

WHEATLAND NEWS

July 2024



“ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day
and the lesser light to govern the night ”

~

**News from the Diocese of Hereford and the
17 Parishes around Stottesdon, Ditton Priors
and Highley**

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Editorial

What would people in Britain do without the weather?? In spring, we were soaked. In June, we have been chilled. And now, as WN is being put to bed, we are roasting!! We could get another 3 seasons in July, August and September!!!! However, many people are taking advantage of the warmer weather to get the barbeques out and join families and friends for some outside evening entertainment. Please remember to keep yourselves hydrated during the very hot days and nights and look out for any elderly people who may find the hot weather debilitating.

In this edition of Wheatland News we have reports from many of the activities which have taken place across the area and updates from the various groups who are now sending reports from their meetings. Keep the articles coming so that our readers can find new hobbies and interests.

An example : In a style reminiscent of the great days of Brian Johnston and Radio 3 cricket, Francis Engleheart's report (beginning on the back cover and concluding on page 24, to get the key pictures in colour!) on the Kinlet vs Stottesdon & Chorley Cricket match. Such a great read – it had to be included in yet another bumper WN! Thank you, Mr Engleheart!

Enjoy the warmer days and balmy evenings and take time for yourself to relax and reminisce.

Happy holidays

Ed

Of interest to the Farming Community....

– Churchwardens in several parishes have received information about free advice, privately provided but funded by DeFRA, to support farmers through the Future Farming Resilience Fund. We may have more information on this next month.

....and for the Latest Brown Clee Medical Practice news – see page 30

Wheatland News Local Coordinators

Please continue to send reports to your contact for your parishes listed below.

The **deadline** for getting your contributions for the **AUGUST 2024** edition of WN to the **EDITOR** will be **noon on Saturday 20th July 2024**. A little earlier than usual due to holiday commitments. Please, please help us to help our printer and our distributors so that we get WN to you in good time each month.

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Glazeley & Deuxhill	Marion Corfield - marion.corfield@talktalk.net Revd David Poyner - D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk
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Farlow, Sidbury, Middleton Scriven, Cleeton St Mary, and Silvington	Chris Tibbits - Chris@stottystores.co.uk



Diocese of Hereford

July Newsletter from the Dean of Hereford



Dear Friends,

Oh Lord. It is election time again...

Many years ago I attended a girl's grammar school. Most of the young ladies of this excellent institution wore a smart navy blue uniform right down to the nether garments (by which I mean socks). The rebellious girls wore their ties fat-knotted and at half mast, daringly adapted the standard pleated skirt in a way that endangered the morality of the entire town and sported (Quelle horreur!) pierced ears and wedge shoes. The scruffy oiks, of which I was one, technically wore all the right things but in a manner that was at least as subversive of the dignity of the school and its policies. The rebels rebelled. We just didn't care.

In the 6th form despite my total disregard for matters sartorial I was elected Head Girl. Clearly my peers and staff were not voting on external appearances.

The day my head girliness was announced I was surprised to have abuse shouted at me from the top of the tower block. Confused, I climbed 6 flights of stairs to face an enraged 4th form mob. When I besought the reason for their hatred it emerged that they had heard that I was going to change the school uniform policy so that everyone would have to wear white knee socks with ankle frills. Anyone less likely to care what sort of socks anyone wore could not be imagined. I disabused them of this heinous untruth and went on my way.

I am reminded of this as we endure our current National and local electioneering. Slander is justified by allegedly righteous anger; winning arguments are valued more than truthful ones; soundbites trump nuance; personal attacks abound and dissension and vitriol are stirred up by people who want to destabilise rather than work for unity. So here are a few thoughts about how Christians might engage better in all this.

Media owners get rich when headlines instil fear. Check the facts. Take the ideology with more than a pinch of salt and make decisions based on fact, not gossip and opinion. There may be no white socks conspiracy at all.

We are called to love our neighbours, even if they have poor taste in hosiery. This is not justification to vilify and hate them.

Thinking your party's platform is unflawed is folly. Manifestos are made by ambitious people feeding tribal fears and things change. White socks might be the right way to go these days.

Scripture tells us to pray for our leaders and respect those in authority. Deriding them on Facebook is wrong. Pray for their wisdom and that their hearts may be right and perhaps they will see the light and abandon the white socks manifesto.

Do not be paranoid. The world will not end if your candidate loses and white socks are temporarily back in fashion.

Whatever your preferred sock colour in this election may you know that you are for Him before party and be filled with God's peace.

Dean Sarah



The Bishop's weekly video message no 205

This week, Bishop Richard concludes his visit to Bahrain. Surrounded by the real animals, he speaks about the biblical references to camels and to money, and their relevance to our modern world.

Watch him on YouTube Hereford Diocese or on the Diocese website, where the transcript also appears.



Caring for God's Acre - June

Solitary bees

Did you know that there are about 270 species of bee in the UK of which 90% are 'solitary bees'. They get this name as, unlike bumblebees and honeybees they do not live in complex colonies but nest individually, with the female laying one or a few eggs in a nest with a parcel of pollen and nectar to feed the young when they first hatch. Some of the more common types of solitary bees include Mason, Mining and Leafcutter Bees.

Mason Bees build nests out of mud or clay. Have a look on the sunny walls of your church or chapel and see if there are any little mounds of mud, these could be mason bee nests. **Mining Bees**, nest underground, digging tunnels to create their nests. Areas of short grass and bare ground are preferred by mining bees. Burial grounds often contain small patches of bare earth or cracks in the ground around monuments which can be great for them. **Leafcutter Bees** build a nest in a hole, crevice or hollow plant stem. They bite off circular pieces of leaf (particularly roses and bramble), which are then glued together using saliva to make a nest. Gaps between stones, old bits of wood and rough corners where dead stems are left will all be used by a variety of solitary bees.

You can help solitary bees by having a wide range of wildflowers and native grasses and a mosaic of short, long and tussocky grassland. How about a scruffy corner with some hogweed or bramble out of sight of the church entrance? This provides excellent nesting or overwintering cavities. People love to make bee hotels but don't forget that how you manage your local churchyard has a big effect too. Why not take photos of any bees you see and upload them onto the iNaturalist app which will both help you identify them and also make a record so others can see what you've found.

Saint of the Month – St Christopher

3rd Century Martyr

Patron Saint of Wayfarers and
Motorists

July 25th

by Revd Joe Simons



There is some speculation over the exact date that Christopher was meant to have lived but it was believed that he lived in the third century, in all probability he was called Reprobus.

He was a tall man hence his depiction on medals and medallions, often carrying a child on his shoulders with a staff in his hand. Reprobus wanted to serve the greatest King of the universe and, as the devil feared God, he would serve God. He could not meet God, so he offered his service to God by carrying wayfarers across a deep river.

The story is told that one day he heard the voice of child calling him, whilst he was in his dwelling by the river, asking Christopher to carry him over. He met the child lifted the child on to his shoulders and taking his staff in hand carried the child across on his shoulders.

During the passage across the river the water became deeper and the child heavier, until almost falling, Christopher declared to the child that he was struggling, and that he felt as though he had the weight of the world on his shoulders. The child answered:

“I am Jesus Christ, the King who you serve in this work.

And on my shoulders I bear the burdens of the world.”

So Reprobus took the name of Christopher, which in Greek means ‘Christ-bearer.’

Christopher was martyred for his faith, although he could have resisted his murders, he did not and died for his beliefs.

During the Middle Ages, it was commonly believed that to look upon his image would keep the person safe on that day.

As Christians this story reminds us that it is Jesus that carries our burdens and that through holding Jesus with us close to our hearts, we too can face the deep waters of life, safe in the knowledge that Christ is with us. For that we can give thanks for the life and witness of St Christopher.

JS

The United Benefice of Brown Clee



**Priest-in-Charge:
Revd Joe Simons**

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***St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and
Holy Trinity, Wheathill & Loughton***

CHURCHWARDENS

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St Michael & All Angels, Aston Botterell

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Anne Preece: 01746-787237

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CHURCHWARDENS

Mike Bradbury: 01746-787676

Jane Bufton: 01746-787298

All Saints, Neenton

CHURCHWARDEN

Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093

July Reflection

This is the season of holidays when we all - if we can - try and take some time out to put our feet up and take it easy. At least that is the theory!

