

The Parish Magazine

St John-in-Bedwardine

St Michael's

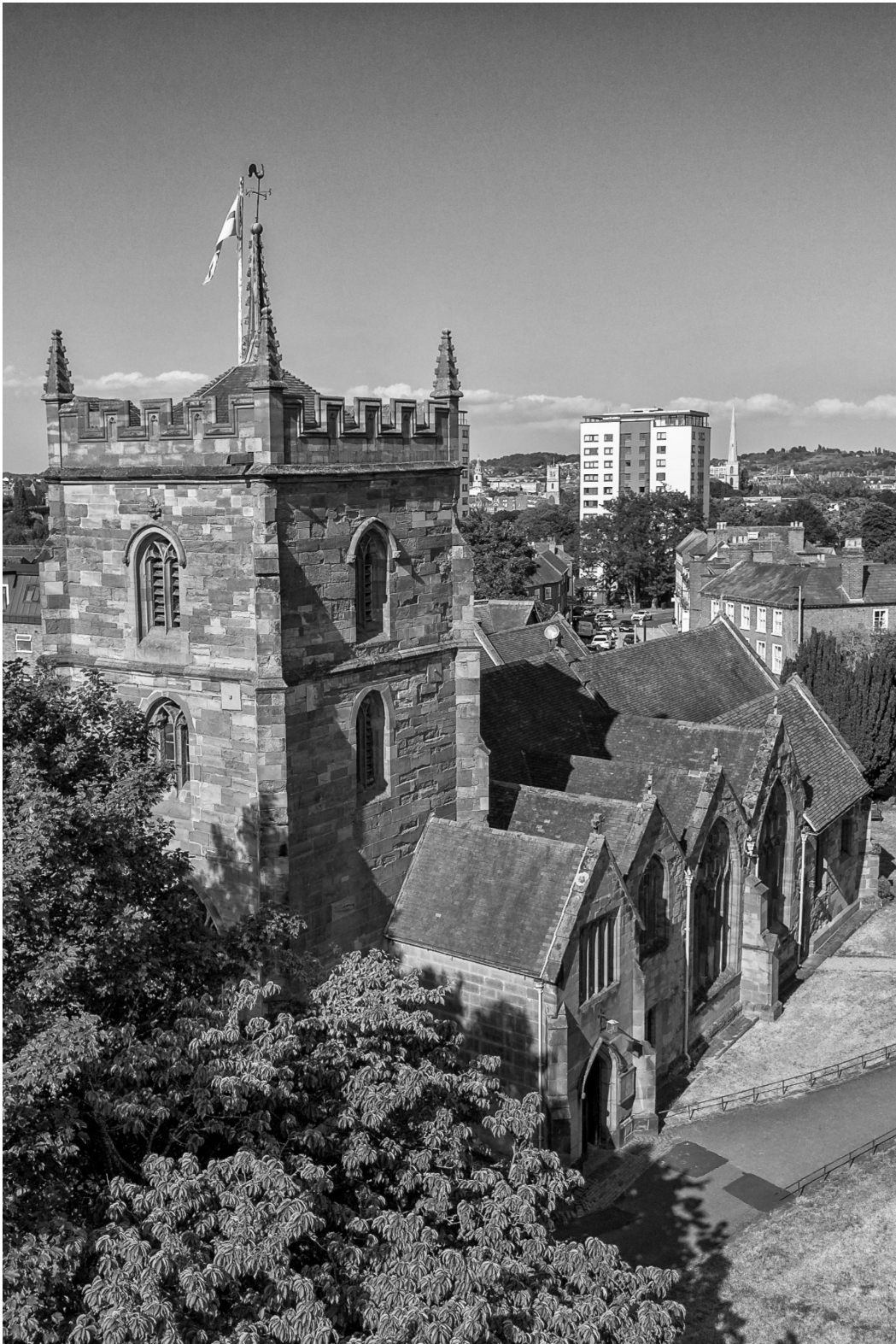


THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



July/August 2023

50p



Information

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

The Reverend PHIL BRADFORD (01905 423794)

Day off: Friday

The Reverend SARAH COTTRILL (01905 426257)

Saturday

Pastoral Minister: The Reverend STEPHEN BUCKLEY (07746 206905)

TEAM OFFICE

You can contact the office by email, post or telephone.		The office is open Wednesday and Friday 9am-12noon.
Postal address: 1a Bromyard Road St John's, WR2 5BS	Tel: (01905) 420490 e-mail: office@wcv.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, please contact the Joint Council Safeguarding Officer, Jane Askew (01905 424811) or any member of the clergy.

Churchwardens: stjohns.churchwardens@wcv.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 Sylvia Render (telephone 422654/email sylviarender@talktalk.net) or Stephen Buckley (tel 07746 206905/email stephenbuckley554@gmail.com). The church of St John-in-Bedwardine is a registered charity, number 1152583.	
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

A word from the editors

Welcome to our summer edition, covering July and August. Our theme is “Refreshment”. Phil discusses this in his letter and asks us to consider both personal and corporate refreshment.

We hope you will find plenty of enjoyable and interesting reading in these pages. There are plenty of reports of events which have happened, and notices of things to come. We’ve managed to get in the rest of the Annual Meeting reports, except the finance reports which will follow in the next edition. The cover picture is not linked to the theme - it was just too good not to use!

We offer you this short but beautiful prayer (it’s the post communion prayer for Trinity 6) and hope that you will find it contributes to your refreshment:

*God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

We wish all our readers a refreshing summer.

Graham and Sue Evans

Important information

Email address: parishmagazine@wcv.church

Next edition (September): Deadline is Sunday 13th August. Distribution, towards the end of August.

Subscription form: Page 50.

Cover picture: Picture by Fin Kemp, processed by Colin Nash. Fin’s Facebook page is F.K Drone Photography.

Pictures in this magazine: Our thanks to those who provided pictures for this magazine, including Phil Bradford, Philip Evans, Liz Forman, Colin Nash and Maureen Ovington.

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 50 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 PCCs or The Church of England. Such material is offered as a source of debate or reflection.

To advertise

Please see page 16.

From Phil Bradford

‘I don’t have time to...’ Think, honestly, how often you have used that line, or heard others around you use it. In some cases, it is absolutely true, and through no fault of the person concerned as they try to hold down a job and raise a family and just keep everything going. In others, however, it is almost a badge of honour to be or appear busy, consumed with activity, never having time to stop.



It can be a means to emphasise importance, to create the impression that you are far above dealing with ‘insignificant’ people or ‘trivial’ matters. And it is symptomatic of a society which idolises slippery concepts like ‘productivity’, dictated by millionaire members of parliament who have inherited wealth or earned it by exploitation, telling workers to do what they would never dream of doing themselves. For ill-defined reasons, normal people should be occupied all the time in the pursuit of the all-elusive ‘growth’. Never mind that plenty of hardworking people, some with multiple jobs, cannot make ends meet. The depressingly familiar answer of the governing elite is that people should simply be working harder and longer. There is a contemporary mindset in society that value is to be measured in hours worked, in busyness, in activity, no matter the other costs.

It is a mindset which finds precious little support in the gospels, where Jesus is certainly not to be found endlessly active. The nature of the gospels compresses a fairly long time period, anywhere between one and three years, into a short space, which can make it seem considerably more breathless and action-packed than the reality. Mark, in particular, is a relentless catalogue of events which at first seems to have Jesus moving from one thing to the next, a gospel of action which hurries to Golgotha.

Yet on a more studied reading, this is not the case. Even among all this activity, there are plenty of examples in Mark (as there are in the other gospels) of Jesus taking some time out. Read through Mark or the other evangelists, and you will find Jesus withdrawing across lakes or up mountains, seeking out privacy and seclusion with his disciples. He consciously looks for peace, for time to pray, for time to be away from the pressures and demands of his very public ministry.

That ministry had begun with the time in the wilderness, and it continues with repeated searches for wilderness places to recharge. Jesus serves here as a reminder of the limitations of the human body, which cannot be endlessly active. It needs rest, it needs sleep, it needs time for prayer and contemplation. There is,

as Jesus makes clear through his life and ministry, nothing divine or noble about exhaustion and activity for its own sake. It was a wisdom which was retained in monasticism, where there was a recognition of the importance of balancing work/activity with prayer/contemplation and rest/sleep.

So as our magazine theme for this month is refreshment, it is worth each of us considering where we find refreshment in our own lives. And we can do so in both senses, asking ourselves how we draw refreshment in our lives, but also how we reset habits and patterns which are proving deadening or even destructive.

