



*St John-in-Bedwardine
Parish Magazine*

July 2015

40p

ST JOHN'S VILLAGE FUN DAY

A world of fun

**SATURDAY 11TH JULY 2015, 11 AM – 3 PM
ST JOHN IN BEDWARDINE CHURCH**

WITH FUN EVENTS, SUCH AS

**Entertainment Arena, Chairoplanes
Fun Dog Show, BMX track
Games, Refreshments & BBQ**

LETTER FROM PHIL BRADFORD

Last month I visited Tvrdoš Monastery in southern Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Serbian Orthodox church in the complex technically dates from the fifteenth century, but neglect and conflict mean that the majority of the brightly-coloured frescoes which cover its internal walls have been painted in the last twenty years. It was an interesting enough place, but what really captured my attention was the monk who showed us round. All my previous encounters with Orthodox monks (especially in the Holy Land) have involved sullen characters who seemed bored by life and irritated that anyone should dare to intrude into their boredom. It was thus unexpected to discover that this fifty-something Serb was one of the most jovial people I have ever met. His complete lack of English – and our near-total lack of Serbian – proved no barrier to his enthusiastically and smilingly showing off his church and explaining the meaning of all the different frescoes. Friendly and obviously passionate about his calling and his monastery, it was hard not to follow his example as he bounced demonstratively around.

That I was so surprised to encounter a cheerful monk is telling. Even in the twenty-first century, there is some residual part of many of us which somehow expects monks to be religious, and all too often being religious is associated with being serious. When school parties come into church, their teachers nearly always tell them to be respectful and insist upon quiet. Religion – and by extension church buildings – is a cause for solemnity, its priests and practitioners expected to maintain a certain gravity. Thus when I was asked to write about fun, my first reaction was a combination of bemusement and panic. Nowhere does the ordinal mention this as a topic I am required to consider. Indeed, it has to be said that fun does not feature prominently in the Bible or many religious texts. There is plenty about feasting and parties, but I am hard-pressed to think of an example of outright enjoyment. We certainly don't tend to think about Jesus having fun. Think about the numerous depictions of him in classical religious art, and at best he appears with a benevolent, serene look. The great artists never give us a smiling Jesus, let alone a laughing one. Seriousness seems to be ingrained into the faith.

Yet how often do we record our own experiences of fun and enjoyment? If you look at historical memoirs or diaries, it is the moments of tragedy (continued opposite)

COVER

Shamelessly promoting the St John's Village Fun Day.

(continued from opposite) and crisis which are dealt with in far more depth, since those are occasions we struggle to process. Very often, the fun takes place as part of the everyday that we see no need to record since it is an integral part of our lives. If the Gospels do not record Jesus enjoying himself, it seems hard to believe that anyone fully human could not find pleasure in life, even if in an ephemeral way not noted by the chroniclers. After all, there is much in life to enjoy, yet all too often, even in a liberated, enlightened age, too many people seem to see enjoyment of life as somehow inappropriate, at least in a church context. If – as Christians believe – life is a gift from God, then surely it is something for us to appreciate and enjoy rather than lament and treat as a series of tests? We have been given a beautiful world, and we have been given other people to share it with. To take pleasure in their company, to recognise the joys of fellowship and companionship, is surely the essence of being human. After all, it foreshadows the heavenly banquet to which we are all invited, and in that sense we are called to recognise the happiness in life as well as the seriousness, to invite others into the joy of church fellowship and make known the good news of God’s kingdom.

A WORD FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to our July 2015 edition. Given the importance of the St John’s Village Fun Day as a community and Church event, it seemed an easy decision to set our theme this month as “fun”. However, as you will read in the magazine, this was a theme which some contributors found they had to wrestle with – but as a result they made us think more deeply about “fun”; and to realise how central fun is to being human – as Phil puts it “surely [life] is something for us to appreciate and enjoy rather than lament and treat as a series of tests?”

We have included a number of fun and good news items for you to appreciate and enjoy. There is the Fun Day itself coming, and also news of other enjoyable events. Our archive piece shows that the church has long been involved in fun events “only loud and happy laughter from the time we left Worcester until we returned”. But notice the next bit “our hearty thanks are due to those who arranged things so well”: These things don’t just happen, they need people to arrange them. Please read the Vicar’s letter on page 10 and think whether you could suggest or run an event.

So how does the piece on page 17 about Srebrenica (it is 20 years since, on 11th July 1995, 8,372 men and boys were massacred there) fit into a theme of fun? Because, as you can see on page 18, amid their sorrow the people of Srebrenica respond to their hard times - show their essential humanity - by dance, music, drinking coffee together and humour.

We pray that our fun day will draw together people in our community, and that those having testing times may nonetheless be uplifted through fun and enjoyment.

Graham and Sue Evans

OUR CHURCH

St John-in-Bedwardine Church is an active Anglican church which has its roots in the Norman period. The church is open daily, as a haven of peace at a busy road junction in the St. Johns area of Worcester.

The church was originally built in 1165 as 'The Chapel of St John' – the parish church then being St. Cuthbert's in Lower Wick. When the church of St Cuthbert's was demolished in 1370, St John's became the parish church.



