

CHURCH SERVICES

Wednesday 2nd September

18.00 Whitchurch Night Prayer (Compline)

Thursday 3rd September

10.30 Whitchurch Holy Communion

11.00 Whitchurch Bible Study

Sunday 6th September

09.00 Welsh Newton Meditation, Bible Study and Outdoor Church

09.30 Ganarew Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10.00 Llangrove Holy Communion (with Llangarron)

11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion

11.00 Wyesham Sunday Praise

16.00 Goodrich Choral Evensong with St Mary's Choir

Wednesday 9th September

15.00 Marstow Bishop Richard's Visit and Service

Thursday 10th September

10.30 Whitchurch Holy Communion

11.00 Whitchurch Bible Study

Sunday 13th September

09.00 Welsh Newton Holy Communion

09.30 Bishopswood Holy Communion at the Village Hall

10.00 Llangrove Lay Led

11.00 Goodrich Holy Communion

11.00 Marstow Harvest Festival and Holy Communion

11.00 Whitchurch Holy Communion

11.00 Wyesham Chatty Church

Wednesday 16th September

18.00 Whitchurch Taizé Prayer

Services Cont'd p47

BORDER NEWS

Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks Parish Magazine

Produced by volunteers for the community

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



ST GILES, GOODRICH

SEPTEMBER 2026



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www.wyereaches.org

Vicar

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
or via bnads@mail.com

CHURCH SERVICES Cont'd

Thursday 17th September

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Sunday 20th September

09.00	Welsh Newton	Meditation, Bible Study and Outdoor Church
09.30	Ganarew	Sunday Praise
10.00	Llangrove	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion
18.00	Llangarron	Patronal Evening Service with Rev'd Michael Tavinor

Thursday 24th September

10.30	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Whitchurch	Bible Study

Sunday 27th September

09.00	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion
09.30	Dixton	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00	Llangrove	Café Church Lay Led
10.00	Marstow	Family Service Lay Led
11.00	Goodrich	Harvest Festival followed by Ploughman's Lunch
11.00	Whitchurch	Holy Communion
11.00	Wyesham	Holy Communion
19.00	Welsh Newton	Harvest Festival followed by supper





Holy Cross Day

On this day the Church celebrates the Cross as a symbol of triumph, as the sign of Christ's victory over death. Holy Cross Day goes right back to 14 September 335, and we have the mother of a Roman Emperor to thank for it.

Helena was a devout Christian, and after her son, Constantine, was converted, they agreed that she should travel from Rome to Israel and seek out the places of special significance to Christians. Much of Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Romans around 135 AD, but Helena finally located what she believed to be the sites of the Crucifixion and of the Burial (and modern archaeologists think she may well be correct). The sites were so close together that she built one large church over them, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Built in honour of the Cross, it was dedicated on 14 September 335.

What is its significance of the cross? The Cross is the personal mark of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we mark it on ourselves as a sign that we belong to him. Even in the book of Revelation, we read that the servants of God are 'sealed' or 'marked' on their foreheads as a sign that they are His.

A preacher once put it this way: if you were explaining how to make a cross, you would say: "Draw an I." That is you standing before the Lord, saying, 'here I am'. Then cancel that vertical stroke with a horizontal stroke – as if to say: "Lord, I abandon my self-will and make you the centre of my life instead. I abandon myself to your love and service."

On Holy Cross Day, we recall Jesus' wonderful promise: "And when I am lifted up, I will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32)



WELCOME FROM YOUR CLERGY TEAM

You would have had to have been living under a very large rock indeed not to know that we have a significant crisis in our prisons. The fact that there is a crisis is, for those working in the criminal justice system, nothing new. Largely, though, until recently, the issue has remained conveniently buried under the news of all the other trials and tribulations of the world. It's something we may not like (or feel qualified) talking about. For politicians, talk about prisons is not a huge vote winner when there are so many other competing concerns in the minds of those who may elect them.

Speaking on Radio 4's 'Sunday' programme recently, Bishop Rachel Treweek, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bishop for Prisons said, "as a Christian I believe in being a sign-maker for the Kingdom of God, of looking at transformation in people's lives, making things new, and at the moment our prison system is not being able to focus on that." The polarised, often sensational, narratives that occupy much of our media, both traditional and social, focus almost entirely on the need for punishment and offer no commentary or hope for the other side of the criminal justice pendulum, the possibility of change, growth and renewal.

My firm belief is that we are loved wherever we are, but that God refuses to leave us as we are. In Christ we all, good and bad, have been issued an invitation. We are sought out despite our behaviour and called to be changed – to remove the old and put on the new. God's invitation isn't based on status or history, but on a generosity that is radically inclusive.

There are, undeniably, people in prison who absolutely need to be there, in response to their awful crimes and in order to keep their victims and wider society safe. But a large proportion of those in prison are simply waiting to hear that invitation. Waiting to hear that they are loved. Waiting to be encouraged to see a different horizon. Our small contribution to that can be as simple as the willingness to pray. Look out

Cont'd...

for the Prisons Week (11th-17th October) leaflets that will soon be appearing in your church. Pray for prison and probation staff, pray for judges and juries, but, most importantly, pray for those leaving prison that they might hear the invitation to hope and change, and be welcomed.

