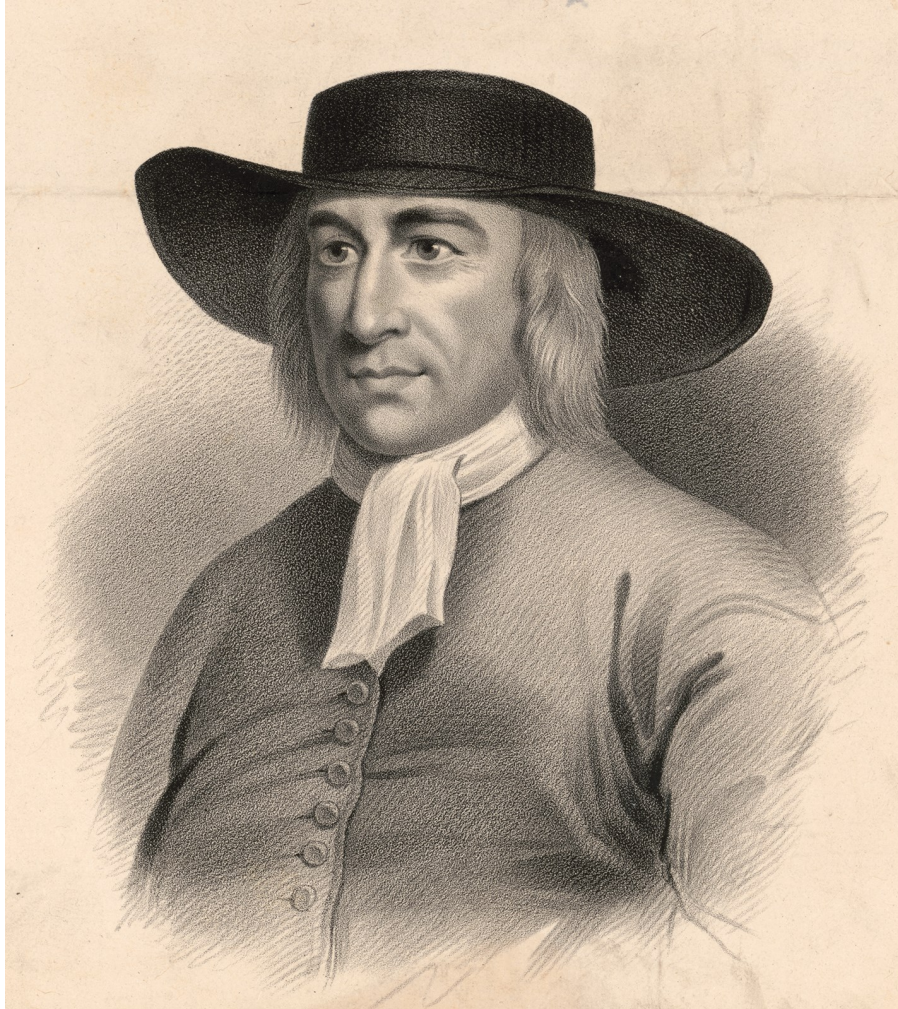


# THE PARISH MAGAZINE

## January 2020



13th January — George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends  
(Quakers) 1691

**The United Benefice of  
St Michael Lichfield, with St John, Wall**

**85p**

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# Reflections for January

I am writing this lounging by the pool in the Eden Day Spa at Hoar Cross – hardly a bastion of environmental asceticism! But ... I notice that they have replaced the plastic disposable cups for the water fountain, with paper ones. Is this the thin end of the wedge; will they be moving swiftly on to “bring your own mug” and cold water swimming?

I’m wondering about their motivation for making this change. Is it that Sir Richard Attenborough has made it shameful for companies to be seen encouraging the use of disposable plastic? And ... is “shaming” the means by which the world will achieve the changes that are needed to avoid the various environmental disasters that seem to be approaching with the determination of a large meteorite?

