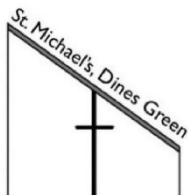




The Parish Magazine

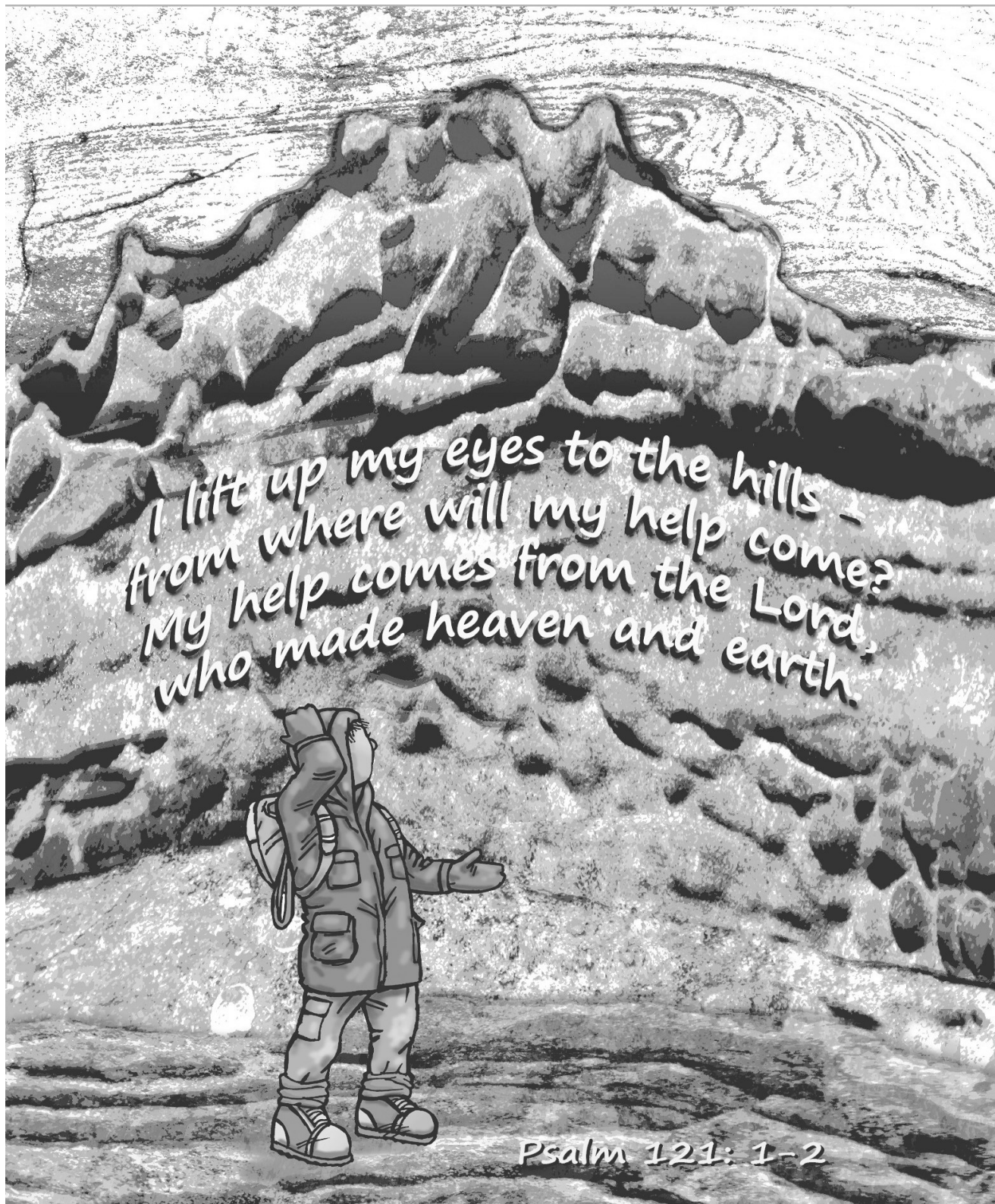
St John-in-Bedwardine

St Michael's



July/August 2026

50p



I lift up my eyes to the hills -
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121: 1-2

Information

WORCESTER CITY WEST TEAM CLERGY (clergy@wcw.church)

Phil Bradford (Team Rector): 01905 423794/phil.bradford@wcw.church

Sarah Cottrill (Team Vicar): 01905 426257/sarah.cottrill@wcw.church

Gilly Maxim (Assistant Curate): gilly.maxim@wcw.church

Julie Berrow (Assistant Curate): julie.berrow@wcw.church

Day off: Phil Bradford Friday | Sarah Cottrill Saturday | Gilly Maxim Monday

TEAM OFFICE

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-12noon.	
1a Bromyard Road St John's, WR2 5BS	Tel: (01905) 420490 e-mail: office@wcw.church

ON THE WEB

St John's	Parish Website: www.stjohninbedwardine.co.uk A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/18634 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohninbedwardine
St Michael's	Parish Website and A church near you: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19689 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmichaelsdinesgreen

SERVICES

Please check our websites and Facebook pages, or the notices published on the church noticeboards and printed in the magazine and weekly pew sheets.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns about possible abuse of a child or vulnerable adult, contact one of the Safeguarding Officers, Fiona Templeton, Elizabeth Forman in person or via safeguarding@wcw.church, or any member of the clergy.

Churchwardens: stjohns.churchwardens@wcw.church Gordon Templeton (749025), Joy Job (423051).	St John's
Pastoral care: The church's Pastoral Care Group offers support if you are lonely, bereaved, or unable to attend church. Please contact one of the clergy (as above or email clergy@wcw.church).	
Churchwardens: Mike Dowling (dowlingm28@sky.com / 424539) Val Mason (val.mason@yahoo.com / 428948). On Site Safeguarding Officer: Mike Dowling (details above).	St Michael's

Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council is a charity with the Registered Charity Number 1205354.

A word from the editors

Welcome to our summer 2026 edition covering July and August. Exploring our theme of ‘Companions of our Lord’, Sarah shows how we can be true to our calling especially over the ‘quiet’ summer period.

We do hope that you will be able to recharge and refresh during the summer period. Your editors have to admit that they will be grateful not to have to produce a magazine in July as June has been very busy!

The summer break is part of the rhythm of life, so we offer you this excerpt from Ecclesiastes (3.1-4):

*For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;*

Graham and Sue Evans

Important information

Email address: parishmagazine@wcw.church

Next edition (September) Deadline is Sunday 9th August.

Distribution – magazines available by Sunday 23rd August.

Subscription form: Page 50.

Cover picture: Parish Pump

Pictures in this magazine: Thanks to those who have provided pictures for this magazine, including Mike Bentley, Beth Broadway, Sarah Cottrill, Sue Fairman, Joy Job, Margaret Miller, Colin Nash and Gordon Templeton.

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 near the back of the magazine 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 Joint Council or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

To advertise

Please see page 12.

From Sarah Cottrill

July and August are traditionally the months in which many of us take our main holiday of the year. Schools and colleges close and it is a time for relaxing in the company of friends and family. Like the rest of us, Jesus valued such times – though not restricted to holiday periods! From the Gospels we know that Jesus could often be found at parties and picnics, sharing conversation and food with large numbers of people; but he also had his inner circle of friends with whom he enjoyed a greater level of intimacy. Amongst these are several who have their feast days during the holiday period of July and August: Thomas, (July 3rd); Mary Magdalene (July 22nd); James (July 25th); Mary, Martha and Lazarus – “Companions of Our Lord” (July 29th); Bartholomew (August 24th). All of these, and many others, accompanied Jesus during his earthly ministry and saw to his physical needs. More importantly though, they also met his emotional needs – the need for company, for affection, people with whom he could simply relax and “be” without the need to do. For some of these people, their role ended with the end of Christ’s earthly life, but for others – Thomas, James and Bartholomew – their work really began after Christ’s ascension and the events of Pentecost. After that, they took the message of the Gospel throughout the world so that countless numbers of people have been able to know about Jesus and become his companions too.



What does it mean for us to be (like Mary, Martha and Lazarus) “Companions of Our Lord?” It means trying to walk alongside him, being his hands, feet, lips and heart, as we follow his teaching, commandments and example, extending his love to those we encounter. It also means spending time with him; we cannot be a companion to somebody with whom we spend no time. So, we read our Bibles, we engage in church services and we talk to him in prayer; not just a “shopping list” of things we want him to do, but also remembering to give thanks, to praise, to express our love and to listen, allowing Jesus time to speak to us too. A good companion will always give the other chance to speak – or to simply enjoy a companionable silence!

Another way in which we can be good companions of Jesus, is to be good companions to each other. As previously stated, we are in the holiday period when many people enjoy the company of family members. But what about those who have no family or who are estranged from them? As many clubs and

societies close their doors during July and August, these can, for some, be times of great isolation and loneliness. For others, particularly young families, the summer months can bring deprivation and anxiety; no school may make the provision of healthy meals difficult, if not impossible, whilst the pressure to provide entertainment, if not a holiday away, causes anxiety, stress and the danger of running into debt. How we, as individuals and as churches, can be good companions to people in these circumstances, is a matter we need to take seriously and to consider prayerfully. As a starting point, we can remember to share a smile and greeting with those we see in the street; it might be the only one they have all day! we can also support the food bank and other charities which help families. The Mothers' Union operates a scheme – Away From It All (AFIA) which will fund holidays, days out or activity days for families in need. If you know anybody who might benefit from – and welcome – such help, please let me know and I can put them in touch with the appropriate person.