Simon



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
THIS MONTH**

As we welcome to our church with the baptism of Harry Morton who was baptised at St Deinst on August 15th 2026 by his great-grandfather.

Pray for the souls and lives of :

Joan Anne Davies whose funeral took place at St Deinst church on 19th June 2026. Ashes interred at St Deinst on 29th June 2026. Obituary page 20.

Thelma Parkes whose funeral took place at St Mary's Ross followed by a burial at St Matthew's June 30th 2026.

Michael Oaten whose funeral took place at St Peter's Church, Dixon on 30th June 2026.

Vivian Raby ashes were interred at Christ Church on July 27th 2026.

Rosemary Robertson whose funeral took place at the Forest of Dean Crematorium on 31st July 2026.

Owen Powell whose funeral took place at St Deinst on August 5th 2026.

**Slimming
World**



Let's hear it for our Man of the Year 2026, Harry! After losing an amazing 14st 5.5lbs (91.4kg) – more than half his body weight – he's completely transformed his life.

At 25st 6.5lbs (161.7kg), he found his weight affected every part of his life. As a letting agent, he'd sometimes drive to appointments that were just two minutes away on foot because the walk felt too much.

Since joining Slimming World, Harry has made lasting changes with the support of his Consultant and fellow members, including his mum Sarah. Now he's achieved things he never thought possible, like climbing Snowdon.

If you too would love to lose weight and achieve things you have always wanted to do, please contact Debra on 07895 257037

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the
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HIDDEN MEANINGS



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A GOOD SHEPHERD.



WHO TOOK GREAT CARE OF ALL
HIS SHEEP



THE SHEPHERD WOULD
ALWAYS MAKE SURE EACH
SHEEP WAS SAFE.



HE WOULD COUNT THEM AT
THE END OF EVERY DAY



BUT ONE NIGHT HE
REALIZED A SHEEP HAD
GONE MISSING



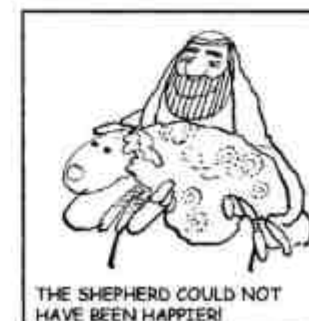
THE SHEPHERD SET OUT TO SEARCH FOR
THE LOST SHEEP



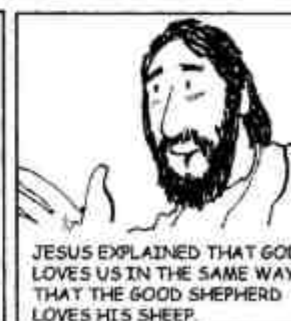
HE SEARCHED HIGH
AND LOW



AT LAST THE LOST SHEEP
WAS FOUND!



THE SHEPHERD COULD NOT
HAVE BEEN HAPPIER!



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT GOD
LOVES US IN THE SAME WAY
THAT THE GOOD SHEPHERD
LOVES HIS SHEEP.



The power of friendship

By The Rev'd Jane Plackett-Ferguson,
Chaplain to the Bishop of Hereford

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about friendship: what starts it, what builds it and what sustains it.

Our family moved to Hereford a little over a year ago. When we sensed a call from God to come here, we knew we would be starting again. We knew no one locally, which meant building friendships and community from the beginning.

Friendship doesn't arrive fully formed. It grows slowly, often in what Scripture calls "the day of small things": small conversations, small acts of kindness, small decisions to keep turning up. Like many relationships, friendship begins with connection but grows through countless small choices over time.

Even Jesus invested deeply in only a few close friendships. We cannot invest deeply in everyone, but we can choose to show up consistently for a few people: to cherish them, serve them, forgive them and remain faithful companions through life's ups and downs.

I have often found this challenging because it means choosing to go first: starting the conversation, suggesting meeting up, offering help, buying the coffee and risking things feeling a little awkward. I have learnt from my husband, who is much more natural at including others and making space for friendship than I am. Yet, as I have been brave, I have discovered that many people are open to friendship. They are waiting, just as we are. One of my most significant friendships began in my thirties in a very ordinary way. While volunteering, I simply said to someone, "This is a bit awkward, but I'd really like to be friends." It sounds disarmingly simple, but it takes courage. Often all it takes is one person willing to make the first move.

There are seasons in life that carry a particular loneliness: the early years of parenting, times of transition, when friends move away, or later,

Cont'd...



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when friends go to glory. Loneliness is not unusual; it is part of the human experience. Yet rather than turning on the TV, perhaps the invitation is to look up and out: to join a club, volunteer, pick up the phone or invite someone for dinner regardless of the state of our life, kitchen or garden.