WHO'S WHO – ST JOHN'S PCC OFFICERS

Churchwardens	churchwardens@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
	Gordon Templeton gordtemp@btinternet.com	749025
PCC Lay vice-chair	Joy Job joyjob@dsl.pipex.com	423051
	Sue Bale	423257
PCC Secretary	Graham Evans pcc@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
	John English treasurer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	427822

ST JOHN'S PARISH MAGAZINE

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 the September 2015 edition is Sunday 16th August 2015 (see page 23). 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.**

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2015

Outreach and serving the community This includes understanding the community, social concern, value to the community, creating a buildings vision (to make our buildings fit for purpose to serve our objectives) and embodiment of West Side Collaboration as collaborating on projects.

and

Children and Schools and Christian Nurture

WHO'S WHO – ST JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICERS

Verger	Catherine Templeton	749025
Stewardship envelopes	Irene Allen	422684
Estates Manager	Brian Askew brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	424811
Parish Administrator	Liz Edwards liz.edwards@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	420490
Archives Officer	Philip Evans	428667
Child Protection Officer	Jane Askew	424811
Pastoral Care Coordinator	Sylvia Render sylviarender@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
Webmaster	Philip Evans webmaster@westworchesterchurches.org.uk	

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 2015

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

Harry Robert Johnston
Lilly Charlotte Jeynes

Luca John Harrison
Seth Ian Steven Guy

WEDDINGS: *Those whom God has joined together*

Thomas Fairman and Laura Smith

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 13th April 2015 Flora Ormrod
d. 17th April 2015 Kathleen Weston
d. 17th April 2015 Jean Sprague
d. 25th April 2015 Stephen Drew

d. 29th April 2015 James Boyce
d. 6th May 2015 Anthony Mason
d. 8th May 2015 Marguerite Carter

FROM THE REGISTER OF SERVICES FOR MAY 2015

(5 Sundays): Communicants 450. Total attendance at all services 1079.

DATES FOR JULY/AUGUST 2015

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

See
page

Sunday 5th July: 5th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

12.30 p.m.

Family and Youth Worker – Open Meeting

16

Saturday 11th July

11.00 a.m.

St Johns Village Fun Day 11am-3pm

8,11,13

Sunday 12th July: 6th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Wednesday 15th July

7.00 p.m.

Craft Evening

9

Sunday 19th July: 7th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 26th July: 8th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 2nd August: 9th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 9th August: 10th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Saturday 15th August

3.00 p.m.

Children's Activities

16

Sunday 16th August: 11th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Wednesday 19th August

7.00 p.m.

Craft Evening

9

Sunday 23rd August: 12th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

Sunday 30th August: 13th Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

THURSDAY MORNING SERVICES

There is a 9.45am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) each Thursday at St Clement's. There is also a 10.45am service at St Michael's, which is a Eucharist (modern language) every week during July and August.

CAFÉ CHURCH

I attended the first café church service at St. Johns on 14th June. I had never been to a café church service before so didn't know what to expect.

I was welcomed and invited to sit at one of the tables in the north aisle. Quiet music was playing in the background.

Tea and coffee were served and then the service began with us all singing a hymn whilst sitting at the tables. We then had a reading which we discussed over a cream tea. (If someone wished to remain quiet, then that was fine too).

We then prayed the Lord's Prayer and sang another hymn.

A lovely ending was the "Grace" which we said all together whilst standing in a circle holding hands. The service took about 45 minutes and was very relaxed and informal. This was a lovely service which I hope will be continued.

Many thanks to everyone who worked hard to prepare the service (and provide the refreshments).

Sue Evans.

CAFÉ CHURCH – 5pm, 12th JULY

At the next Café Church, come and share a picnic with us, all food provided.

Jenny English

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH LIGHT LUNCHESES

First Wednesday in each month from May to December (except August). 12 noon to 1.30pm. Soup, bread, cheese, tea or coffee, £3.00. Proceeds to church funds.



MORE ABOUT THE FUN DAY

To help you persuade your friends to come to the Fun Day, we could think of no better advertisement than to list of some of the many attractions:

Tombolas, sweet stall, pop stall, many different games, BMX track, Chairplanes. Entertainment arena including music, dance, drama and fun dog show.

Refreshment area with light lunches, tea and cakes and waitress service. Also on offer, freshly made pancakes.

Community area including: Worcester Breast Unit/Coppafeel, Worcester Snoezelen, Worcester Lions, Cats Protection, RSPB, West Mercia Police, St John's Traders.

There are also the attractions at the Library (see page 11).

The above are as at the time of writing and may be subject to change!



**Fellowship and Fund
Raising Events
at St John in
Bedwardine Church**



Saturday 11 th July	St Johns Village Fun Day 11.00am-3.00pm
Wednesday 15 th July	Craft Group 7.00pm - Try something new. All materials included, Refreshments, £5.00.
Saturday 15 th August	Children's Activities 3.00pm-5.30pm. Light tea included. Tel 424811 for details.
Wednesday 19 th August	Craft Group 7.00pm - Try something new. All materials included, Refreshments, £5.00.

FUTURE DATES TO KEEP FREE

Saturday 12 th September	Bridge Day
Friday 4 th to Sunday 6 th December 2015	Christmas Tree Festival

FUN DAY

DONATIONS STILL NEEDED

For prizes for two of the stalls at the **St John's Village Fun Day** we need chocolates and bottles of wine.

So, if you haven't already done so, our request to you is, if you can, please donate a bottle of wine or a box or packet or bag of chocolates.

Please bring your wine and chocolates to church on Sundays (up to and including 5th July) or drop them off at the office during the week.

Many thanks – from the Fun Day organisers.



