteers, it was possible for us to engage in a number of enjoyable conversations with visitors and to gain a real sense of outreach into our local community. It was one of those wonderful times when we could genuinely give thanks for the food, friends and fellowship that were on offer as a church.

*John Prangnell, on behalf of the group of volunteers*

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### “THANK YOU”

On behalf of all who attended the Parish Breakfast, may I give thanks to all who made it possible. It was a wonderful occasion, with a lovely atmosphere, and I really enjoyed it. It was a lovely way to start the day: “Thank you”.

*Sue Evans*

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## DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

We shall be decorating the Church for Easter and arranging the Easter Garden on Holy Saturday between 9a.m. and 1p.m. Anyone who wishes to help will be most welcome. Refreshments will be served at about 11a.m. Please, if you have any suitable greenery and/or flowers they will be most gratefully received.

If you wish to donate money for Easter lilies and flowers in memory of loved family members and friends, please place the gift in an envelope printed with the name(s) of the person(s) to be remembered. These names will be written on the Memorial List which is placed on the table near the Church door. Please give your gift to the Vicar, Church Wardens or myself.

Thank you all for your encouragement and help. We wish you all a Blessed and Joyful Easter.

*Eileen Cantrill and the Flower Ladies Team.*

## **PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER DAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S**

Palm Sunday services at St John's on April 13th will follow the usual pattern of 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP), 10.30am Parish Eucharist and 5.00pm Evening Prayer. The 10.30am service will start with our now traditional Palm Sunday procession from St John's church led by the donkey, Pumpkin, from the Worcester Riding School. The procession will depart from St John's Library at 10.00am prompt led by Pumpkin.

The procession will go along Bromyard Terrace to St Clement's church where our friends from there will join it. From St Clement's we then will proceed along Henwick Road and the Bull Ring back to St John's Library where we will cross the Bromyard Road under the supervision of the Community Police and be joined by more of St John's congregation for a clockwise circuit of St John's church. We will then enter the church singing a Palm Sunday hymn and Pumpkin will receive a blessing at the Chancel steps.

We hope as many as possible will enjoy and take part in this act of witness from the West Worcester Churches and the local community.

This year Pumpkin will also make a star appearance at St Clement's Worship for Everyone service at 10.45am

On Easter Day at St John's we will be holding the very moving Dawn Vigil at 5.30am; followed by bacon butties and toast. At 8.00am there will be Holy Communion (BCP) and at the usual time of 10.30am Parish Eucharist.

We hope as many as are able to do so will join us for the dawn vigil, especially from the congregations of St Clements and St David's

*Ron Cantrill*

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## **GENERAL SYNOD MAKES PROGRESS ON WOMEN BISHOPS**

In February the General Synod voted to pave the way for the legislative process to enable Women to become Bishops to be completed this year. In a series of interrelated legislative and procedural items the Synod held four debates dealing with differing aspects relating to women in the episcopate.

The legislation is currently out in the dioceses for approval. Provided a majority approve it by the 22<sup>nd</sup> May deadline the General Synod will be able to hold the final approval debate in July, less than 20 months after the failure of the earlier legislation to secure the necessary two-thirds majorities in November 2012. If passed the legislation would then go to Parliament for approval and could be in force before the end of the year.

## COLLA VOCE CONCERT



A picture taken by Arthur Burgess at the concert given by the singing group “Colla Voce” in church on 22nd February. They gave a very enjoyable programme including many items from stage and screen.

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### 2014 PROMISES AUCTION

We are still looking for people to offer promises for our Promises Auction. If you can help, please contact me on 01905 749025 or email [cathtemp@btinternet.com](mailto:cathtemp@btinternet.com)  
The auction will be held on the evening of Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014, to raise money for the chosen charities, St Richard’s Hospice and St John’s Church.

*Catherine Templeton*

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### MAKES SENSE!

Never drive faster than your guardian angel can fly.

## MARGARET ERICSON CULL

### A GENEROUS BENEFACTOR TO ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The late Miss Cull who, sadly died in March 2013, lived in Worcester for over 60 years, teaching at the Alice Ottley School until her retirement and living first in Jubilee Road and then Bromyard Road, where she also cared for her brother John following the death of her parents.

A Brownie Guider and active member of the Trefoil Guild, Miss Cull usually attended the 8 o'clock service at St Johns and supported most of the fund raising events organised by the church. It was felt that St Johns was her spiritual home and this is reinforced by the inclusion of the Church as one of the beneficiaries in her Will.