Friendship is not only about reaching out; we also have to learn to receive. It can dent our pride to let it be known that we can't manage everything. Yet some of the greatest moments of friendship in my life have come through friends offering practical help when I didn't realise how much I needed it.

One of the great gifts the church can still offer is community: a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can gather regularly, be known and build genuine friendships. When God said to Adam, "It is not good for a person to be alone," he knew that would apply to all of us.

So my prayer this year is to learn how to be a better friend to those I already love, and to ask God who in my life is lonely, where I could be their friend, and they mine. I wonder if God might be asking some of you to pray this too?



150 years on, Mothers' Union is a "powerhouse" - Archbishop of Canterbury

The Mother's Union is celebrating its 150th anniversary. At a recent service in St Paul's Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury said she had seen first-hand the profound impact of its work in communities around the world, "in family life, healthcare, education, social projects — challenging poverty, injustice and violence. . . In fact, I often say, if I need something doing, ask the Mothers' Union to do it."

Her sermon on Ephesians had asked: "How do we sustain ourselves as we serve? How do we nourish our own spiritual, mental, and physical well-being, whilst we are tending to the needs of others?"

Cont'd....

The answer, she suggested, lay in St Paul's words: "I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

She continued. "May you know the depth of God's love in the grass-roots work that you do throughout the world. May you know the breadth of God's love as you strive to serve this global movement."

"You are salt to our world, in the ordinary, everyday ways you make such a difference to the people you serve, and in the fellowship that you offer to one another."

Record number of grants awarded for conservation in parish churches

Grants for conservation of historic items and works of art in parish churches more than doubled in 2025 to nearly £600,000, with a record number of grants awarded by the Church of England.

Books from a library where Isaac Newton is thought to have studied, one of the oldest clocks in the country, medieval wall paintings, and even a medieval door are among hundreds of historic features in parish churches, from candlesticks to a Saxon coffin, to receive conservation funding last year.

Grants worth a total of £578,931 were awarded in 2025 by the Church of England's national conservation team, up 120 per cent on the £260,000 distributed the year before. The number of grants awarded rose to 190, across 37 dioceses.

The big increase comes after the National Lottery Heritage Fund announced a £4.69 million award in 2025 for the Church of England's conservation grants scheme, to run over the next five years. The scheme also continues to receive support from various trusts and funds.

Cont'd...



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Local Information About Grants

Every week the Diocese issues a weekly e news bulletin, which you can subscribe to free of charge via the Diocese website. In every edition details of the latest grants are included. This is from the most recent edition

New List of Funders The Property Team has issued an updated list of funders and grants including a new section specifically for churches in Wales:

Places of Worship Renewal Fund The next deadline for Expressions of Interest to the Places of Worship Renewal Fund, excluding Wales, will be Sunday 27th September. Churches who would like to apply should email Liz Womack to ask for the necessary letter of support. Liz and Isobel Weare, the Diocese Property Team have put together a comprehensive information sheet on the new Places of Worship Renewal Fund. They are also available to read through draft expressions of interest and draft applications for parishes before submission, and to answer any questions about the new fund.

The Diocese is urging all parishes to consider applying for the following grants:

The Parish Accessibility Fund Grants to enhance the accessibility of the church building, with grants up to £50,000. For details of the eligibility criteria, assessment framework, and a template for applications please contact Stephen Challenger or Isobel Weare for more information.

NetZero Quick Wins Grants The next deadline will be in September, 2026. The grants up to £10,000 fund small NetZero projects that will make a difference in the long term. The full eligibility rules and the application form can be found on the website or from the Property Team.





New pilgrimage route for Conwy Valley

A new 22-mile pilgrimage route linking five churches in the Bro Celynnin Ministry Area has opened, as interest in walking spiritual paths continues to grow. The route has been developed amid renewed interest in pilgrimage, including the BBC series Pilgrimage: The Road to Wild Wales, which followed seven celebrities along the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.

Llwybr Celynnin is a figure-of-eight trail that follows existing footpaths between Conwy and Llangelynnin, where it joins the North Wales Pilgrim's Way. Walkers can collect a stamp at each church in a specially designed pilgrim passport, creating a record of their journey through the valley.

The route begins or ends at St Mary's Church in the centre of Conwy, which contains surviving parts of Aberconwy Abbey, a Cistercian monastery founded in the 12th Century. It continues through the Conwy Valley to Llangelynnin Church, an ancient church overlooking the valley and already visited by walkers following the longer North Wales route.

Churches included in the route are St Mary's Conwy, St Mary's Caerhun, St Benedict's Gyffin, St Peter's Llanbedr-y-Cennin, and Llandelynnin Old Church above Henryd.

<https://bangor.eglwysyngnghymru.org.uk>



When the sun goes edgewise – and daytime equals night

After the partial eclipse in August, 22nd September marks the autumnal equinox (if you live in the northern hemisphere) or the vernal (Spring) equinox (if you live in the southern hemisphere). The equinoxes occur in March and September, when the Sun is 'edgewise' to the Earth's axis of rotation, so that everywhere on earth has twelve hours of daylight and twelve hours of darkness.