When Chris and I came to Cannock Wood 20 years ago to create the Reflection Gardens ( [www.reflectiongardens.org.uk](http://www.reflectiongardens.org.uk) ) linking environmental issues with the Christian journey, one of my goals was to produce an “un-quiet garden”. I hoped we would be able to present in plant and object, ideas that would confront and challenge visitors. Imagine my frustration therefore, when early visitors described the gardens as “beautiful and inspiring”! In the event, the need to think through (and agree with Chris) the detailed design of the gardens led me through a significant personal “journey” about my faith and my goals for what the gardens were about.

Conversations with these early visitors, who bravely plodded round the partially completed landscaping, led me to the conclusion that they (and I) were actually so fearful of, and feeling impotent to affect, the environmental crises that were being predicted at that time – and we now know a lot more about how real those crises are becoming. Chris and I began to realise that it was only in the tranquillity and

earthiness of a garden setting, that people were able to engage with these challenging issues and connect them with their faith.

When Chris put together her book of environmental liturgies, she called it “A Heart for Creation”. When I try to explain this, the analogy that works best for me is that of using the half dozen workshop tools that I inherited from my grandfather. I love to just hold them, and I treat them with great respect – but I do use them. My conclusion is that if we act out of fear, we will make mistakes; but if we act out of love, it will come right.

That’s why it is so good that (to the 1<sup>st</sup> of December) three dioceses have voted to recognise that there is a climate emergency, and to commit to achieving net zero carbon by 2030. The term “net zero” means that they will offset any remaining carbon footprint by donating to organisations like Climate Stewards ( <https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/> ). Also, our diocese has recognised the link between our faith and care for creation by advertising a new post in the Mission Team with specific emphasis on the environment. Whichever way you look at it, it’s all starting to happen ...

John Polhill

## Deadlines!

For **FEBRUARY** 2020 Magazine:

Deadline is

**MONDAY 13th JANUARY**

Contact David Bull

**Pew Sheet:**

7:30am

every Thursday Morning.

Contact Parish Office





We believe that responding to climate change is an essential part of our responsibility to safeguard God's creation. Our environmental campaign exists to enable the whole church to address - in faith, practice and mission - the issue of climate change.

*"Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."*

*Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

Sign up to our newsletter at <https://www.churchofengland.org/environment/environment-programme-news> for quarterly updates and take a look at our most recent issue to see what we're up to.

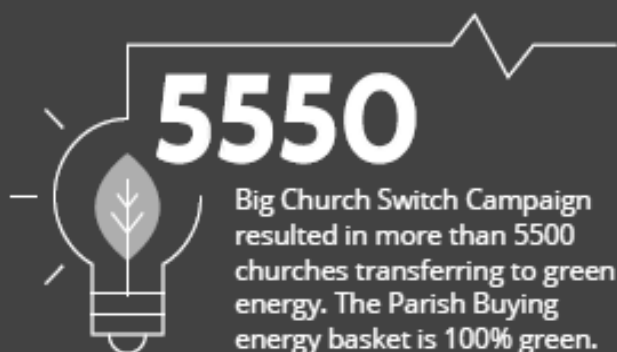
For more information visit  
[https://  
www.churchofengland.org/  
environment](https://www.churchofengland.org/environment)





# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## Environment Programme



# 5550

Big Church Switch Campaign resulted in more than 5500 churches transferring to green energy. The Parish Buying energy basket is 100% green.



# 37

Diocesan  
Environment  
Officers



# 850+

Eco churches



*"Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."*

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury



# 18+

Eco Dioceses...



## Season for Creation

1 Sept – 4th Oct  
celebrated across the  
Anglican Communion



## Letters for Creation

project will bring together  
young people in the global  
Church to pray, speak and  
act on climate change



## Green Health Awards

celebrated use of church  
land to promote spiritual,  
mental and physical health





# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## Environment Programme



*The New York Times* BBC Global

**Plastic-less Lent campaign** received widespread parish support and global media coverage including pick up by the New York times, BBC and Canadian Global Network.

