



St John-in-Bedwardine
Parish Magazine

January 2020

50p



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.

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

WEST WORCESTER CLERGY

The Reverend PHIL BRADFORD

Day off

The Reverend SARAH COTTRILL

Friday

Monday

CHURCHWARDENS

Gordon Templeton, Joy Job.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S

These are the **usual** service patterns for each Sunday in the month. Please see the other notices or the Parish Magazine or website for the actual services in a month.

2nd Sunday in month	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist with Children's Worship
2nd Sunday in month		All Age Worship
1st & 3rd Sunday in month	5.00 p.m.	Evensong (BCP)
4th Sunday in month		Service of Wholeness and Healing
5th Sunday in month	Group service: See magazine back cover or other notices for location and time (usually 10am)	

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday to Saturday	5.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer (4pm during the winter months)
4th Saturday in month	10.15 a.m.	Cafe@10.15
Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Thursday (at St Michael's)	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist (Modern language)

OTHER INFORMATION

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

SAFEGUARDING: If you have any concerns about possible abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the PCC Safeguarding Representative, Jane Askew on 424811 or any member of the clergy.

A Word from the Editors

Welcome to our January 2020 magazine. It was (“is” as we write) a busy December, what with the general election (not otherwise mentioned in this magazine!!) and all the usual busy-ness of the run up to Christmas. We’ve reported as many of these events as we can (before closing the magazine to actually get on and print it). Our highlight is the Nativity featured on the centre pages, but you will see many others as you read through the magazine.

As we start the New Year, we thank all our contributors in 2019 who have made the magazine such a good read. We couldn’t do it without you!

One lovely part of the run up to Christmas was our children putting pieces of straw into the manger to mark acts of kindness that they had done. This runs through into Robert’s letter and his call for us to seek to do ‘unusual kindness’.

We send to all our readers our best wishes for 2020: May it be a year to give and to receive ‘unusual kindness’.

*God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.*

Graham and Sue Evans

Important information

Email address: magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk

Next edition (February): Deadline is Sunday 12th January. Available in church on Sunday, 26th January.

Subscription form: Page 56.

Cover picture: St John’s Nativity from Colin Nash.

Pictures in this magazine: Our thanks to those who have contributed photographs for this magazine including Sarah Cottrill, Wendy Dedicott, Graham Evans, Liz Forman, Lucy Hewson, Colin Nash, and Amy Rees.

The magazine

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August.

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. Do include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered. If you can, please use e-mail (address below left). The editors will always acknowledge items sent by email; please try again if you do not receive a response. Please send all written correspondence for the magazine to the Parish Office.

The magazine costs 50p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £5 per year; by subscribing you make things easier for our printing team as we know more closely how many copies to print.

You can subscribe by filling in the form on page 56 or by taking a subscription form from the rack (where the magazines are) at the back of the church. Please return the form and your payment to the parish office.

Opinions!

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.

To advertise

Please see page 42.



From Robert Jones Archdeacon of Worcester

This month sees the week of prayer for Christian Unity, taking place from 18th to 25th January, an annual initiative in which churches throughout the world are asked to pray for one another as a way of growing closer.

Each year takes a different theme on which to hang these prayers and this year it is from the Acts of the Apostles (28,2): ‘they showed an unusual kindness.’

It is the story of Paul’s ship, in which he is being held prisoner, being wrecked off the island of Malta. A bedraggled Paul and his companions are washed up on shore, where we hear that the locals show an ‘unusual kindness’ to him and his companions. To this day the Church of Malta celebrates this event as the arrival of the Christian faith on their island. Through this kindness divided people are drawn together, strangers become friends.

I’m taken by the phrase ‘unusual kindness.’ It is not that kindness is unusual: there’s plenty of it about. But more that this sort of kindness is extraordinary - kindness to strangers, and bedraggled ones at that. How contemporary this story is as we hear about refugees today trying to reach safer countries in unsafe little boats across the Mediterranean, as unpredictable a sea today as it was in Paul’s time.

Hospitality is being shown to those who are different. It is relatively easy to love those whom we know and like. It is much harder to love those we either don’t know or actually don’t like, and I guess I’ve got a way to go in that area of my discipleship. But Jesus calls us to this unusual kindness. He tells us to love even our enemies, and Holy Scripture makes a big deal out of loving the stranger.

Where do we learn this extraordinary love? By recalling the occasions when it has happened to us and when people have shown us unusual kindness. We know we grow by being loved into life. Christian unity is an aspiration for all churches, becoming one so that the world may believe. In fact, Christian unity is already a reality, not expressed so much in schemes for unity, but rather in myriad acts of unusual kindness shown by those working in the food banks, patrolling our towns as street pastors, or making space in their homes for refugee families.

Showing hospitality, especially to strangers, preaches the gospel more clearly than our documents or strategies. I rather think it is unusual kindness which makes the difference.

Robert

Week of prayer for Christian Unity

18th to 25th January

We look but what kind of looking do we do? How do we see and understand ourselves, especially in light of our relationship with the Living Christ? We know that God speaks to us in still small voices, but also in the people and places we least expect. In supposed barren hard places there can spring unimaginable beauty and nourishment.

In spite of the turbulence of the world at the present time, we also discover acts of kindness, of love, forgiveness and hospitality in places or from people we did not expect. As in the natural world, there are still the places where the water of life seeps into the mainstream and brings colour and joy and offers a hopeful future.

But it is only when we immerse ourselves in the vitality of all that life brings do we find this water of life seeping into the mainstream. Our Bible story gives us a visceral story of human fear, survival, hope and love. It will invite us to reflect upon the abundance of God's grace and fullness, that we can see if only we stop and look closely at what is in front of us. In the most difficult situations, inhospitable places and even in the most inhospitable people, there we will find something of God's grace.

We are invited in this year's Week Of Prayer for Christian Unity to see God working through people and places which offer unusual kindness. If only we would do the appropriate kind of looking.

Bob Fyffe
General Secretary
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (ctbi.org.uk)

From the Registers, November 2019

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

Denni Rose Crook

WEDDINGS: *Those whom God has joined together*

No weddings this month

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

No funerals this month

NOVEMBER SERVICES: Communicants 271. Total attendance all services 989 (including 52 at funerals, memorials, weddings and baptisms outside the principal service).

In Memoriam December and January

Alice Moulder	1 December 2009
Albert Harold Southall	3 December 1984
Sarah Rose	8 December 1985
Emily Potter	10 December 1984
Vera May Bullock	10 December 1991
William Bishop	10 December 1996
Hubert Mitford Harvey	12 December 1984
Charles Hubert John Lerigo	13 December 1983
Jack Taylor	16 December 1998
Ivy Muriel Rogers	17 December 2001
Harry Palmer	19 December 2001
John Goodsell	21 December 2004
George Frederick Harrison	23 December 1982
Ivy Hooper	25 December 1984
Derek A Bowen	28 December 2007
Ann Smith	28 December 2010
Gladys Mitchem	30 December 1995
Alfred Victor Bishop	5 January 1979
Vera Rolph	5 January 1995
Gladys Eileen Price	8 January 2010
Ada Halls	11 January 2011
Margaret Tolley	12 January 1995
Mary Bishop	12 January 2010
Mildred Christina Waterson	13 January 2007
Edith Mayall	15 January 1999
Kenneth Plumpton	15 January 2012
Frances Lillian Griffiths	19 January 1995
Jack Shearer	24 January 1986
Joseph Lowe	26 January 1982
Beatrice Louisa Lerigo	26 January 1988
Vera Mabel Glover	28 January 1990
Charles Hodges	29 January 1998

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

In memoriam items are included until the fortieth anniversary.
An extension may be requested by family or friends of those named.

We apologise - in the December magazine, we reprinted the 'In Memoriam' for November, rather than including December's. We've printed both the December and January lists in this edition.

The Editors

St John in Bedwardine



Join us for Fresh Coffee and
Danish
'Friendship and Thoughts'

At 10.15am on
Saturday 25th January 2020.

Please come and
celebrate our first
cafe of the new year
with us.



Jenny and Margaret.



West Worcester Anglican Group Churches
Women's Breakfast Meetings
for Friendship & Christian Fellowship

Why not join us?
Everyone is welcome!

