

CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday 1st April *Holy Week*

12.00	Wyesham	Lent discussion group & Lunch at Wyesham Christian Fellowship
18.00	Ganarew	Night prayer/Compline
18.00	Goodrich	Compline

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study
18.00	Welsh Newton	Compline

Good Friday 3rd April

10.00	Llangrove	Story Walk for Families to Welsh Newton
14.00	Whitchurch	Tenebrae Service
14.00	Wyesham	Good Friday reflections
19.00	Llangrove	Meditation

Easter Sunday 5th April

06.00	Marstow	Sunrise Holy Communion
07.30	Whitchurch	Dawn Holy Communion
09.00	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion
09.30	Dixton	Holy Communion (BCP)
09.30	Ganarew	Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00	Llangrove	Holy Communion with Llangarron
11.00	Goodrich	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion

Wednesday 8th April

18.00	Whitchurch	Night prayer (Compline)
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Thursday 9th April

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Services continued p43

BORDER NEWS

Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks Parish Magazine

Produced by volunteers for the community

****Your ACE 2025 Award Winning Magazine****



Happy Easter

APRIL 2026



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Revd Tim Starling
07980204572
revtimstarling@gmail.com

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 pennypowdrill547@gmail.com
Revd Jill Stephens 01600 890975 jill.stephens1@btinternet.com

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

Our Editor, Bobby, can be contacted via bneditor@mail.com

**Our Border News Advertising Manager
Bobby can be contacted on 01989 770256
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CHURCH SERVICES Cont'd

Sunday 12th April

09.00 Welsh Newton Holy Communion
09.30 Bishopswood Holy Communion at the Village Hall
10.00 Llangrove Family Services
10.00 Marstow Holy Communion
11.00 Goodrich Holy Communion
11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion
11.00 Wyesham Chatty Church

Thursday 16th April

10.30 Whitchurch Holy Communion
11.00 Whitchurch Bible Study

Sunday 19th April

09.00 Welsh Newton Meditation, Breakfast & 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

Wednesday 22nd April

18.00 Whitchurch Taizé Prayer

Thursday 23rd April

10.30 Whitchurch Holy Communion
11.00 Whitchurch Bible Study

Sunday 26th April

09.00 Welsh Newton Holy Communion for the family
10.00 Llangrove Family Service
10.00 Marstow Family service
11.00 Goodrich Holy Communion



CHURCH SERVICES Cont'd

Sunday 26th April Continued

11.00	Whitchurch	Sunday Praise
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion

Thursday 30th April

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study



Easter Faith in Atheist Russia

At this time of year, my thoughts go to those who are unable to openly celebrate what is perhaps the most important, and significant, event in the church calendar. I recently read the following which brought back memories of a school trip to Russia, then the USSR, and how we were all warned not to take bibles or to openly wear crosses etc. whilst on our journey.

Three years after the Russian Revolution of 1917, a great anti-God rally was arranged in Kiev. The powerful orator Bukharin was sent from Moscow, and for an hour he demolished the Christian faith with argument, abuse and ridicule. At the end there was silence.

Then a man rose and asked to speak. He was a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church. He went and stood next to Bukharin. Facing the people, he raised his arms and spoke just three triumphant words: 'Christ is risen!'

At once the entire assembly rose to their feet and gave the joyful response, 'He is risen indeed!' It was a devastating moment for an atheist politician, who had no answer to give to this ancient Easter liturgy. He had not realised he was simply too late: how can you convince people that God does not exist when they have already encountered Him?

Ed

WELCOME FROM YOUR CLERGY TEAM

Dear Friends,

This year Easter is late, so at the beginning of April we are still in Lent. Lent has traditionally been a time, which provides each person an annual opportunity to grow in faith and love that is a part of being a Christian. It is also a time when we try to find more time for both prayer and listening to God, because however much we give up, or what ever we try to do, without prayer they are things we do in our own strength not God's power

As we look at what is happening in the world there is a great need to pray for peace and truth between people and nations. As Martin Luther King said we either have a world at peace or a world in pieces, and at the moment it seems to be in pieces composed of fear and despair.

If we believe that God shares in our pain, after all he died, painfully and horribly a shameful death, then He is with us in the worst and darkest moments of our lives. We might not feel his presence or have the energy to pray, but He is there, so we can pray that He will be with those in pain now.

We also believe that Jesus defeated death, that his resurrection means we are all given a new way of being with God, something that if we let it can be totally life changing.

As we move out of Lent into Holy Week and Easter, we find that everything is moving fast, it's becoming a roller coaster ride. I try to look at Holy Week as if I don't know what happens at the end of the story, so that as far as is possible I can be with those who's story it is.