The weather, cost of living, elections, The Euro's, and any number of other things can prevent us from taking rest. It is simply that our lives are too full or that we cannot find the time. But the principle of allowing ourselves to just 'be' is really important.

As Christians we call one day in seven "The Sabbath", which we dedicate to God as a day of rest. It has a strong theological basis representing the day that God took as a rest from creation. It was adopted and respected by the Jews in their observance of the law, although their adherence became rather more prescriptive than as a period of restoration and renewal.

Few of us in the western world are in such endlessly demanding physical work so that we long for the Sabbath, as labourers did centuries ago. But our days are still fraught and muddled with a thousand and one jobs.

Whether we have faith or not, a day of rest is giving us a gift, and one we should guard. Rest and reflection give us space to think, to bring new perspectives, and maybe to see things we thought we understood, in a different light.

So, whatever you are planning over summer, make sure you make time and space to just stop and allow the still small voice to speak once again to you in the stillness.

Revd Joe Simons

Services in Brown Clee Churches during July 2024

Sunday 7th July	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Aston Botterell
Sunday 14th July	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Chetton
Sunday 21st July	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Cleobury North
	6:00pm	Holy Communion	Loughton
Sunday 28th July	10:00am	Group Holy Communion	Neenton
	6:00pm	Evening Prayer	Chetton
Sunday 4th August	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Aston Botterell

Readings for July 2024

Sunday 7th July

6th Sunday after Trinity - Green

Psalm: 123

Ezekiel 2. 1 – 5; 2 Corinthians 12. 2 – 10; Mark 6. 1 - 13

Sunday 14th July

7th Sunday after Trinity - Green

Psalm: 85. 8 – end; Amos 7. 7 – 15; Ephesians 1. 3 – 14;

Mark 6. 14 – 29

Sunday 21st July

8th Sunday after Trinity - Green

Psalm: 23; Jeremiah 23. 1 – 6; Ephesians 2. 11 – end;

Mark 6. 30 – 34, 53 – end

Sunday 28th July

9th Sunday after Trinity - Green

Psalm: 145. 10 – 19; 2 Kings 4. 42 – end; Ephesians 3. 14 – end; John 6. 1 – 21

Sunday 4th August

10th Sunday after Trinity - Green

Psalm: 78. 23 – 29; Exodus 16. 2 – 4, 9 – 15; Ephesians 4. 1 – 16;

John 6. 24 - 35

From the Registers – Holy Baptisms

We have had the pleasure of carrying out two Baptisms in the Benefice this month.

We welcomed Ethan Arnie Rowson (aged 5) into the family of Christ at Loughton Church on Saturday 9th June.



This was a touching little service in the intimate setting of the chapel, and it was moving to see a young boy receiving the prayers and vows with such composure.



Ethan's parents Robert and Rebecca, sister Maisy, family, friends and dog were all there to celebrate with him.



On Saturday 16th June we held a wonderful baptism for Jonty Hendrix Arnel at Chetton Church.

Jonty, who is the great grandson of Malcolm and Diana Mottershead, was ably supported by his two brothers Raife and Rex, his parents Ryan and Jessica, godparents and wider family.

We pour God's Love on Ethan and Jonty as they follow Christ's path in their lives.



Ditton Priors News

Marjorie Jones writes:


Church Services in June

- ✝ Sunday 7th July - 9:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 14th July - 9:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 21st July - 9:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 28th July – Group Holy Communion - Neenton
- ✝ Sunday 4th August - 9:30am – Holy Communion

Cleaning Rota for July

- Sunday 7th July Mrs Jennifer Lowe & Mrs Debbie Jones
- Sunday 14th July Mr & Mrs Dennis Griffiths
- Sunday 21st July Mr & Mrs John Ballard
- Sunday 28th July Mr & Mrs Tony Brown
- Sunday 4th August Mrs Jutta Langham & Mr Steve Allen

St John the Baptist 100 Club results – June 2024

- £100 – Mrs J Evans
- £20 – George Parker
- £10 – Bertie Pinson 
- £5 each to Carol Roberts, Esther Piper and Richard Fox.

Friends of St John the Baptist Church Ditton Priors

The 'Friends' is a Registered Charity and was set up 25years ago. The objective is to **“maintain, restore, preserve, improve, beautify and reconstruct, for the benefit of the public, the fabric of the building of the Church of St. John, its monuments, fixtures and stained glass, its Churchyard and Graveyard.**

Our lovely historic, Grade II listed, Church is appreciated by many people, not only those who worship regularly, but by our Villagers and Visitors alike. Monies raised by the 'Friends' help to keep the building in good, safe order, to be passed onto future generations.

The AGM of the 'Friends' took place on 17th June 2024. The Trust comprises five Trustees: - Debbie Lowe, Chairman, Helen Groves, Secretary, and Tony Martin, Treasurer, who were re-elected respectively. Mark Smith and Margaret Griffiths, who served as PCC Trustees, both retired this year. Margaret has been a Trustee since its inception and has worked tirelessly to collect membership donations. She and Mark were thanked for the service they have given. Two new Trustees, voted by the PCC, have taken up the baton and they are Ruth Jones and Marjorie Jones.



You can **become a member** at any time with an **annual donation of £10 or more**, renewable each year in January. If you haven't joined this year and are interested, please contact Marjorie (712 423).

The Churchyards

We have three Ash trees suffering from Ash-dieback, which need removing shortly. This will be expensive and together with mowing, strimming and hedge cutting costs will be a considerable amount. Donations towards this are vital.

The Churchyards are a great asset to our community and we aim to keep them in good order. Donations will be gratefully accepted by Revd Joe or Churchwardens Carole and Mark. Thank You.

Sponsored Walk on 15th June

We had a dozen or more brave walkers join our walk, dodging the showers. I did my walk up the hill on Wednesday 19th when the weather was super. We enjoyed a very tasty lunch in Church, thanks to Margaret and Pat, and we would to thank all took part and all who sponsored us. **Results next month.**

Events and dates for your diary!

First Saturday of the Month Coffee Mornings

10:30 – 12:00 noon in church. There is no charge for this popular community event – and everyone is welcome! Next dates are Saturdays 6th July, 3rd August, 7th September and 5th October.

Pimms & Puds Social Evening – Saturday 6th July....

.....Hopefully in the Vicarage garden – or at the Pavilion should the weather be inclement. 5pm onwards. Tickets £12.50 each from Marjorie (712423).



Burwarton Show Refreshment Tent – Thursday 1st August

You'll find us somewhere near the Village Green, in the corner from 8.30am. onwards. **Offers please** of sandwiches and homemade cakes. We also sell Reg May's pies, tea and coffee. **Offers of help on the day** also welcome. Please. contact Marjorie (712423)

Teas in the Churchyard – Thursday 15th August, 3pm onwards

Teas and cake will be served. Bring & Buy Stall and Raffle and, we hope, lots of sunshine!

...And later in the year:

- ⇒ Saturday 14th September – Ride and Stride – Shropshire Historic Churches Trust
- ⇒ Saturday 12th October – Harvest Supper in Ditton Priors Village Hall
- ⇒ Saturday 23rd November – Christmas Fair at the Pavilion

Community events

Beer and Bangers Fun Day – Saturday 13th July, please note change of venue – this will now take place on the Playing Field and NOT at Ditton Priors Village Hall.

Craven Arms Big Band – Saturday 19th October in Ditton Priors Village Hall.

Date for your diary – Brown Clee Surgery – Patient Participation Group

The next Open meeting will be held in Ditton Priors Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd July at 7:00pm, with updates on developments at the Surgeries and another interesting talk. See also item on page 30.

Ditton Priors Local History Group



Latest History Group talk attracts biggest audience so far!

