



*St John-in-Bedwardine
Parish Magazine*

JULY/AUGUST 2014

40p



WHO'S WHO – ST JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Gordon Templeton gordtemp@btinternet.com	749025
	Joy Job joyjob@dsl.pipex.com	423051
Verger	Catherine Templeton	749025
PCC Lay vice-chair	Sue Bale	423257
PCC Secretary	Graham Evans	428667
Treasurer	John English	427822
Stewardship envelopes	Irene Allen	422684
Estates Manager	Brian Askew brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	424811
Parish Administrator	Liz Edwards liz.edwards@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	420490
Education & Heritage Officer	Philip Evans edofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
Child Protection Officer	Jane Askew	424811
Pastoral Care Coordinator	Sylvia Render sylvia.render@talktalk.net	422654
Press Officer	Philip Evans pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
Organist & Choirmaster	John Brierley	358474
Music Group	Peter Yates pjyates194@btinternet.com	422565
Ringing Master	John Sheehan	422389
Church Flowers	Eileen Cantrill Di White	422579
Magazine Editors	Sue & Graham Evans magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
Magazine Distributor & Treasurer	Philip Evans pjevans@physics.org	428667

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 September edition is Sunday 17th August (See page 23).

COVER PICTURE

Amy Rees (seated, right) and two other teachers from St Clement's School during their recent visit to the Kyeleni School in Kenya (see page 16).

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

LETTER FROM SARAH COTTRILL

As I write this, I am taking a break from a great deal of travelling Backwards and forwards between Claines and Saint Johns with pieces of furniture and boxes full of books in readiness for moving in to my new home and joining you as curate at the end of the month. This move comes at the end of three years training and marks a very exciting part of my Christian journey – one which is now entering a new phase which I am very much looking forward to sharing with you all.

As you may remember from my previous letter introducing myself, mine has been far from a nomadic life – my mother, making the move with me, leaves the house in which I was born and I have lived all my life in the Claines area of Worcester. My Christian journey which has led me to Ordination and the churches of St John, St Clement and St David is far more interesting!

Brought up in a Christian family, my faith has always been important to me but became personal at around the age of eleven following a particularly powerful Good Friday sermon. As I grew up I became increasingly involved with the life of my parish church serving as a Sunday School teacher, PCC member, fund raiser and member of the music group as well as sidesperson and chalice assistant. In 2008 I found myself increasingly feeling that I should be doing more and after some frustrated attempts to quietly join a Bishop's Certificate course I went to my then vicar, Stephen Agnew, to ask if he thought I should train as a Reader. Stephen's four word response – "why not Ordained ministry?" literally changed my life and set me on the road which brings me to you.

The last three years have been, in equal measure, exciting, frustrating, exhilarating and humbling. I have learned a great deal but am very aware that I am about to find out how much I don't know and still have to learn. I hope that you will walk with me on the next stage of my journey and that we will move forward together in God's service.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks and send you all my very best wishes.

Sarah

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.**

A WORD FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to our combined July and August edition. The theme for this edition is travel. The month of July is named after the Roman emperor Julius Caesar who invaded Britain in 55 and 54 BC. Besides those visits to Britain, he campaigned in many places in Europe and North Africa. He travelled quite a lot!

We welcome Sarah Cottrill, who as you can see from her letter has been doing quite a lot of local travelling. We have items from Edward Reeves about the recent trip to Magdeburg and from Amy Rees about her trip to Kenya.

We celebrate in pictures the life of Ron Cantrill, a faithful member of this congregation who did so much for this church (including driving the coach for Parish Pilgrimages) and much else besides. God speed, Ron, on your heavenly journey.

Our historical Christian figure is St Christopher – the patron saint of travellers. We wish you all safe journeys in the weeks ahead.

Graham and Sue Evans

FRIENDS OF ST JOHNS CELEBRATE THEIR FIRST ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 8th June the ‘Friends of St. John-in-Bedwardine’ celebrated the first anniversary since their launch with a World War One talk and a ‘Traditional’ wartime tea.

Thirty five ‘Friends’, and other guests, were entertained to a fascinating talk by local historian Paul Harding from ‘Discover History’. Paul explained how Worcester would have been involved in the First World War and what ordinary life would have been like at that time. He went on to explain that many of the things thought to have been ‘invented’ in the Second World War actually came from the First World War. These included ‘Dig for Victory’, Rationing (although voluntary in WW1) and women working in munitions factories. Paul illustrated his talk with numerous artefacts and photographs of the time.

Then followed a sumptuous ‘traditional tea’ – probably better than would have been available in 1914. There were sandwiches in abundance, cakes by the plateful, warm scones for those who had any space left and a never ending supply of tea.

A glorious time was had by all at an event which has to be repeated. Paul was warmly thanked, as were the ladies of the ‘Fund Raising Committee’.