Yet refreshment is not just something personal. It is also something corporate. As a church, as a community, we are compelled from time to time to ask ourselves the same question about where we are drawing refreshment and how we are refreshing others. It can be easy to slip into familiar patterns, to want to just keep doing the same thing, but sometimes we have to ask ourselves what need is being met by that. As in our individual lives, our corporate life should be a balance of action (outreach) and contemplation (prayer). What do we need to refresh to make this a reality in our current context?

Phil Bradford

Prayers

Post communion prayer for Trinity 4:

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for Trinity 12:

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

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
Mary Louise Keating	10 August 1985
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 2023

St John's

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

3rd May 2023 Thomas James Fairman

7th May 2023 George Samuel Evans

14th May 2023 Amadeus Ronald Price

14th May 2023 Oscar James Mealings

FUNERALS: *Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord*

d. 26th March 2023 Zena Aileen Graham

d. 31st March 2023 Susan Margaret Townsend

d. 12th April 2023 Marian Ellen Pingree

d. 16th April 2023 Elaine Bradley

SERVICES: Communicants 189. Total attendance at all services 535 including 270 at two baptisms (outside the principal service) and two funerals.

St Michael's

SERVICES: Communicants 66. Total attendance at all services 81.

Mid-week services

The following mid-week Eucharists are scheduled for July and August:

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

Thursday St Michael's 10.30am. (Eucharist - Common Worship)

All event information should be regarded as provisional and checked near the time

Dates for your diary

Location key	(J) St John's Church	(M) St Michael's Church
	(V) The Vicarage, 7 Manor Road	

**** signifies no meeting in August.**

(J) Mondays in term time, 10am: Little Lambs, see page 9. The last meeting this term is 17th July; Little Lambs resumes on 11th September. **

--- 000 ---

(Not at St John's - see page 8) Saturday 8th July, 9am: Women's Breakfast **

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 12th July, 10am-11.30am: Little Blessings. This is the last meeting before the summer break, we resume in September.

--- 000 ---

(M) Monday 17th July, 2.30pm: Mothers' Union, speaker Phil Bradford. **

--- 000 ---

(J) Wednesday 19th July, 2.45pm: Tea/Coffee & Cake, see page 8. **

--- 000 ---

(J) Thursday 20th July, 1pm: Discover History talk, 'The Siege of Worcester', see page 8. Note, this is on the third Thursday of the month, 20th July, not the customary second Thursday. **

--- 000 ---

(M) Thursday 20th July, 2pm - 4pm: West Worcester Friendship Group.

--- 000 ---

(J) Saturday 22nd July, 10.15am: Café@10:15, see page 8. **

--- 000 ---

Tuesday 25th July: Coach trip to Weston, see page 9.

--- 000 ---

(V) Friday 28th July: Fourth Friday Friendship Group. Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

--- 000 ---

(M) Thursday 17th August, 2pm - 4pm: West Worcester Friendship Group.

--- 000 ---

(V) Friday 25th August: Fourth Friday Friendship Group. Look out for sign-up sheets in church or contact Sarah Cottrill for details.

St Clement's Fete

The St Clement's summer fete will be held at St Clement's church from 10am to 2pm on Saturday July 1st.

Angela Harris

Events at St John's

*St Johns Church
Presents
Discover History
Talk and Refreshments £4*

*Thursday 20th July
1pm*

The Siege of Worcester



ST JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE

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**Wednesday 19th July
at 2.45pm in the Church**

ALL WELCOME

St John in Bedwardine



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

At 10.15am on

**Saturday
22nd July**

***Thought for the day by
Margaret Rutter***

ALL WELCOME



Women's Breakfast Meetings
for Friendship and
Christian Fellowship

Why not join us?
Everyone is welcome!

Our next meeting is on
Saturday 8th July
9.00am until 11.00am

at **Cob House,**
Worcester Rd, Wichenford. WR6 6YE

Contact Margaret Rutter (425396)

This month's speaker is
Ruth Reeves talking about Guide Dogs



***Please note the location.
This is not at St John's.***



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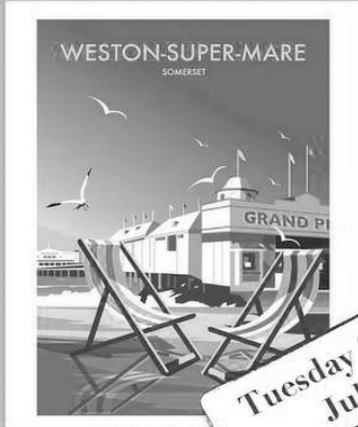
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Little Lambs



**Mondays in Term Time at
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Birth to 4 years old and carers

For more details contact Sue Fairman on 07845 942962

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Little Lambs

We are all enjoying Little Lambs! If anyone wants our playdough recipe please contact me on 07845 942962.

Thank you to Catherine and Sandra for standing in for me recently.

Our last date for this term will be 17th July and we will return on 11th September.

Sue Fairman



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West Worcester Friendship Club – one year on!

In June 2022 a very small group met in St Michael's church for the inaugural meeting of the West Worcester Friendship Club. The club caters for those living alone after bereavement and aims to provide friendship and pleasant conversation, over tea/coffee and home-made cake.

At that first meeting helpers out-numbered guests (by three to two) but we still enjoyed the afternoon and, slowly, numbers have increased so that now we have five regular guests with more expressing an interest when they feel ready to come.

Over the last twelve months our meetings have offered a varied programme – some “just chat” afternoons, some fascinating guest speakers, a craft session, a board games afternoon and a couple of quizzes.

We meet in St Michael's church from 2pm on the third Thursday of every month and anybody seeking friendship after a bereavement is welcome to come along.

For more details or a copy of our programme for the rest of 2023, please speak to me, Mike or Jo Dowling, or Val Mason

As the group moves into its second year, I would like to thank Mike, Jo and Val for all their support and work – not least with the baking and washing up!

Sarah Cottrill

Sundays and Principal Feasts in July and August

Sundays 2nd-30th July: Fourth to Eighth Sundays after Trinity

Monday 3rd July: Thomas the Apostle

Saturday 22nd July: Mary Magdalene

Sunday 6th August: The Transfiguration of our Lord

Sundays 13th-27th August: Tenth to Twelfth Sundays after Trinity

Tuesday 15th August: The Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 24th August: Bartholomew the Apostle

Mother's Union event

The Mother's Union Summer Quiet Day, “Transformation Now”, is on July 27th, at St Michael's church, Stourport, 10.00am to 4.00pm with a bring and share lunch. This is a time to reflect and be still, led by Bishop Martin. Rev. Stephen Buckley is coordinating the day.

Jenny Claydon

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A day's retreat for Ride+Stride!

Saturday 10th September

Would you like an opportunity to spend some time with others in prayerful reflection? Or perhaps a chance to get out into the countryside? Or a chance to ‘do something’?

Every year in September the National Churches Trust promotes the Ride+Stride. I am once again organising a route that will combine the Ride+Stride with a “Day Retreat”, incorporating the month’s activities for ‘Walking Church’. The route will include timetabled stops for Morning Prayer, Prayer During the Day and Evening Prayer and will include quiet, riverside paths, well away from the roads to enjoy the sounds and sights of nature.



The plan is for a group to walk the route with people joining for all or part of the walk and other people joining in for some or all the prayer activities. How you participate is up to you!

- You could walk the full route with us and join in with all the prayer activities.
- You could drive or cycle between the stopping points and just join in with the prayer activities.
- You could just join in with one prayer activity.
- You could walk with the group and enjoy the countryside but not join in with the prayer activities.
- You could do this as a “sponsored” activity and seek sponsors and fundraise for whichever church you choose, or you could join in and treat it wholly as a Retreat.

The final route, timetable and locations for the prayer activities will be published in the September magazine.

Continued on page 15

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Racheal Sharman and the Footnotes UK Team

HCPC registered

Continued from page 13 The money raised by Ride+Stride helps to preserve some of Britain's 47,000 churches, chapels and meeting houses which are at risk of falling into serious disrepair. You can find out more on their website <https://ridestride.org/>

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

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

If you would like to find out more (without signing yourself up!) please have a word with me.

Philip Evans

Oops

I am typing this on a train heading back from a day in Worthing...not a day trip I hasten to add! I've been given a second team at work, and they are all based on the south coast and so it is that I am into hour seven of a nine hour round trip. But as it happens, it has proved to be rather useful as I discovered on Thursday that I had dropped something of a clanger!

You may have detected an underlying current of frustration in my last submission that we had to submit three pieces of work all within a few days of each other...yeeeeaaaah...well, it turns out that if something looks wrong maybe it's worth double checking, because you made a mistake and one of them was due last week. Oops!