Our first meeting of 2020 is on
Saturday 11th January.

8.30am till 10.30am
St John-in-Bedwardine
in The Blakefield Room
Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)



Little Lambs



Mondays in Term Time
10:00am to 12:00pm

FREE!

Toys and Games, Art & Craft, Messy
Play, Snacks and Stories, Singing

Birth to 4 years old and carers

Come and join the fun!

WEST WORCESTER ANGLICAN GROUP CHURCHES PRAYER GROUP



The prayer group (held up to now
on the second Tuesday of the
month at St Michael's) will be
changing in the New Year.

Please watch for notices in the
pew sheets and on the website.

Phil Bradford and Margaret Rutter

DATES FOR JANUARY 2020

Please see the back cover for services on each Sunday.

Unless otherwise stated, the venue for all the events below is St John's Church, or one of the church rooms. **See page**
Keep an eye on the "What's On" board at the back of church.

Saturday 4th January

3.00 p.m. Children's Activities (3-5.30pm) 13

Sunday 5th January: Epiphany

Saturday 11th January

8.30 a.m. Women's Breakfast. 7

Sunday 12th January: Baptism of Christ

Wednesday 15th January

7.30 p.m. Craft Group (Blakefield Room) 13

Friday 17th January

1.00 p.m. Discover History - the Tomb of Tutankhamun 12

Sunday 19th January: Second Sunday of Epiphany

Friday 24th January:

3.15 p.m. Fourth Friday Friendship Group (at 7 Manor Road)
(drop in from 3.15pm)

Saturday 25th January

10.15 a.m. Café@10:15 (Café Church). Reflection by Jenny English 7

Sunday 26th January: Third Sunday of Epiphany

FUTURE EVENTS AT ST JOHN'S

9th February: Concert by chamber music group Ensemble Burletta (see page 12)

14th February: Discover History talk (see page 12).

29th February: Table top sale (see page 9)

The next St John's Community Breakfast is on Saturday March 7th from 8.30am till 11.00am Everyone is invited to come and share breakfast with us. No charge.

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

Poster found outside a church in France, translated:

When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear "The Call of God". However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones.

If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving.

Edward Reeves

WEEKDAY COMMUNION SERVICES

As of January 2020, the Thursday Communion services at St Clement's have ceased. The Thursday services at St Michael's are now at 10.30am.

Tuesday St John's 10am. (Book of Common Prayer)

Thursday St Michael's 10.30am. (Common Worship, modern language)

SOME EVENTS AT THE OTHER CHURCHES

Wednesday
1st January St David's: Coffee morning, 10.30am - 12noon

Saturday
4th January St Clement's: Winter Warmer, 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Saturday
11th January St David's: Café Church, 3pm. The theme is Epiphany.

Monday
20th January St Michael's: 2.30pm: Mother's Union. AGM.

St Michael's Coffee, Tea and Biscuits afternoons

We are hoping to have a Coffee, Tea and Biscuits afternoon each month in between the quarterly Coffee, Tea and Cake events, with the aim that it will be on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. To make this work we need extra volunteers to help so please keep an eye on the website / newsletters.

Alice and Philip Evans

Prayer Group

The prayer group (held up to now on the second Tuesday of the month at St Michael's) will be changing in the New Year. Please watch for notices in the pew sheets and on the website.

Phil Bradford and Margaret Rutter

Table Top Sale

We are planning to hold a Table Top Sale on Saturday 29th February 2020, from 10am until 12 noon. Refreshments will be served. Tables can be booked for £10. To book a table please contact the Parish Office on 420490 or email see below.

The Church will have a table, so if you wish to donate any items for sale then please bring them to church beforehand. If these items are not sold then they will be taken to St Richard's Hospice.

If you would like to help or for further information then please contact me by email: joy.job@btinternet.com

Joy Job

Church Directory

CLERGY

Team Rector designate	Rev'd Phil Bradford	01905 423794
Vicar of St John's and St Michael's	phil.bradford@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	
Team Vicar designate	Rev'd Sarah Cottrill	01905 426257
Vicar of St Clement's	sarah.cottrill@westworcesterchurches.org.uk	
Rural Dean	Rev'd Anne Potter	01886 832355
	revannepotter@gmail.com	

ST JOHN'S PCC OFFICERS

Churchwardens	churchwardens@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
Gordon Templeton	gordtemp@btinternet.com	749025
Joy Job	joy.job@btinternet.com	423051
PCC Lay vice-chair	Sue Bale	423257
	Liz Edwards	420490
PCC Secretary	pcc@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
Treasurer	Chris Rees	
	treasurer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	

THE MAGAZINE

We publish a Parish Magazine each month, except August. It costs 50p to purchase and can be obtained from the back of church. Subscriptions are available at the discounted price of £5 per year.

If you would like to subscribe, please see page 56 or contact the parish office and leave details of your name and address. If you wish to advertise, please see page 42 and contact Sue Hussell (details below).

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. Include your name as anonymous contributions will not be considered.

Editors	Sue & Graham Evans	428667
	magazine@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
Advertising	Sue Hussell	01684
	sue.hussell@talktalk.net	893397
Subscriptions	To the Parish Office	
Distribution co-ordinator	Mary Hancock	

ST JOHN'S CHURCH - OTHER CONTACT POINTS

Pastoral Care Coordinator	Sylvia Render	422654
Child Protection Officer	Jane Askew	424811
Verger	Catherine Templeton	749025
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Stewardship envelopes	John English	427822
Estates Manager	Brian Askew	424811
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Parish Administrator	Liz Edwards	420490
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Press Officer	Liz Edwards	420490
	pressofficer@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk	
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	Peter Yates	422565
Music Group	pjyates194@btinternet.com	
Tower Captain	Tracey Ward	07961
	bellringers@stjohninbedwardine.co.uk 745628	
Church Flowers	Eileen Cantrill	422579
Webmaster	webmaster@stjohninbedwardine.co.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.

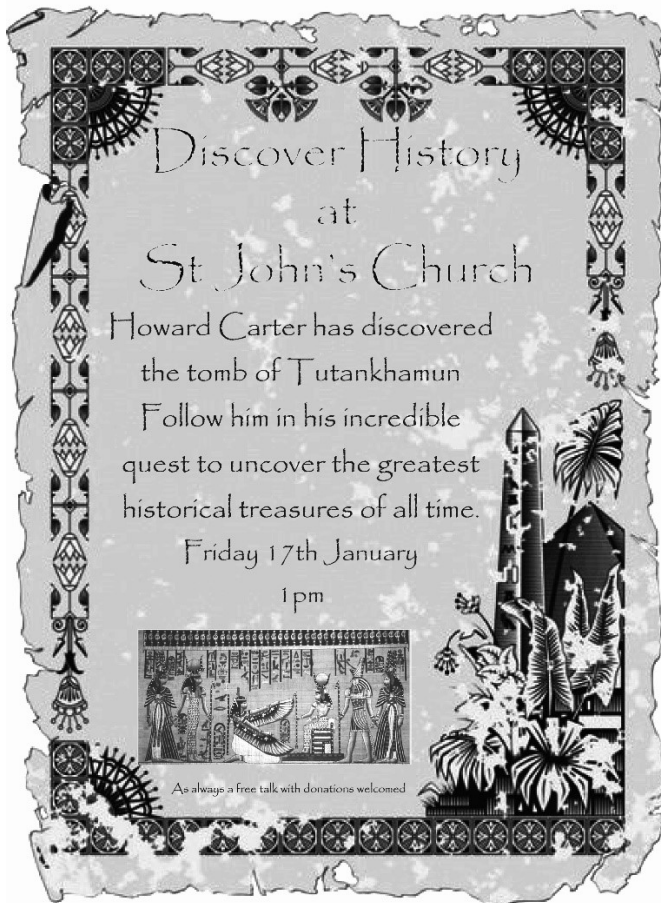


OUR CHILDREN

See page 58 for the readable version of this poster showing our groups and activities for children at St John's Church.



Friday 17th January 1pm



Sunday 9th February 3pm

March 1938 – Austria becomes part of Hitler's Germany, with devastating consequences for the Jewish population.