We start with the celebrations of Palm Sunday, the King has come to Jerusalem, rejoice; it is thought that those who proclaim Jesus King were probably Galilean pilgrims visiting for the Passover, but there's politics and nationalism here. They see him as a means to get rid of the Romans and establish a free country, rather than the Son of God, who brings peace not war.

Cont'd...

As Holy Week goes on, we realise how increasingly dangerous life is for Jesus, to be fair, the Jewish authorities realise that an uprising will be a disaster and think that thousands will die for nothing. Finding it impossible to arrest Jesus in the day, because it would cause a riot, the authorities must have been incredibly pleased to see Judas, who tells them where they can arrest Jesus quietly. We feel the tension mounting as we read about the last supper, listening to Jesus' words, which are as much for us as for those at the supper.

Then betrayal, torture, and the long walk to death through the narrow-crowded streets of Jerusalem, alone apart from his mother and a few other women who watch the whole of the execution. I can hardly bear to think of the pain that Mary must have felt as she watched her son die. Saturday, the Sabbath, there's nothing to do but mourn and wait in pain and fear

On Sunday, the first day of the week the women go to the tomb, where Jesus was placed just before the start of Shabbat but there's no body, it's gone. Mary Magdalene, walking through the garden, crying her eyes out, sees someone and asks where the body has gone? It's Jesus, alive and risen from the dead, she doesn't recognise him, but would you recognise your best friend standing beside you if you had seen them die? In three days God turned the world upside down.

For me this is not just a story that we read in the Bible, but something that happened to real people not that much different from us: politics, betrayal, pain, joy and love happen in our lives, and we too can walk with the risen Lord beside us.


Alleluia Christ is risen. I wish everyone who is reading this a Happy Easter.

Jill S



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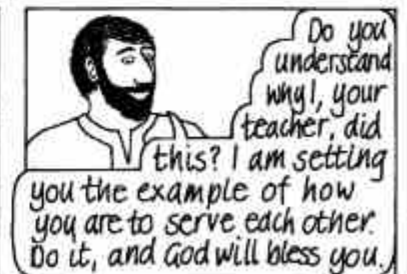
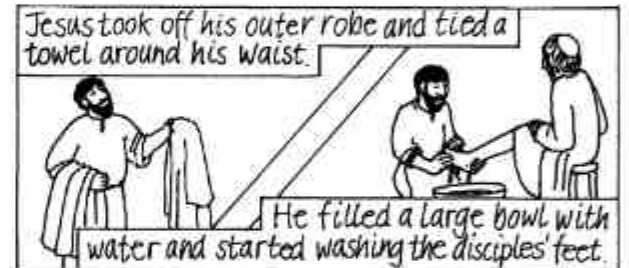
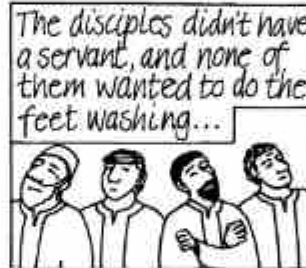
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 22:24, John 13:3-17

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating
the Passover with the special meal.
The disciples were bickering again.



There was a
reason why
no-one wanted
to be the least
important - the
roads were mud
and everyone's feet
got very dirty.





*REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
THIS MONTH*

Pray for the soul and life of :

Marylou Galpin whose burial of ashes took place at St Dubricius church, Whitchurch, on Saturday 14th February.

Prayer for Easter and April

Our Lord Jesus Christ, risen from death, we praise you for changed lives and new hopes at Easter.

You come to Mary in the garden, and turn her tears into joy. You come to the disciples in the upper room, and turn their fear into courage.

You come to the disciples on the Emmaus Road and turn their despair into hope.

You come to the disciples by the lakeside and turn their failure into faith.

You come to your people now, and turn our weakness into triumph. For your love and mercy, we give you thanks: we praise your holy name.

Adapted from Patterns for Worship By Rev'd Jill Stephens

Dear God, open my eyes to see the blessings that surround me each day. May I never take them for granted and always express my gratitude for Your abundant grace.

My wish for your this month

May God bless you with kindness to give, peace to carry and a heart that makes the world a little gentler



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Resurrection life

By the Revd Roy Shaw

Did you have 'a good Lent'? Were you able to make the journey with Jesus through the turmoil of those last days of His earthly ministry as He set His face to go to Jerusalem, knowing He would be killed there? I find the Lenten journey, particularly Holy Week (the week leading up to the crucifixion) harrowing, and by 3 o'clock on Good Friday - the hour at which Jesus traditionally died - I am wrung out.