This summer then, I wish you safety, relaxation, fun and the companionship of those you love. I also pray that we will all be good companions of the Lord, as we look for opportunities to offer companionship to those around us, remembering Jesus' words:

“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25.40, NIV).

Sarah

Collect for Mary, Martha and Lazarus

*God our Father,
whose Son enjoyed the love of his friends,
Mary, Martha and Lazarus,
in learning, argument and hospitality:
may we so rejoice in your love that the world
may come to know the depths of your wisdom,
the wonder of your compassion,
and your power to bring life out of death;
through the merits of Jesus Christ,
our friend and brother, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

In Memoriam

Dorothy Lock	3 July 1986
Roy Houghton	5 July 2007
Brenda Tithecott	7 July 1995
Joyce Jones	7 July 1995
William “Bill” Hayler	7 July 2017
Hilary Dawn Clifton	7 July 2019
George Harris	8 July 1999
Reginald H Glover	17 July 2003
Annie Powell	21 July 1993
Frank Miller	24 July 1993
Gladys Maskew	24 July 2000
Myra Houghton	25 July 2000
Arthur Leonard Sage	11 August 1990

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

Inclusion only needs to be requested once; entries are then included until the fortieth anniversary.
An extension may be requested by family or friends of those named.

From the Registers, May 2026

St John's

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

10th May 2026 Archie William Eddie Miles
Isla Poppy Lewis

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 04/04/2026 Marjorie Doughty
d. 18/04/2026 Iris Jordan
d. 02/04/2026 Frances Morris
d. 01/05/2026 Andreas Gutt

SERVICES: Communicants 277. Total attendance at all services 715 including 264 at a baptism service and two funerals.

St Michael's

SERVICES: Communicants 50. Total attendance at all services 71.

Dates for your diary

Location
key

(J) St John's Church

(M) St Michael's Church

(*) Please contact Sarah Cottrill for details (see inside front cover).

July entries marked *** have no meeting in August.

(J) Mondays in term time, 10am: Little Lambs, see pages 8 and 17. Last meeting this term is Monday 13th July, returning Monday 14th September.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 4th July, 4pm: Messy Church, see pages 9 and 24.

Doors open and drinks available from 3:30pm. ***

--- 000 ---

(J) Thursday 2nd July, 1pm: The Good Old Days present Discover History, "The Siege of Worcester 1643", see page 8. ***

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 11th July, 9am: Women's Breakfast, see page 8. ***

--- 000 ---

(M) Monday 20th June, 2.30pm: Mothers' Union. *** See also page 11.

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 15th July, 2.45pm: Tea, Coffee & Cake, see page 8. ***

--- 000 ---

(M) Thursday 16th July 2pm - 4pm: West Worcester Friendship Group.

Councillor Matt Lamb will talk to us about the work of a local councillor and his term of office as mayor. **All are invited to this meeting.** See page 19.

Also annual trip out on **Thursday 20th August.**

--- 000 ---

(*) Thursday 23rd July and Thursday 27th August, 7.30pm: Mothers' Union.

Please contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(*) Friday 24th July and Friday 28th August: Fourth Friday Friendship Group.

Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 25th July, 10.45am: Cafe@10.45, see page 9. ***

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 26th September: Coach trip to Bath, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 10th October: Hops & Hymns - Join in with popular hymns while enjoying a beer or cider (soft drinks also available). See page 9 and 15.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 14th November: Family Quiz - The annual family quiz returns! Test your knowledge with questions tailored for young and old. See pages 9 and 15.

Events at St John's



**Mondays in Term Time at
St John's Church**

10:00am to 11.30am

FREE!

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

Birth to 4 years old and carers

**Last date this term is 13th July,
returning on 14th September.**

THE GOOD OLD DAYS PRESENTS DISCOVER HISTORY



THE SIEGE OF WORCESTER 1643

**THURSDAY 2ND JULY
1.00 PM**

**ADMISSION £4
INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS**



Women's Breakfast Meetings for Friendship and Christian Fellowship

**Why not join us?
Everyone is welcome!**

**Our next meeting is on
Saturday 11th July
9.00am until 11.00am**

**St John-in-Bedwardine
in The Blakefield Room**

Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)



ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

Join us for Tea, Coffee & Cake

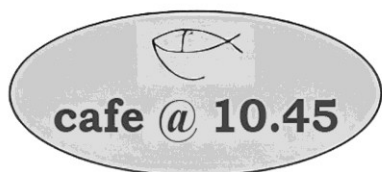


**Wednesday 15th July
2.45pm
Everyone Welcome!**

Suggested donation £2.00

Events at St John's

St John in Bedwardine



**Join us for Fresh Coffee and
Danish**

'Friendship and Thoughts'

At 10.45am on

**Saturday
25th July**

ALL WELCOME



Saturday 4th July

(no meeting in August).

**4pm (doors open 3.30pm with
drinks and biscuits).**

**Join us the first Saturday
of each month.**

**Please do come along,
you'll be sure of a warm welcome!**

***Forthcoming events at
St John's Church
include:***

***Saturday 10th October:
Hops & Hymns***

**Celebrating harvest, join in with
popular hymns while enjoying a beer
or cider (soft drinks also available)**

***Saturday 14th November:
Family Quiz***

**The annual family quiz returns!
Test your knowledge with questions
tailored for young and old.**

Coach trips

**Tuesday 21st July
Weston-super-Mare (full)**

**Saturday 26th September
Bath (full)**

***Saturday 21st November
National Memorial Arboretum***

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for enquiries about any of the above.**



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Evening Prayer with Bible Study

Evening Prayer with Bible Study is taking a summer break. It will resume in September.

Philip Evans

Weekday services

The following mid-week Eucharists and Daily Offices are scheduled in July and August:

Tuesday	St John's 10am (Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer)
Thursday	St Michael's 10.30am (Eucharist - Common Worship) **

** On the second Thursday of each month (9th July and 13th August) this is a Eucharist for Wholeness and Healing.

Daily offices take place in St John's Church from Monday to Thursday.

Morning Prayer is at 8.30am. Evening Prayer is at 5pm during British Summer Time and at 4pm during GMT.

Occasionally other commitments will prevent a service happening; the schedule for each week will be published in the pew sheet.

St Clement's Café Church

There will be no Café Church at St Clement's on 7th July as the funeral of Lionel Buswell will take place in church at noon on that day.

In August, Café Church is on August 4th with the theme 'Victims of religion-based violence' (the national day of remembrance is August 22nd).

All Café Church sessions start at 11am and include drinks and homemade cake.

Everyone is welcome.

Sarah Cottrill

Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary Events

There are some local events to celebrate 150 years of the Mothers' Union.

On August 8th, St Clement's Pastoral Tea will have a "motherly" theme.

Sunday August 9th is Mary Sumner Day when we celebrate our founder with a service in St Clement's (usual time of 9.30am) largely led by Mothers' Union members, followed by family picnic and fun afternoon from 12.00. Bring your own picnic - cake and Prosecco provided. Evensong at the Cathedral at 4pm.

A festival service to be held in the Cathedral in November is being prepared and full details should appear in the September magazine.

Sarah Cottrill

Would you like to advertise in this magazine?

An advert can be full-page, half-page or quarter-page in size.

The booking can be from one month to one year.

The Parish Magazine is published A5 in size, in black and white.

There are eleven issues each year,
July and August being a combined issue.

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St David's News

At our June coffee morning we were very pleased to welcome a few new faces.

Although we are coming up to the main holiday season, our coffee mornings will still be held, namely on 1st July and 5th August at 10.30am to which you are most welcome.

On 8th July at 2.30pm we shall be having 2 short talks which are being given by Mr. Phil Prince. The first one will be "Parks Turkish Baths and Puddle" and the second one will be about St Michael's Church at the Cathedral. The cost will be £3.00 and there will be refreshments to purchase afterwards.

On Saturday September 19th there will be a table top sale at 10.30am until 12.30pm. Tables cost £10 each and if you would like one please let me know as soon as possible. There will of course be refreshments available for you to purchase.

Carole Stone
Deputy Church Warden

Sundays and Principal Feasts in July and August

Friday 3rd July: Thomas the apostle

Sunday 5th July: The fifth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 12th July: The sixth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 19th July: The seventh Sunday after Trinity

Wednesday 22nd July: Mary Magdalene

Saturday 25th July: James the apostle

Sunday 26th July: The eighth Sunday after Trinity

Wednesday 29th July: Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of our Lord

Sunday 2nd August: The ninth Sunday after Trinity

Thursday 6th August: The Transfiguration of our Lord

Sunday 9th August: The tenth Sunday after Trinity

Saturday 15th August: The Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday 16th August: The eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 23rd August: The twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Monday 24th August: Bartholomew the apostle

Saturday 29th August: The beheading of John the Baptist (to be observed at St John's on 30th August as our patronal festival)

Sunday 30th August: The thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

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Children's Church – July/August 2026

During June, we have found out about Pentecost and Ascension Day and have been thinking about Jesus's promises to us and how to spread his message. The scramblers have been doing some fantastic crafts and have enjoyed sharing them with the congregation.

