



*St John-in-Bedwardine  
Parish Magazine*

September 2015

40p



**Welcome to**  
**St JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE**  
**The Parish Church of St John's**

St John's is far more than the most historic building on the Westside of Worcester; it is the centre of a worshipping and sociable community of people, and a resource for everyone in St John's.

**WEST WORCESTER CLERGY**

The Reverend Dr. CHRISTOPHER STUART (Vicar of St John's)	Day off Saturday
The Reverend PHIL BRADFORD	Friday
The Reverend SARAH COTTRILL (Assistant Curate)	Monday

**CHURCHWARDENS**

Gordon Templeton, Joy Job.

**SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S**

**This is the usual pattern. Please see the other notices or the back cover of the Parish Magazine for the actual services in a 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 (BCP)
10.45 a.m.	Thursday (at St Michael's)	Holy Communion (Modern language)

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The church is open most weekdays for people to drop in to visit or for quiet; to sit, pray or light a candle.

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The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact Sylvia Render (tel 422654/email [sylviarender@talktalk.net](mailto:sylviarender@talktalk.net)).

*Letter From*  
*Sarah Cottrill*



Dear Friends,

Very few of us like change – but it is an inevitable part of life and can, if embraced with an open mind, bring unimagined benefits.

Twelve months ago, I was facing a time of highly significant change in my life. Moving from the house in which I was born, leaving friends, a job which, although not liked was at least familiar and “safe” and most importantly of all, taking on the role of an Ordained Minister, with all the challenges and learning which that involved. I was, to put it very mildly, apprehensive. A year later, I underwent another transition – from Deacon to Priest. This time I knew I was amongst friends with a strong body of support and an incredibly wise, kind and encouraging boss. Nonetheless, it was a daunting prospect – especially when one reads the part of the Ordination Service where the bishop describes the duties of a Priest!

Here on the West side of Worcester we are in a time of transition as we move towards becoming a team. Understandably, people are anxious about the effect it will have on “their church” and, also understandably, there is a tendency to focus on what are perceived to be the losses involved. Let me encourage you to re –think! At a wedding, the father of the bride often speaks of “Not losing a daughter, but (continued overleaf)

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*Cover*

The crowd enjoying the Dog Show at the St John’s Village Fun Day.

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*The Magazine*

Copy for the October 2015 edition should reach us by Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September. If you can, please use e-mail: [magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk).

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.

Unless otherwise directed, please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office. *To subscribe or advertise in the magazine, please see page 29.*

(continued from the previous page) gaining a son.” In just the same way, each of our churches should think, not in terms of what they might lose but of what they are going to gain. We are blessed, in St John’s, St Clement’s, St David’s and St Michael’s to have dedicated and generous Christians with a wide variety of gifts and many years of experience and faithful service. If all that experience and all those gifts are brought together just think what a forceful witness we could be for God as we reach out, in His name, to our wider communities. Just as, for me, the time of my Ordination was a time to reflect, to take stock of the past and to contemplate the future, so is this the time for our churches, individually and together, to do the same. Give thanks for the past. Feel some nostalgia, perhaps, for what is passing, but look forward, with confidence, with faith and with excitement, to what is to come. Change, I was told at college, is what happens to you, but transition is the process which brings it about – and it doesn’t have to be negative! When I left Claines I was given a card, the wonderful message of which I share with you now:

God has great plans for you – and the best is yet to come!

*Sarah*

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## *A Word From The Editors*

Welcome to our September 2015 edition. It’s that time of year when the new school year begins and that, or the end of the holiday season, may crystallise changes in many people’s lives. Change is reflected in many ways through this edition of the magazine. In the layout and formatting we’ve made some changes: We hope you like the changes and we will welcome all feedback.

In the content, many of the items have change woven into them. To mention a few: The Children’s Church considered “New beginnings” when they met in August (p16); three of our ALMs will step forward on their journeys when they are authorised at the Cathedral on 13<sup>th</sup> September (p5); the Toddler Group starts up again in September (p16); and we have a Parish Play for the first time in many years (p11). If you shop at Sainsbury’s, then look at page 24 - there is a new way to raise money for the church at no cost to you.