Ditton Priors Local History Group's latest talk on 28th May attracted an audience of over 80 people to the village hall to see author Bernard O'Connor's presentation entitled - **The Royal Naval Armaments Depot: Uncovered!**

Bernard's talk and presentation covered the establishment of the Royal Naval Armaments Depot in Ditton Priors, and the activities that followed there during (and beyond) the war. Hundreds of local people worked there, including John Hughes who was in the audience and able to add his personal recollections along with one or two other people, helping to make it an extremely interesting evening.

Group Chairman Paul Wilson commented "This was a wonderful turn out, we're absolutely delighted to see so many people coming along, enjoying and participating in these events. It was particularly informative to hear from people with personal memories - it really brings our local history to life and is what the Group is all about."

Paul went on to add "We are now in the process of planning events for the rest of the year and hope to announce a full programme in the summer - if anyone has any suggestions for future events by all means do let us know."



Membership

Ditton Priors Local History Group were delighted to welcome **11 new members** who joined at our event in May, along with 5 members renewing their annual membership. This brings the current Group membership to 57.

Pleasing as this is for the committee, we're looking to grow the group further, because by doing this the more we can invest in the History Centre itself - improving displays and presentation of artefacts for the education and enjoyment of all.

So, if you'd like one of these lovely little membership cards in your wallet, just get in touch with Mark or Sharon Gregory at markgregory963@gmail.com

Annual membership is just £12 and gives you FREE admission to all DPLHG events (we endeavour to put on 5 through the membership year May - April) ...and most importantly, you'll be helping improve and develop the History Centre for the benefit of everyone in Ditton and the surrounding areas.

Wheathill & Loughton News

Marjorie Jones writes:

Church services

- ✝ Sunday 21st July – 6:00pm - Holy Communion at Loughton
- ✝ Sunday 18th August – 6:00pm – Evening Prayer at Loughton

Aston Botterell News

Anne Preece writes:

Church services -.

- ✝ Sunday 7th July – 11:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 4th August – Songs of Praise – see below.

Dorothy Williams

It is with sadness I write that my mother, Dorothy Williams, died in Shrewsbury Hospital on 9th June 2024. She was 97 years old and had led a very active life.

Her father was a funeral director in Sheffield and later joined the Land Army in Shropshire. He worked at Norton farm (Scott's) during the war in the parish of Aston Botterell, where she met and married my father Harry Williams from Loughton.

Dorothy worked with Dad on the farm, had 3 children and kept busy making clothes and machine knitting. Later she helped with Cleobury North village hall functions and was secretary at The Punchbowl. She also took a very active part in local politics.

Dorothy was a keen photographer and loved to travel with her friends.

Dorothy's photograph of a pair of kittiwakes and their chicks



We will hold our normal service on August 4th which is a songs of praise service but everyone is welcome when there will be a small remembrance to Dorothy Williams during the service.

Quiz and Buffet – Friday 19th July at The Down.

Please book in your teams – or just yourselves – for a fun evening and grand raffle! No hard questions!! Contact Anne on 07966-459806.

And we are looking for a few raffle prizes to fill up hampers please. Very grateful.

50 Club Results for June

- £20 – Pat Warren no 165
- £10 – Sarah Derricutt no 29
- £5 each to James Brassington no 219 and Peter & Glenys Hartman no 137.

Car Treasure Hunt on 16th June

Sally Russell writes:

Thirty six challenging clues

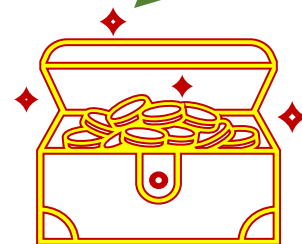
Nine cars (generally containing at least two occupants)



and a heavily laden tea table, back at Middle House Farm created another very rewarding, Treasure Hunt, in aid of electrical work at Aston Botterell Church.

Tim Powell's car was the winner this year and runners up consoled themselves with the answers to elusive clues, raffle prizes and a glorious farmhouse tea. Everyone commented upon how much fun it had been, which made all the hard work worthwhile!

Our thanks to Anne Preece and Sheila Millington, hosts and trail designers, who sent us searching across Catherton Common and beyond ... and their thanks to all the generous helpers and cake donors.



Cleobury North & Burwarton News

Church Service in July

✝ Sunday 21st July - 11:30am – Holy Communion

Date for your diary – Tuesday 24th September 2024 – Coffee Morning and Raffle at the Old Rectory, Cleobury North, by kind invitation of David and Penny. All monies will go towards the repairs to keep Cleobury North Church open.

Cleobury North & District Village Hall

CNVH Management Committee writes:

CNVH remains open and available for hire. For enquiries about booking and using the hall, please call 01746-787093 and leave a message or send a TEXT MESSAGE to 07483-879763 (or both!).

Chetton News

Pam Downing writes:

Services at St Giles' Church

✝ Sunday 14th July – Holy Communion, 11:30am

✝ Sunday 28th July – Evening Prayer, 6:00pm

Flowers and Cleaning – Marilyn and Sylvia.

Chetton 100 Club - £15 – Bianca Chambers no 44 £10 – Linda Phillips no 51.

From the Registers

We were blessed with a sunny afternoon recently, to welcome Jonty Arnel into our Church with Revd Joe officiating, and with the enthusiastic help from Jonty's older brothers! See pictures on page 9.

We have been busy tidying up the edges of the Churchyard this month. Thank you to Jenson who volunteered to weed many of the graves as part of his Duke of Edinburgh award challenge and spruced up our bench which was presented by The Down School. As he has done for many years, Joe Dunn mows the grass which seems to grow rapidly this year.

And we have just enjoyed another **Down breakfast**, thank you to all of you who support this, it's such a sociable way to start the weekend. Thank you too to landlord Steve for looking after us so well.

Chetton Village Hall


Thank you to Julia, Sue, Adj, Anne, Elisabeth and Sarah for donations of plants and to all those who gave their time to help, at our 18th annual plant sale. **We made £750.00 towards hall funds**, which will go towards keeping the hall in good repair.

An evening of folk music - on Saturday 12th October we have 'The Hooded Crow', a folk duo, performing at the hall. Supper will be available. 7pm start. Further details to follow.



Flicks in the Sticks Returns to Chetton Village Hall on Friday 6th September, when "Oppenheimer" will be screened.

Chetton Active Friends – exercise and recreational sessions

<p>Village Hall Diary for 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pam's Pilates on Mondays and Tuesdays 9:30am, and also on Tuesdays 11:00am. ■ Chetton Active Friends, Monday afternoons from 2pm. ■ Chetton and Glazeley WI meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. ■ Bridgnorth Dog Club - Thursday evening, 6:00pm. ■ Zumba with Lisa Beards – Tuesdays - 2:30 pm ■ Ballroom and Sequence Dancing, Tuesday evenings, 7:00pm. ■ Chetton Folk dance club meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. 	<p>And a new relaxation class is starting on Friday 5th July</p>  <p>JOIN US SLOW FLOW & SOUND BATH</p> <p>FRIDAY 5TH JULY 7.00PM - 8.15PM</p> <p>Chetton Village Hall (Nr Bridgnorth) WV16 6UE Exchange: £18 p/p</p> <p>Tel 07976619525 bluefernwellness24@gmail.com</p>
<p>Village Hall enquiries – for activities or hire at modest rates, contact Sue on 789239.</p>		

Neenton News

Bobbie Jarvis writes:



Service at All Saints' Church during July

✝ Sunday 28th July – 10:00 am - Group Holy Communion

Important dates for your diary!

Neenton Fete and Duck Race - Saturday 14th September

Promise Auction at The Down - NEW DATE - Saturday 19th October 2024.

To raise funds for repairs to the area around the Stained Glass window in All Saints Church which is our village memorial for Frank Amies, John Leath and Harry Yapp who lost their lives in the Great War – 1914/18.

Tickets - £25 per person to include a 2-course meal. To complement the auction there will be a raffle and lucky ticket prize. Further details will be published in August magazine. Enquiries to 01746 787093.

