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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](mailto:bneditor@mail.com)*

**Our Border News Advertising Manager  
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**CHURCH SERVICES Cont'd**

**Sunday 19th July**

09.00 Welsh Newton    Meditation & Bible Study  
09.30 Ganarew    Sunday Praise for Patronal Festival  
10.00 Llangrove    Holy Communion  
11.00 Whitchurch    Holy Communion  
11.00 Wyesham    Holy Communion  
18.00 Llangarron    Evening Service

**Thursday 23rd July**

10.30 Whitchurch    Holy Communion  
11.00 Whitchurch    Bible Study

**Sunday 26th July**

09.00 Welsh Newton    Holy Communion  
09.30 Dixton    Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00 Llangrove    Lay Led  
10.00 Marstow    Family Service  
11.00 Goodrich    Holy Communion  
11.00 Wyesham    Holy Communion for Patronal Festival.  
15.00 Whitchurch    Songs of Praise with Parkend Silver Band.

**Thursday 30th July**

10.30 Whitchurch    Holy Communion  
11.00 Whitchurch    Bible Study

**August Services Centre pages**

**Travelling Light Retreat**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July at St Dubricius Church 10am-4pm.  
**'New Horizons'** continues the theme of 'Travelling with God'.  
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Our website is <https://travelling-light.org.uk>



## Keep on keeping on

In the church year, we've now come to that long season, which seems to go on forever, variously called 'Trinity' or 'Ordinary time'. Each of those labels tells us something about the approximately six months between Pentecost and Advent Sunday. 'Trinity' reminds us that with Pentecost, God has made himself known to us in all his fullness as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. 'Ordinary time' tells us that this is the season where, now armed with the insights and power of the Holy Spirit, we can revisit the life of Jesus with new eyes, new heart, see new things in the faith, see new opportunities to serve God.

This is the time when those words of Jesus (John 15 v15) 'I have made known to you everything I have learned from the Father' come into play. It may seem a long season, it may feel like the drudgery of 'Keep on keeping on' without the excitement of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost to lift our spirits, but it is ordinary time charged with the knowledge that we have everything we need in the resources of God. The love of the Father, the words and works of the Son, the power of the Spirit will energise us as we 'keep on keeping on' through this long season.

To the end of November is a reminder that working out our love for God in our community is probably more about perspiration than inspiration. Few are called to be heroes of the faith, but all are called to faithfulness, and we are all able to keep on keeping on, doing little things with great love.

Here's a lovely prayer which captures some of the mindset of this time; 'Let not our soul be busy inns that have not room for thee and thine, but quiet homes of prayer and praise where thou mayest find fit company; where the needful cares of life are wisely ordered and put away, and wide sweet space is kept for thee.'

*From an article by Revd Roy Shaw, retired priest diocese of York*

## WELCOME FROM YOUR CLERGY TEAM

Dear Friends,

At this time of year we think about going on holiday, going away from our home base and having new experiences. In Matthew 28, at the very end of his gospel we are told, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." This seems to me to be a request to go elsewhere and do this in order that you can talk to other people and, perhaps, be a witness to Christian faith.

When our children were about 11 and 9 we went camping in France. We arrived at Ile d'Oleron on a Saturday and the children asked what we were going to do on the Sunday. Quite casually I replied that we could go to church. Within minutes of me making this statement a leaflet was delivered to our tent inviting us to attend a local church for a service in English! That was Sunday morning sorted. We had a great time. If you were visiting Cornwall this summer you could drop in on 'The Wave House Café' in Newquay, for example.

During August the Wye Brooks parishes: Goodrich, Llangarron, Llangrove, Marstow and Welsh Newton, have decided to reduce their priest-led overall service rota to one service of Holy Communion each during the month. (Details on page Sup2). This reduction in services is not intended to reduce overall churchgoing, rather it is to encourage people to go and see what is happening elsewhere.

As these parishes look for a new priest it seems to us that it would be worthwhile for parishioners to experience what our new incumbent will encounter as they make their acquaintance with their new congregations and their worship styles. This invitation is of course not limited to Wye Brooks; Jesus called us to talk to everyone so why not take up the challenge and go elsewhere to worship?

Love and Blessings,

*Penny*



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS  
THIS MONTH**

Pray for the souls and lives of :

Clive James whose funeral took place at St Swithin's church, Ganarew on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

Tony Bird whose funeral took place at St Dubricius church, Whitchurch on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

Roger Harris whose funeral took place at St Peter's church, Dixton on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026.

David Hastie whose funeral took place at St Dubricius church, Whitchurch on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

Margaret Hartland whose funeral took place at St Peter's church, Dixton on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026.

Heavenly Father, thank You for the many activities that summer brings, from outdoor sports to family gatherings. As we engage in these activities, please keep us safe, and give us wisdom to make good decisions and to watch out for one another.