And continuing activities can be a new beginning for people who decide to give them a go. For friendship and fellowship, go along to the craft group which meets on the third Wednesday of each month (p11); for outreach, explore what it means to be a member of our Pastoral Care Group (p2); for something thought-provoking there are the Bible and Science talks advertised on page 23.

As Sarah says in her letter, change is inevitable – what matters is how you approach it and whether you go forward with God. We pray for all facing change that they will take God with them and go into what is to come with faith.

*Graham and Sue Evans*

## *Dates For September 2015*

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

See  
page

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**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September:** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

10.30 a.m. Toddler Group 10.30am-noon (and every Monday) 17,39

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**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

All day Ride and Stride 21

10.30 a.m. Bridge day (play starts at 11 a.m.) 11

3.00 p.m. Children's Activities 11,17

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**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September:** 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September:** Ninian, bishop, c. 432.

7.00 p.m. Craft Evening 11

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**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September:** 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

7.00 p.m. Parish Play, Christopher Whitehead Language College 11

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**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September:** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

See the back cover for Sunday services on this day

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After the service: Bring and share lunch at the Green Centre 15

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**Thursday Morning Services:** There is a 9.45am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) each Thursday at St Clement's and a 10.45am service at St Michael's (Eucharist, modern language).

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### *Authorised Lay Ministers (ALM)*

For the past year, three members of St John's (Jenny English, Graham Evans and Chris Rees) have been taking part in diocesan training to be ALM (Worship Leader). They have now completed training and will be authorised by the Bishop in a service at Worcester Cathedral at 6.30pm on Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup>. They hope that members of St John's congregation will come to the service to support them.

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### *No Café Church in September*

Our Café Church service (normally at 5pm on the second Sunday of each month) is led by our ALM team. Because the ALMs will be at the Cathedral on 13<sup>th</sup> September (see above!), there will be no Café Church on that day.

# ST JOHN'S VILLAGE FUN DAY

*A world of fun*

The “St John’s Village Fun Day” took place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July in and around St John’s Church. With a specific team set up for this event, the organisers were able to be ambitious; and with Christopher Whitehead Language College and many other community organisations involved, the scene was set for a great day.

After a week of anxiously watching the weather forecasts, the day dawned dry and fine, so it was all looking promising. At 11am, Bertie the Duck dropped in to open the event, and from there it was all better than anyone had dared hope with a fantastic buzz on site all day.

We’ll leave the pictures to tell the rest of the story, and close with a big pat on the back to all the individuals (including ourselves!) and organisations who contributed to make the day so wonderful.

*The Fun Day Team*



There are more pictures on page 20. Thanks to the photographers Jo Pride, Dave Dunbar and Graham Evans.



## *And now for something different....*



One Friday evening in May a group of us gathered at the auction of promises to raise money for St Clements and St Johns churches. One of the promises was for a ballroom dancing lesson. On the night nobody made a bid for this promise. Someone suggested that if everyone present gave £1 then Chris Stuart and wife Sarah could receive the lesson. I'm not sure how Chris felt about this at the time, but he sportingly went along with the suggestion. Later that evening Chris suggested that if everyone put in another £2 he would get Phil Bradford and Sarah Cottrill to do a lesson too. And so it came to pass that all the clergy were being "treated" to an hour's ballroom dancing lesson.

Phil and Sarah (Cottrill) were paired together and were the first couple to have their lesson. After a short discussion we all decided that they would have a go at learning the cha cha cha and 'rock and roll'. We taught them some steps and they danced with us and then together. On went the music; I was very impressed at how quickly they picked everything up.

A few weeks later it was the turn of Chris and Sarah (Stuart). They wanted to learn some waltz steps. We suggested also learning a few steps of rock and roll. We taught them some waltz steps which they danced very well. Chris was a bit concerned about the speed of rock and roll but he needn't have been. They danced that well too.

We were very impressed with the dancing of both of the couples. They picked up the steps very well in only one hour's lesson. We really enjoyed teaching them and hope that they enjoyed their short lesson too. We all had some fun along the way.