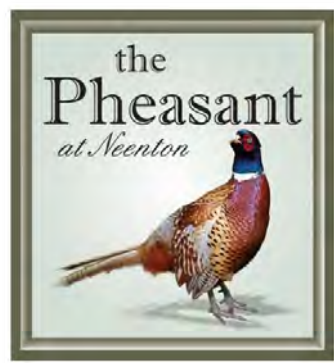
All Saints' Tote - May

➤ 1st prize – Ian Moreton 2nd prize – Pam & Melvyn Stackhouse

Please call 01746-787955 or email

info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk

to discuss times and your requirements, or book direct on the website.



Opening times

- 🌀 Wednesday / Thursday – 12 noon – 3pm, 6pm – 11pm
- 🌀 Friday / Saturday – 12 noon – 11pm
- 🌀 Sunday lunch 12 noon – 4.30pm



The Tally Ho! at Bouldon has been named the West Midlands Pub and Bar of the Year by Pub and Bar Magazine!!

Congratulations to Mark and Sarah, who are also the leaders of our management team at the Pheasant, for this great achievement!

We look forward to the next round of the competition, and good luck all

Picture from Pub and Bar Magazine on X.

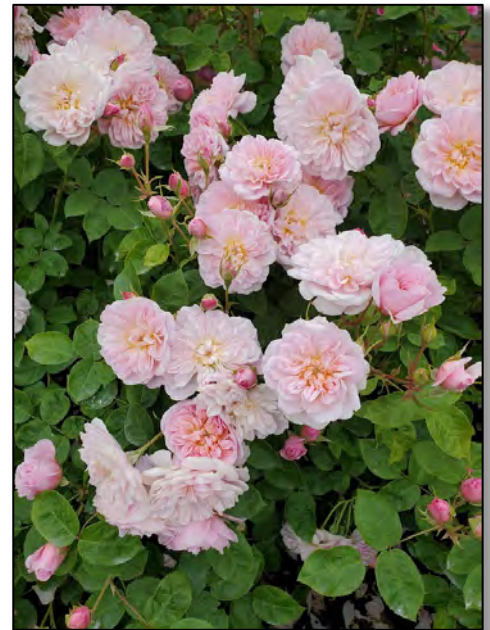
Burwarton & District Garden Club – Highlight of the Year!

Our visit to David Austin Roses in Albrighton, has to be one of our gardening club's most memorable events.

We arrived early on a chilly but dry Thursday morning and we were greeted by friendly staff who made us feel welcome and indeed like VIPs.



Our tour began in the Lion Garden, so called because of the lion sculpture by Pat Austin. The borders here include many English Roses mixed with herbaceous perennials, demonstrating companion planting. They also have magnificent standard tree roses which add height and structure to the garden.



We were then taken by our tour guide Alex, through a private gate for a 'behind the scenes' look at how new roses are propagated.

Alex explained how each new rose begins as a cross between two existing roses, selected for their characteristics. Pollen is taken from one parent rose and placed onto the stigma of the other. This process of cross-pollination is done around 40,000 times each year, all by hand, using a small knife and a paintbrush. In November, hips have formed and ripened. The seeds are extracted and they are stored until January when they are sown and by spring small plants develop. At this point selection of seedlings begins followed by field trials and then the final selection of the new rose species. This whole process takes around 12 years. We saw the propagation in the glasshouses at their various stages and also where roses are grown for cutting for commercial use.



We then made our way to the Victorian Walled Garden, a formal garden planted with English Roses and other repeat-flowering shrub roses. We were impressed by the beautiful English Climbers and Ramblers trained over arches, arbours and along the eight-foot wall which encloses the garden.

Next was the stunning Renaissance Garden which is not without its problems. Box blight had damaged many of the low hedges, but measures were being taken to treat it.

At this point we also had a very useful impromptu tutorial on pruning roses and Alex skilfully answered the many questions that we had. The final visit of the public gardens was to the Long Garden with its collection of 'old roses'.



We were then taken through another gate to the highlight of our visit; David Austin's private garden which is not usually open to the public. By contrast this was not a formal rose garden but a beautiful cottage garden with perennial borders, wildflower areas and native trees. Again there were many examples of Pat Austin's sculptures dotted around the plot. The gardens surround the house which was once the family home and a former dairy farm, before becoming the centre of the rose business.



Exhausted and ready for refreshments, we made our way to the tearoom where we recharged our batteries before visiting the plant centre.

This well-organised nursery provides information on the types of roses and how and where to plant them. It is a sea of blooms with perennials placed alongside roses to help with planting ideas and colour schemes. Here the problem we were facing was which rose to take home. Choosing between Gertrude Jekyll, Thomas A Becket, Roald Dahl, Olivia Rose Austin or this year's new variety Emma Bridgewater was an impossible task which needed much thought. So many of the gardening club members plan to return another day after researching and planning. It sounds to me like a good excuse for a return visit in the not-too-distant future. If you have not been to what is thought to be one of the finest rose gardens in the world, then I can highly recommend a visit, particularly in early summer when the roses are just stunning.

If you would like to join our small, friendly and very active gardening club, please get in touch and I can give you more details. We are always pleased to welcome new members.

Bev Harris, Secretary, 01584-841845, 07933-724728, bevharris15@yahoo.co.uk

Caring for God's Acre - July

Here Be Dragons!

Churchyards and cemeteries may seem strange places to look for animals which live in streams and ponds but actually they can be very good. Frogs, toads and newts all spend much of their lives out of the water and whilst dragonflies are aquatic during their larval stage it is the adult, flying insect that we see throughout the spring and summer. Whilst dragonflies will be returning to water to lay eggs, they can be seen cruising quite far away.

Dragonfly larvae may live for several years within water but for only a few weeks as a flying adult. It's not clear why they are called dragonflies, but other old names include Devil's Riding Horse and Devil's Darning Needle! They are an ancient type of insect with giant dragonflies found in the fossil record, dating from the Carboniferous era. Some fossilized dragonfly species would have had a wingspan of about 70cm.

Adult dragonflies eat smaller insects such as midges and mosquitoes. They can fly fast – reaching 25 to 30 mph with a loud buzzing sound and have excellent eyesight, using their compound eyes to find and catch prey as well as spot potential mates. You may see them basking on a churchyard wall or monument in order to warm up, wait for good weather or finish digesting. Flying takes a lot of energy so they spend much of their time sitting still. If you are both patient and lucky, you may also see predators of dragonflies or the smaller damselflies such as flycatchers and frogs.

One reason that burial grounds are good for dragonflies is that they can be havens for their food – small flying insects. Those managing churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries rarely if ever use pesticides and there are often areas where these insects can breed, such as long tussocky grass, deadwood and woodland soils with old leaves, bark and humus.

Why not spend some time checking on monuments and see if you can spot any dragonflies. Take a photo of any you see to upload onto the iNaturalist app which will both help you identify them and also make a record so others can see what you've found.

All the best, Harriet Carty, Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor





The Severn Valley Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Kina Robertshaw - Revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com

~

Revd David Poyner, Associate Minister - email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk,

Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work);

Severn Valley Benefice

St Mary, Highley CHURCHWARDEN Canev Clayton	St Mary, Billingsley CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	St Peter, Chelmarsh CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	St Bartholomew, Glazeley CHURCHWARDEN Laura Jones – 07714-432836, laura@laj.me.uk
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Severn Valley Benefice

Revd David Poyner writes:

The Severn Valley Benefice welcomes Angie Forster, who was ordained deacon at Hereford Cathedral on June 29th.

Angie has been a member of the congregation in Highley for many years and will serve as a non-stipendiary assistant curate in the Severn Valley Benefice. As is normal in the diocese, she will serve the first twelve months of her training curacy as a deacon, which means she can do Sunday morning and evening prayer and funerals but cannot take Holy Communion services. In a year's time she will return to the Cathedral to be ordained as a priest, after which she will be able to do all services. Her training curacy lasts a total three years and she will be supervised by Kina. This provides her with a period when she can discern what shape her ministry will subsequently take.

Please pray for Angie and Kina as they work together over this period

Glazeley News

The Revd David Poyner and Marion Corfield write:

After a change to the routine in May, we resume our Sunday morning services at 10am on the third Sunday of the month.