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Duke of Edinburgh's Award celebrates 70 years: 1956 - 2026

It was back in February of 1956 that Buckingham Palace released a press announcement outlining plans for a trial period of 'The Duke of Edinburgh's Award'.

It was the post-war era, and His Royal Highness wanted to help boys bridge the gap between leaving formal education at 15 and starting National Service at 18. He also wanted them to build self-confidence and a sense of purpose to support them into their future. A youth programme, he believed, would improve their skills and equip them to make valuable contributions to their communities and society.

In 1956, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award pilot was launched to national voluntary youth organisations, soon expanding to include Local Education Authorities, the Armed Forces and some schools across the UK. After the first year 1,000 Awards had been achieved, and millions have joined the DofE Award programme since.

The DofE continued to evolve, and programmes took on their current format of Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and Residential at Gold level in 1980.

In 2020, DofE participants stepped up in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The volunteering efforts of 330,000 young people equated to an investment of almost £8.5 million in a time of need. The DofE says: "We're here to celebrate and champion every young person. To provide a safe environment of support and challenge that grows as they do. Whatever their ability, interest or background, DofE offers young people the chance to strive for achievement, overcome obstacles, and set their minds to a personal challenge. Because when you prove to yourself that you're ready for anything, nothing can hold you back. Our Founder HRH Prince Philip once said: 'There is more in you than you might think.' And, here at the DofE, we help you realise that."

Prince Philip passed away in April 2021, but his legacy thrives thanks to the tireless support of the new Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward.



from across our Parishes

DIXTON

Kate Richards - kate@summerleas.com

Sunday 27th 09.30am is our September service. Our **Harvest Festival** service is on Sunday 25th October. We usually have a bring and share lunch at Harvest Festival, but with the change to 9.30am, I think that this will be coffee and cake (or those little savoury soda bread scones which Tim is rather partial to!).

We are very sad to report that **Ros Roberston**, who led the Friends of Dixton church group which supported the DCC with fundraising, passed away in July. We will miss the lovely raffles she organised and her flower arranging skills too, not to mention the financial support of the Friends.

WYESHAM

Jo Townsend & Marguerite Gordon

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

Wednesday 2nd **Monmouth Breast Cancer Support Group** 2.00pm
Woodland View Shop

Thursday 3rd **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall

Friday 4th **Quiz Night** 7.30pm St James' Community Hall

Saturday 5th **Wydean Embroiderers** 10.00am - 2.30pm St James' Community Hall

Monday 7th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 - 10.00am Kymin View School

Monday 7th **Craft Creators** 10.00am - 2.30pm St James' Community Hall

Monday 7th **Ladies Prayer** Group 2.00-3.00pm Wyesham Christian Fellowship with Rev. Penny

Monday 14th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 - 10.00am Kymin View School

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Monday 14th **Ladies Prayer Meeting** at Connie's 2.00pm

Monday 14th **WI** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall

Thursday 16th **Bingo** 7.00pm St James' Community Hall

Monday 21st **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 - 10.00am Kymin
View School

Monday 21st **Ladies Prayer Group** at Connie's 2.00pm

Monday 21st **Craft Group** 6.30pm St James' Community Hall

Tuesday 22nd **DCC Meeting** 2.30pm St James' Church

Saturday 26th **Community Coffee Morning** 10.00am - 12.00 midday St
James' Church

Monday 28th **Wyesham Together Tea and Toast** 9.00 - 10.00am Kymin
View School

GANAREW

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

Quiz night: What an enjoyable time we had on Saturday 25th July at the Memorial Hall, the hall was full and a lively evening ensued. Many thanks to Martin and Sara for running the quiz, and to Graham for the wine round. The ploughman's supper was excellent; thank you to all from Marstow who helped. A successful evening, providing funds for both St.Swithins and St.Mathew's churches. Well done to all who took part, and to all the helpers.

Last Sunday 2nd August, we had a small gathering to wish **Lou Shepherd** all the best in her move. We thank Lou and Colin Shepherd for their many years of support to St. Swithins.

Forthcoming event - We will be holding a **pie and live band night** sometime in November. Date to be confirmed. This will again be a joint fund raiser for Ganarew and Marstow.

LLANGARRON

Helen Edwards edwardshelen82@gmail.com

www.llangarron.info & Facebook Llangarron Village Hall

Herefordshire Art Week. The Garron Centre will be open each day Saturday 5th to Sunday 13th from 11.00am to 5.00pm each day. **h.Art**

exhibiting the work of 10 wonderfully creative and talented artists. The works include still life, landscape, and abstract paintings, sculpture, jewellery, fused glass, locally hand thrown pottery, handwoven blankets and throws, and handmade wicker baskets. The café will be open throughout serving delicious light lunches, cakes, scones, teas, coffee and soft drinks.