The older children have been coming up with some very big questions and are looking forward to welcoming Phil and Gilly into some sessions to hear their answers.

Children's Church is currently led by Fiona and Amy, however we always welcome new volunteers who would be interested in helping at or leading sessions. If you would like to get involved, please come and speak to us on a Sunday morning.

Children's Church continues to run on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of each month at St John's Church. We have two groups, Scramblers for pre-school children and Explorers for primary school aged children. Everyone is welcome.

During the school summer holidays we will not run formal children's groups but there will be toys and activities available in children's the corner and the Blakefield Room.

Fiona Templeton and Amy Rees

More events to look forward to

Hops & Hymns will be on Saturday 10th October, celebrating harvest. Join in with popular hymns while enjoying a beer or cider (soft drinks also available).

Family Quiz returns on Saturday 14th November. Test your knowledge with questions tailored for young and old.

Organ recitals - Full details of these are to be confirmed, but these will be a chance to hear the organ in all its glory with wonderful pieces of music.

Christmas....we know, too early. However, we're mentioning this super early for schools, charities, community groups and businesses to have it in your minds.

We're planning a Christmas Tree festival! We're resting scarecrows this year, but following its success are planning a similar opportunity, this time with Christmas trees. It'll be in the first weekend of December and, similarly to the scarecrows, groups can display Christmas trees for the community to come in and see.

Watch the Parish Magazine, St John's Church notice board, and Facebook for more details in due course.

Beth Broadway

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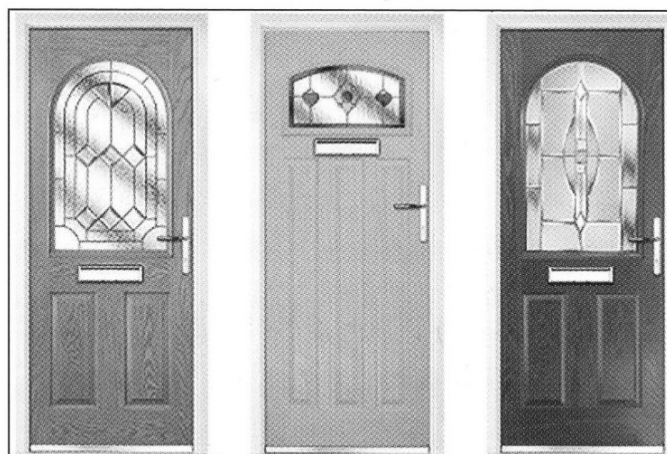
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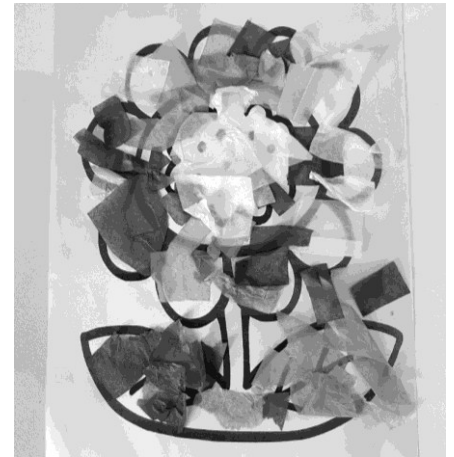


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Little Lambs Enjoying Plants

Little Lambs enjoyed making their own flower pictures using glue, lots of colourful tissue paper and crayons.

If you use your imagination, we think you will be able to create a lovely picture of the beautiful multi-coloured flowers.



The child in the photo is wearing our bright pink dressing up princess dress and her flower has a bright pink centre.

Thank you to Sandra for washing our dressing up clothes recently, including the bright pink princess dress, they all looked good fluttering on her washing line!



A few weeks back, we planted cress seeds and some of our older children enjoyed telling me about how they liked cutting their cress seedlings and making sandwiches. Other children told me that their sunflower seeds were growing well and they showed me how tall their plants are now.

We volunteers really enjoy running Little Lambs and we are a great team. We would love it if some more adults could come and join us as volunteers please. Please contact Sue on 07845 942962 for more information and a no pressure chat if you are at all interested.

Our last meeting this term will be on Monday 13th July and we will return for more fun on Monday 14th September.

Blessings from us all at Little Lambs.

Sue Fairman

Recommended

I attended the Bible Society's 8 week Bible Course which was organised by Philip Evans with Phil and Gilly's support. "The course illustrated how all the books, characters and events in the Bible are part of God's big story from Genesis to Revelation". We all had a course book with recommended readings to prepare for each session so even though I had missed the first two sessions I could catch up using the Bible course digital hub. Each session consisted of a video with Dr Andrew Ollerton explaining the story, followed by a break for discussion and then a recap followed by a closing reflection and prayer.

I thoroughly enjoyed the course and found it very helpful with my understanding of the various books and how they are linked in the extensive library of the Bible. The many different characters were brought to life and it showed how many of today's problems and failings continue in the world, in society, and in our own lives.

The course finished with a final prayer to thank God for the hope he has given us in Jesus so that we can share this with everyone.

I can certainly recommend this type of learning and it was helpful to be able to discuss and share our thoughts and learn from one another.

Thank you Philip.

Joy Job

~~*Rural*~~ *Area Dean*

Following Kalantha Brewis' departure earlier in the year to be DDO (Diocesan Director of Ordinands) of Oxford Diocese, I have accepted Bishop Hugh's invitation to replace her as Area Dean of Worcester. As I write, the clergy of the deanery have been informed but the news has not yet been made public (that will have changed by the time you read this), so a lot of details have yet to be determined, such as when I will be officially licensed!

I will write more for the September magazine about what the role of the Area Dean is, but for the avoidance of doubt, this is an additional role to being Team Rector, not a move. In essence, it involves leading Deanery Chapter and Synod, and acting as the link between the deanery and the diocesan leadership.

This is the role which used to be called "Rural Dean." Some of you may recall that Frank Bentley held this role while also remaining Vicar of St John in Bedwardine. I will doubtless know a lot more by the time I next write about it!

Phil Bradford

West Worcester Friendship Club

In May I introduced a small number of members to the “delights” of the game Rumikub! At the time of writing, I am looking forward to our June meeting when we will be celebrating our fourth anniversary – with cake, games, goodie bags and, no doubt, plenty of laughter!

At our July meeting we will be welcoming Councillor Matt Lamb who is going to talk to us about the work of a local councillor and his term of office as mayor. **We are opening this meeting to anybody who would like to join us.** Please do come along to St Michael’s Church at 2pm on Thursday 16th July.

August sees us going on our annual trip out; this year to Witley Church Tea Rooms with the option of a stroll around the grounds of Witley Court.

West Worcester Friendship Club is open to anybody who has suffered a bereavement and new members are always welcome. Just come along to a meeting which, apart from August, are held in St Michael’s Church on the third Thursday of each month.

Sarah Cottrill

The World Cup and Domestic Abuse

At the time of writing, the World Cup has just started and by the time you are reading this, we will be building up to the final. It is a time of great patriotism, of excitement, of spending time with friends. Unfortunately, it is also a time of frustration, disappointment and increased alcohol consumption, all of which can lead to a rise in cases of domestic abuse.

“It’s coming home!” we chant optimistically, but, as we were reminded at the Mothers’ Union conference (see article on page 20)), it’s not ok to be coming home to violence and abuse! Please pray that this sporting event will not be marred by suffering and fear for anyone.

Victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse can access confidential, free support from a number of organisations. Details of helplines are available in the St Clement’s magazine (The Anchor) and on fliers in St Clement’s Church.

Sarah Cottrill

Organ Appeal Update

In May we received a sizeable donation for the organ appeal (Thank you!) so the gap is continuing to narrow. More donations still needed though! There will be a fuller update in the September edition of the magazine.

Graham Evans

Celebrating 150 years of the Mothers' Union

“Join us, join in” is the tagline for the Mothers' Union's celebratory year, and on 10th-11th June, 1600 members from around the world did exactly that! We met together and joined in worship, celebration and thanksgiving for one woman's vision which has grown into a global organisation, reaching out to families in need!



Thirty-six of us from the Worcester Diocese boarded a coach on the morning of June 10th and headed down to London. We dutifully - if reluctantly - bought bright yellow baseball caps, designed and created by one of our members. They turned out to be a real God-send, allowing us to spot each other in the vast crowds outside St Paul's Cathedral.

The rain, in which we had to wait for admission to St Paul's, did nothing to dampen spirits as friends and strangers alike greeted each other with warmth and friendliness.

Our service was led by the Archbishop of Canterbury who used her sermon to offer warm appreciation and support for all that the Mothers' Union stands for and the work it does. After the service she shook hands with virtually every member of the congregation - that's a lot of hands! We were also told by cathedral staff that we'd set a record for the cathedral, as every single one of the 1600 people there received Communion - a first for them! As somebody pointed out, this was the 150 years celebration of the world's largest Christian women's organisation, being presided over by the first female Archbishop of Canterbury. It really shouldn't have been a surprise!



An overseas member wearing her M.U. dress



We left the cathedral to joyful ringing of bells and, as you can see in this picture, very welcome sunshine. We were then taken to a hotel for dinner and sleep.

An early start in the morning had us heading into Westminster and the Emmanuel Centre where we spent the day reflecting on the past, being updated on work going on in the present, and contemplating the future.