We thank You for the gift of family and the extra time we have together during summer. Whether our family is large or small, near or far. We thank You for these precious relationships. Bless our family time this summer, help us put aside distractions and truly connect with one another. Give us patience when we get on each other's nerves, grace when conflicts arise, and love that covers all shortcomings. Create opportunities for meaningful conversations, shared laughter, and memories that will last a lifetime.

This summer we give thanks for the chance to slow down and appreciate the world You've made, for family gatherings, outdoor activities, and precious moments that become cherished memories. Help us maintain this grateful heart throughout the summer and beyond.



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## The tale of the Two Sons



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



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



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



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

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



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



'WHICH DO YOU THINK IT WAS?'

## New listed places of worship fund launched

Guidance on applying to a new Government grants fund for listed places of worship to help pay for capital works including fabric repairs and essential improvements, such as electrical upgrades, heating, toilets and step-free access, has recently been published.

The Places of Worship Renewal Fund, for listed places of worship, was launched with details of its remit and eligibility criteria. The fund will be administered by Historic England. The £92 million scheme - £23 million a year - is for England only and will last for four years. It is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and replaces the Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme.

Churches are being encouraged to explore making expressions of interest under the scheme with the application process expected to be proportionate to the size of the grant that is applied for. The deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest for the second round of grants will be in September 2026.

The Bishop of Lynn, Dr Jane Steen, the Church of England's deputy lead bishop for buildings, said: "Our church buildings are national treasures for the common good, both for their spiritual, cultural and historical significance and the vital practical help they provide communities across the country.

"The majority of fundraising for the maintenance and repair of church buildings is done locally by thousands of wonderful volunteers. The Places of Worship Renewal Fund has a vital part to play alongside this local fundraising, and other funders who support churches."

The Diocese Property Team is planning an information session for parishes in mid-late July, targeting second-round deadlines in September, or subsequent rounds. For further information please contact Isobel Weare in the Property Team.

Cont'd...



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### **The Diocese Parish Accessibility Fund**

Grants to enhance the accessibility of the church building, with grants up to £50,000. Please contact Stephen Challenger or Isobel Weare for more information.

Most funders have rolling deadlines, but these are a few with imminent closing dates. Full details of all funders can be downloaded from the Diocese website by searching 'Funding Directory'.

- National Churches Trust Large Grants – application deadline 07 July 2026
- Congregational and General Charitable Trust – next deadline 23 July 2026
- National Churches Trust Churches (geographically) in Wales – next deadline 18 August 2026
- National Churches Trust Medium Grants – next deadline 18 August 2026
- Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust – next deadline 15th September 2026



### **Herefordshire Prayer Beads Project**

The Project aims to bring together people from across the county to reflect on the human cost of armed conflict, displacement, and migration. Spear-headed by local Christian Helem Mealins, the project invites people to pause, reflect, and write down their personal reflections and prayers for the world's most vulnerable people on slips of paper, and then to fold these into modular origami units. The units will be assembled into decorative beads and strung together to form a prayer bead set. The finished artwork will go on public display and will serve as a visible reminder of the power of collective prayer.

With support from Hereford College of Art and the diocese, the project has made a strong start with over 600 participants from churches, schools and community groups crafting some 2500 units. The goal is to make 12,000 folded units.



## World Cup 2026

As we turn our attention to the World Cup, in the United States, Mexico and Canada, be we football lovers or not we should remember that football is more than just a game. Canon Paul Hardingham points out that football can illustrate some key points about the Christian life. As Paul writes: *'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.'* (Philippians 3:13b,14).

*A prize to be won:* The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the World Cup themselves. Christians grasp to the prize of eternal life, God's gift to us of relationship with Jesus for now and eternity. However, there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the World Cup you have to be good enough, while Christ's love for us is underserved and not dependent on how well we've done.

*Training to be undertaken:* If a team is going to win the World Cup, training is vital! Our training, as Christians, starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we train ourselves to say *no* to the wrong things in our lives. As we build up our *godly muscles* we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?

The former Liverpool Manager Bill Shankly famously said, *'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death, I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'*



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## 'Antisemitism is evil, it must be confronted wherever it appears', Bishop Lusa tells rally

The Bishop of Willesden, Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, the Church of England's Lead Bishop for Interfaith Engagement, spoke at the recent 'Standing Strong: Extinguish Antisemitism' rally in London.

In his address, he said: "Antisemitism is not an accidental prejudice drifting through history. It is a deliberately cultivated and deeply rooted system of hatred, one that has adapted itself across centuries, across ideologies, across nations and political movements. And wherever antisemitism flourishes, other forms of hatred are never far behind: racism, xenophobia, extremism, conspiracy, and they always metastasise into violence.

"Antisemitism possesses a particular persistence and ubiquity that demands moral clarity. It mutates. It survives. It appears across the political spectrum and feeds on fear, grievance, and division.

"And perhaps most dangerously of all, it grows when public voices choose outrage over responsibility; when influence is used not to strengthen the social fabric, but to tear it apart; when platforms capable of shaping culture become instruments for scapegoating, mockery, and suspicion.