At the annual parish meeting in May I am pleased to report that all members of the PCC and other officers agreed to serve for another year.

The PCC is the engine of the church so this is very important. The work that the engine does was amply

demonstrated on the 15th June when Glazeley joined with Chelmarsh Church and Caspar Gabb, who yet again opened the gardens at the Woodlands to the public.

The PCC plays a key part in organising this event with Marion Corfield at the helm (and in charge of the money!!) Lyn Parnaby on Teas, and David Poyner on the Raffle. The proceeds are divided between the two churches and Kidney Research UK and I am pleased to report that over **£1500** was taken.



Revd David Poyner – Tel 01562-68638

Email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk

Glazeley & Deuxhill: St Bartholomew - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10533/>

Marion Corfield – Tel 01746-764585

Marion.corfield@talktalk.net





However, it is also a community event, where people come to enjoy the gardens, the refreshments and also each other's company.

The morning was marked by heavy rain but fortunately this cleared by the time church members arrived to set up and the afternoon was sunny if rather cold. This did not stop people coming; we were still busy at 4.30, just half an hour before the official closing time. It was wonderful to watch people meet and chat.

We act as the body of Christ by simply connecting people.

*Pix – clockwise from top left – Revd Poyner presiding over the Raffle; Marion at the helm of the fabulous tea-table; a sunlit avenue of silver birch with their toes wrapped in *Ionicera nitida*; Glenys Williams displaying a stunning strawberry cream cake – just one of a marvellous selection; the main house, smothered in flowers and foliage, with the pleached trees in the background.*



John O'Groats to Land's End by Vintage Tractor!

Congratulations to our local Team Tractor for raising over £10,000 for charity by traversing the entire length of the country on four vintage tractors!



The team of Barry Jackson, Tomos Pearce (grandson of our own Marion Corfield from Glazeley), Paul Marsh and Michael Knowles, raised the money for Alzheimer's, Prostate Cancer, Ovarian Cancer, West Midlands Search & Rescue, and Midlands Freewheelers.

The epic took 11 days and the drivers would like to thank their support team: Ian and Debbie Pearce, Fred and Jackie Jones, Dad and Sherp, Shaun Smith and Muz.



All readers will of course want to know details of the tractors; Ford 4000 of 1967 (Tomos); Massey Ferguson 20 D of 1979 (Paul); Ford 4000 of 1972 (Mick) and a 1956 Fordson Major (Barry).

But let the final word go to Marion: "Wahoo! They have completed an epic journey! ... Absolutely fantastic, been a pleasure to travel along with you on Facebook!!!!!"



What splendid pix, too! Thank you and huge congratulations on what must have been a very tough trip – with a great deal of careful preparation. Ed

Billingsley News

The Revd David Poyner writes:

The highlight at Billingsley this month has been the choral evensong on the 9th June, when we welcomed Tasley and Astley Abbots Choir, led by Stephen Lomas.

Choir member Revd Clive Munday, vicar at Craven Arms but formerly of Bridgnorth, led the service, thus sparing those present the warbling of the assistant curate (although they couldn't avoid a sermon from him; they can run, but they can't hide). The congregation bravely joined in the responses and enthusiastically sang the hymns.

Refreshments afterwards were consumed in a most praiseworthy spirit. Many thanks to all for this splendid event! And it promises to get better... Next month we welcome our own Rector, Kina, who will be speaking of her other life as an entrepreneur in the fashion trade! Please join us and Kina at 6pm on July 14th for this event.

Revd David Poyner –
Associate Minister - Tel
01562-68638
Email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk

[Billingsley: St Mary - A Church Near You](#)

[\(20+\) St Mary's Billingsley | Bridgnorth | Facebook](#)



Caring for God's Acre will be visiting Billingsley churchyard on Wednesday July 17th. If anyone is available from mid-morning onwards, if only to say hello to Alex and his team, they would appreciate it.

Billingsley Needlework goes global



Amongst its other claims to fame, Billingsley has some wonderful needlework.

Needlework is often overlooked but tapestries, altar frontals and kneelers are just as important to the inside of a church as woodwork or stonework. We are fortunate to have two tapestries, created by local volunteers in projects led by Suzanne Lawler.

Suzanne also made a striking kneeler with a picture of the church. Some months ago this was seen by a visitor to the church, Susan Ferguson (nee Billingsley) from Canada, who was very taken by it and wanted to know if she could have one as a present to her brother. I was able to put her in touch with Suzanne: the email below and the photo tell the rest of the story. Many thanks to Suzanne for creating this wonderful piece and the original.

"I just wanted to send you a photo of the wonderful needlepoint cushion that Suzanne Lawler made for me to gift to my brother for his 50th birthday - *pictured*. It made its way all the way from England over to Oakville Ontario and then on to Kelowna British Columbia Canada. Suzanne was wonderful from start to finish. Thank you so much for connecting us. My brother was so surprised and this will be such a nice reminder of his time spent in England and visiting your church.

Thank you, from Sue"

Support to Sidbury

Revd David Poyner will be taking services at Sidbury Church for the next few months – see the item under Sidbury News in Stottesdon Benefice, on page 28.



Chelmarsh News

Elizabeth Bebb writes:

Church Service – Correction!

✝ Sunday 30th June – Morning Service with Baptism – **10:30am** (not 9:30 as published in the Weekly News)

June arrived not with glorious sunshine but with changeable weather causing its own problems.

During the month we had a **christening for George Dale**. It was lovely to welcome him into God's family together and we were delighted to celebrate the occasion at St Peter's Chelmarsh with his family. George is Zoe's first baby, Zoe has been part of the St Peter's Church all her life and grandmother Angela Cadwallader held the secretarial position on the PCC. We welcome George and wish him much joy, love and happiness.



Woodlands Hall opened their gardens and greeted people from far and wide who visited. The gardens never fail to surprise and delight and this year was no exception. We are grateful to the Gabb family at Woodlands Hall for splitting the

money they raised with us, St Giles' Glazeley and Kidney Research U.K. Thank you to all the ladies from Chelmarsh and the benefice who donated their time, and their baking skills to support the occasion.

Marie and Keith held their **annual plant sale at** Chelmarsh church at the end of the month. This was another success. Not only do they sell a full array of plants grown locally (always useful as they are likely to thrive in other local gardens) but they also provide a wealth of knowledge about the conditions, soil and merits of everything they have for sale. It's a delight to visit and we always learn something new.

We continue to look to the loose louvres and advance the project: we will try to provide more updates next month. In the meantime please consider taking part or sponsoring Glenys in the Ride and Stride below, we would love your help to raise money for both St. Peter's Church Chelmarsh and the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust who provide grants for repairs and improvements to local Churches and Chapels.



July is usually a quieter month for the church although we look forward to a wedding during the month.

We will be taking part in the **Ride and Stride** again this year. This event is held annually in September to raise funds for our local church and Historic Churches Shropshire. Anyone can join in – just collect sponsors and then stride, ride or pedal via your own devised route to visit other churches that are open on the 14th September 2024. St Peter's Chelmarsh will be open on that day for visits.

If you would like to take part sponsorship forms and more details are available on <http://www.shropshirehct.org.uk/>. If you can't join in, please consider sponsoring Glenys Williams who will be taking part on the day, she would love to benefit from your help (a sponsorship form will be available in the church shortly if you wish to sponsor her). The sponsorship money is split 50/50 between our local Church and the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), which uses it to award grants for repairs and improvements to our Churches and Chapels. So 100% goes to our Churches. This is definitely a 'Good Thing'. In 2023 over £37,000 was raised, it would be wonderful to be able to have a similar amount in 2024.

Please keep an eye on the notice boards for further details of future events (we are hoping to hold an afternoon tea at the end of July) and for the winners of the 100 club (the draw was held too late to include details in this edition of the magazine).

