

**St. James's, Dursley &  
St. Mark's, Woodmancote**



**The  
Messenger**  
**SEPTEMBER**  
**2021**

**Price 60p each  
£6 Annually**

# **The Ewelme Benefice**

**The parish of Dursley and the parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nymphsfield**  
**Web Site – [www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)**

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## CONTENTS

Letter from Tony King..... 2,3  
 Ewelme Benefice Services for September & dates for your diary..4,5,9  
 Eco News..... 7,8  
 Music Notes and Acrostic for September..... 8 & 10  
 T4U Shoeboxes..... 11,12  
 St Mark's..... 14  
 Culture and Me..... 19,20  
 Bells..... 24  
 Mouse diary..... 25  
 The five marks of Mission..... 26,27  
 Diocesan Messenger..... 28 & 30  
 Flower rota and 100 Club..... 32

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**Message from the editors:**

Thank you for articles and photos sent in it is much appreciated.  
*Any opinions expressed in the magazine are personal views only.*

*Judith and Valerie*

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE IS  
SUNDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2021**



Dear friends

As I write this, we are a couple of weeks into the relaxation of Covid rules for our services.

We intended to be responsible in how far we would go, and Canon Michael's recent notes (available on our website if you haven't seen them) spell out in some detail the new procedures. For most of us it just means maintaining some degree of social distancing, wearing masks while moving around the building and while singing. For me the fact that I can sing again in church more than overcomes the problems of singing behind a mask.

The September Lectionary only gives us 3 Feast Days - Holy Cross, St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist, and Michael and all Angels. You may remember that I talked about Holy Cross last September, so this year I thought we'd look into the Feast Day for Michael and All Angels.

Near where Ann and I used to live there was a church dedicated to St Michael and All Angels - it was very high Anglo-Catholic (all bells and smells!) and was often referred to as St Michael and Tall Angels. It's quite a common dedication - 4th most popular in a list in Wikipedia after St Mary, All Saints and St Peter.

The biblical reference to Michael and his angels comes in the book of Revelation where John speaks about war in heaven, with Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon and his angels. The dragon is defeated and thrown down from heaven, and is then identified as 'that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world (Revelation 12, vs9).

Although John's Revelation appears to be describing the end-times, a passage in Isaiah mentions the "son of the morning" who had "fallen from heaven" and was "cast down to the earth".

It seems that the Revelation end-times event can also refer to a 'before times' event when Satan refused to bow down to mankind on the occasion of

the creation of man. Islamic tradition holds a similar view: Iblis refusing to bow down to Adam.

In the fifth century, a basilica near Rome was dedicated in honour of Saint Michael the Archangel on 30 September, beginning with celebrations on the eve of that day. 29 September is now kept in honour of Saint Michael and all Angels throughout some western churches. The name Michaelmas comes from a shortening of "Michael's Mass".

During the Middle Ages, Michaelmas was celebrated as a Holy Day of Obligation, but this tradition was abolished in the 18th century. In medieval England, Michaelmas marked the ending and beginning of the husbandman's year, so that: 'at the time harvest was over, the bailiff or reeve of the manor would be making out the accounts for the year'. It was also one of the English, Welsh, and Irish quarter days, when accounts had to be settled. Some universities and the Inns of Court use Michaelmas to define the autumn term. Folklore in the British Isles suggests that Michaelmas day is the last day that blackberries can be picked. It is said that when St Michael expelled the devil from heaven, he fell from the skies and landed in a prickly blackberry bush. Satan cursed the fruit, scorched them with his fiery breath, and otherwise damaged them, so that they would be unfit for eating.

Some words from the C of E material for the Feast Day:



Father in heaven, the angels sing by day and night around your throne: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty. With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side, with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings, with Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing, and with the whole company of heaven, we worship you, we give you glory, we sing your praise and exalt you for ever. Amen.

Epstein Sculpture  
at Coventry Cathedral

Tony King

## **Ewelme Benefice services for September 2021**

### **Wednesday 1st September**

Omega Rooms 2.00pm Prayer Group

### **Sunday 5th September - 14th after Trinity/St Giles Patronal**

St Giles 10.00am Parish Holy Communion for Patronal Festival.

St James 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (live stream)

### **Saturday 11th September**

Ride and Stride

### **Sunday 12th September - 15th after Trinity/Holy Cross Patronal**

St Bartholomew 10.00am Parish Holy Communion

St James 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (live stream)

St James 12.00 Baptism

Holy Cross 6.00pm BCP Evensong Patronal Festival.

### **Sunday 19th September - 16th after Trinity**

St James 8.00am Holy Communion

St Giles 10.00am Parish Holy Communion

St Mark's 10.30am Service of the Word

St James 12.30pm Baptism

### **Sunday 26th September - 17th after Trinity**

St Giles 10.00am Parish Holy Communion

St James 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (live stream)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Book Stall** took another £450 this month in spite of the rain.

Grand total £12,950.