They were all "good sports" to go along with this promise. Thank you all. All I can say is "Keeeeeep dancing!"

*Sue Evans*

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## *St Michael's Church*

### *Light Lunches*

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.



# Church Directory

## CLERGY

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

## ST JOHN'S PCC OFFICERS

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

## THE MAGAZINE

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August. 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. Contact the Parish Office or see the magazine for how to subscribe.

Articles on all aspects of Christian and parish life, letters, jokes and anecdotes are welcome - do contribute if you can. If you have a story to tell, please make contact. Please include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered.

<b>Magazine Editors</b>	Sue & Graham Evans magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
<b>Magazine Distributor &amp; Treasurer</b>	Philip Evans pjevans@physics.org	428667
<b>Magazine Advertising</b>	Sue Hussell sue.hussell@talktalk.net	01684 893397

Any written correspondence for the magazine which cannot be emailed, please send to the Parish Office.



# Church Directory

## ST JOHN'S CHURCH OFFICERS

<b>Verger</b>	Catherine Templeton	749025
<b>Stewardship envelopes</b>	Irene Allen	422684
<b>Estates Manager</b>	Brian Askew brian.askew@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	424811
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Liz Edwards liz.edwards@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	420490
<b>Archives Officer</b>	Philip Evans	428667
<b>Child Protection Officer</b>	Jane Askew	424811
<b>Pastoral Care Coordinator</b>	Sylvia Render sylvia.render@talktalk.net	422654
<b>Press Officer</b>	Philip Evans pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	428667
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	John Brierley	358474
<b>Music Group</b>	Peter Yates pjyates194@btinternet.com	422565
<b>Ringing Master</b>	John Bower jandjbower@btinternet.com	07792 574554
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Eileen Cantrill Di White	422579
<b>Webmaster</b>	Philip Evans webmaster@westworchesterchurches.org.uk	

## 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.



## 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**

## *In Memoriam*

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

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

## *From The Registers*

### **Baptisms, weddings and funerals which took place in June and July 2015**

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

Oliver David Robins	Reuben Leigh McGovern
Dougie Joel Knott	Jessica Alexandra Youl
Abigail Eileen Rees	Tommy Futrill
	Lucy-Leigh Daniels
	Faith Elizabeth Saric-Garness

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

Sharon Lawrence and Kevin Townsend	Andrew Smith and Jodie Hodgetts
	Ben Lacroix and Hayley Watkins

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

d. 15th May 2015 Alfred Bates	d. 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 Royston Kilminster
d. 6th June 2015 Dorothy Bright	d. 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2015 Gladys Cheetham
d. 15th June 2015 Arthur Rivers	d. 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2015 Kenneth Simpson
d. 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 Edna Allen	d. 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2015 Jean Cox

#### **From the register of services for June 2015 (4 Sundays):**

Communicants 229. Total attendance at all services 684.

#### **From the register of services for July 2015 (4 Sundays):**

Communicants 317. Total attendance at all services 1048.



Fellowship and Fund Raising Events  
at St John in Bedwardine Church  
(unless stated otherwise)



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Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Bridge Day 10.30am - 3.00pm. Play starts 11am. £10.00 to include lunch. Tel 749025 to book.
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Children's Activities 3.00pm-5.30pm. Light tea included. Tel 424811 for details.
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Craft Group 7.00pm - Try something new. All materials included, Refreshments, £5.00.
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Play 7.00pm at <b>Christopher Whitehead Language College</b> (Arts Block Hall, Bromwich Road entrance). See below.
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Following the group service at St Michael's Church, we will be celebrating harvest with a bring and share lunch at <b>The Green Centre, Dines Green</b> . See page 15.

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FUTURE DATES TO KEEP FREE

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Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Parish Breakfast at St John's Church from 8.30 am to 10.30 am All are welcome. This is a free event.
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Quiet Day to mark the beginning of Advent; details to be announced later.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Tree Festival (see page 13).

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*West Side Saints*  
*Proudly Present*

Starring clergy and parishioners from St John's and St Clement's, this one night only event takes place on Saturday, September 26th at Christopher Whitehead Language College (Arts Block Hall, Bromwich Road entrance). The show begins at 7.00pm and tickets, costing £5 are available from cast members.