Cleaning rota: Thursday 18th July 2pm

Molecule of the Month

- acetylcholine esterase



Prof David Poyner writes:

Those with long memories, or unfortunate experiences, may recall a once much-discussed condition known as “**Gulf War Syndrome**”. This name was first coined after the First Gulf War in 1991, when a significant number of those who had seen active service reported symptoms of weakness and lethargy. A number of theories arose, varying from exposure to vaccinations given to protect soldiers against chemical weapons through to use of depleted uranium in shells. A very recent report has suggested that the cause of the problem was something else that was discussed at the time; exposure to agents that block a protein called acetylcholine esterase.

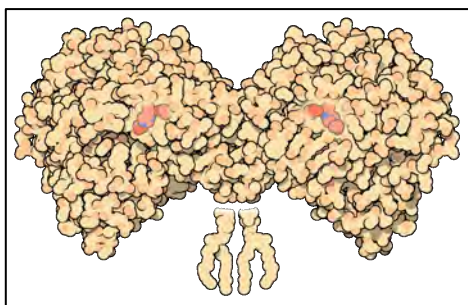


Illustration of acetylcholinesterase.
Source: pdb101

Acetylcholine is a small molecule released by many nerves in the body that causing muscles to contract. These are mainly “voluntary muscles”; for examples muscles we use for voluntary activities like walking. It also causes the muscles in the chest to expand and so is vital for breathing. Acetylcholine also acts on a large number of “involuntary” muscles; for examples those used to propel food through our digestive tract. It activates other organs; it slows the heart and allows us to produce saliva. I often tell my students it is the molecule for “rest, relax and digest”.

Whilst it is a vital chemical, you can have too much of a good thing. There has to be a way of stopping it from working, otherwise we would stop breathing, our hearts would slow down so much that we could not get enough blood to our vital organs, we could choke on our own saliva. This is where acetylcholine esterase comes in. It breaks down acetylcholine into acetic acid (which we find in vinegar) and another molecule called choline. Neither of these have any effects on muscles and so these once again can relax; likewise the heart and the salivary glands resume their normal activity.

There are a range of chemicals which can stop acetylcholine esterase from carrying out its function; these are known as acetylcholine esterase inhibitors. They do have some medical use. There is a condition called myasthenia gravis, where the targets for acetylcholine on muscles cells, the nicotinic receptors, are attacked by the body’s own antibodies. This reduces their numbers and it can be treated by increasing the acetylcholine that is available to activate them. This is done by acetylcholine esterase inhibitors. Other acetylcholine esterase inhibitors are used in agriculture to kill insects. Acetylcholine is used by insects as well as ourselves to activate nerves and muscles; insect pests are particularly vulnerable to an excess of acetylcholine.

Sadly, some acetylcholine esterase inhibitors have found another use. Sarin, developed as an insecticide, has been used as a weapon of war or terror. Those unfortunate enough to be exposed to it suffer convulsions and are likely to suffocate. Its use is banned under international law; as we are all too aware, not all follow this. At the time of the First Gulf War, Iraq did have stocks of Sarin and there was a real threat of its use. According to latest research, low levels of this were released when the stocks were destroyed by bombing. Allied troops were given low levels of an antidote to Sarin (ironically, one of the agents used therapeutically to treat myasthenia gravis) and at one point that was considered a possible cause of Gulf War Syndrome. The latest research suggests that this is not the case and instead points the finger at a protein called paraoxonase-1 (PON1). This is one of the proteins that the body uses to detoxify chemicals and is protective. However, the amount we produce is determined by inheritance; our genes. The new research suggests that those who suffered from Gulf War Syndrome had only low levels of PON1 and so were very vulnerable to the the Sarin released by bombing.

Sadly, we may well see more examples of the inhuman use of Sarin and other acetylcholine esterases.

able to tell you. Half an hour? Three quarters? I don't know, and care less. A chap once told me that he didn't think cricket tea mattered: "We come to play cricket, not to have tea." Really? I don't think that on my deathbed I'll be wishing I'd returned to the field a bit quicker, or turned down that last egg-and-cess sandwich or slice of fruitcake while talking nonsense with Norman over the teapots.

Mike Mooney presided over the raffle, after speaking



nically about our forty-year tradition. There was a generous array of prizes, and at the end two remained unclaimed: Hugh Johnson's History of Wine, which would have been worth anyone's trouble to collect, and a book called Aphrodisiac Foods – Eat Your Way To Ecstasy. Clearly the good folk of our parishes feel their lives are sufficient in that regard. Having eaten their way to their own gastronomic ecstasy, the players trudged back out.

It was Caitlin Belcher, opening the batting with her father Rob, of the Fighting Cocks, who showed her skill again. Belcher senior and Garland fell early to Crook in a double wicket maiden, but from this point Kinlet knew they were in a fight. Caitlin (5 fours) defended with a straight bat and hit equally straight in a perfectly judged retirement score, joined by Alex Fierek. Fierek (1 six, 1 four) is a more formidable competitor than his self-effacing demeanour suggests. He has a good eye and plunders runs between square leg and long-on; he is also a fine fielder and had earlier returned bowling figures of 2 for 11. He fell to Smith with the score 37 in the eleventh over, so the visitors needed 79 in nineteen overs, with batsmen including Richard Whitehouse, Tom Cook, Mooney, Peter Scott and the retired Belcher available.

A game played all-out to win would now have been Stottesdon & Chorley's to lose. But this was not the sole objective: another was to give everyone, young and old, an opportunity. So Muggleton was sent in next, and he played an exemplary innings, but like most

young batsmen, lacked the power to get the ball away. The visitors could have sent in a hitter to settle matters, but this was valuable experience. Whitehouse, who your correspondent thinks played in the inaugural match in 1984, and who could have despatched Kinlet's bowlers, was bowled second ball by the captain, but this merely enabled Tom Cook to emulate Caitlin. He reached 29 with three fours and numerous aggressively run singles, then went to his retirement with a six. After the slow period mid-innings, Cook had brought his team back into the reckoning, but overs were running out, and with four overs left 24 were needed – anyone's game.

Again, the visitors showed their sporting nature, giving the diminutive Harrison Cook an innings while Peter Scott, who could have settled the issue in a few blows, remained at the pavilion. When Scott came to the wicket, his partner Mooney gave him as much strike as he could. He hit Webster for six and four in two balls, leaving five to win from the last over. Instead of hitting out, when given the strike by Mooney he simply tapped another single. Mooney then hit a two, but Cheney craftily hung the ball outside off, Mooney couldn't get the last two balls away, and the match ended in a draw that reflected great credit on the visitors. They were a good team, brilliantly and

thoughtfully led by Mooney. To a degree, one could say that a scores-level draw was the ideal outcome, but one could also say that it was the visitors who allowed it to be so?



Kinlet 115/7 (30 overs) (Drake 30*, Webster 30*, Cheney 14, Crook 12, Wallace 12, Fierek 2/11, Muggleton 2/25); Stottesdon & Chorley 115/6 (T Cook 35*, C Belcher 30*, Fierek 21, Scott 11*, Crook 2/8, Smith 2/10, A Jukes 2/15).

Stottesdon & Chorley (12 players): Rob Belcher, Caitlin Belcher, Tom Garland, Alex Fierek, Nils Muggleton, Richard Whitehouse (wicketkeeper), Tom Cook, Harrison Cook, Mike Mooney (captain), Peter Scott, Ken Ellison, David Heap.

The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

Rector: <i>post vacant</i> so for the coming months please contact the churchwardens or volunteers as below		
St Mary, Stottesdon <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007</i>	St Giles, Farlow <i>CHURCHWARDENS</i> <i>VACANT – please contact key holder Pam Phillips</i>	Holy Trinity, Sidbury <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Andrew Sierakowski - 07934-714149</i>
St Mary, Cleeton St Mary <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Sue Dolphin: - 01584 890583</i>	St John, Middleton Scriven <i>CHURCHWARDEN - vacant – so contact Parish Rep Ann Constable</i>	St Michael, Silvington <i>CHURCHWARDEN - vacant – so contact Parish Rep Katie Hickman</i>
In an emergency, please call the Rural Dean, Revd Jeannetta Stokes, on 01746-716698		

July message

Keeping the Show on the Road during the vacancy – part 9

Here is an update from the Archdeacon, Ven Fiona Gibson:

“I'm sorry that it's been a while since I was in touch about the plans to find a new Rector for the Stottesdon Benefice, and thank you for your patience while I was on Study Leave.