Two Jewish families flee Vienna for the UK, leaving their lives behind them:

Hans Gál, an established composer who has already been vilified by the Nazis; and the family of Joseph Horowitz, a boy of 12, who will later become a leading British composer and educator.

Ensemble Burletta and the Insiders Outsiders Festival present *'Farewell to Vienna: A New Beginning'* - a concert of music for clarinet and string quartet by Mozart-Bach, Horowitz, Gál and Brahms. See page 39 for more background.

Sunday 9th February 2020, 3pm.

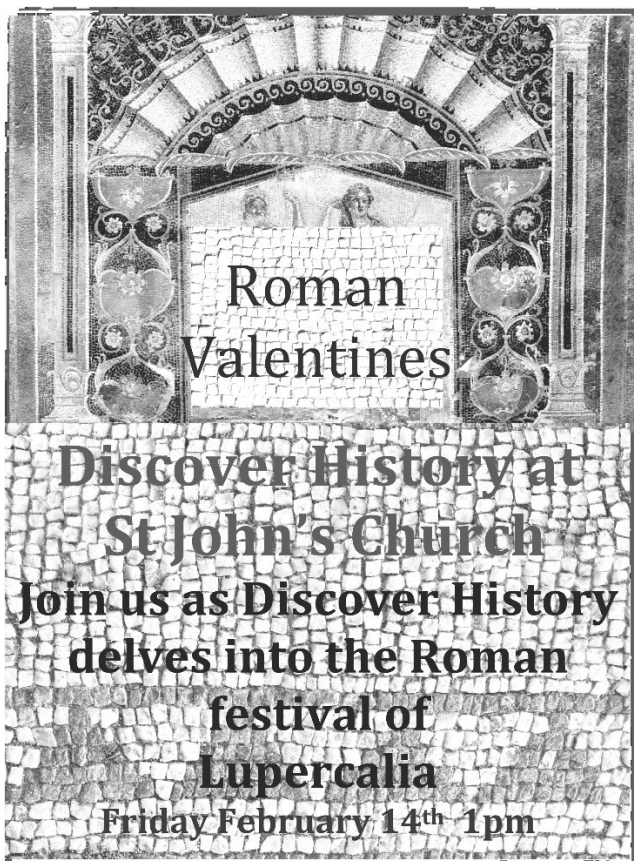
St John's Church, Worcester, WR2 5BS

£12/ £10 conc. on door or from

www.worcesterlive.co.uk

Lucy Hewson (née Cantrill)

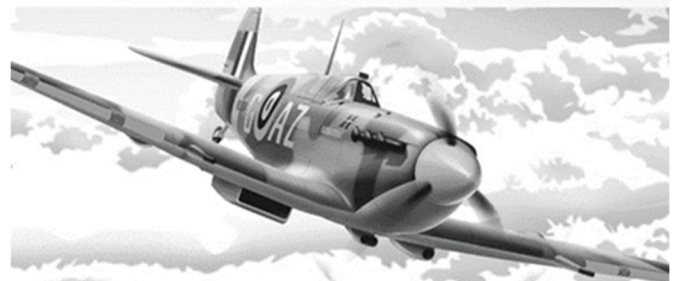
Friday 14th February 1pm



As always a free talk with donations welcomed

Friday 20th March 1pm

The Spitfire and its role in the Battle of Britain with Discover History at St John's Church



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CARRY THE STORY FORWARD

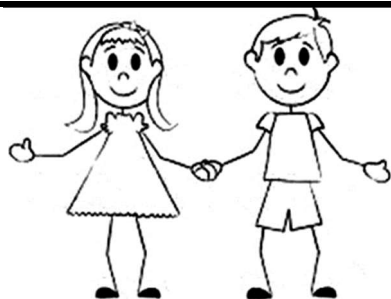
Craft News

Our next session will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th January 2020 in the Blakefield Room. Feel free to come along or telephone 424811, for details. The cost is £5.00 to include refreshments and all materials.

Where has 2019 gone? We have lots of ideas for 2020, including some more felting, decoupage and of course some new card making ideas.

We always welcome new ideas so if you have a craft you would like to share with us, let us know. We aim to finish what we are making in the session so that we don't have any more unfinished projects in our cupboards.

Brenda Price and Jane Askew



Children's Saturday Activities

The next children's activities will be on Saturday 4th January 2020, 3.00pm – 5.30pm.

A new year is a time for reflection and we did our reflection after the December meeting. When we first started this group over three years ago, we sometimes had up to 20 children. Lately we have had fewer children and we wondered if it was time to stop. We all thought about it and decided that it was not to do with quantity but with quality. When we reflected on the session just finished we all agreed that it was not only the children who gained something it was also the adult helpers.

When we had lots of children it was difficult to actually help them or give them time to listen to them, it was more crowd control! Now, with fewer children, we can give them time and in return we have seen them grow in confidence and blossom. One child, who in the past, struggled and gave up with the craft items, sat on Saturday and completed a lovely piece of work all on their own. The children who found it difficult to interact with others are now listening intently to the stories and joining in the discussions. Families have such busy lives with so many pressures on them it is worth having the opportunity to share some special times.

We may not be teaching or discussing actual extracts from the bible but we are trying to teach the children God's message that we should think of others as much as ourselves and share God's love.

The Saturday Group

Welcome to a new advertiser



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VIKING GARDEN SERVICES

Do you need a hand with the gardening or have a garden which needs a bit of an overhaul? I'm a qualified horticulturalist with over 40 years' experience and would love to come and help you out.

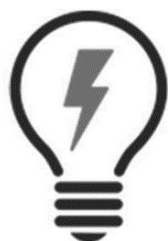
So whether you need a help with mowing, digging, weeding, strimming, pruning, trimming, cutting back or any other garden jobs, then please call me. I offer competitive rates and no job is too big or too small!

Call Kevin on 01905 767923

M: 07741 496210

E: kevin@lingermadsen.co.uk

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St David's celebrates 100 years!

2020 is an exciting, and very important year for St David's Church, as we mark 100 years of Christian worship on that site!

Our celebrations will begin on our Patronal Festival – March 1st – when we hope that many of our friends from across the group will join us for a special Centenary Eucharist.

Throughout the rest of the year we will be hosting a wide range of events from quiz nights and concerts to Bingo nights and strawberry teas – something for everyone! Look out for more details in future editions of the magazine, in pew sheets and on flyers. Don't miss out on a year of celebration and fun!

Sarah Cottrill

Interfaith Service at St David's

On November 17th St David's Church marked the end of Interfaith Week with a special service.

Using items borrowed from The Hive, we looked at some of the main artefacts connected to the Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist faiths.

We were thrilled to be joined by Haris and Yasmin from the Muslim community who enjoyed chatting to members of our congregation. Haris explained what his



Bob Bell (from the St David's congregation) with Yasmin

faith meant to him personally and some of the general teachings and customs of the Islamic faith. He also quoted to us some passages from the Koran and we were amazed to find how similar many of the teachings of that book are to those of the Bible. In particular, a story Haris told us of the Prophet Mohammad walking through the city, being regularly abused by an elderly lady, and his subsequent behaviour towards that lady, reminded us vividly of the story of the Good Samaritan.

In these days of rising hate crime and in the light of recent terrorist attacks, it was good to learn more about other faiths, to share fellowship with members of one of those faiths and to celebrate those things which unite, rather than divide us. We hope to build on this in the future.

Sarah Cottrill

Language for Fun

**Learn French, Italian or Spanish
in fun, pressure-free, classes!**

**For details, call: Dee on
07432 465649**

or visit: www.languageforfun.org

New classes starting in St John's



La Fleur Florist

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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

Home Group

Our home group has just finished its first course which we all agreed was very thought provoking and gave excellent opportunities for discussion. We will be starting a new course 'Turning to Christ' on 6th January at 7.30pm. We meet on the first Monday of the month to enjoy fellowship and to deepen our understanding of our faith. If you'd like to join us please speak to me or Chris.

Amy Rees



You are invited....

Christopher Whitehead Language College and Sixth Form has once again extended an invitation for members of the community to come along to its Impetus Programme of visiting speakers.

See page 43 for a write-up on the most recent talk. The next event is:

Wednesday 18th March, 3.20pm. Prof. Michael Scott, University of Warwick
Delphi: Centre of the Ancient World.