All of which makes Easter Day and the weeks that follow, with the joy and reality of new life, so much the sweeter. No wonder Christians make this the most important day of the year - much more so than Christmas. God, in the resurrection of Jesus, has vindicated the way of love, truth, sacrifice and service, kindness and hope over the self-serving and grubby ways that seek power, self-advancement, privilege, hatred and division. Hallelujah!

It's all summed up in the poem 'Easter Wings' by the 17th century poet and priest George Herbert. For me, it's not the words of the poem so much as its shape - it's written in the shape of a butterfly's wings. Now that's clever; - to let both shape and words express something lovely, like the freedom and beauty of a butterfly on the wing. That sums up Resurrection life.

We are not asked to explain how the Resurrection took place. That is known to God alone, and we would trip ourselves up in all sorts of ways as we seek to find a rational explanation as to how it happened. But we are invited to live it - yes, live the Resurrection in ourselves - as we ask the Risen Lord to lead us through each day. In time, this constant invitation to live out the Resurrection changes our whole being, as we try, in the words of Mother Teresa to 'do little things with great love.'

The more I try and live out Resurrection life (more properly, the more I

Cont'd...

allow Jesus to live the Resurrection life through me) the more boundless I find it to be. Which I guess is why God gives us a season - seven weeks up till Pentecost - to allow this stupendous fact of the Resurrection to sink into us, call out a response from us.

Enjoy your Easter eggs, your Easter bonnets, your egg-pacing; in fact, have a great Easter. But don't let the Resurrection pass you by. It's the gateway to what Jesus calls 'life in all its fulness'.



General Synod backs Sustainable Church Flowers Motion

The General Synod recently backed a Diocesan Synod Motion from the Diocese of Worcester encouraging churches and cathedrals to explore ways of arranging flowers that are both beautiful and environmentally responsible.

The Sustainable Church Flowers movement began as a grassroots initiative in the small rural parish of Harpley, Worcestershire, when volunteers started exploring how traditional flower arranging methods could reflect the Church's commitment to caring for creation. It has since grown into a national and ecumenical network offering practical support to parishes, arrangers and clergy.

It encourages the use of seasonal, locally sourced flowers and foliage, and to use alternative to floral foam, such as reusable vessels, twigs, moss, chicken wire, and metal "frogs", which for centuries enabled churches to create arrangements without single use plastics. It also celebrates the creativity of volunteers and the opportunity to support local growers and community gardens.

The Bishop of Dudley, Martin Gorick, said: "The Sustainable Church Flowers movement rejoices in flowers and foliage in church, and encourages us to source them locally and seasonally wherever possible: remember Jesus on that hillside, rejoice in what's around you. Think simple, natural, beautiful."

The Sustainable Church Flowers provides online resources, tutorials and local ambassadors. More at: <https://suschurchflowers.com>



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St George our Saint of the Golden Legend and our National Flag

The Saint of an English Army before he was Patron Saint of England. St George may have been a soldier, but he was no Englishman. Some stories say that he was an officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror, and was martyred at Lydda in Palestine about the year 300 AD – supposedly 23rd April. Over the years St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages, of whom remarkable deeds were reported.

In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine gave St George a handsome write-up. The story runs thus:

One day, St George rode up to the heathen city of Sylene in Lybia, where he found the citizens in great distress. A neighbouring dragon had forced them to surrender two sheep each day for its dinner, and when the sheep gave out, two of their children; and now they were about to sacrifice the King's daughter, dressed as if for her wedding. St George encountered the little party by a stagnant lake, where the dragon lived, and persuaded the sobbing Princess to tell him why she was so miserable. At that moment the dragon appeared, looking inexpressibly revolting. St George charged forwards and drove his spear into the dragon's gaping mouth. To everyone's amazement, he tumbled the monster over and over.

Then St George borrowed the Princess's girdle and tied it round the dragon's neck. He then persuaded her to lead it back to Sylene herself. The sight of her approaching with the befuddled dragon on its makeshift lead emptied the town. When the inhabitants timidly crept back, St George promised to behead the dragon if they would all believe in Jesus Christ and be baptised.

It was a most effective form of evangelism, for everybody said 'yes' at once. So, 15,000 people were baptised, and four carts were commissioned to remove the dragon's body.

Cont'd...

St George thus became a symbol of the war against evil, and he is usually portrayed trampling the dragon of sin under his horse's hoofs. The Crusaders had a vision of him helping them against the Saracens at Antioch, during the first Crusade, and so brought the story of St George back with them from Palestine. Thereafter England put herself under the protection of the Saint. His day was declared a holiday in 1222. A red cross on a white field is the flag of St George.

The flag has been at the centre of much debate with it being displayed across communities in England last summer and autumn. A group of leading Church of England bishops from around the country have been considering the questions of national unity and diversity amid concerns about polarisation within society by the recent displays.