**34,704**



people engaged in just one tweet

Bishops Environment Group growth  
from 5 to 76 over 5 years

Year 1

Year 5

5

76

**£10.1**  
trillion

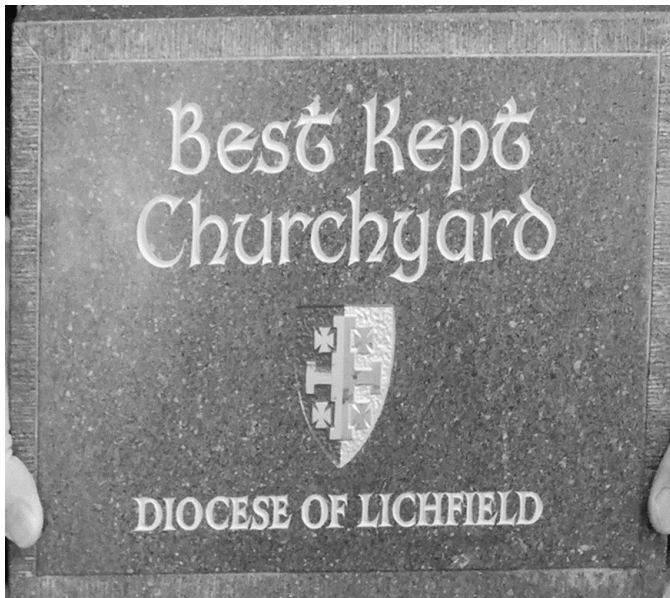
Transition Pathway Initiative  
supported globally by investors  
with over £10.1 trillion  
combined assets under  
management and growing

Advocacy  
on issues of climate  
change and environment  
including the drive for  
**zero emissions  
by 2050**

Support  
and resources  
provided for parishes  
ranging from advice  
on solar panels to  
tree care

**3.8m**

Funding secured for the ground-breaking Bats in Churches partnership project with Natural England, Historic England, Churches Conservation Trust and Bats Conservation Trust.



"Churchyards have pastoral, spiritual, and ecological significance," said the Bishop of Wolverhampton, the Rt Revd Clive Gregory, to those gathered from around the diocese at the annual Churchyard Awards Event.

There was much agreement when he shared from personal experience that: "caring for them can be hard work." With 45 entries, there were numerous examples of good practice, with half of the entries receiving an additional natural friendly certificate for the explicit work they have undertaken to promote wildlife.

There was plenty of helpful advice from the judges, with everyone receiving individual feedback. This year the Stone for Churchyard of the Year 2019 was awarded to St Michael and All Angels in Colwich who were commended for their very well maintained churchyard with excellent provision of information and promotion of wildlife.



The award for Church Garden of the Year 2019 was presented to St Mark's, Basford where the judges observed good provision for wildlife in an urban setting and sensitive inclusion of memorial plants amongst attractive, well maintained borders.





# AN IONA STYLE BIG SING

**Sing in the New Year**  
**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020**  
**6pm**  
**St. Michael's Church**  
**All Welcome**

# Regular Services and Worship in the Benefice

## Regular Services at St Michael's Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion  
10:00am Holy Communion

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

10:00am Family Praise

## Regular Services at St John's Sundays

10am Holy Communion

### **Baptism @ 11.30am**

4th Sunday

## Other Services at St Michael's Sundays

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 12:30pm*

Holy Baptism

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 6:00pm*

Holy Communion

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 4:30pm*

Messy Church

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 6:00pm*

Choral Evensong

### **Tuesday**

School Service

### **Wednesday**

9:30am Holy Communion

## Music in the Benefice

St Michael's Church

### **Wednesdays**

6.30pm Girls Choir

7.15pm Other parts &  
St Michael's Singers

### **Bells Practice**

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

### **Baptism**

**Preparation** First Tuesday at  
8:00pm at St Michael's

## St Michael's Prayer Group,

For information contact June Frayn (264920) or Brenda Liptrot (251863)



## Parish Surgery

For Baptisms, Banns and Weddings, staff are available at the Parish Office in St Michael's Church, Church Street on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday mornings** in the month by appointment only.

Please telephone 01543 262211 or email

[office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk) to make an appointment.

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

## First Steps



**Monday 13th January**

**10am St Michael's**

## Family Praise

**Sunday 12th January**



**10am St Michael's**

Come and join us at our ...