"When public figures trade in conspiracy, humiliation, and division, they do not merely inflame opinion; they corrode the moral foundations of a nation. Leadership that profits from division is not courage. It is recklessness. And rhetoric that dehumanises any community ultimately threatens every community.

"History teaches us with terrifying consistency that when antisemitism rises unchecked, democracy itself begins to decay.

"That is why the safety and freedom of Jewish citizens is not a Jewish issue alone. It is a democratic issue. A national issue. A human issue.

Cont'd...

"Antisemitism is not a problem for Jewish people to solve by themselves. It is a test of the moral health of the whole society. And the burden of confronting it cannot rest only on those who suffer from it. It belongs to all of us."

The Archbishop of Canterbury paid a recent visit to the Prime Minister at Downing Street, the first explicitly atheist British Prime Minister. They discussed "the importance of social cohesion, inter-faith relationships and celebrating the UK's diverse communities in the face of division, including rising antisemitism and anti-Muslim hostility", according to a spokesperson for No. 10.

Sir Keir said: "Government and faith should not be two separate things operating in separate spheres. Many of the values we hold are the same, and therefore we should be trying to work in partnership wherever we can."

Archbishop Mullally has called for the need to tackle anti-Semitism, and says that identity in the UK has been "misused to intimidate and divide". She calls for "a renewal of hope", "a rejection of hatred and division, and a turning towards one another".

### Book Review

#### Real Life Rev – a clergy survival guide By Martin Poole,

Clergy life is full of surprises – and many of them don't come up in lectures at theological college. From tricky PCC meetings to unexpected pastoral situations to the quirks of church buildings, this honest and humorous guide dives into the messy, holy, and often unpredictable realities of parish ministry.

With warmth and wit, the book offers practical wisdom for navigating the everyday challenges of church leadership. Whether it's managing conflicting opinions, opening the church to a wider community, or simply deciding what to do when a lorry arrives with two tons of yogurt drink for your food bank, Martin Poole offers encouragement for those discovering that ministry is rarely tidy – but always full of grace.

An interesting read as we await the arrival of our new priest.



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## St Willibald, the first ever Anglo-Saxon travel writer

We all like to explore different places be it near home or further afield, and for your editor that has always included seeking out churches, large or small. So if you too, enjoy including a Christian element to your trips, then St. Willibald (d. 876) is the saint for us. He was one of the most widely travelled Anglo-Saxons of his time and the first travel writer.

Willibald began life in Wessex, becoming a monk at Bishops Waltham (Hants). But he obviously had the curiosity that besets all keen travellers – what is it like over there...just over the next hill, round the next corner? And so Willibald set out... for Rome, Cyprus, Syria and above all, Palestine. It was an amazing achievement, just to survive such journeys back in the early 8<sup>th</sup> century.

In Palestine, Willibald made his way round all the Holy Places associated with Jesus, as well as the numerous communities of monks and hermits living there. On his eventual return to Europe, Willibald decided to tell his story. He dictated an account of all his travels to a long-suffering nun, Hugeburc, who wrote it up under the title of *Hodoeporicon* – the first ever travel book to be written by an Anglo-Saxon

After a long stay in Constantinople, the year 730 found Willibald back in Rome, where he settled at the monastery at Monte Cassino. Under his reforming influence, the monastery began to prosper. That got Willibald 'noticed', and soon Boniface asked Pope Gregory III to send him on to Germany, where Willibald was made bishop of Echstatt. Here he founded a monastery that became an important centre for the diffusion and development of monasticism. After 45 years as Bishop at Echstatt, Willibald died in c. 786. His relics remain there till this day.



## from across our Parishes

### MARSTOW

Sue Rolfe rolfe653@btinternet.com Tel: 07971 411020

Website: marstowchurch.org

West End bookings Phyll Hannah 01989 770617

### CHURCH NEWS and EVENTS

It was lovely to see so many of our parishioners and neighbours in the church at Graham O'Connell's talk, **'Hero of the Forest'**, followed by a convivial time with wine and refreshments. We all learnt about the hard life of a little known but incredibly brave local man. Thanks to the PCC for providing the refreshments and to everyone who supported us. This was a Lottery Heritage funded event.

**Calico Dress Project** Jo Henshaw, Project Manager for the Herefordshire Calico Dress Project, joined the Marstow Makers' May gathering and shared details about the project which has an expected start date in late autumn. She invited Marstow Makers to become one of five craft groups drawn from across the county to decorate a panel for the dress. Further details to follow.

**Prayer Beads** Our Herefordshire Prayer Beads Project continues to go from strength to strength. At start of June over 700 people had participated in the project and had crafted over 3500 modular origami units. The project featured in an article that was published in the Diocese bulletin and is now offering postal packs to groups who would like to get involved. (See page 7.)

