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Tardebigge and Bentley Parish Magazine



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September 2018 - £1



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Services at Tardebigge and Lower Bentley

Sunday 2nd September (Trinity 14)

9.30am **Café Church** in the *Church Hall*
(breakfasts from 9.00am)
11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer
6.00pm Traditional Holy Communion

Sunday 9th September (Trinity 15)

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Traditional Holy Communion at *St. Mary's*
11.00am **Family Service**
6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 16th September (Trinity 16)

11.00am Holy Communion and **Sunday Sunday**
6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 23rd September (Trinity 17)

8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am **Worship For ALL**
11.00am Traditional Holy Communion
6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 30th September (Trinity 18)

9.30am **Worship For ALL**
11.00am Traditional Holy Communion
6.00pm 'Songs of Praise' at *Tardebigge*

Sunday 7th October (Trinity 19)

9.30am **Café Church** in the *Church Hall*
(breakfasts from 9.00am)
11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer
6.00pm Traditional Holy Communion

September



From Richard, the Team Rector

Kid: I think it's a bit too big mom
Mom: don't worry you'll grow into it



I don't know what you would associate September with; for many of us, one way another, the term "Back to School" features significantly. I expect that many of us have memories of going to school in bright new uniform (or a hand me down from a brother or sister) too big for us that we would "grow into". Many times, I faced inspections of my shoes while my mother decided how long it would be before I had grown out of them; and then there was the haircut, as I was mown down to a stubble in the hope that it would last until half term, or even Christmas!

At one point I went to a school that called this next term the "Michaelmas" term. As far as I knew, Michaelmas was a kind of daisy, so you can understand my confusion. Now I know that it refers to the "Feast of St Michael and All Angels", which falls on September 29th. Typically, the feast has become embellished with medieval additions which can confuse us, but what are angels, and what does this festival mean for us today?

There are only two angels named in the Bible, the Archangel Michael (Who is Like God?) and the Angel Gabriel (God is my Strength). The role of Michael in biblical events has been expended by subsequent tradition; some writers have also given him a role in a celestial hierarchy. The protestant churches do not recognise these additions to the biblical references, however. In fact Revelation tells us that there are countless numbers of angels.

Gabriel is a messenger in Daniel chapters 8 and 9, and Luke 1. He is best known for announcing the conception and birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, to Zechariah and Mary respectively.

Michael appears first in the book of Daniel as the bringer of God's revelation to the prophet; the word angel actually means messenger. In Daniel 12:1 he is named as the protector of God's people. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16 the voice of the archangel is one of very final actions preceding the rising of the faithful departed to be with Christ for ever. In fact, Michael is the only Archangel named in the Bible, in Jude 1:9. He is described as "one of the chief princes" in Daniel; and leads the angels into battle in Revelation 12:7-8.

Michael's main role in scripture was as the one who had the greatest authority outside of God the Holy Trinity in the victorious fight against evil. In Revelation 12:7 Michael fights against "that ancient serpent the devil", with the result that the devil is permanently evicted from heaven. During the evangelisation of the nation following the collapse of the Roman Empire,

churches, chapels or oratories established on former pagan sites were sometimes dedicated to St Michael as a deliberate statement declaring the downfall of a pagan deity, which the New Testament understands as the worship of demons (1 Corinthians 10:20); demons are “fallen angels”, that is, those who chose to follow the devil in rebellion against God. Though they have been defeated, cast out of heaven and also shut out of hell, because Jesus now holds the keys to death and hell, and there are twice as many holy angels than the bad sort, they do operate on earth and cause a lot of damage. This usually happens, undetected, under the surface of human affairs.



