

CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday 3rd July

18.00 Whitchurch Compline.

Thursday 4th July

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Sunday 7th July

08.30 Welsh Newton Meditation and Bible Study

09.30 Bishopswood Big Breakfast (at the Village Hall).

09.30 Ganarew Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).

10.00 Llangrove Holy Communion

11.00 Llangarron Holy Communion

11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion.

11.00 Wyesham Sunday Praise.

Thursday 11th July

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Sunday 14th July

08.30 Welsh Newton Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00 Llangrove Community Service

10.00 Marstow All Age Praise

11.00 Bishopswood Holy Communion (at the Village Hall).

11.00 Whitchurch Sunday Praise Baptismal Service.

11.00 Wyesham Sunday Praise.

18.00 Welsh Newton Prayer Service

Thursday 18th July

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Sunday 21st July

08.30 Welsh Newton Meditation and Bible Study

09.30 Ganarew Patronal Festival Service.

10.00 Llangrove Holy Communion

BORDER NEWS

Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks Parish Magazine

Produced by volunteers for the community



JULY & AUGUST 2024

July Services continued page 43



Stay in touch

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benbentham@yahoo.co.uk

Associate Minister - Licensed to Wye Brooks Benefice

Revd Simon Tarlton 07462 893457 simon.tarlton@gmail.com

Retired Priests - Supporting our Benefices

Revd Penny Powdrill 01600 714096 pennypowdrill@btinternet.com

Revd Jill Stephens 01600 890975 jill.stephens1@btinternet.com

WYE REACHES

www.wyereaches.org

Vicar

Revd Tim Starling

07980204572

revtimstarling@gmail.com

Sunday 21st July *Continued*

11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion.

11.00 Wyesham Holy Communion

18.00 Llangarron Evening Prayer

Thursday 25th July

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Friday 26th July

6pm Whitchurch Taizé Prayer.

Sunday 28th July

08.30 Welsh Newton Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00 Llangrove Community Service

10.00 Marstow All Age Praise

11.00 Dixton Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).

11.00 Whitchurch Sunday Praise.

11.00 Wyesham Patronal Festival and Holy Communion.

18.00 Welsh Newton Prayer Service

Thursday 1st August

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Sunday 4th August

08.30 Welsh Newton Meditation and Bible Study

09.30 Bishopswood Big Breakfast at the Village Hall.

09.30 Ganarew Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).

10.00 Llangrove Holy Communion

11.00 Llangarron Holy Communion

11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion.

11.00 Wyesham Sunday Praise.

Wednesday 7th August

18.00 Whitchurch Compline

Thursday 8th August

10.30 Whitchurch Simple, said Holy Communion service.

Please submit material for next month's issue NO LATER than 8th of the month to your parish correspondent

The email address for each correspondent can be found in the Parish News pages

The Editorial Team can be contacted via bneditor@mail.com

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Bobby can be contacted on 01989 770256
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Sunday 11th August

08.30 Welsh Newton	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00 Llangrove	Community Service
10.00 Marstow	All Age Praise
11.00 Bishopswood	Holy Communion.
11.00 Whitchurch	Sunday Praise.
11.00 Wyesham	Sunday Praise.
18.00 Welsh Newton	Prayer Service

Thursday 15th August

10.30 Whitchurch	Simple, said Holy Communion service.
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Sunday 18th August

08.30 Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study
09.30 Ganarew	Sunday Praise.
10.00 Llangrove	Holy Communion
11.00 Whitchurch	Holy Communion.
11.00 Wyesham	Holy Communion.
18.00 Llangarron	Evening Prayer

Thursday 22nd August

10.30 Whitchurch	Simple, said Holy Communion service.
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Friday 23rd August

18.00 Whitchurch	Taizé Prayer.
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Sunday 25th August

08.30 Welsh Newton	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00 Llangrove	Community Service
10.00 Marstow	All Age Praise
11.00 Dixton	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).
11.00 Wyesham	Holy Communion.
15.00 Bishopswood	Pimms and Hymns outside the Village Hall.
15.00 Whitchurch	Pimms and Hymns by the river bank.
18.00 Welsh Newton	Prayer Service

Thursday 29th August

10.30 Whitchurch	Simple, said Holy Communion service.
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WELCOME FROM YOUR CLERGY TEAM



One of the lovely things of living in a new home, where you only put your pictures up in the darker, winter months, is seeing them for the first time in the summer sunlight as they catch the sun and come to life in wonderful new ways. I find it quite captivating to look at something and to be drawn into it a fresh.