FUNDRAISING IDEAS WANTED

Our vision for Fundraising Events

The vision is to have lots of different groups of people organising all kinds of events, often quite independently of one another but co-ordinated by the Standing Committee. Why not get together with a few friends and lay on an event for the church? It needn't be a regular event – perhaps a one-off? Whatever it is, however offbeat it may seem, drop us a line.

I've Got An Idea... What Do I Need To Do?

Brilliant! The Standing Committee would love to hear from you, and are keen to say 'yes'! All you need to do is get in touch with either the vicar, or Graham Evans (PCC Secretary). Tell us what you'd like to do, and we'll do everything we can to support you. For example, we can give you a mentor to guide you through the process of organising the event; or, we can give you a checklist of handy hints/suggestions for laying on events at St John's; or again, we can put you in touch with volunteers within the church who might be willing to help you deliver your event – for example, people to help with publicity, or with 'back-room' stuff like teas and coffees.

We know we've got a fantastically gifted congregation; folks are already doing a lot, but we'd love to release even more of that energy to help our wonderful church. Why not drop us a line?

Chris Stuart, Vicar

(In case you didn't know, the Standing Committee is made up of the clergy, churchwardens, PCC Treasurer, PCC Lay Vice Chair and PCC Secretary. It has been taking a lead on addressing our financial problems, and so it makes sense for it to take responsibility for co-ordinating fundraising.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

A date for your diaries! St John's Church will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival during the weekend of 4th, 5th and 6th December. We will have a display of different types of Christmas tree and various events going on so there will be something for everyone - whatever your age!

More details to follow in the next magazine!

Joy Job

THANK YOU

Thank you for everyone who helped in any way to make the plant sale a success.

Jane Askew

11TH JULY – FUN AT THE LIBRARY TOO

The Village Fun Day is not only in and around the church itself. There are also great attractions at the library:

Libraries and Learning Service



Summertime

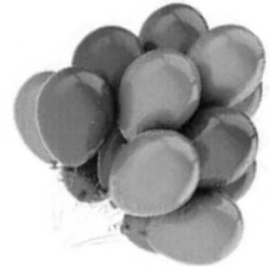
at

St. John's Library

Saturday 11th July

11.00am – 3.00pm

A fun filled day for all the family



Animal Mania

Animal Crafts

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

What's in the Box?

How many sweets in the Jar?

Refreshments

THOMAS AND LAURA'S WEDDING 27TH MAY 2015

Thank you to everyone at St John's Church for all your help which made Tom and Laura's Wedding Day a really lovely and special occasion.

Best wishes from us all.

Sue Fairman





WORCESTER BREAST UNIT CAMPAIGN

Six hundred people throughout Worcestershire are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. Our vision is to develop a dedicated breast care unit for them offering a much more personal service. Our thanks go to all who supported Chris Stuart's walk to

raise money for us. Thanks to your help we can move closer to fulfilling our vision:

- Rapid efficient assessment and care
- Treatment in welcoming and private surroundings
- Facilities that will maximise the skills of our specialist teams
- Fewer return visits; good news delivered swiftly
- Space for complementary therapies and support group meetings
- Counselling rooms for reflection and discussion
- New clinical equipment, including an ultrasound machine for sole use by the breast unit and high-resolution imaging screens
- Flexible space for use by support groups as well as other patient activities
- Prosthesis fitting room

Worcester Breast Unit Campaign

COAST TO COAST

The final fundraising total from my Coast to Coast Walk was £4743.21 (though the odd little extra is still dribbling in!).

The articles from Maggs (last month) and the Worcestershire Breast Unit Campaign are a reminder of just how vital this money is, so my heartfelt thanks once again to everyone who gave so generously. Thanks too to the St John's bell ringers for all the fabulous back-up support. St John's has done us proud!



Chris Stuart

ST JOHNS VILLAGE FUN DAY

A world of fun

Saturday 11th July 11am—3pm

Fun Dog Show

Dog show 2pm at St John's Church



Waggiest Tail

Cutest Face



Most Obedient

Most Agile



(£1 per category entry fee)

Dog show sponsored by



WORCESTERSHIRE AND DUDLEY HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

The major fundraising effort for the Historic Churches Trust, both locally and nationally, is the annual Ride + Stride event on the second Saturday in September (this year, 12th September). The success of this event is crucial to the amount of funds we have available to help in various projects for Christian Places of Worship within the Diocese of Worcester. If you already participate in the event, please accept our thanks; if not please consider helping us by encouraging people to take part or by welcoming visitors on the day with a drink and biscuit. If you can publicise Ride + Stride through your own news sheets and magazines we would be grateful. If your church or churches will be open on Saturday 12th September between 10am and 5pm please let us know by Saturday 8th August, we would like to maintain an accurate list on our website.

Ride + Stride does sound like two parts of a triathlon but it does not have to be terribly energetic! Riding is not just on a bike but also by car or motor-cycle or even on horseback. Perhaps using a bus pass to visit as many churches as possible in one day. Striding could just be a walk to a church in the next village or perhaps around the churches and chapels of a local town. Please note that any individual sums raised in excess of £30 are split 50/50 between the Trust and the church or chapel of the individual's choice so this could help your own fund raising efforts.

Full details including printable entry and sponsorship forms are on the Trust Website:
<http://www.worcesteranddudleyhistoricchurches.org.uk>

Gilbert Barlow, WDHCT

DISABLED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP SERVICE

On June 6th St John's hosted a service for The Disabled Christian Fellowship. Tables had been set up in the North aisle for afternoon tea, and looked so welcoming ready for our visitors. The group was warmly welcomed by the Pastoral care team and all remarked on how lovely the church looked.