Angels are best thought of as those sent by God to look after those who have welcomed Jesus into their hearts and lives (Hebrews 1:14). They don't usually have wings, and often appear in human form. Some people have encountered or even given hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:2). While angels are perfect, sinless beings, they do not possess the same knowledge and understanding as God but worship him constantly while also being sent by God to do His bidding. This means that, for example, when we pray in the Lord's Prayer “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven”, God may respond by sending angels to carry out His will and build or extend His kingdom rule in the locality where the prayer was spoken. No wonder thousands of people in the UK pray the Lord's Prayer every day!

Today, therefore, let us be reassured that we are not alone. If we have put our trust in Jesus, there are angels looking after us.

Richard

St. Bartholomew, Tardebigge and St. Mary, Lower Bentley

Harvest Lunch

Sunday 14 October

Tardebigge Church Hall at 1pm

Adults £12 per person (including wine)

Children aged 12 and under £5 each

Family Ticket (2 adults and 2 children) £25

Tickets available from the Churchwardens

Dean Hall 07985 165168 or Chris Milton 07825 749467

Wardens' World

September 2018



It's hard to believe that we nearly into the last quarter of 2018 – where has the time gone? Summer holidays have come and gone and we are already looking towards the Harvest lunch in October. The end of holidays also spells the start of a new academic school and we welcome the new reception class at Tardebigge First School.

Chris was encouraged on holiday by a sign which seemed to indicate that the path to the Holy Spirit is close at hand, as indeed it is. John's gospel (John 14:15-17) reminds us that Jesus said "If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you

for ever – the Spirit of truth." As there is less than 2km between our churches and many of our parishioners' homes, maybe now would be a great time to consider inviting a friend or neighbour to take the path to see us one Sunday?

Talking of the passage of time, it is hard to believe that we have been your churchwardens for nearly four years now. At our next AGM in April 2019 we will have served four and a half years of our six year term and for the church to grow and thrive we need to look to the future. Are you interested in joining our Parochial Church Council (PCC) and help to shape the future of our churches? If so please contact us. There are lots of ways in which council members can become involved and without new people joining us we become less effective in our mission: "To offer a wide variety of modern and traditional worship and to reach everyone with the good news of Jesus Christ".

We are well into process of making improvements at St Bartholomew's. The sound system is being upgraded and a replacement chancel carpet has been purchased. We have also been displaying a number of options in church for handrails to provide assistance using the chancel steps when needed. We hope you have seen these and voted for your preference.

The bad news over the summer was the theft of two windows at St Mary's. Fortunately the thieves were disturbed which limited their "haul" to the two windows



and the princely sum of £2 worth of lead! We have reported the matter to our insurers and are getting quotes for the replacement works. We will keep you updated with progress as we make it but hope to have St Mary's re-glazed in due course. Thanks to Sarah Carless for all her help with emergency glazing and being first on the scene.

St. Mary's pictured with two missing window panes prior to boarding up

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you (and your invited friends?) and hearing from you in the coming weeks.

Chris and Dean



Listening Service

for those affected by sexual abuse

You can expect a Listener to:

- Listen to you sensitively, help you share your experience and take what you say seriously
- Guide you to find further help, for example, if you feel you need professional counselling
- Inform you about how to raise concerns about the abuse, if you choose to do so
- Maintain confidentiality except, of course, where this is restricted by the requirements of the law

I will listen - you will be heard

What is meant by 'confidentiality'?

- Confidentiality and secrecy do not mean the same thing
- Confidentiality is of the highest importance but it cannot be absolute in every circumstance
- Some agreed factual information that the meeting has occurred will be recorded and held securely and confidentially
- Any revelation that raises the concern of the listener, that the person being listened to has abused or is a potential abuser, must be referred to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser in line with national policy and our legal obligations

Listening Service

For further information on our Listening Service please contact Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Hilary Highton
T: 07495 060869 E: hhighton@cofe-worcester.org.uk
www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

Complaints: www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/diocesancompendium/safeguarding/complaints-whistleblowers/



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and Toddlers



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www.stphilipswebheath.org.uk

Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: trhredditch@gmail.com

Café Church – 1st Sunday of the month
In the Church Hall



Family Friendly Worship in a Café Style
Breakfast is served from **9am**
Worship from **9.30am**
There is **no charge** for refreshments.