*Sarah Cottrill*

## *My Ordination*

Thank you to everybody who helped to make the weekend of my Ordination such a special time for me. It was lovely to see so many of you in the Cathedral on the Saturday and again at St Clements Church when I celebrated my first Eucharist as Priest.

I was truly overwhelmed by the generosity shown me both in the spectacular lunch which was provided after the service and the many cards and gifts I received. I have almost finished the individual letters I need to send (please don't be offended if I haven't written to you yet – I will do, even if it's with my Christmas cards!) – but now I have to say a thank you to all the congregations as Chris has given me, from you all, an oil stock, for use when I visit somebody close to death. In a sense, it is something I hope not to have to use very often but it is very special and when I do have to use it I am sure that I will feel the prayerful support of you all with me.

Thank you.

*Sarah Cottrill*

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## *Vicar's Day Off*

I'm afraid my day off will shortly be changing. Sarah's school timetable has changed, and she'll now be working full time Monday to Friday; given that I'm out most evenings, the only real chance we'll get to spend some proper time together is on Saturdays, and so my day off will have to move to Saturday with effect from Saturday 5th September. This will, of course, make it difficult to attend Saturday activities around the parishes – I'll try and drop in on the big events in each church (e.g. Summer/Winter fair), but it's important that I'm careful not to neglect my family (not to mention the biblical obligation to take a 'day of rest' for my own benefit!). Hopefully we can strike a balance.

Some of you will remember that I had to have my day off on Saturdays a couple of years ago, and as on that occasion Phil (and, now, Sarah) will between them drop in on any other events that might benefit from a clergy presence. Saturdays aren't the best day off, I know, but I do feel it's important that Sarah and I have a bit of time together, and so I'm afraid there's not a lot we can do.

*Chris Stuart*

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## *Balaam's Donkey*

A prophet called Balaam one day  
Took his donkey away from its hay.  
When Balaam said "Go!"  
The donkey said "No!"  
"There's an Angel of God in the way!"

(See Numbers 22)  
by Nigel Beeton



Planning for the first Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Church is now well underway!

We are supporting St Richards Hospice so proceeds will be split between the hospice and the church. Local charities and organisations are all invited to submit a tree decorated with any material on a theme of their choice. The only limit is their imagination! Further information and application forms are available from the Parish office, online at the Church's website and also on our Facebook event page.

The trees will be set up on Thursday 3rd December and in addition to the display of trees there are events planned for the whole weekend.

Friday 4th December - Afternoon Tea party for Senior Citizens

Friday eve - Sparkling Christmas Fair with a candlelit Sing a Long a Santa

Saturday 5th December - Children are invited to come and have their breakfast with Santa

Saturday Eve - Colla Voce Concert

Sunday 6th December - Services

We do hope you will all be able to support us and we will be looking for volunteers. Look out for event display at the back of church soon.

If you would like to be more involved just let Joy Job or any member of the team know.

More details next month!

## *PCC Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015*

The Vicar chaired the meeting. 8 members were present. The strategic items were taken first.

In response to a report from the Buildings Vision Group (BVG), the PCC inspected the relevant areas and agreed to investigate further (a) the development of a “Welcome Area” by the main door (by removing two to four rows of pews in the South Aisle) and (b) the creation of a room in the gallery. The PCC also agreed unanimously that removal of all (or most of) the pews should be considered.

The PCC received reports on the three possible development projects identified at the February PCC meeting:

*Youth and Family Worker:* The Vicar highlighted key points: This is a Group project. The next step is to get funding for a feasibility study. The post would be mainly grant funded but the churches should pay something. We are not committing to anything yet.

*House for Duty (HfD) priest:* The PCC asked for the investigation timescale to be such that, if it were to go ahead, it would happen in about two years (i.e. around the time Sarah Cottrill will leave us). The PCC were content for the Diocese and other parishes in the West Worcester Group to be consulted. The PCC wanted to understand the process and obligations/expectations and see sample job descriptions.