The Friends of St John-in-Bedwardine is an organisation you can join for £20.00 a year. The money raised can only be used for the upkeep of the building. If you would like to join us to keep this fine building in shape, telephone the office and we will drop you off a leaflet.

Jane Askew

DATES FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2014

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

See
page

Tuesday 1st July:

2.00 p.m. Tea at Two on Tuesday 5

Sunday 6th July: 3rd Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Saturday 12th July:

11.00 a.m. Summer Village Fayre (11am-3pm) including Dog Show
and Children's Art Competition 7,21

Sunday 13th July: 4th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Wednesday 16th July

7.00 p.m. Craft Evening 7

Saturday 19th July: Macrina, deaconess, teacher of the faith c.379.

9.00 a.m. Jumble Sale and Coffee Morning (9am-11am) 7

Sunday 20th July: 5th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Friday 25th July: St Christopher, Patron Saint of Travellers

10.00 a.m. Coffee Morning at the Worcester Guildhall (10am-1pm) 7

Sunday 27th July: 6th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 3rd/10th/17th August: 7th/8th/9th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on these days

Wednesday 20th August

7.00 p.m. Craft Evening 7

Sunday 24th August: Feast of St Bartholomew

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 31st August: 11th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

TEA AT TWO ON TUESDAY

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

We meet on the first Tuesday of every month (**except August**), from 2pm in the Blakefield Room, St John's Church. The next meetings are on Tuesday 1st July and Tuesday 2nd September.

Just come along but if you want to speak with someone first then ring Catherine 749025 or Sylvia 422654.

IN MEMORIAM

Dorothy Lock	3 July 1986
Elsie Muriel Collins	6 July 1977
Roy Houghton	5 July 2007
Brenda Tithecott	7 July 1995
Joyce Jones	7 July 1995
George Harris	8 July 1999
David Ian Hollister	13 July 1972
Reginald H Glover	17 July 2003
Lucy Jane Brown	20 July 1972
Mary Elizabeth Sandford	21 July 1968
Annie Powell	21 July 1993
Samuel Hodgetts	24 July 1958
Frank Miller	24 July 1993
Gladys Maskew	24 July 2000
Myra Houghton	25 July 2000
Henry Nelson Russell	31 July 1972
Stephen Arthur Holloway	6 August 1969
John Bullock Newman	10 August 1954
Mary Louise Keating	10 August 1985
Arthur Leonard Sage	11 August 1990
Josephine East	12 August 1977
William Palmer	13 August 1977
Albert David Oxford Williams	13 August 1981
May Osborne	20 August 1971
William Walter George Dow	24 August 1982
Kevin Paul Houghton	28 August 1973
Julian Michael Emery	31 August 1974
Alfred Henry Sandford	31 August 1976

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms, weddings and funerals which took place in May 2014.

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

Dale Robert Stone

WEDDINGS: *Those whom God has joined together*

Nigel Ballantyne & Alison Hayter

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 14 th April 2014	William Burfitt	d. 27 th April 2014	Mary Read
d. 17 th April 2014	Joan Smith	d. 1 st May 2014	Peter Butler
d. 17 th April 2014	Catherine Rawle	d. 1 st May 2014	Cynthia Amos
d. 21 st April 2014	Patricia Mills	d. 11 th May 2014	Michael Dodd

FROM THE REGISTER OF SERVICES FOR MAY 2014 (4 Sundays):

Communicants 346. Total attendance at all services 912.



Fund Raising Events at St John in Bedwardine Church



Saturday 12 th July	11.00am - 3.00pm, Summer Fayre - to include Children's' Art Competition and Dog Show
Wednesday 16 th July	Craft Evening 7.00pm £5.00 to include all materials and refreshments.
Saturday 19 th July	9.00am-11.00am, Coffee Morning and Jumble Sale
Friday 25 th July	10.00am - 1.00pm, Coffee Morning at The Guildhall
Wednesday 20 th August	Craft Evening 7.00pm £5.00 to include all materials and refreshments.
Saturday 6 th September	9.00am-noon, Table Sale Tables £10.00 Tel 749025 to book a table.
FUTURE DATES TO KEEP FREE	
Saturday 13 th September	Bridge Day

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We are holding a murder/mystery evening in the near future, watch the notice boards for details.

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

Jane, Sue and Catherine

SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY 12th JULY 11.00am – 3.00pm

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is! Where has the time gone? It only seems like yesterday when we were making sure Santa turned up on time to greet the children at the Christmas Fayre!

Saturday 12th July, keep the date free. We have ordered good weather, but we are used to rain now so we are all prepared.

If you have anything you would like to donate please bring it to church before the event. See the poster for more details. We will have all the usual attractions, including the dog show. I don't know how Chris can choose, they are all so cute! There will be a children's drawing competition on the day.