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup> **Quiz Night** Whitchurch Memorial Hall HR9 6DJ, 7.00pm Come along to our popular Quiz Night, a joint venture again for St Matthew's and St Swithins. Invite friends for your own team or just come along. Speciality this year, a wine tasting round. Our usual delicious refreshments are included plus a pay bar. Adults £10 children under 15 years £5.00. For tickets phone Sue Rolfe 07971 411020.

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Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> **Harvest Weekend Harvest Supper** 6.30pm at Fivefold, Biddlestone HR9 6NT and **Harvest Festival service** 11.00am St Matthews

### ST MATTHEW'S WEST END EVENTS

Wednesday July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup> **Marstow Makers Craft Evening**, 7.00–9.30pm Please come along to St Matthews for a relaxed evening of crafting. At each monthly meeting we have a planned activity that you can opt to try, for which materials will be provided. In recent months these have included paper weaving, crocheting, origami and Kinusaiga. If you don't fancy joining in the planned activity, you are welcome to bring your own project to work on, or to just come along for some company. Refreshments will be on offer. Sessions are free to attend. We look forward to welcoming you.

Tuesday July 21<sup>st</sup> next **Parish Council** meeting St Matthew's West End 7.30pm See the Parish Council website for future dates and agendas [marstowpc.org.uk](http://marstowpc.org.uk). A list of Marstow Parish councillors is also on the website.

### WELSH NEWTON & LLANROTHAL

Glenys Biggs andy\_n\_glen@btinternet.com Tel 07534252281

**Visit from the Bishop** It was a huge pleasure to introduce Bishop Richard and Deborah to the joys of our Meditation and Outdoor Church last month. We were blessed with a dry day, and it was great to have them with us, participating fully in the experience.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July **Summer BBQ** 4.00pm We are holding a BBQ at Newton House in Welsh Newton Common for the church and wider community. We'd love you to join us. Cost: £5pp, paid on the door. To book your ticket, please email us at [stmaryswelshnewton@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryswelshnewton@gmail.com), stating any allergies or dietary requirements.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July **Visit from the Archdeacon** 9.00am Following the very successful visit of Bishop Richard and his wife, Deborah, we are looking forward to welcoming the Archdeacon, the Ven. Derek Chedzey, to our Meditation and Outdoor Church. Please do join us and help make him welcome.

Here's a further bit about **August services** We will still have a service of some kind every Sunday at 9.00am at Welsh Newton all through August (exact format TBD - keep an eye on our social media and website!)

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 9.00am we are looking forward to hosting the **Benefice Holy Communion Service** led by Revd Penny Powdrill, followed by refreshments.

### **GANAREW**

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

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 7.00pm we will be holding a **quiz night** at Whitchurch and Ganarew Memorial Hall. Up to 6 people per table. This is a joint event with Marstow church, fund raising for both parishes. There will be a bar selling a selection of alcoholic, and non-alcoholic drinks. Price £10, under 15 years £5, including Ploughman's meal. Tickets contact Ann Herbert 07855211848. Please, join us for a light hearted, fun evening.

### **WYESHAM**

Jo Townsend & Marguerite Gordon  
jotown223@hotmail.com marguerite.gordon@btinternet.com

Wyesham Together ' **Food and Fun** ' this Summer holiday every Tuesday from 21<sup>st</sup> July 12.00-2.00pm. Meet on the Green by the Shop - if wet at Wyesham Christian Fellowship, Chapel Close. **FREE!**

### **JULY**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> **Monmouth Breast Cancer Support Group** 2.00pm  
Woodland View Shop

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> **Wyedean Embroiderers** 10.00am-2.30pm St James' Community Hall

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 09.00-10.00am Kymin View School

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> **Ladies Prayer Group** 2.00pm Wyesham Christian Fellowship with Rev. Penny

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> **Craft Creators** 10.00am-2.30pm St James' Community Hall



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*Tanya*

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Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 09.00-10.00am Kymin View School  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> **WI** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> **WI Craft** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> **Wyesham Together Food and Fun** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> **Community Coffee Morning** 10.00am -12.00noon St James' Church  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Food and Fun** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
**AUGUST**  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> **Wyedean Embroiderers** 10.00-2.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> **Ladies Prayer Group** 2.00pm Wyesham Christian Fellowship with Rev. Penny  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> **Craft Creators** 10.00am-2.30pm St James' Community Hall  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Food and Fun** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> **Bingo** 7.00pm St James Community Hall  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Food and Fun** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together Food and Fun** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> **Wyesham Together** 12.00-2.00pm on the Green  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> **Community Coffee Morning** 10.00am-12.00noon St



## DIXTON

Kate Richards - kate@summerleas.com

On 21<sup>st</sup> May we celebrated the life of **Colonel Roger Harris**, who was a stalwart of the Dixton congregation for many years, until his move to Whitchurch House, where he continued to be visited by our clergy. The red, white and blue flowers were resplendent and the church was full.

