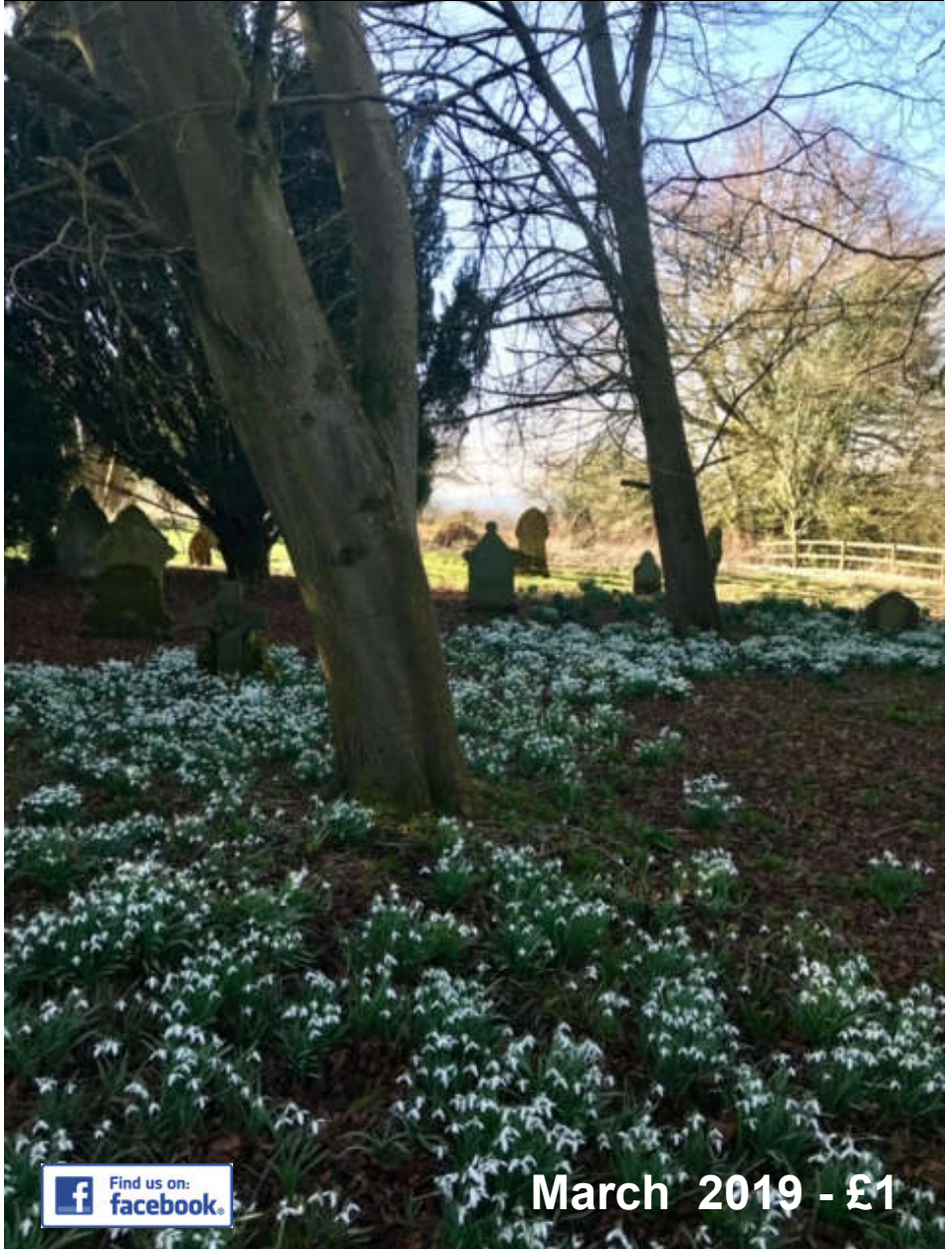


www.tardebiggechurch.org.uk ✉ Email: contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk ✉ 'Snowdrops in the churchyard' - February 2019

Tardebigge and Bentley Parish Magazine



March 2019 - £1



Grosvenor House is a detached Victorian property, nestled between the peaceful villages of Alvechurch and Barnt Green, and is home to 25 residents.

Grosvenor House

Spring View Care

A high quality local nursing home

At Grosvenor House, we provide small homely environments where our residents are at the heart of everything we do. It is our aspiration to provide nursing homes where we ourselves would be happy to stay.



Spring View Care is proud to announce that Grosvenor House has been listed as one of the top 20 care homes in the West Midlands in 2015 and 2016

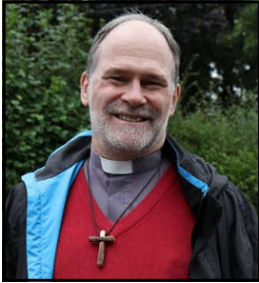


Grosvenor House: Aqueduct Lane, Coopers Hill, Alvechurch B48 7BS **Tel: 0121 447 7878**
Website: www.springviewcare.co.uk Email: mercy@springviewcare.co.uk

March



From Richard, the Team Rector



It is so tempting to assume that the rest of the world is like us, thinks like us, and behaves like us; we also have a habit in the West of assuming that we lead the way in the world. Neither, however is the case. Take Christianity for example: the small but militant and influential humanist and atheist lobbies can feed us a very false impression of the Church as being small, elderly, declining, abusive and corrupt.

Of course, the Church will have rotten apples in the barrel, after all, there are two billion Christians across the world, and no one is perfect except Jesus Christ. Jesus' life, teaching, death and resurrection are in no way disqualified by the disappointing behaviour of his followers. As Christ himself observed, "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak". The bad behaviour of the few does not disqualify the righteous acts of the many, just because faithful, devoted followers of Jesus rarely make headline in our secularised western press.

This is partly because most of the Church do not live in the West. Even the Anglican Communion, of which the Church of England is a small part, is dominated by people from outside of the Europe and North America; there are 85 million Anglicans, but less than three million of them live in the UK, Ireland, the continent of Europe, Canada or the United States.

Outreach is taking place across the globe in which the West is uninvolved. For example, Premier Radio reported recently: "The conversion of Chinese workers in African countries to Christianity is being attributed to African evangelical churches". Christopher Rhodes, a lecturer at Boston University's College of General Studies writes: 'Many local African churches have reached out to Chinese workers, including incorporating Mandarin into services. A number of Chinese, in turn, have welcomed the sense of community and belonging that these Christian churches offer.'