If you wish to attend, please telephone 423906 and leave a message for Beth Morgan, the programme co-ordinator, or email her on b.morgan@cwlc.email.

Sudoku Puzzle

Copyright 2013
KrazyDad.com

The solution
is on page
57.

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

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Children's Worship

The Diddy Disciples (0-7 or KS1) have been learning all about Advent and getting ready for baby Jesus. We found out about John the Baptist and made angels because of the important messages that they brought and made Christmas cards. The Explorers (ages 7 and up or KS2/3) have been looking at the readings from the Sunday services and have been preparing for Christmas.

At the All Age Service in December Thomas did an excellent job of reading and the younger children shared parts of their service and some of their songs with the congregation which everybody seemed to enjoy.

Please do sign up to our visiting rota as we would love to welcome you to one of our children's worship groups. We really enjoyed having Margaret Rutter and



Graham Evans visit this month, and they enjoyed sharing in the children's worship. Don't forget that the older children would love to welcome you into Explorers as well. There are sign-up sheets at the back of church or speak to one of us or Chris.

If you would like to help out in either of the children's worship groups (however frequently!) or think you know someone who would enjoy it, please speak to Amy, Fiona or Chris. We need helpers for both groups but there is real need at present with the older children.

Amy Rees and Fiona Templeton

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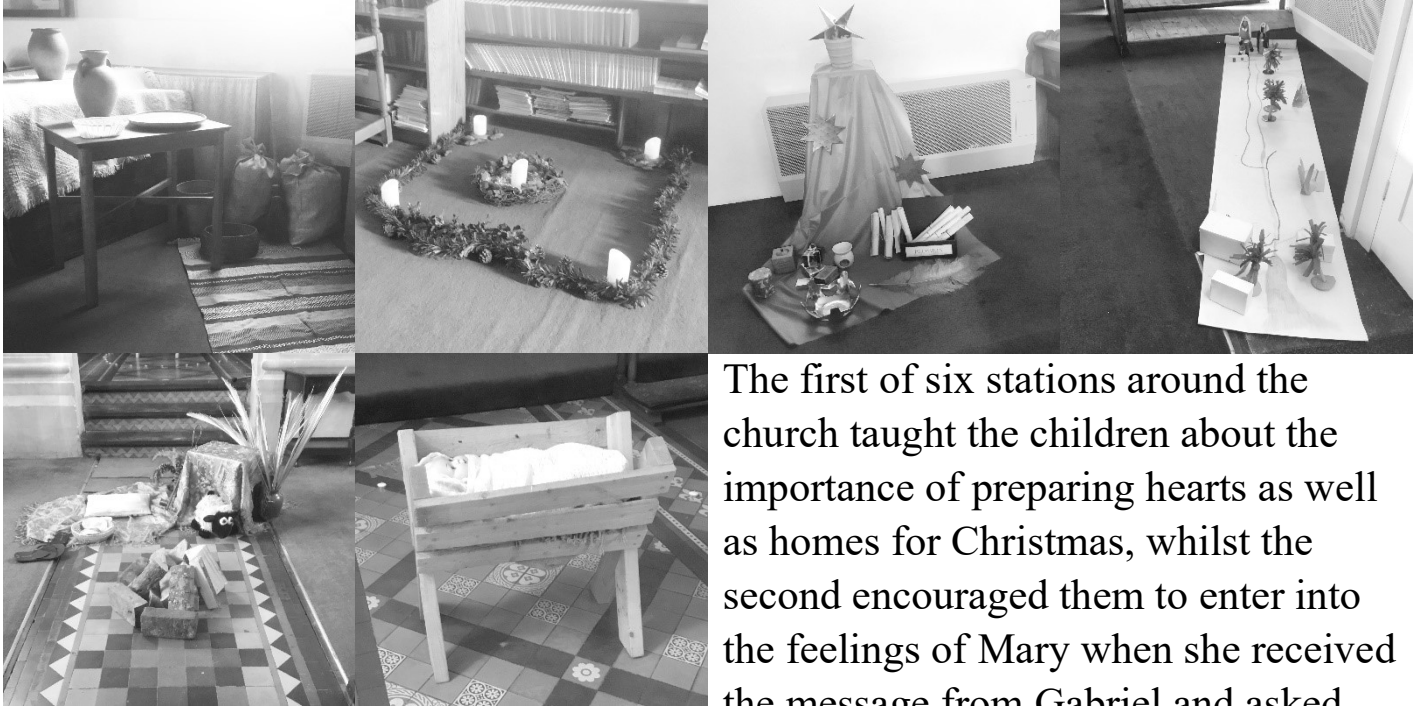
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Experience Christmas at St Clement's

December 9th saw the launch of a new venture at St Clements, hosting Experience Christmas! Created by Gloucester Diocese, this is an interactive programme designed to immerse children in the Christmas story, rather than just telling it to them. On each of four days over the week, we saw groups of 45 children from years 1 to 6 coming into church to experience Christmas in a new and creative way.



The first of six stations around the church taught the children about the importance of preparing hearts as well as homes for Christmas, whilst the second encouraged them to enter into the feelings of Mary when she received the message from Gabriel and asked

them to consider difficult or challenging situations they were facing themselves. At the third station, we learned about the Wise Men – the significance of their gifts and how Jesus was the fulfilment of ancient promises. The children then wrote or drew about gifts or promises they would like to offer to Jesus. At the next three stations they looked at Mary and Joseph's journey, moved onto the shepherds' field and the message of peace received there, before finally arriving at the sixth station and the birth of Christ. Here we considered again our response to God's gift to us, recalling particularly the words of Christina Rossetti and the importance of giving God our love. (Look at the last verse of "In the bleak mid-winter.")

Members of St Clement's, joined by helpers from St Michael's and St Johns, worked hard to create some truly stunning stations. The pictures can't do justice to them but I hope you get an idea of how fabulous they were. They also gave generously of their time and story-telling talents to ensure that the children had a very memorable experience and my heart-felt thanks go to each one of them.

The quote of the week came from a Year 6 boy who told me: "A lot of my friends don't really believe, but they said this was inspirational!" What more can I say?!

Sarah Cottrill

Kit Kats in blue wrappers?

Following on from Paul's talk on Remembrance Sunday on preparation for war (WW2), he continued with a talk on the country's preparation for invasion and over 90 people turned up to listen to him.



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Britain, as we always do, formed Committees to prepare, including Local Invasion Committees. People were told to immobilise their vehicles when not being used and to remember bus timetables as they were removed from bus stops so the spies and invaders could not find out information.

Local Invasion Committee

A Local Invasion Committee has been set up in order to deal with invasion conditions.

DURING THE PRESENT PERIOD the Committee is engaged in making preparations to deal with the local problems which will arise in invasion such as :-

1. Organisation of civilian labour to assist the military in preparing defence works, digging trenches, clearing roads, etc.
2. Care of wounded.
3. Housing and sheltering the homeless.
4. Emergency cooking and feeding.
5. Emergency water supplies.
6. Messenger Service.

Worcester was an important area. The Royal Family and Government were due to move to Worcestershire. Worcester is also surrounded by rivers and canals so if the bridges were blown then it would become an island with all approaches difficult for tanks. Worcester also had secret work being undertaken at Malvern.

Unlike Dad's Army on TV, people like LCpl Jones and Fraser were weeded out when they volunteered, so the core members of the Local Defence Force were fit men. Their early roles were checking Identity Cards at checkpoints where they looked for fifth columnists and spies. The units often met in local pubs and the St Johns' force met in the The Bell.



By late 1940, Winston Churchill felt that the reporting role of the LDV was not appropriate and that he wanted them to be prepared to stand and fight any invasion and they were renamed the Home Guard. The Home Guard were also given rifles instead of the mis-mash of home-made weapons, including broom handles with knives attached. They created homemade bombs in tins (grenades) and bottles (Molotov cocktails) and these created more casualties of Home Guard personal than

any other cause. They were given a uniform and they became part of the defensive force of the country as the Germans had stated that any civilians found with weapons would be shot on sight. By giving them uniforms they could then be taken prisoner instead of being shot.