Saturday 19th **Community Cafe** 10.00am - 12.00noon The village cafe will be open from 10.00am serving bacon rolls, cakes, coffees and teas. Dogs and their well-behaved humans are welcome to attend. Sunday 20th **St Deinst Patronal Festival** 6.00pm with guest speaker Michael Tavinor see page 25.

Saturday 3rd October 7.00 – 10.30pm **Auction of Promises** Katy Andrews will be hosting an Auction of Promises on behalf of the Community Association. A wide range of exciting, unique experiences, and gifts will be available to the highest bidder! Examples include local vineyard tour & tasting, a jaunt around the local area in an Aston Martin, personalised yoga session for 4-6 people, or a quirky evening divining on your land - plus many others! Doors will open at 7.00pm, bidding begins at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 per person including dessert. The pop-up bar will be available throughout the evening. Keep the date free for a fun evening. Contact Katy Andrews mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com for tickets or to pledge a promise!

Thursday 15th October 7.00pm **LCA AGM** at the Garron Centre.

Saturday 17th October **Community Cafe** 10.00am - 12.00noon

Wednesday 21st October from 7.00 - 9.00pm Talk **"Grave Concerns"** by Caroline Meller Have you ever wondered about the lives of those buried in our local parish churchyards? Caroline will be sharing the fascinating history of burial traditions in the area. Why was it so important to respect the bees? What was the role of the sin-eater? From the Bronze Age to World War 2 there are stories to be told. Doors open at 7.00pm for light refreshments before the talk at 7.30pm. Admission is by donation to raise funds for the fabric of St Deinst Church. Contact Caroline via llangarronhistory@gmail.com for more information.



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Friday 23rd October 6.30pm **Annual Harvest Supper** on behalf of the PCC The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will take place in St Deinst Church at 6.00pm followed by the Harvest Supper in the Garron Centre at 7.00pm. Tickets are £15 per person. Catering volunteers would be appreciated. Please contact Caroline 07518 234 132 or cmbmeller@gmail.com.

Wednesday 4th November, at 7.00pm **Remembrance Talk** by Caroline Mellor in aid of Royal British Legion. Further details October's Border News.

Saturday 7th November from 6.30pm **Village Quiz Night** More details October's Border News.

BISHOPSWOOD

Sunday 13th 9.30am our next Sunday **church service** in Bishopswood at the Village Hall; you are most welcome to join us.

Sunday 11th October just to let you know that our **Harvest Festival Service** will take place at 3.00pm at the Village Hall. The organist is booked so I hope you will be in good voice for some wonderful harvest hymns.

Bishopswood Villag Hall - September

Saturday 5th at 5.00pm annual **Duck Race** at Kerne Bridge £1 per duck Followed by Hot Dogs and Evening entertainment at Bishopswood Village Hall. Tickets for Hot Dogs (Vegetarian available) - £2.50 Bar and Doors open at 5.30 p.m.

Saturday 12th **Café Bishopswood** 10.00 am – 1.00pm Local Author Sarah Collier will give a short talk about her writing, also Harvest Swap Delicious cakes and refreshments (Gluten free available)

Sunday 20th **Community Lunch** Doors and the Bar will open at 12.30pm for a 1.00pm lunch £10 per Person Booking Only - Telephone 01600891277 or email treasurer@bvonline.co.uk to secure your place

MARSTOW

Sue Rolfe rolfe653@btinternet.com Tel: 07971 411020

Website: marstowchurch.org

West End bookings Phyll Hannah 01989 770617

CHURCH NEWS and EVENTS

Wednesday 9th 3.30pm **Bishop's Visit** to St Matthew's Church. We are delighted that Bishop Richard will be visiting us from Hereford as part of his perambulations for the 24/7 prayer movement's week of prayer. He will conduct a short service, 20-30 minutes, and we hope that as many as possible can come to the church to give him a warm Marstow welcome.

Saturday 12th **Harvest Supper** at Fivefold, Biddlestone Orchards, HR9 6NT 6.30pm and Sunday 13th **Harvest Festival Service**, St Matthews 11.00am

Harvest Supper Everyone is welcome to come along to this lovely, annual event once again hosted by Phyll and Ian Hannah. We start with drinks in the garden and follow with a supper of Cottage Pie and Apple Crumble. No charge but donations to St Matthew's will be welcome. To make sure we have plenty of pies, if you are able, please let us know if are coming. Phone Sue Rolfe 07971 411020 or Phyll Hannah 07717 126596

Harvest Festival Service Come and give thanks for the harvest at this joyful service. We will be serving refreshments and look forward to seeing everyone.

Quiz Night The joint venture by St Matthew's and St Swithin's in July was a great success. Whitchurch Memorial Hall was packed, the quiz was great fun and the lovely Ploughman's Supper was much appreciated. Over £1,000 was raised to be shared with both parishes. Thanks to everyone who supported us and to the PCCs and helpers who worked so hard to make the evening a success.