There are an estimated one million Chinese citizens living and working in Africa, and roughly 10,000 Chinese-owned firms; China has become Africa's largest economic partner. Rhodes claimed the interaction between the nations was also leading to people in China becoming Christians as well.

"Many of these Chinese workers are returning home, and they're bringing their newfound

religion with them," he said. "Visitors to the coastal province of Fujian, for example, now hear South African accented English and see houses adorned with crosses. African migrants are also moving to China in larger numbers, many of them practitioners of very evangelistic forms of Pentecostal Christianity who are willing to flout the rules placed on religious activity in China."



It may be that the Church is ahead of the game; it has long been acknowledged that, very soon, Asia, will have become the key player in economics and politics around the world, moving ahead of Europe and North America. At the same time, there will soon be more Christians in China than the USA; there are reports of rapid church growth in Indonesia; after decades of no growth, the proportion of Christians in India has suddenly doubled in the past decade - the largest

church in India, Calvary temple in Hyderabad, has a weekly attendance of roughly 190,000. The centre of global Christianity is moving East, just as the sleeping giant of Asia is waking up.

But then, God is never taken by surprise.

Richard

Songs of Praise

Sunday 31st March

St. Bartholomew's, Tardebigge

6.00pm

To request your favourite hymn, please contact Roger Powell

phone 07971 888776 rmpowell@btinternet.com

HOLY HABITS

Holy Habits is an initiative to nurture Christian discipleship. It explores Luke's model of church found in **Acts 2:42-47** and identifies habits around which to form our lives. The course aims to equip and enable Christians to live out these habits in missional, whole-life discipleship.

Session	Thursdays St Philip's, Webheath 7.30pm	Fridays St Leonard's, Beoley 10.00am
Prayer	14 March	15 March
Fellowship	21 March	22 March
Sharing Resources	28 March	29 March
Serving	4 April	5 April
Making More Disciples	11 April	12 April

Lent



Wardens' World

March 2019

The General Synod's recent decision not to require priests to hold a service every Sunday in every church did hit the headlines, but the reaction in some quarters is probably a little unfair, as it simply reflects what is already happening in some areas, especially where one vicar has to cover a large number of churches. However, this decision also represents an admission that clergy numbers and church attendances are currently in decline, and with it the whole idea of the Church as a regular beacon and focus for the community, whether in urban or rural areas.



Your churchwardens, however, are far from such downbeat thoughts! We are extremely lucky in Tardebigge parish that every Sunday, we still have at least two services, and sometimes up to five! In addition, we have continuing support for the church, with new people volunteering to join the PCC this year, and a heartening number of members joining the meeting on February 18th to express their commitment to the future of the Fair and

Show. We were disappointed not to see any of our younger congregation coming to volunteer their support; we really do need a large number you to organise and do the heavy lifting if this community spirit is to survive. It's only one day in the year – surely you can help?! There will be another meeting on Wednesday 13th March, 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. Please do make every effort to come along.

With growing attendances at our family and informal services, and careful management of the financials, your wardens can also ensure that our churches continue to thrive and grow. St. Mary's in Lower Bentley is definitely worth a visit – the workmanship of the two replacement windows shows that the craftsmanship put into churches is very much not in decline, and with the new electric heaters people now take their coats off during services! The regular congregation there is very welcoming, and have had new people joining at every service so far this year – do consider joining them!



Our churches are also growing as places to visit – at this time of year the carpets of snowdrops in St. Bartholomew's churchyard bring photographers, the birdwatchers are starting to appear and baptisms, weddings and funerals bring more visitors from outside the

parish.

As we move through the year, we are now also adding to the festive calendar with Bromsgrove Festival events – put these dates in your diary now:

June 30th - 6.00pm - *'Songs of Praise' at Lower Bentley on a summer evening - come and join the congregation and Festival-goers to sing your favourite hymns*

July 7th - 4.30pm - *Organ Recital by accomplished young organist Hannah Gibson*

July 21st - 6.00pm - *A return visit by the Clent Consort to give us another full-bore Choral Evensong*

But we can't do it alone - do join in and make sure you are a part of the growing community of Tardebigge!

Chris and Dean

Services at Tardebigge and Lower Bentley March

Sunday 3rd March (Next Before Lent)

9.30am **Café Church** in the *Church Hall*
(breakfasts from 9.00am)

11.00am Traditional Morning Prayer

6.00pm Traditional Holy Communion

Sunday 10th March (Lent 1)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am **Family Service** at *St. Mary's*

11.00am **Family Service** at Tardebigge

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 17th March (Lent 2)

11.00am Holy Communion with **Sunday Funday**

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 24th March (Lent 3)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am **Worship For ALL**

11.00am Traditional Holy Communion

6.00pm Evensong

Sunday 31st March (Mothering Sunday)

9.30am **Family Service** at *St. Mary's*,

11.00am **Family Service** at Tardebigge

6.00pm *'Songs of Praise'* at Tardebigge



Bumps, Babes and Toddlers

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath



Thursday mornings 9.30am-11.30am

Suggested donation £2 per family
Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.



St Philips Bumps Babes
and Toddlers



Like Us On
Facebook

St. Philip's, Church Road, Webheath, B97 5PD
www.stphilipwebheath.org.uk

Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: rhredditch@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

£10 collected or hand delivered; £16 by post.

Payments can be made pay by cheque (*made payable to Tardebigge PCC*), cash or via BACS (*quoting MAGA & your surname as the reference please*)

(Account no: 70799599 Sort Code 40-38-07)

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

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

April Magazine

Please send your articles and items to our central email address:

contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk by FRIDAY 22nd February

2019 Annual Meetings for St. Bartholomew's and St. Mary's churches

The Annual Meetings for our Churches will take place on
Tuesday 2nd April 2019, in Tardebigge Church Hall, as follows:

7.15pm: A meeting of the parishioners for the purpose of electing Churchwardens.