We have been let down by our **grass cutting** contractor this year and are in the (long) process of finding an alternative – in the meantime, we embraced 'No Mow May' and the biodiversity benefits that this brings. By the time you read this, I hope that we will be back to normal with a new contractor.

We continue to see a steady trickle of **visitors** who appreciated the cool in the heat wave, and the shelter when it's raining! Many are visiting from afar and leave lovely comments.

Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup> are our **next services** – we hope to see some of you there

## GOODRICH

Marlene Corker marlenecorker@yahoo.co.uk

### St. Giles Church

"Did you hear about the rose that grew from a crack in the concrete? Proving nature's law is wrong, it learned to walk without having feet. Funny it seems, but by keeping its dreams, it learned to breathe fresh air. Long live the rose that grew from concrete when no one else ever cared." Tupac Shakur. A modern poem, reminding us to stay strong; great things can happen in the face of adversity.

We wish all those facing their exams the very best of luck, enjoyment of the last days of school and safe adventures over the summer.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September we welcome the **choir of St Mary's** to help us celebrate **St Giles Day** at Evensong on at 4.00pm with a buffet to follow.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September we celebrate **Harvest** at 11.00am with a Ploughman's buffet afterwards.

  
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**Goodrich Church of England Primary School**

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, Open the Book came into our school and acted out the story of a mother, father and their two sons. Unfortunately, the father and the two sons died. One of the sons' wives came to help the mother collect in the barley and wheat. Eventually, she went on to marry. It showed us in even difficult circumstances, happiness can appear. Don't give up even when things are tricky.

**Village Hall Events** <https://goodrichvillagehall.co.uk/whats-on/>

**Flicks in the sticks** will be 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.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November save the date for a **quiz night**.

**BISHOPSWOOD**

Our **Summer Sunday services** are on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 9.30am, and will both take place in the Village Hall. We look forward to giving you a warm welcome.

*Rev Tim*

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July **Cafe Bishopswood** 10.00 am – Midday Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available) Join us for our 'Anything Goes' swap – bring something you no longer need to swap for something else (no electrical items please) Books and Jigsaws swap too!

Come and join **Bishopswood WI** meetings **second** Friday of each month 4.00 - 6.00pm Bishopswood Village Hall, Walford Road. Become part of one of the oldest Wis. in the country! [Bishopswood\\_WI@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:Bishopswood_WI@herefordshirewi.org.uk) 07947065247 Next meetings:

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July **Silk Floral Art Activity** and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August **Wiltshire Farm Foods with Adam Duggan**.

Also our **Bobbin Along Lace Making** group see advert page 23.

## LLANGROVE

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

**Llangrove May Fayre 2026** Many thanks to all who helped and supported. £1,100 was given to Llangrove Village Hall, Llangrove Academy P.T.F.A., Christ Church and Amenities for children in the village

**Llangrove Play Area** Many, many thanks to all those who have made donations, written grant applications, organised and supported fund raisers. The ground is cleared, growing the grass is next and funds continue to be welcomed. Look out for leaflets and flyers for more ways to support, including funding a piece of equipment!

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July and 12<sup>th</sup> August from 10.30am **Coffee Mornings in Llangrove Village Hall** Amazing Raffle. Good company!

Fridays from 11.00am **Warm Welcome** in Llangrove Village Hall.

Monday to Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August **Church Holiday Club** from 9.00am until 4.00pm based at Llangrove Village Hall and Christ Church at a cost of £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 with suspense and laughter. Would be great to have a group of older youngsters to perform on the stage! Break snacks will be provided but youngsters will need to bring a packed lunch. Please contact Wendy Price to book your youngster a place. Wednesday from 4.00pm families, friends and villagers are invited to a **Sharing Fun Time** led by the youngsters and a Sausage Tea, hopefully, in the sunshine!

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July Village Singers Friends & Family Concert '**A Night at the Musicals**' 8.00pm at Llangrove Village Hall. Refreshments available. Retiring collection for choir funds.

1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> July and 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> August from 9.30am Volunteers needed at **Tretawdy Nature Reserve**.



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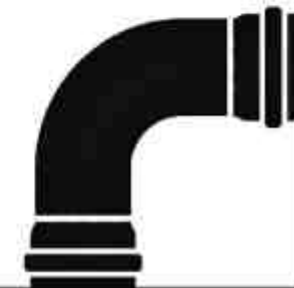
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Affected members of the community are bringing a collective legal action against Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water and companies within the Avara Foods Poultry Group for their alleged role in polluting the Rivers Wye, Lugg and Usk. The Claimants are represented by leading environmental law firm, Leigh Day.

A legal claim, which is the largest of its kind ever brought over pollution of the UK environment, has been issued in the High Court. More than 4,500 people in the region who believe they have been affected by the pollution have signed up to join the claim.

One group who are reporting particularly severe impacts from the pollution is property holders. Living near the Rivers, sewerage works or intensive poultry units, you may have noticed stronger odours, more insects, or changes in water quality. Some claimants report these issues have made outdoor spaces harder to enjoy, or that property values have suffered.