*Parish Hall:* The Vicar reported that St Clement’s are looking to convert their crypt into a substantial community space with a car park. The next stage is a feasibility study – is there a local demand for such a space and is it feasible to do it in the St Clement’s church building? It was agreed to put on hold any further consideration of a Parish Hall for St John’s church until the outcome of this feasibility study was available. We will revive our consideration if there is demand but it can’t be met at St Clement’s.

**Outreach and serving the community:** The PCC received written reports on Mission and Outreach, and from the Charity and Accommodation committees. Headline items from the reports and PCC discussions included:

- The Outreach Committee has come to the end of its brief. Outreach will be pursued through a Christian nurture course.
- The Charity Committee reported on the donations made so far this year (to Nepal relief fund, YMCA, Maggs Day centre, and emergency relief to local recipients). The committee had now agreed to contribute to a hardship fund for students of Christopher Whitehead (to help students who would otherwise struggle to meet the expense of buying books or attending interviews).
- The Accommodation Committee requested approval to deal with approximately two dozen cracked and missing panes of glass in the church windows. Likely cost is about £1,000. This was agreed. It was reported that the recent electrical work was

completed at the contract price (no extras).

- The PCC agreed to seek a faculty for installation of a memorial bench in memory of Marjorie Share to be provided by her daughters Janice and Gail.

**Children and Schools and Christian Nurture:** The PCC approved various policies related to child protection and safeguarding, mostly based upon diocesan templates. The PCC received written reports on Christian Nurture, Children and Schools and Worship and Services. Headline items from the reports and PCC discussions included:

- The monthly Saturday children's sessions are going well with 10 to 30 children. The falling numbers at 10.30am on the second Sunday were noted. All were concerned and there was a discussion about this service.
- The Vicar highlighted that he saw the 'Pilgrim' course as very important.
- The Vicar presented a written report about aspects which need to be considered if we are to have a pattern of services across the Group which is sustainable with two priests. The Vicar will call a joint meeting of all the Group PCCs in October to discuss this further.

**Finance and Operations:** The PCC received a written report from the Standing Committee and a 2015 financial update. Headline items from the reports and PCC discussions included:

- The process to becoming a Team is a long and slow one. We are waiting for the Diocese to create a draft scheme.
- Fairer Share: The data collection exercise will run over 5th/12th/19th July. Data will be requested from "Active Members" – based on a modified electoral roll.
- The 2015 finance figures show a small surplus for the projected 2015 outcome.

Under **Any Other Business** information was given about three future events: All Together (10/10/15), Skittles (26/6/15 with St Clements) and the Fun Day (11/7/15). The PCC sent thanks to the group of people organising the Fun Day.

The meeting closed with all saying 'The Grace'.

*Graham Evans, PCC Secretary*

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## *Harvest Celebration Lunch*

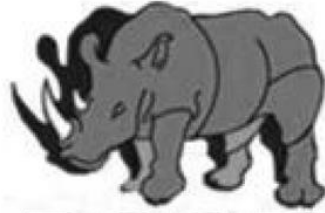
The West Worcester churches are having a joint service on 27<sup>th</sup> September at St Michael's; following the service we will be celebrating harvest with a bring and share lunch at The Green Centre, Dines Green. Lifts will be provided for everyone who would like to attend. Further information will be provided through the local churches.

The Green centre is a lovely facility and the room spacious and welcoming for us to use. We hope that we can build on the fellowship that we have between the churches and that everyone will feel free to come and join in.

*Jenny English*

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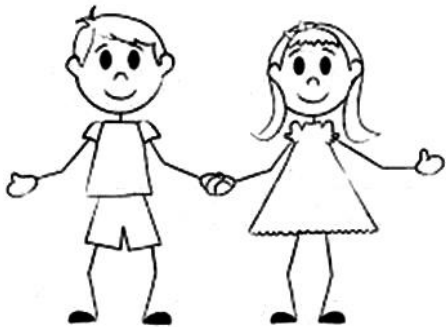
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## *Children's Church News*

After a break in July, Saturday activities started again in August and we welcomed 16 children. The theme was 'New Beginnings', as we thought about the return to school after the break. We started with our song, which we have now perfected and can even do in a 'round'. Peter led the discussion and the children learnt a new song, which went down well. The craft activity, where

the children made a bookmark, was quite challenging. However, the children became fully involved, so much that we didn't have time for the last game.