The PCC of St John's wishes to acknowledge their grateful thanks for this generous bequest which comes as the church seeks ways to build on the steady growth experienced in recent years.

*John English*

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### CONTACT THE ELDERLY

Contact the Elderly is a national charity that offers a lifeline of friendship to thousands of people aged 75 and over who live alone, need a bit of help getting out and about, and don't have the support of family and friends nearby.

One Sunday afternoon a month, our volunteer drivers enjoy taking their older guests to a volunteer host's home where they join a small group for tea, talk and companionship.

The group is warmly welcomed by a different host each month, but the drivers remain the same and the groups are kept small so that everyone can join in easily and get to know each other properly.

It's a simple idea, but one that can make a big difference. Our friendship groups represent the perfect opportunity to get out of the house, make new friends within the local community, and generally brighten up a weekend.

Guests are not expected to host any of the tea parties and the service is free.

The Worcester group has a couple of vacancies for guests at the moment and is always on the lookout for new hosts, so if you would like to get involved, please speak with Catherine. 01905 749025

*Catherine Templeton*

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### WHOOOPS!

A minister trained his horse to go when he said: 'Praise the Lord', and to stop when he said; 'Amen'. One day he was out for a gallop when he saw a deep gorge ahead. He kept shouting 'Amen!', and finally the horse stopped. The minister was so relieved that he looked up to heaven and said a heartfelt: "Praise the Lord!"



## **PCC MEETING 19th March 2014**

The Vicar opened the meeting with a prayer. 14 members were present.

Matters arising from the minutes: The Vicar reported that St Michael's may be able to move into their new church building in July. Formal dedication is likely to be in September on the feast of St Michael and All Angels.

Philip Evans reported that various people had come forward to help, during his placement at Martley, with some of the things he usually does at St John's.

Worship, Mission and New Services: The Vicar said that Jane Askew, Phil Bradford and Peter Holzapfel are now setting up the new monthly Saturday afternoon activities for children (first one on Good Friday!) and working on incorporating our children more into the main service, especially on the second Sunday of each month (first example on Mothering Sunday, which is not a second Sunday!).

The Pastoral team have invited the Disabled Christian Fellowship to hold one of their monthly meetings (including a service) at St John's. This will be on the first Saturday in May (3rd May). Sylvia Render and Catherine Templeton will attend and they invited others from the PCC and congregation. The Vicar thanked the team for all their good work.

Children and Schools: The Vicar said that we had recently had visits from Christopher Whitehead year 8. He, Phil Bradford and Ruth Reeves had managed to cover the majority of these and we had received appreciation from the school.

West Side Collaboration: The Vicar reported that St Clement's have now appointed a voluntary Parish Administrator. He reminded all that our assistant curate was coming in June.

Finance and Operations: The Electoral Roll Officers reported that the 2014 revision of the Electoral Roll had been completed. The new Roll is 146 (an increase of 9% in one year).

The report from the Standing Committee (SC) included a Fund Raising update. It is planned that a letter to Tower Appeal donors, informing them about the Friends, will be sent out over Easter.

The report from the Accommodation Committee (AC) included updates on the Sound System, the Blakefield Room damp problems and other areas of maintenance around the church. There was a discussion about the flat tenancy and recovery of associated monies owing. The Vicar thanked Gordon Templeton, John English and Graham Evans for all their hard work in dealing with the matters arising from the flat and the letting agent.

The Treasurer, John English, presented a financial update on 2014 so far. It was agreed that we should buy proper church accounting software which will save considerable time for all involved.

John English presented the final version of the 2013 accounts for PCC approval. He thanked those who had scrutinised the accounts – the notes had been improved as a result. It was agreed to add a further note to explain one discrepancy in the figures. The PCC approved the accounts on that basis.

The Churchwardens' annual fabric report was approved.

Any other business: There was a discussion about how clergy cover is arranged, in the light of the events the previous Sunday (16th March) when the booked priest did not turn up at 10.30am and the service had to proceed as lay-led Morning Prayer. The Vicar said that that this kind of thing is much more likely to happen now that we have clergy covering multiple churches. Even had he and Phil been around when the minister failed to appear, they would have been tied up taking services elsewhere and so been unable to help. This is a problem stemming from the reorganisation in West Worcester; our clergy cover is always thin, and therefore he could not rule out this happening again (e.g. through illness or mis-communication). The Vicar offered formal thanks to Graham Evans for stepping in at the last minute and leading the service successfully.