John Bevins chaired the service and a very personal and interesting talk was given by our own curate Sarah on her journey to becoming an ordained priest.

New members of the fellowship remarked on the church building and were very interested in its history. Vera Denning who attended last year was with us again and said how good it was to be back in St Johns having been baptised here in 1922.

Following the service, tea, which been lovingly prepared by the Pastoral care team, was served to our visitors who remarked on how appetising it all looked.

Christian Disabled Fellowship organiser Pam Jelfs commented on how special the service had been particularly due to the support of the Pastoral care team. It is unanimous that we repeat this special service next year.

Sylvia Render

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR



I know that the editors of our Parish Magazine like to think of a theme for each month's issue. So far I have always liked the challenge of relating these notes from the choir to a particular theme though I confess that some themes present more of a challenge than others. I also have to confess that, on occasions, I have felt too challenged and have abandoned any semblance of following the theme! This time I almost gave up too. I wasn't sure what I could write about 'fun' other than to say that it continues to be a great joy singing in the choir. As I have said before, we work hard but also have a great time, striving to be the best we can and enjoying the music. We laugh a lot too with much friendly banter between all the sections of the choir!

Loathe to admit defeat though I turned to the thesaurus to see if other definitions of the word 'fun' would lead me in a new direction. Both 'relaxation' and 'energy' were in the lists of words and this set me thinking about the physical aspects of singing as well as the mental. In order to sing at one's best, the body needs to be both relaxed and yet full of energy. This may seem a bit of a paradox but this is why our choirmaster's 'warm up' before embarking on a full rehearsal is so important. Getting rid of the physical tensions of the day so that the muscles relax, prepares them properly for the work they are going to do in singing. It allows the energy needed to flow efficiently and productively enabling each singer to produce their optimum sound.

Along with this physical aspect of singing my foray into the thesaurus also pointed me in the direction of 'hilarity', 'enthusiasm' and 'refreshment'. All of these seem to sum up singing in the choir for me. Certainly the laughter and enthusiasm that are evident at a Thursday evening rehearsal are infectious and I for one always come away from the practices feeling refreshed.

In having so much fun though we never lose sight of the importance of our singing in our commitment to the worship of God. We want to sing our hearts out in His praise and honour every time we meet.

Luise Horrocks

PSALM 23 - MODERN LANGUAGE EDITION

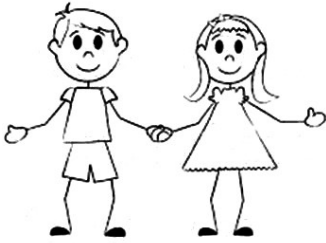
The Lord and I are in a shepherd/sheep situation, and I am in a position of negative need.

He prostrates me in a green belt grazing area; he conducts me directionally parallel to non-torrential aqueous liquid.

He returns to original satisfaction levels my psychological make-up; he switches me on to a positive behavioural format for maximal prestige of his identity.

The original author is probably in an ongoing burial-rotation posture.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH NEWS



June's activity session saw fewer children for a number of reasons, camps and poor weather being some of them. However, the weather didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the children and the parents. After a sing song and a talk the children enjoyed their search around church for the answers to the quiz. We are not sure who is more competitive, the adults or the children!

Craft in this session followed the theme of prayer and friendship. A prayer tree was created with hands and the children put on their hands people they wanted to think about and pray for. They then made a friendship bracelet. The dads proved to be nifty with a needle and thread!

Hot dogs were followed with strawberries and ice cream. Thanks again to Margaret in the kitchen ably helped by Phil in Sue's absence.

These sessions would not be successful without all the time and effort put in by Peter, Sylvia, Gail and Irene. Small in number we may be but immense in warmth and friendship.

Our July session is being covered by the St John's Fun Day. Do come along there will be lots for the children to do. The August session is on Saturday 15th August, from 3.00pm to 5.30pm. We hope to see you there.

Children's Church is held every Sunday except for the Family Service. All children are welcome. Do come and join us. If you feel you would like to help, we would welcome adult helpers, especially for the activity sessions.

Telephone 424811 for more details.

Children's Church



FAMILY AND YOUTH WORKER - UPDATE

As most of you will be aware, over the last few months I have been looking into the possibility of us employing a Family and Youth Worker to operate across the parishes of St Johns, St Clements and St Michaels. An open meeting was held on June 10th for anybody to attend and put forward their views on this. Although the meeting was not well supported, those who did come were extremely enthusiastic about the possibility of extending our outreach work in this way and some interesting suggestions were made for how we might go forward.

It is important, however, to have the support – in prayer and in “hands on” involvement – of a large percentage of our congregations if this project is to succeed. Please do speak to myself, Chris or Phil if you have any views to put forward or would like to be involved. A further meeting is scheduled for 12.30pm on Sunday July 5th.

Sarah Cottrill

REMEMBERING SREBRINICA

It is 20 years since, on 11th July 1995, 8,372 men and boys were massacred by Bosnian Serb forces during the civil war which began following the disintegration of Yugoslavia in 1991. Having previously been declared a UN 'safe area', Srebrenica was defended by only 400 Dutch peacekeepers, and after several unheeded requests for a NATO airstrike, the city fell to Serb forces. Serb commander Ratko Mladic declared that he intended to take revenge for the rebellion of the Dahijas in 1804. This was a Serb uprising which had been brutally suppressed by the Ottomans, who ruled the region at the time. Fearing for their lives, thousands of Muslim men and boys attempted a 63 mile march to the nearest safe territory, but thousands were killed during the journey. Over the next ten days, over 8000 men and boys were forcibly separated from their wives and families, herded into a variety of locations ranging from warehouses to football stadiums. Women and girls were transported to camps where they suffered rape and sexual violence committed on such a scale that confirms its use as a deliberate tactic of war rather than an inevitable by-product. It is estimated that up to 50,000 women were raped, the youngest victim being just 12 years old.