This meeting may be attended by:

- All persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish and
- All persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

7.30pm: The Annual Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

At this meeting, there will be a review of the year in the parish which will include:

The election of a new Parochial Church Council (PCC), which has 12 elected members. *All nominees must be at least sixteen years of age; be actual communicants and have been on the Electoral Roll of the Parish for at least six months. (All proposers and seconders must be on the Electoral Roll of this Parish.)*

Nomination forms for the positions of Churchwarden, and PCC member are available from both churchwardens or can be found at the back of the church.

Tea, coffee and wine, with nibbles will be served

Do come along – your parish needs you!

Gladys Price

The family's tribute to Gladys, at her funeral, which detailed her long, busy and fulfilling life was printed in February's Magazine. It included her activities and interests – church, art classes, flower arranging, the WI, helping out with concert teas (for 13 years) and the Primrose Hospice, to name a few.

Several of us also belong to some of those groups and our recollections of her are the same: she was always cheerful, an enthusiastic helper and her skills – baking, art and craft work and flower arranging – were impressive. She was a reliable sidesman in church and would readily volunteer to help out and could be relied on to complete all she started. Wherever she was, her kindness, sense of humour and enthusiasm was apparent.

Vivien and Sheelagh

Celestial Corner

Well here we are again, once more looking forward to Eostar, the Vernal equinox and the days being longer than the nights, together with warmer temperatures.

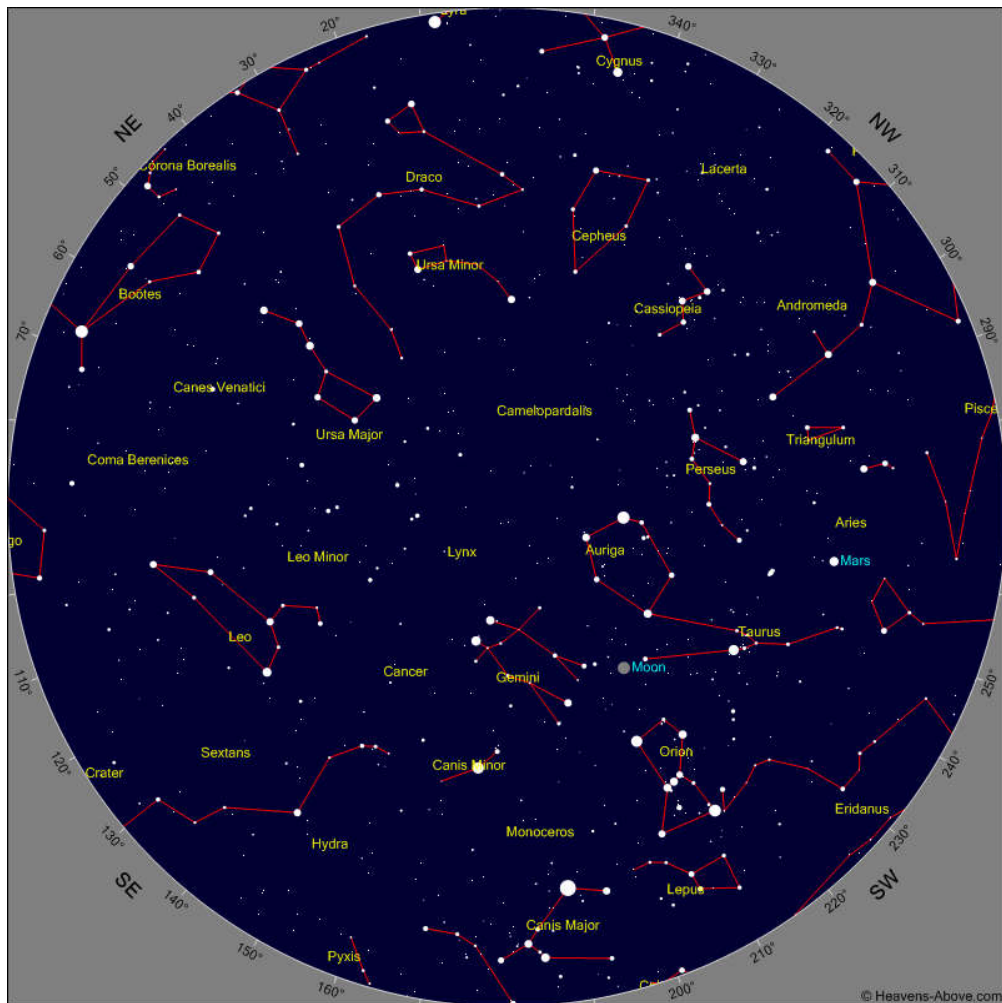
At 8pm on the 14th we still have Orion and his companions dominating the sky in the South/Southwest, which helps to make up for the fact that the evening sky has only one bright planet on show, our old friend Mars. Mars will be with us for another six weeks or so as it moves eastwards against the star background towards Taurus. However the planet is getting fainter as the earth leaves it behind on our journey around the Sun. At the moment, Jupiter does not rise until around three in the morning and Saturn even later, after four. Venus, the Morning star, is now getting close to the Sun in the sky as it leaves us behind and will soon disappear behind it to emerge as the Evening star in the autumn.

All this catching up and leaving behind may seem a little confusing, but is simple if you remember the order of the planets as they lie from the Sun, namely Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Pluto is no longer considered a true planet, due to its small size and its orbit being greatly inclined to the orbits of the others.

Mercury and Venus are referred to as the inner planets and travel faster around their orbits, hence they appear from behind the Sun in the evening sky, catch us up, overtake (pass between us and the Sun) and then appear in the morning sky and leave us behind before disappearing behind the Sun once more.

Mars, Jupiter Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are the outer planets and so travel slower than the earth around the Sun, so we catch them up, overtake and leave them behind. This means that they appear from behind the Sun in the morning sky and gradually rise earlier; until they rise before midnight. They then become evening objects until they become lost in the sunset and disappear behind the Sun. Still confused? Remember that any star rises two hours earlier each month, so the outer planets do roughly the same. I say roughly because the planets basically move against the star background from West to East, which is why, in September, Mars was in Sagittarius and now is leaving Aries and entering Taurus! Another complication is that as we catch up with the outer planets their eastward motion seems to slow down until they stop and then actually seem to be going backwards. This is most noticeable when the planet is due South at midnight and directly opposite the Sun. We say the planet is at Opposition and it is the time we overtake it. After this the apparent westward motion (known as retrograde) slows to a stop and normal motion against the star background begins once more. As we have seen, Mars scoots along from one constellation to another, while the other outer planets take a more leisurely pace. Jupiter travels so slowly that it takes almost twelve

(11.863) of our years to go around the Sun once, Saturn over twice as long at 29.447 years. So Jupiter lies in a different constellation each year, while Saturn spends two years in each. Uranus takes 84.017 years while Neptune plods along so slowly it takes 164.79 of our years to go around the Sun once! So on Uranus you may have a birthday, on Neptune you have no chance!