However, none of this would be any good unless you are there to share it with us. Don't forget the draw to win £100!

Fund Raising Team

BISHOP USHER VISITS ST CLEMENT'S SCHOOL



*Deputy Head Teacher Jackie Castle,
Bishop Graham Usher,
Chair of Governors Jo Dowling and
RE teacher Amanda Mason*

St. Clement's Primary School welcomed the new Bishop of Dudley, Bishop Graham Usher, on Tuesday 20th of May.

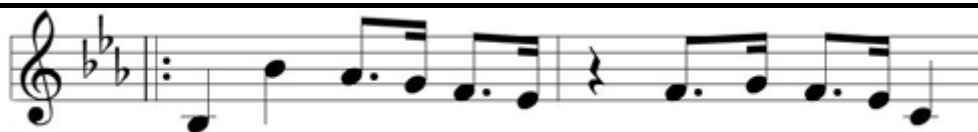
The Bishop toured the school, heard the choir singing in assembly and sought the views of pupils on Christianity and life in a Church of England School. He was most interested in the school's community links including the flourishing partnership with a Primary School in Kenya.

Mrs. Castle said, "We are all very proud to show Bishop Usher our school. The pupils, as always, were a credit to the school and their

parents. Our Chair of Governors, Mrs Jo Dowling, on behalf of the school Governors, supports the school in fostering closer links with the Church."

Amy Rees

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR



Summer has rolled round once again and thoughts inevitably turn to holidays and travel. We in the choir are quite a well-travelled lot already this year with various members taking trips in this country and Europe and even further afield – Amy has recently returned from Kenya and I have been examining in Japan. It was a fascinating voyage of discovery in all sorts of ways but what really struck me was how high the standard of music making was. I was working in an International school and so the students were from all parts of the world but were all united in their striving for musical excellence.

It also got me thinking about the range of music the choir sings in St Johns and where in the world it all comes from. We have tackled music from composers from England, Ireland, France, Spain, Germany, Italy and Russia. John's voluntaries at the end of Services have also included works by Belgian, American, Czech and New Zealand composers. And the music sung and played comes from every century from the 16th to the 21st! As we expand our repertoire even more in the future it is quite likely that we will tackle music from an even greater range of backgrounds. So even if people are not planning to travel the world this year they need only come to St John's to experience a journey of musical discovery!

Luise Horrocks

OAKVILLE SINGERS CONCERT 14th JUNE



What a wonderful evening with songs from the Oakville Singers and the children from St Clements Primary School along with music from the Heart of England Recorder Orchestra. A wonderful hot summers day was completed with a variety of musical treats within the cool atmosphere of the church. The Oakville Singers were outstanding and we had never seen such a range of recorders, which were brilliantly played. But the stars were the children from St Clement's School. All trained by one of St Johns choir members, Amy Rees, they were certainly a credit to her hard work. For some of them it was way past their bedtimes but they sang



their little hearts out. Who can resist the voices of young children? A big thank you to all the performers for their efforts and to all those who came along to help us raise money for the church.

Jane Askew



SATURDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Although numbers are small we have had two sessions. The children take part in various activities ending with a light tea, pizza seeming to be the favourite! It is always nice to see the parents arrive back early and share the food with us.

In July the children from Children's Church will be having a stall at the Summer Fair and in August we hope to hold a BBQ. Watch the church newsletters and noticeboards for more details. We would love to see you in September when the regular Saturday sessions will start again. Remember though, that Children's Church is available every Sunday during the 10.30 service.

Jane Askew and the Junior Church Team

RON CANTRILL 1936 - 2014



On Thursday 15th June, Ron Cantrill, a long-standing member of St Johns, former Churchwarden, and still very active doer of so many things behind the scenes, passed away suddenly. There will be an obituary written by the Vicar in our next edition, so for this month we thought we'd celebrate in pictures some of the things (a very small sample) that Ron did. Thanks to Colin Nash, Arthur Burgess and Edward Reeves for these pictures.

Graham and Sue Evans



To the right, daffodils planted in Autumn 2013, by a working party organised by, and including, Ron.

Below, a picture of the 'St John's Clangers' our tower team. Ron, back row, fourth from the right, was still an active bellringer.





Above (2013) and below (an earlier year), Pumpkin the donkey (the one with four legs) who came, organised in advance and on the day by Ron, for our Palm Sunday processions. To the left, a picture from Edward Reeves (“my favourite picture of Ron”), at the Mediaeval Fayre in September 2000.



AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ARCHDEACON

The Bishop of Worcester is pleased to announce that he has offered the post of Rector of Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield, Birtsmorton and Hollybush and Deanery missionary (Upton Deanery) to the Revd Julie James and the offer has been formally accepted.