Friendships are forming and there was lots of chatter through tea. One of the favourites, pizza, was served followed by chocolate cake.

Again we have to thank, Peter and Phil, all our volunteers who give their time and energy, but also the parents who become involved in what we are doing.

Sunday 16th August was the family service and it was lovely to see so many families. The readings and prayers were confidently and thoughtfully delivered by the children and the sermon taught us about God being the bread of life and His importance in our lives.

Our September session is on Saturday 12th September. 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*



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## *Toddler Group*

We are re launching the toddler group on a Monday morning from 10.30am to noon, beginning on 7th September.

If anyone would like to help with setting up, cake making or coffee serving I would be very grateful. Of course they'll be lots of chatting to mums and babies as well!

Look forward to hearing from you,

*Amy Rees*

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## *Off to school.....*

Mother to young daughter after first day at school: "Well, dear, what did they teach you today?"

Daughter: "Not much. I've got to go back again tomorrow."

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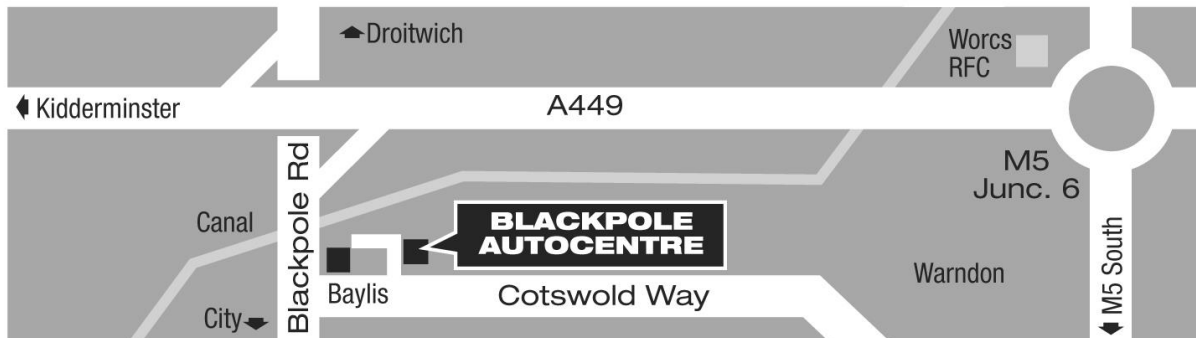
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## *Notes From The Choir*



Time is a strange thing. There is that saying that ‘time flies when you are having fun’ and I am sure that we have all experienced this. Certainly holidays seem to pass very quickly! And how many of us have also experienced those occasions when times drags? I can remember ‘double’ maths lesson at school where I honestly believed the clock had broken as the minutes seem to be taking so long to disappear! I also wonder whether time moves more quickly as we get older. So many people have commented to me recently that they don’t know where 2015 is going.

I am aware that the passing of the seasons has been a bit of a theme in these notes and I think that is to do with how the Church celebrates the cycle of the year, marking all the important moments in Christ’s journey on earth. The music we sing in the choir is always carefully considered to fit in with this repeated cycle so we are always aware of beginnings and endings, of the changing of the seasons and the liturgy that supports worship.

This liturgy is so important in reminding us not only of the patterns of the year but also of the patterns of our lives. Just as we move through our lives so did Jesus, living a full life on earth and experiencing the passage of time. Christ’s journey though was both in time and is out of it as He is eternal and this gives us the extra dimension in our worship. We too can glimpse eternity in our worship and music can be the conduit to that. As music unfolds in real time there can be that sense too that it reaches outside time, reminding us of the realms beyond, where the angels sing eternal praises to God.