Back to the stars and as you can see on the map the spring constellation of Leo is rising with chief star Regulus roughly in the Southeast. The second star of the Spring triangle, Arcturus in Bootes, is rising in the Northeast, but Virgo is only just peeping over the Eastern horizon so Spica, the third Star of the triangle, has yet to put in an appearance. Between Gemini and Leo lies the small constellation of Cancer, the Crab. If you search the area with binoculars you

may find the Star cluster M44 known as “The Beehive” as the group of stars gives the impression of an old style beehive. Below Cancer lies Hydra, the watersnake, a long straggly constellation with only one star brighter than third magnitude. That is the 2nd mag star Alphad, the solitary one. Well named, as no other star in the area is readily visible. So poor Alphad really does look lonely! The other constellation in the area, Sextens, the sixteen, has no star brighter than 4th mag so need not concern us.

The map is for 8pm on the 14th of March.

R. B.

Bishop's Lent Appeal, 2019 For the Diocese of Peru



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER

Bishop John writes:

My Lent Appeal last year was for Berega Hospital in Tanzania: I would first like to thank you for your generosity in responding to that appeal. I know how much it meant to the hospital: your support made a real difference.

This year, I am making an appeal in support of the Diocese of Peru and I invite you, as individuals and parishes, to contribute. Our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese are facing great financial struggles, sometimes finding it difficult to pay even the basic stipends of their clergy, let alone support those in most need.

Bishop Jorge has an exciting vision for the diocese as he and his colleagues seek to reach out to the poorest of the poor with the good news of Jesus' love. It would be wonderful to be able to send him a substantial gift from the Diocese of Worcester to support that developing vision and, in particular, to ensure the clergy get the training and support they need to be effective in their ministry.

May God bless you richly this Lent.

To make a donation:

By Cheque: Please make your cheque payable to Worcestershire Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd, addressed to Peru Appeal, Worcester Diocesan Office, The Old Palace, Deansway, Worcester, WR1 2JE. Gift Aid forms available from diocesan office & website.

Electronically: Please go to the BT MyDonate page:

<http://mydonate.bt.com/events/peruappeal/487183>

N.B. There will also be the opportunity to give a donation to this Lent Appeal after all our church services during Lent (via a specified collection plate)

About the Diocese of Peru

From early beginnings as an expatriate church in Lima, the Iglesia Anglicana del Perú (IAP – Anglican Church of Peru) has spread since the 1970s into some of the poorest communities in the country, mainly in Lima. Work began in Arequipa, the second city, in the 1980s, and there are now four Anglican communities serving this area. Other churches exist in Juliaca (near Lake Titicaca), Jauja (Peru's first capital), Huancayo, and other Andean settlements, including La Rinconada – the world's highest permanent settlement at 5,130m.

In April 2016, Jorge Luis Aguilar Ocampo became the first Peruvian diocesan bishop, following a number of expatriate English bishops. Bishop Jorge was originally trained in the Roman Catholic Church and ordained by Pope John Paul II, but served as an Anglican priest in the IAP for many years before becoming their bishop.

He is developing a new collegial and transparent culture in the diocese, which involves both clergy and laity in decision making and building up a shared vision. One key part of this is a desire to see more and better support and training for his clergy as well as the self-sustainability that allows the diocese to guarantee their stipends.

There are four Anglican schools in the diocese, which form a key part of their mission. The diocese also has various social projects, including the Shalom centre, and prison visiting. Social action for justice and education are seen holistically as part of the IAP's mission and evangelism.



News from School

In the February edition of the magazine, we mentioned that at Tardebigge CE First School, reading is prioritised. Reading increases vocabulary, general knowledge, spelling and grammar skills and it is important that children are encouraged to read for pleasure. World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March and this year the staff have decided to have a theme for the whole school, and the children are invited to come into school dressed as a character from a nursery rhyme. We are therefore looking forward to see very imaginative Baa Baa Black Sheep; Incy Wincy Spider; Old MacDonald and Little Miss Muffet - amongst many others. (We also hope this fun day will encourage children to read and enjoy books).

Six of our science leaders have been invited to Birmingham University to work with science lecturers to learn how to set up experiments. This children will then be supporting the rest of the school in setting up experiments; this will help children develop a love of science and also make it fun.

As well as academic subjects, the school also has a focus on sport. Some of our Year 4 pupils will be participating in a local schools (from within our pyramid) Cross Country finals soon and we wish them every success.

We look forward to sharing more news in the next edition of the magazine.

J.E.H.



Contact details:

Telephone: 01527 872886

Email: office@tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.tardebigge.worcs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Julie Cutler



March 1976

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 J D H Hedley & Mr F H Gateley	
Magazine Treasurer: Mrs J Hutchings	Organist: Mrs M Goulbourne
*	*

Lent in Tardebigge

Now that since Christmas we have begun a regular Bible Study, we shall be continuing this through Lent at fortnightly intervals, and these Bible studies will form our Lent meetings. The next one is at 7.45pm on Tuesday 9th March at the Vicarage when we shall think of Christ as healer, and shall draw our references mainly from St. Mark's Gospel.

We do hope you will come and join us in these friendly meetings when we try to help one another grow a little in the faith (Further dates are yet to be arranged).

* * * * *

On Sundays in Lent we shall put a plate at the back of the Church for any donations you may be willing to make for the home and overseas mission of the Church. And will those of you who have missionary boxes be kind enough to bring them for opening to John Bache in Finstall, or to the Church or the Vicarage if that is more convenient to you?

From these Lent offerings last year and the contents of the boxes we were able to give £80, and this sum was divided between Church Army, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Church Missionary Society. We also gave £65 to Christian Aid, and £17 to the Leprosy Mission. People in Tardebigge also gave generous support, as usual, to the Church of England's Children's Society.