Julie adds; “I’d be grateful for your prayers at this time! Retiring from full time teaching. License 1st September.”

ST BARNABAS AND ST JOHN'S TWINNING WITH MAGDEBURG

Really it all began with Ron Cantrill. He once drove the coach to Magdeburg and so loved the experience and the warm reception from the German church families that he encouraged others, like us, to participate in the twinning.

On Friday, 24 May, 21 members of St Barnabas and St John's, less those who elected to fly over, set out in a magnificent Aston's coach to once more visit our friends. Although a long drive

it is always a pleasant, if tiring, journey and this time there was lots of room to stretch out in the coach, plenty of food, supplied between us, and plenty to drink (termed *Magdebooze*, by the St Barnabasians).

We arrived at the village of Olvenstedt, formerly a farming village but now an outlying suburb of Magdeburg and a rather nice place to live. Even the trams from the centre of Magdeburg terminate there. There is often a circus or other tented theatre visiting, as there was when we arrived at around 8.00 am on the Saturday morning to be taken off by our hosts to rest and refresh.

On Sunday we were addressed by Bishop Ilse Junkermann, who is the first woman bishop to hold the post of Bishop of the Evangelical Church in Central Germany. It transpired that she knows both the Dean, Peter Atkinson, and Bishop John. The evening meal was provided at that meeting by a church in the city itself where we climbed many stairs to where they had their WW1 memorial. Here we took part in a short service of remembrance. We learnt that that war is almost ignored in Germany.

We had two whole-day trips, organised by our German hosts, many of whom came with us. On the Monday, we all went on a long trip to Hannover, a city of some 500,000 inhabitants and now the capital of Lower Saxony. 2014 is a very special year for them as they are celebrating the tri-centenary of their Elector's rise to fame. Once the capital of the Prussian province of Hannover and the ancestral seat of our George I and his forbears, this could have been a fascinating, medieval city but, like all the towns in this area of what was to become East Germany, it was bombed flat in 1945 with only its impressive, domed, 19th century New Town Hall escaping. In the town hall are four models. They showed what the city was like in 1689, in 1939, in 1945 and in 1974. There is one error; the 1939 model shows a magnificent synagogue which was razed to the ground by the Nazis in 1938. Most of the churches were rebuilt as they had been but one was left in ruins as a memorial to all those who died in the bombing; the synagogue was never rebuilt. We had lunch in the very large and efficiently run town hall restaurant, really meant for council employees and then spent



Magdeburg Cathedral

the afternoon in the extensive and exhausting Royal Gardens of Herrenhausen.

On the Tuesday we had a less tiring day at the delightful, small city of Stendal, once a member of the Hanseatic League. With a population of 40,000 people it was very easy to walk around and we visited all of its sights, and some of its shops, including its delightful cathedral full of medieval stained glass which had been saved, with some foresight, at the beginning of WWII. We climbed the 193 steps to the top of one of its towers to see the 5 tonne bell and its slightly smaller sisters. Our guide, an enthusiastic expert on bells, explained that they often use foot pedals to ring their bells. Their clanging made us appreciate our country's change ringing. But never before had we seen at the top of any church or cathedral tower a fridge, a cooker or a banqueting suite such as they had. Food and enjoying yourself are important in Germany.

On the Wednesday, Ruth and I went in the pouring rain to the centre of Magdeburg where we were shown some things we had not seen before by our host Marie-Luise, whose husband, Achim, made quite a few of the chandeliers in the churches of Olvenstedt, after they were rebuilt after 1989, and also the crucifix to be seen on the wall in our Blakefield Room. In the evening there was an *Ascension Day* mass in St Josef's R.C. church, Olvenstedt, followed by a superb communal barbeque. There were so many sausages left over we were given some for the coach journey back.

On the Thursday, *Ascension Day*, we all met for the final service at the church of St Laurentius. The hymns were led by a brass ensemble and a special moment was when everyone stood in a circle around the altar to receive their communion. We may not always have been able to converse with one another but there was a great sense of the wider family. Then came coffee and cakes, followed by lunch and we bade farewell to our generous hosts as we left at 1.00 pm for the long, but hassle-free return journey. Being a public holiday, everyone was at home and as lorries were not allowed to drive on the autobahn it was bliss!

This is the third time Ruth and I have been on this trip and it is always interesting as we have visited different sights and towns every time. However, the programme is in need of refreshment especially in terms of personnel. Although many of our congregation have helped when the Germans have visited us, only a few parishioners of St John's have ever become involved in this gentle twinning. So if you feel you



might be interested please talk to Ruth about it. Next year we host the Magdeburgians and I cannot wait for 2016 when we go over there again.