## MESSY CHURCH

for craft, story, song and food on



**Sunday 19th January**

**4.30 – 5.45pm**

in St Michael's Church  
Ages 0-11 yrs. welcome

## PARISH MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020

The annual subscription from January issue (delivered at Christmas) will be £8.50 for 2020 and 85p for individual copies. Subscriptions will be collected before Monday 13th January. Cheques payable to "P.C.C. of St. Michael and St. Mary".

If you wish to pay me in church I am usually at the 10 am service.

Thank you to our teams who help to deliver the magazine through the year and those who collect the annual subscriptions.

If you are reading this magazine for the first time and would like to have it delivered monthly please contact the office on 01543 262211 or email me at

[brian@britcave.co.uk](mailto:brian@britcave.co.uk)

Many thanks,

*Barbara Homewood*

**LARGE COPIES** of the magazine are available on request



## *A Prayer at Epiphany*

The kings, Lord,  
brought myrrh, frankincense, and gold.  
Lord, we have nothing of our own to bring;  
we bring you what you have given:  
our lives for your life.  
*Amen.*



The floodlights at

St Michael's

were lit on

**December 31st 2019**

in loving memory of

**Alan Mountford**

### **FLOODLIGHTING**

Sponsor St Michael's floodlights to mark a special occasion or remember a loved one!

Your donation will brighten up the skies over Lichfield for the night.

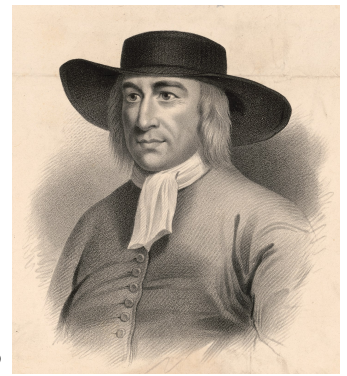
**Contact the  
United Benefice  
Office on 01543  
262211**



# George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers)

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/George-Fox>

**George Fox**, (born July 1624, Drayton-in-the-Clay, Leicestershire, Eng.—died Jan. 13, 1691, London), was a preacher and missionary and founder of the Society of Friends (or Quakers); his personal religious experience made him hostile to church conventions and established his reliance on what he saw as inward light or God-given inspiration over scriptural authority or creeds. He recorded the birth of the Quaker movement in his *Journal*.



George Fox.  
*Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. (LC-DIG-pga-11433)*

## EARLY LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

Fox was the son of a weaver in the English village of Drayton-in-the-Clay (now Fenny Drayton), Leicestershire. Probably apprenticed for a while to a cobbler, he may also have tended sheep, but there is little evidence of any adult business occupation or of much formal education. He always seemed to have a modest amount of money. He read extensively and wrote legibly. At the age of 18 he left home in search of satisfying religious counsel or experience and later reported in his *Journal* various personal religious experiences or direct revelations, which he called “openings,” that corrected, in his estimation, the traditional concepts of faith and practice in English religious life.

His religious background was apparently Puritan rather than strict Anglican, but he himself reacted even further than the Puritans from the formalism and traditionalism of the established church. He placed the God-given inward light (inspiration) above creeds and scripture and regarded personal experience as the true source of authority. In his *Journal* he wrote, “These things I did not see by the help of man, nor by the letter, though they are written in the letter, but I saw them in the light of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by his immediate Spirit and

powers, as did the holy men of God, by whom the Holy Scriptures were written”.

His negative attitude to ecclesiastical customs was matched by a similar attitude toward some political and economic conventions (e.g., oaths, titles, and military service). He began preaching to individuals or groups as he travelled on foot, first in the Midland counties of England, then in the northern counties, where groups of Seekers (a 17th-century Puritan sect) welcomed him and his message. Local congregations were established, gathered both by Fox and by many other itinerant men and women preachers, who were called Publishers of Truth. Thus came into being in the last years of the British Commonwealth (1649–60) the Society of Friends, as it was much later called, though its members were early nicknamed Quakers.