There's nothing quite like the lurch your stomach makes when you get an email asking where your essay is. Cue frantic reading and writing over the weekend and the finishing touches applied while on the train flying through the Cotswolds. I'll get it in only a week late and should just stay on the right side of the registry office at Queens. I also had time to do all my prep for my final seminar on Wednesday and still have just enough time left over to write this (it's a very long journey).

The last seminar we had was fascinating. It was all about the Eucharist (or Holy Communion, Mass or Lord's Supper depending on your tradition). We looked at whether it is based on the Last Supper and the evidence for and against; the effect of the reformation on the liturgy of the Eucharist; and what we believe consecration of the bread and wine causes - i.e. the

Continued on page 17



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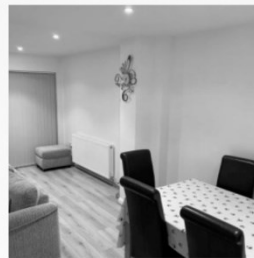
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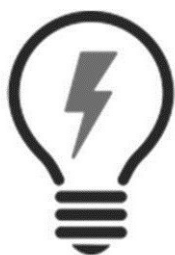
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If you are interested to advertise, please contact Sue Hussell by telephone on 01684 893397 or by email at sue.hussell@talktalk.net

Continued from page 15

difference between transubstantiation, consubstantiation, receptionism and memorialism.

And finally, I got an answer to a question I didn't even know I had: "Why do we have water?" The bread represents (or actually is depending on where you stand on the transubstantiation to memorialism spectrum) the body of Christ ...the same for the wine being the blood. But why do we add some water to the wine?

Well, I said I had the answer. As I've since found out, we are working backwards in all this, trying to work out an unknown starting point from where we are now. So my answer is no more than a reasonable hypothesis but I rather liked it!

The suggestion was that in Roman times, it was customary to add water to wine and in order to show the sceptical non-Christian population that they weren't engaging in drunken parties during this ritual, the early Christians added water to show they drank wine just the same as everyone else. True? Who knows, but it's plausible and it will do for now.

Tomorrow's seminar is about church online and music during worship .We've already been asked to think about whether online communion is possible and the difference between hymns and praise songs so more on that in the next magazine. I'll leave you though with some words about communion ascribed to Queen Elizabeth I:

*'Christ was the Word and spoke it;
he took the bread and broke it;
and what his word doth make it;
that I believe and take it.'*

Rob Little

See page 28

Guides are...

Intelligent

Responsible

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Excellent

Super

Guides is fun

In the sun

In the rain

I'm glad I came

In the snow

It's a no

Prayers for Ukraine

Our prayers this month are based on the Celtic imagery of Earth, Wind, Fire and Water.

Lord of the Earth, Wind, Fire and Water be with us as we pray today for the war between Ukraine and Russia and the trauma we see on our television screens and in the newspapers.

Spirit of the Wind: As you blow across the countryside of Ukraine we pray for farmers and those trying to lead a normal life, run businesses and feed their neighbours. For those caught up in the flooding, breathe, O Lord, on these your people, grant them strength and wisdom as they face their daily lives.

Spirit of the Air: We pray for all those endeavouring to restore peace and harmony in this war-torn country. We pray for those fighting for Ukraine, its people and democracy, that all may have courage and fortitude to face what the coming battles and trials will hold. Breathe, O Lord, on the trials your people face, granting courage and strength.

Spirit of the Water: Lord as you water the earth we pray that all people will know where truth lies within this war zone. We pray for a spirit of love to grow between all people, that with your spirit of water there may healing between the nations. Spirit of water, cleanse us Lord to enable us to see more clearly.

Spirit of Fire: We hold before you all refugees and children removed from their families. For mothers and fathers trying to find their children, give them courage and strength. May all people who are separated from their families, have hope that relationships will be restored and healed. Spirit of fire, strengthen your people.

Spirit of the Earth: Lord Jesus surround all those involved in war with hope and resolve. To all those trying to create a semblance of normality for those they live with. Grant them peace and hearts full of love.

For us Lord who can only offer our prayers to the Spirit of earth, wind, water and fire, be present in all situations that your people face.



Holy Spirit, warm us when we are cold.
Penetrate our hearts.
Enter our minds.
Strengthen our seeing.
That we all may walk in truth on your living ground.
Lord, hear our prayers.
Amen.



Jenny English



is coming!!

A little while ago volunteers to look at starting Messy Church were requested in the pew sheet. Since then, a few of us have been looking at the logistics of getting this up and running, and we hope to get something in place in the next 2-3 months. We will soon be getting in touch with some of the other people who volunteered to help as there are specific jobs which will need doing, but this is just to introduce the concept in more detail. If you have any questions or would like to be involved then please speak to Liz, Beth or Phil. The following is Messy Church's description of itself:

Church, but not as you know it

BRF's Messy Church ministry is a creative, inclusive way of being church for families which enables people to encounter Jesus in a relaxed space. It's primarily designed for people who don't already belong to another form of church, no matter how 'messy' they feel their lives are – and it's definitely not just for children! Around the world, people of all ages and backgrounds are coming to faith through Messy Church's unique combination of warm hospitality, creative activities that open up Bible themes, a celebratory approach to worship, conversations over a shared meal and a clear focus on Jesus.

Messy Church's key values are:



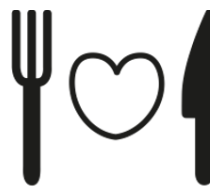
Christ-centred



All-age



Creativity



Hospitality



Celebration

We will be aiming to hold Messy Church once a month on a Saturday afternoon – an hour or so of activities based on a biblical theme followed by a short worship session bringing everything together, then a shared meal.

Further details will be forthcoming in the pew sheet, on the website, on facebook and via as many other forms of communication as we can manage, so please keep your eyes open!

Liz Forman, Beth Broadway, Phil Bradford

Launch of The Men's Shed

On Saturday, May 27th, I was privileged to be invited to bless the Men's Shed now operating from the crypt of St Clement's church. It was the culmination of a huge amount of work, undertaken by many people but chiefly by David Clarke and Phil Prince who put in hours of time and effort applying for funding, getting quotes for the work and recruiting members.



The purpose of Men's Shed is to provide a space where men can meet, socialise, and undertake practical projects. St Clement's crypt has been totally transformed

as the floor has been levelled, walls painted and all sorts of woodworking equipment installed. Members have been working on projects and, after blessing the new "Shed" I was shown round a stunning display of work. Clocks, bird boxes and bird feeders filled tables; a collection of rough wood had been skilfully planed, shaped, and varnished being transformed into beautiful walking sticks.



One area had been decorated as a dining room in which stood a stunningly restored dining table with upholstered chairs!





Even the door of the crypt had been made into a work of art. I was told how it had been painted with old, dirty, engine oil which was then burned off. The photograph might not do it justice so do go down and have a look – it really is beautiful!

After looking around the shed, refreshments were enjoyed out in the sunshine. It was an interesting and enjoyable time – a real eye opener as to what can be done by a small group of enthusiastic men.



Please do come along and join them if you like the sound of it. They meet in the crypt of St Clement's church "every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am till we get fed up."

Contact them on 07965 242785 or by email info@mensshedworcester.co.uk

I hope and pray that this venture will enjoy God's blessing and that many men will go along, finding friendship as they develop existing skills and acquire new ones.

Sarah Cottrill

Angry Goering!



Over 70 people came along to hear Paul Harding's latest history talk, which was on the Battle of Britain.

The Battle of Britain was not one battle but a series of 4 phases, the last phase leads on to the Blitz and the bombing of the Meco factory.

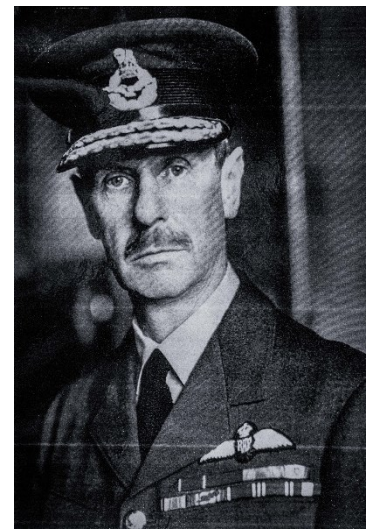
In September 1939 we went to war with Germany, but in Worcestershire no one

really felt they were at war initially unless they had family in the Navy who immediately found they were in conflict, this phase was called the Phoney War.

The Germans were planning to attack and invade Britain and had plans to do it from the start. They knew that they would have to gain air supremacy for the invasion.



Reichsmarschall Hermann Goering (left) was the Commander-in-chief of the German Luftwaffe and was the lead for this air supremacy. He was an air ace from WW1, but was also a morphine addict following an injury before the war.