Magdeburg, from the tower of the Johanniskirche

Edward Reeves

PCC AWAY DAY

On Saturday 24th May, the PCCs of St John's and St Clement's with St David's, joined for later sessions by representatives of St Michael's, met for an away day at St Michael's church hall. The object of the meeting was to begin to consider possible scenarios for the implementation of a Team Ministry in West Worcester.

Chris and Phil led the day, which was divided into interactive sessions looking at:

1. Where are we now?
2. Where are we going?
3. How do we move forward?

By way of context, Chris reminded us that we have already moved irrevocably from the comfort of having at least one priest to look after each of our churches, so a degree of change is inevitable.

1. Where Are We Now?

In the first session we discussed the role of the PCC (Parochial Church Council) and the role of, and expectations on, our clergy.

There were probably no real surprises here. We felt that our clergy are thinly spread and consequently stretched. At St John's, with our working committees and ALMs (Authorised Lay Ministers), we have made good progress towards the establishment of a support structure that can help to ease the clergy load somewhat in the environment we face.

2. Where Are We Going?

In the second session Phil outlined some of the legal and structural implications of Group and Team Ministries. What follows is a slightly simplified version.

We are currently operating as a Group Ministry. In this scenario, each incumbent (priest in charge of a parish) has authority to perform in each parish in the Group, but must adhere to the local incumbent's directions when acting outside his or her own parish.

We are tasked by the Diocese to move towards a Team Ministry in due course. In a Team Ministry, the priests within the team share responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the people across the whole geography covered by the team. So in this scenario, the concept of local incumbency with ultimate local jurisdiction is replaced by an arrangement whereby all the team clergy (and readers and ALMs) are licensed to operate across all the churches in the team.

As far as formal laity engagement goes, there are two main structural options for Team Ministries:

- A relatively minimalist approach, whereby the present PCCs would be retained, with the option of adding a Team Council or Joint PCC with specific responsibilities for matters of common interest across the parishes.
- A more full on team structure, under which a single (team) PCC would be created with governance across all the West Worcester churches. Optionally the individual churches could additionally form District Church Councils (DCCs) with more limited local powers.

3. How Do We Move Forward?

Initial preferences of the PCC attendees were fairly evenly divided between the above two Team Ministry options. It was also suggested that the first option might be adopted as a starting point, which would still leave open a future choice to move to the second option.

We talked about what we could do better as PCCs. We felt it was important that PCC members should be individually active in at least one specific worship or operational area. We must always remember that we are there to represent the wider congregation; we can only do this through participation and communication. We felt that we need to be more open to identifying, welcoming and using talent outside the PCC.

Following discussion about how we might collaborate more closely in our existing parishes, Chris and Phil undertook to think about the possible formation of a Group Council as a first step towards facilitating closer ties between our group churches.

Gordon Templeton

WANTED: VOLUNTEER DRIVERS AND/OR VOLUNTEER COOKS



Would you like to drive an older person to a Lunch Club once or twice a week?

or

Would you like to cook for a Club of very appreciative older people and help a local charity at the same time?

We run lunch clubs twice a week at Bromyard Road Methodist Church Hall. We have a rota of drivers and cooks who help each week but vacancies have come up in both these roles. If you think you might like to help but would like more information, please ring Anna Ruth or Jo in the Live at Home Scheme Office **01905 420805**

Alternatively if you know an older person who might enjoy one or both of these Lunch Clubs, or one of the many other activities we offer, please ring us and we will send you an Information Booklet.

West Worcester Live at Home scheme

AMY'S VISIT TO KENYA



St Clement's Primary School has had a link with Kyeleni School for a few years now. Each year the Kenyan teachers come to visit us and some of our staff visit them. The partnership aims to increase the global citizenship of both communities and to share good teaching practice in both schools.

This year I was lucky enough to be chosen to go out to Africa for 10 days!

The weekend that we arrived we reacclimatized (as the area we are in is around 5000m above sea level!) We also had a bit of free time when we were able to go on safari and were lucky enough to see many animals including zebra and giraffe.

Come Monday it was time for the hard work to begin and after an hour long journey down the rural 'roads' we arrived at school. Our reception was unbelievable, an outsider may have been forgiven for thinking the Queen had arrived! Children were everywhere cheering and welcoming us.

We spent the first day visiting the children in their classes and watching the many performances they had prepared to welcome us.

The next two days were spent in classes teaching the children. We taught Standard 5 (10-11 years) the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and although they found our acting very amusing they managed to write some beautiful stories. This is very impressive as English is the children's third language! One of the highlights of the trip was teaching Standard 8 (13-14 years) our children's favourite assembly song 'I'm gonna sing, sing, sing!' The children loved it so much that they wanted to continue practicing with us over their lunch break. By the end of the week they were able to sing the whole song in rounds at the weekly flag raising ceremony. Proud doesn't begin to describe it!