Annual Magazine subscriptions

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For enquiries contact Dean or Jane Hall
(contact details inside back cover)

*Thank you for supporting
St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's Churches*

October Magazine

Please send your articles and items to our central email address:
contact@tardebidgechurch.org.uk by **MONDAY 17th September**

The Evergreens

Evergreens is a group that meets in the afternoon several times a year and is open to all people, though it tends to be those who are retired who come along.

If you need further information please ring either
Vivien Mackenzie (0121 445 1245) or Mary Watkins (0121 445 3075).

Our traditional annual summer outing to a garden centre for Afternoon Tea took place on Monday 23rd July, when fourteen of us met at Little Heath Garden Centre at Lickey End.

The weather was perfect – too hot to sit outside – as we tucked in to sandwiches and cakes, including scones with jam and clotted cream and, of course, rank lots of tea. A relaxed occasion where everyone had a chance to chat.

Our next meeting will be in the Church Hall on Monday 29th October at 3.00pm, which is during half-term week, so that we do not have to displace Fun Zone and the time has changed so that we will leave before it is dark.

The final meeting of the year will be the Christmas Lunch on Saturday 8th December, also in the Church Hall. Further details in future Magazines.

Meanwhile, if you know of anyone who might be interested in Evergreens, please encourage them to join us.

Vivien Mackenzie (0121 445 1245 or vivienmackenzie@aol.com) or Mary Watkins (0121 445 3075).

Verse for the Month

Love must be sincere.
Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

Romans 12: 9

September 1974

Vicar: Rev. D J Copley, M.A.

PCC Secretary: Mr H G Kidwell

Reader: Mr Peter Frowley

PCC Treasurer: Mr E V Sadler

Church Wardens: Mr W P Beck & Mr F H Gateley

Magazine Treasurer: Mrs J R Hutchings

Organist: Mrs M Goulbourne

* * *

CALEypso Rhythm

The Parish of Tardebigge whose centre is its church,
Upon whose roof, a spire does perch,
Set in surroundings rural, that's singular, not plural,
Every year they have an event
Held only in August (never in Lent),
This is a Party, and usually well supported,
We've had three or four hundred come, as has been reported.
Last year they came, but we had some rain,
But this year no doubt, the same people will come again.
The party usually starts at two thirty, when the workers are ready to go,
Displays, competitions and many stalls,
Games, Tug-of-War and free for alls,
Flower display, and home baked cake,
All to the success, of the garden party to make,
Lots of things to interest all, well organised to keep everyone on the ball,
And this year we have a new event weather permitting, a balloon ascent,
Photographs too, of all the events,
Should it rain, well take to the tents,
My part in all this is really quite small,
I'm running a competition, the 'Guess the Weight' stall.
Its your money we want, but that's not all,
The Church is open too, for those who wish to call,
To sit in meditation, to say a quiet prayer,
Knowing you do not sit alone in His house, He is always there.
We hope the weather will be kind to us, but if not we will not bicker,
I've prayed for sunshine, I'm not alone, so has David Copley (the vicar).
So come ye lucky people and join in all the fun,
Get in the games and go on the stalls, have a cuppa tea and a bun,
But most of all be jolly,
And bring plenty of lovely lolly.

J F Cale

The Spring Greens

The Spring Greens is our ladies' group for women of all ages with a young outlook. We usually meet in the Church Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 7.45pm. For more details please contact Jane Hall (07980 358252); or Email janeehall73@gmail.com



New members always welcome!

We didn't meet in July, but instead we had a meeting 2nd August. Eight of us went to 'The Red Lion' in Alvechurch, and enjoyed a lovely meal and good company!