Interestingly, recently St Dubricius church has been hosting their local Primary Schools art exhibition, where someone has been teaching them the artistic skills to paint erupting waves on the sea. To see a montage of the same image created through 20+ different lens was also powerful.

It has made me think about how much I often take all the beauty around me for granted; how easily it is to race though each day without really enjoying the views and appreciating the people around me.

If you are anything like me, it isn't easy to slow down, is it? To properly slow down on the outside (rushing and doing less) but also on the inside (finding a bit of stillness within).

There is a very interesting book called the "Three Mile an Hour God". Its premise is that we typically walk at three miles an hour. But that this can also translate into a spiritual speed too. A speed in which we can comfortably "walk", and keep in step with God, and really notice what is going on around about us.

Jesus seems to talk a lot about walking – but in fairness he probably did quite a lot of it. And as he walked, he seemed to notice so many things going on around him. He spotted new disciples; saw those who needed his help and healing; he even talked about easy and difficult paths; and of course he seemed to find his Father, God, speaking to him and guiding him. I think it would be cool to be a bit more like Jesus.

And of course we can. If you would like to find out a bit more, why not ask at your local church. Or to find out a bit more about what Jesus saw as he walked along might you like to spend some time this summer reading the gospel of Mark (the shortest gospel) or Luke, a few chapters at a time? Perhaps trying to see what was going on afresh.

I hope that during these summer seasons that you (maybe) have time to slow down a bit more than usual and get to see ordinary and familiar things in a new light; perhaps as you go for a walk, discover the sunlight dappling your pictures and, hopefully, relaxing a little bit more.

And if I or one of my clergy colleagues can help in any way, please do give us a call.

Love and prayers,



Rev Tim Starling

**Compline
Night Prayer 2024**

Compline (or Night Prayer) is a short, reflective time of prayer, lasting around 20/30 minutes, which is a delightful way to round off the day and reflect on God's love and care for us.

Please join us at 8pm, Wednesday night, at St Dubricius church

8th June
3rd July
7th August
4th September
1st October
6th November
4th December

wyreochs.org

Taizé Prayer

Please join us for a short, reflective time of Taizé prayer where you are invited to meet in God through the singing of psalm verses and other simple chants, alternating with periods of silent reflection.

Please join us at 8pm on Friday night, at St Dubricius church

8th June
8th July
22nd August
17th September
13th October
12nd November

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Date: Sunday, 21st July Start Time: 11.30 a.m.
Starting point: Brelston Court Barn, Marstow HR9 6HF
Finish: At the last clue of the Treasure Hunt
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Maximum 4 per car

Make sure you have a mobile phone and pen available for each team
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Afternoon Tea in a mystery location

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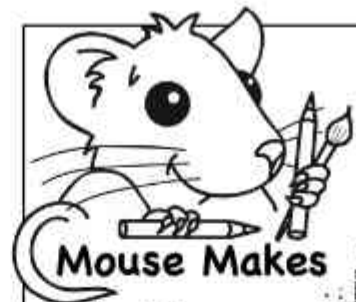
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Mouse Makes

How many days did the Lord tell Joshua to march around the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3



What did the priests carry that were made from rams' horns?



What was carried along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

Joshua 6:4



On the seventh day how many times did they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6



Who was saved from Jerico along with her family?

Joshua 6:17

READ the story in Joshua 5:13-6:27

D	A	Y	S	A	W	A	L	K			
A	J	O	S	H	U	A	R	K	E		
S	E	V	E	N	I	O	F	L	A	T	W
Y	N	T	R	F	X	U	E	L	B	O	I
I	P	R	I	E	S	T	S	O	U	N	D
A	A	U	C	L	I	S	W	R	R	C	A
R	I	M	O	L	K	I	B	D	N	E	W
O	S	P	S	C	A	M	P	H	O	R	N
U	R	E	C	G	U	A	R	D	B	K	
N	A	T	I	F	I	R	E	X	L	I	
D	E	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N	
E	L	R	Y	R	A	H	A	B	W	G	

JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION

Find the question answers in the word search too!