If you live near the River Wye, Lugg, Usk or any of their tributaries and river pollution has reduced your enjoyment of your property or use of your riparian rights, or caused the value of your property to decline, you may be entitled to compensation.

Find out more at <https://www.leighday.co.uk/our-services/group-claims/river-wyeclaim/>.

Together we can help save the Wye, Lugg and Usk.  
Join the claim today.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August Llangrove & District Gardening Society **Annual Flower and Produce Show**. Lots of different classes for all the family. Doors open 2.30pm. Tea, cakes and raffle. Free admission. Look out for posters and schedule.

**Archenfield Climate Environment Group** are planning a number of 'Exploring Nature' days in the school holidays. Look out for dates and venues. Please contact Wendy Price for more details and to book.

## WHITCHURCH

Brigid Hamilton-Jones [brigidhj@aol.com](mailto:brigidhj@aol.com)

Wednesdays July 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> **Community coffee mornings** at St Dubricius 10.30-12.00pm.

Tuesday mornings July 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> **Sticky Little Fingers** at St Dubricius, 9.30-11.00am. Babies and toddlers with their carers are most welcome. Sticky Little Fingers then returns in September.

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

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July **Travelling Light Retreat** at St Dubricius Church. 10.00am-4.00pm. 'New Horizons' continues the theme of 'Travelling with God'. Booking is essential, so please email [travellinglight@supanet.com](mailto:travellinglight@supanet.com). Our website is <https://travelling-light.org.uk>

### Events at Whitchurch and Ganarew Memorial Hall

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October We're delighted to announce the return of **Hot Fingers** for a great night of jazz. Bookings are being taken now, so please contact Graham on 07768125452 to book your seats.

This ever-popular group has become a regular fixture with us. Featuring: Spats Langham guitar, banjo, ukulele, vocals. Danny Blyth saxophone, clarinet, guitar, mandolin, harmonica and anything else in his cupboard, Malcolm Sked, sousaphone and double bass. Not forgetting Emily Campbell, a very talented lady with a fine voice.



## New series of films marks contribution of self-supporting ministers

The Church of England's 'gifted, talented and brilliant' self-supporting ministers are celebrated in a series of films recently published, ahead of Vocations Sunday.

A hairdresser, a data consultant, a solicitor and a teacher, all of whom are priests, speak about their dual vocations in the secular workplace and in churches.

The Bishop of Birkenhead, Julie Conalty, the lead bishop for the Church of England's more than 2,000 self-supporting ministers, also features in the films. She speaks about the distinctive nature of the role and the gifts these ministers bring to workplaces and church congregations.

A former probation officer, she was a self-supporting minister over more than a decade, in the probation service and subsequently for the Youth Justice Board, a national charity and a local authority.

"I see how many gifted, talented and brilliant self-supporting ordained ministers that we have around the church, some of them are associates helping out around parishes, some are running parishes as the vicar or as the incumbent, some work in chaplaincy - they do all sorts of things," she said.

She added: "I can think of self-supporting ordained ministers who are vets, or teaching assistants or doctors, and their professional and work experience brings something distinctive to their ministry."

The Revd Anthea Mitchell, a hairdresser who is a part-time priest in charge at St Andrew's Church in Barming Heath, Maidstone, Kent, said: "I run services, I do baptisms and I take funerals and weddings, and I run a community café – all the things you would expect a vicar to do. "I suppose the longest part of my ministry, in terms of the time I spend, is at work, in the business. I go to work to

Cont'd...



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### Archenfield Repair Cafe

**Sat 11<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Llangrove Village Hall**  
**2 - 4pm**  
**No cafe in August.**

There will be repairers for clothing, household goods, garden tools and much more. Refreshments including homemade cakes will be available with hot and cold drinks. All welcome.

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Llangrove Village Hall**  
**9-11 am**

### Moth Breakfast

Enjoy a homecooked breakfast followed by the reveal of moths by lepidopterist Selena Cambers. Check posters and Facebook for booking link.

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Saturday July 17th and Sunday July 18th 11am - 7pm

**SPECIAL CINEMA EVENTS**

**FRIDA KAHLO Exhibition on Screen**

Monday July 6th at 7.30pm

**ON SCREEN**

**OUR LAND (12a)**

Friday 3rd and Sunday 5th

**DISCLOSURE DAY (12a)**

Monday 20th - Thursday 23

**ROBIN HOOD PRINCE OF THIEVES (12a)**

Monmouth Medieval Festival

Saturday 4th  
and Sunday 5th at 2pm

**A PRIVATE LIFE (15)**

Friday 24th - Thursday 30th

**GLASTONBURY THE MOVIE (12a)**

Sat 25th & Thurs 30th July

**EFFIE o BLAENAU (15)**

Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th  
at 4.45pm and 7.30pm  
*In Welsh with English subtitles*

**MINIONS AND MONSTERS (pg)**

July 31st - August 13th

**TUNER (15)**

Friday 10th - Thursday 16th

**THE ODYSSEY (tbc)**

July 31st - August 13th

**TOY STORY 5 (pg)**

Monday 20th - Thursday 30th

**MOANA (pg)**

August 14th - 21st

For cinema listings please see website

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cut people's hair and I do wear my collar. I can honestly say that I have more deeply spiritual conversations when people are sitting in my chair, than I ever do in church."