Jane Hall

The Oakville Singers



On Sunday 15th July, St Bartholomew's Church welcomed the 'Oakville Singers' choir, of which Rev. Allison Davies is a member. They led a Choral Evensong, which was preceded by a concert of sacred and choral works.

Val Richardson, Vivien and Graham Mackenzie provided the choir with hospitality in the Church Hall.



Celestial Corner

Here we are again in September, the month of the autumn equinox. The nights are drawing in, holiays are over and the TV adverts will soon be ramming Christmas down our throats, if they haven't started already!

You will have to look towards the sunset soon after the sun has disappeared if you want to stand a chance of seeing Venus. The planet is rapidly catching us up on its orbit around the sun and will soon overtake us, pass between us and the sun and become a morning object. Jupiter is now getting low in the evening sky and close to the sun, but for a different reason than Venus. In Jupiters case we are leaving it behind and the planet will disappear *behind* the sun until it too reappears as a morning object. Two other planets are visible in the south, either side of the constellation of Sagittarius. Saturn to the right and the brighter Mars to the left. Mars is close to us at present and its red colour is easy to see.

As we look at Sagittarius we are looking towards the centre of our galaxy, the Milky Way. So the Milky Way is at its richest here, not only in stars but also in nebulae and star clusters. So what are 'star clusters'? There are two types, Globular and open. A globular cluster is when the stars are packed so close together in the sky that very few of the individual stars can be seen except with large telescopes, and even they cannot separate all the stars in some clusters. The best example of a globular cluster is M13 in Hercules, the easiest to find with 10 x 50 binoculars. Most of the clusters towards the centre of the galaxy are of the open type. These clusters do not have the tight packed nucleus of the globulars. The most famous of the open type is M45 in Taurus, the bull, commonly known as the 'Seven Sisters'. A person with good eyesight should be able to see seven stars on a clear night, 10 x 50s will show a lot more.

Nebulae are a different kind of object. There are gas clouds and again there are two types. The first is a stellar birth place where gravitational forces are pulling the gas into small areas within the nebula until, under immense pressure, the hydrogen gas begins to burn and a new star is born. An example of this is M42 in Orion's sword, the fuzzy patch below his belt. The second type of nebula is at the other end of a stellar life and is the result of the sudden and catastrophic death of a massive star which explodes as a super nova.

Nova means 'new' and a Nova is a star that is normally unseen which suddenly brightens and appears as a new star before fading again. A super nova, as you may imagine, is a different kettle of fish and ends up as an expanding gas cloud. M1, the Crab Nebular, is the remnants of a star seen to explode by the Chinese in 1054 and lies in the constellation of Taurus. The majority of stars do not explode so violently but simply throw their gas out into space in the form of a 'Ring' nebular leaving a faint white dwarf star in its centre. M57 in Lyra is an example. The map is for 8pm on 14th September.

Life's Opportunities

**Life is full of opportunities,
Of challenges, of chances,
Of time to walk beneath tall trees
Through which the sunlight dances.**

**Life is full of problems,
Of despair, of days of pain,
When everything seems hopeless
When we think we'll never smile again.**

**Yet every day is different
If of life we take firm hold,
We can store up treasured memories
For our time of growing old.**

**Life is what we make it,
The good times and the bad,
Balance out each other throughout life,
The happy times, the sad.**

**It is said we reap what we have sown,
Therefore in our growing old
The stories of the life we've lived
Will, in retrospect, be told.**



L M Wadlow

St. Bartholomew's Big Autumn Clean!

Saturday 29th September 9.30am

It's quite a while since we had an Autumn clean at Tardebigge, so do come along. Yes, elbow grease is involved, but it is also fun!

It's a chance to meet up with friends or make new ones whilst freshening up the Church – a genuine social occasion whilst working.

So please come armed with your Marigolds and cleaning equipment. This is definitely not a ladies only event.

Copious amounts of tea, coffee and cake will be available to keep the energy levels up, so.....



A busy, but fun and rewarding morning!