ST MATTHEW'S WEST END EVENTS

Wednesday 16th **Marstow Makers Craft Evening** 7.00 – 9.30pm Do come along to St Matthews West End for a relaxed evening of



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crafting. Have a go at the planned activity for which materials will be provided. These have included paper weaving, crocheting, origami and Kinusaiga. You can bring your own project, or just come along for some company. Refreshments will be on offer. Materials are provided and sessions are free to attend.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 29th 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.

GOODRICH

Marlene Corker marlenecorker@yahoo.co.uk

St. Giles Church

"Seasons of mist and mellow fruitfulness, close bosom -friend of the maturing sun; Conspiring with Him how to load and bless with fruit the vines that round the thatched eaves run..." Keats

We have been keeping in our thoughts all those eagerly awaiting exam results, all those moving on to pastures new. We wish you well! Our continued thoughts for our farmers as they battle once again with this exceptional weather, and pray that they stay clear of any devastating fires.

Sunday 6th **Choral Evensong** at 4.00pm we welcome the Choir of St Mary's, Ross for Evensong with a sumptuous tea to follow.

Sunday 27th **Harvest Festival** at 11.00am The tables will be groaning with food. Everyone is welcome as always!

Village Hall Events

Thursday 24th Flicks in the Sticks 7.00pm showing **Song Sung Blue** starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson. Cert12A, tickets £5 and the bar will be open.

Saturday 24th October **Arts Alive: Behind Enemy Lines** 7.30pm. Extraordinary women whose courage, daring, ingenuity and sacrifice defeated Nazi terror. Songwriter and storyteller Louise Jordan uncovers

the lives of inspiring secret agents of WW2. Tickets: adult £12, child £6
Saturday 21st November a **Quiz Night** is booked. More details to follow.
See <https://goodrichvillagehall.co.uk/whats-on/> for details of all events.

WHITCHURCH

Brigid Hamilton-Jones brigidhj@aol.com

Mondays 14th and 28th **Community lunches** at St Dubricius 12.00pm.
Please phone Janet Townsend on 07803 798409 to book your place.

Wednesdays 2nd and 16th **Community coffee mornings** at St Dubricius, 10.30-12.00pm.

Tuesday 8th **Sticky Little Fingers** returns weekly 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

Events at Whitchurch and Ganarew Memorial Hall

Friday 9th October Film night showing **MadFabulous** starring Rupert Everett, Siobhán McSweeney, Ruby Stokes, Callum Scott Howells. Inspired by the true story of the outrageous Henry Paget, who arrives from France to live at the family's stunning castle on the island of Anglesey in Wales. Known for his gregarious theatrical expressions, exuberant sense of fashion and lavish social life, Paget spent a multi-million-pound fortune sending shockwaves through the upper-class elite, much to the amusement of the local townspeople. Doors open 7.00pm for 7.30pm screening. Pay on the door £5. There will be an interval. Drinks and snacks available

Friday 30th October **Hot Fingers jazz night**. Bookings are being taken now, so please contact Graham on 07768125452 to book your seats.

WELSH NEWTON & LLANROTHAL

Glenys Biggs andy_n_glen@btinternet.com Tel 01989770540

Sunday 27th at 5.00pm our annual **Harvest Festival** service in St Mary's Church, followed by Supper in the Village Hall at 6.00pm.

Please contact us on stmaryswelshnewton@gmail.com for tickets to the



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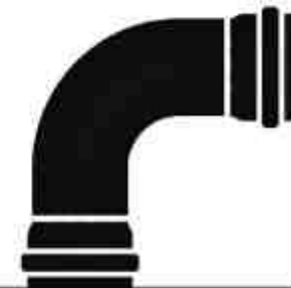
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New Wine 11 adults and children from St Mary's went to the New Wine festival this summer, a fantastic week of learning, worship, prayer and fun, and a great opportunity to spend time together. Our church warden, Matthew, was the speaker at a packed breakout session on being a Christian in the creative industry, interviewed by Mark Melliush (also from St Mary's).

Some folks have already booked tickets for next year (27th July to 1st August 2027), taking advantage of the early bird prices. If you fancy coming, book as part of the Hereford Diocese so you can camp alongside others from the church.

LLANGROVE

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

At **Christ Church** we continue to join together to worship God, to learn from His Word and to share bread and wine together recognising Jesus saving power and the presence of the Holy Spirit. We are supported by the Rev'd. Penny from Monmouth, and Rev'd. Simon from Goodrich. Our congregation continues to serve each other and community. If you would like support, please contact Wendy Price, our Local Minister 07562 897962, or another member of our congregation.

On the fourth Sunday we are starting **Café Church**. Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a short informal service.

Sunday 4th October is our **Harvest Festival** Service. From 5.00pm there will be a Bring and Share Tea with fresh local apple juice. This will be followed by our Service at 6.00pm.

Friday 4th and subsequent Fridays from 9.00-11.00am **Little Explorers** (under 5s) and their carers at Llangrove Village Hall.

Wednesday 9th from 10.30am **Coffee Morning** at Llangrove Village Hall. Amazing Raffle. Good Company.

Every Friday from 11.00am **Warm Welcome** in Llangrove Village Hall. Coffee and light lunches. Afternoon refreshments from 3.15pm.