The refreshments for the day included recipes from the war and included corned beef hash, rabbit stew and Wootton pie, which was vegetables covered in mashed potatoes. The cakes were also made using recipes from the war. Just about everything was cleared and everyone appeared to enjoy the food as the plates were all clean coming back at the end.

Part 2 of the talk was about rationing, which based on the experiences of the Great War, started very soon after the start of the war. By the start of the war the Government had stockpiled tea and that was not rationed initially as they felt the country ran on tea and therefore morale would drop, but after a while that had to be rationed as well.



The government issued ration books and the coupons had to be cut out by the shops, it was illegal to have loose coupons. Paul showed us a week's rations for one person for a week in Oct 1940, 3 pints milk, 1 fresh egg, 1lb sugar, 1 small jar of jam (about the size of a jar given with a scone these days), 3ozs of sweets, 2ozs butter, 4ozs margarine, 2ozs lard, 4ozs bacon, meat to the value of 1s 2d (so people bought cheaper cuts of meat), tea was limited to about the equivalent of

eight modern tea bags. They could also get powdered milk, powdered egg and spam, all of which came from America. Red ink was in very short supply and many food labels changed their colours; for example KitKats which were wrapped in blue paper. Leaflets were produced to help people cook with these products. We grew much of the meat we needed but most of the grain we used came from abroad. Lots of the tinned food we used also came from abroad. The Germans concentrated on cutting off Great Britain from its food supplies and the U-Boats targeted shipping. The war in the Atlantic was the longest campaign of the war and huge amounts of shipping and supplies were lost to the U-Boats.

Bread and vegetables were never rationed during the war but after the war bread was rationed; this was because we gave food to the defeated nations.

Margaret Miller's display of memorabilia and information about the people on the War Memorial had been left out from Remembrance Sunday and it attracted a lot of interest again. She would like to thank all those that donated items or helped with information on the display.

Colin Nash

Well I never!



Mischievous elf
seen at St David's
coffee morning!

He said: "I've never
seen a vicar's bear
chest before!"

She said: "Behave
you'elf!"

Little Lambs



Hello,

We've been busy making lots of Christmas crafts including nativity cards, Christmas trees and decorations. The children also enjoyed a visit from the Holy Family while it was being hosted by Sally. It generated lots of interest and the children loved using the wooden nativity set to tell the story of Jesus' birth. On our final session of the year we had a Christmas party with yummy food and lots of activities including a ball pit of tinsel! All of the children received a gift of either a nativity puzzle, story or decoration.

The children enjoyed contributing to the nativity by making a rather spectacular star and it was lovely to have some families join us for the performance. In the New Year we are planning to do some cold weather activities including puff paint snowmen – watch this space!



As always if you think you could help us, however frequently, please do get in touch!

*Speak soon,
Amy Rees and the Little Lambs team*

Ending the year

As I write this we are nearing the end of the year, a good time to look back at what we've achieved at Guides over the last 12 months. We started the year with 19 Guides. Of these, three have moved on to Rangers and three have left as they've moved house or have had changes in their other commitments. Three new girls have joined over the course of the last 12 months however, so we finish the year with 16 Guides, and I'm expecting at least three new girls in January which will take us back up to 19 again.



Over the year I've awarded 40 Skills Builder badges, and three Interest badges, along with the 'anniversary' badges the Guides all get each year to show how long they've been involved in Guiding, and various other badges to mark special events and activities.



We've had three residential trips with a total of 13 girls spending at least two nights away with Guides. On those trips six girls slept under canvas in the summer, nine came away

for an indoor weekend back in October, and two Guides spent 10 days in Belgium in August. I love taking the girls away, even though it's hard work, as you get to know them much better, and it helps them develop their independence, grow in confidence, and learn important life skills, at the same time as having lots of fun!





A few weeks ago, we celebrated the Unit's 90th birthday, so we've recently been looking even further back in time.

Various former members of 9th Worcester (St John's) Guides got in touch with me after I mentioned the upcoming anniversary in an earlier article and came along to join us and share their memories, in some cases looking back to Guiding in the 1950's! The girls enjoyed talking to the ladies who visited and finding out about what they did at Guides, as well as telling our visitors about what we get up to now. Listening to some of the stories, it seems to me that although the programme and uniforms have changed dramatically in many ways, fundamentally the ethos of Guiding hasn't changed, and the Guides of a few decades ago weren't really that different to my Guides now. My three youngest Guides were enrolled at the end of the evening, and of course we had birthday cake and sang Happy Birthday to ourselves. I'm already hatching plans for a bigger celebration in 10 years' time for our centenary!

In the run-up to Christmas we've spent an evening helping with The Lions' Santa Sleigh, collecting just over £300 in about two hours. This was enjoyed by all even if it was rather chilly – but I think the cold was better than the rain we had last year!

We've had a Christmas party including the obligatory 'chocolate game' and will finish off the term by going ice skating.



The Christmas holiday gives me a chance to look forward to the next term and year at Guides and decide what we're going to be doing, obviously taking the girls' ideas into consideration! There are various events and activities in the pipeline, both for our normal Guide meetings and extra events. Next term we will be spending several evenings working on 'Free Being Me' activities, which look at body image and self-confidence (and hopefully boost both in the Guides), as well as looking at the World Thinking Day activity pack for 2020, the theme of which is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. On Thinking Day itself, eight of the Guides are going to Celebrate 2020, the Midlands Region Thinking Day event which will be held at the NEC and will give them a chance to experience just how big Girlguiding is as well as trying out lots of exciting and adventurous activities.





Looking further ahead, we will be having a camp again in the summer and as Blackmore, the Girlguiding Worcestershire camp site, is celebrating its 50th birthday, there will be special events and challenges linked to that to join in with. No doubt more exciting opportunities will come up over the next few months too!

I have now reached the end of a year of articles, and I hope you've enjoyed hearing about the sorts of things we get up to at Guides! I'm going to take a break from writing articles for a while at least, but I'm hoping to hand over to someone

else in Guiding or Scouting circles. As ever, if you or a girl you know would like to be involved in Guiding then please just come and speak to me and I can point you in the right direction.

*Yours in Guiding,
Liz Forman*



Our thanks to Liz for her interesting articles over the past year. We hope that you have enjoyed them as much as we have.

The editors

St John's Nativity

On Saturday 14th December the children put on a wonderful performance of the Nativity Story. Around twenty local children participated, having been working hard at rehearsals during November. They performed to an audience of around 100 people and made everybody proud with their acting, singing and solos.



Our version of the story centred around a group of excitable angels receiving updates about an amazing story



unfolding in Bethlehem. We heard from the angels as they prepared a special song for the newborn baby Jesus.





With a few hiccups along the way, Mary and Joseph made it safely to Bethlehem where they were joined in the stable by shepherds, sheep, innkeepers and wise people, as well as a band of tuneful angels.

After the children's performance everyone sat down to tea and cake and guess who dropped in? Father Christmas made a special visit.

Thank you to all the children who participated – we look forward to seeing you all again next year!

Fiona Templeton and Amy Rees



The decorations were (not) rubbish

As part of a “Citizenship day”, the Design and Technology department at Christopher Whitehead Language College & Sixth Form ran sessions with year 7 groups on the environment and up-cycling materials.



The students made a range of decorations for a Christmas tree from materials that would otherwise go to landfill. These decorations feature tinsel made from plastic bags and fabric scraps, hanging decorations made from plastic milk bottles, water bottles and fallen tree branches, teaching the students about sustainable design and crafting.

On 4th December, St John’s welcomed two staff and four year 7 students, Owen Hannay, Harry Scott, Cara Tolputt and Scarlett Joiner, who decorated our church Christmas tree with these decorations.



Emma Beasley, Head of DT said “The tree highlights the concerns of the future generation about plastic waste and how we can reuse materials that are often sent to landfill”.

The results are amazing as you can see in the pictures - it looks even better if you see it for yourself! Even the tree was recycled, having been donated by a member of our congregation.

Our thanks to the school, students and staff for this lovely result.

Graham Evans



You should ask for directions to Wally's

Following the trip to Bath last Christmas it was decided to leave earlier from St Johns and so everyone was assembled and ready to leave at 8:30. It was a cold start to the day but as we drove down it was obviously getting warmer as the frost disappeared. However, we were treated to some lovely misty and frosty views as we crossed the River Severn on the M50.