Further details from Vivien Mackenzie (0121 445 1245; vivienmackenzie@aol.com),
Mary Watkins (0121 445 3075; chris.wisceys@googlemail.com)
or Lucy Parkes (01527 871132; ljparkes@btinternet.com).

Looking forward to seeing you on 29th September!

Sidesmens' Rota

September 2	11.00am	E Price and P Hopkins
	6.00pm	P Hopkins
September 9	8.00am	D Hall
	11.00am	J Oldaker and L Parkes
	6.00pm	M Price
September 16	11.00am	G Price and V Mackenzie
	6.00pm	P Hopkins
September 23	8.00am	G R Underhill
	11.00am	D Stubbings and P Hopkins
	6.00pm	T Powell
September 30	11.00am	V Richardson and P Hopkins
	6.00pm	P Hopkins

Flowers

Fiona Boyles
Pam Gateley
Norita Young
Lucy Parkes
Jean Honeybourne



★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

2nd September

Sally Oldaker

24th September

Wendy Taylor



3rd September

Mary and Brian Foster

30th September

Sue and Richard Clark



News from School

At the end of the summer term we said farewell to Sue Atkinson, our school secretary and music co-ordinator. School expressed its appreciation in the newsletter, wishing Mrs Atkinson all the best in her retirement, and thanked her for her dedication over the twenty three years of service. She was especially thanked for her contribution to the music and singing at Tardebigge, noting that during the last ten years, hundreds of children have been part of her choir who have delighted us with their singing.

A surprise tea party was held in Sue Atkinson's honour in the Community Hall during the last week of term; it was an open invitation to all, and it was good to see so many people there, including members of the church congregation.

We also held our traditional leavers' assembly commemorating our Year 4 pupils as they reflected on their time spent at Tardebigge First School. Their achievements were also celebrated and they now look forward to continuing their education in pastures new. We wish them every success.

September is the start of a new academic year, with new pupils starting in our Reception class. We all look forward to the exciting challenges ahead for all our pupils and staff.



All set for the surprise tea party with bunting made by pupils

Jane Hall

Contact details:

Telephone: 01527 872886

Email: office@tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Julie Cutler



'Songs of Praise'

St Mary's Church, Lower Bentley, July 22nd 2018

Roger has been organising Songs of Praise for over ten years now but because of its format, his interest and contributions from members of the congregation, these gatherings are always fresh and vibrant. We were fortunate to have with us Dudley, providing the accompaniment and members of the Tardebigge Church choir to lead the singing. Everyone in St Mary's on this evening seemed to share a desire to sing for the sheer joy of it. Perhaps some of our voices "creaked" at times but this made little difference – everyone contributed heartily - so much so that we could easily be heard in the lane outside, as witnesses to the Christian message.

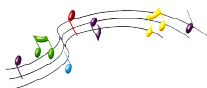
Introductions to the hymns, given by members of the congregation, sometimes drew attention to their significance in a particular life but others highlighted a hymn's history and vision. We sang, for example, the pensive "Thy way, not mine, O Lord", associated in one person's mind with fond memories of school assemblies. Other (perhaps rather noisier) hymns such as Charles Wesley's "And can it be that I should gain" were reminders of the extreme enthusiasm and productivity of 18th and 19th century hymn writers. It was fascinating also to hear that, in at least two cases, their parents also seemed to be extremely productive - though in a different way – very large families were the norm. Whether the two factors can be linked would have made an interesting topic for research! We were encouraged also to focus on the visions of this world and the next, described in verses which were always intended by their various writers to foster spirituality and help explain our place in society. Apart from expanding our understanding of a particular hymn this perhaps reminded us not to take familiar hymns for granted. We certainly sang with more thoughtful vigour afterwards.