The charity, Remembering Srebrenica campaigns to have the genocide remembered and to tell the stories of the individuals involved, as well as seeking to challenge those who deny that a deliberate act of genocide took place. I recently attended an event hosted by Worcester University in which representatives from the charity spoke about their work. We heard from Robert McNeil MBE, who worked as a forensic technician in Srebrenica. He told us how, after the conflict, the Serbs had removed many of the bodies from the mass graves and reburied them in multiple locations as a way of disguising the crimes. The task of the forensic team was to 'repatriate' these body parts so that loved ones could bury their relatives. They also gathered evidence to prove that the men had been killed deliberately, finding that many had been blindfolded, with their hands tied behind their backs. The work of the forensic team was traumatic, strenuous and physically dangerous as many of them succumbed to dysentery, working all the way through very hot summers. To help him cope with his experiences, Robert Mc Neil had begun painting and many of his paintings were on show in Worcester's library, The Hive.

My invitation to attend this event came because I am responsible for co-ordinating the Lessons from Auschwitz programme at my school. Essentially, Remembering Srebrenica wants to develop a similar programme, arranging visits and working with schools to raise awareness. I was struck and saddened by the similarities between both acts of genocide and the process of remembering them. In one sense, the sense of time only, the events of Srebrenica are much rawer. The emphasis is still very much on stressing that a genocide did take place. Indeed, a verdict is still to be reached in the case of Mladic, and controversy still rages over whether the UN

(continued overleaf)

(continued from previous page) effectively sacrificed Srebrenica and whether more could and should have been done by the international community. The process of remembering has distinct parallels. We now have a national Holocaust Memorial Day and the work of organisations such as the Holocaust Educational Trust ensures that every school receives excellent support in the area of Holocaust Education. However, in the immediate aftermath of the war it was not so easy to discuss what happened. Many who were not directly involved simply didn't want to listen, and those who were found it at times almost impossible to tell their stories. The impact of the individual testimonies at the Adolf Eichmann trial is indicative of this. Holocaust education in schools, at least as guided by the HET, tends to stress the role of individual stories. It does not diminish the horror of what happened, but the HET is very keen to respect the dignity and individuality of the victims, almost giving back some of what they were denied in death. Attending the event in Worcester, I felt that there was still a long way to go for the victims of the Srebrenica massacre. The emphasis was very much on persuading the world to first of all remember that it happened at all, before the process of remembering individuals could begin. There is hope however, that, in this 20th anniversary year, and with the UK Parliament's recognition of 11th July as a day of remembrance, that process can now begin properly (see www.srebrenica.org.uk)

'I want to speak to people and share my story because my heart speaks. And now, finally, someone is listening.' Hasan Hasanovic, Death March Survivor.

Sarah Stuart

RESPONDING TO HARD TIMES IN SREBRENICA

[This document was created during a workshop in Srebrenica. It's too long to reproduce in full; you can find the full article by searching online for "Responding to hard times in Srebrenica" Notice how most sections say "some" whereas the section on humour says "many". The editors]

Here in Srebrenica we know about hard times. In 1995, the genocide that took place here was devastating and its effects continue. If you look around the city you can see the damage everywhere. There is high unemployment and much poverty. Then there are the problems of human pain. Not everyone who was missing has been found. Many families still do not know what happened to their loved ones. Here in Srebrenica, we know about hard times. But we know much more than this.

During this week, we have been talking about some of the special skills and knowledge of Bosnian people. We have shared stories of some of the ways we have responded to hard times here in Bosnia Herzegovina. We hope these are of assistance to others who may be facing significant hardship. These are some of the ways we respond to hard times here in Srebrenica. This is some of what gets us through.

Becoming a better person: For some of us, losing our loved ones the ways in which

we did has changed us. I didn't say goodbye to my uncle before he was killed. And this has made me determined to be a better person.

Prayer: In tough moments, some of us turn to prayers. This means a lot to me. When I ask God to give me strength to go on, I feel his presence and it helps me.....

Dance as a freedom of movement: When hard times are around some of us turn to movement, to dance. To me, dance is a form of freedom. The feeling of dancing is fantastic. That sense of freedom is like I am in heaven.

Music: ... Music brings comfort and that atmosphere that everything is going to be fine. That's what happens to me when I start to sing and my body feels warm again.

A special place: For some, a special place that we return to again and again.

To be in nature: Some of us turn to nature.

Appreciating the small things of life: Sometimes when you have lost people you love it makes you appreciate life more. It makes you appreciate existence.

Rituals of memory: The mothers of Srebrenica have a religious ritual of memory and healing.....

Drinking coffee together: In the morning here in the neighbourhoods women come together and drink coffee. It's a big process and ritual. The cups we use, how we pour the coffee, how we share it, what we talk about, all of these things are important.....

Humour: For many of us, it's humour that carries us through. In toughest moments, when I am with my friends, I act totally unserious. I twist the story around so everything turns to be funny. It is my way of escaping from the situation so I can see it more clearly later. I remember when I was a child that everyone around me used humour in situations of strong emotions. For example, if I was very angry they teased me so I would get more angry! If my mother is angry at my father she tells that to him through a joke. She also does that with me. I think this is a part of Bosnian culture, we always make jokes about bad situations. No matter what happens we laugh.