The journey was less than 2 hours and we were dropped off in the centre of Cardiff with a reminder for everyone to be back at the drop off by 4pm.



As usual there was a bomb burst of people from the coach. Our family were going to John Lewis first so we headed off through the city centre.



After this we wandered round the Christmas market, which was nice but a lot smaller than the Victorian Fayre in Worcester but had some very nice craft stalls together with some German food and drink stalls.



The shopping centre is quite nice in Cardiff with some really nice arcades. Anyone going should seek out Wally's delicatessen in the Royal Arcade, which has some wonderful European foods.

About lunchtime we had a phone call from Catherine to say that they had closed the road where we were due to be picked up due to the Wales vs Barbarians rugby match at the Millennium stadium. We decided to get back early to redirect people to the new pick up point. Unfortunately, we had 3 people missing and there was a little bit of a panic until we were able to contact them. We eventually left about 4:30.



It was a lovely trip to Cardiff, and we look forward to the next one, an adult only trip to Cadbury World in February.

Colin Nash

Notes from the Choir



As another year begins, and the joy of full churches celebrating the birth of Jesus in words and music fades, we face the perhaps bleak realisation that year on year church attendances are declining. That is, though, only part of the story.

Statistically there has been a huge growth in the number of people attending evensong services in churches and cathedrals up and down the country. The very traditional service where a choir has a leading role is becoming increasingly popular and there is now a research project underway to determine why.

Interviewing members of a congregation leaving a sung cathedral evensong on a weekday evening, people said that they loved the opportunity to take 45 minutes out of busy lives. Many saw it as a chance to switch off the 24-hour connectivity of the modern world and reflect and rejuvenate whilst listening to the singing of the choristers. They enjoyed the structure of the service and the fact that, whilst they could join in with the singing of the hymns if they wanted to, there were no demands on them, giving them space to just ‘be’.

The Bishop of London thought that evensong was a service where people could be nurtured and receive the gift of peace in lives that too often were frantic and demanding. And as regular readers of these notes will know, I have written about the proven scientific evidence there is for the healing powers of music.

The twice-monthly evensong services that we have at St Johns may not be as polished as an evensong in a cathedral, but the choir gives of its very best to the singing of the psalms, the settings, and the anthems when one is included. If you have not yet come to an evensong service then the start of a new year may be the time to give it a try. There is something special about bringing the weekend to a close with a feeling of wholeness and calm.

On that peaceful note, may 2020 be a good one for everyone and, from the choir of St John’s, a Happy New Year.

Luise Horrocks

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

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Farewell to Vienna: A New Beginning

⇒ Ensemble Burletta ⇐



At 3pm, 9th February 2020, chamber music group Ensemble Burletta are giving a very special concert at St John's Church. This is part of the nationwide 'Insiders Outsiders' arts festival, 'Farewell to Vienna: A New Beginning'. The concert includes two works for clarinet and string quartet composed by Hans Gál and Joseph Horowitz, both of whom fled from Nazi-occupied Vienna to the UK in 1938.

Ensemble Burletta also pay tribute to the

musical culture of Vienna, playing works by Brahms and Bach-Mozart.

The integration into British society, culturally and artistically, of immigrants is as hot a topic in the present political climate as it was in the 1930s when thousands of emigres fled to Britain from the Nazi threat. At the launch of the Insiders Outsiders festival in 2018, Creative Director Monica Bohm-Duchen said 'At a time when the issue of immigration is so hotly debated, and both anti-Semitism and racism are once again rearing their ugly heads, it seems a timely venture.'

Bohm-Duchen's inspiration for the festival, celebrating the contribution of refugees from Nazi-Europe to British culture, was the story of her own parents, who arrived in Britain as teenagers during the 1930s, barely escaping with their lives before starting a new life here. Across the UK from March 2018 to March 2020 a myriad of events, exhibitions, workshops, talks and concerts are being held which draw attention to the long-lasting enrichment of British culture by European emigres.

Jewish-born Hans Gál fled from the Nazi-annexation of Austria in 1938. His flight was tragic and traumatic; family members who remained in Vienna did not survive. In the UK, Gál was aided and supported by musical scholar Donald Tovey; he became a pillar of the musical establishment in Edinburgh; helped found the Edinburgh Festival and became a respected professor at Edinburgh University.

Gál had a remarkable musical career in Germany after WW1, enjoying great popularity. In 1933, the Nazis ousted him as head of the Music Conservatoire in Mainz and performances of his compositions were banned. When he arrived in Britain, he was already 50 years old; almost completely unknown as a composer, the prospect of starting his career again was daunting. After WW2 his works fell out of favour, not considered 'modern' enough for a living composer, and his outstanding music is only now being rediscovered.

Continued on page 41



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Continued from page 39 In contrast, Joseph Horovitz was a child of 12 when his Jewish family fled Austria in 1938. When the Nazis marched into Vienna his parents were in Holland and the young Horovitz and his sisters were forced to leave by themselves, travelling through Italy and Switzerland before being reunited with their parents in Belgium after a month of separation. On 1st May 1938, they arrived in London, having been horribly seasick on the channel crossing. The young Horovitz perceived England as a ‘fantasy of peace and safety.’

His family were evacuated to Oxford and in 1943 aged just 17 Joseph enrolled at New College, Oxford. In 1944 he received a call up for war work. As an Austrian citizen, the teenager was classed as an Enemy Alien Class C (friendly). His movements were restricted and he was to be sent to work in the coal mines.

As with Gál in Edinburgh, the British musical establishment stepped in to help. Sir Hugh Allen, Professor of Music at Oxford pulled strings which enabled Horovitz to become a lecturer in music appreciation for the Army Education Office. Rather than work in the coal mines, Joseph Horovitz continued his studies at Oxford and subsequently at the Royal College of Music, going on to become a mainstay of British musical life as a composer, conductor and educator.



Gál died in Edinburgh in 1987. His new beginning in Britain was not without difficulty although he always maintained a spirit of optimism in his music. He composed his clarinet quintet in 1977, inspired by the coastal landscape of Wales where he had recently spent a holiday.

Joseph Horovitz composed ‘Concertante’ for clarinet and strings in 1948, towards the end of his studies with Gordon

Jacob at the Royal College of Music. The optimism for his new life in Britain flows out through this vigorous, youthful music.

Don’t miss the rare chance to hear both these pieces of music, along with Bach-Mozart Fugues and Brahms’ iconic Clarinet Quintet, at St John’s Church on 9th February 2020:

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CWLC Impetus Programme

In November, the Impetus programme featured Dr Helen Pankhurst, great granddaughter of Emmeline and granddaughter of Sylvia Pankhurst.



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She is a women's rights activist and senior advisor for CARE International. She encouraged the students to watch the film "Suffragette". To mark the 100 years in 2018 of votes for women she wrote the book "Deeds not Words", the rallying cry of the suffragettes. Her talk was broadly based on this book.

She began by looking at how women got the vote, what is often referred to as the first wave of feminism, with men in support and all inclusive; women from all walks of life. Although united in the idea it was divided by many considerations: Do they align to a particular political party? Is a leader in charge or operated democratically? It involved changing the mentality of a nation. Helen noted that the type of action taken (mass marches being predominant in the early years) depends on the culture you are in and now that women have a voice in our society, militancy is perhaps not as appropriate as in other cultures.

Helen looked at how far we have come: We have female MPs, but parliament is still male dominated. Lady Astor became the first woman MP on 28th Nov 100 years ago. The media tend to pick up on the miniscule details of women in parliament shown by the interest in breast feeding in parliament.

Continued on page 45



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Continued from page 43

Some comments of present-day MPs were given which are noted in her book. Helen stressed to the students the importance of voting and how democracy is weakened when we don't.

On the economic position of women Helen asked the students to give their assessment of progress on a scale of 1 to 5, a device she uses in her book. The general feeling was 3/5 despite legislation. Employment undertaken by women still tends towards the "C's", cleaning, caring, cooking, child care, clerking, charity work, cashiering etc which is generally lower paid employment.