*Luise Horrocks*

---

## *Coach Trips*

Fortis Living arrange day coach trips to various locations. These are open to all over 55 – you do not have to be a Fortis tenant. In September our trips are:

- 10<sup>th</sup> September: Scenic Weston trip, including Tintern Abbey (£12).
- 17<sup>th</sup> September: City of Hereford (£10).
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September: Blackpool (£18)

For more details on any of the trips or to book a seat please call me on 01905 670236.

*Kate Fenton, Social Activities Co-ordinator*

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## *Brass Band Concert*

St Clement’s Church proudly present a musical evening with Worcester Concert Brass, featuring humorous readings from Gabrielle Bullock: This is on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in St Clement’s Church. Tickets are £6 and can be bought in advance or pay on the door.

# Fun Day Pictures



© Dunbar 2015





Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2015

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

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

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

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

### **How did we do last year?**

In 2014 there were 7 people taking part from the Group by either Riding or Striding. In total they raised £470.40, which meant that together £235.20 was raised for WDHCT and £235.20 came back to churches in the Group.

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

We need volunteers to take part in the sponsored walk or cycle ride. I would like to organise a group/s of people to go around together. If you might be interested, please speak to me or ask me for more information.

*Philip Evans*

## *From The Magazine Archive, September 1952*

### **A LETTER FROM THE VICAR DESIGNATE**

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

I want to take this opportunity to say how very pleased I am to be coming to St. John's. I do not think I come entirely as a stranger as I have already had enjoyable visits to the Church at the kind invitations of Bishop Mort.

I am fully conscious how difficult it will be to succeed Bishop Mort. His tremendous zeal and success needs no emphasis; for under his leadership and by your co-operation St. John's has become one of the outstanding parishes of the diocese.

I can but hope that I shall be able to use the opportunities so provided to consolidate what has been so well done. I shall certainly try to do this and, above all, to maintain the goodwill and fellowship which has inspired so much in the life of the parish.

It is good to have a loyal Staff, Churchwardens, and other officers who can be of great value and help to a new Vicar in the administration of parochial affairs which will have some complexities for him at the beginning of his ministry. My wife and I look forward to meeting you all and to settling in our new home in the early days of September. I would ask for your prayers. I promise you mine.

Yours sincerely,

MALCOLM H. RICHARDS.

### **APPRECIATION**

MR. H. TYLER, one of our loyal Sidesmen, has intimated his intention to retire after long and devoted service, and I wish to thank him for all he has done for St. John's.

For 27 years Mr. Tyler was organ blower until the electric apparatus was installed. For over 20 years he was a loyal and active member of the C.E.M.S. In the war years Mr. Tyler was responsible for the care of the War Memorial and the grass of the Parish Hall. In these and many other activities Mr. Tyler has shown his zeal and affection for St. John's.

Nor must I forget Mrs. Tyler, who served so faithfully on the P.C.C. for so many years. God bless them both.



# BIBLE & SCIENCE

An interdenominational group from Worcester's local churches



## *Programme For Autumn 2015/Spring 2016*

<b>15th September:</b>	Science fiction, the mythology of our scientific age
If you have ever read any science fiction, you'll know it tends to be biased towards atheism, and puts humans firmly in charge of a godless universe. It also warns us of possible catastrophes in the future, some of which do need to be taken seriously. Our speaker, Rev Dr Stephen May, is a science fiction fan, and author of Stardust and Ashes: Science Fiction in Christian Perspective (1998).	
<b>3rd November:</b>	Assisted suicide-do hard cases really make poor law?
<b>19th January:</b>	The changing debate between science and religion
<b>23rd February:</b>	Marriage and cohabitation compared
<b>15 March:</b>	To be announced

We are an interdenominational Christian group, affiliated to Christians in Science. We organise regular talks and discussions fronted by leading scientists and thinkers, to explore significant scientific, bioethical and technological issues of our day, and see how faith and science work together. The meetings are open to all those who seek to make sense of this changing world, especially those interested in how scientific advance might impact on religious beliefs, and are not restricted to those with a "science" background. They take place at Lindisfarne House, 4 Barbourne Terrace, Worcester WR1 3JS.

The talks are generally from 8 to 9.30pm, in three sections, with space in between for questions, and finish with coffee and cake, and the opportunity for more informal discussion, or time to catch up with friends.