The Revd Henry Akingbemisilu, a data consultant and a self-supporting minister at St Paul's Church, Thamesmead in southeast London, who also works as a Forces chaplain, said his professional training as a data consultant has taught him how to analyse and explain complex situations simply. "It helps me to discern people and identify where there is a problem," he said. "The church is looking for people who live their faith in the ordinary life".

The Revd Rebecca Lloyd, a solicitor in Warrington and a hospital chaplain, also helps her local church, St James, Great Sankey, with ministry and conducts baptisms, weddings and funerals. She said: "As a self-supporting minister, it's great, I get to be a blessing to the local church. On a general week I will help with Sunday ministry, with cell groups, school ministry. All the bits of the life of the church – I get involved as much as I want to. I will cover funerals, and baptisms and weddings, all across the town."

The Revd Canon Lyndon Bannon, who works in the senior leadership of an Academy in the Wirral, and is an associate priest at Christ Church, Willaston, said: "I believe that I am called to work in school – I also believe that I am called to be a priest in church. Having that dual role helps me to understand the society in which we live in a broader and deeper way."

Watch the full series here: [Self-Supporting Ministry Stories | YouTube](#)



**Church Diary Dates—September**



6th Evensong with St Mary's Ross Choir St Giles Goodrich 16.00

12th Marstow Harvest Supper Fivefolds Biddlestone

13th Harvest Service St Matthews Marstow 11.00

27th Harvest Festival St Giles Goodrich 11.00



## Village Singers

### Friends & Families Evening

'A Night at the Musicals'

Join us on

Monday 6th July

Doors Open 7.45pm

Free admission & refreshments

Retiring Collection for the Choir

## Quiz Night Sat 25th July 7pm Whitchurch Memorial Hall HR9 6DJ



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<https://www.whitchurch.org.uk/>

## August

- 1st Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30  
Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall 10.00 - 14.30
- 3rd Craft Creators St James' Community Hall Wyesham 10.00 - 14.30  
Ladies prayer Group Wyesham Christian Fellowship 14.00
- 4th Wyesham Together Food & Fun on the Green 12.00 - 14.00
- 5th Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30
- 6th Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
- 10th - 12th Church Holiday Club Llangrove Village Hall 09.00 - 16.00
- 11th Wyesham Together Food & Fun on the Green 12.00 - 14.00
- 12th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30
- 14th WI Wiltshire Farm Foods Bishopswood Village Hall 16.00 - 18.00
- 15th LDGS Annual Plant & Produce Show Llangrove Village Hall 14.30
- 18th Wyesham Together Food & Fun on the Green 12.00 - 14.00
- 19th Marstow Makers Craft Evening St Matthews West End Marstow 19.00
- 20th Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
- 25th Wyesham Together Food & Fun on the Green 12.00 - 14.00
- 29th Coffee Morning St James' Church 10.00 - 12.00

## Bobbin' Along - Lace making group



1st and 3rd  
Wednesdays  
11.30-1.30pm  
The Mill Race Pub  
Walford Road  
Ross-on-Wye  
HR9 5QS  
Beginner or  
Expert  
Everyone welcome

For more details contact:  
[blithegrwood\\_wi@herefordshirewl.org.uk](mailto:blithegrwood_wi@herefordshirewl.org.uk)

## An Auction of Promises

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September  
7.30pm @ Garron Centre  
Llangarron

£10 per ticket including  
dessert.

Unique experiences and gifts  
available to the highest bidder!

Bid on a local vineyard tour &  
tasting, a jaunt around in an Aston  
Martin or a quirky evening divining  
on your land - plus many others!

Contact Katy Andrews for  
tickets [mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com](mailto:mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com)  
or to pledge a promise!

**WILD SWAN PILATES**  
**Pilates Classes**  
Mixed Ability & Beginner Friendly.

Tuesdays, 9.30 - 10.30am & 10.45 to 11.45am  
Starting 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
Whitchurch & Garsow Memorial Hall  
£10 per session or £50 for 6x sessions

**FREE TASTER**  
Book Today!!!  
Call 07708055290  
Email [tina@wildswanpilates.co.uk](mailto:tina@wildswanpilates.co.uk)  
Web [tina@wildswanpilates.co.uk](http://tina@wildswanpilates.co.uk)

Fully insured, YMCA Level 3 Diploma in Teaching Pilates.  
Oliver Adult, Back Care CPD Post Graduate Course