There was a discussion about the cleaning of the Blakefield Room area, as the existing volunteer team were finding this a strain. Adding this area onto the existing cleaning contract was a possible alternative. It was agreed to put an item in the Parish Magazine asking for more volunteers [See page 19 – Ed.], and then the Accommodation Committee could formulate a proposal in the light of the response to that item.

The PCC held a strategic discussion about possible future ways of developing or changing the space we have in the overall church building. The purpose was to collect thoughts and ideas rather than reach solutions or decisions.

The Vicar asked everyone to think about the operation of the PCC to prepare for future discussions. How can the PCC be an effective body in the face of the reduction in clergy in West Worcester? How should the neighbouring PCCs work together? Should the Group Council be revived, and if so, what would be its role?

The meeting closed with all saying 'The Grace'.

*Graham Evans*

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### **IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY....**

Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass – it is learning how to dance in the rain!  
We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails.

## RICHARD OF CHICHESTER

The prayer ‘May I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day’ could not be more appropriate to our theme this month of opening – opening oneself to God. Richard of Chichester, a bishop in the 13th century, wrote it, and he is our historical Christian figure for this month.

There’s a local connection too: He began life as Richard de Wych of Droitwich, the son of a yeoman farmer. But Richard was a studious boy, and after helping his father on the farm for several years, refused an advantageous offer of marriage, and instead made his way to Oxford, and later to Paris and Bologna to study canon law.

In 1235 he returned to Oxford, and was soon appointed Chancellor, where he supported Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his struggles against King Henry III’s misuse of Church funds. After further study to become a priest, Richard was in due course made a bishop himself. He was greatly loved. He was charitable and accessible, both stern and merciful to sinners, extraordinarily generous to those stricken by famine, and a brilliant legislator of his diocese. He decreed that the sacraments were to be administered without payment, Mass celebrated in dignified conditions, the clergy to be chaste, to practise residence, and to wear clerical dress. The laity was obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days, and to know by heart the Hail Mary as well as the Lord’s Prayer and the Creed.

Richard was also prominent in preaching the Crusade, which he saw as a call to reopen the Holy Land to pilgrims, not as a political expedition. He died at Dover on 3 April 1253. In art, Richard of Chichester is represented with a chalice at his feet, in memory of his having once dropped the chalice at Mass! One ancient English church is dedicated to him.

And, of course, he is author of that famous prayer, which runs in full:

*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits thou hast given me,  
For all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me.  
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,  
May I know thee more clearly,  
Love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly,  
Day by day.*

*Graham Evans, based upon material from Parish Pump*

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH



Children's Church is starting a new venture which involves having a get together on a Saturday once a month. Just to confuse things our first session is on **Good Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> April.**

The activity, which is free, starts at 10.00am but if parents are wanting to join the Good Friday walk, children can be dropped off at 9.30am.

The session will finish in time to join the community service outside St Johns Church (about 11.30am). Children from 3 years of age are welcome to come along. Please telephone 01905 424811 to book your place. We look forward to seeing the children in our new project.

Please watch the magazine and newsletters for the dates and times of future events.

*Jane Askew*

### APRIL SUDOKU PUZZLE

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	8	5						
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6		7	5	3				4
						7	4	
					8			3
	4		6	1				

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The solution is on page 36.

## FROM THE CHURCH ARCHIVE

Below is a further extract from a notebook "NOTES RESPECTING BELLRINGING &c" kept by William Henry Thomas, starting Easter 1898.

----- 00000 -----

*Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> 1898*

*T. Jinks & F. Duesbury were very late but that was the fault of their young ladies detaining them at Tea (EXCUSED).*

*Tuesday Oct 4<sup>th</sup> for practice*

*After ringing it was suggested that we should purchase some sort of present to give F. Duesbury on his departure from among us for America, and that we should invite him to have his farewell pull with us the practice night previous to his going away & to then make the small presentation.*

*Tuesday Oct 18<sup>th</sup> for practice*

*F. Duesbury came up to have his farewell pull with us prior to his leaving S. John's for America. (By his love for change-ringing & more especially his amiable & friendly manner at all times towards his fellow ringers he had won great respect & we were all truly sorry to part with him. We wish him every success in his future careers of life.*