Playground Update - many thanks to a resident who helped to write our recent 'What's happening' letter and many, many thanks to all those who responded generously to the request for financial contributions. Please continue to spread the word and to support planned fund raising activities. It is hoped that the Contractors will be on site in November.

Wednesday 2nd and Saturday 5th 9.30am **Tretawdy Nature Reserve** volunteer work parties.

Llangrove and District Gardening Society meetings are held at Llangrove Village Hall, doors open at 7.00pm Admission for non-members £5. Contact: llangrovegardeningociety@outlook.com

Thursday 3rd After Show Social Evening and a conversation about '**Pon Growing**'. A social evening celebrating our annual show and a member shares her experience of growing the Pon way. Free admission for all.

Thursday 1st October **Universal Ways to Grow Veg** by Sue Mabblerley of Nant-y-Bedd garden.

Monday 7th at 7.30pm **Village Singers** begin their new term learning new music ready for December! New members always welcome, no auditions come and give it a try.

Thursday 24th '**Space Through the Lens**' 7.00pm at the Garron Centre, and Saturday 3rd October **Apple Juicing Day** 1.00pm organised by ACEG More details page 23.

JOAN ANNE DAVIES

The family of **JOAN ANNE DAVIES**, formerly Gundy, have asked us to convey the following news.

Joan passed away peacefully at Hereford County Hospital on Saturday 23rd May 2026.

Known fondly as 'JOAN TUMMEY' throughout her whole life. (She was also the last to be born as Tummeys). Joan was born, raised and a resident of Llangarron for many years.

Joan leaves her husband Colin, son David, granddaughters Leanne and Sofi, four Great Grandchildren and a Great-great Granddaughter.



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Autumn Highlights



September

Thu 3rd - Girl From the North Country

Fri 11th - Masters of Deception

Sat 12th - Jules Hudson: Wild at Heart

Fri 18th - David Olusoga: The Global History of the British Cup of Tea

Tue 22nd - NT Live: The Misanthrope

Sat 26th - The Night Sky Show Vol. 2

October

Thu 1st - Emma Kenny's Murderous Minds

Fri 2nd - James B. Partridge: Primary School Bangers

Sat 10th - The Big Pants Party

Tue 13th - Buffy Revamped

Fri 16th & Sat 17th - Quentin Crisp: Naked Hope

Sun 25th - M.R. James: A Warning to the Curious

Tue 27th - Spooks in Space

Fri 30th - Doris (The Girl Next Door?)

Sat 31st - Body 115



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Young adult's journeys to faith in the Church of England

Young adults are coming to faith in a range of different ways, some very different from previous generations, according to a new report. New research commissioned by the Church of England uncovers how growing spiritual curiosity among young adults has led to a range of unexpected routes by which they are discovering Christian faith and finding community in Church of England churches.

'Understanding Young Adult Journeys to Faith in the Church of England' draws on in-depth interviews with 30 young adults aged 18 to 30 who began attending Church of England churches for the first time within the five years following the Covid-19 pandemic. Conducted by Theos think tank, recently published, the research explores how Generation Z is engaging with Christianity in new ways amongst a changing cultural context.

The report identifies several recurring themes in their paths to interaction with faith and the Church of England. Social media often served as an initial point of contact, introducing young adults to Christian ideas through podcasts, testimonies, debates, influencers and online content. For many, this led to deeper exploration through reading the Bible, engaging with theology and asking wider questions about meaning, purpose and truth, often before attending church for the first time.

Personal relationships were consistently found to play a significant role, with encouragement, invitations or stories from teachers, chaplains, friends, partners, clergy and church members often helping young people move from curiosity to attending church. Community and a sense of belonging also emerged as a common experience of church, with many participants citing this as one of the reasons they continued attending and became more involved.

Cont'd...

Young people interviewed as part of the research were drawn to a wide range of Anglican traditions, including cathedrals, Anglo-Catholic and contemporary evangelical churches.

Across traditions, they reported being engaged by the "authenticity" and "seriousness" of worship, and valuing "confidence, consistency and depth" in the churches they had chosen to attend.

A recent debate at the General Synod highlighted the 'enormous challenges' facing looked after children and those leaving care. Church of England dioceses have been urged to examine how they might do more to help children in the care system. Members voted unanimously to back the appointment of a lead bishop to advocate for the more than 80,000 looked after children in England, care leavers and carers. Dioceses were encouraged to examine how they might provide support to looked after children.

Back to School - facing that first Day

No matter how old we are, you remember your first day at school, being left at the door and meeting classmates. As well as trepidation there was excitement, a first step along the road of life, new friends to make, teachers who become important in our lives. Quite something to handle when you're rising five!

This month it's exactly what children across the country are going to experience. Parents may have prepared them for it, and they may in a slightly apprehensive way be looking forward to it, but it's still a massive step into the unknown. For parents there is the anxiety of leaving their child, proudly resplendent in their new school uniform not knowing how they will cope on day one. At the end of their first day they come running out, laughing and excited, clutching a piece of paper with a drawing on it, the evidence of their first day's education.