Five past World Wide Presidents reflected on the highs and lows of their terms in office, giving cause for much laughter but also for thanks and thoughtfulness.

We then had inspiring reports on what is being done in various dioceses, to support MU. Projects in prisons and hospitals; amongst the homeless; raising awareness and supporting victims of both domestic abuse and modern slavery, and providing holidays and day trips for disadvantaged families.

During our lunch break, we had the chance to visit MU headquarters, Mary Sumner House, and to purchase souvenirs, before hearing more about current projects.

Finally we turned our attention to the future, looking particularly at joint ventures and partnerships with other organisations. For this, we were introduced to three Youth Ambassadors from the Girls' Brigade and they were phenomenal! Three confident, articulate young women who spoke with real passion about the role of the importance of listening to the views of young people and respecting them. As Y.A. Molly pointed out though, "It's not just about listening; it's about acting!"

It is the hope of all present at the gathering that through working in partnership with organisations like the Girls' Brigade, young women can be encouraged to become members of the Mothers' Union and lead us into the future. If we can enroll new members of the calibre of Molly, Eloise and Olivia, then I think the future of the Mothers' Union looks not only secure but bright!

All Worcester Diocese members are extremely grateful to our President, Jill Crofton, who organised transport, accommodation and tickets, thus enabling so many of us to attend a very memorable celebration.

The next major event to celebrate our 150 years is the Global Conference in Durban which takes place in September. Meanwhile, though, there are smaller, local events to look out for (see page 11).

Sarah Cottrill

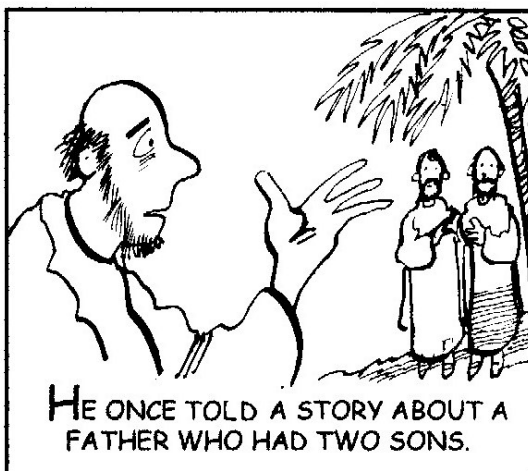
The tale of the Two Sons



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



HE ONCE TOLD A STORY ABOUT A FATHER WHO HAD TWO SONS.



THE FATHER WENT TO HIS OLDER SON AND ASKED HIM TO WORK IN THE VINEYARD



'NO I WON'T!' SAID THE OLDER SON...



....BUT THEN HE CHANGED HIS MIND AND WENT AND HELPED.

THE FATHER THEN WENT TO HIS YOUNGER SON AND ASKED HIM TO HELP IN THE VINEYARD TOO.

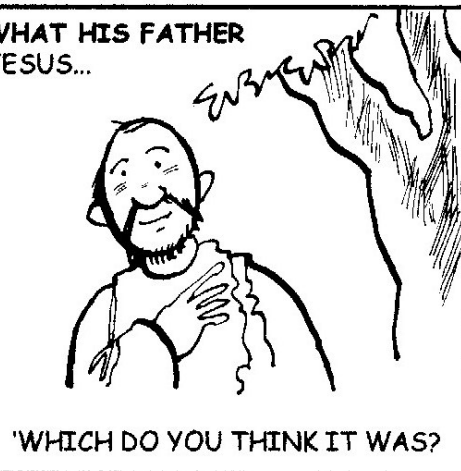


'OF COURSE I WILL!' SAID THE YOUNGER SON. BUT HE PROMPTLY FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT....

...AND DIDN'T DO A STROKE OF WORK!



'WHICH ONE DID WHAT HIS FATHER WANTED?' ASKED JESUS...



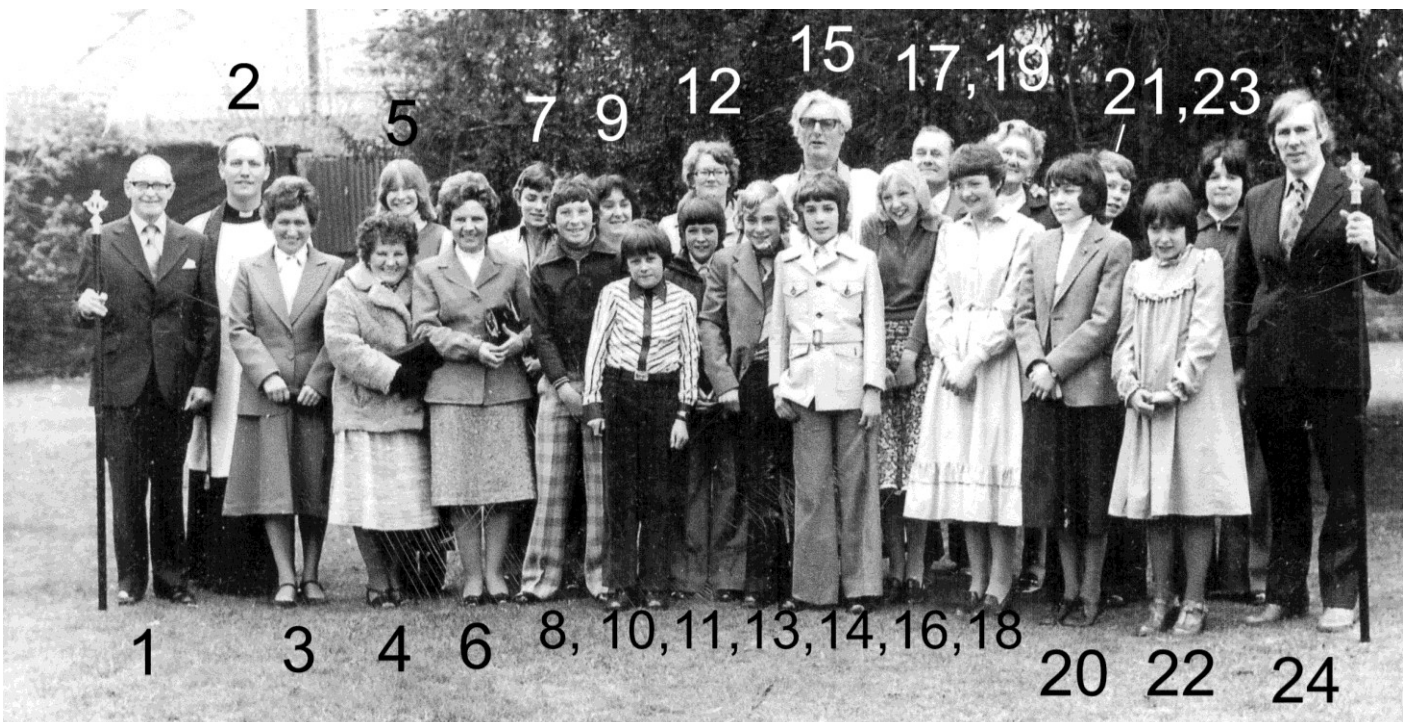
'WHICH DO YOU THINK IT WAS?

More memories

Mike Bentley kindly sent us this picture of the St John's Church confirmation group for 1979. How many people can you name?



Please send an email to parishmagazine@wcw.church, the magazine email address, naming as many people as you can. To assist you in being clear which person you are naming, please use the numbers on the picture below:



The Editors



Baptism

Following on from our previous exploration of the Holy Spirit, this month's Messy Church turned to the theme of Baptism. Our activities and crafts primarily focused on the idea that in being baptised we are joined with Christ and that Jesus will always be with us.

The next time you visit St John's Church, have a look at the Messy Church noticeboard. You will see drawings and designs that members of the congregation came up with, inspired by Paul's words 'Nothing can separate us from God's love' (Romans 8:38–39).



Everyone got stuck into marbling, dropping coloured inks onto bowls of water and lifting prints onto paper. The two colours represented Jesus and us, and how together, they can make something beautiful.

If you were at the service on the Sunday after Messy Church, you might have spotted Liz or Fiona with a broom. This was clearing up the last of the sand from our next activity! People drew around their feet, filling the image with glue and scattering sand to create sparkling prints. Others went barefoot into the sand tray itself to then print onto the paper. We talked about the 'Footprints' poem, picturing Jesus walking alongside us on our journey. If you are unaware of it, do look it up – it is lovely.

Heart badges, pocket cross stitch crosses and friendship bracelets, were all made as items that we could take home and keep with us in our daily lives, acting as a reminder of God's love for us.

No Messy Church would be complete without something edible. Candles were made with a biscuit base topped with a cylinder of white fondant icing, a liquorice lace wick, and an almond or satsuma. We talked about how when we are baptised, we are given a candle, to show that we have moved from darkness into light.

Our worship session brought all the activities' discussion points together, reflecting on what it means to be baptised, to belong, and to know that even when we feel alone, Jesus is always with us.

The next Messy Church is on Saturday 4th July, where our theme will be Communion. Doors open at 3.30pm to start at 4pm. Please do come along and experience a Messy Church service for yourself!

We'll be taking a break in August, in line with the school holidays, and will be back on Saturday 5th September.