During the week we also did lots of shopping. Many of you will be aware that I have been fundraising by selling cards for Kyeleni. This money, along with the school's fundraising, bought books, footballs, blocks and letters, skipping ropes, wall charts and stationary that will make a real difference to the children's education. It was a privilege to teach the children how to play catch and to hand over resources in a bare reception classroom. Thank you for helping me to put a smile on so many faces! It is also important to note that since we have put a library into the school the children's results in English and Kiswahili have gone up by nearly 5 percentage points each! In the library we also put up some mirrored letters that read 'In God's eyes every child

matters'. It was lovely to see the children being taught how to see themselves in a mirror.

I found that the week ended far too soon and before we knew it we were saying goodbye to our friends. Luckily we will not have to wait long to see them again as



Dominic and Bernard, two of the Kenyan teachers, are coming over on the 26th June for a week. You're more than welcome to come along to the school fayre to meet them. All in all my week in Kenya was one of the best experiences of my life and I have been given some very precious memories. I can't wait to go back!

Amy Rees

FROM THE MAGAZINE ARCHIVE (June 1950)

THE AUTUMN FAYRE

(SATURDAY, 28TH OCT., TO SATURDAY, 11TH NOV., 1950)

THE other evening the Autumn Fayre Committee met, and working upon the experience gained in last year's effort, drew up the following provisional arrangements:

Saturday, 28th October:

SALE (Stalls, Amusements and Refreshments).

Sunday, 29th October: ANNIVERSARY SERVICE.

Tuesday, 31st Oct.; Wed., 1st Nov.; Thurs., 2nd Nov.:
"CANDIED PEEL" (three-act play by the Drama Group).

Saturday, 4th November:

CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS PARADE, 3 p.m.

GALA DANCE, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, 9th November: GRAND WHIST DRIVE.

Saturday, 11th Nov.: "HIAWATHA'S WEDDING FEAST",
and Part Songs, with Orchestral accompaniment, sung
by the Choral Society.

We do want to improve upon last year's Fayre—both in arrangements and the financial results—but we do realize that this cannot be done without YOUR assistance and co-operation. Have you any practical ideas or suggestions to make in regard to the proposed arrangements? If so, the Committee will welcome your help—especially if you have any fresh thoughts in regard to *Stalls* or *Amusements* or *Competitions* for the *Sale on the 28th October*.

E. W. BONNETT, *Joint Hon. Sec.*

PUB SKITTLES

On the evening of 25th May, twenty-two St John's congregants, or their friends or relatives, gathered in the Bedwardine pub for a Skittles competition. To the uninitiated, pub skittles is a form of nine pin bowling in which at each turn the contestant gets to throw three randomly sized wooden bowls down a randomly sized alley with the aim of knocking over as many randomly sized and randomly spaced skittles as possible. It's all a matter of luck really.



The event was conceived in part as a church fundraiser, however it turned out to be first and foremost an enjoyable social event. Five rounds were played, punctuated by



a fish and chip supper half way through. The competition was won by Young Chris Rees, with our son Young Andrew in a close second place. At the opposite end of the scale, this churchwarden selflessly took one for the team by finishing in joint last place. Physical illiteracy my old PE teacher would have called it. So, anyone aged less than sixty may well find themselves

barred or severely hobbled for the next such outing. Not that I'm at all bitter.

In truth it was an excellent and most convivial evening, with a lovely mix of St John's folk participating. £78 was raised for Church Funds, but that wasn't the main point. Thanks to Jane and the fundraising committee for organizing.