A joint statement urges people to embrace or rediscover our Christian heritage, and to recognise the meaning of the cross as the symbol of God's love for everyone. The statement reads that "We rejoice that the flag of St George is the national flag of England and contains a cross as a sign of our Christian heritage, which should be celebrated. However, the flag cannot be owned by any one group or cause, rather it is a symbol of unity, inclusion and our common life around which we all gather."

The bishops argue that "the vast majority" of people of all backgrounds and faiths accept the country's Christian heritage and "want to unite behind the flag as a symbol of national unity and inclusion, based on our Christian heritage and broader values of respect, compassion and care for all." They have invited people to come to their local church and to explore the "true significance of the cross of Jesus Christ, as there is little point claiming it as our heritage if we don't understand its meaning. Churches across the country stand ready to explore this meaning with people of all backgrounds in the communities we serve."



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Saturday 11th **Café Bishopswood** 10.00am – Midday Plant Sale & Book Swap Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available)

Sunday 12th our **April service** in the Village Hall at 09.30am; I hope that you feel able to join us and enjoy our warm welcome.

There are plenty of **Holy Week** services going on in our group of churches, to which we would love to see you if you are around/available. *Tim*

GOODRICH

Marlene Corker marlenecorker@yahoo.co.uk

St. Giles Church

Our gardens are blossoming once again, bringing us some much-needed cheer after a very grey winter. Let us pray for those suffering the worst winter of their lives.

Holy Week Services

Wednesday 1st we have **Compline** at 6.00pm, a quiet contemplative service, mindful and restorative.

Sunday 5th **Easter Sunday** service at 11.00am everyone is welcome, as always. The Easter Bunny may have left some treats for us to enjoy too. Happy Easter to you all x.

Goodrich Church of England Primary School

Open the Book today was all about Joshua's spies. We really enjoyed the bible story as it gave us the chance to understand the story further through the acting and not just from someone reading it to us. At the end, we had some reflection time, sang Be Bold, Be Strong and joined in with a prayer. From Hayley and Orianna

Village Hall Events (www.goodrichvillagehall.co.uk)

Thursday 30th **Flicks in the Sticks** will be showing “**The Ballad of Wallis Island**”, starring Tom Basden, Tim Key and Carey Mulligan. An eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island, tries to make fantasies come true by getting his favourite musicians to perform at his house. Doors open 7.00pm, tickets cost £5 and the bar is open.

GANAREW

Sue Harley sueharleymcsp@yahoo.co.uk Tel 01600 890489

Save the date!

Saturday 25th July we will be holding a **quiz evening** at Ganarew and Whitchurch Memorial Hall. This will be a joint venture with Marstow church. All welcome. More details will be in next months Border News.

WELSH NEWTON & LLANROTHAL

Glenys Biggs andy_n_glen@btinternet.com Tel 01989770540

Easter Week Services

Morning Prayer will continue each day at 8.30am until Easter Saturday.

Maundy Thursday 2nd **Compline** at 6.00pm, a peaceful evening prayer service as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter

Good Friday 3rd **Story Walk for Families** 10.00am to 1.00pm from Llangrove to Welsh Newton, with Easter-themed activities, a stop along the way and hot cross buns at the end. Keep an eye on our website and social media for more details.

Easter Sunday 5th **Family Holy Communion** at 9.00am led by Revd Mark Melluish, followed by an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard.

Save the Date! Sunday 12th July **BBQ lunch** (details TBD) in Welsh Newton Common.

Website: ourcountrychurch.co.uk Instagram: [@stmaryswelshnewton](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryswelshnewton)

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/stmaryswelshnewton](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmaryswelshnewton)

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DIXTON

Kate Richards - kate@summerleas.com

Tuesday 31st March **Compline service** at 6.00pm on 31st March. The Church of England website says this about Compline, which I thought was worth sharing as a reminder: "The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise". Do some and join us if you can for this simple, special service.

Sunday 5th **Easter Day** 9.30am we will be celebrating at the still new time for us! Once again, we hope to see some of you there. The church will be filled with flowers and greenery after the austerity of Lent. I'm already looking forward to getting my secateurs out, even though I am a (proud) member of what the 'flower ladies' at the church in the village I grew up in calling 'the jam jar brigade'!

WYESHAM

Jo Townsend & Marguerite Gordon

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

Wednesday 1st Wyesham Together **Lent Course and Lunch** 12.00 - 1.30pm Wyesham Christian Fellowship

Wednesday 1st Monmouth **Breast Cancer Support Group** will be meeting monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in the Woodland View Shop, Wyesham

Thursday 2nd **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall

Saturday 4th **Easter Eggstravaganza** 10.00am starting in St James's Church; follow the trail to the Woods and on to Wyesham Christian Fellowship, quiz, games, craft and collect eggs along the way!