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REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
THIS MONTH

Pray for the souls and lives of

Frances Mary Newman whose ashes were buried at St Peter's Church, Dixton, on Saturday 1st June.

Theresa and Bernard Rowlands whose ashes were buried at St James Church, Wyesham, on Friday 31st May.

Christine Gorman, funeral held at St Dubricius Church, Whitchurch, on Tuesday 28th May.

Margaret Jean Coudace funeral held at the Forest of Dean Crematorium on Thursday 16th May, and the burial of ashes at St Jame's Church, Wyesham on Thursday 23rd May.

Gerald Howarth funeral held at Forest of Dean Crematorium on Thursday 23rd May

Prayers for the month

We give thanks for the many blessings you have given us this year. As we celebrate this holiday, please help us to focus on the things that truly matter and to let go of any worries or concerns. Help us to enjoy this time with our loved ones and to make lasting memories.

Thank you for all you've given us as our own, thank you for family and friends, may your love penetrate our hearts and fill them with compassion, kindness, and understanding.

For the healing of nations, for the end of violence and injustice. May your divine light shine upon all corners of the earth, bringing understanding, compassion, and unity among all peoples. May the power of forgiveness bring about reconciliation, harmony, and peace.

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King Charles accepts the patronage of National Churches Trust and Bible Society

Queen Elizabeth II was the patron of both charities, but following her passing, her patronages underwent review. Now King Charles has agreed to continue with his mother's legacy, saying he would be "delighted" to accept them both.

King Charles said his faith is "deeply rooted" in the Church of England. On his accession to the throne, he told faith leaders that he was "a committed Anglican Christian" and promised at his Coronation to "maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the gospel."

Chief executive of the National Churches Trust, Claire Walker, said: "We are honoured to welcome King Charles III as Patron. This highlights the significance of UK churches and the important role of the National Church in keeping these wonderful buildings open and in good repair."

Bible Society's chief executive, Paul Williams, said: "We're absolutely delighted with this news, and very thankful. This is an affirmation of the value of Bible Society's work in sharing God's Word at home and abroad."



This Month's Book Review

God in the Garden

By Philip Eley, Kevin Mayhew, £14.99

A year of weekly Bible reflections that follow the seasons and changes of the gardener's year. They help to encourage consistent devotional time – outside with God and deepening a spiritual relationship.

A good gift for gardener's, organic food growers, families with allotments and fans of our Wild Worship series. *The book* includes reflection questions, practical tips, advice and space for journaling.



Sea Sunday & St Elmo's Fire

Look around your home. How much of the contents of your bedroom, kitchen, living room and even garage came to you over the seas, via the great merchant ships? What would your home be like without them?

Yet when did you last give a thought to the people who bring them to you?

It is a curious fact that seafarers are one of the most important, and yet invisible, people groups in our society. We depend on them to bring us more than 90% of the world's goods and fuels, yet we rarely even remember their existence.

It suddenly makes Sea Sunday seem a very good idea: an annual opportunity to give thanks for the 1.89 million seafarers of the world, and to pray for their personal well-being. For going to sea is a lonely occupation. It separates families for up to nine months on end. It is also one of the world's most dangerous occupations, with physically demanding work as well as the threat of piracy, shipwreck and even abandonment.

So this Sea Sunday, let's pause and give thanks to God for the seafarers of the world. Let's remember how their work so enriches our lives. Let's pray for them, for their families, and let's support the organisations that offer them care and support through their chaplaincy work.

One such is The Mission to Seafarers, which has Seafarers Centres in 50 countries, and offers not only practical support such as access to Wi-Fi and a place to relax, but also emotional and spiritual aid through its ordained Port Chaplains, who are constantly visiting the ships.

July also sees Cowes Week take place from 27th July to 2nd August. Cowes Week has been taking place since 1826 and is one of the UK's longest running and most successful sporting events. It now

Cont'd...



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stages up to 40 daily races for around 500 boats and is the largest sailing regatta of its kind in the world. As a sea faring nation it comes as no surprise that sailors have their own saint. If you enjoy sailing, or simply messing about in boats, you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea.