By the way, Dorothy Quinney the representative in Redditch for Christian Aid, sent a card to say that the total contributions in Redditch to Christian Aid in 1975 came to £1,455.31 and to thank all who contributed.

* * * * *

On Good Friday at 8pm in Tardebigge Church we are having the privilege of a visit from the Barnt Green Choral Society to sing Stainers 'Crucifixion'

Heavenly Musings

Is there a special place in Heaven
Where our pets can run and play?
Do people cry in Heaven
Or has god washed their tears away?

Are there green fields in God's Heaven
Beneath a sky of cloudless blue
Where we can meet our loved ones
And the friends on Earth we knew?

Hurt and anger hold no sway in Heaven
And pain will be no more
Forgiveness will be ours in Heaven
Bought by the nails of love Christ bore.

Death should hold no fear for us,
Although it is a step into the unknown
For the nearer to Christ's Cross we've come
The more His love for us has grown.

L M Wadlow





Welcome!

TabbyCats Pet Hotel is a licensed family run boarding establishment designed and built around the security, comfort and needs of its feline only guests . . . home from home

TabbyCats
Pet Hotel

33 Brotherton Avenue,
Webheath, Redditch, B97 5SA
Tel: 07971 633732 • Email:
tabbycatspethotel@gmail.com

Opening Hours
9.30am to 12 Noon
and
4.30pm to 5.30pm

Except
Thursday & Sunday
9.30am to 12 Noon



'Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13: v 32

Pips

at St. Philip's Church, Webheath

Stories, Songs and Games
For 3-7 year olds

Every 2nd Thursday of the month
3.45pm - 4.40pm

Starting with a drink and a biscuit!



St. Philip's, Church Road, Webheath, B97 5PD

www.stphilipswebheath.org.uk

Contact Rev. Richard Clark (07970 823462) email: trhtredditch@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

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



At our meeting 27th January, Gail kindly agreed to show us slides of her travels in Madagascar a few years ago. It was really interesting and an enjoyable evening.

New members always welcome!

Jane Hall

Take delight in the Lord,
And he will give you desires of your heart

Psalm 37: 4



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: highton@cofe-worcester.org.uk
www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

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



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).

Evergreens and their friends met up for a Coffee and Cake morning on Monday 18th February. As it was our first get-together this year, there was plenty for everyone to talk about! The coffee and home-made cake went down well. There was also a raffle and Mary, before jetting off for a warm holiday in Florida, donated some jars of Seville marmalade, all of which was sold, raising £24.

The aim of the meeting was to get people together, rather than to raise money. However, by the end of the morning there was £102.20 in the box.

A big thank you to all who helped in any way, by putting out tables and chairs, making cakes, serving and washing up and for supporting the event. Vivien

Evergreens in March

Our first afternoon meeting of 2019 will be on Monday 18th March at 4.00pm in the Church Hall, where tea, cake and fellowship will be on the menu!

Do come along if you enjoy all of the above – you can be sure of a warm welcome. If you like a lift, please contact Vivien (0121 445 1245) or Mary (0121 445 3075).

Graham Hall ~ A Courageous Life



Graham was born at Stoke Prior on 5th May 1943. He was the second of four children for Kathleen and Hereward Hall; Margaret being the eldest and twins Jill and Roland (Roly) who came along a couple of years later. The family moved to Bromsgrove before settling at Rockville, near Finstall, to raise the family in the beautiful Worcestershire countryside.

Growing up at Rockville meant being close to the railway and to the steam engines chugging up the Lickey Incline on their journey to Birmingham. This proximity sparked a love affair with railways that Graham carried throughout his life. When Roly became old enough, both boys would jump on a train or head to a railway junction armed with notebook and pencil to record their sightings.

On leaving school at 16 years old, Graham began an apprenticeship at High Duty Alloys in Redditch, cycling every day from home. Despite completing his apprenticeship, Graham knew that factory work was not his calling, so, in his early twenties he began teacher training studies at Eaton Hall College in Nottinghamshire. Whilst at Eaton Hall, Graham made many friendships - some which he kept throughout the years.

After completing his studies, Graham was successful in attaining a Craft, Design and Technology teaching role at St. Andrew's Boys School in Worthing, West Sussex. Graham remained a popular teacher where he led many school trips to London or abroad - obviously using a railway journey where he could. Graham remained a stalwart in the Design and Technology team at St. Andrew's until he retired in 2005.

Graham's love of Scotland and its scenery started when he met and visited Beth in the early 1980's. Graham would travel north by car or train for holidays with Beth and her girls, Carla and Lorna, before marrying in 1988 and settling with Beth and the girls back in Rustington, West Sussex.

Spending most of his working life in Sussex, Graham made many lifelong friends through and outside school life. During these years Graham maintained his love of steam trains by taking family and friends on a Heritage Line when and where he could, and spent many happy days exploring the beautiful Sussex Downs.

Graham pursued and maintained many interests including:

- **Postcards** - wherever Graham and Beth travelled, Graham always ensured their travel plans coincided with attending a Postcard Fair, much to the annoyance of Beth. Graham would spend many hours meticulously sifting through boxes for postcards relating to his passions: railways, Scotland and his home county of Worcestershire.
- **Gardening** - Graham kept an allotment whilst at Rustington, growing lots of vegetables and fruit to put on the table and share with friends. Graham also undertook

gardening and maintenance for an elderly friend - somehow being able to juggle his his work and interests equally.

- **Theatre** - Graham and Beth would take every opportunity to go to the theatre be it locally or in London, especially to enjoy musicals.
- **Family** - As Carla and Lorna married and started their own families, Graham and Beth (or Nonna and Grampa as they became known), were always around at holidays to help, support and - for Grampa - lead family adventures, be it in Scotland, Worcestershire or the south coast. His grandchildren, Daniel, Robin, Molly, Katie and Natalie will cherish those precious times. Graham also enjoyed spending time with his nieces and nephew, Julie, Pippa and Stephen as they grew up with many happy memories of adventures on holidays in Wales.

On retiring in 2005, Graham and Beth returned to Worcestershire and Rockville to spend their retirement years. They returned to Sussex each year - not only to get their dental check-up but more importantly to meet friends and colleagues and present the "Graham Hall Award" for Design and Technology at St. Andrew's School prize giving ceremonies.