With women's identity she sees that there are now more choices for women and that there is a devaluation of mother carer. She feels society still has men slightly removed from being the emotional help in the family, looking after the family money and job with an effect on men's mental health. The students felt society was going backwards as 'image' was seen as important and there was a strong focus on 'looks' for women whereas the focus is more on what is said and done for men. Fertility can now be controlled but the focus is still on women doing the controlling.

Violence against women is still a great concern and politically affecting women MPs. Sexually based violence is still a fear of women which is not seen in men. Helen felt there were positive changes for women in the workplace, home, roles in film and books. Laws have changed with more support for women; shelters, telephone call centres etc. Culture has changed and women are seen in pubs, street events, plays and sport has moved forward.

For the future none of the students or adults felt we were at equality. Helen noted that one woman commentator had said that photoshopped images should include a "images damage your health" sign as for cigarettes. Helen suggested that sometimes family members perpetuate the stereotypes by asking "have you got a boyfriend yet?" One participant noted that some girls feel they need to state that they are "not feminist, I like men". Helen remarked that the feminist cause had benefits for both men and women.

I have now acquired a copy of Helen's book and many of her points and observations are here clearly explained and illustrated along with reflections and anecdotes of innumerable people. In her pre prologue she states "I hope it will amuse and infuriate, inform and promote debate. As the head of 6th form commented to me, "that was fascinating".

The next talk is 18th March 2020 when Prof Michael Scott of Warwick University will speak about "Delphi: Centre of the Ancient World" (see page 17).

Margaret Miller

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<p>Burroughs' Room</p>	<p>Suitable for up to 12 people. Drink making facilities and toilet.</p>	
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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

PCC meeting

Here is a brief summary of the minutes of the November PCC meeting. A full copy of the minutes has appeared on the porch noticeboard.

- The draft budget for 2020 shows a deficit of £20k. Approval was deferred to allow time for the PCC to digest this information. A stewardship campaign and more fund-raising are required.
- Phil had hoped to bring ideas about the issues covering current service patterns. He has not yet done this due to complications elsewhere in the group; there will be no more changes to the service pattern at St John's for the time being.
- The Blakefield Room boiler needs to be repaired at a cost of approximately £500. It was agreed to ask Feoffees for a grant for this.
- The church architect will be invited to the January PCC meeting to talk about repairs to the tower. The repairs will cost £60k-£100k. An accurate assessment is needed with a detailed report of the whole structure (costing approx. £10k).
- The next stage on re-ordering is a community consultation and feasibility study (for which grants should be available).
- Updates received and operational issues discussed on Welcoming, Cleaning, Health and Safety, Pastoral Care Team, Charity Committee and Deanery Synod.
- The Friends raised £206 at the Christopher Whitehead Christmas Fayre, and £51 for the Foodbank at their annual meal.
- Christmas Tree: CWLC DT Department have made tree decorations for us out of recycled materials. A donation of an artificial tree has been offered by a PCC member and some students will be brought to church to decorate this.
- Diddy Disciples and Explorers are going well with a few new children joining in. More help is needed, particularly for Explorers. 30-40 children regularly attend Little Lambs. Due to a number of reasons the Mission Enabler placement has not worked out as planned.
- Good Old Days (Discover History): There are a whole series of talks planned for 2020. 80 to 100 people are attending each session.
- The local elements of the wedding and funeral fees for 2020 were agreed.
- Volunteers needed:
 - There are only 3 people on the intercessors rota.
 - There is no representative from St Johns at meetings of Churches Together in West Worcester.

Graham Evans, PCC member

Jobs Done

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Extracts from Wendy's 1982 scrapbook

Last time we concluded our extracts from Wendy Dedicott's 1980 and 1981 scrapbooks. We asked readers if they had any scrapbooks that we could serialise in the same way. We had one response - Wendy came forward with her 1982 scrapbook. Mentions of problems with her leg are the aftermath of the (serious) car accident mentioned in her December 1981 diary.

The editors

1982

January 3rd - The vicar preached on Janus, looking backwards and looking forwards.

Jan 7th - I could not go to Bible group because of my leg.

January 10th - 22nd anniversary of first attending church. Sat with Tony and Maureen with Judith in front. Vicar preached well.

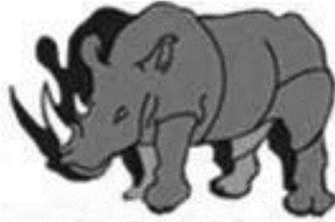
Jan 17th - Greeted by Mr Pritchard, Frank, Violet Blackman who enquired after our health. Jim Leverton preached. Do we answer the advert? God has us lined up for a job for Him. We disappoint him. Afterwards talked with Judith, Bessie, Maureen, Frank, Jim and Tom Lewis.

Thursday evening, Judith collected me. Bessie and Judith very concerned about my leg.



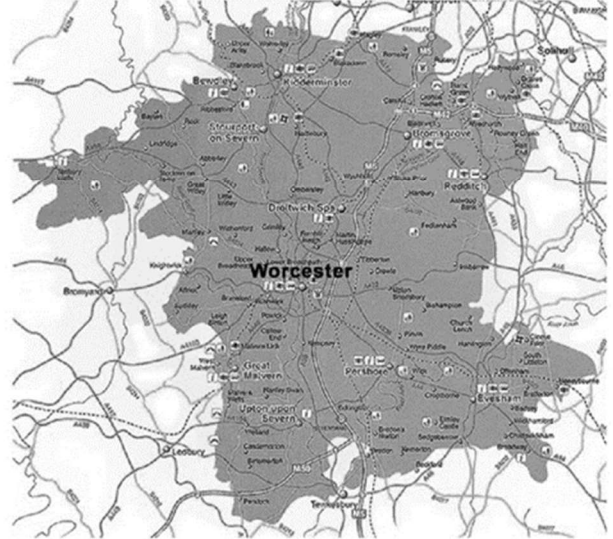
(Work in progress after part of the old vicarage was sold to the Health Authority)

Continued on page 51



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Continued from page 49

Went to Communion Friday 22nd. Frank said you'll get better one day, Wendy. By the time I got home I could walk properly.

Springlike. Sunday 24th - Told Bessie and Maureen I could walk. Frank was amazed. Frank preached on St Paul - Lord, what do you want me to do for you?

28th - Group at Nancy's. Only Maureen, Bessie, me, Nancy and John.

Jan 31st - Sermon by Frank. Super. Solomon's prayer and Lord's Prayer.

Clippings in the scrapbook from the Parish Magazine:

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL

With music from recorders and glockenspiel, readings and carols accompanied by organ or guitar the annual Carol Service was full of interest.

This was the last public event for the retiring Headmaster, Mr Robert Pratt, who had been at St. John's for just over four years. Therefore at the close of the service there was a presentation from children and parents.

The new Headmaster is Mr G.G.Murray, who has been head at Callow End for the past seventeen years. He is a former pupil of the school and lives in the parish.

GOOD RESULT FOR CHRISTMAS FAYRE

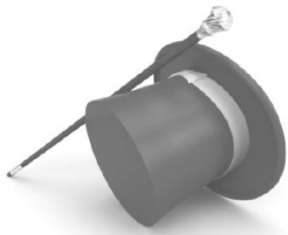
The Fayre, held at Christopher Whitehead Boys School on the last Saturday in November, was an outstanding success. Father Christmas proved to be as popular as ever with the large crowd of eager shoppers.

The event raised £730 towards the Organ Restoration. This year's organiser, Mrs Sandra Parker, is to be congratulated not just on the success of the event, but also on the happy spirit of co-operation shared by everyone.

We wish to thank all stall-holders, and everyone else who supported this event.

£730 in 1981 is worth about £2,750 today.

Next month we will have some February items - The editors



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ADULT LEARNING COURSE

INTRODUCTION TO CROCHET COURSE, Saturday, 11th January 2020, from 10.00am to 12.00 noon, £19.

WINTER GAMES

WHIST CLUB on Tuesday, from 1.15pm till 3.15pm, £1 per person

CHESS CLUB on Tuesday, from 2pm till 4pm, 50p per person

SCRABBLE CLUB on Friday, from 2pm till 4pm, 50p per person

CLASSIC FILM CLUB! Every Fortnight (Thursdays) at 2pm, including 9th & 23rd January, with tea and biscuits to follow, donations welcome.