Another one of us also spoke about humour. Every evening I like to watch a Spanish soap on television. It's quality humour. Srebrenica is small and claustrophobic sometimes. When things get depressing it makes a difference to me that this show is on every evening. It is something to look forward to everyday. It's like a medicine. There's a particular character in the show that I can relate to. He is always in trouble, unlucky. He has all kinds of problems like I have, financial, with women, with no women! And he has a funny face. There are plenty of traditions of humour here. Sometimes we put in a lot of effort in order to make other people look ridiculous. I remember when I was young we would set people up with fictitious dates. We'd find a girl to make a fake phone call and then watch as our friend would go to the 'date'.

Humour is big here. It's our way, Bosnian way.

CONGRATULATIONS

We were delighted to hear the news that Jo Dowling has been awarded the MBE “For Service to the Community in Worcester”.

Congratulations, Jo, on being awarded this prestigious honour.

Graham Evans



Jo Dowling MBE

COMMUNITY USE OF THE CHURCH?



There is probably little dispute that we should encourage, and if possible increase, community use of our church. However, we suspect that none of us is thinking about going quite as far as pictured here at Whithorn in Dumfries.

The editors

BRIGHTON OUTING

ON Saturday, June 17th, a party of about 60 persons—all members of our congregation—visited Brighton. The train left Henwick at 6.55 a.m. and arrived at Brighton on time. The journey was most comfortable and the time passed very quickly.

The weather at Brighton was not brilliant but it seemed just right, and from time to time St. John's people were being hailed from the top of 'buses travelling between Hove and Rottingdean.

The Piers with their attractive side-shows proved to be a great draw, and there seemed to be little left unseen or unattempted.

The Aquarium at Brighton must surely be unique in that it houses monkeys as well as fish—and in fact the monkeys proved to be so popular that the fish were almost completely ignored.

Some of our party were disappointed when introduced to a Mermaid, though the lady seemed quite pleased to see them—she wagged her tail anyhow.

There was much seen and done that day and it ended all too soon. The train left Brighton at 8.30 and arrived in Worcester around 1 a.m.

All of us who made the trip enjoyed ourselves, there were no complaints—only loud and happy laughter from the time we left Worcester until we returned, and our hearty thanks are due to those who arranged everything so well.

ST. JOHN'S GIRL GUIDES

PATROL Sports were held on June 6th on the St. John's playing ground. Scoutmaster Rowe acted as starter and Mrs. Rowe very kindly gave the cup to the winners, the Bullfinch Patrol. The races were keenly contested and everybody enjoyed the evening which finished with the singing of the Guide Prayer and "Taps".

ALL TOGETHER: SHARING WAYS TO LIVE THE KINGDOM

www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2015/04/08/all-together-sharing-ways-live-kingdom/



FREE Day Event for all
Food provided free, courtesy of a charitable trust

Saturday 10 October 2015
Worcester Cathedral

- ✔ Practical workshops, activities and talks
- ✔ Lots for people of all ages
- ✔ Come and have fun, as well as be inspired and resourced about being Kingdom People
- ✔ Worship together as a diocese including an all age talk by Mark Russell, CEO of the Church Army and a Canon of Worcester



Breakfast available from 9.30am

10.15am – 3.30pm including lunch & afternoon tea with homemade cake

On Saturday 10th October the Diocese will be running a major event in the cathedral, entitled ‘All Together: Sharing Ways to Live the Kingdom’. More information can be found on the event by following the link above.

It would be good to have our parishes represented.

Please let me know if you’d like to go (and if you’d like the free breakfast at 9.30am) – I have a form which I need to complete and return to the Diocese by the beginning of July, so they’ve some idea of likely numbers.

Chris Stuart

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

© 2013 CrazyDad.com

The solution is on page 31.

ROOM HIRING AT THE CHURCH

The church has two meeting rooms and a large space in the church available for hire. All rooms have access to the church car park.

Blakefield Room	Suitable for up to 30 people: Fully fitted kitchen, including dishwasher; toilets, including one disabled toilet and a baby-changing facility; Tables and/or chairs.	
Burroughs' Room	Suitable for up to 12 people. Drink making facilities and toilet.	
The North Aisle	Suitable for 120 people seated theatre style or up to 48-64 seated around tables. Tables and chairs are provided in a large open area with plenty of electric sockets. It is used to host exhibitions, meals and conferences.	

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

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

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 include 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 16th August for the September 2015 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

SJM LOCKSMITH SERVICES

LOCAL • RELIABLE • INDEPENDENT

No Call Out Charge • Advice Given • Free Onsite Estimates

Are Your Locks Behaving Badly ?