Never one to sit still - even in retirement - Graham and Beth enjoyed several trips to Europe as well as two great holidays to Canada where they took unforgettable railway trips through the Rockies and Alaska. Nearer home, the family would head out on day trips, always ending in a visit to a tea room for a hot chocolate and cake stop.

The family have many many happy times of adventures at Rockville during school holidays where Grampa would lead the 'missions' with the grandchildren: making gang huts, giving wheelbarrow trips and building bonfires to toast marshmallows and singe eyebrows!

Despite spending nearly a decade of retirement memories with Beth at Rockville, Beth lost her fight with cancer in 2014. It was at this time that Graham's sparkle became less vibrant as he tried to cope with the loss of his love.

Nevertheless, Graham continued to have many happy times with the family, visiting Carla and family in Scotland and Lorna and family nearby in Worcestershire. Grampa was also beginning to forge new adventures and memories with his great granddaughter, Florence.

Whilst maintaining his love of railways, postcards and his garden in trying to deal with the loss of Beth, Graham sought support through a local Bereavement Group. It was through his attendance here that, more recently Graham found friendship and made some happy memories with dear friends.

Graham's death has come as a shock to us all. He was always fit and healthy, often putting his sons-in-laws to shame in the garden when hedge cutting or felling trees. Whilst it may sound silly, we really did think that he would be with us forever. "Are you ready Grampa?" the grandchildren would ask before any adventure. Grampa would always reply "I was born ready!" Thank you Graham for being part of our lives. We cherish you and are going to miss you immensely.

Bentley Pauncefoot WI

For our February Meeting we decided to draw on the talents of our members. Liz Every, Bentley's secretary, went on a special visit to Kenya in 2018 to see a women's project in action. We were keen to find out about her experiences and were not disappointed. Liz gave a fascinating, talk illustrated with videos and pictures she had taken on her travels. Although we could see the joy of life in Meru with its singing and dancing, Liz also made us aware of contemporary issues such as FGM.

Liz has kindly supplied a summary of her visit for the magazine.....

Lynne Reading

Meru Women's Garden Project Study Tour APRIL 2018

I was lucky enough to be able to gain a place on the study tour which took place from 7th to 14th April 2018. I was met at Nairobi Airport and the mini buses took us back to the hotel where we were staying for two nights, just out side of Nairobi. The Wildebeest Eco Camp proved to be an Oasis in an otherwise fairly built up area. On Sunday we had a relaxing day visiting Orphan Elephants and a Giraffe Sanctuary. We were then up early on the Monday morning to pack our luggage and ourselves back into the mini buses for the Eight Hour journey to Meru County.

We arrived in Meru County and were due to go first to the CIFORD Office. (Community Initiative For Rural Development). After our long journey we were very tired but our tiredness was soon forgotten by the amazing welcome we had at the side of the road in Muriri where the office was located. Dozens of brightly dressed ladies singing and dancing and as we got out of the buses we were greeted and had a Khanga , brightly coloured cloth, tied around our waists as a "Welcome as a Meru Woman".



The next morning we left early from the Ikweta Hotel to go to the CIFORD Centre to hear about the project. We heard the projects aims which are to Educate Women to increase their knowledge and skills. To Empower Women to find a voice within their community through education. To Enable Women leading a household to create their own employment through growing and selling their surplus crops.

We then met the girls who had been through the Alternative Rights of Passage where they



are taught about Sexual Health and the short and long term effects of FGM. At the end of the course they are awarded a bright orange t-shirt with the words "Girls need education not circumcision "

On Wednesday was our visit to the Women's Kitchen Gardens. The ladies expressed their thanks for the giant water containers which were shared in the villages. We went back to the CIFORD Centre for lunch and some of the ladies joined us there for more questions and answers all around.

On Thursday we had a day at the Meru National Park and saw much African wildlife

Friday was graduation day so we were back to the CIFORD Centre. The ladies who had finished the first year of the course were awarded their certificates.

At the end of the afternoon we then had to say our Goodbyes to all of the lovely ladies we had made such good friends with and who had made us so welcome.



I felt very privileged to have been able to witness first hand the amazing work that CIFORD are doing in Meru County under the watchful guidance of Child.org and funded by Money collected by Soroptimists International, Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Liz Every

STOP PRESS..... Bentley Pauncefoot WI Coffee Morning

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL between 10.30am - 12.00noon

At Halfway Barn, Upper Gambolds Lane, Bromsgrove, B60 3HB

All proceeds in aid of The Basement Project

Do drop in with your friends to support this worthwhile cause which helps young people, 16-25, who are homeless or have other issues.



*'Appreciate the difference of
a family owned company,
serving the community for 100 years'*

James Giles 
and Sons Ltd Est.1916

The Complete Funeral Directors


Golden
Charter
Funeral Plans

01527 872318
jamesgilesandsonsltd.co.uk



24 Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 0AE

Sidesmen Rota

3rd March

11.00am - E Price and P Hopkins
6.00pm - P Hopkins

10th March

8.00am - D Hall
11.00am - J Oldaker and L Parkes
6.00pm - M Price

17th March

11.00am - D Stubbings and V Mackenzie
6.00pm - P Hopkins

24th March

8.00am - G R Underhill
11.00am - V Richardson and P Hopkins
6.00pm - T Powell

31st March

11.00am - J Oldaker and L Parkes
6.00pm - P Hopkins



22nd March - Elizabeth Price

23rd March - Dudley Fowkes

24th March - Pat Hopkins

29th March - Jemma West

Flower Rota



3rd March

Rosemary Troth

10th March

Lent (no flowers)

17th March

Lent (no flowers)

24th March

Lent (no flowers)

31st March

Lent (no flowers)



11th March

Maureen & David Stubbings

Rotas

If you are unable to fulfil your duties, please arrange a swap

Thank you

Webheath Digital Photography Club

At our first meeting after the AGM on 14 January we welcomed many new members. The evening was given over to the popular return of Carl Wright. His topic this time was “Getting Past Auto”, urging us to exploit more fully the capabilities of our cameras, especially matching the many camera settings available to the subject. He ran over a wide range of points, from looking after your camera and how to hold it. More technical was his coverage of the camera’s shooting modes such as shutter speed, aperture and ISO or response speed of the sensor to light. He was full of tips for members on how to get the best results from even the simplest camera, while acknowledging that more costly DSLR cameras had the capability for greater control in getting the final image, especially once we get away from the “Auto” setting. As usual a powerful presentation from Carl.