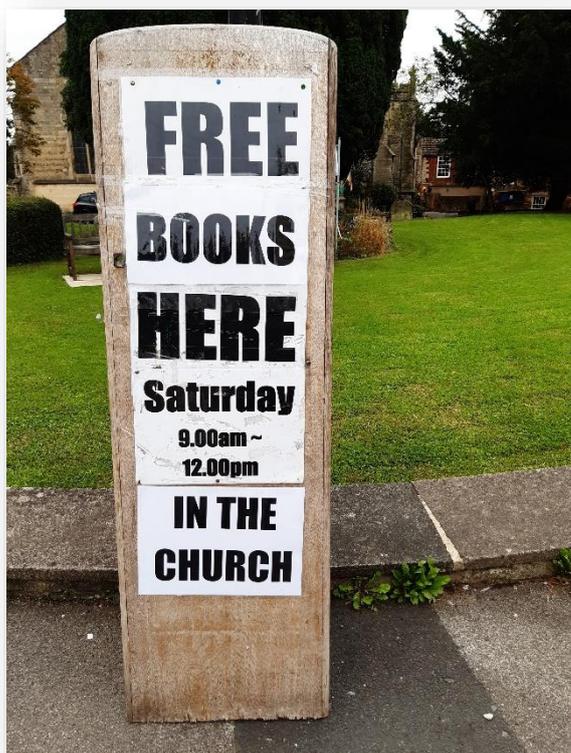
The stall's popularity has grown so much that we have over 1000 books to put out each time. This has become very time consuming for the few of us, so if anyone could give a hand at 8.00am to put them out on the tables or 12.00 to put them back in the boxes it would be very much appreciated.

No lifting is involved. the boxes will be on the tables ready.

Many thanks

Clive

PS We will now meet every Saturday, inside the church if it's wet



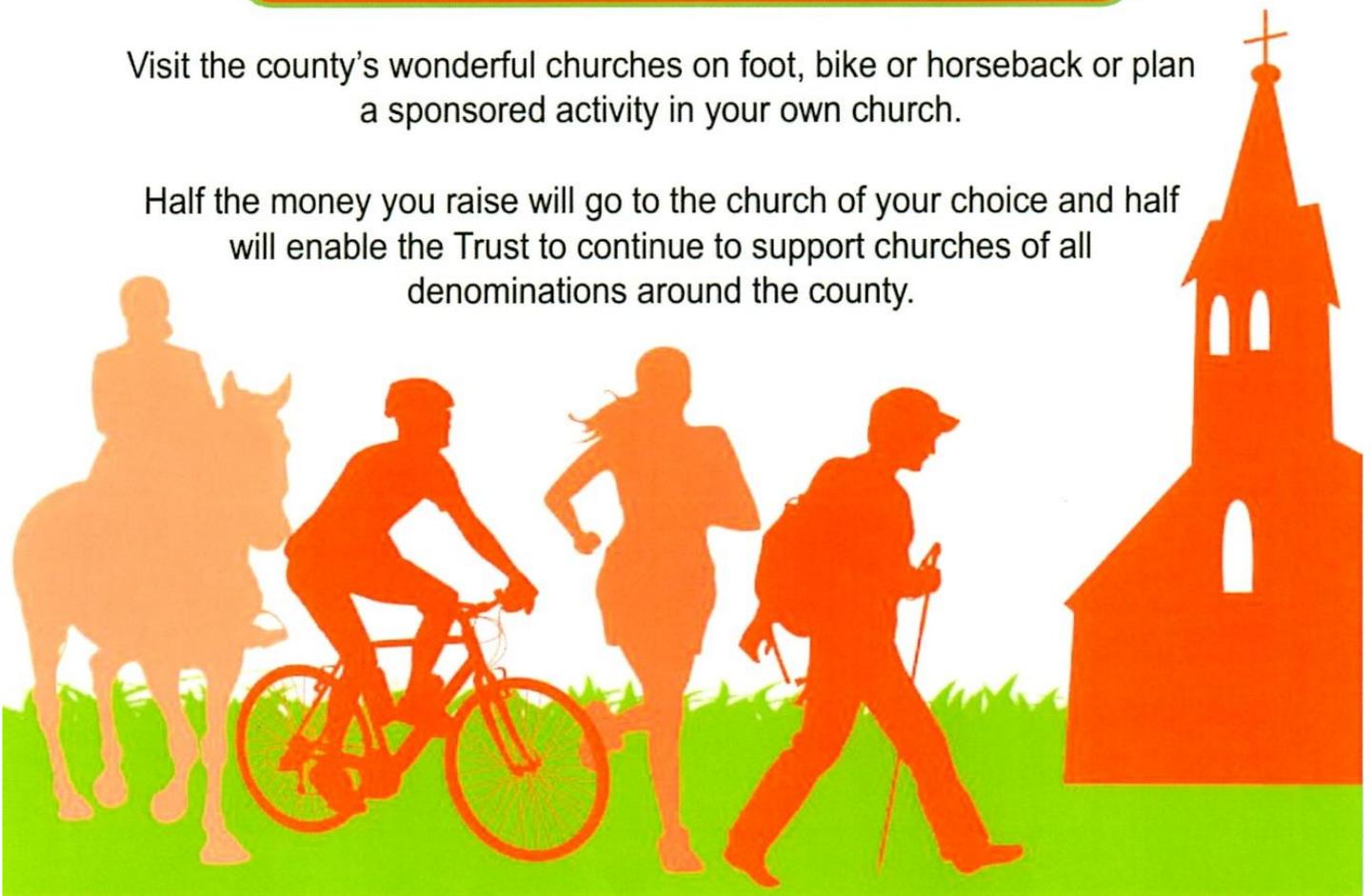
# GLOUCESTERSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST



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Half the money you raise will go to the church of your choice and half will enable the Trust to continue to support churches of all denominations around the county.