LIBRARY HOME SERVICE: delivered to your door, books, dvds & spoken word. Enquire on tel no 01905 822722 or pop in to St John's Library.

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www.worcestershire.gov.uk/adultlearning, Follow St John's Library Facebook page!



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From the magazine archive (January 1951)

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

I HAVE been reading recently a book entitled "Words to Live By" and I came across a beautiful prayer written over 700 years ago, by St. Francis of Assisi, it reflects simply and beautifully a way of life for our times, and for all time, and I would like to pass on this prayer to you for the New Year of 1951.

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is pardoning that we are pardoned, it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

If we could live by these words for one brief week what tremendous joy and peace we should find, take them and use them, and may God bless you in the days that lie ahead.

The meeting will re-commence on Tuesday, January 9th, and the next Corporate Communion will be on Thursday, January 4th at 10.30 a.m.

E.A.C.

MOTHERS' UNION

I HOPE to see a goodly number at the New Year Party, and trust that we shall have a very pleasant time together.

The programmes for 1951 are available, so see that you have one in your possession.

I take this opportunity of wishing you a very Happy New Year, and may the Peace of God dwell in you richly, and may you prove a blessing to others.

E.A.C.

THE GIRL'S CLUB

THE Club will re-open on Friday, January 12th at 7 p.m., and the evenings next term will be devoted to the first hour Singing under the direction of Miss Filmank, and the second hour Country Dancing and Ball-room Dancing.

I shall also be starting the Bank again in time for the SUMMER CAMP. I am very glad to see those of you who are Confirmed coming to Church at 8 a.m. on Sundays.

E.A.C.

Please subscribe to the magazine

Why subscribe to the Parish Magazine?

- You'll only need to pay once a year.
- You'll only pay £5 per year (rather than £5.50).
- You'll have a guaranteed copy.
- It helps us know how many to print, reducing wastage.
- If you can Gift Aid, the church will receive an extra £1.25 without it costing you a penny more (HMRC rules allow this for charity magazines).

Please tick one of the boxes below and fill in your details:

(£5) I will pick up my magazine from the church (subscribers' magazines are put out at the back of church, usually from the 4th Sunday of the preceding month).

(£5) I live in St John's and need my magazine to be delivered.

(£14.50) I live outside St John's and need my magazine to be posted.
Postage and Packing costs £9.50 (based on Large Letter, 2nd class postage which costs 83p from March 2019).

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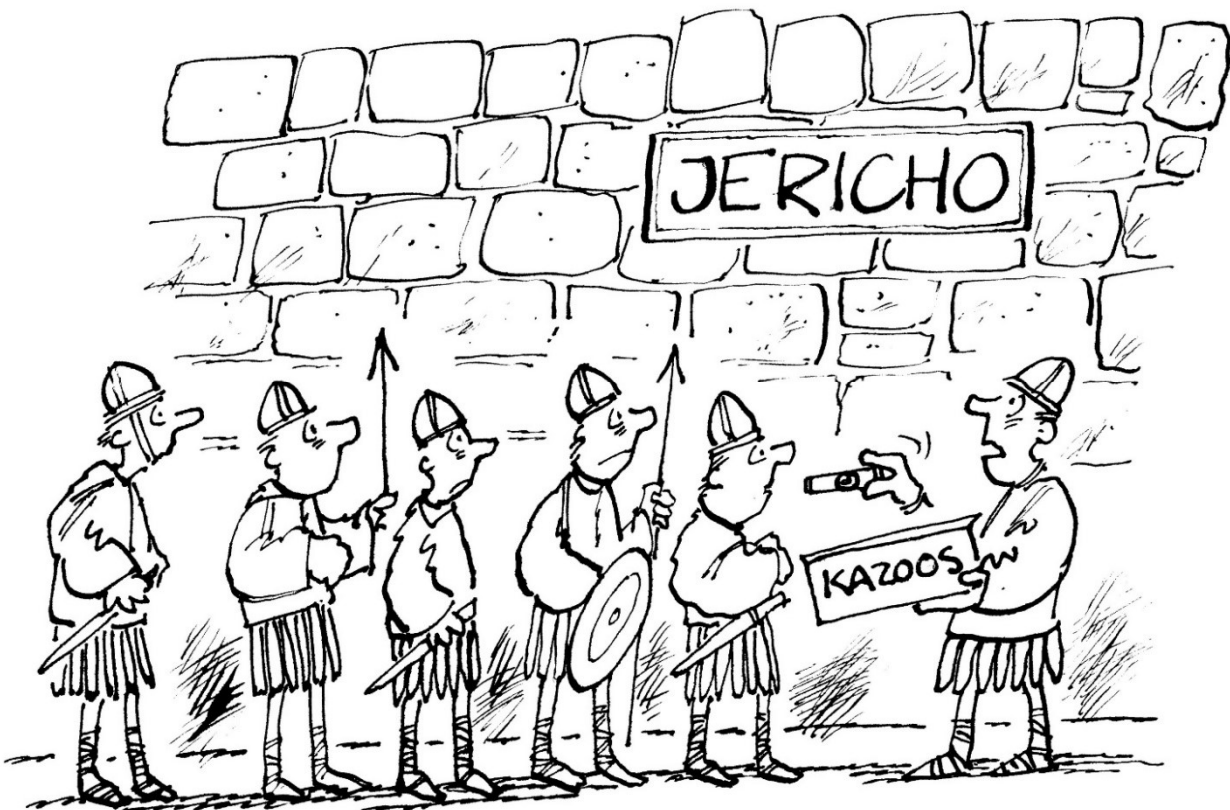
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Puzzle solution

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

And finally....



Joshua says he's very sorry - it's all we can afford until the next stewardship campaign.



Little Lambs

Join us for toys and games, arts and craft, snacks, stories and singing. Mondays in Term time, 10-12, for children aged 0-4 and their carers.

Little Blessings

For bumps, babies, pre-schoolers and their carers. Join us for Bible stories, craft and Christian discussion on Fridays at 7 Manor Road. Contact Sarah on 01905 426257 or talk to Amy at Little Lambs for details on times.

Children's Activities

The first Saturday in the month 3pm-5pm for children aged 3 - 14 years. During the afternoon we do a variety of Christian based activities including sharing stories, singing songs, playing games, craft activities and finishing off with a light tea. Do come along and join us. Phone 424811 for more details.

Sunday during the 10.30 service, do come along - we'd love to see you!

Diddy disciples (ages 0-7)

In Diddy disciples we sing lots of songs, tell stories and make crafts to help us learn about our faith.

Explorers (ages 7 and up or KS2/3)

Explorers are encouraged to look more deeply into the weeks readings and enjoy some interesting conversations as well as craft as we continue to explore our faith.

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 acting Ringing Master, Tracey Ward 07961 745628.

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 7.30pm to play contemporary Christian music, and provides music for worship on a regular basis. Contact Peter Yates, on 422565.

LITTLE LAMBS (play group)

Free and for all children birth to 4 years old and their carers. Term time, Mondays 10am to 12 noon. All are welcome! Turn up on the day or contact the Parish Office for more information.

LITTLE BLESSINGS (for parents and carers with any children who haven't started school)

Meets on a Friday morning. Contact Sarah Cottrill on 426257 for more details.

YOUNG ADULTS

A group for young Christians aged 18 to 40, with social and other events. Find us on Facebook or email young.adults@westworcesterchurches.org.uk

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, Wednesday, Friday, 9am to 11am; Thursday, 10am to 11.30am

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

St John's Church on the web:

Parish Website: www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine
A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634/



Group Website: www.westworcesterchurches.org.uk

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



Sunday services in the West Worcester Group, January 2020

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
5th January	10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Worship 5pm Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
12th January	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am All Age Worship	9.30am Eucharist	11.15am Morning Prayer	10.30am Eucharist
19th January	10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Worship 5pm Evensong	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Morning Prayer
26th January	10.30am Parish Eucharist with Children's Worship 5pm Service of Wholeness and Healing	9.30am Eucharist	11.15am Morning Prayer	10.30am Eucharist
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.				