*Friday Morning Oct 21<sup>st</sup> /98*

*F. Duesbury with his companion George Jones left us for Liverpool from which town they embarked for U.S.A.*

*On Saturday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> about 4 o'clock in the afternoon they started from Liverpool on board the S.S. ETRURIA of the Cunard Line, Capt. Ferguson. A telegram received at Worcester stated that they were in excellent spirits.*

---

## 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.

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 this makes things easier for our printing team.**



## 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 13<sup>th</sup> April for the May 2014 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

---

### **CLEANING THE BLAKEFIELD ROOM AND THE CHURCH KITCHEN**

The Blakefield Room, Kitchen, hall and toilet area is used throughout the year as a meeting room for Church groups and events, also as a venue for public groups to hire since 2006, and before. The hiring of this space provides a regular income which is much needed for the Church. However the area must be kept up to normal standards of Health and Safety and Food Hygiene, as well as being tidy and welcoming to all who use it.

At present the care and cleaning is done by 5 Church lady volunteers working to a weekly rota in turn. We desperately need more members on this team and ask if you could help us, maybe working with a friend if this would be more convenient.

The commitment takes one person about 1-2 hours to complete and involves sweeping and wet mopping all the floors [except the flower room], dusting and cleaning the toilet areas and kitchen, making sure hand towels, loo rolls, and hand soap is available. Checking linen, putting clean T.towels out, taking soiled linen home to wash and return ironed, checking dishwasher and fridge for out of date milk etc.

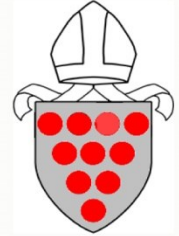
We would be very willing to help any new volunteers to get started. It is essential that the whole area looks, and is, good for everyone to enjoy.

Please if you are interested get in touch with any members of the team.

*Thank you*

*Eileen Cantrill, Sue Hussell, Jane Askew, Sylvia Render and Ruth Pritchett*

## Authorised Lay Ministry Training 2014~15



The training for Authorised Lay Ministry in the diocese of Worcester is a one-year programme, beginning in October 2014 and finishing in July 2015. It consists of five common modules on Saturdays spread over the year, and two blocks of specialist training (about five sessions each) in the autumn and early summer, which you need to attend.

Authorisation is given by the Bishop at a service in the cathedral in September 2015, when you receive a certificate and are commissioned. This gives permission, time-limited to five years, to exercise ministry under the authority of the incumbent in your parish, benefice or team. The diocesan programme resources people for local ministry.



There are five specialist modules:

Administrator  
Children & Youth Worker  
Community Worker  
Evangelist  
Pastoral Assistant  
Worship Leader

All you need to know can be found in the information pack which can be downloaded from the Diocesan website—see link; <http://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/FH/221>; Venues and dates will be negotiated and advised nearer the time. The style of the specialist modules will vary, and include a range of teaching and learning styles, but will not be book-based or require academic experience. The closing date for applications is: 16th June 2014; For further details please contact us on: 01905 732812 or email; [training@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:training@cofe-worcester.org.uk);

Department of Training & Development

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If you might be interested in ALM training, please have an exploratory chat with Chris Stuart or Phil Bradford.

# **T**ea at **T**wo on **T**uesday

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First Tuesday of every month.  
From 2pm in The Blakefield Room,  
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Catherine 749025 or  
Sylvia 422654



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## **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 (The north Aisle) available for hire. All rooms have access to the church car park.

The Blakefield Room is suitable for up to 30 people. It has a fully fitted kitchen, including dishwasher; toilets, including one disabled toilet and a baby-changing facility; tables and chairs.

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

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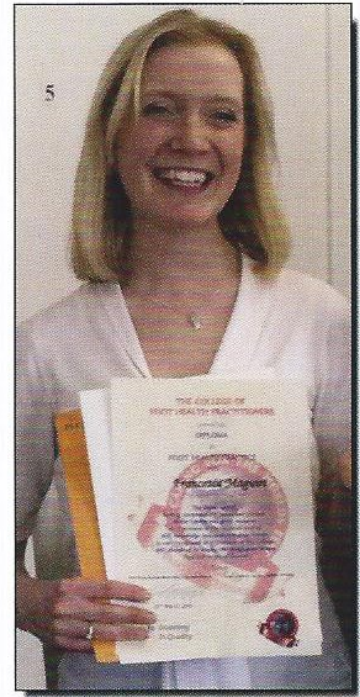
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### ❖ Wellcheck

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- We help you remain independent for as long as possible.