## PARISH EVENTS AT A GLANCE



### July

- 1st 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
- 4th Moth Breakfast Llangrove Village Hall 09.00 - 11.00  
Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30  
Wyedean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall 10.00 - 14.30  
Travelling Light Retreat St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.00 - 16.00
- 6th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 - 10.00  
Craft Creators St James' Community Hall Wyesham 10.00 - 14.30  
Ladies Prayer Group Wyesham Christian Fellowship 14.00  
Village Singers 'Night at the Musicals' Llangrove Village Hall 20.00
- 7th Sticky Little Fingers St Dubricius Whitchurch 9.30 - 11.00
- 8th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30
- 9th Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
- 10th WI Slik Floral Art Activity Bishopswood Village Hall 16.00 - 18.00
- 11th Café Bishopswood at Village Hall 10.00 - 12.00  
ACEG Repair Café Llangrove Village Hall 14.00 - 16.00
- 12th Summer BBQ Newton House Welsh Newton Common 16.00
- 13th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 - 10.00  
WI St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 14th Sticky Little Fingers St Dubricius Whitchurch 9.30 - 11.00
- 15th Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30 - 12.00  
Marstow Makers Craft Evening St Matthews West End Marstow 19.00
- 19th Archdeacon Visit St Mary's Welsh Newton 9.00
- 20th WI Craft St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00
- 21st Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00-10.00
- 23rd Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00
- 25th Quiz Night Ganarew & Whitchurch Memorial Hall 19.00
- 30th Coffee Morning St James' Church 10.00 - 12.00

## 'He gave us eyes to see them' – Church Pulpits

It is a steep climb of 199 steps that leads the visitor to Whitby from the streets below to the church of St Mary's that stands near the ruined abbey. Having negotiated the climb, the visitor enters the church and is greeted by a glorious array of Georgian furnishings: box pews and a triple decker pulpit with candlesticks and cushions. The clerk would sit at the bottom level to give out the notices, the parson would lead the service in the middle, and then he would ascend to the third level to expound the Word of God.

George Herbert says that for the country parson the pulpit should be 'his joy and his throne.' Sydney Smith had a different slant when he wrote on going into the pulpit of All Saints Church in Foston in 1806: 'When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation.' Not so at Whitby where the church is cared for and well loved.

Today preachers often remain at ground level, the better to interact with their congregations, but here at St Mary's Church the pulpit is a sign of the importance of teaching the Word: not because the preacher stands eight feet above contradiction, but to allow people to see and hear.

The word 'pulpit' means a platform or raised area to address the gathered family of God. As we look on in the pews, it stands often on our left. But God looks at us from the east end of the church and the pulpit stands at his right hand: a sign that the sermon can be the divinely inspired message of prophet and teacher, and so become living and active in the minds and hearts of its hearers.



*The imposing pulpit at St Mary's Whitby*

## AUGUST CHURCH SERVICES

*NB there is only one weekly service in Wye Brooks benefice this month.*

### Sunday 2nd August

09.00	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study
09.30	Ganarew	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00	Llangrove	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Sunday Praise

### Wednesday 5th August

18.00	Whitchurch	Night Prayer (Compline)
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### Thursday 6th August

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

### Sunday 9th August

09.30	Bishopswood	Holy Communion at the Village Hall
10.00	Marstow	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Chatty Church

### Thursday 13th August

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

### Sunday 16th August

09.00	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study
09.30	Ganarew	Sunday Praise
11.00	Goodrich	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion

### Wednesday 19th August

18.00	Whitchurch	Taizé Prayer
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### Thursday 20th August

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

### Sunday 23rd August

09.30	Dixton	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00	Marstow	Lay led Family Service
11.00	Llangarron	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Sunday Praise
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion for Patronal Festival

### Thursday 27th August

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

### Sunday 30th August

09.00	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion



### Our British bumblebees

We have about 270 kinds of bee in the UK, including 24 types of bumblebees? Here are just six of them:

**Early Bumblebee:** - Found throughout the UK. Rather small, with distinctive lemon-yellow bands on thorax and abdomen, and an orange tail. An important pollinator of our soft fruit.

**Common Carder Bee:** - One of our most common bees, and often still feeding in November. Fluffy, brown and orange, with sometimes darker bands on the abdomen.

**Tree Bumblebee:** - Found in England and Wales, and recently Southern Scotland. A fuzzy bee, with brown-orange hairs on its thorax, a black abdomen, and a white tail.

**Red-tailed Bumblebee:** - The female is very large, with a big red 'tail', while males are smaller.

**Garden Bumblebee:** - A scruffy-looking large bee, with a long tongue and face. It has yellow bands at the collar, rear of the thorax and at the first segment of the abdomen, and the tip of the tail is white.

**Buff-tailed bumblebee:** - The biggest of our bumblebees, with a yellow collar near the head and another on the abdomen. The queen has a buff-coloured 'tails', while the workers have white 'tails' and black hair on their faces.

Be kind to our bees. They are in steady decline across the UK.