Beth Broadway

Sudoku Puzzle

***The solution
is on the
inside back
cover.***

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

Triple Golden Anniversary

On 7th June three couples, Catherine and Gordon Templeton, Sandra and Colin Nash, and Joy and Roger Job, from the church held a short joint celebration for their Golden Wedding Anniversaries after the service with Prosecco and cakes for the congregation.





Catherine and Gordon were married on 24th March 1976 at St Peter's Church in Hammersmith, West London by Catherine's uncle, Rev Edward Montague-Youens from Bewdley.

On 24th April 1976 Sandra and Colin were married at St Ethelreda's Church in Old Hatfield, Hertfordshire during a short break from an Army Course that Colin was on at the time.



On 17th July 1976 Joy and Roger were married at St Leonard's Church, Ribbesford near Bewdley by none other than the Rev Edward Montague-Youens, Catherine's uncle! How about that for a coincidence? Bewdley was his actual Parish.

Colin Nash

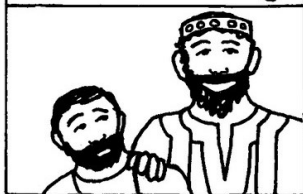
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel,
but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said
that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know
that God had
chosen David to
be the next king.



David was very successful
as a fighter and very
popular.



David had to go on the run and
hide.



One day, Saul
and his army
were in En-Gedi.
Saul needed to
pee, so he went
into a sheep
fold built next
to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the
back of the cave!



David crept over and
cut a piece off Saul's
robe.



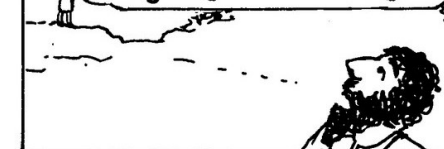
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul
was far enough away
then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have
killed you today, but I
knew it was wrong. I want
to prove to you I'm not
trying to harm you.



David, you are better than
me. I would have killed you
but you were kind.



David promised, and
Saul and his army
went home.



Bible Bite Wordsearch

p	h	i	l	i	s	t	i	n	e	s	y
m	u	i	m	c	h	o	i	c	e	e	k
c	j	e	a	l	o	u	s	i	b	c	i
k	h	o	j	r	u	i	i	o	k	h	n
a	n	o	e	o	t	f	s	u	t	a	d
f	r	o	s	b	e	i	a	r	w	n	i
o	c	m	t	e	d	g	u	m	a	c	p
l	a	d	y	i	n	h	l	p	i	e	y
d	v	t	h	j	c	t	e	o	t	l	l
b	e	k	i	l	l	e	d	n	e	n	y
t	c	a	t	c	h	r	f	x	d	p	f
k	i	n	g	s	d	a	v	i	d	j	r

choice

robe

family

king

Israel

shouted

kind

army

chance

sheep

disobey

fighter

Saul

waited

catch

killed

chosen

David

notice

jealous

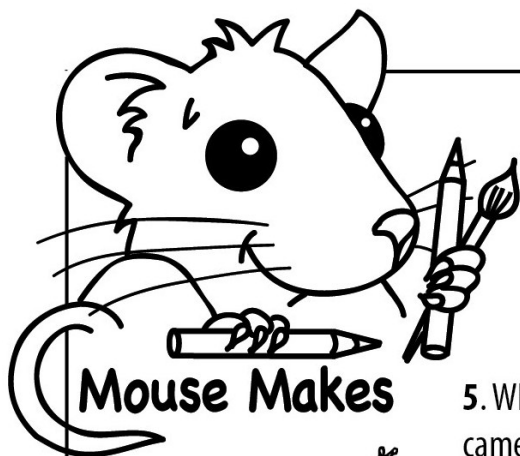
Philistines

majesty

fold

cave

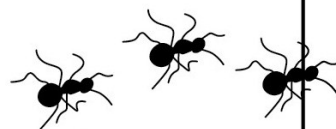
The solution is on the inside back cover.



1. What bird makes
it's nest on high?
Job 39:27



2. What ate the seeds along the path?
Matthew 13:4



3. The hair of which animal
was used to make curtains?
Exodus 36:14

4. What insect
can we learn from?
Proverbs 6:6

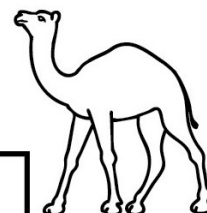
7. Which animal
was Jesus
compared to?
John 1:29



5. What plague
came out of the
River Nile?
Exodus 8:6



6. What animal would
go through the eye
of a needle easier
than a rich person?
Luke 18:25

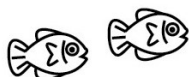


B I B L E

8. What bird did Noah release
from the ark first?
Genesis 8:7



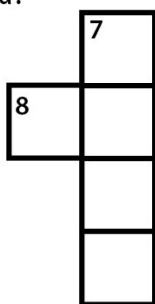
9 across.
In what creature's mouth
was a coin found?
Matthew 17:27



C R E A T U R E S



9 down.
What lives
in holes?
Matthew 8:20

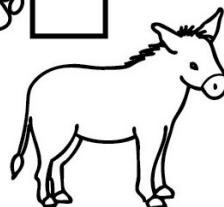


10. What insect
would God send
to destroy
the enemy?
Deut 7:20

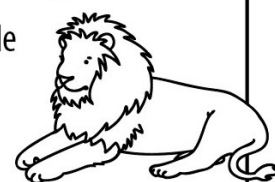


12. Which bird
did the
Holy Spirit
appear as?
Luke 3:22

13. Which animal
did Jesus ride on?
Matthew 21:7



14. What bird did God provide
for food in the wilderness?
Exodus 16:13



15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?
Matthew 3:4



16. Which animal is the
"mightiest among beasts"?
Proverbs 30:30

High Tea!

The latest coach trip organised by the Events team took us on a one hundred mile drive to Llangollen in North Wales.

Our group had two hours to spend in the town before returning to our coach for the four mile drive to the nearby village of Froncysyllte.



There we boarded the barge “Thomas Telford” for a return trip to Llangollen town along a section of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Llangollen Canal, one of only four sites so designated in Wales.

The highlight of the sail was a crossing of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, passing over a deep valley below with only the narrow concrete lip of the canal between us and the drop. On the boat, some of the group chose to enjoy the optional indulgence of the Welsh cream teas that were on offer.



Our coach arrived back at St John's at 6.45pm after a long but enjoyable day.

Gordon Templeton

Back Garden Springwatch

Some time ago I wrote about an injured fox that visited our garden and how, with the help of Vale Animal Rescue, we caught her. She received a few weeks of antibiotics and was then released back in our garden. We were pleased that we did see her again after she was released. Last year we saw a dog fox, vixen and 2 cubs.

This year we have had a female fox visiting but she seems to have lost her mate early in the year. She visits several times each night.



We have nightly visits from badgers. There is an adult female and at least 2 juveniles from last year. Normally one badger at a time comes to feed on peanuts ...

... but occasionally 2 do visit together and then disputes can break out with some pushing and shoving. Early in June I was surprised to see 3 badgers together and one was obviously this year's cub.



A badger's diet is 80% worms but during periods of drought they struggle to find enough worms and wildlife advice is that it is fine to feed them as they can die during long, dry periods; especially cubs. Certainly we see more visits to the garden during dry spells.

I have sat in the conservatory and watched the badgers if they arrive early enough. Apparently most people in Britain have not seen a live badger though many have seen one dead on the road.

Sometimes the fox and the badger visit together.



Our garden survives these visitors. We have a gravel patch and established trees and bushes so any rooting around is just doing the weeding for us.

Wildlife cameras have reduced in price and are easier to operate so I now have 4 cameras which capture activity from dusk to dawn.

Some nights are pretty busy. I have one camera outside the garden watching the comings and goings which has also captured a hedgehog and muntjac deer.



The land around us was once part of Bennett's farm so I imagine the badgers and foxes have had their homes here for generations, perhaps well over a century.

We feel blessed to share our space with them (or should it be the other way round?).

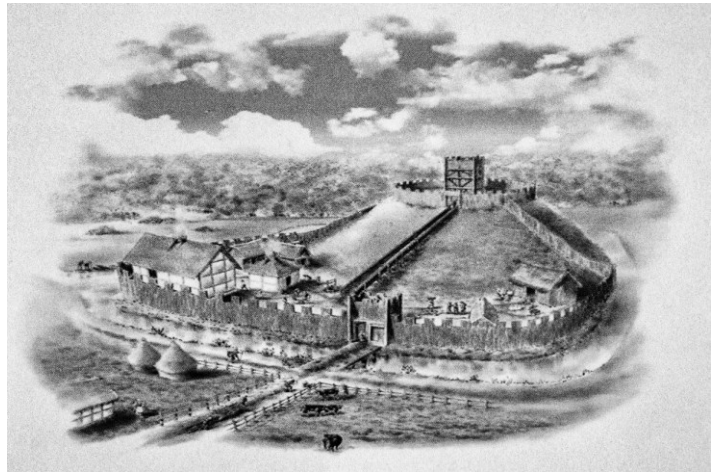
Margaret Miller

A Chaplain but no Chiropodist

Over 80 people turned up to hear Paul Harding tell us what life was like living in a castle. He started by saying he had not brought any armour due to the adverse wet weather conditions and the need to clean it if it got wet. As you can gather it was not a particularly pleasant spring day! Nor had he brought along any weapons as he finds these can create massacres in the audience!