The last Monday of the month saw even more new and welcome faces to our first Assignment night of the year. The guidelines this time were “Beginning with a Vowel or Green”. This was a wide brief and members took full advantage of the latitude on offer. Graeme Tozer chose to illustrate the theme with his semi-silhouette study of two delicately veined orange flowers

with transparent petals against an equally delicately shaded green background. Meanwhile Dave Rodgers came up with his vowel Owl.

On 4 February one of our members, Richard Freail, gave a talk on aviation photography illustrated with videos and stills from his collection. Starting with his early introduction to flying he gave us his tips on how to set up the camera to get the best photos.



For example shutter speed is important if the motion of propeller and helicopter blades are to be shown to advantage. He also listed the places where it is possible to catch the most striking images. Wherever an air show may be held the secret seems to be “Arrive early”.

The next week was a photographic Quiz Night, with Puzzle Master Graham Bastock. A full house meant we could have four teams. We had seven rounds with around a dozen questions in each. Titles ranged from “Location – where was it taken?” to trying to identify the subject in a blurry image – not easy. As usual Graham set us questions going from simple, through tantalizing, to others that some of us didn’t understand. The green team won with 87 points but the scoring was very tight. Lots of fun and boxes of chocolates for the winners and runners-up.

The Club’s programme for March starts on the fourth with a visiting speaker who will describe how he takes photos in zoos, yet tries to make them look wild. The next week we at home for our annual competition against Solihull PS. Our recent meetings have produced close results so it should be an exciting evening. The competitive theme continues on 21 March with our Club Spring Prints Competition and the month closes with an Assignment around the choice between “Aperture Priority or Blue”.

The Village Hall, Webheath, is our usual venue on Monday evenings at 7:30, except Bank Holidays and through Christmas and the New Year. Our range of external speakers is chosen to reflect both the technical and artistic aspects of photography. 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. During the summer the members may be away from the hall on location for an organised evening photoshoot. Our Club website is webheathdpc.com where you can find details, such as how to contact us, our programme for 2019 and more. You can also find us on Facebook as Webheath Digital Photography Club and www.instagram.com/WebheathDPC will also find us. And our gallery of prints, due to the generosity of the Kingfisher Centre Management, on the wall by Wilko’s in the shopping centre will be refreshed with new images by the end of February.

P. Dewell March 2019

* * * * *

Verse for the Month

**Your word is a lamp for my feet,
A light on my path**

Psalm 119: 105

Sudoku

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

Solution next month

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

Last month's solution

Word Search

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go".

Joshua 1:9



COMMANDED

AFRAID

WHEREVER

STRONG

DISCOURAGED

GOD

COURAGEOUS

LORD

JOSHUA

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



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.

The charity is also helping to support a clinic in Uganda; many of the patients are disabled children from local villages.

Your support would be very much appreciated!



RCA SERVICES

ESTABLISHED 38 YEARS

safe
39946

HEATING ELECTRIC PLUMBING

GAS • OIL • LPG



All Makes of Boiler Serviced & Repaired
Aga & Rayburn Range Cookers
Domestic Heating & Plumbing
Radiator & POWERFLUSH Cleaning
Fuseboards • Sockets • Lighting
Gledhill Storage Systems

All Work Guaranteed • Fully Insured

**Tel: 01527 834953
or 07976 270240**

Approved Contractor

WORCESTER
Bench Group

Gledhill
Sales since 2000

www.rcaservices.co.uk



Tardebigge Community Hall

This new, superbly equipped building, large hall, committee room and modern kitchen, is available for hire. Suitable for wedding receptions, parties, and meetings.

For further information, please contact Lynn Denyer

Tel: 07763 446902

MGO



Gardening Services

Professional gardening services – all work considered, including:

- . Lawn Mowing . Hedge Cutting
- . General Weeding . Border Maintenance
- . Small Trees

Fully insured, CRB checked – reliable service guaranteed

For a free quote contact Matthew Massey

Tel. 01527 836149 / Mobile: 07875 973601

Email: mgoservices@yahoo.co.uk



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER

A Letter from the Archdeacon of Dudley

Driving to church one Sunday morning recently I heard a report on the radio about 'slow art'. Not something I had considered before, but I discovered there is a Slow Art Movement, and a Slow Art Day (6 April this year), with a mission to help more people discover for themselves the joy of looking at and loving art.

Henry David Thoreau said, "It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see." The idea of looking slowly is to make discoveries and experience creativity in new ways. Statistically visitors to galleries view art masterpieces for an average of just 17 seconds, which is perhaps unsurprising in our fast-paced, sound-bite society, and this movement is seeking to challenge that, to slow people down.

This made me wonder if we might do well to embrace 'slow prayer' this lent, and slow reading, and slow looking. Elizabeth Barrett Browning's oft quoted words remind us of the need to look slowly:

"All of earth is crammed with heaven.
And every bush aflame with God.
But only those who see take off their shoes."

What do we see each day?

Do we see Jesus in the face of others? Do we glimpse anything new in a familiar Bible passage? Would we have recognised the Messiah for who he was when he was presented in the temple as the elderly Simeon and Anna did, or would we, like the remainder of those about their business that day, simply not have noticed? Would we have pushed through the crowds to touch the robe of Jesus, or simply passed the throngs by, assuming the rabbi was another rabble rouser? Do we see, and take off our shoes, because we are on holy ground, or do we miss opportunities because we don't look slowly enough? Do we take time to make discoveries which bring us joy and make us love God more?

Lent is an opportunity to embrace the discipline of slow, that we might see "God's glory displayed in the face of Christ." (2 Cor 4:6) We might choose to take in some slow art too!

Nikki Groarke

Huntleys Funeral Services

A life well remembered lives on.



A funeral is a time to say goodbye and to remember the life of a person you love. It's our privilege to be at your side.