Fox had most success in winning adherents and fellow workers in the Lake District counties of Westmorland and Lancashire and later in Yorkshire, London, and other areas. He and his associates suffered public hostility and official constraint. They offended religious leaders both religiously and politically by their contradiction of the ministers in the churches (based on Fox’s view that ministers “bred at Oxford or Cambridge” were not qualified to be spiritual leaders in the churches) and by their refusal to honour officials, to take oaths, or to pay tithes. Fox and his associates were often arrested and imprisoned. Fox, in fact, suffered eight imprisonments between 1649 and 1673.

The restoration of the monarchy in 1660 led to special legislation against the Quakers and a widespread action against them. To meet this and other needs, George Fox encouraged local Quaker groups to organize into regular monthly and quarterly business meetings, which, with some central national meetings, became a permanent pattern of their church government. The continuing pressure was only intermittently relieved until the Toleration Act of 1689, shortly before Fox’s death, gave relief to the Quakers.

## MISSIONARY WORK IN ENGLAND AND ELSEWHERE

In 1669 Fox made a missionary visit to Ireland, and on his return he married one of his early converts, Margaret Fell, the widow of Judge Thomas Fell of Swarthmore Hall, Ulverston, Lancashire, where Fox spent parts of the following years. In the years 1671 to 1673 he traveled to the British colonies in the Caribbean and the North American mainland, strengthening and organizing the existing Quaker communities, especially in Maryland and Rhode Island. Shorter journeys in 1677 and 1684 took him to the Netherlands and a few other parts of northern Europe. About 1675 he dictated a running summary of his life that, with supplementary material, was posthumously edited and published as his *Journal*. For most of the last 15 years of his life he lived as a boarder or visitor among friends in or about London, attending consultations and committees on practical questions, preaching at meetings for worship, and engaging in a wide correspondence with individual Friends or with congregations to whom he was known.

Throughout his life, Fox shared the contemporary practice of writing controversial pamphlets, scores of which were published. They dealt with social as well as theological questions but lacked stylistic attraction. Although he was quite familiar with the English Bible, he sometimes displayed a taste for subjects like history and grammar, in which he had little competence. He borrowed information occasionally from his learned friends.

Fox evidently was, as Thomas Carlyle says, a man of enormous self-confidence, one who attracted rather than repelled. A magnetic personality, he was widely respected and admired by such men as William Penn, who left in writing an appreciation of Fox that is still the best summary of his character. Fox's own *Journal* is naturally not entirely objective, but with its many details it forms the fullest account of the rise of Quakerism, as well as of Fox himself. It is partly due to Fox's own sense of the historic importance of the Quaker movement that much other early written material was recorded and preserved.

*Henry J. Cadbury*



## **Lichfield Festival of Music 2019**

This annual Festival, which is older than the bigger and better known one held in July, is now in its 42nd year. It offers opportunities for all levels of skill -vocal, instrumental, ensembles, and piano - and is held over two Saturdays in November. This year finished with a concert of the winners at the Methodist Church. Importantly it also offers an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience.

This year St. Michael's Church for the first time provided one of the venues - the other being St. Joseph's School, in Cherry Orchard.

The Festival is affiliated to The British and International Federation of Festivals for Music, Dance and Speech.

Each class is adjudicated by a qualified professional musician who provides each competitor with individual comments of their performances, just as in a master class. Entrants come from a wide geographical area as well as Lichfield.

Outstanding talent this year included 6 year old harpist Effie Bowman, who performed Passacaille by Handel, 9 year old pianist Peter Wang who played Beethoven's Bagatelle No.1, Op.33, and 11 year old Andrew Crawford who displayed exceptional virtuosity in performing Schubert's Impromptu No. 2 Op.90, and Khatachaturian's Toccata. Megan Reed in the Opera (Open) class was also an outstanding performer with her rendering of Handel's Ombra mai fu.

Keep a look out for next year's festival in November. The classes and the concert are both open with a ticket to the public.

(See website for more information)

*Margaret Frean*

## Mother's Union Report for January 2020

It has become customary for us to hold meditations at the beginning of Lent and Advent. Usually we are led by a member of the Ministry team but this year Elizabeth and Lesley devised the format for Advent. We were divided into 4 groups of 5 to write prayers on the subjects of Love, Hope, Peace and Joy. To help, each group was given Bible readings with connections to their subject. A service of prayers and hymns followed and at intervals one of the prayers was read and a candle lit until all 4 were alight. It felt very inclusive as we had all had a part in the preparation.