Air Chief Marshal Hugh Dowding (right) led the British defence and had advocated for years before that any

future war would involve the need to win the battle of the air.

The first phase of the Battle of Britain started on 10th July 1940 and with attacks on shipping in the English Channel and North Sea. This started the rationing of food in WW2. In WW1 rationing did not start until autumn of 1918 - Britain was better prepared for the war this time having learnt from WW1.

On August 5th the Germans switched to attacking the airfields to stop the RAF defending the shipping. Britain had a very good modern aerial defence system, including radar, and this was due to the foresight of Dowding. So RAF Command were able to see where the attackers were heading for and they had a very good set of teams prepared to repair the airfields as quickly as possible so that the planes could continue to defend the skies.



**German Dive Bomber
Junkers Ju-88A-1**

The main German aircraft was the Junkers 88, a twin-engine dive bomber and this was used to attack the airfields. It only had 3 machine guns to defend itself.

The main aircraft that was used by the British was the Hawker Hurricane which had 8 0.303in machine guns to attack the enemy bombers. As it was mainly made of canvas and wood many of the German bullets would just pass through the aircraft and it only had to be patched up on return.



**British Fighter
"Hurricane"**



**British Fighter
"Spitfire"**

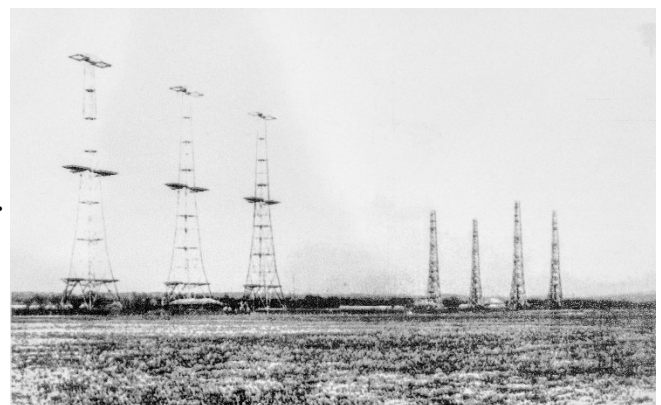
The Spitfire came along later and was made of metal, so panels had to be replaced instead of patching the canvas on the Hurricanes.



**German Fighter
Messerschmitt Me-109F**

The Germans used Messerschmitt 109s to defend the bombers and in addition to the 8 wing-mounted 7.9mm (0.303in) machine guns it had a 20mm cannon in the nose cone. At this stage the British were heavily outgunned by the German aircraft.

Goering was getting very frustrated that the destruction of the airfields was not working and the next phase started on August 20th when he decided to bomb the radar stations. He had tried to starve the country and then he tried to destroy its defensive aircraft and both had failed so he decided he would try to blind it and they went after our radar

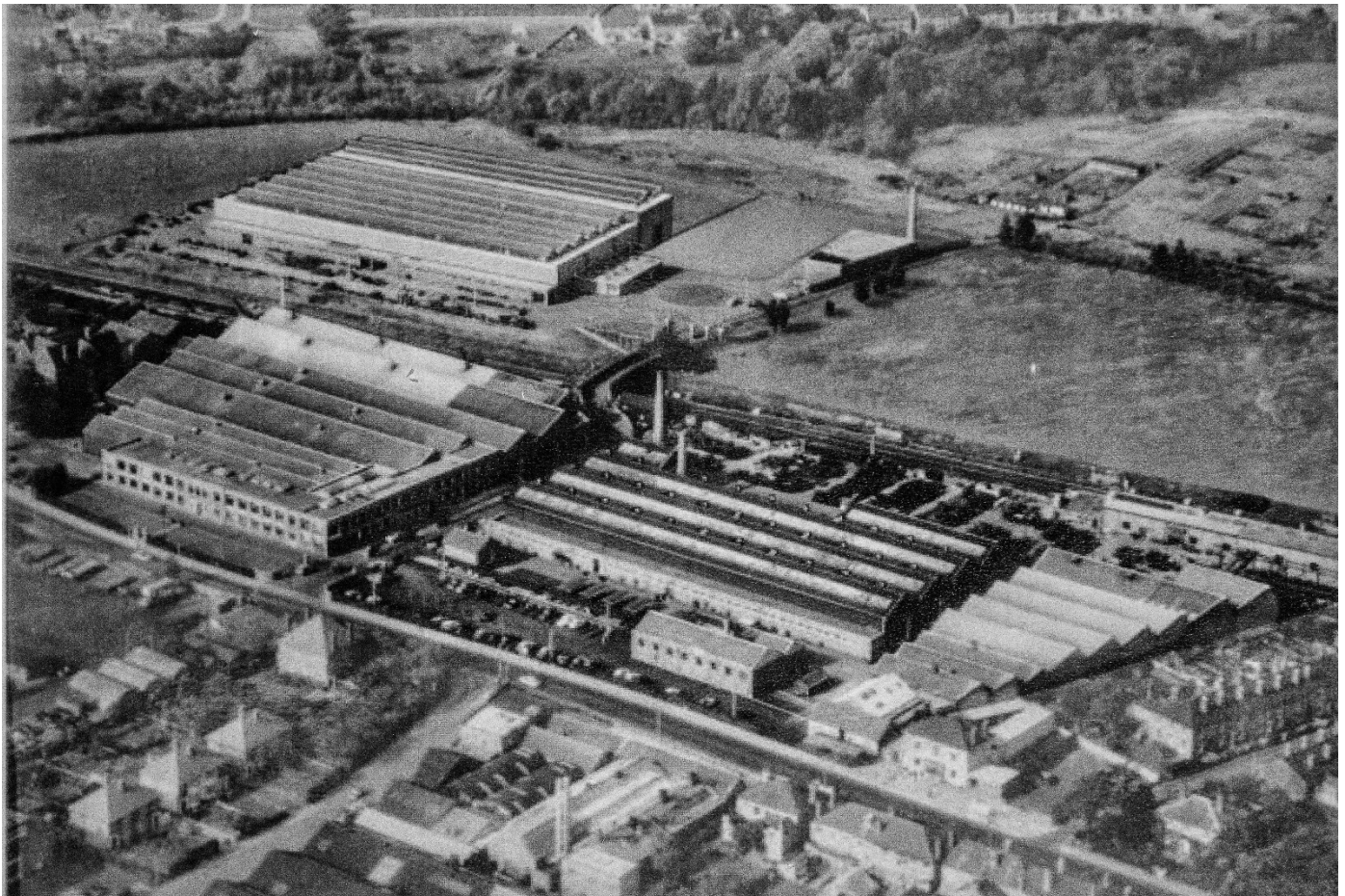


systems. The radar at that time only worked on flat surfaces such as the channel but we had a Plan B which was rolled out in phase 3. This was the Observer Corps,

later renamed the Royal Observer Corps after the incredible work they did during the Battle of Britain. They were able to see the German aircraft from the channel right through to the attack zone by different observation points, such as the top of Broadway Tower or Worcester Cathedral Tower and report numbers, height and direction of travel to the command centres. Therefore the 3rd phase was unsuccessful as well.

Although the pilots are referred to as ‘The Few’ there were many other people supporting the pilots including the ground crew, which also included women. Women also flew replacement aircraft from the factories to the airfields and many of the crews in the operational command centres were women. Everyone thinks that Britain was on its own but many people from across the world joined the RAF to fight the Germans, including over 2,300 pilots from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Ireland, the USA and the Commonwealth.

Goering was getting even more angry as each phase failed and losing control of his plans. On 7th September Goering switched tactics again to destroy the manufacturing capability of the country. From August 1939 towns started to take deliveries of searchlights, anti-aircraft guns and hundreds of shelters were built in towns or for homes. We also had a civil defence system in place to prepare for airborne attacks.



Meco factory, Worcester

Worcester did not really see many aircraft apart from reconnaissance. These were lone bombers sent to look for targets. On October 3rd 1940, one sent to Coventry found it covered with low cloud, so it came across to Worcester where it flew around for some time. It was not attacked as all the previous enemy aircraft had just flown over so it was not seen as a threat. Around 12 o'clock it



came over St John's and it dropped 3 bombs. One bounced over Happy Land and exploded in the air destroying houses, another went through a wall of the Meco factory and then slid through the factory and out of the other side where the delayed fuse detonated the bomb. Although Meco was

still making mining equipment it was also making various war-fighting components, such as parts for barrage balloons. 6 people were killed and about 60 people were injured. The bomber then flew over Worcester and machine-gunned various areas.

Following this last phase of the Battle of Britain Hitler called off his plans to invade Britain and the Blitz started.