St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted many modern bishops, but not Erasmus – he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who also had to brave the elements of nature in their daily work. He died about 300AD

But when Erasmus was made the patron saint of sailors, it led to a curious confusion. His emblem became the windlass, a kind of hoist used by many sailors at sea. So far so good, but many medieval Christians, seeing the windlass emblem, assumed it was some sort of torture instrument. They knew that Erasmus had died in the persecution of Diocletian, and so concluded that a windlass had been used to hoist out his intestines (which it hadn't).

But no matter – Erasmus was not only adopted sailors but also by those suffering with stomach ache!

Weekly Church attendance up five per cent in third year of consecutive growth

Average weekly attendance at Church of England services rose by almost five per cent in 2023 - the third year of consecutive growth, preliminary figures show.

Meanwhile weekly attendance by children was up by almost six per cent last year, according to an early snapshot of the annual Statistics for Mission findings.

Cont'd...

While total attendance is still below 2019 levels, the analysis suggests in-person attendance is drawing closer to the pre-pandemic trend.

In 2021 all-age Sunday attendance was 22.3 per cent below the projected pre-pandemic trend, but the new figures reveal that the gap had narrowed to 6.7 per cent last year.

All-age weekly attendance rose to within 8.3 per cent of the trend last year, compared with 24.1 per cent in 2021.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said "This is very welcome news and I hope it encourages churches across the country



Ukraine: "goodness will triumph"

Church leaders in Ukraine have urged their citizens not to lose heart in face of the renewed Russian air and land assaults and the delayed arrival of fresh Western military aid.

The Primate of Ukraine's independent Orthodox Church (OCU), Metropolitan Epiphany (Dumenko) said that after years of war, every village has names of people who had "lain down their lives defending the Motherland" – though often such lists were only "etched in the hearts of the survivors."

Metropolitan Epiphany went on: "The enemy seeks to destroy us, leaving just barren ashes and scorching heat, and sometimes it may even seem that evil is winning. But its victory is only temporary – it can never be final, because goodness, light, and life will inevitably triumph."

The Primate urged that Ukrainians should learn from the example of their women, who were often the "first teachers of faith and virtue" by placing their hope in God, and "never despairing, even when conditions seem insurmountable."



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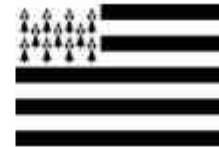
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The second in a series: Saints with holiday connections

St Gudwal the first Christian in Brittany?

If you would love to be in Brittany for your holiday this summer, then spare a thought for Gudwal, because this obscure 6th century Celtic abbot got there before you did. Indeed, Gudwal seems to have liked Brittany so much that he decided to stay on.

When you visit Brittany today, you will find Catholic churches everywhere. Not so in the sixth century – when only the extraordinary range of megalithic monuments dominated the landscape. There were (and still are) passage dolmens, stepped pyramids and stone circles. The best known site is Carnac, where remains of a dozen rows of huge standing stones run for over ten kilometres. Some of the megalithic ruins in the gulf of Morbihan date back to at least 3300 BC – that is 200 years older than Stonehenge.

Religion was certainly plentiful in Brittany, back then. But Gudwal was one of the earliest pioneers of Christianity in the region. He did a bit of 6th century 'church planting', too – when he decided to build a hermitage in the middle of all that paganism – probably at Locoal. In time, 188 monks came to join him, and they built a little monastery – probably at Guer.

But it was the man himself – his holiness and kindness – that drew people's attention more than the buildings. A man of deep spirituality and prayer, Gudwal willingly spent himself on helping the local people – it was said that he healed many by his prayers for them.





from across our Parishes

BISHOPSWOOD

Village Hall Events

Cafe Bishopswood Saturday 13th July 10.00 am – Midday Arts & Crafts supplies swap Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available)

Cafe Bishopswood Saturday 10th August 10.00 am – Midday Books and Jigsaw Puzzles swap Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available)

Bank Holiday Monday 26th August 5pm - Annual Duck Race – This is our 30th duck race at Kerne Bridge £1 per Duck from committee members or The Paddle @ Kerne Bridge or Admin@bvhonline.co.uk for details

At 6pm - **Bishopswood's Got Talent** – If you have a hidden Talent, please get in touch now Admin@bvhonline.co.uk and see www.bishopswoodvillage.co.uk nearer the time for more details

DIXTON

Kate Richards - kate@summerleas.com

As it gets (a little!) warmer, we start to see more visitors to the church, as local residents get out to enjoy the sun and visitors and walkers along the Wye Valley Walk pass through. It makes us realise how important it is to keep our doors open, so that passers by can enjoy the cool (or dry!), somewhere to rest and the quiet calm of the ancient building. This month we have received Rachel Sycamore's assessment regarding the furniture which we will pursue, and a second with ideas about additional uses for the church. We are also starting to explore other fundraising opportunities.