A week later 8 members attended a Deanery Advent service at Christ Church, Burntwood.

In December we held our Christmas Party which not only consisted of a delicious buffet to which we had all contributed but also a fiendishly difficult quiz when we tried to “name that flag”. I am sorry to say that we did not do well. Why do so many countries have the same colours? We rounded off the evening with carol singing.

Happy New Year.

*Betty Lyne*

## Prayers composed as part of our Mothers' Union Advent Meditation 2019

My Soul is waiting for you, O Lord;

In your word is my **Hope....**

We pray for peace and reconciliation in all the countries around the world. We hope that our government will act with integrity and truth in their decision making.

We pray for the world and hope that everyone can make their mark in improving the environment, however small it may be.

We pray for the young people of the world that they can find their God. Give them hope that they will see light in their darkness. Amen

---

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord;

In your word is my **love....**

...for your love is guiding me always. You teach me to show love and compassion to all, especially to those who are less fortunate than me. As the kings showed their love with gifts, so may we show love to those who feel neglected. Amen

My Soul is waiting for you, O Lord;

In your word is my **peace**....

We pray for people everywhere – those in poverty, suffering domestic violence, gang warfare and areas of conflict around the world. May your light shine in the darkness in these areas, bringing your comfort and peace to all.

Dear Lord, help us we pray, as members of the Mothers' Union, in this Advent season to bring your love, light and peace into the lives of those we serve. Help us to pause in our preparations for Christmas, to slow down and accept your calming peace into our hearts.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Amen

---

My Soul is waiting for you, O Lord.

In your word is my **joy**.....

Come let us go to the mountain of the Lord so we may walk in his paths and sing his praise. With thanks for everything in daily life – a child's laughter, sun's rays through the window, flowers in the garden, leaves on the trees, friendships, and most of all these, fellowship in the Mothers' Union. Amen





# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD

After a very wet early morning the rain cleared by 10.00 a.m. on **Saturday November 23rd., Churchyard Bulb Planting Day.** The Working Party were joined by **5 members of 7th. Lichfield Scouts and 2 of their leaders;** and a parent who brought his 2 young children along.



We all worked really well together and by coffee time over **1,000 bluebell bulbs and a large number of wild daffodil, wood anemone and winter aconite and 150 wild primrose plants** were planted.



It was good to see so many worms in the planting area, showing the fertility of the Churchyard soil. The young people found these fascinating.

After well-earned refreshments-the cake went down well!- we all got back to work and collected leaves, some of which were taken for composting and others arranged into piles to help wildlife.



An excellent morning's work. My thanks to **Nick Crosby, Scout Leader**, **the scouts** themselves and everyone else who made this Community Event such a great success.

Our Working Party this month is on **Saturday January 25th., from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.** We will be clearing **debris from gravestones and headstones**, a worthwhile task for a Winter's Day. Please join us if you can. **Tea/Coffee/Cake will be served during the Mid-Morning Break.**

Ray Allen 251654





## UNITED BENEFICE WALKING GROUP

Rain, Rain, Rain and more rain. That was the weather forecast for our walk in November. It was surprising that anyone turned up. However the regulars appeared to see if the planned walk was still going ahead. We started with coffee and tea at Chesterfield Barn to see if the weather would improve.



The weather did not improve, so we decided to split up. Some went to Dobbies to be in the dry and a small group of us moved to Shenstone where, at last we could take a short walk around the village before going for lunch at The Bulls Head. All was not lost as we dropped in at the community centre in the Village Library to find that Shenstone also has a Heritage walk which may prove to be of interest to us in 2020.

*Hilary*



Join us for our January walk around **Barton Marina**, led by Angie.

We will meet at St Michaels Church on **Saturday 18th January**, at 10.00am.

When we arrive at the marina we will park on the main car park.

We will start by walking a very short distance to the **Barton Marina Café**, for coffee and you could treat yourself to a delicious piece of cake with your drink!