All are welcome - entry, parking and refreshments are free, although we suggest a donation of £3, to cover expenses.

*For more information, please call 01905 641987, or visit our website:  
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(Editor – I've got one and it was very easy to sign up and use the card)



## Sudoku Puzzle

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






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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.	

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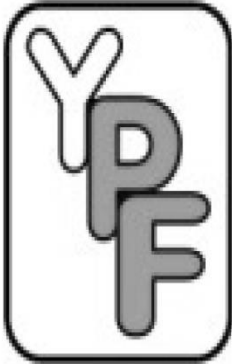


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The Parish Magazine is published A5 in size, in black and white. There are eleven issues during the year, July and August being a combined issue.

An advert can be full page / half page / quarter page in size and the booking can be from one month to one year.

If you wish to advertise, please contact Sue Hussell on 01684 893397 or by email at [sue.hussell@talktalk.net](mailto:sue.hussell@talktalk.net)

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## *To subscribe to the magazine*

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.

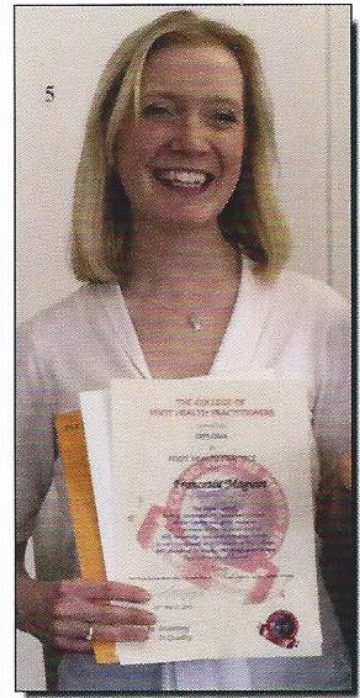
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5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2	9
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4	7	2	8	9	1	5	3	6
9	8	5	3	6	4	1	7	2





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## SOME OF OUR CHURCH GROUPS

To avoid disappointment, in case the arrangements are different in any particular week, please contact the person shown before turning up at one of the groups.

### BELLRINGING

St John's has a fine peal of eight bells. If you are interested in ringing, or learning to ring, please contact the Ringing Master, John Bower 07792 574554

### CHOIR

The choir practises on Thursday evenings and sings at most Sunday services. If you can sing (or are prepared to learn) do speak to the Choir Master, John Brierley, 358474.

### MUSIC GROUP

This meets on Fridays in church at 7.30 pm to play contemporary Christian music, and provides music for worship on a regular basis. Contact Peter Yates, on 422565.

### TODDLER GROUP

Monday morning from 10.30 a.m. to noon. Contact Amy Rees via the Parish Office.

### BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

Meets in the Burroughs room at 10 am every Wednesday for prayer and study. Contact Sylvia Render on 422654 for further details.

### PARISH OFFICE

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

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

---

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

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

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

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**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

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

Group Website: [www.westworcesterchurches.org.uk](http://www.westworcesterchurches.org.uk)

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





## Sunday services in the West Worcester Group, September 2015

	<b>St. John's</b>	<b>St. Clement's</b>	<b>St. David's</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's participation  5pm Evensong (BCP)	9am Holy Communion  10.45am Worship for Everyone	   6.30pm Evensong	10.30am Holy Communion
<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church  No 5pm service. Support St John's ALMs at the cathedral 6.30pm.	9am Holy Communion  10.45am Worship for Everyone	   11.15am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
<b>20<sup>th</sup> September</b>	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Church  5pm Evensong (BCP)	9am Holy Communion  10.45am Worship for Everyone  4pm Songs of Praise	   11.15am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
<b>27<sup>th</sup> September</b>	No morning services at St John's.  Group service at St Michael's 10.30am  5pm Service of Wholeness and Healing	No 9am service at St Clement's.  Group service at St Michael's 10.30am  10.45am Worship for Everyone	No service at St David's.  Group service at St Michael's 10.30am	10.30am Group Eucharist (Patronal Festival)

**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.**