Gordon Templeton

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

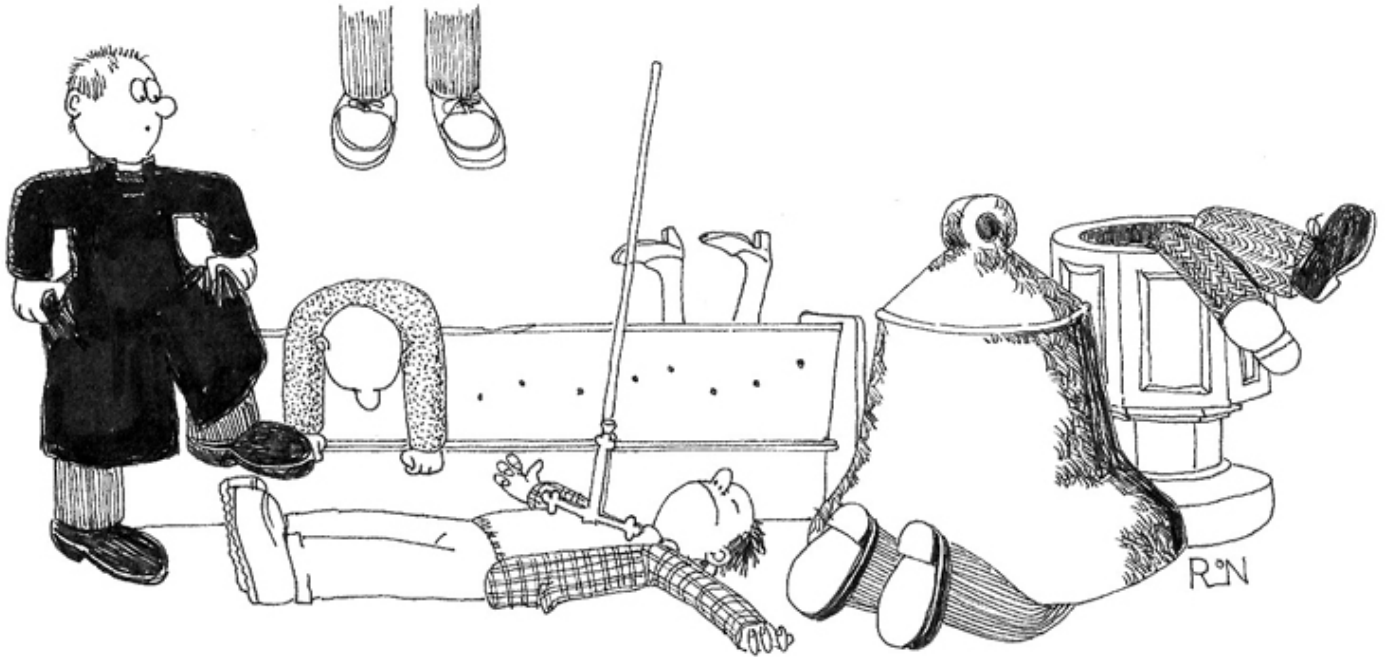
Do you know someone who might be interested in getting confirmed?

This year's Deanery Confirmation service will take place on 22nd October at 5pm, and in advance of that we'll be running preparation sessions over the summer. The sessions will last for seven weeks, and will be run jointly with St Clement's and Bromwich Road Mission. Peter Holzapfel will be taking the classes, so they should be lively!

Chris Stuart

FIND THE CONNECTION

Can you spot the link between this cartoon and something on page 7?



It was a normal Sunday morning in Midsomer Parish Church.

SUDOKU PUZZLE

	7	8			4		6	9
		3		1	2	7		
9			7	8	6	3		
8	1	7			3			6
6			1			4	9	8
		1	2	4	9			3
		6	3	7		9		
3	2		6			8	7	

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The solution is on page 36.

ST CHRISTOPHER

The legend goes that Christopher was a Canaanite who lived in the 3rd century. He was a giant of a man, of fearsome appearance. At first he decided to serve the devil, but when he discovered that the devil was afraid of Christ and his Cross, Christopher decided to serve Christ instead. A nearby hermit instructed Christopher in the Christian faith, and assigned to him a place near a river: Christopher's job was to help travellers cross it safely.

All went well, and Christopher helped lots of people on their way until one day a child came along, and asked to be carried across. Christopher put him on his back and set off, but was soon staggering under the astonishing weight of this child. The child then told him that he was in fact Jesus Christ, and that he carried the weight of the whole world. The Christ-child then told Christopher to plant his staff in the ground: the next day it bore flowers and dates – confirmation that the child was indeed who he claimed to be.

After some time more of helping travellers cross the river, Christopher went to the city of Lycia, where he preached the gospel with such success that the Roman emperor had him arrested and imprisoned – especially when Christopher refused to sacrifice to the gods. Two women sent into his cell to seduce him came out converted Christians instead. So Christopher was beaten, shot with arrows and finally beheaded.

Christopher has been well loved of the English down the centuries. Many wall-paintings of him have been placed on the north wall of churches, opposite the porch, so that he would be seen by all who entered. There was good reason for this: As patron saint of travellers, it was believed that anyone who saw an image of St Christopher would not die that day. An ancient saying goes: 'Behold St Christopher and go thy way in safety'. His feast day is 25th July.

A kind of daily insurance policy against death – this was so good that St Christopher became in due course the patron saint of travellers. There is even a church in the Javel area of Paris, where Citroen cars are made, dedicated to St Christopher. In modern times, with the increase in air and motorway travel, Christopher has remained popular. If you ever travel in a taxi on the Continent, look out for a little St Christopher hanging from the rear view mirror beside the driver. Now you know why it is there!