Saturday 4th **Wyedean Embroiderers** 10.00am - 2.30pm St James's Community Hall. Join the friendly group and stitch.

Monday 13th Wyesham Together **Tea and Toast** 9.00 - 10.00am Kymin View School.

Monday 13th **WI** 7.00pm St James's Community Hall
 Thursday 16th **Bingo** 7.00pm St James's Community Hall
 Monday 20th Wyesham Together **Tea and Toast** 9.00 -10.00am Kymin View School
 Saturday 25th **Community Coffee Morning** 10.00am -12.00noon St. James's Church
 Monday 27th Wyesham Together **Lent Tea and Toast** 9.00-10.00am Kymin View School
 Thursday 30th **Bingo** St James's Community Hall

LLANGARRON

Helen Edwards edwardshelen82@gmail.com
www.llangarron.info & Facebook Llangarron Village Hall

Saturday 4th **Street 1984 Food Van and Pop-up Pub Night** from 6.00pm Street 1984 will be rolling up to the Garron Centre car park selling their epic street food straight from their authentic American school bus.

Saturday 18th **Llangarron Community Cafe** 10.30 -12.30pm, The cafe will be open to all serving teas, coffees, cakes and delicious bacon sandwiches. Well behaved dogs are very welcome to come along with their faithful owners.

Saturday 2nd May **Progressive Supper** We do hope that you will take part in this annual event. It is a great opportunity for those of you who are new to the village to meet other residents and for us all to get together. We are always looking for hosts for either a starter or main course as some people have moved away, and we like to try and give other people who host regularly a break. As I am going to be away from the end of March until the middle of April, I would appreciate it if you can let me know as soon as possible if you will be taking part, as it does take some time to arrange. The cost of the evening will be £15 per head and the closing date for entry will be the 21st March and there are only a few places remaining. Therefore, if you would like to take part, please contact me on 01989 770387 or email me at gilliandrayton@me.com



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Friday 8th May **Bao to the Broth Asian Food Van and Pop-up Pub Night** from 6.00pm Bao to the Broth, (based in Hereford and voted West Midlands Regional Best Restaurant), will be at the Garron Centre car park selling their delicious authentic modern Japanese Cuisine. Vegetarian options will be available.

Saturday 30th May **Village Quiz Night** Judith and David, Quiz Masters extraordinaire, will be back to challenge teams of 6 for another evening of quizzing and puddings. Tickets £12 per head booked in advance, please email hello@llangarron.info to book. More information to follow in the next issue.

Please check the Village Calendar <https://www.llangarron.info/events-calendar> for news of all (and other) events to confirm dates.

MARSTOW

Sue Rolfe rolfe653@btinternet.com Tel: 07971 411020

Website: marstowchurch.org

West End bookings Phyll Hannah 01989 770617

Sunday 5th **Easter Day Dawn Service**, Churchyard 6.00am Starting the day at dawn is a wonderful way to greet Easter. We gather around a firepit in the churchyard for a communion service followed by coffee and hot cross buns in the West End. Do join us.

Lent Lunch Our Lent bread and cheese lunch in The West End was well attended by parishioners and we were delighted to raise over a hundred and seventy pounds for St Michael's Hospice.

ST MATTHEW'S WEST END EVENTS

Wednesday 22nd **Marstow Makers Craft Evening** 7.00 – 10.00pm

Please note the *change of date* to the fourth Wednesday in April, to avoid a clash with the Joint Benefice APCM. Normal timings will resume in May. We will be attempting to crochet beanie hats. If you have crochet hooks and wool, bring those along. No previous experience needed. You are welcome to bring your own project to work on if you prefer, or to just come along for some company. Refreshments will be on offer. Sessions are free to attend. Hopefully see you there.

Saturday May 16th Illustrated Talk with Refreshments, **Hero of The Forest Warren James** We are delighted that the ever popular Graham O'Connell will be back again to tell us about a local hero who fought for ancient rights. A tale full of courage, tragedy and an enduring legacy. This will be a free event paid for by the Lottery Heritage Fund, however donations to the church will be welcome.

ST MATTHEW'S FREE FOOD BASKET

A reminder to feel welcome to use our free food basket in the church if you are struggling financially to buy groceries. If you are able to make a donation for this project please see our website or phone Sue Rolfe (See above).

Tuesday 26th May next **Parish Council meeting** St Matthew's West End, 7.30pm. See the Parish Council website for future dates and agendas marstowpc.org.uk. A list of Marstow Parish councillors is also on the website.

WHITCHURCH

Brigid Hamilton-Jones brigidhj@aol.com

Mondays 13th and 27th **Community Lunches** at St Dubricius 12.00pm. Please phone Janet Townsend on 07803 798409 to book your place.