On 1st June, **Mary Newman** was buried in the churchyard. Mary was born in India and grew up in Lahore where her father published a newspaper, and she spoke perfect Hindi. She started the school next door to the church, called Agincourt school, in the building which at one time had been the vicarage (there is another old vicarage on the other side of the river too, as well as the one which was demolished to make way for Tim's current residence – is this a record?!). The school was taken over by the



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Haberdashers as their nursery and junior school in 1997. Sadly, the school will close at the end of the summer term and the future of the building is uncertain. Mary's husband has a Sanskrit Shloka from the Upanishads as his epitaph, emphasising their strong connections to India. (<https://www.inditales.com/south-wales-trip-mary-newman/>)

Our services are on 28th July at 11am and 25th August at 11am, so do come and join us!

WYESHAM

Jo Townsend & Marguerite Gordon

jotown223@hotmail.com marguerite.gordon@btinternet.com

During the School holidays, Wyesham Together will be running some **informal gatherings for any young people** who want to join us. 12 - 2 pm on Tuesdays on the village green for sandwiches, crisps and a drink, followed by crafts, scavenger hunts (23rd & 30th July; 13th, 20th & 27th August). If wet we will be in Wyesham Christian Fellowship church! And on **Tuesday 6th August** at 12pm there will be a **Teddy bear picnic** meeting at the campsite in the woods. More information coming soon

Wyesham events for July and August

July 6th Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall Wyesham 10.30 -15.00

8th WI St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00

15th Craft Group St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00

27th Community Coffee Morning St James' Church Wyesham 10.00-12.00

August 3rd Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Hall Wyesham 10.30-15.00

10th Afternoon Tea Party St James Community Hall Wyesham time to be confirmed

No WI Meeting or Craft Group in August

31st Community Coffee Morning St James Church 10.00-12.00



LLANGROVE

Wendy Price Wendyllangrove@gmail.com,
www.llangrove.org.uk & llangrovelinks@yahoo.co.uk

Coffee Morning in Llangrove Village Hall on **Wednesday 10th July** 10.30am Bring and Buy. Raffle. Good company!

Volunteers needed :- 3rd and 6th July 9.30am at Tretawdy Nature reserve.

Llangrove & District Gardening Society: July 7th 60th Anniversary Summer Celebration Day with lunch and garden visit.

Annual Flower and Produce Show on the 17th August. Fun and easy to enter – lots of different classes for all the family. Doors open 2.30pm. Tea, cakes and raffle. Free admission. Look out for posters and schedule – in the village phone box/Woods.

Talk 5th September **The Wonder of Trees** by Mary Fenton, starting at 7.30pm in Llangrove village hall. Admission for visitors £4 which includes refreshments. More details contact Jo 07718 229813 **All welcome** – you don't have to be a member or live in Llangrove!

Village Singers Friends & Families Summer Concert 8th July 8pm at Llangrove Village Hall.

Warm Welcome Fridays on July 26th, August 9th and August 23rd from 11am over the next couple of months. Refreshments available - donations. **Activity days** will be run for families or individual children on these days from 9a.m. until 4p.m. Please book with Wendy Price.

Church Holiday Club with an Olympics theme will take place at Llangrove Village Hall on **Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th August** from 9am until 4pm The cost is £10 a child or £20 a family with three days for the price of two! A bargain! Fun activities both inside and out and an action packed serial performed on the stage! Break will be provided but youngsters will need to bring a packed lunch.

Open Garden in Llangrove as part of the National Garden Scheme at Old Grove, the home of Ken and Lynette, on **Sunday August 26th** from 2 pm until 6pm Refreshments available.

Through the Parish Council, there is a possibility that a Minibus can be hired to take people for an **outing to Hereford**. If you'd be interested in coming along, please contact Wendy Price. Tickets will need to be purchased towards the cost.