Repairs • Replacements • Upgrades

We Carry Out All Aspects Of Door And Window Security
Emergency Call outs Due To Lost Or Broken Keys
Additional Door & Window Security & Insurance Approved Upgrades
Double Glazing Multi Point Lock Repair Specialist
Free No Obligation Home Security Survey
Clean & Tidy Workmanship

01905 73 15 36

07871 44 20 11

www.sjmlocksmith.co.uk

Podiatrist/Chiropodist
State Registered
HPC No. 14966

FOOT-NOTES UK

Racheal Sharman
BSc (Hons), MChS, SRChS
174a London Road
WORCESTER
WR5 2EJ

Diabetes Appointments

01905 360079

General Foot Care

Mob: 07974 650775

info@footnotesuk.co.uk

Dr Janet Hails



Garden Solutions



Beds & Borders 🌿 Shrubs & Herbaceous 🌿 Pruning & Training ✂
Fruit & Veg 🍎 Unusual Plants 🌱 Consultation & Coaching 📖
Pots & Baskets 🪴 New Planting 🌸 Right Plant Right Place 🌱

*RHS Level 3 Diploma with Commendation
Over 30 Years Gardening Experience*

☎ 01905 748963 📱 07933 263399 💻 dr.hails@btinternet.com

Volunteers!



Worcester Cats Protection are in need of extra help in preparation for moving shop premises. Can you spare a few hours, a variety of jobs to be done include sorting, preparing and putting out stock.

**If you are interested please call in to the St Johns shop or phone
01905 426748.**



Worcester Funeral Service

01905 23499

Independent Family Funeral Directors



Craig is available 24 hours a day.
Please call for any assistance.

Golden Charter 
Funeral Plans

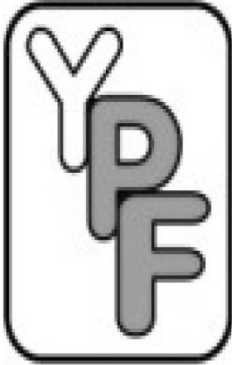


31c Barbourne Road, Worcester, WR1 1SA

WorcesterFuneralService.co.uk

Your Picture Framer

Call in and see our retail space and studio where we continue to provide our great customer service and fine bespoke framing.



- We can frame almost anything
- No obligation advice
- Home/Office visits available
- Computerised pricing – no guessing
- Out of hours appointments offered
- Latest techniques
- Top quality materials



www.yourpictureframer.co.uk
info@yourpictureframer.co.uk
01905 423300 or 07730 539168

2A Great House Road
Worcester
WR2 4HS

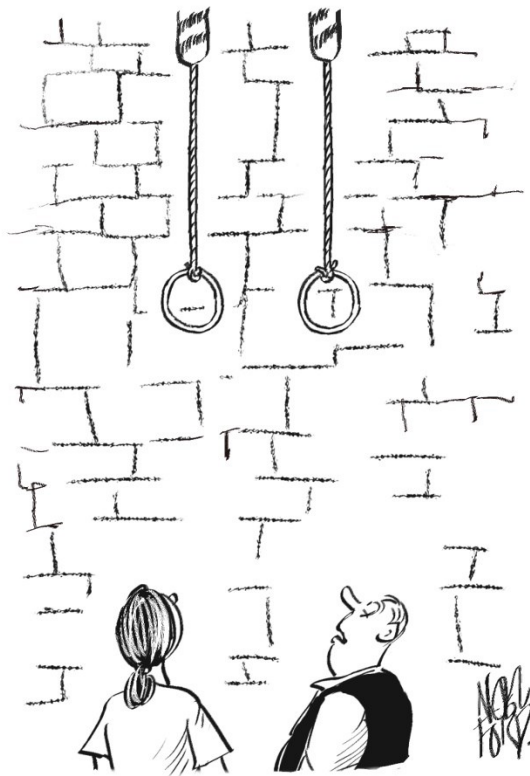
Worcester Chiropractic Clinic

102 Bromyard Road, St Johns, WR2 5DJ

Expert treatment for a range of conditions:

- Sciatica
- Headaches
- Sports Injury
- Trapped Nerves
- Back Pain
- Carpal Tunnel
- Tendonitis
- Osteoarthritis
- Neck Pain
- And more...

01905 428 956



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"

Julie Davies

Qualified professional mobile hair stylist.

ADVICE
PERMING
CUTTING
COLOURING



NVQ II & III
HAIRDRESSING
NVQ TEACHING
ASSESSMENT
NVQ
CUSTOMER
CARE

Tel: 01905 427704
Mobile: 07977 590087

West Wind Counselling



Sarah Jeffery MBACP Holt Heath, Worcs WR6

For help and support
with emotional pain or distress
including:

- depression, stress, anger or anxiety
- bereavement, loss, setbacks, grief
- low confidence or self-esteem
- relationship difficulties or other troubles

T: 07432 078087

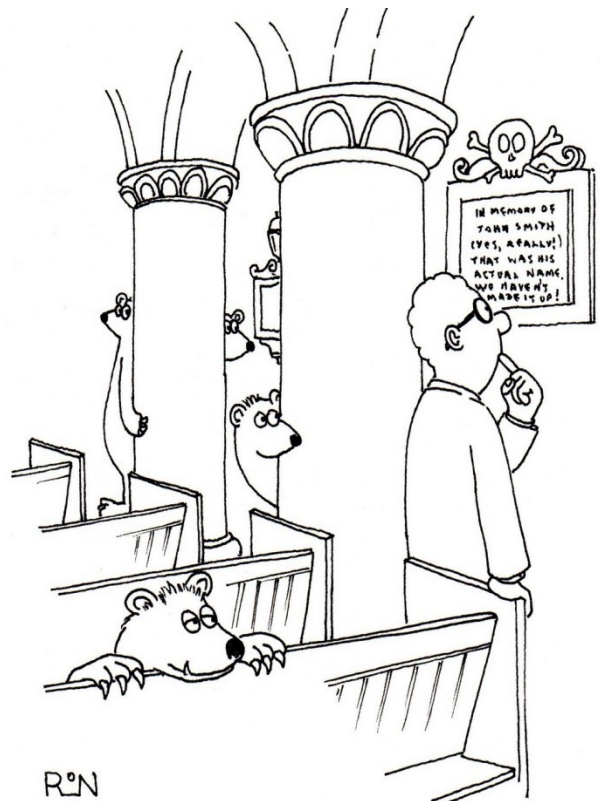
E: westwindcounselling@gmail.com

W: www.west-wind-counselling.co.uk

Please call or email me for
a first confidential discussion.