**Ride and Stride sponsorship forms are available from Austin Meares at St James,  
tel: 01453 544677 or  
email [v.meares@btinternet.com](mailto:v.meares@btinternet.com)**



# Eco Church News



## The Great Big Green Week

The Great Big Green Week will take place 18 - 26 September 2021, and will be the largest event for climate and nature ever seen in the UK. Thousands of events will celebrate how communities are taking action to tackle climate change and protect green spaces, and encourage others to get involved too.



There are no "official" events taking place in our area, but that doesn't mean individuals, families and small groups can't join in by committing to show their love for the Earth and the natural environment in a variety of ways. The period between 1st September and the 5th October is known as Creationtide, and is a

time of year in which Christians renew their focus on the environment and care for God's creation. With COP26 being held in Glasgow this autumn, and the climate reaching a crisis point, it is more important than ever that we take steps to act and encourage large-scale political and industrial changes, as well as doing things differently on a personal level.

The Climate Coalition, which includes the Church of England Environment Working Group and Christian Aid, are encouraging churches and individuals to sign a letter to the Prime Minister, asking him to:

- **Unleash a clean energy revolution** that boosts jobs across the UK, making our transport, power and housing fit for the future
- **Protect, restore and expand our green and wild spaces;** allowing nature to thrive, taking carbon from the air and boosting the nation's health
- **Leave no one behind** by increasing support to those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change at home and abroad

You can sign the letter online at [thetimeisnow.uk](http://thetimeisnow.uk)

You might also like to plant something to attract bees, eat less meat, or do a litter pick. There are so many different things you can do,

including thinking about the way you invest money, or who supplies your electricity. You might choose to use your car less, and take the bus or walk everywhere for the week - it's up to you.



*Jan Vonberg*

# The Ewelme Benefice

Serving the parishes of Dursley; the churches of St James the Great and St Mark's, and Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield; the churches of St Giles, Holy Cross and St Bartholomew's.



St. James the Great  
Dursley



St. Marks  
Woodmancote



St. Giles  
Uley



Holy Cross  
Owlpen



St. Bartholomews  
Nympsfield

## Benefice Administrator

**18 Hrs/Week @ £10.50/hour**

This is an important role in the life of the Ewelme Benefice.

The work falls into a number of categories but can be summarised as being:

- ◇ The first point of contact for many enquiries
- ◇ To support the Team Rector and other benefice personnel administratively
- ◇ To Lead on communications for the benefice including social media and website
- ◇ To administer the St James Parish Centre

**For an application pack email**  
**[ewelmebenefice@gmail.com](mailto:ewelmebenefice@gmail.com)**

**[www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)**

**@ParishofDursley**



Closing date for applications: 5pm Sunday 12th September

Interviews: During September, based on availability

Start Date: ASAP Negotiable



## MUSIC NOTES

**September 2021**

Writing this in blisteringly hot sunshine during August when the world seems as though it is slowly getting back to normal, I have been busy doing one of my usual summer chores; that of choosing the choir's music for the year. Normally I would include pieces from our extensive repertoire along with a several "new" pieces, but on this occasion as the choir will not have sung together since March 2020 we will have, in effect, a new choir and I very much hope that the "old Favourites" will not have been forgotten before we think of attempting some of the more taxing items!

St James' church is well used for all manner of things outside the usual church services, and our "Coffee, Cake and Music" annual series of six organ recitals has been extremely well supported in the past. Now that we have a chance to be back in church, I am delighted to say the we are to have an organ recital on Saturday October 2nd given by Andrew Millington. As usual, refreshments will be served from 10.15am and the 35 minute recital will begin at 11.00am.

For eight years Andrew was John Sanders' Assistant at Gloucester Cathedral before becoming Director of Music at Guildford Cathedral. He retired from his last appointment at Exeter Cathedral in 2016 and is extremely active on the recital and accompanying circuits. This will be Andrew's sixth visit to St James and his programmes are always superbly played and full of variety. A thoroughly recommended morning, do join us for a musical treat!

It's a long time since I was awarded a certificate of any kind. My most cherished certificate must be from 1960 when, as part of my primary school's insistence that everyone should swim, I have a piece of paper acknowledging that I managed to "Jump in and swim 9 yards". I've never thought to see if I could ever increase that rather meagre display of prowess, being quite content with my "achievement" and spending the next sixty years avoiding swimming baths like the plague. So in August 2021 I have a new certificate to cherish as, the members of St James' will be relieved to hear, I have passed my "Basic Training in Safeguarding" and have learned (after 36 years in the classroom and many INSET days on the subject) the differences between various kinds of abuse. *contd on page 10.....*

# **ST JAMES-THE-GREAT, DURSLEY**

## **2021 COFFEE, CAKE AND MUSIC** (16th Series)

**Saturday  
October 2nd**

**Andrew  
Millington**

(formerly  
Director of Music  
at Exeter Cathedral)

with music by  
Verdi, Bach.  
Mendelssohn, Dupré  
etc

**This will be the first  
recital since  
September 2019**



**The music begins at 11.00am  
and lasts for about 30 – 40 minutes**

There is no charge, but a retiring  
collection will be taken, the proceeds of  
which will go to the work of  
St James' church.