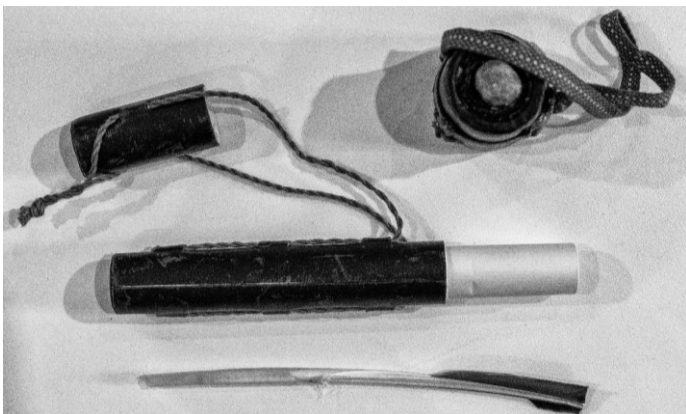
He started his presentation by talking about the Fore Gate which was around the top end of the Butts. Anyone coming to Worcester for the docks and river from Droitwich would have to pay a toll of salt to pass through the gate. He explained that Castle Street is not where the castle was built. It was originally called Salt Lane, as the people from Droitwich would sneak down there to avoid paying the toll. Eventually Salt Lane changed its name to Castle Street because the Prison was built there and it looked like a castle.

The Castle was built by the Normans further south on the east bank of the river on the bend of the river, where the King's School is now. The first castle was a motte and bailey castle and was built by the Anglo-Saxons for the Normans. A lot of these early castles were prepared in Normandy and brought over as a giant flat pack. The



castles had an exterior wall and then a moat was built around the wall. The motte was a mound about 25ft high and around this on the inside of the outer wall was the bailey, which was the living area for the people in the castle. A keep would be built on top of the motte, which would be used as the final defensive zone if they were under attack. The castle in Worcester was used for centuries.

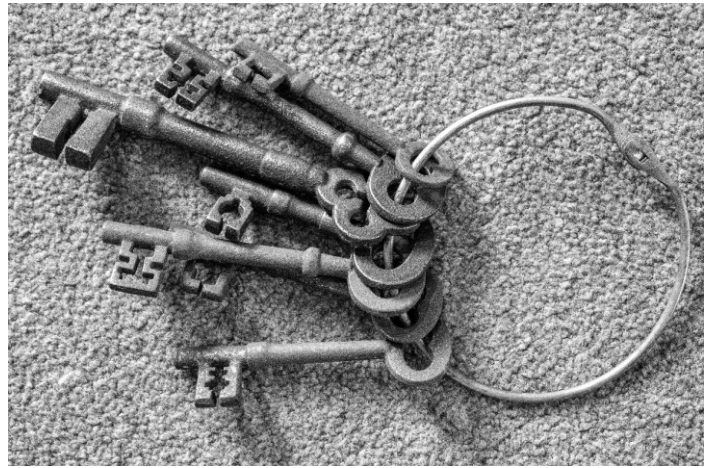
The Beauchamp family owned the castle, along with several other castles



including Elmley Castle. The family eventually became the Earls of Warwick and then they used Warwick Castle as their main residence. A steward would run the castle on behalf of the owner. His main job would be checking the castle and lands for the owner. His main tools were a pen and ink, not a sword, as

he kept the accounts and made sure the taxes were paid.

Another important role was the constable of the castle. His main duty was the security of the castle, and he would hold the keys of the castle. You can still see the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. He oversaw the keeping the law in the castle and lands. People were still being locked up in Worcester Castle until the early 19th Century. Norman law was very brutal, especially when putting down any rebellions. Fingers and hands would be cut off for stealing and people would be branded if they broke the laws.

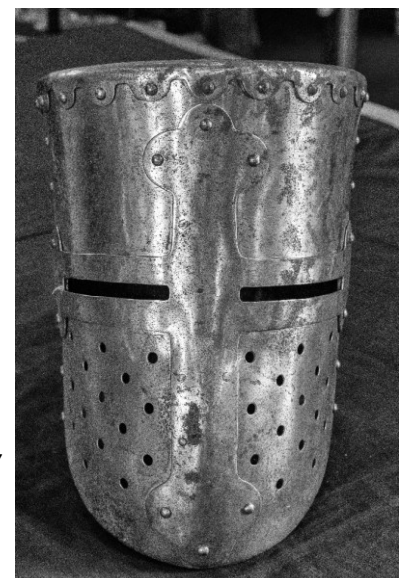


Castles became very detailed and kept being upgraded over the centuries. From the original Mott and Bailey type, the first upgrade would be to a stone keep and then finally to series of concentric defensive walls. However, Worcester castle was never really upgraded and stayed as just a Mott and Bailey Castle. King John decided that he wanted to stay in Worcester when things became difficult for him, and he told them to upgrade from the wooden walls to stone for added protection.



The protection of the early castles was mainly provided by foot soldiers who wore a small helmet, seen here to the left, and who were armed with bows or crossbows and arrows.

In charge would be a knight who was mounted on a horse and had full armour. His more protected helmet can be seen here on the right. He would carry a lance with a large sword and shield. Within a castle from the Norman days the organisation was built on a hierarchy, so everyone knew their place in the pecking order.



Continued on page 37



Peter

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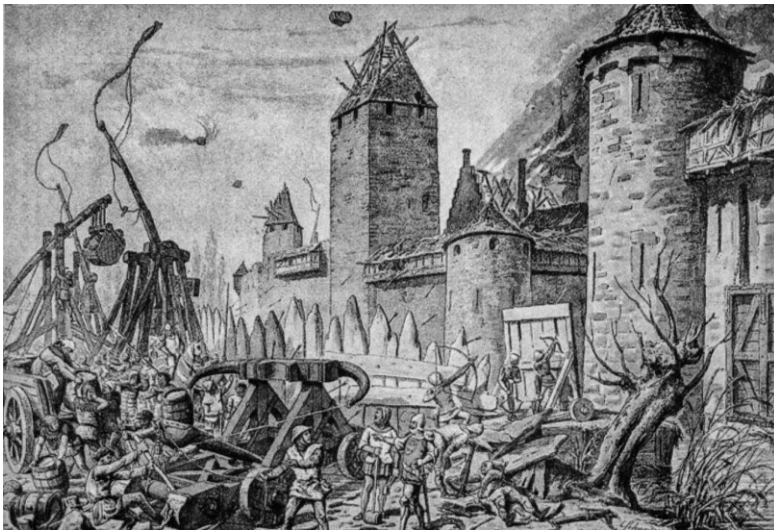
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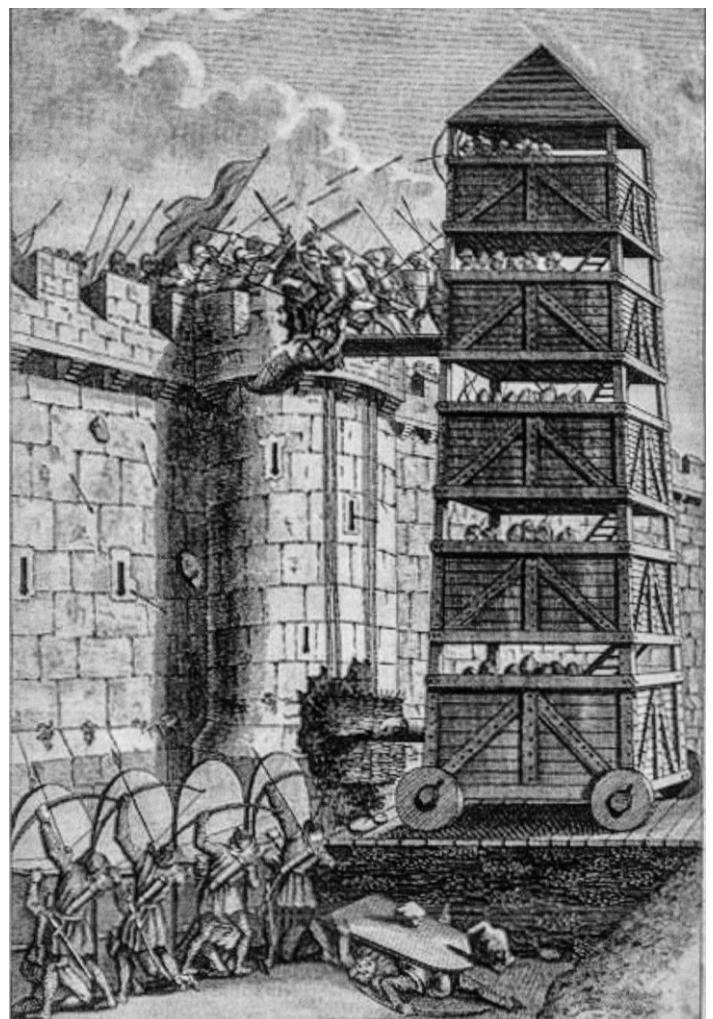


During the civil war between King Stephen and Empress Matilda the castle was attacked 3 times. The city stayed faithful to King Stephen, but Empress Matilda took the castle. This is where the term ‘The Faithful City’ comes from and not, as many people think, the English Civil War. The main way to take a castle would be to besiege

it and pound it with boulders thrown from machines, such as trebuchets. This image shows the types of boulder throwing machines that may have been used. It has been identified that one of these was placed around St Stephen’s Mount on the west side of the river, which shows how far these boulders could be thrown.