Wednesdays 1st and 15th March **Community coffee mornings** at St Dubricius, 10.30 -12.00pm.

Tuesday mornings 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th: **Sticky Little Fingers** at St Dubricius, 9.30 -11.00am. Babies and toddlers with their carers are most welcome.

Thursday afternoons **Knit & Natter Group** at St Dubricius 2.00 - 4.00pm



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LLANGROVE

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

Happy Easter to everyone!

Wednesday 8th **Coffee Morning** 10.30am Llangrove Village Hall
Amazing Raffle. Good company!

Every Fridays **Warm Welcome** from 11.00am at Llangrove Village Hall
continues.

Watch out for beautiful artwork on display in the church yard soon. A new **wooden bench** will arrive thanks to the financial and organisational support of Wye National Landscapes and maybe used by anyone who wants to sit and enjoy the peaceful environment, and the dark skies of the community. The back of the bench will depict the animals and birds of the evening and night, as well as some star constellations.

Food Bank continues to be available and used in Christ Church. Accessible to all. Please add to it, if you can and help yourself as needed.

Wednesday 1st and Saturday 4th Volunteers needed at **Tretawdy Nature Reserve** from 9.30am helping with seasonal tasks.

Llangrove & District Gardening Society Last month, March was an informative talk and mindful demonstration from Clive on Willow Weaving.

Thursday 2nd Tamsin Westhorpe "**From Spring to Summer at Stockton Bury Gardens**". An insight into the practical tasks and must have plants. Tamsin is a gardener, garden writer, RHS Judge and an authority on practical horticulture! Llangrove Village Hall, doors open at 7.00pm. for refreshments. Admission for non-members is £5.

Members only summer outings are being organised to Stockton Bury Gardens, Melcourt Composts and the Ledbury Flower Farm. Join the society if you'd like to come along!

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Diary Dates **Plant Sale and Cream Teas** Saturday 30th May and **Annual Show** Saturday 15th August.

Saturday 11th **Nature Restoration 5 Year Plan** An event linked to how Llangarron Parish can increase our bio-diversity. Look out for Posters. Please contact Archenfield Climate and Environment Group ArchenfieldCEG@gmail.com for more information.

Thursday 23rd ACEG talk **'How does Nature nurture us?'** by Dr. Margaret (Moggy) Tilley 7.30 to 8.0pm at Llangrove Village Hall.

Monday 4th May **Llangrove May Fair** will take place between 12noon and 4.00pm. We are looking for helpers on the day (please contact Wendy) and contributions of plants, Nearly New items, cuddly toys (please leave at Ty-Angles) and on the day cakes.



The Greatest Story Ever Told – by Bear Grylls

'Outstanding. A page-turner with a life-inspiring message.'

A friend said they were going to read it for Lent. I checked it out and thought I would 'give it a go'. Honestly, I struggled to put it down as I got caught up in such a captivating, wonderful retelling of a story handed down through generations ...

More than 2,000 years ago, in a small corner of the world, a child was born whose life would change history forever. Jesus of Nazareth, known as Yeshua, grew up in humility, worked with his hands, walked dusty roads, and spoke words that still echo across the centuries.

Becoming a shepherd to the poor, the sick, and the forgotten, his story is told beautify through the eyes of those around him. The small chapters can't be hurried as they give you a new perspective on being with Jesus.

Written by Bear Grylls, author of over a 100 books, who says that if he were only to have written one, this would be it!

Tim



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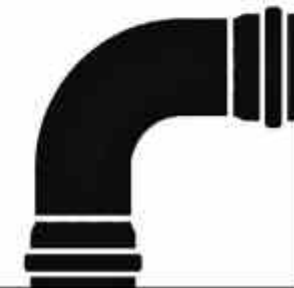
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April 10th at 7.30pm

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Sunday April 12th at 2pm

THE FUREYS FAREWELL TOUR

Thursday April 16th at 7.30pm

MATT FORDE Defying Calamity

Friday April 17th at 7.30pm

CALAMITY JANE Monmouth Music Theatre

Wed 22nd, Thur 23rd, Fri 24th at 7.30pm;
Sat 25th at 2.30pm

AN EVENING WITH TOYAH

Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm

ON SCREEN

CONSTABLE AND TURNER Exhibition on Screen

Wed 8th April at 4.45pm & Thur 9th at 7.30pm

MOTHERS PRIDE (12a) Fri 3rd - Thur 9th

ELVIS PRESLEY IN CONCERT (EPiC); Fri 10th - Sun 12th

THE BRIDE (15) Mon 13th - Wed 15th

MIDWINTER BREAK (tbc) Sun 26th- Wed 29th

For cinema listings please see website

WWW.MONMOUTH-SAVOY.CO.UK



Could stained glass have a role in modern-day mission?