*Contd from page 8.....* With my newly acquired knowledge, I will, of course, have to revise my methods of choir training and use new ways of pointing out wrong notes, flatness, singing behind the beat etc, as too sharp a comment (eg "altos you're too loud", or "basses, we should be singing in unison") could give great offence and if reported could lead to a reprimand or even the sack.

Of course, Safeguarding is important, and yes, we really need to be aware of the concerns and vulnerability of those round us, but we are a **Church** and I can't think of any other establishment where people instinctively "look out for each other" (Love thy neighbour as thyself?). To say that St James' is a caring community is to put it mildly! The burden for all this training and criminal checking has fallen on the shoulders of Rachel Brown and the Church Wardens and we should be grateful to them for undertaking this arduous task, but I do wonder if it's not a sledgehammer to crack a nut which is just not there! Still if all the boxes are ticked, the policies are in place and the files regularly updated, we should be left in peace for a few more years. Let's hope so!

*Nigel Davies*

**Music for September**

Sunday 5th am	O Thou the Central Orb – Wood	Ireland in C
Sunday 12th am	A Gaelic Blessing – Rutter	Mathias in G
Sunday 19th am	Service of the Word at St Mark's	
Sunday 26th am	Ave Verum – Byrd	Darke in F

\*\*\*\*\*

**September Acrostic**

September is the feast commemorating the cross used  
 for the Crucifixion of Jesus  
 Experience the hands of God over your life this month  
 Prophecies  
 That came to pass in your life and rudiment of shame in  
 this place  
 Experience the hands of God  
 Marriage, finance's and  
 Business and Ministry's has been broken in the womb  
 Every blessing from heaven  
 Rejoicing and we say the Lord's prayer together



By Sally Hayward



real people making  
a real difference



## It's time for Shoeboxes!

Recently we launched our shoebox campaign for 2021 on a Zoom call with many of our supporters.

We were joined by our partners Dima and Katya from Belarus and Raul from Romania. They talked to us about giving out shoeboxes last year:

Raul told us ***"Every Shoebox is important and filled with love"*** and despite being involved for quite a few years he is still amazed how ***"The small things can bring such joy to the children"***.

Last year with thanks to all your hard work and dedication in what were extremely challenging times, we sent **48,756** shoeboxes over to Eastern Europe.

We hope to improve on that this year and with your help we will!

Find all the information on how you can get involved, order flat pack shoeboxes or our new leaflets from our website below. We will be continuing the 'Sponsor a Shoebox' for £15 which was extremely successful last year.

If you are interested in becoming a drop off point for shoeboxes this year then please add your details below. As we continue to grow we will always need new locations!

Find out more information on everything shoebox related here <https://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/>

**Thanks again for your continued support!**



**Caroline says....**

**Deadline for boxes to be brought to church is Remembrance Sunday 14th November.**

**Many thanks in advance....**



real people making  
a real difference

## **There's a hole in bucket or 'Twas on a Monday morning....**

1. On Monday 12/7/21 I lost my spectacles at GRH when having an ultrasound examination. they probably fell out of my pocket, [I usually take them off when I wear a mask]. The taxi driver looked without success.
2. I telephoned the next day, and the lady in the lost property office described specs which sounded like mine. I said I would try to collect them
3. On Wednesday 14/7/21 Moya took me to GRH [ I am not driving at present as I have had a pacemaker inserted] At 3-30pm the receptionist went to the lost property office but said there was nobody there and it was locked.
4. I telephoned again the next day and the lost property lady said this was nonsense as one could always get out of hours help!?
5. Friends from Cheltenham were going to be in Gloucester on Saturday 17/7/21 "Could they collect them?" "No, all shut up; BUT, the lady was in the office from 6am [difficult to get to Gloucester then from Dursley] "When does she leave" "4pm" BUT we called at 3-30pm! " Except on Wednesdays, she doesn't work on Wednesdays" Does this remind anyone else of "There's a hole in my bucket "
6. On Friday 23/7/21 Moya took me to a Specsaver appointment for my ears in Gloucester and then to the hospital and I was finally reunited with my specs! Hallelujah!

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# Greetings from St Mark's



Dear Friends



Our service here at St Mark's in August was lovely. Music was back with David Collins at the organ and many members of St James choir in the congregation the sound was overwhelming - beautiful. Thanks go to Kath, Marcia and Clare for making the church clean and cobweb free before the day. Unfortunately Kath was unable to attend the service as she had had a fall in town and although nothing was broken she really was still rather shaken and damaged. Rita too has had a fall but she broke her hip and has had an operation in GRH and is now progressing very slowly. We wish them both well.