As usual the ladies from the church created a wide array of delightful cakes, which soon disappeared during the refreshment interval.



Everything stops for tea and cakes, although during the war cakes were harder to come by due to rationing. Anyone fancy one made with liquid paraffin?

Colin Nash

Rededication



On the afternoon of 11th June, a service was held in St John's church to rededicate the plaque which has been relocated from the old Meco Factory (see last month's magazine). Before the service, the bells were rung. More than a hundred people attended, including some seventy relatives of those

named on the plaque, several of whom had travelled some distance to be present.

Along with members of the Team congregations and members of the local community, the service was also attended by the Deputy Lieutenant of Worcestershire, Major General Mark Armstrong, and the Mayor of Worcester, Louis Stephen.



With a former member of staff from Meco, they laid wreaths at the monument before an act of remembrance.





After the service, nearly everyone stayed to enjoy the refreshments which members of the congregation kindly worked to prepare and serve.

Phil Bradford

Update from the Guides

I hadn't realised so much time had gone by since I last wrote anything about Guides for the magazine. How time flies when you're having fun! Over the last year the Unit has continued to grow and we have 24 girls this term, although we're about to lose our 5 oldest Guides at the end of the summer. There are several girls ready to come up from Brownies over the next couple of terms however, so our numbers will soon increase again.

We've had a busy year...

Over the year we've completed the Lead, Innovate and Reflect Skills Builders, with the girls working together in small groups to do activities looking at leadership and teamwork, STEM activities (the science behind baking being the most popular, and it gave us a chance to try out the new oven!) and activities helping the girls to think about what beliefs and values are most important to them, and how this is reflected in their personality.

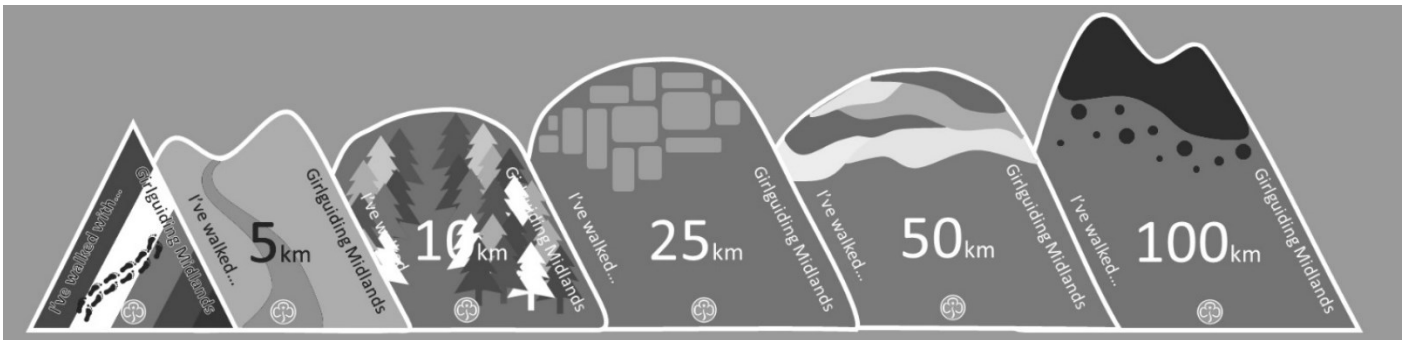


In the autumn we went away for a weekend and completed the Confectioner badge making sweets and cakes from different countries and for specific celebrations as well as doing craft activities and enjoying the outdoors, we had a beautiful crisp November weekend for it. At the beginning of the summer holidays we're heading off for a weekend camp, I'm sure I'll provide you with more details of this afterwards!





In the spring term we turned our minds to international Guiding again and completed the WAGGGS Thinking Day challenge which this year looked at the environment and peace. As part of this Girl Guides and Girl Scouts from all over the world were challenged to walk the world, which we collectively did, walking the equivalent of two and a half times around the world. For our part, we did an 11km walk around the Severn and the Teme, stopping for activities – and snacks – along the way. This, along with the walk we did during our weekend away in November, also gave the girls a chance to get started on Midland Region's new walking badges, with milestone badges when you've walked 5, 10, 25, 50 and 100km.



This term playing outside, lighting fires and pitching tents have come to the fore again, and we're very lucky that we can use the church gardens for all of this.



We've also found time to help with The Lions' Santa Sleigh (although unfortunately it malfunctioned part-way round), decorate the Christmas tree at church, visit the food bank, go bowling, and help at multiple Community Breakfasts!

You may have already heard that Girlguiding has been rebranded, and if you haven't already spotted it, the new logo is at the top of the article. It's had a mixed response from the girls, but we're getting used to it!

The autumn term was marked by the fact that I gave out the first Bronze Awards to girls in my Unit since the programme changed a few years ago. Since then I have awarded several more Bronze Awards and one Silver Award. I'm hopeful that I'll be able to award some Gold Awards at the end of this term too, the highest award girls can earn at Guides.



Over this term, as part of the coronation celebrations, we're completing the Midlands Region Cup of Kindness badge which has 4 sections:

- K – King
- I – Influence and Increase
- N – Neighbours
- D – Discover

For this we have looked at how government works, discovered more about the Commonwealth, and are visiting Regent Residential Care Home in a few weeks with our camp blankets and badges. Helping at the Community Breakfast for the coronation also went towards the 'neighbours' section of the badge.

For the 'influence and increase' part of the badge the girls have written poems and statements about why they like Guides, so I thought I'd hand over the rest of the article to them!

In Girlguiding you see your friends and do activities such as CPR, recovery position, life skills. We have lots of fun and you can make new friends. Sometimes we do activities with other Units across the world.

Giving trust

Understanding others

Interesting activities

Discovering new things

Exciting opportunities

Silly friends

Guides is a teaching

To learn there are goals meant for reaching

Liz is in control

While we learn in our Patrols

Us a message to send

We sing Taps at the end.

Something I like about Guides is when we do cooking/baking and when we go on walks and when we are out in the community. This is because it is fun and enjoyable for all Guides.

In Girlguiding we make friends, food and use creativity

We climb high

To get to the top

We have fun and always try

It doesn't stop

We try new things in our Patrols and follow the Guide Law

We express ourselves and then even more

Be prepared to make stop

To make sure to get to the top

I am a Guide

I go on Tuesday night

There's no need to hide

They don't bite!

Guides is amazing- not just good

Utmost certainty we would join if we could

In Guides we always laugh and play,

Dusk has fallen, but we will stay.

Every single Tuesday,

So sign up to enjoy your day.

In Guides we have many Patrols – Phoenix, Squirrel, Dragon and Rabbit

Going to Guides is a wondrous habit

We make, socialise and play,

All till the sunset ends the day

When we leave for home we have a smile on our face

As we all know Guides is the best place!

At Guides we explore even more

And it really makes my heart soar

We bake and make interesting things

Some with cloth and some with strings

It's more than a name, it also could be a game.

I like Guides because it's very fun and I love to meet my friends. It's a very nice community.

As always if you or someone you know might be interested in getting involved in Girlguiding, either as an adult or a girl, then just get in touch with me!

Liz Forman

Phil's Sabbatical (continued)

....From Chilean Patagonia it was across the border into Argentinian Patagonia.

For all the antagonism between our politicians over the years, I found the Argentinians welcoming and friendly; the check in lady at the airport in Buenos Aires was a royal fanatic and very excited about the prospect of the coronation. Sadly, they have suffered very badly with inflation across recent years in Argentina, and were so desperate for dollars that you pay half the price of the official exchange rate if you use them instead of pesos, something which puts some perspective on our own current inflationary woes. After enjoying the magnificent glaciers in Los Glaciares National Park, it was onto a plane for a very windy takeoff from El Calafate Airport (not one I am keen to encounter again) to head to Buenos Aires. A very European city, in many ways with echoes of Madrid on a larger scale, I loved the place and would happily have spent many more days there.



*La Boca District,
Buenos Aires (Argentina)*



Iguazu Falls (Brazil)

There was time to fit in a trip across the River Plate to Colonia del Sacramento in Uruguay, before heading on to Iguazu Falls, at the point where Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay meet. They are among the most stunning falls in the world and I was able to appreciate them from both sides on successive days. It was slightly odd that we were staying in Argentina, but the first day we went straight from the airport to the Brazilian National Park; apparently

we didn't need to bother with passports or Covid passes for a day trip. When we entered Brazil again to stay, suddenly we had to produce evidence of vaccination, a rather typical example of the nonsensical nature of Latin American bureaucracy.

The final stop was Rio de Janeiro, landing at another airport I hope never to encounter again. Of course, the main sights of Rio are iconic, but it was some of the lesser ones which really interested me (even while testing my rather rusty Portuguese).