You can talk to us any time, day or night or for further information visit us at

huntleysfunerals.co.uk

58 Ipsley Street,
Smallwood
Redditch B98 7AE
01527 62106

funeralpartners.co.uk



Funeral Partners



WHERE
NEXT

Garden Centre

Opening hours
Mon-Fri 9 to 5, Sat 10 to 4

Woodwork
Packing / assembly
Landscaping / maintenance

Support your local charity which offers people with special needs the opportunity to experience the real world of work

Wellesbourne Close,
Easemore Road, Redditch B98 8ER
(01527 69955)



A. Pullen

• MEMORIALS •

*Additional Inscriptions &
Renovations*

*All work is to the highest standard
and carried out at our workshop*

Showroom and Workshop

338 Alcester Road, Burcot

Bromsgrove B60 1BH

Tel: (01527) 876200

Email: apullenmemorials@hotmail.co.uk



BRITISH REGISTER OF ACCREDITED
MEMORIAL MASON



Tardebigge Court

A unique retail and business park
of specialist shops, trades and services

- ~ fitted furniture, upholstery, haberdashery
- ~ fireplaces and stoves
- ~ cake decorating classes
- ~ wedding dresses, shoes, flowers and stationery
- ~ designer and prescription eyewear
- ~ memorial and keepsake jewellery
- ~ hair and beauty salon, and gents barbers
- ~ sports injury physiotherapy and massage
- ~ sports clothing and equipment
- ~ musical instruments and tuition
- ~ canine massage therapy
- ~ studio portrait photography
- ~ motor and building services
- ~ Alestones real ale micropub
- ~ and the New Tardebigge Court Café

Plenty of free parking

Visit www.tardebiggecourt.co.uk | Phone 07768 364052

Tardebigge Court, Hewell Lane, Tardebigge, Worcs B97 6QW



St. Bartholomew's,
Church Lane,
Tardebigge, B60 3AH

Directory

St. Mary's,
High Elms Lane,
Lower Bentley, B60 4JA

Church Wardens

Chris Milton, 86 Finstall Road, Bromsgrove, B60 3BX
(01527 871132 & 07825 749767) cmilton@btinternet.com

Dean Hall, 73 Appletree Lane, Redditch, B97 6TD
(07985 165168) deanrehall@gmail.com

Treasurer	Please refer to Chris Milton cmilton@btinternet.com	07825 749767 01527 871132
PCC Secretary	Vivien Mackenzie	07727 293664
Parish Clerk & Electoral Roll Officer	Jane Hall janehall73@gmail.com	07980 358252
Choir Master	Robert Barnett	01527 542491
Organist	Dudley Fowkes	
Safeguarding Officer & Sunday Funday	Kay Middleton kmi@northbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk	07867 492938
Central Communications (Magazine & Enquiries)	c/o Jane Hall contact@tardebiggechurch.org.uk	07980 358252
Pastoral Care	Gail Teague (co-ordinator)	01527 541991
Envl. Scheme & Gift Aid	Stacey Roe	
Magazine Distribution	Jane & Sally Oldaker	0121 445 1844
Sidesman's Secretary	Pat Hopkins	01527 67099
Sexton	Michael Price	01527 544152
St. Mary's Church, Lower Bentley	Sarah Carless Marion Wormington	01527 821514 01527 880666
Tardebigge First School	Headteacher: Julie Cutler	01527 872886
Church Hall Bookings	Angela Rigby	01527 872174
Community Hall	Lynn Denyer	07763 446902
Bentley Village Hall	June Brazier	01527 403950

Clergy Team

Incumbent/Team Rector: Rev. Richard Clark
The Vicarage, Webheath, Redditch B97 5PD
(01527 543967 & 07970 8234620 trhtredditch@gmail.com)

Rev. Allison Davies (Assistant Curate) (01527 60892)

Rev. Paul Irving (Team Vicar, St. Leonard's, Beoley & Education) (01527 435683)

Rev. Paul Lawlor (01527 62375)
(Rural Dean, Team Vicar, St. Stephen's & Town Centre Chaplain)

An Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors



THOMAS BROTHERS

*The only family owned funeral homes in Redditch, Wythall & Alvechurch.
We provide a friendly, dignified service paying special attention to detail.*



REDDITCH OFFICE - Telephone: 01527 547 777
494 Evesham Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 5JF



ALVECHURCH OFFICE - Telephone: 0121 445 3422
12A Red Lion Street, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, B48 7LF

WYTHALL OFFICE - Telephone: 01564 822 001
100 Alcester Road, Wythall, Birmingham, West Midlands, B47 5HA

www.thomasbrothers.co.uk
Email: admin@thomasbrothers.co.uk

"A family concern"

JONATHAN SPROULE AND SONS LTD

(Master Builders)



**SPECIALISTS IN INDIVIDUAL CHARACTER,
TIMBER FRAME & PERIOD PROPERTIES**

20 Years Experience

HOUSE EXTENSIONS. RENOVATIONS

CONVERSIONS & ALTERATIONS

BARN CONVERSIONS

TIMBER / OAK FRAMED GARAGES



07973 445048 & 07976 826065

FAX: 01527 821452

Advertise in the Magazine

Annual or monthly rates (annual shown below) **50% discount for charities**

Format	2016 Cost
Black & White - full page	£ 110.00
Black & White 1/2 page	£ 82.50
Black & White 1/4 page	£ 55.00
Black & White 1/8 th page	£ 33.00
Colour - full page	£ 200.00
Colour - inside cover	£ 250.00
Colour 1/2 page	£ 150.00
Colour 1/4 page	£ 100.00
Colour 1/8 th page	£ 60.00

If you are interested please call Dean Hall on **07985 165168** or email your advert to us:

Evensong



From the Book of Common Prayer
Every 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday at 6pm

**St. Bartholomew's Church,
Tardebigge**

In a busy world...

There is nothing that settles the spirit like worship and word in the calm, traditional setting of a country church



Tutnall Hall is an 18th century Georgian house with fabulous landscape gardens and views over Worcestershire, and is home to 35 residents.

Tutnall Hall

Spring View Care

A high quality local nursing home

At Tutnall Hall, we provide small homely environments where our residents are at the heart of everything we do. It is our aspiration to provide nursing homes where we ourselves would be happy to stay.



Spring View Care is proud to announce that Tutnall Hall was listed as one of the top 20 care homes in the West Midlands in 2015



Tutnall Hall: Tutnall Lane, Tutnall, Bromsgrove B60 1NA **Tel: 01527 875 854**
Website: www.springviewcare.co.uk Email: mercy@springviewcare.co.uk