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St Giles Events

A reminder that on **Sunday July 7th**, starting at 3.00 pm, we have a **musical afternoon**, with afternoon tea, at St Giles Church. As well as what promises to be an amazing organ recital by Alex Evans, we will be entertained by Phil, Jon and Lesley playing guitar and recorder and also by Joanne playing the flute. There will be a glass of bubbly for all on arrival and a raffle. The event is in aid of the John Kyrle School Life Link Chaplaincy Project. Admission for under 18s is free and for others is £5. Card or cash payment can be taken at the door, but please contact Helen Phillips on 07508320111 if you would like to come so that we have an idea of numbers.

Patronal Service and Gift Day We are delighted that the choir of St Mary's Ross, is joining us again for Evensong at 5.00 pm **Sunday September 1st** at our Patronal Service. Refreshments will be served. This date also coincides with our Gift Day, when parishioners are invited to make a one off donation to St Giles Church, to be used solely for the upkeep of the church building and the churchyard. It costs £50 a day just to keep St Giles open and functioning. We rely entirely on donations, receiving no funding from any other sources, including the Church of England. Cash donations can be taken to Ken Gort at Gamekeepers Cottage or brought to the Church during the evening. Alternatively BACS payments can be made to St Giles Church Goodrich PCC, Sort Code 09-01-55, Account No 49640908. Our heartfelt thanks, in advance.
Goodrich Church of England Primary School - Open the Book.

On Wednesday 22nd May, we had Open the Book. The story they told us was all about Jesus baptising his people. Alongside the adults telling the story were some of the children, who were using different props. They included blue fabric to represent the water and a rather large flag was the Holy Spirit. It was a wonderful and reflective collective worship. By Peregrines' class.

Village Hall Events - Flicks in the Sticks is having a summer break and will be back in September. We are planning plenty of events during the autumn so please keep an eye on our website for details.

<https://goodrichvillagehall.co.uk/whats-on/>





NGS OPEN GARDEN Poole Cottage on Coppett Hill, above Goodrich is opening on **Sunday 14th July**, from 10.30am to 5pm. Adults £5. Children free as are well behaved dogs on short leads! Tea and homemade cake. All proceeds to the NGS charities which include Marie Curie and MacMillan Cancer Support. Please park in Goodrich village as parking is very limited on the hill. Shuttle service provided if you don't want to walk up the hill.

WHITCHURCH

Brigid Hamilton-Jones brigidhj@aol.com

Calling flower lovers!

Would you like the opportunity to create beautiful flower arrangements? St Dubricius Church would appreciate your help. Perhaps you would like to contribute to the flower decorations regularly, or maybe you would like to mark a special occasion or memory. Perhaps you could help with special decorations for festivals such as Easter or Christmas. If this interests you, please contact Sue Morris suemorris779@gmail.com

Events at St Dubricius Church:

Community Coffee mornings: Wednesdays 3rd and 17th July, and 7th and 21st August, 10.30-12.00pm.

Community Lunches: are not taking place

Knit and Natter: every Thursday, 2pm.

Compline: 3rd July, and 7th August, 6pm.

Taizé service: 26th July, and 23rd August 6pm.

Hymns and Pimms: 25th August at 3pm

Wednesday 28th August: Special coffee morning and bring & buy to raise funds for the church.

Sticky Little Fingers: every Tuesday during term time in Whitchurch Primary School, 9.30-11am. Pre-school children and babies with their parents and carers are very welcome.

Whitchurch and Ganarew Local History Society members are continuing with their work towards putting on another great exhibition at the end of September. We would still love to be able to display items relating to local buildings, so yet another plea to look out those sales particulars, deeds,

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objects used in the past on the farm, in the garden or kitchen. Anything that could form part of a display would be perfect. Rest assured that anything we borrow would be well looked after. Contact Patricia Lewis 01600 891326.