It was a fantastic trip, but there was little time to draw breath before the next part, which was New Zealand. I don't think it has been any secret how much I have always wanted to visit the country, and it was everything I hoped it would be: a friendly, welcoming, stunningly beautiful country, albeit one that is a very long way away! It had just been hit by one of the wettest summers on record and a cyclone, which meant I was unable to get to Napier and Hawke's Bay. But otherwise, I was able to see so much on both islands, as well as make contact with church people and learn a lot.

From watching albatrosses, whales and dolphins from just yards away, to landing on top of a glacier on a helicopter, to watching a one-day cricket international at Eden Park, to the experience of Christchurch rising from the devastation of the earthquake, to walking in the footsteps of Lord of the Rings, there were just so many highlights.



Anglican Church, Rotorua



Eden Park Cricket Ground

*Transitional
(‘Cardboard’)
Cathedral,
Christchurch*



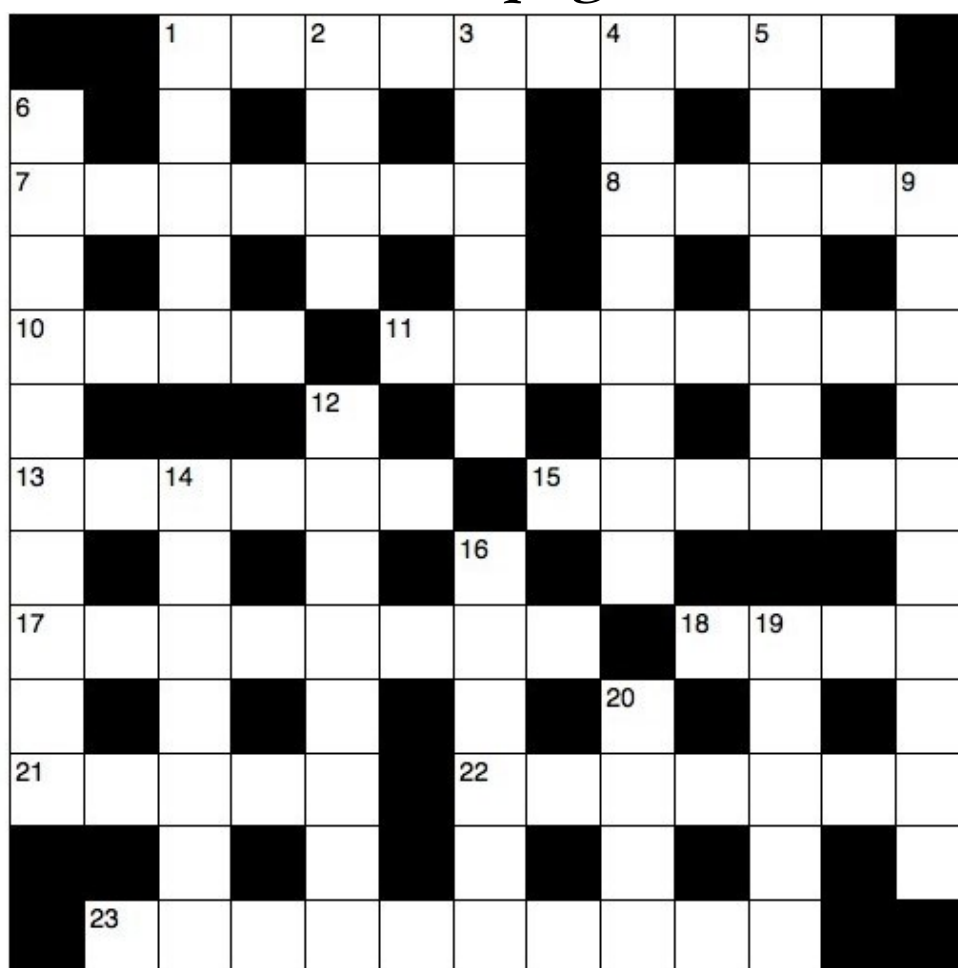
Hobbiton Movie Set

There was also plenty of appreciation of New Zealand's excellent wines. True, I found myself longing for the M5 on occasion, as I found myself stuck behind yet another camper van driver going ridiculously slowly and refusing to pull over. But it was such an amazing experience that it seems hard to put it into words. It was a breathless three months, but I am so very glad that I had and took the opportunity to see something of the magnificence of our world.

Phil Bradford

Puzzle pages

The solution is on the inside back cover.



Across

- 1 Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
- 7 Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
- 8 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
- 10 Girl's name (4)
- 11 Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
- 13 The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1–6) (6)
- 15 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
- 17 Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
- 18 Insect most closely associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
- 21 Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
- 22 Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
- 23 Last book of the Bible (10)

Down

- 1 The young David’s favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
- 2 ‘Your vats will — over with new wine’ (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
- 3 Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
- 4 Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
- 5 Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
- 6 Comes between Philipians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
- 9 Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1–11) (10)
- 12 Abusive outburst (8)
- 14 Are loud (anag.) (7)
- 16 Printing errors (6)
- 19 ‘Take my yoke upon you and — from me’ (Matthew 11:29) (5)
- 20 Jacob’s third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)

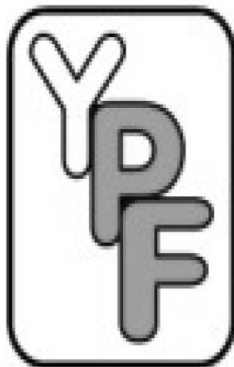
***Sudoku
Puzzle***

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

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

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Refreshment.....

Where do you go for your spiritual refreshment? For some the answer is a pilgrimage. Since we are entering the best of the summer holiday period I thought it would be useful to offer some nearby suggestions.

Hereford Cathedral makes a wonderful start, with two shrines. One is dedicated to St Ethelbert and a second to St Thomas of Hereford, often referred to by his family name of Cantilupe. The church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St Ethelbert and there is a place reserved for prayer in the Lady Chapel. Other saints remembered there include Saint Thomas Traherne who was a local parish priest credited with many healing works. If you can, visit the chained library with a number of medieval illustrated tomes, and also the Mappa Mundi with Jerusalem shown at the centre of the then known world.

Whilst in Herefordshire, visit Hentland where you will find St Dubricius' church. Hentland was the collegiate church or monastery of St Dyfrig (alias Dubricius), the 6th century Bishop of Glywysing, and it is still a popular place of pilgrimage.

Also in Herefordshire there is the church of Welsh Newton, again dedicated to St Mary. It has the grave of St John Kemble, executed at the age of 80 years just for being the local catholic priest in the troublesome early 17th century. It is unusual to find a resting place in an Anglican graveyard for such a martyr - and with a pilgrimage celebration mass held each year on a Sunday nearest to 22nd August!

Shropshire has a number of special sites to visit. Shrewsbury Abbey houses St Winefride's shrine. She has inspired pilgrims like no other English saint. When her relics were transferred to Shrewsbury the abbey became one of the most prosperous and wealthy sites in England. Part of the shrine is still preserved and on display in the Nave. The middle figure in the reredos is believed to be an image of St Winefride. Interestingly, Shrewsbury's saintly bones and ambitious monks are thought to be the inspiration for the Brother Cadfael books by Ellis Peters - turned into a very successful TV series.

Also in Shropshire is the ruined Priory of St Milburga in Much Wenlock. She was a powerful princess and devout abbess. By the time of her death in 725 she had successfully combined both roles. The community at the priory was of interest because it was one of the rare priories that served both men and women. There is much of interest both in the town and on the site to stimulate the spiritual refreshment with which we began.

Happy Pilgrimages!

Arthur Miller

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Continued: St John's and St Michael's Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM)

St John's APCM was held on Sunday 21st May with St Michael's on 28th May. We're spreading out the reports over three editions, starting last month (June). Most reports have been trimmed or summarised by the editors. Reports common to both churches are pointed out and printed only once.

For the Vicar's Annual Report to St Michael's APCM, please see the previous edition (June) where we printed the Vicar's Report but failed to note that it covered both St John's and St Michael's.

The Editors

Report on the proceedings of the PCC (St M)

The main business of the PCC since the last APCM concerned decisions regarding a Joint Council and the sub-lease of the church. Issues with the sub-lease have been on-going for several years. Regular financial reports were received from the treasurer.

The new Worcester St John-in-Bedwardine and St Michael's Joint Council was formed on 1st January 2023. The PCC of St. Michael's was put into abeyance. Transitional membership of the new Joint Council was agreed by correspondence. Following this APCM there are 3 elected members from St. Michael's on the Joint Council. Churchwardens, deanery synod representatives and clergy are also members.