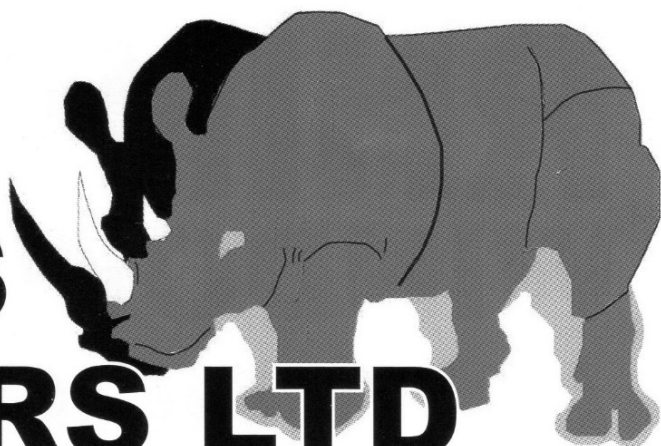
Attackers would also use siege towers and battering rams to break into the castle. Another method was to mine under the wall and start fires to break the walls. By the time of the Wars of the Roses, with the advent of gunpowder, the use of cannons made castles almost redundant as they could easily be destroyed by the more powerful weapons.

The key workers in a castle were the carpenters, the stonemasons and blacksmiths who would have to carry out emergency repairs during sieges. The National Trust and English Heritage are finding out that these roles are still key in the regular maintenance of these old buildings.



Each castle would have a chaplain who would look after the souls of the people, particularly those who were dying. Another role was that of huntsman who would be in charge of all the hunting on the lands.

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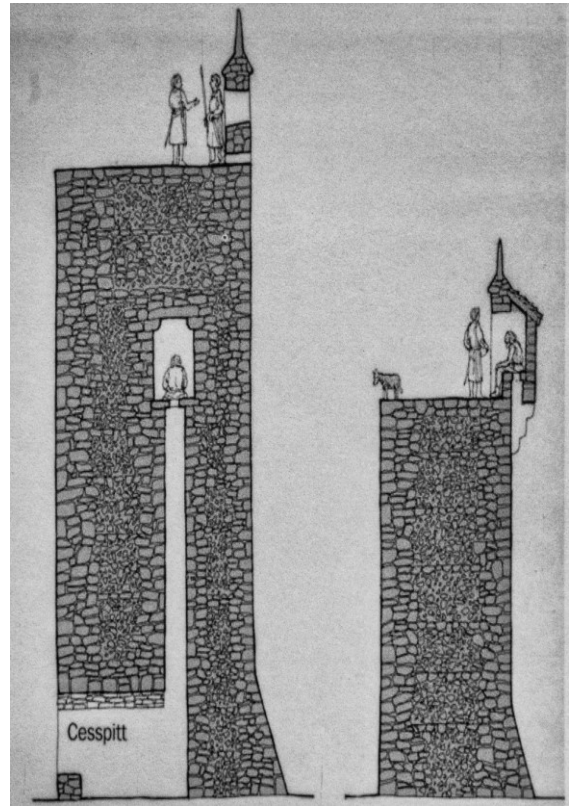
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Continued from page 37

Toilets were obviously important in a castle and those inside were called garderobes, which is where we get the term wardrobe from. These were maintained by the Gong Farmer, whose responsibility it was to clear out the toilets. The image here on the right shows what these toilets would have looked like. As they had an exit to the outside of the wall sometimes it was known for attackers to use these as a way to climb up into the castle, urgh!!!

The bottler was responsible for looking after the wine bottles and this is where the role of butler came from. Of course, the cook had an important role to make sure everyone was fed and the scullions who helped the cook with the menial tasks, which is where the role of a scullery maid came from. Of course, the people needed to be kept entertained and this where the jesters helped, especially during a siege. Then we had the physician and barber surgeons who would look after the health of the people, mostly they tried to cure people by bloodletting. The executioner was required to carry out some of the more severe sentences that the constable imposed.

All this means that life in a castle was very busy and there were very many people with various roles living their lives in them.



Once again, the ladies of the church excelled themselves and a fantastic array of cakes was ready for the audience at the refreshment break.

They did not last long!

As ever our thanks go out to all those dedicated ladies who make the cakes for the talks and also for the Tea and Cakes afternoons.

Colin Nash



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Reports to the 2026 APCMs

We included some of the reports to the 2026 APCMs (Annual Parochial Church Meetings) last month, and we continue in this edition. To avoid overwhelming the magazine with APCM reports, we're spreading out the reports over more than one edition! For the same reason, most reports are trimmed or summarised by the editors.

The Editors

Safeguarding report: The Joint Council safeguarding officers meet regularly to ensure that the safeguarding dashboard is up to date and to discuss any issues arising. All safeguarding checks and risk assessments are currently up to date, and these are reviewed regularly.

Parish Magazine: There are no major changes to report about the Parish Magazine, the magazine for St John's and St Michael's. Our monthly print run is currently 140, with about 107 subscriptions and the remainder going through sales at the churches. Thanks go to all who contribute to the magazine and to the delivery team who work hard to get all copies delivered promptly.

Deanery Synod met three times in the past year. The first meeting focused on children and young people's worship. The second had an ecological focus. The third discussed The Three Ships': Fellowship, Discipleship and Stewardship.

Electoral Roll reports: Michael's now has 22 on the roll and St John's 88.

Communications: We use a range of media to communicate. Our main route for information going out to the local community is our Facebook page, along with the St Johns Worcester Community Interest and the Worcester WR2 Residents pages. At St John's, banners attached to the railings remain very effective!

Events Committee Report 2025: Over the last 12 months the Events Team have organised a range of events, with the aim to appeal to a wide range of people and budgets. It was wonderful to see the community embrace the scarecrow festival, with several entries from a range of schools, groups and individuals. It is hoped that this will become a bi-annual event, so will potentially run again in 2027. Plans are in place for 2026/27 events, with music concerts, the return of the family quiz, another chance to sing your favourite hymns and a Christmas Tree festival.

Organist & Choirmaster: Music continues to play an important part in our worship. The choir provides a lead and support to the congregational singing whilst offering choral music in worship. During the last year we have had to work around problems with, and repairs to, the organ's wind reservoirs. I am always delighted to hear from singers interested in joining the choir. *Continued on page 43*

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Continued from page 41

Music Group: Peter Yates noted that “times move on, as do the various people who have served the group (including me) but, who knows, maybe a new Music Group will come forward from the current congregation?”

Bellringers: Another great year for the St John’s Bellringers, with new members joining and some learning from scratch. We have rung most Sunday mornings and practised every Thursday night and are making great progress learning new methods and gaining confidence.

Women’s Breakfast: This continues on the second Saturday morning of the month from 9am to 11am in the Blakefield Room at St John’s. We now have a continental breakfast and we meet in the church rather than the Blakefield Room. Both these changes are working well, and we are enjoying the different breakfast. Interesting speakers have encouraged and inspired us with a variety of topics. While enjoying food and fellowship and having fun we have grown in our faith and continued to move along our Christian journey together.

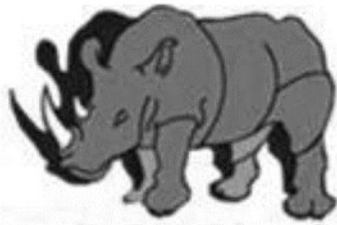
Café Church: We have had some interesting worship and thoughts for the day in the past year. Everyone is welcome on the 4th Saturday of the month at 10.45am to come and share fellowship, Danish pastry, tea and coffee, and to take away a thought or memory of how God uses our gifts, to share in his kingdom.

Community Breakfast: During 2025 we held two community breakfasts, serving 323 people between them. The first was Rob Little’s farewell time of cooking for us. At the second, Darren Wilkins was joined by Tom Fairman to help with the cooking, and all went well. Thank you to all the team, including the guides, who work to make these events happen for our community.

Children’s Church (St J): This year we have two separate groups: ‘Explorers’ for children of primary school age and ‘Scramblers’ for pre-schoolers. Throughout the year the children have become more involved in aspects of worship, with some of the older ones starting to take part in the reading rota, and the youngest children taking the collection.

Little Lambs (St J): A very popular and happy church playgroup with a warm and welcoming atmosphere for 0 to 4 year olds and their parents/carers. It is an important part of our outreach for the community and has been running for over 10 years. Our playgroup is full of fun. We have many regular families and also new people most weeks. More volunteers are always welcome to come and enjoy the fun with us.

Continued on page 45



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Messy Church: Numbers are steady at between 30-40 people each time, and both children and adults enjoy the range of activities available. We welcome both those who would be familiar to the Sunday congregation, and those who do not normally come on a Sunday. New attendees are always welcome so if you want to find out what we get up to please just come along; and if anyone would be interested in getting more involved in the running of Messy Church, please get in touch!

St Michael's Churchwardens: The Service Pattern for St Michael's has worked well during the past 12 months, with all scheduled services covered. There has been a steady number in the weekly and mid-week congregations. There are always willing volunteers for readings and intercessions, for which we are very grateful. No additions have been made to the fixtures/fittings. The fabric of the building is in good order. All vestments and altar cloths and linen are in good condition. We thank all who help to keep the church in good order.