Over my time as editor I have written a number of articles about our beautiful, and varied, local churches and one thing they all have in common is some outstanding stained glass windows. So, this article struck a chord.

Millions of people visit cathedrals and historic churches in the UK and around the world every year. St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey are among London's most popular tourist attractions.

In many English cities, it's the cathedral that tops the TripAdvisor list for ratings and reviews. Local churches that remain open through the week often find visitors drawn to them – to look around, pray, reflect, or simply pause amid busy lives.

When the Bible Society's Quiet Revival report was published last year, the headlines rightly focussed on the numbers of young people being drawn to church.

But, within the report's pages was another, perhaps surprising, finding. It was that one of the top three places for people with no religion, or non-practising Christians to encounter the Bible was while sightseeing in a cathedral or church.

This underlines the importance of churches making available good, printed material and displays explaining the Christian gospel.

Yet it may also show the importance of a form of Christian communication that many modern-day evangelists may have ignored. The enduring appeal of stained glass.

Historian Janet Gough has recently produced 'Divine Light,' a survey of some of the best stained glass in England's cathedrals. She explained, "The stained-glass windows of England's cathedrals illuminate interior spaces, communicate religious, historical and political messages, and perhaps offer us a glimpse of heaven."

Cont'd...

Earlier examples of stained glass often depicted biblical scenes, illustrating scripture for those unable to read the accounts themselves.

In today's society, dominated as it is by the visual image – from Instagram to YouTube, TikTok and Facebook – these colourful windows could help introduce contemporary people to Bible narratives and gospel truths.

There is much biblical truth to be found in stained glass windows for those who look with an inquiring mind. In many cases, some knowledge of scripture may help decipher the stories being told. In others, the viewer is invited into an encounter with the divine: to look in awe and wonder at the artistry, and to feel an emotional – perhaps spiritual – response to what they see.



What's orange, sticky and worth preserving?

This month sees National Marmalade Week (18th – 25th April). If you really want to celebrate, go to Dalemain Mansion and Gardens in Cumbria, where they hold the World Marmalade Awards & Festival. It celebrates, preserves and promotes artisanal marmalades, with thousands of entries. (Even Paddington Bear will be in attendance!)

If you like marmalade, ever wonder where it comes from? One tradition traces it to a storm-damaged Spanish ship which took refuge in Dundee Harbour in 1700. It was full of Seville oranges that the captain was desperate to sell before they went mouldy. A local down-on-luck merchant, one James Keiller, bought the lot. He didn't know what to do with the oranges either, but fortunately he had a resourceful wife. She set about turning a shipload of Seville oranges into a preserve, and so the first marmalade factory was born.

Marmalade has been at the heart of British breakfasts for centuries. Winston Churchill fought the Second World War on it (washed down with a flute of Pol Roger each morning). DH Lawrence wrote novels on it. Paddington Bear's sandwiches were all marmalade. If you also want to get your fingers sticky, visit: www.marmaladeawards.com.



REPAIR
CAFE 
Archenfield

Sat 11th April
10-12.30 pm
The Garron Centre.

Nature Restoration Five Year Plan.
Please come and tell us what your priority is for nature in our community - farming, gardens, footpaths, dark skies, bird boxes?
Everyones view is important and we want to hear yours.