Last month I was looking forward to the next adventure, camping in a tent at Prescott Hill Climb. Well, this time the weather was somewhat iffy and were promised rain, in the end it was the brisk wind that was the biggest pain. I managed getting in and out of bed, sleeping was non existent but I did and it and survived! Now I'm looking forward to Chelsea Flower Show in September and keen to see how this is handled given the difficulties of the pandemic and as it's always been in May what flowers etc will be on show. We wait and see.

The next service at St Mark's is on 19th September at 10.30am - hope to see you there.

With all Best wishes

Judith

PS

Since writing the above I have joined 'the falling down club'. No bones broken thankfully but the new lens in my glasses (new just 5 days ago) all scratched - Grrr and my face a mess. I tripped up the pavement at the top of Bull Pitch. Just not safe to be let out!

My thanks to the lovely people who stopped their cars to help and even brought me up to my front door.



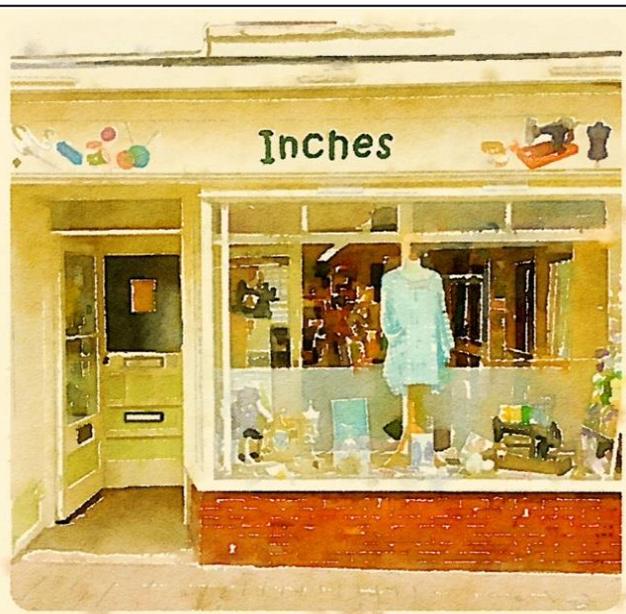
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**Views from  
Cam Longdown**

pictures  
from Steve White...

The Malverns



Coaley Peak

Coaley Village





St Mark's and Smallpox Hill from Woodmancote



Fabulous Sunsets



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## **Culture and Me**

This month we are delighted that Anne Shipton is sharing her thoughts with us says David Vonberg.....

### **Do you have a favourite author or book?**

I like to read murder mysteries particularly the old-fashioned type like Agatha Christie

### **What are you reading at present?**

I have two books which I had for Christmas designed to read all through the year. One is called Toksvig's Almanac, an eclectic meander through the historical year. Each day there is a paragraph about an inspirational woman. Some known, some unknown. The other is in similar vein in that the author says it has "366 words or phrases that make me smile and wonder." It is called Word Perfect by Susie Dent. Those of you who watch Countdown will know she sits in dictionary corner!

### **Is there a book which you feel you should have read?**

I started 1984 by George Orwell but never got to the end!

### **Is there a song or a piece of music you turn to, to cheer you up?**

I think I would choose the Radetzky March by Strauss but at the other end of the scale what could be better than 'Always look on the bright side' of life from Monty Python.

### **Do you have a favourite piece of music?**

It changes as time goes on as I hear new things. The other day I heard In Paradisum by Eimear Quinn, which I didn't know. That must be top of the list at the moment.

### **Do you play a musical instrument? If not, what would you like to have learnt?**

I play the piano very badly so I should have persevered with my lessons and then I would have improved!

### **What is your favourite film?**

I have two favourites – Brief Encounter and The Railway Children. I love old films.

### **Do you have a favourite play?**

It has to be Les Miserables, both as a play and a musical. It is a very strong story and moving too.

### **What about a favourite television series?**

I like any of the series presented by Brian Cox about the history of our universe. For light relief I go back to Agatha Christie - Poirot and Miss Marple

### **If there was one painting you could own, what would it be and what is special to you about it?**

I would like to tell you about a painting that I already own which is very precious to me. It is a watercolour of Uley Church and The Green painted by Barbara Gallie, an artist who lived in Uley. It was a gift to my parents on their golden wedding anniversary. It reminds me of them and of my childhood in Uley.

### **Do you have a special building which means a lot to you and if so why?**

I don't think there is one special building but I am very fond of the cathedrals I have visited, particularly Durham and York.

### **Is there a place (town, village or county?) where you have felt happiest?**

I have very fond memories of camping holidays in Somerset when the children were young. We stayed on a farm in West Luccombe and returned there many times.

### **You are having a fantasy dinner party for five- who would you invite? (This could be anybody from any century and from any country.)**

Apart from my family I would like to invite Sister Gertrude who was head teacher of St. Joseph's School at Nympsfield. She employed me in my first teaching post and was a great source of inspiration. Second would be Revd. Muriel Paish (Aunty Muriel) who was a family friend, one of my primary school teachers in Uley and who played the organ at St. Giles. She encouraged me in my interest of music and singing. Finally I would like Mozart, Albert Einstein and Leonardo Da Vinci. What a brilliant coming together of minds that would be.