I look forward to hearing from you.

"It was such a relief to find someone to talk to, who understands and can help me to find my way. I would recommend counselling with Sarah to anyone who is struggling to cope." (Client RP)



R&N

Dennis spent a long time in church
looking for his forbears

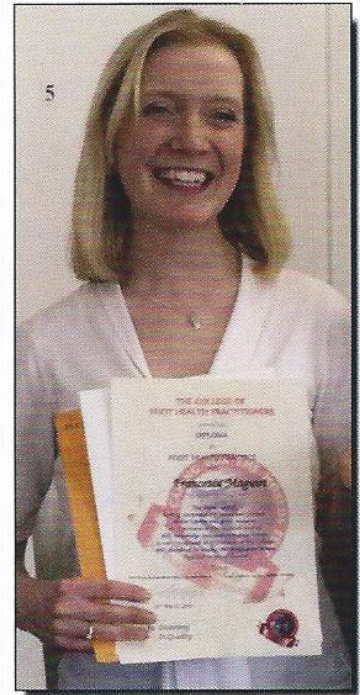
Assured Footcare

Francesca Maguire

DipCFHP, MVR, MPSPract, DipBMec
Mobile Foot Health Practitioner

Telephone: 01905 319936

Mobile: 07825 653673



A professional Foot Care service in the comfort of your own home, providing a mobile routine foot care treatment, whether it's....

- Nail Trimming and Filing
- Thick Nail Reduction
- Corn & Callus Removal
- Dry Cracked Heels
- In-grown Toenails
- Athletes Foot Treatment
- Verruca Treatment
- Diabetic Foot Care Assessment

I am also qualified to carry out a Biomechanical Assessment of the foot and lower limb, Identifying any foot problems which you may be experiencing. This could relate to Neck Pain, Back Pain, Knee Pain, Shin Pain, Heel Pain.

All treatments will be followed by a foot massage, so you can sit back and be pampered.



Regent Residential Care Home

Regent includes all of the creature comforts you'd expect along with some special touches that make it a true home.

Our residents are free to spend their time how they wish whether that's enjoying a home-cooked meal, having their hair done in the salon, taking part in an activity or relaxing with a good book.

Carefully chosen for their compassionate and kind approach, our staff provide a range of personal residential, dementia and respite care.

For more information, please contact:

Regent Residential Care Home
School Road, St. Johns, Worcester
WR2 4HF Tel: 01905 337100



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



SUDOKU SOLUTION

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



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.*



Please mention the magazine when responding to advertisers



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, Airport hotels and parking and much more...

WORCESTER BASED TRAVEL AGENT

Contact Your Travel Counsellor

Sian Roberts

01905 887590

Sian.roberts@travelcounsellors.com

www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/sian.roberts

travel counsellors



Where will your conversation take you?

Travel Counsellors ensures complete financial protection on every booking



Please mention the magazine when responding to advertisers

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

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



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

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

customer@shaw.co.uk

www.shaw.co.uk



Are you, or is someone you know, struggling with any of the following?

- ◊ Housework
- ◊ Getting washed or dressed
- ◊ Shopping
- ◊ Preparing food
- ◊ Taking medication
- ◊ Having time to yourself when someone depends on you

If so we can help!

We can support you in your own home, at reasonable cost, to help you with those things you are struggling with. All our staff have references, full training and a current DBS (CRB). We provide a bespoke service to help you remain independent in your own home. Call Karen for a no obligation chat on **01905 769929**

We are registered and inspected by Worcestershire County Council and CQC.

We are *LARGE* enough to provide and *SMALL* enough to care!



Contact

Tel: 01905 769929
Website: www.trucareworcester.co.uk
Email: karenspeak@btinternet.com

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.



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

Safeclean[®]

The finishing care specialists from 

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

WEST WORCESTER CLERGY

Vicar of St John's and St Clement's with St David's	Rev'd Dr Christopher Stuart vicar@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 429773
Vicar of St Michael, Dines Green with Crown East & Rushwick	Rev'd Phil Bradford phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 423794
Assistant Curate	Rev'd Sarah Cottrill curate@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	01905 426257
Rural Dean	Rev'd David Sherwin davidwin56@aol.com	01886 888664

SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

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 Sunday in Month	Evensong (BCP)
	2nd Sunday in Month	Café Church
	3rd Sunday in Month	Evensong (BCP)
	Last Sunday in Month	Service of Wholeness and Healing
	Other Sundays	Evening Prayer (said)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

5.00 p.m.	Monday to Saturday	Evening Prayer
9.45 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 in the West Worcester Group, July/August 2015

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
5th July and 2nd 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
12th July and 9th August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's participation (July) with Children's Church (August) 5pm Café church	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
19th July and 16th August	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church (July) with Children's participation (Aug) 5pm Evensong (BCP) (July) Evening Prayer BCP (August)	9am Holy Communion 10.45am Worship for Everyone	11.15am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
26th July and 23rd 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	10.30am Holy Communion
30th 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.