Whitchurch and Ganarew Memorial Hall You may have noticed a colourful new addition to the Hall Car Park in the form of a big yellow Clothes Bank! This is for donations of good quality clothes, bags and shoes in aid of the Enviroability charity to sell at their store in Brookend Street, Ross on Wye. The charity has many projects, not least providing people from disadvantaged groups with real work opportunities and experiences. Antony Lowther, who is on the Memorial Hall Committee, is a Trustee and we are pleased to be supporting their work in this way. To find out more go to www.enviroability.org.uk

MARSTOW

Sue Rolfe rolfe653@btinternet.com Tel: 07971 411020
Website: marstowchurch.org

CHURCH NEWS and EVENTS

Beautiful Gardens Talk An inspiring talk about The Yellow Book Open Gardens Scheme on a beautiful May evening was much enjoyed as was the copious wine and delicious refreshments. Thanks to Angela & Graham O'Connell, our speakers, and the PCC for providing the refreshments.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Marstow Car Treasure Hunt with Brunch & Tea Sunday, 21st July, 11.30 am Start Brelston Court Barn, Marstow HR9 6HF, £5.00 pp on the door, maximum 4 per car. See separate advertisement page 41, and website for full details. Phone Sue 07971 411020 / Phyll 07717 126596

ST MATTHEW'S WEST END EVENTS JULY and AUGUST

History, Art and Architecture in a Country Church, Tuesday, August 20th, 7.00 pm Talk by Tim Bridges Conservation Advisor to the Victorian Society Tim recently retired as Church Buildings Support Officer to The Hereford Diocese and previously as Keeper of Archaeology and Collections Manager at the City of Worcester Museum.

Wine and refreshments. £5.00 a ticket. Phone: Sue 07971 411020 / Phyll 07717 126596

Board Games Evenings, Thursday July 11th & Thursday August 8th, 7.00 pm Our evenings this year have been great fun. Do come along. Games and wine provided. No charge.

Marstow Makers Craft Evenings, Tuesday, July 17th & Thursday August 21st, 7.00 pm Our May rag rug evening was a great success. July and August will see a return to the Marstow Liturgical Craftwork Book project. No experience needed. Bring your own craft work if you prefer. Meet your neighbours, enjoy a social evening and a glass of wine. No charge.

Parish Council Meetings – Next meeting Tuesday 23rd July at 7.30 pm

WELSH NEWTON & LLANROTHAL

Glenys Biggs andy_n_glen@btinternet.com Tel 01989770540

June was a very busy month at Welsh Newton. We were delighted to host the first wedding held at St Mary's since before the pandemic, and the church looked beautiful, decorated with cow parsley, ceanothus and delphiniums. Our very best wishes to the happy couple.

We had our annual patronal service and picnic at St John's Llanrothal on 23rd June; it was lovely to be there for a service, as always.

We participated in the Churches Count on Nature survey, spending a happy hour or so after the service logging wildlife in the churchyard. In total we identified 145 species, including 33 invertebrates, 15 birds, two mammals, nine tree species and 86 other plant species. We will repeat the exercise later in the summer.

We are trying to get the balance right between mowing around tended graves and allowing nature to flourish. If a grave you visit has become overgrown and you would like it mown, please let us know at stmaryswelshnewton@gmail.com, with the name on the headstone and details of roughly where in the churchyard it can be found.

July and August services will be in our usual format - see ourcountrychurch.co.uk for service details.



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NGS Open Gardens

Sunday 14th July

10.30 to 17.00

Poole Cottage, Coppett Hill

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Sunday 26th August

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Letter from the Vicar of the fictional Rectory of St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Your suggestion that every month at clergy meetings, someone should review a book of theology they have been reading, was bound to be greeted with uneasy resistance. It would mean that the majority would have to start *opening* books, rather than just occasionally dusting them. Possessing books does not necessarily imply that they are ever read.

Your high church colleagues will only read the Racing News, low church members the Railway Review, liberals the Knitting Weekly and those with tendencies towards non-conformism, the Vegetarian Times. Clerical studies may be lined with books, but they are largely for effect – and to hide damp patches on the wallpaper. Anything with hard covers will have been bought with the best of intentions - but somehow the vicarage lawn or the church hall drains will have taken precedence. And from what I know of your colleague over at St Crispin's, the only books he will buy will be to colour in.

I do try to keep up with my reading, but sleep mercifully intervenes after the first 10 minutes. On those days when I sit by my study window, so passers-by can see me deeply occupied in intellectual activity, it is most useful that my large tome on the letters of Eusebius can easily conceal an Agatha Christie inside it.