Of course, we'll be praying for them, and hoping eventually they decide that their schooldays were among the best of their lives.







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Sunday September 6th at 7.30pm

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Friday September 11th at 7.30pm

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Saturday September 12th at 2pm

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Thurs 17th & Fri 18th Sept at 7.30pm, Sat 19th at 2.30pm

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Wednesday 23rd September at 7.30pm

BRIAN BILSTON: How to Lay an Egg with a Horse Inside

Friday 25th September at 7.30pm

DOM JOLY: Trigger Happy TV's 25th Anniversary Tour

Wednesday 30th September at 7.30pm

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Sunday September 20th at 4.30pm

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Thurs 24th Sept

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Amazing photography from Keith Maslin, dark skies advocate and astro-photographer. Come and enjoy some celestial beauty.

Sat 3rd Oct 1pm -4pm

Llangrove Village Hall

Annual Apple Juicing. Save your apples and containers and join the stickiest fun.

Email: archenfieldceg@gmail.com or check Facebook and notice boards for details

An Auction of Promises

Saturday 3rd October 7.30pm

@ Garron Centre Llangarron

£10 per ticket including dessert

Unique experiences and gifts available to the highest bidder!

A full list of items will be available on Llangarron Life and published in the Newsletter a few weeks prior to the event.

Contact Katy Andrews for tickets mkchandrewsuk@gmail.com

or to pledge a promise!



Local History Talk

With Caroline Meller

'Grave Concerns'

Wednesday 21st October

7.00pm @ Garron Centre

Discover the lives of those buried in local churchyards and burial traditions

Admission by donation for St Deinst fabric fund



PARISH EVENTS AT A GLANCE



September

Every Tuesday Sticky Little Fingers St Dubricius Whitchurch 9.30 - 11.00

Every Thursday Knit & Natter St Dubricius Whitchurch 14.00 - 16.00

Every Friday *New* Little Explorers Llangrove Village Hall 9.00 - 11.00

Warm Welcome Llangrove Village Hall 11.00

2nd 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

3rd Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00

LDGS After Show Social Llangrove Village Hall 19.30

4th Quiz Night St James' Community Hall 19.30

5th Tretawdy Nature Reserve volunteer session 9.30

Wydean Embroiderers St James' Community Hall 10.00 - 14.30

Annual Duck Race Kerne Bridge 17.00

5th -13th hArt @ The Garron Centre 11.00 - 17.00

7th 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 - 15.00

Village Singers New Term Begins Llangrove Village Hall 19.30

8th Sticky Little Fingers St Dubricius Whitchurch 9.30 - 11.00 (then weekly)

9th Coffee Morning Llangrove Village Hall 10.30

12th Café Bishopswood at Village Hall 10.00 - 12.00

ACEG Repair Café Llangrove Village Hall 14.00 - 16.00

14th Wyesham Together Tea and Toast Kymin View School 9.00 -10.00

Community Lunch St Dubricius Whitchurch 12.00

Ladies Prayer Group Wyesham Christian Fellowship 14.00 - 15.00

WI St James' Community Hall Wyesham 19.00

16th Community Coffee Morning St Dubricius Whitchurch 10.30 - 12.00

Marstow Makers Craft Evening St Matthews West End Marstow 19.00

Bingo St James' Community Hall 19.00

19th Community Coffee Morning Garron Centre 10.00 - 12.00

20th Community Lunch Bishopswood Village Hall 12.30

21st Ladies Prayer Group Wyesham Christian Fellowship 14.00 - 15.00

Craft Group St James' Community Hall Wyesham 18.30

24th Flicks in the Sticks 'Song Sung Blue' Goodrich Village Hall 19.00

AECG 'Space Through Lens' Garron Centre 19.30

26th Coffee Morning St James' Church 10.00 - 12.00

28th Community Lunch St Dubricius Whitchurch 12.00

Llangarron Patronal Festival Sunday 20th September at 6.00pm

With Guest Speaker Rev'd Michael Tavinor

Rev'd Tavinor retired in 2021 as Dean of Hereford Cathedral. He has written a number of historical interest books including 'Saints and Sinners of the Marches' and a pilgrims guide to Tewkesbury.

St. Deinst was a Celtic saint about whom very little is known, and died in 584. Tradition suggests he founded the church in Llangarron. Some think Deinst is Deiniol an abbot-bishop of the 6th Century, to whom the mediaeval Bangor Cathedral was dedicated but he is known to have died in 572. Deinst (or Deiniol) would have lived at the same time as Saint David, and Deiniol was buried on Bardsey Island.

October's Harvest Festival and Supper Dates

Sunday 4th Llangrove 6.00pm Bring and Share tea at 5.00pm

Sunday 11th Bishopswood 3.00pm

Friday 23rd Llangarron 6.00pm followed by Harvest Supper

Sunday 25th Dixton 9.30am followed by coffee and cake