Sat 11th April
2-4pm
Llangrove Village Hall

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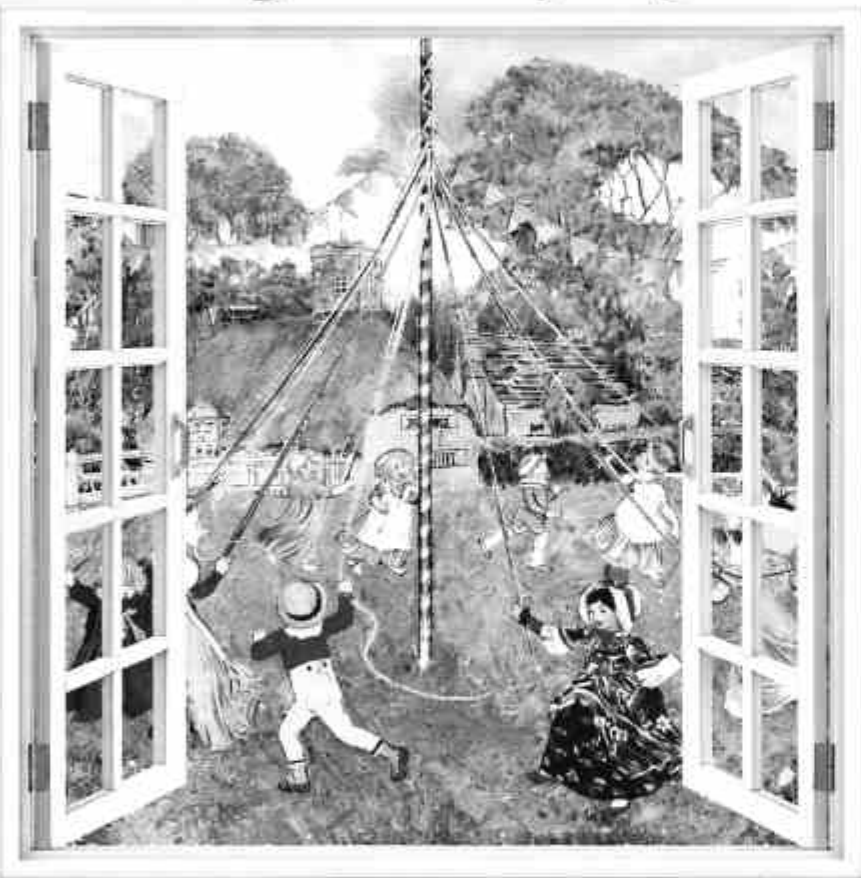
would like to wish all our
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a very happy Easter



Save the date

Monday 4th May 2026

Llangrove May Fayre



Come along for traditional Maypole dancing and Ross Town band, circus skills, craft stalls, activities, raffles, food and drink.

for more information email llangrovemayfayre@gmail.com

For those of you with young guests over the Easter period *Ed*

Easter Story Biscuits

Prep. Time: 20 minutes

Total Time: 1 day

Ingredients:

1 cup pecan nuts

1 tsp. vinegar

3 egg whites

1 pinch salt

1 cup sugar

large plastic bag, wooden spoon, tape and a Bible



Instructions:

Preheat oven to 150C.

Place pecans in the plastic bag and let the children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3.

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, He was given vinegar to drink. Read John 19:28-30.

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave His life to give us life. Read John 10:10-11.

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin. Read Luke 23:27. So far the ingredients are not very appetizing...

Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him. Read Ps. 34:8 and John 3:16.

Beat with a mixer on high speed until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the colour white represents the purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

Cont'd p23

PARISH EVENTS AT A GLANCE



April

- Every Tuesday Sticky Little Fingers St Dubricius Whitchurch 9.30 - 11.00am
- 1st Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00-10.00
Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30
Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30 - 12.00
Monmouth Breast Cancer Support Group Wyesham 14.00
- 2nd Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
LDGS 'From Spring To Summer' Llangrove Village Hall 19.30
- 4th Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30
Easter Eggstravaganza St James' Church 10.00
Wydean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall 10.00 - 15.30
'Street 1984' Food Van & Pop Up Pub Garron Centre 18.00
- 8th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30
- 11th Café Bishopswood Village Hall 10.00 - 12.00
Nature Restoration 5 Year Plan Garron Centre 10.00 - 12.30
ACEG Repair Café Llangrove Village Hall 14.00 - 16.00
- 13th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00-10.00
Community Lunch St Dubricius Whitchurch 12.00
WI St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 15th Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30 - 12.00
- 16th Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
- 18th Community Café Garron Centre 10.30 - 12.30
- 20th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00-10.00
- 22nd Marstow Makers Craft Evening St Matthews West End Marstow 19.00
- 23rd ACEG 'How Does Nature Nurture Us?' Llangrove Village Hall 19.30
- 25th Coffee Morning St James' Church 10.00 - 12.00
- 27th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00-10.00
- 30th Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
Film Night 'The Ballad of Wallis Island' Goodrich Village Hall 19.00

LLANGROVE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

LLANGROVE VILLAGE HALL
THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY
MONTH 7.30PM

Small friendly ladies group
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New members always welcome

Visitors £5 per meeting

16th April Midlands Air Ambulance
21st May Clifford Johnson crimewriter-
'Against the Odds'.

Any queries contact

Penny Lowe 07803 116714

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AGM
Annual General Meeting

WYE BROOKS APCM

Wednesday April 15th

at Llangrove CoE School.

Meeting starts at 7.00pm

Coffee etc served from
6.30pm

Meeting ends 9.00pm

All Welcome

Easter Story Biscuits Continued from p21

Fold in broken nuts. Drop, teaspoon by teaspoon, onto non-stick baking parchment-covered baking sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. Read Matthew 27:57-60.

Put the baking sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF.

Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. Read Matthew 27:65-66.

GO TO BED! Explain that they may feel sad to leave them in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers felt despair when the tomb was sealed. Read John 16:20 and 22.

On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read Matthew 28:1-9.