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Call **01453 541400**  
Email **info@thehollies.co.uk**

**thehollies.co.uk**  
Drake Lane, Dursley GL11 5HA

## Holly Oak teams up with local designer to develop sensory aids for those living with dementia

Holly Oak dementia care home has teamed up with local designer Samboards to provide those in their care with an innovative new sensory tool.



Newly opened Holly Oak is at the forefront of genuine person-centred care with its state-of-the-art 45 bedroom dementia care home, set in an idyllic park overlooking the town of Dursley in Gloucestershire.

Samboards specialises in designing sensory pads which have been proven to alleviate the effects of cognitive conditions, including dementia.

The sensory pads are designed so that when they are touched, held, and generally fiddled with, they promote positive cognitive responses and release endorphins by distracting the brain from negative situations and feelings.

The Samboards pads have seven different textures which provoke different cognitive reactions, providing a range of purposes. These include supporting breathing exercises; improving concentration; calming; and improving hand control and fine motor skills.

However, the most ground-breaking aspect of the sensory pads for elderly care is that they can promote memory building and retrieval. When feeling and touching the different parts of the pad, the brain is experiencing something different and new. This allows the brain to build more pathways. The more pathways the brain has, the more accessible routes your thoughts can take. This in turn makes brain ageing and memory loss less noticeable. Tactile sensors often become under-stimulated in older age and especially in dementia patients. With the sensory pads, brain sensitivity can be rebuilt, which can alleviate the cognitive impairment to the brain caused by dementia.

The technology used in Samboards sensory pads, and the positive reactions shown by residents at Holly Oak, mark another step forward in dementia care. As well as helping to alleviate symptoms of cognitive impairment and memory loss, the pads have been shown to provide feelings of comfort and anxiety relief, so their uses really are far reaching. Residents at Holly Oak can now enjoy the benefits of this locally sourced technological advancement.

Holly Oak has been working closely with Samboards to help tailor the

sensory pads to their residents. Currently, Holly Oak is assisting Samboards in developing bed-mounted versions of the pads, with the aim of providing their benefits to people unable to access them whilst seated due to postural difficulties. This will ensure that people with reduced mobility have the opportunity to use the pads, particularly those who may need them most.

Andy Western from Samboards and Duncan Pyne, Registered Manager at Holly Oak are also planning to work closely together on potential future developments and new products; together they are extremely enthusiastic about the huge difference these developments could make to improving the quality of life for people with dementia.

This collaboration is a wonderful demonstration of the dedication to provide the best care possible. Aside from the benefits of the Samboards sensory pads for residents, it marks a heart-warming show of solidarity by local businesses coming together to support their elderly community.

What is particularly encouraging is the difference this sort of technology can make to a difficult and challenging later-life illness. These sensory pads have the potential to allow people to reconnect with their elderly loved ones with memory loss, and the difference this could make to quality of later life is immeasurable.

For more information on Samboards see <https://www.samboards.co.uk/> or for Holly Oak Dementia Care Home see <https://thehollies.co.uk/dementia-care/>

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### **Jennifer Kendrick says.....**

'I am making blankets from odds and ends but running out of Double Knitting wool! If you have any looking for a good home, please leave it at the back of St. James Church by the basket of pill packets!

Thank you very much'.



# Bellringing

Sunday 8 August was the first time all 8 bells have been rung at St James' for Sunday Service for 17 months.



Almost normal practices have begun on Thursdays but are, at the moment, not open to anybody. They are restricted to our own band plus invitations to regular supporters who have been double jabbed. Wearing of masks is optional and more of us are beginning to dispense with them while ringing.

We are delighted to welcome two new established ringers to our band, and one person who started to learn here when he was a youngster and there were several of his age around. John Cole has moved here from Bristol and is competent in basic methods and now revising Yorkshire. Simon Carter moved here from Hackney in London to set up Wyke House Antiques in Silver Street, has not rung seriously for some time, but has rung peals in the past. He also is busy revising. Ashley Pearson was learning here with his sister Briony, at the same time as Hayley Barton and Tamsin Earthy. He is now receiving basic handling lessons with either Liz or John Taylor, and is also going to the practices at Cam each week for extra tuition. He is making good progress and is very keen. (Sorry, this sounds like a school report ...) This is all very encouraging for the rest of us, who are not getting any younger.

*Frank Byrne*

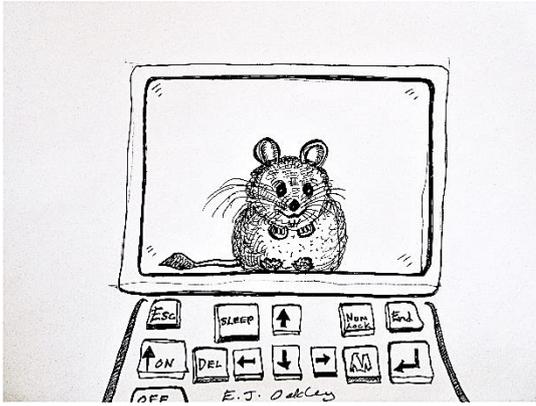
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Sunflowers by Elizabeth Oakley