We remain committed to finding a new Rector for the parishes, and I hope to have a meeting with the Rural Dean and the PCCs in the next few weeks to outline the timetable for the second round of advertising.

In the meantime my continued thanks go to the retired clergy, lay ministers, Churchwardens, and others in the parishes who are maintaining the life and worship of the parishes during the ongoing vacancy.”

We look forward to a briefing meeting this month for PCC members to hear all about the process and likely dates for the new recruitment round.

Meanwhile, as we continue to strive for a flourishing Christian presence in the parishes, our two schools and in the wider communities we serve, please make time to:

- ✝ celebrate and support the volunteers who work so hard to sustain the church here – the Churchwardens and members of the PCCs;
and to
- ✝ thank the volunteer visiting clergy who are routinely and willingly facilitating our Sunday worship.

Clare and Chris Tibbits

From the Registers

Cleeton St Mary in April - Interment of Ashes: Tony Crowther RIP
in May - Funeral Office and Burial: Ewart Yapp RIP

Benefice website

We will be trying to keep this updated as necessary during the coming months, so if you need something added to it - or spot an error which needs correcting - please get in touch by email to chris@stottystores.co.uk . Thanks!

Stottesdon Benefice Group News

Sunday 30th June			
10:30	Group Holy Communion with Revd John Daniels	Middleton Scriven	
Sunday 7th July			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Farlow	
10:30	Morning Prayer with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	
Sunday 14th July			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Cleeton St Mary	
10:30	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	
Sunday 21st July			
10:30	Informal Worship with Ann Constable	Stottesdon	
11:45	Holy Communion with Revd David Poyner	Sidbury	
Sunday 28th July			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Silvington	
10:30	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	
Sunday 4th August			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Farlow	
10:30	Morning Prayer with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	

Services for July in the Stottesdon Churches

During the interregnum there will be some changes to the usual service pattern - these times are correct at the time of going to print, but it's always worth checking on our website (A church near you: Stottesdon benefice) or with your churchwarden.

If you are, or someone you know is, in need of prayer or a visit, or Communion at home or elsewhere during the interregnum, please contact your churchwarden or volunteer (details above), who will endeavour to help you to arrange this.

The deadline for the August 2024 edition (Stottesdon Benefice Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing on Thursday 18th July - Thanks!

Parish News from around Stottesdon Benefice

Stottesdon News

Clare Tibbits writes:

100 Club

Congratulations to all our lucky winners for June – Sadie Evans, Rachael Tibbits and Edward Marsh

Forthcoming events

Stottesdon's first ever performance by Daddy's Hat is being planned for SUNDAY 18th AUGUST – Details soon on the Community Facebook page, posters and next month's WN.

Restoration of St Mary's Treble Bell

Thanks to the very generous response to the Bell Appeal fund, the last Bell Foundry in the UK (Taylors, Loughborough) has now been commissioned to take down, repair and re-hang the treble bell. Work is expected to start at St Mary's this month!

As there can be no public access to these works, we hope to have a photographic record to share on site and in a future edition WN.

Celebrating two 'best ever' events

Stottesdon folk and supporters, came up with two "blockbuster" events last month!

The month kicked-off on a glorious summer's day with the **40th Anniversary Cricket Match at Kinlet Hall**. The traditional homemade tea and then the Raffle (expertly run by Stotty Captain Mike Mooney) resulted in an exceptional **£238** to be shared between the two parish churches.

Francis Engleheart's photographs and classic Match Report – a brilliant commentary on a thrilling match – capture the essence of this quintessentially English afternoon! Starts on the back cover and finishes on the inside of the back cover.

Not to be outdone, the longest day saw better weather again (just one short shower) for the **Community Fete held at the Primary School**. Bumper crowd, joined briefly by Rural Dean Jeannetta, enjoyed a great plant stall, the bouncy castle, traditional sideshows, a proper French Crêperie, downed all the beer and saw to it that the BBQ and cake stalls sold out into the bargain!

Too early yet to record how much was raised for St Mary's and FoSPS, but fingers crossed for a stunning result – photographs and more in next month's WN.

Brown Clee Medical Practice news – see page 30

Middleton Scriven News

Ann Constable writes:

Church Service in July

✝ Sunday 30th June – 10:30am - Benefice
Communion at St John's

Coffee Morning – 10am – 12 noon in church on Saturday 13th July. Come and enjoy a cuppa and catch-up!

Welcome to Middleton Scriven to Roy and Liz Yates and every good wish for life in your new home.

Cleeton St Mary News

Sue Dolphin writes:

Activities and events in the church

- **Knit and Natter** every Wednesday in the church 10:00 till 12:00.

Saturday Monthly Coffee morning in church on 8th June raised **£100!** Thank you!

May 100 Club Results - £20 – Daniel Booth no 111; £10 each to – Jack & Kayleigh Brooks no 96, and to Sharon Ortel no 102; 5 – Ann Martin no 66



Farlow News

Caroline Bilton writes:

Save the dates:

Garden Party for Melville Chapel repair fund - Saturday 13th July

Farlow School PTA 55th Grand Fete and Show

will be on Saturday 7th September at 2:00pm in Farlow and Oreton Village Hall.

Farlow 100 Club

100 Club Winners May 2024

- Bryan Phillips - £20
- Louise and Audrey Killey - £10
- Neville Carter - £10
- Lucy and James Shier - £5
- Hazel Deignan - £5

100 Club Winners June 2024

- Marion Jones - £20
- Simon Evans - £10
- Jean Oliver - £10
- Susan Henderson - £5
- Corrinne Griffiths - £5

July will be our last Draw until October. Thank you to everyone who entered. We will be collecting monies again in August/September for anyone wishing to enter 2024/25.

Sidbury News

Revd David Poyner writes:

In the absence of an incumbent, I am doing the **11.45am Holy Communion service at Sidbury** (on the third Sunday of the month) for the next few months.

In May, the church was packed for the christening of Alice Jane Williams; fortunately the field next to the church is owned by the Williams family so parking was no problem!

By way of a variation, on July 21st, we will use the communion service from the Book of Common Prayer. So if you want to immerse yourself in the poetry of this service, please join us!

Delighted to have news from Sidbury after a long silence – thank you David – and may this be the first of many!! Ed

Silvinton News

We have no news to pass on from Silvinton this month.

Community Noticeboard

Farmers' Market on Saturday 20th July

is "under and around the crooked spire" at St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer, on the THIRD SATURDAY each month from 09.30-12.30.

Our Local Food Banks

Both are **always** in need of donations of foodstuffs and other goods, and of money to sustain their services: **and never more so than today!!**

Find them on Facebook or call 07960 285520 for BRIDGNORTH or 07519 885943 for CLEOBURY MORTIMER

Daddy's Hat Summer Music

Don't miss! Fabulous music in a magnificent church



On Saturday 20th July at 3:00pm the amazing Saxon Fire saxophone quartet, and the talented young local cellist Benjamin Richards, will be playing at St Mary's Church, Jackfield, TF8 7ND

And in August, DH will be at St Mary's Church Stottesdon for the first time, on SUNDAY 18th at 3:00pm. More information in August WN or from Sally on 01746-787419 – leave a message and she WILL call you back