The aims and purposes of the PCC and details regarding structure, governance and management and other administrative details, are in the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending December 2022. It also contains the statutory statements regarding safeguarding and Charity Commission rules.

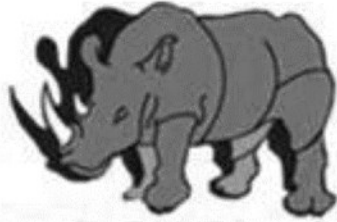
Electoral Roll (St M)

There have been no additions to the roll since the 2022 APCM and two people have been removed. The new roll is 26 (a decrease of 2).

Churchwardens' annual reports on the fabric, goods and ornaments

The St Michael's and St John's wardens reported that there have been no changes to their inventory of ornaments, fixtures and fittings. All inspections and safety checks have been done and passed.

Continued on page 45



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Continued from page 39 The St Michael's wardens reported that the building is in a good state of repair. Confirmation is awaited from the Diocese as to the responsibility for repairing the failing guttering on the West end of the building. The St John's wardens reported that the main concern was getting the tower stonework inspected and repaired. Estimates of cost using scaffolding were very high. However a local company called Heritage Stone Access was engaged, who abseil down the tower for inspection and repair work. Following inspection, we have a series of prioritised works for tower repair within the realms of affordability. Planning to replace the dishwasher and cooker in the Blakefield Room kitchen and fit a better extractor hood was started in 2022 and finished in 2023.

Safeguarding (St J & St M)

Safeguarding continues with various updates being made all the time. The regulations for appointing people into roles paid or voluntary now have to be carried out.

As always, at all the churches, we take safeguarding seriously and rely on people to be vigilant and report anything they are concerned about regarding the safety of vulnerable children and adults. Safeguarding awareness concerns everyone.

Deanery Synod Report (St J & St M)

There were three meetings of the Worcester Area Deanery Synod in 2022. At the first meeting, the aim of the discussion was to encourage people to respond to the question 'What is the deanery for now?' It certainly got people talking and feedback was collected afterwards for the leadership team to peruse later.

At the second meeting there was an exceptional talk by Geoff Sansome who had worked in both Russia and Ukraine for several years. He spoke about the history, culture, and current situation in Ukraine and then about the refugee and invasion problems caused by Russia and local efforts to help in Worcestershire.

The third meeting had a presentation about the 'Calling Young Disciples' scheme. On a slightly downbeat note, Revd Andy Todd gave the meeting the current diocesan budget view on the new Ministry Share system. His message was clear. If you as a Church can meet the financial demand, then okay; if not then there may be repercussions about future levels of paid ministry. Some churches will become uneconomic.

Revd. Diane Cooksey spoke about the 'three priorities' and Developing Diocesan Strategy document (now available on the diocesan website). The Kingdom People Vision is not replaced by this, but the strategy highlights the direction of travel and intentionality in the use of resources to encourage and

Continued on page 43



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Continued from page 41 enable church growth. The continued diocesan vision for all churches to become healthy and sustainable reiterated the point that sustainability includes being able to fund the Ministry as well as the Mission.

Summary of other reports (St M)

The West Worcester Friendship Group launched in June 2022. It is held monthly at St Michael's Church to offer companionship to those left living alone following bereavement. Over the last ten months we have provided a varied programme of activities and visiting speakers.

The Hope Cafe is based in the DG Den on Dines Green, next to the Green Centre. The cafe is run by volunteers. There are 2 qualified cooks and other volunteers who serve the customers. In the last year the café has added a second opening day and provision for people to order and take away food. It is a very successful café for the community.

Mother's Union was a bit more back to normal than the previous couple of years, with an interesting range of speakers and get-togethers. We took part in the diocesan and deanery festivals. Apart from branch meetings, we organised a display of posters and knitted chains as part of a diocese project to raise awareness of modern-day slavery. In November the campaign for "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence" took place again and a service of prayer took place in the Cathedral. Campaigning is an important part of MU's work as the organisation of the size and global distribution of MU is able to make an impact on policies that make a difference to people's lives. (4 million members in 84 countries). Also, we can take part ourselves through prayer and financial support as some of our subscription goes to support this and other global work.

Summary of other reports (St J) (Continued)

We continue to use our website as the main source of online information about the church and our events. We have had about 400 to 500 active users of the website throughout the last year. We use both the church and WR2 Residents Facebook pages to advertise and these are very good ways of reaching out to the local community. We also share things regularly with the St Michael's Facebook page. Facebook is definitely bringing more people in to our events. Banners on the railings still work well too!

The Friends of St John-in-Bedwardine reported that they took part in two Christopher Whitehead Language College events and hope to be able to promote the Friends, and hopefully gain new members, as things return to "normal" and more social events are arranged.

Continued on page 45

BEDWARDINE FUNERAL SERVICES

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EXCELLENCE AS STANDARD

TO THIS COMMUNITY and SURROUNDING AREAS

The Coach House, 30 Bromyard Road, Worcester. WR2 5BT.

Continued from page 43.

The Pastoral Care Group cares for our church community through regular phone calls to parishioners unable to get to church, arranging lifts when possible, welcoming newcomers and showing care in various ways and through various groups.

The small team helping to maintain the churchyard have made some great progress over the past year. It is really starting to take shape and become a place where people can relax in peace and tranquillity. The team also seek to encourage wildlife as well, so that the churchyard becomes a small wildlife oasis in the centre of St Johns.

The St. John's flower arranging team reported a year of celebrations, mostly of happiness - being able to decorate the church through the seasons and also for the Platinum Jubilee - but also of sadness at the death of Eileen Cantrill who led the team for so long. For her funeral the church was decorated with bright colours and spring flowers, which she loved. A real celebration of life!

The Music Group getting back, post-Covid, to their normal pattern of supporting the All-Age Worship, usually on second Sundays, with their musical ministry also taking them outside the parish of St Johns on occasions.

The Organist and Choirmaster similarly reported a more normal pattern, but with the choir (mindful of the increased vulnerability of some members) still spread around the chancel and into the sanctuary to maintain safe distances from each other while singing.

The bellringers' report introduced the new St John's tower captain and reported on the ringing, their forthcoming events, and their developing learners (see page 21 of the June edition for a picture).

The Fourth Friday Friendship Group reported that they continue to meet on the fourth Friday of every month for an evening of fun, friendship and food! And they also raise donations for charities.

There were three Community Breakfasts during 2022/ 2023 all well supported in terms of attendees and volunteers (including the Guides).

Women's Breakfast had speakers both clergy and lay, who gave interesting, stimulating and encouraging talks alongside delicious, cooked breakfasts.

Walking Church enjoyed four walks during 2022. The walks last approximately two hours and feature discussions which, though initiated by the day's Gospel reading, cover a wide range of topics, often diverging far from the original subject!

To conclude the APCM reports, finance reports will appear in the next edition.



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ST JOHN'S LIBRARY

Normal opening times:

- Monday: 9am - 5pm
- Tuesday: 9am - 6pm
- Wednesday: 9am - 5pm

- Thursday: 9am - 5pm
- Friday: 9am - 5pm
- Saturday: 9am - 4pm

Closed on Monday 28th August

Groups at St John's Library

- Bounce and Rhyme - Weekly every Tuesday, 11:00am to 11:30am
- Scrabble Club - Weekly every Tuesday, 2:00pm to 4:00pm
- Chess Club - Weekly every Tuesday, 2:00pm to 4:00pm
- Crochet and Chat - Weekly every Wednesday, 10:00am to 12:00pm
- Storytime and Song - Weekly every Friday, 11:00am to 11:30am
- LEGO Club - Weekly every Saturday, 2:00pm to 3:00pm
- Crime Readers Group Film Show - Monday 24th July & 14th August, 11:00am to 1:00pm
- Crime Readers Group - Monday, 31st July 2023 & 21st August, 11:00am to 12:00pm
- Photography Group - Monthly every last Thursday (27th July/31st August), 11:00am to 12:00pm

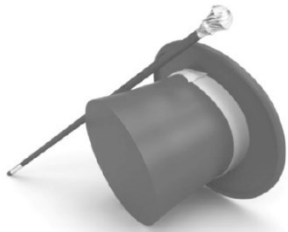
For more details, speak to a member of staff, or telephone (01905) 822722, or e-mail StJohnsLib@worcestershire.gov.uk or use Facebook Messenger.

'Friends of St John's Library'

We have re-opened the café on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, between 10:00am – 12:30pm and offer beverages and biscuits at very reasonable prices.

If you are able to support us by volunteering, or if you just want some more information about the group, please contact us by e-mail at friendsofstjohnslibrary@outlook.com or leave your details at St John's Library.