The evening concluded with quiet, reflective prayers from Roger and a final rousing "All hail the power of Jesu's name". It was a celebratory yet simple occasion in which hearts and songs and voices blended and made us glad to have the privilege of being human. Of course, being human, things didn't always work out as planned - but we coped! Warm laughter suffused the church when there was a mismatch between the tune that the organist played and the tune which the choir were singing. We also had a slight mix-up with names which caused some embarrassment but also much amusement. The important point however is that we left uplifted which, alongside the worship of God, was surely a major aim of the evening.

You would be very welcome to join the congregation for the next Songs of Praise on September 30th at St Bartholomew's and Roger would be even more welcoming (if that were possible!) if you were to suggest hymns that you would like to sing and give reasons for your choice. mpowell@btinternet.com

Songs of Praise

Sunday September 30th



St Bartholomew's Tardebigge at 6.00pm

If you enjoy singing and have never been to a Songs of Praise before, you should definitely give it a go. We sing 10 hymns/worship songs all by request, and the most common comment is that the service is very uplifting. So if you intend coming along and would like to make a request just use any of the contact details below as soon as possible.

Hope to see you for a really good sing

Hymn Request

First line of hymn:

Why requested: (if you would like to tell us)

Name:

Contact telephone number:

Please write, email or telephone:

Roger Powell, 24 Wheelers Lane Brockhill, Redditch B97 6GT

Tel: 07971 888776

Email: rmpowell@btinternet.com



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Pips

PIPS

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Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: trhredditch@gmail.com



St Mary's Church

St Mary's is a countryside
Church located in Lower
Bentley.

St Mary's is licensed to
Publish Banns and for the

Solemnization of Marriage.

St Mary's is ideal for small, intimate weddings,
being able to accommodate up to fifty guests.

For further information contact

Jane Hall, Parish Clerk
on 07980 358252 or email:
contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk

Bentley Pauncefoot WI

Our ladies have not been idle during the Summer months. Some members have been working on Bentley's entries for the competitions at the Worcester Federation of WIs Annual Council Meeting at Malvern Three Counties Showground. As it is centenary year, the overall theme is Glamour and Glitz. Much thought has gone into interpreting aspects of the theme for a variety of classes such as painting, photography, flower arranging cookery and crafts, but at this stage we are not giving away any secrets!

Other members have been busy preparing for Bentley's annual Rag Market. The event was started in 2016 and has proved popular both with stall holders who have seized the opportunity to dispose of surplus wool, fabrics, sewing accessories and other craft materials, while others have been able to showcase their talents as makers by selling finished items such as handmade cards, bags toys etc. This year the Rag Market will be held in Droitwich at the Old Library (Ombersley Street WR9 8QS) on Saturday October 20th between 10.00 am and 12.30 pm. Entry is free and there will be delicious refreshments so do come along and join us. You never know what bargains and treasures you might find! If anyone is interested in taking a table do phone me on 01527 559207 as we may have a vacancy.

In addition, we have a full programme of visits planned, including a tour of the Tudor Merchant's House and Grammar School at King's Norton followed by afternoon tea, so we can look forward to an interesting Autumn.

Lynne Reading





WOOLS

FABRICS



RAG MARKET

Saturday 20th October 2018

10.00am -12.30pm

The Old Library, Ombersley St.

Droitwich WR9 8QS

FREE ENTRY - REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Bentley Pouncefoot WI: Further details 01527 559207

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Webheath Digital Photography Club

The Club has not been idle during this long hot summer. We had a couple of local evening photoshoots on June 18 and 15 at Tardebigge for the canal and churchyard and at Feckenham Wylde Moor, both giving us some fine sunsets. We saw some of them on July 2 at a “Show & Tell” evening.



In the week running up to Saturday July 7 Members took part in the second St Stephens Competition and Exhibition in the Kingfisher Centre. Cllr Roger Bennett awarded the prizes for prints and projected images to Club members or their representatives. This competition and exhibition is a showcase for the Club and you can still see our gallery on the wall by Wilko's. It has been pleasing for us to welcome some new Members to the Club during the summer, perhaps as a result of these shows.