## Mouse Diary....



Ring, ring, ring. Now then, said MBFTLP, the burning question of the day is, Where's Wally? Nothing much happened for a while and then there was a big squeak from Aimiee. Le Wally a la kirk a Dursley; il ne pas ici maintenant. MBFTLP was naturally all agog to hear what had happened. So I popped up to explain. Well, we had great trouble finding him a proper

billet. He did not fit the font very well. His flippers flopped over the side and he seemed to be swimming for England without going anywhere. Oh, I see, said MBFTLP, I am glad you have been watching the Olympics. It was good wasn't it? But on the main subject of the day.. did you ask Wally if he knew any Theology? We tried him on that one I said. I did ask him the meaning of life, the universe and everything, but he kept saying the answer was 142. Aimiee did her best and looked it up on Google. I agree, said MBFTLP, that number does not seem to have any particular theological resonances I can remember. Well, I said, it turned out that 142 was the number of countries he had visited since he left the Scilly Isles. As he was stuck in the font and was missing his proper swimming milieu (Aimiee approved of this word) we decided we had to Do Something. So we got Broadwell Mouse to give him a map of the world. He balanced the map on his front flippers. But did not seem to know where he was. It turned out he was rather short sighted. So rather than send him to the optician Aimiee packed him up some Marmite sandwiches and we sent him on his way rather hoping he would get back to the Arctic Circle by hook or by crook. Talking of by hook or by crook said MBFTLP, I was thinking of investigating some physic resonances in Dursley High Street with a view to Sorting Things Out. At mention of this I did become a bit flummoxed. For now that Wally had been sent on his way, I had thought Aimiee and I would be In For A Quieter Life and all that flipper flopping business was behind us. Oh no, I said, we already have a problem with the invasion of the church by lots of different species. So maybe the spooks could carry on as they were being spooky, but not in our direction? MBFTLP said, Ok, I'll see what I can do.

See you next time and hopefully without Wally and the spooks.

Mouse was helped in the writing by Elizabeth Oakley

## **The 5 Marks of Mission.....from Revd Can Richard Morgan**

Nearly forty years ago, the Anglican Consultative Council developed what it called the Five Marks of Mission. They are:

- ✘ To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
- ✘ To teach, baptise and nurture believers.
- ✘ To respond to human need by loving service.
- ✘ To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- ✘ To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

They are a useful summary of the Church's mission, what God sends us to proclaim and do – though some of us might like an explicit reference to the cross and resurrection of Jesus, and the Triune God. But maybe that covers all five, and to put it in one place would be misleading. At the start of a new academic year, it seems a good time to consider them. They started off as four marks, and a growing sense of the importance of ecology led to adding the fifth. This month includes Creation Sunday, another recent institution, so it is a good time to think of that mark. But then, it is always a good time to think of our basic callings.

Here are some verses on them. They can be sung to the tune of 'All through the night' [Ar hyd y nos]

For good news of God's salvation: Praise be to God!

For the Kingdom's proclamation: Praise be to God!

Healing, pardon, grace, correction:

Christ's life, death and resurrection

Promise life and God's perfection: Praise be to God!

For the guidance of Christ' teaching: Thanks be to God!

Shared in scripture, prayer and preaching: Thanks be to God!

God's own life of mercy showing:

Let us all in love be growing,

More and more of God be knowing: Thanks be to God!

Your empowering by the Spirit, God, grant us all!

That Christ's power we may inherit, God, grant us all!

Nurtured on from our baptizing,

In the Spirit always rising,

Love and goodness ever prizing: God, grant us all!

In the life of love and serving, May we go on!  
Moved by need and not deserving, May we go on!  
For the poor and helpless caring,  
With the needy gladly sharing,  
Thus God's work of kindness bearing, May we go on!

Called to seek God's transformation: God's will be done!  
Justice, peace for every nation: God's will be done!  
Greed's oppressive force resisting,  
Foes of cruel power assisting,  
In the quest for good persisting: God's will be done!

In creation's life sustaining, Your Kingdom come!  
Earth's integrity reclaiming, Your Kingdom come!  
Nature's varied wealth conserving,  
Your creation thus preserving,  
Life's renewal loyally serving: Your Kingdom come!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Pictures from the lovely new Community Garden near the Highfields recreation field** by *Elizabeth Oakley*



## Vocation and discipleship.



The chill in the air and the hint of the first frosts makes September feel like the start of something new. For lots of us, when the children go back to school, or the garden starts to slow down for the winter, we start to think about ways to challenge ourselves and to grow in faith and nurture our relationship with Jesus.

Here are a few of our favourite courses and resources to help you draw nearer to God and to show your faith in every area of your life. Visit [gloucester.anglican.org/discipleship](http://gloucester.anglican.org/discipleship) for the first three resources.

**Loved and Liked** is a six session course offering the chance to explore how we are all uniquely made and that God actually loves and likes us. It looks at questions of identity, calling and service, and includes amazing true stories of local people.

**Personal Shapes for Living** will pair you with an encourager, who will help you to look at the shape of your whole life and pinpoint small changes that could help you to step closer to God.