St John's Churchwardens: There has been no change to the inventory of church ornaments. Estates Manager, Tom Amies, has been proactive in ensuring that our buildings are maintained in good order. Worthy of particular mention is his work in preparing the Heron Close property for sale and thence following the sale through to completion. The proceeds are now held in trust for the church. We also thank the team who maintain and enhance our churchyard.

Estates Manager: For St Michael's - dealt with the landlord over buildings issues. For St John's - there has been a wide range of activity including upgrades and repairs, routine checks and maintenance, management of the flat and all the work to prepare for and complete the sale of Heron Close.

Churchyard: We continue to have a small core group of volunteers who meet each week, weather permitting, to keep the churchyard looking as good as we can for all users of the area. Many people sit in the churchyard each day and the chairs are quite often all occupied. The last year has been very much about maintaining the areas that we have created, such as the rose garden, wildflower meadow and the wildflower area. The daffodils probably were at the best I have seen them this spring and many photos of them were in the local press and social media. The staff in the Birder's Store in King Charles Place (whilst testing binoculars of course!) have now recorded over 80 different species of birds that they have seen. So, we do seem to be creating an environment that the wildlife enjoys.

The End!

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From the Magazine Archive, July 1953

ST. JOHN'S GIRL GUIDES

Patrol Sports were held at the end of May. Mr. Rowe kindly acted as starter, and Mrs. Follows presented the Silver Cup to the Kingfisher Patrol after a very keen contest.

The Company is very proud that Pat Lewis and Maureen Hampton have obtained 1st Class Badges. The former is now to represent Worcester in Westminster Abbey on June 21st at the big Guide Service.

Two Guides and one Lieutenant took part in the March Past on Saturday, June 6th. on Pitchcroft.

G. M. ANNIS, Captain.

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CLUB

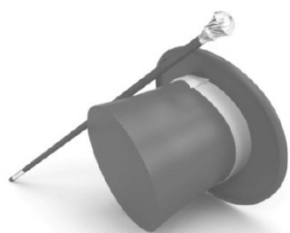
Regular activities are closing in July and August, but there will be various informal activities. Please watch the Magazine and come to Church so as to keep in touch. Please also keep free the week-end of September 12th and 13th for our annual week-end at Cropthorne.

BRING-AND-BUY SALE

This will be held on Saturday, 11th July, at 2.30 p.m., at 133 Malvern Road (by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Roberts). Teas, Produce and Cake Stalls, Side Shows. Mixed Doubles American Lawn Tennis Tournament (entries, 1/6 each, to be sent to Miss M. E. Parker, Happy Land North, by 6th July, 1953).

GARDEN WHIST DRIVE, JULY 30th

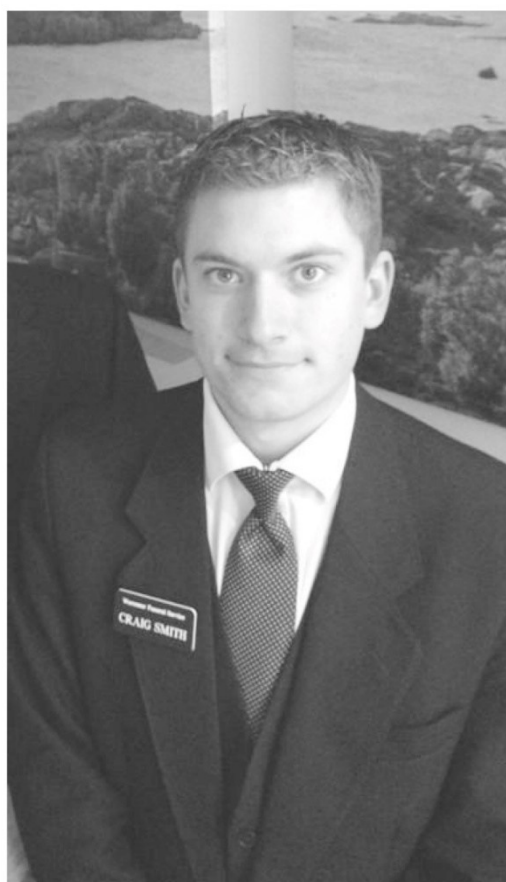
We are grateful to Mrs. F. E. Lee, 40 Bromwich Road, for lending us her lawn. The proceeds will go to the fund for Hymn Books and Hassocks.



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ST JOHN'S LIBRARY

Usual opening hours

Libraries Unlocked

Monday - Saturday: 8am - 8 pm

Core (staffed) opening times:

- Monday: 2pm - 5pm
- Tuesday: 10am - 5pm
- Wednesday: 10am - 1pm
- Thursday: 2pm - 5pm
- Friday: 10am - 5pm
- Saturday: 10am - 1pm

Bank Holiday - The library is closed on Monday 31 August

Events at St John's Library

Weekly events:

- Creative Tales, weekly every Monday, 3:30pm to 4:15pm (not 31 August)
- Chess Club, weekly every Tuesday, 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Cost 50p which can be paid on arrival.

- Crochet and Chat, weekly every Wednesday, 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Storytime and Song, weekly every Friday, 11:00am to 11:30am.

For children aged 0 to 4 years. Free, no booking required.

Other regular events:

- Classic Film Club, alternate Thursdays (9 & 23 July, 6 & 20 August) 2:00pm to 3:30pm.
- Crime Readers' Group: First Friday of each month (3 July, 7 August), 12:00pm to 1:00pm.
- Photography Group: Third Friday of each month (17 July, 21 August), 2:00pm to 3:00pm. *Free, but booking essential (01905 822722).*
- Crime Film Group: Fourth Friday of each month (24 July - NOT in the events diary for August), 12:00pm to 1:00pm.

The information above is from the County Council website on 17th June.

- Councillors' Surgeries: First Saturday of each month (4 July, 1 August), 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Meet your local policing team: Tuesday 7th July, 10:30am and Tuesday 18th August, 10:30am.

The Parish Magazine - SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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

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at
St John's*

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usually from the 4th Sunday of the preceding month).

☐

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

☐

(£23.15) I live outside St John's and need my magazine to be posted. Postage and Packing costs
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Please put in the reference number you have been given, as the reference for the recipient.

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2. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
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4. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.



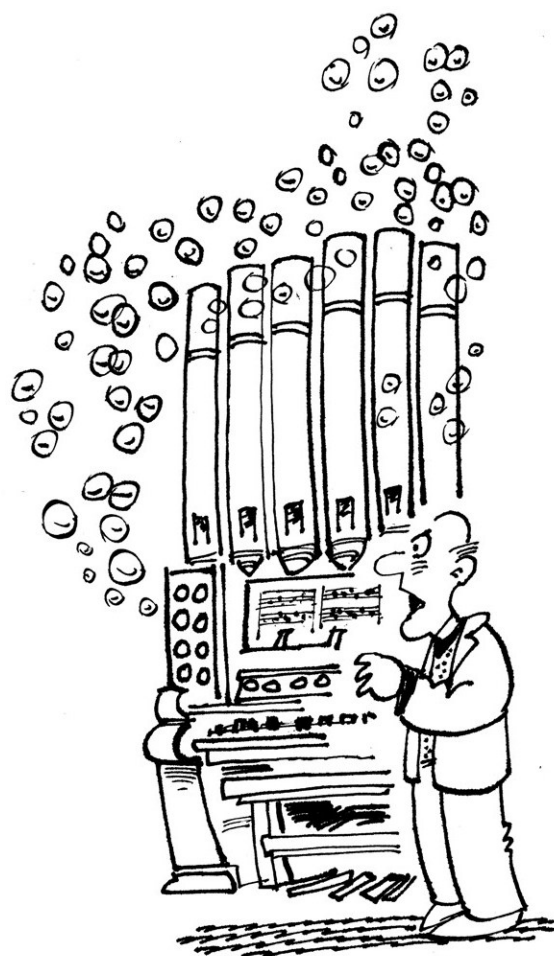
Puzzle solutions

p	h	i	s	t	i	n	e	s	y
m	u	i	m	c	h	o	i	c	e
c	j	e	a	l	o	u	s	i	b
k	h	o	j	r	u	i	o	k	h
a	n	o	e	o	t	f	s	u	t
f	r	o	s	b	e	i	a	r	w
o	c	m	t	e	d	g	u	m	a
l	a	d	y	i	n	h	l	p	i
d	v	t	h	j	c	t	e	o	t
b	e	k	i	l	e	d	n	e	n
t	c	a	t	c	h	r	f	x	d
k	i	n	g	s	d	a	v	i	d

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

And finally....

*“For the last time!
Which member of
the Junior Choir
put bubble mixture
in the organ-blower?!”*



Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council is a charity with the Registered Charity Number 1205354.

Sunday Services – July/August 2026

	St John's	St Michael's	St David's
5th July	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong		4pm Eucharist
12th July	10.30am All Age Eucharist	10.30am Morning Worship	4pm Evening Prayer
19th July	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist
26th July	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Morning Worship	4pm Evening Prayer
2nd August	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	10.30am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist
9th August	10.30am All Age Eucharist	10.30am Morning Worship	4pm Evening Prayer
16th August	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist	4pm Eucharist
23rd August	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Morning Worship	4pm Evening Prayer
30th August	10.30am Eucharist	10.30am Morning Worship	

In case there are any changes to the above, please watch the weekly church newsletters and websites for the latest information.