I confess that I was once gloriously put down when I tried to impress one of our blue stockings by mentioning a new edition of a Dostoevsky novel. She replied: "I have never read Dostoevsky in translation." It only confirmed my suspicions that she had worked as a Russian spy in earlier years.

I was hugely impressed when, during the bitter cold of last winter, the Earl of Stowe, whose library would comfortably contain one of our cathedrals, told me he was slowly getting through its contents of tens of thousands of volumes. It was only some time later that I discovered he meant he threw the occasional one on the fire, when he was running low on wood.

No, my dear Darren, the only literary activities that will spark interest will be crosswords for the majority, or diocesan reports for the truly dedicated – with weighty tomes being used as door stops.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

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Films in July & August - check the website for details

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Sat 6 & Sun 7 July then Mon 22 - Thurs 25 July

FURIOSA - A MAD MAX SAGA (15)

Sun 14 - Thurs 18 July

THE BIKERIDERS (15) Fri 19 - Thurs 25 July ^{(Not} Sat & Sun)

INSIDE OUT 2 (U) Fri 25 July - Thurs 1 Aug

HARD MILES (12a) Sat 27 - Wed 31 July (Not Tues)

FLY ME TO THE MOON (12a) Fri 2 - Thurs 8 Aug

DESPICABLE ME 4 (U) Fri 2 - Thurs 15 Aug

THE PRINCESS BRIDE (PG) Sat 10 & Sun 11 Aug

Other films in July/Aug - check the website for dates & times:
Thelma, Twisters, Noaha's Ark, Deadpool & Wolverine, Harold &
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Next talk 5th September The Wonder of Trees

7.30pm Llangrove Village Hall HR9 6EX

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PARISH EVENTS AT A GLANCE



July

- 3rd Tretawdy Nature Reserve Volunteer 9.30
Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30
- 6th Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall Wyesham
10.30 - 15.00
- Tretawdy Nature Reserve Volunteer 9.30
- 7th Llangrove & District Gardening Society 60th Anniversary Celebrations
Musical Afternoon St Giles Church Goodrich 15.00
- 8th Wyesham WI St James' Community Hall 19.00
Village Singers Family & Friends Concert Llangrove Village Hall 20.00
- 10th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30
- 11th Board Games Evening West End Marstow 19.00
- 13th Café Bishopswood Village Hall 10.00
- 14th NGS Open Garden Poole Cottage, Coppett Hill 10.30 - 17.00
- 15th Craft Group St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 17th Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30
Marstow Makers Craft Evening, West End Marstow 19.00
- 21st Marstow Car Treasure Hunt 11.30 start
- 23rd Young People's Get Together Wyesham 12.00 - 14.00
- 26th Warm Welcome & Activity Day Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 16.00
- 27th Community Coffee Morning St James' Church Wyesham 10.00
- 23rd Young People's Get Together Wyesham 12.00 - 14.00

August

- 3rd Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall Wyesham
10.30 - 15.00
- 6th Teddy Bear's Picnic Wyesham 12.00
- 7th Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30
- 9th Warm Welcome & Activity Day Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 16.00
- 10th Café Bishopswood Village Hall 10.00
Afternoon Tea Party 13th Café Bishopswood Village Hall tbc
- 11th Board Games Evening West End Marstow 19.00
- 13th Young People's Get Together Wyesham 12.00 - 14.00

- 12th - 15th Church Holiday Club Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 16.00
- 15th Craft Group St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 17th Annual Produce & Flower Show Llangrove Village Hall 14.30
- 20th Young People's Get Together Wyesham 12.00 - 14.00
History Talk St Matthew's Marstow 19.00
- 21st Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30
Marstow Makers Craft Evening, West End Marstow 19.00
- 23rd Warm Welcome & Activity Day Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 16.00
- 26th NGS Open Garden Old Grove, Llangrove 14.00 - 18.00
30th Annual Duck Race Kerne Bridge 17.00
Bishopswood's Got Talent Bishopswood Village Hall 18.00
- 27th Young People's Get Together Wyesham 12.00 - 14.00
- 28th Special Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30
- 31st Community Coffee Morning St James' Church Wyesham 10.00

Young People's Get Together

Village Green, Wyesham

12.00 to 14.00

Tuesday 23rd & 30th July

13th, 20th & 27th August

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13th to 15th August

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More details contact Janet 01989
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