### ❖ Social clubs & luncheon clubs

### ❖ Telephone Befriending



- A weekly telephone call to lonely and isolated older people.
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2	8	5	3	9	4	1	7	6
1	5	8	4	6	2	3	9	7
4	9	3	8	7	1	5	6	2
6	2	7	5	3	9	8	1	4
8	3	6	9	2	5	7	4	1
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7	4	2	6	1	3	9	8	5

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## DAISIES

There is an old saying 'when you can stand on seven daisies at once then spring has come'. I like daisies with their bright yellow middles and tiny petals. If you look closely, you'll see that not all the daisies in any lawn will be white; some of them are edged with pink. When I was little I asked my mum why and she told me this story to explain why.

On that first Easter morning, when Jesus walked in the garden and was seen by Mary and the other women who thought he was a gardener, his bare feet touched just some of the daisies in the grass. And because he still had the wounds in his feet his blood touched the daisies and marked their petals pink.

I love this story and still to this day I feel sorry for the daisies that Jesus didn't



touch - because when Jesus touches our lives all things change and spring comes into our hearts forever.

## BIBLE 'D's

Can you find all the answers to this Bible quiz? All the words begin with the letter D. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. A tribe of Israel.
2. He spent the night with some lions.
3. Where Saul was going when he met Jesus on the road.
4. Followers of Jesus.
5. These made Joseph unpopular with his brothers.
6. A famous king of Israel who played the harp.



**How do dinosaurs pass exams?**

With extinction.



**What is the main ingredient of dog biscuits?**

Collie flour.

**My little brother's name is Dad.**

Why is that?

**They named him after my father.**



Answers: 1.Dan 2.Daniel 3.Damascus  
4.disciples 5.dreams 6.David.

## ST JOHN'S CLERGY

Vicar Rev'd Dr Christopher Stuart 01905 429773  
e-mail: [chris.stuart@orangehome.co.uk](mailto:chris.stuart@orangehome.co.uk)  
Associate Vicar Rev'd Dr Phillip Bradford 01905 423794  
e-mail: [phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk](mailto:phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk)

## OTHER WEST WORCESTER GROUP CLERGY

Rural Dean Rev'd David Sherwin 01886 888664  
e-mail: [Davidwin56@aol.com](mailto:Davidwin56@aol.com)  
Ministers, St Clement's with St David's As St. John's (above)  
Vicar of St Michael, Dines Green with Rev'd Robin Charles 01905 749995  
Crown East & Rushwick e-mail: [fr.rob@talktalk.net](mailto:fr.rob@talktalk.net)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**This is the usual pattern. Please see the back cover for the actual services this month.**

8.00 a.m.	Every week	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 a.m.	Every week	Parish Eucharist with Children's Church
5.00 p.m.	1st & 3rd Sundays in Month Last Sunday in Month Other Sundays	Evensong (BCP) Healing Service 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

1a Bromyard Road  
St John's, WR2 5BS  
Tel: (01905) 420490

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)

---

**Normally open for general enquiries and messages (please ring to check)**

Monday: 10.30am to noon.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am to noon.

---

**Open specifically for booking baptisms and weddings**

Thursday: 6.45pm until 7.30pm.

---



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, April 2014.

	<b>St. John's</b>	<b>St. Clement's</b>	<b>St. David's</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Evensong (BCP)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone 6.30pm Evensong	No services at St. David's. Joint service (Evensong) at St Clement's.	10.am Holy Communion (NB ten o'clock)
<b>13<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>Palm Sunday</b>	8am Holy Communion (BCP)	Palm procession from St Clements and service at St John's.	No services at St. David's. Joint service at St John's.	No services at St. Michael's. Joint service at St John's.
10am: Palm Sunday procession departs from St John's library and goes to St Clement's, where the palms are blessed and distributed. The procession then goes to St John's church for the 10.30am service.				
	10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	10.45am Worship for Everyone		
<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>  <b>Easter Sunday</b>	5.30am Dawn Vigil 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church No evening service	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
<b>27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	No morning services at St. John's. Joint service at St Clement's. 5pm Service of Wholeness and Healing	10am West Worcester joint service	No services at St. David's. Joint service at St Clement's.	No services at St. Michael's. Joint service at St Clement's.

**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.**