Wheatland Diary

Sun	30	June	Plant Sale & Coffee Morning – Middleton Scriven church, 10:00am to 2:00pm – see June WN
Sat	6	July	Coffee morning, St John’s Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 11
Sat	6	July	Pimms & Puds Social Evening – Ditton Priors – 5:00pm - see page 11 for tickets etc
Sat	13	July	Beer & Bangers Fun Day – Ditton Priors Pavilion – see page 11
Sat	13	July	Coffee Morning – Middleton Scriven Church - 10:00am to 12 noon - see page 27
Sat	13	July	Garden Party for Melville Chapel, at Cleeton St Mary – 2:00pm – 5:00pm – see page 28
Wed	17	July	Caring for God’s Acre visits Billingsley Church – do go and meet them! - see page 21
Fri	19	July	Fundraising Quiz, Raffle and Carvery at The Down – contact Anne Preece – see page 13
Sat	20	July	Daddy’s Hat St Mary’s Jackfield, with Saxon Fire (sax) and Benjamin Richards (cello) – see page 29
Tue	23	July	Brown Clee Medical Practice Patient Participation Group meeting, DPVH, 7:00pm – see page 30
Thurs	1	Aug	Burwarton Show Day! Refreshment tent - see page 11
Sat	3	Aug	Coffee morning, St John’s Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 11
Thurs	15	Aug	Ditton Priors - Teas in the Churchyard – see page 11
Sun	18	Aug	Daddy’s Hat at Stottesdon – see pages 27 and 29
Fri	6	Sept	Flicks in the Sticks – “Oppenheimer” at Chetton VH - see page 15
Sat	7	Sept	Coffee morning, St John’s Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 11
Sat	7	Sept	Farlow School Grand Fete and Show – Farlow & Oretton VH – 2:00pm – see page 28
Sat	14	Sept	Neenton Fete and Duck Race – see page 16
Sat	14	Sept	Ride + Stride – more information in August WN
Tues	24	Sept	Coffee Morning & Raffle, The Old Rectory Cleobury North, for church repairs – see page 14
Sat	12	Oct	Chetton VH – folk duo The Hooded Crow – Supper – see page 15
Sat	12	Oct	Harvest Supper – Ditton Priors VH – see page 11
Sat	19	Oct	Craven Arms Big Band – at Ditton Priors VH – see page 11
Tue	29	Oct	Brown Clee Medical Practice Patient Participation Group meeting, DPVH, 7:00pm

Brown Clee Medical Practice - Patient Participation Group

Making PARTICIPATION easier!

If you are a patient of the Brown Clee Medical Practice, there are now some new ways you can help the Surgery in this period of change.

The NHS Contract requires that the surgery has channels of communication with patients, to receive feedback on services and help with service development.

The patient participation group (PPG) has contact with almost 25% of patients through its email list and Facebook page, and is now setting up four **focus groups** for obtaining the views of under-represented patients.

The groups will be for



- 18 - 30 year olds,
- 30 - 45 year olds,
- 45 - 60 year olds
- and 60 years ++.

Contact may be by zoom, by email questionnaires etc, by telephone or potentially face to face discussion sessions. We will be aiming to set up whatever suits you best, at convenient times.

If you feel this is something you would like to know more about, contact brownclepppg@gmail.com or telephone Tina Ranson on 07790 230038 or 01584 878707.

**The next meeting of the PPG will be on
Tuesday 23rd July at 7:00pm in Ditton Priors Village Hall**

Useful Community Contacts - updated June 2024

Brown Clee Surgery PPG	Brown Clee Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) - email BrownCleePPG@gmail.com , or call Chair Tina Ranson on 01584-878707.
Brown Clee Walkers	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
Burwarton & District Garden Club	Meets on the 2 nd Thursday of each month from October to June at 2:15pm at Stoke St Milborough VH. Contact secretary Ms Bev Harris on 01584-841845, bevharris15@yahoo.co.uk
Burwarton & District WI	Contact the Secretary, Helen Groves, on 01746-712466
Burwarton & District Wives Group	Meeting 8pm first Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421 or Gill Severn 01746-712231
Chelmarsh Bowling	Outdoor bowling in summer (Tuesday evening & Wednesday afternoon), indoor during the winter (Tuesday evenings 7:00 – 9:00pm) at Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Further details from Stan Chapman, 01746-862424
Chelmarsh Games Group	Mainly Canasta and Scrabble! Thursdays at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall. Contact Sue Jakeman on 07531-008876.
Chelmarsh Jubilee Club	Meet at Chelmarsh Sports & Social Club – contact Shell Russon on 07903-162408 for more information
Chelmarsh Parent & Toddler Group	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
Chelmarsh Parish Hall	Available for hire - booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk
Chelmarsh Walking Group	Contact Jen Everitt on 01746-862858 for more information.
Chetton & Glazeley WI	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2 nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
Chetton Folk Dance Club	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
Chetton Village Hall	Enquiries - Sue on 01746-789239
Chorley Village Hall	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact 07726-763883 – NEW DEDICATED NUMBER DECEMBER 2022
Cleobury North Village Hall	Enquiries to 01746-787093 please
	National Centre for Domestic Violence https://www.ncdv.org.uk/contact/ Call 08448-044999. Website gives advice and other means of getting help.
Daddy's Hat Music & Poetry	Contact on 01746-787419 – leave a message and you will get a call-back!
Ditton Priors Art Group	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Contact Gloria Blair on 07794-225532
Ditton Priors History Group	Please contact paul.wilson8992@gmail.com
Ditton Priors Village Hall	Bookings - 07766 392 105 - dittonpriorsalls@gmail.com
Knowle Sports Club	Second hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wende Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
	Shrewsbury Dial-a-Ride Transport Services https://www.shrewsbury-dialaride.co.uk – 01743-450270 Mon-Fri 09:30 – 15:00, Corvedale Buzzard – 01584-700907
Short Mat Bowling – Ditton Priors	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact Clive Jackson on 01746-718046
Stottesdon & District W.I.	Meets in various venues on the third Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746-718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
Stottesdon Gateway Nursery	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
Tae kwon-do	Eardington Village Hall Thursday, 5:15pm. Contact Neil Morris 07969-996055

Kinlet vs Stottesdon & Chorley – Sunday 2 June, at Kinlet

Francis Engleheart writes:

Forty years ago, the churchwardens of Kinlet and Stottesdon arranged a sponsored cricket match to raise funds for urgent repair work. Sponsors pledged money for runs, wickets and catches, a lavish tea was put on, the scorer was Roger Heywood-Waddington, the last vicar of Kinlet and Neen Savage, there was a sizeable crowd, much fun was had, and it was agreed to make it an annual event – without the sponsorship, but with a raffle and a lavish tea.



Pleasing to relate, the tradition has continued. This year the citizens of Chorley and Stottesdon turned out in force to cheer on a team that deserved to win. Kinlet's innings was a bedraggled performance at odds with the sublime weather until Webster and debutant Rob Drake brought the innings out of its coma.

Openers Wallace and Cheney had started diligently against an attack that demanded respect – Tom Cook, who has played for and against Kinlet for many a long year, and Caitlin Belcher, a highly accomplished cricketer. Caitlin has been Shropshire Cricket's Under-18 Cricketer of the Year, and one could see why. She bowled at a brisk pace with a grooved action, offering nothing to hit, and Wallace and Cheney did well to see off the opening spell. Kinlet's batsmen remained stuck in treacle against less experienced bowling. With no pace on the ball, they struggled to clear the close field, and the bowlers, though on paper not threatening, held their own – notably Tom Garland and Nils Muggleton,

the youngest player on the field apart from Harrison Cook.

The top six contributed just two boundaries between them (one each to Wallace and Cheney), and beyond the halfway stage the rate was still just two runs an over. This was not a clever situation to be in, with Ellison and Mooney yet to bowl. But (not for the first time) came the hour, came the Webster. The suave left-hander looked in a no-nonsense mood, hitting his second ball for four and adding two further fours and a six before retiring at the statutory 30. His equally effective companion was Rob Drake, making his debut for Kinlet. Reaching his 30 in 28 balls to Webster's 27, he hit just two boundaries but demonstrated the art of pushing singles – a little of that earlier, and Kinlet would have posted 150, surely a reasonable minimum. As it was, with a late contribution from Crook and a debut score from young Archie Holmes from the last ball of the innings, Kinlet still failed to reach four-an-over.

Was anyone troubled? The sun smiled down from a cloudless sky, cricketers of all ages and abilities were enjoying their day out in front of an appreciative crowd, and there was tea to come. Over the years, the "Stoddy Match" tea has been a thing to behold, and to consume. I can't name the numerous contributors from both parishes, but can thank one and all for the quality on offer. If you asked me "how long does a Kinlet cricket tea interval last?" I wouldn't be