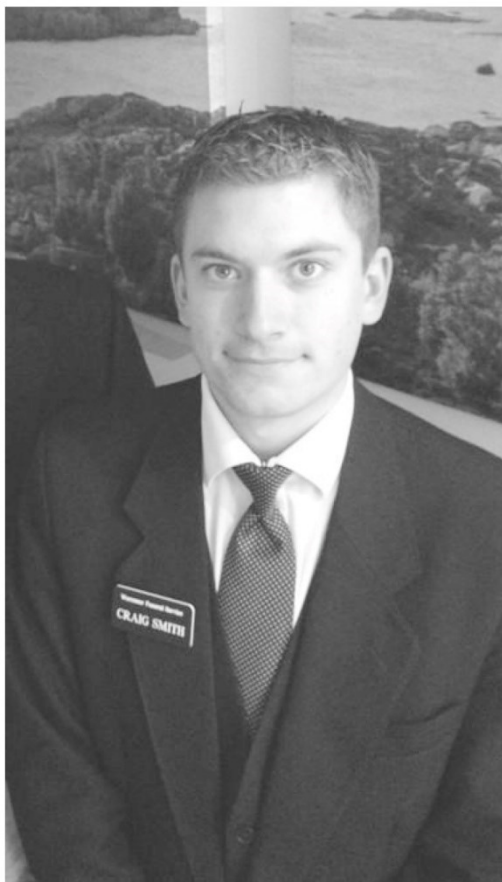




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From the magazine archive, August 1950

SUNDAY SCHOOL .

WE shall remember Saturday, July 22nd for some days to come. It was the day planned for our Treat, and we had hoped for a delightful time in the country, with Cricket, Rounders, and all the fun of the open-air, but this was not to be; the weather clerk said rain for that day, and how it rained! However, it did not dampen the spirit of the youngsters. We met at 2 p.m., had a drive round the country lanes, and back to the Parish Room, where we rollicked in games, charades, races, etc., and managed somehow to find time for some refreshment, and an icecream. Then came time for us to say Good-night for the time was 8.30 p.m., and time for us to be in bed. It was a very happy time, and we thank the Church Council for enabling us to have this annual Treat.

The Sunday School will be closed during August, but the Church will be open for its usual services, morning and evening, so perhaps you could during that month come to one of those services with your parents; that would be grand!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

THE Outing to Windsor was very much appreciated and enjoyed by all. The beauty and majesty of St. George's Chapel and of the Castle will long live in our memories. We arrived back at St. John's at 9.45 p.m., with tired feet, and some, I presume, with tired throats!

The Meeting will be closed during the month of August and also the first Tuesday in September. We shall recommence on Tuesday, September 12th at 3 p.m.

I trust that all who can manage to get a break will do so, and it is my earnest wish that you will come back refreshed in body and mind, and ready to face once again the common round and the daily tasks.

I thank all those who have so kindly sent me cards; I appreciate the thought very much.

Please do your best to keep up the attendance at the monthly Corporate Communion; the next will be on Thursday, August 3rd at 10.30 a.m. E.A.C.

The Parish Magazine - SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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

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at
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*Pick up
at
St Michael's*

(£5) I will pick up my magazine from the church whose box I have ticked
(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 but need my magazine to be delivered.

(£18.75) I live outside St John's and need my magazine to be posted.

Postage and Packing costs £13.75 (Large Letter, 2nd class postage, £1.15 from April 2023)

Your details:

Title:

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Forename:

.....

Surname:

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Magazine subscription (as above)	£5 / £18.75	
Additional Donation (if applicable)		
GRAND TOTAL		

Send your payment in an envelope, or as a cheque made payable to St. Johns Parish Church, with this completed form to The Parish Office, 1A Bromyard Road, Worcester WR2 5BS. **Or, to pay by bank transfer**, please email parishmagazine@wcw.church to give your name and address details, and you will be given a reference number. Then make a bank transfer to the following account:

Account number: 64670460

Sort code: 30-99-90

Account name: St Johns Parish Church

Please put in the reference number you have been given, as the reference for the recipient.

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NOTES

1. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income or capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.
2. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment tax return.
3. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity.

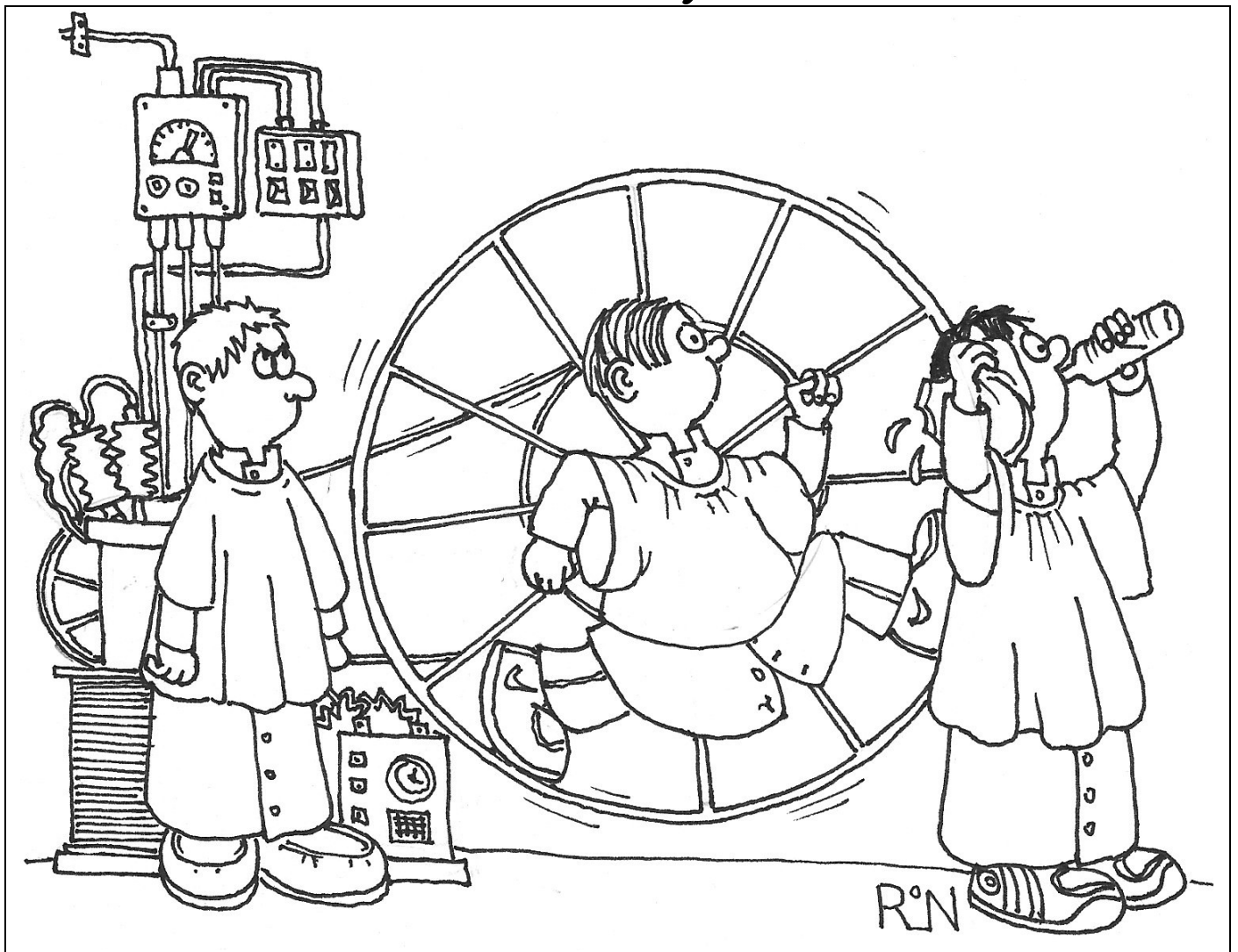


Puzzle solutions

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

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		D		B		T		V		R		T
		R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N	

And finally....



*When the solar panels weren't working,
there was plan B.*



Sunday Services in the Worcester City West Team – July/August 2023

	St. John's	St. Clement's	St. David's	St Michael's
2nd July	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
9th July	10.30am All Age Worship	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Eucharist
16th July	10.30am Eucharist	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
23rd July	10.30am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Morning Prayer
30th July	10am Team Eucharist (St Michael's)			
6th August	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
13th August	10.30am All Age Worship	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Eucharist
20th August	10.30am Eucharist	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	10.30am Eucharist
27th August	10.30am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Evening Prayer	10.30am Morning Prayer
3rd September	10.30am Eucharist 5.30pm Evensong	9.30am Morning Prayer	4pm Eucharist	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.