The next Monday was an Assignment “Abstractor Blue”. Following the showing of the images we had a technical session experimenting with unusual set-ups. On July 16 we had our Summer projected image competition. Judge Dr Anne Sutcliffe's first choice, from 16 held back, was Graham Tozer's “Desert Dunes” while third placed “Wheels within Wheels” caught the eye from Howard Springthorpe. July 23 had Dave Maries sharing with us more of his knowledge and experience of location portraiture, for a change this summer in the open air.





The Summer Knockout competition was as brutal as usual on July 30! The scoring seemed very balanced in the first rounds which seemed strange, but satisfying. The winner was Graham Bastock's "Bumpy Road" down to Welsh beach with Paul Evans' "Tawny Owl" coming second.

"Abstract, Blue or Red" Assignment evening on August 7 brought the usual eclectic mixture of images from Members. This fine "Waterdrop" from Keith Waldron drew many comments.



September's programme starts with our Summer Prints Competition on the 3rd. The following week is a Show & Tell evening, when we can see the Members' images from recent photoshoots. On September 13 some members will want to go with the U3A DP Group to Gloucester to see if they can have better weather than last year! On September 17 we have an assignment "Townscapes or Green". Some Members have already submitted their prints for the photographic competition at Brailes on 22nd and the following Monday we have a Treasure Hunt, always with inventive clues producing imaginative responses.

Our Club website is webheathdpc.com where you can find details, such as how to contact us, our 2018 programme and more. We also show a selection of images by our Members in the Gallery. The Village Hall, Webheath, is our usual venue on Mondays at 7:30. During the summer we may be out on photoshoots however, the dates for which can be seen in our programme page. Anyone with an interest in digital photography, whether the owner of a compact camera or the latest DSLR, is very welcome to come along to our regular meetings. Our range of external speakers is chosen to reflect both the technical and artistic aspects of photography. You can also find us on Facebook. And don't forget our gallery on the wall by Wilko's.

Parish Registers

July/August 2018

Baptisms



Sunday 1st July

Oscar Frank MARTIN
Jack Nelson MARTIN
Poppy Joyce MARTIN

Sunday 8th July

Harper Iris OWEN

Sunday 22nd July

Bella Nancy WHEELER

Sunday 5th August

Xanthe Ahine IZIREIN

Sunday 26th August

Connie-Rae Maeve TAYLOR

Weddings

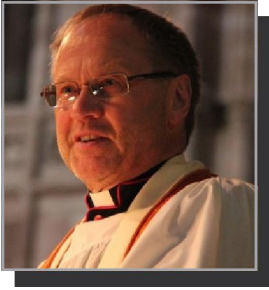


Saturday 11th August

Richard Anthony RYAN and Rebecca Jayne BRANDON

Friday 31st August

Timothy John BOFFEY and Carol Anne Mary CROSSAN



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Letter from the Archdeacon of Dudley The Venerable Robert Jones

On the news the other day they reported a study which showed that most people check their mobile phone every twelve minutes, with many looking at messages within five minutes of waking up. I remember seeing a cartoon of a family sitting at their meal, all reading their phones or tablets, and the caption read: 'At breakfast the family was best left to their own devices.' Given how much we now depend on them to talk to people, I do wonder why we never used to see long queues outside telephone boxes. (You might have to explain to your children what a telephone box is!).

Undoubtedly, the internet has opened up new possibilities of communication, but like any new invention we need to develop a way of using it ethically and well.

It is ever so easy to press the button to see who wants to get in touch, and it is rather nice to know. It's important to develop good practice so that we learn how to get the best out of the technology without it taking us over. Some words from Pope Francis' encyclical; 'Rejoice and be glad' grabbed my attention: 'The presence of constantly new gadgets, the excitement of travel and an endless array of consumer goods at times leave no room for God's voice to be heard. We are overwhelmed by words, by superficial pleasures and by an increasing din, filled not by joy, but rather by the discontent of those whose lives have lost meaning. How can we fail to realise the need to stop this rat race and to recover the personal space needed to carry on a heartfelt dialogue with God?'