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For more information, please email hiring@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk

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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 17th August for the September 2014 edition. If you can, please use e-mail: 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

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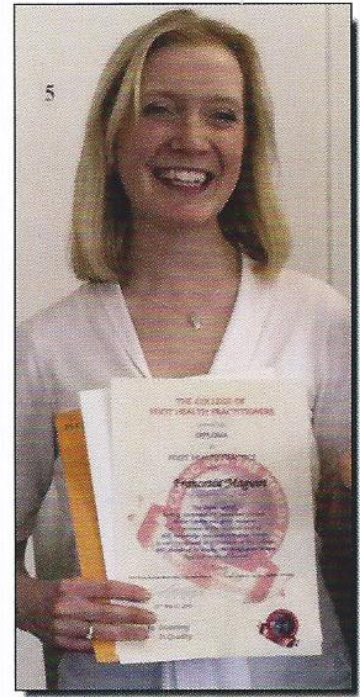
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1	7	8	5	3	4	2	6	9
4	6	3	9	1	2	7	8	5
9	5	2	7	8	6	3	4	1
8	1	7	4	9	3	5	2	6
2	9	4	8	6	5	1	3	7
6	3	5	1	2	7	4	9	8
7	8	1	2	4	9	6	5	3
5	4	6	3	7	8	9	1	2
3	2	9	6	5	1	8	7	4

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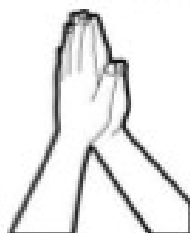
St THOMAS

Thomas was one of the 12 disciples and one thing we know about his family is he had a twin because he was called 'Didymus' which means a twin.

Thomas was ready to die with Jesus (John 11:16) but it is as 'Doubting Thomas' that most people remember him. Thomas wasn't afraid to ask the questions that the other disciples were thinking.

Thomas wasn't with the other disciples when they first saw the risen Christ. He refused to believe that Jesus had returned from the dead 'unless I see... and touch... I will not believe', but when he saw and touched Jesus he exclaimed 'My Lord and my God'. You can read this in St John's Gospel, chapter 20.

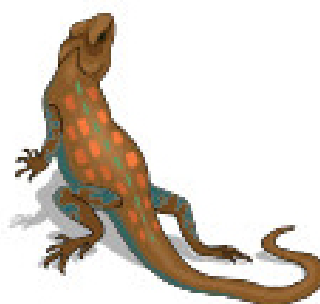
Without Thomas' doubts perhaps we wouldn't be as sure about our faith today. We need someone to ask the questions that we are too afraid to ask for fear of seeming silly or foolish.



T-TIME PUZZLE?

All the answers to this Bible puzzle begin with the letter T – can find them all? The first one is too easy.

1. The disciple called Didymus.
2. The own names after a Roman Emperor (John, chapter 6).
3. Roman to whom Luke addressed his Gospel.
4. Where St Paul was born (Acts, chapter 9).
5. Paul's companion on the journey to Jerusalem (Galatians, chapter 2).
6. She came from Joppa and was also known as Dorcas (Acts, chapter 8).
7. Deborah sat underneath one (Judges, chapter 4).



Are there any tiles that won't stick on the wall?
Reptiles.

Tell a man that there are 400 billion stars and he'll believe you. Tell him a bench has wet paint and he has to touch it.



Answers: 1.Thomas 2.Tiberius
3.Theophilus 4.Tarsus 5.Titus 6
Tabitha. 7.Tree

ST JOHN'S CLERGY

Vicar	Rev'd Dr Christopher Stuart	01905 429773 e-mail: chris.stuart@orangehome.co.uk
Associate Vicar	Rev'd Dr Phillip Bradford	01905 423794 e-mail: phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Sarah Cottrill	e-mail: sarah.cottrill@westworcesterchurches.org.uk

OTHER WEST WORCESTER GROUP CLERGY

Rural Dean	Rev'd David Sherwin	01886 888664 e-mail: Davidwin56@aol.com
Ministers, St Clement's with St David's	As St. John's (above)	
Vicar of St Michael, Dines Green with Crown East & Rushwick	Rev'd Robin Charles	01905 749995 e-mail: fr.robins@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	Evensong (BCP)
	Last Sunday in Month	Service of Wholeness and Healing
	Other Sundays	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

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

Monday: 10.30am to noon. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am to noon.

For booking baptisms and weddings: Please visit or telephone the office during the normal opening hours on Monday, Wednesday or Friday. Also open specifically for these bookings on the first Thursday of each month from 6.30pm until 7.30pm.



Parish Website: 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, July/August 2014

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
6th July and 3rd August	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	10.30am Holy Communion
13th July and 10th August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
20th July and 17th August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
27th July and 24th August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Healing Service (July) / Evening Prayer (August)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	6.30pm Holy Communion (July) Evening Prayer (August)	10.30am Holy Communion
31st August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church 5pm Service of Wholeness and Healing	Holy Communion – joint at St. David's 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Holy Communion (joint with St. Clement's)	10.30am Holy 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.