**The Giving Toolbox** is a set of resources and programmes to help both you and your church engage with understanding the place of money in our own lives and the importance that our own gifts of it through the church play in furthering God's Mission. It includes sermons, ideas and other resources.

**Pocket Prayer guides** have been created to help existing Christians enrich their prayers, trying out new ways of connecting with God. Find out more at [gloucester.anglican.org/your-prayer](http://gloucester.anglican.org/your-prayer)

## Events and training

**Moving Out: Discovering God's Mission** - Starting Monday 20 September, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, £5/person up to 4 – capped at £20 for a team over 4. A **10-session course** building upon the mission shaped intro material that will help you ask questions, explore what God might be saying to you about mission and looking at what growing a new worshipping community might look like.

These sessions will take you on a journey, from listening to the community, listening to God, being engaged in the community through to examining what a new worshipping community might look like and what a rhythm for that community could be.

Book at [shorturl.at/bgiW3](http://shorturl.at/bgiW3)

# Extend for You

est. 2009

**Movement to Music for the over 55's and those younger in some cases, aims to improve strength, mobility, co-ordination and balance to continue an active lifestyle.**

Watch out for classes starting again



classes are normally held at St. James Parish Centre Dursley



**TUESDAY at 2.00pm**

**You can be seated or standing**

**Covid 19 virus has restricted class numbers allowed.**



**To avoid disappointment please check availability and call**

**Barbara Weldon**

**01453 766421**

email: [bandbweldon1@gmail.com](mailto:bandbweldon1@gmail.com)

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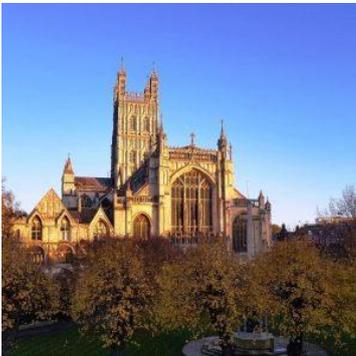


## **More from the Diocese.....Vocation to Ministry Day**

### **Saturday 25 September, 10am to 4pm**

An opportunity for people with a sense that the Holy Spirit is nudging them to explore new ways of serving God in the Church and the world. As we seek to respond to God's call we often need the space to engage, question, struggle and pray for discernment. Through input, discussion and personal reflection, guest speakers and scripture, various callings and ministries are explored. Attendees are encouraged to reflect upon their own personal journey of Christian discipleship and to utilise resources for discerning God's will for their lives. Guests from a variety of ministries, lay and ordained, share their experiences and answer questions. Book at [shorturl.at/eglm](http://shorturl.at/eglm)

## **Pilgrimage from Tewkesbury Abbey to Gloucester Cathedral**



**On Saturday, 4 September** all are invited to join members of the Cathedral Ramblers, staff, and volunteers to complete a Pilgrimage from Tewkesbury Abbey to Gloucester Cathedral to promote spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing. Across England, walking routes are being launched and rediscovered, that track ancient paths of pilgrimage to the nation's cathedrals. Supported by

the Association of English Cathedrals, the 'Discover Cathedrals, Discover Pilgrimage' initiative continues to run in 2021 to respond to the pandemic as restrictions are lifted.

The Gloucester pilgrimage is a 15-mile walk that connects Tewkesbury Abbey and Gloucester Cathedral via several parish churches on a route across stunning countryside. The event reconnects paths walked by our ancestors. It promotes being active in nature with others for spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing and caring for the planet.

Canon Dr Andrew Braddock said, "As contemporary interest in pilgrimage continues to grow, we are delighted to offer the 2021 Gloucester Pilgrimage as a Christian spiritual journey, open to all. Gloucester Cathedral welcomes visitors and pilgrims every day. This contemporary, organised pilgrimage from Tewkesbury Abbey to Gloucester Cathedral invites us to connect with this ancient spiritual practice and make it our own. We hope the outer physical journey will enable pilgrims to also make a journey of the heart, connecting more deeply with others, themselves, the landscape and God".

The Gloucester Pilgrimage has been developed through collaboration between the Cathedral Ramblers, staff and volunteers and partner organisations. **All** are welcome to join, registration is free and now live via the [Cathedral website](#).

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## FLOWER ARRANGERS ROTA FOR ST JAMES.

### September 7th

**High Altar** – Cynthia Martin

**Tanner Chapel** – Chris Raffle

**Lady Chapel** – Kim Pugh

### September 12th and 19th

**High Altar** – Glena Neale

**Tanner Chapel** – Valerie Meares

**Lady Chapel** – Rachel Brown

### September 26th and October 3rd

**High Altar** – Ann Orchard

**Tanner Chapel** – Anne Bussey

**Lady Chapel** – Sarah Hodge



## 100 CLUB

Club draw for August as follows:-

1st	196 - Jan Vonberg
2nd	199 - Martin Padgett
3rd	215 - Adrian Mather

Sarah

This mouse is still lurking in the Parish Office,  
I think he must have come in from the choir room.  
Perhaps he heard about all Clive's frogs!



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E-mail: [ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com)

### **BELLRINGERS**

Elizabeth Byrne Tel: 543536.

### **100 CLUB**

Sarah Hodge Tel: 545155

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Diane Ansell Tel: 546169



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