Recovering personal space seems a pretty good idea to me, allowing space for God and for our flourishing. That's a lesson I often still need to learn myself!

There is a strand in the Bible which suggests that wisdom waits. Yet technology creates an expectation of immediacy. Do you remember the email which you sent spontaneously, and afterwards wished you hadn't? Personal space leads to reflective space, and I can't help thinking we need more reflecting and less reacting.

When I've finished writing this, I will email it as an attachment and magazine editors will receive it on a website. That's the wonderful thing about technology. Then I'll go and make myself a cup of coffee and instead of picking up my phone I might just go out into the garden for a few minutes, bathed as it is in beautiful sunshine. Or there again, has someone just messaged me? Shall I take a quick look?

Robert Jones

Sudoku

	4			1				9
	7			6		1		
1	6	3	9					8
	3					2		
	5		7		2		1	
		6					3	
6					5	8	9	2
		5		2			6	
9				8			4	

Solution next month

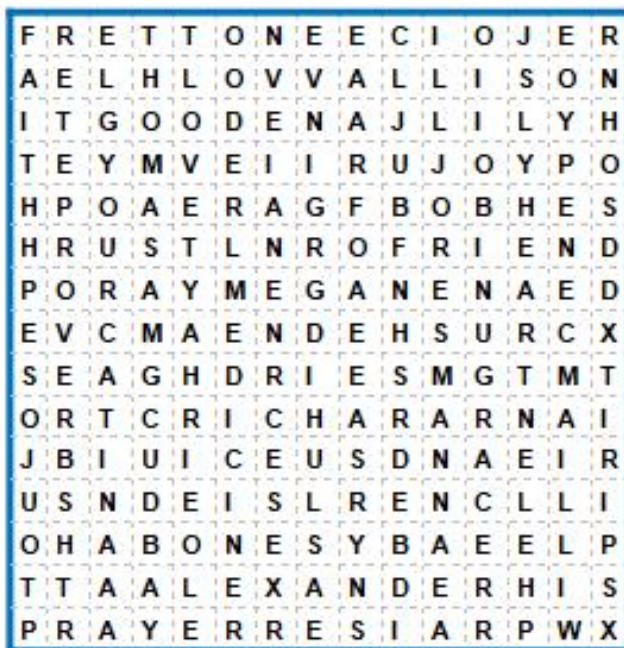
6	9	5	4	7	3	2	1	8
7	3	4	8	2	1	5	6	9
2	8	1	6	9	5	7	3	4
8	1	2	5	3	9	4	7	6
4	6	7	2	1	8	9	5	3
3	5	9	7	6	4	8	2	1
1	7	3	9	4	2	6	8	5
9	2	8	1	5	6	3	4	7
5	4	6	3	8	7	1	9	2

Last month's solution

Word Search

'A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones'

Proverbs 17: 22



CHEERFUL

MEDICINE

DRIES

HEART

CRUSHED

BONES

GOOD

SPIRIT

PROVERBS

Words to be found may be forward, backward, vertical or diagonal within the puzzle

J.E.H.



Registered charity no. 1012868

www.cherishfund.org.uk

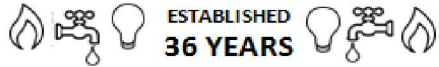
The Cherish Fund is a UK based charity which has the provision of education for African children and young people as its primary objective.

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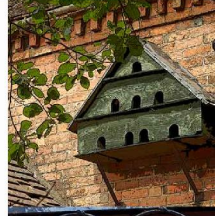
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The Vicarage, Webheath, Redditch B97 5PD
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Rev. Allison Davies (Assistant Curate) (01527 60892)

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