We will then walk around the lakes and then alongside the marina to see the canal boats (and the shops). We will be walking mainly along hardcore paths, one section of grass and paved paths. There is usually plenty of birdlife to see on the pools. The distance of this walk is 1 1/2 miles. Depending on how much time we have left and how you're feeling you can either then join me for a 1 1/2 mile walk down to Barton Turns and along the canal to see the entrance to the marina or, if you prefer, you can have a mooch around the shops.

Lunch is booked at **The Waterfront** for 12.30pm. Their menu can be viewed at <http://waterfrontbarton.co.uk/food-drink/menus/> We have booked a table for 16 people. If the booking was for a larger number they wanted a £5 per head deposit. The group booking will be asked to pre-order their food. If you do not get your name down on the group list you will still be able to order your food on the day.

We should be back in Lichfield by 2pm.

My contact details are ☎ 07785988716 ✉ [angieking000@gmail.com](mailto:angieking000@gmail.com)

*Ray Allen. 01543 251654*



# ***St. Michael's Film Club***

## **1. Yesterday**

*PG-13 1h 56min | Comedy, Fantasy, Music |*

A struggling musician realizes he's the only person on Earth who can remember The Beatles after waking up in an alternate timeline where they never existed.

**Monday 6th January, 1.30pm start**

**Refreshments £3.00 from 1.00pm.**

**St. Michael's Church**

**All welcome.**

**Contact: Parish Office 01543 262211**

## **2. Downton Abbey**

*PG | 2h 2min | Drama, Romance*

The continuing story of the Crawley family, wealthy owners of a large estate in the English countryside in the early twentieth century.

**Monday 3rd February, 1.30pm start**



## **DECEMBER FILM CLUB. DICK WHITTINGTON**

Pantomime is an antidote to the gloom of shorter and darker days. December Film Club provided a suitable escape on a cold winter afternoon. The film shown was a videoed performance from Bristol Hippodrome of Dick Whittington in 2015. It was streamed live at the time to hundreds of cinemas and theatres throughout the world. It claims to be the first complete pantomime to have been streamed in this manner.

Although not actually "live" the screening at the Film Club gave us occasional glimpses of the Bristol audience during the performance. Did it work as a film? It was certainly a very traditional panto and we knew what to expect - spectacular and colourful costumes, noisy music, energetic dancing, excruciating puns, doubles entendres, comedy slapstick sketches and other business, and last but not least audience participation. Unfortunately, the latter was somewhat missing. There were few opportunities for spectators either in the Bristol audience or at St. Michael's to shout out "He's behind you", our "Oh no he isn't" or "Oh yes he is". There were only a few hesitant hisses for the villain Rat Woman. This is understandable. A live performance cannot take too many risks with unscripted interruptions from the audience.



The leading actors included Ashleigh and her performing dog (a Britain's Got Talent winner), and Ben Faulkes from CBeebies. Eric Potts played the Dame and was also the writer and director. Versatility is the hallmark of a successful panto actor.

When the dog walked on his back legs for what seemed ages I did wonder about animal rights. Dick Whittington's cat was excellently played by a dancer in a black and white costume. No complaints there! Sub-titles which we are accustomed to at Film Club would have helped a lot. Many of the puns got lost due to poor sound quality.

Pantomime, thank goodness, is still going strong, but as we were reminded from the actor on the video at the final curtain call, live theatre needs our active support. What an irony!

In 1949 The Repertory Playhouse in Bore Street, Lichfield, now the site of Wilko's store, put on its first professional pantomime. It was a great success with audiences, but not to the taste of the Company. In following years at Christmas, they also put Dick Whittington and later Alice in Wonderland. Sadly, the Repertory Playhouse closed in 1953.

On leaving St. Michael's after the show someone said to me that the pantomimes performed nowadays at the Garrick Theatre, Lichfield could easily hold a candle to the performance we had just seen. There's praise for you".

*Margaret Frean*

# Ramblings

You will probably be reading this at the turn of the year! Christmas is over for another year and all we have to do is recover from the festivities... The hectic weeks before Christmas, the Carol services and Christingles, the frantic last minute shopping, the cooking and the entertaining have all passed. Now is the time for clearing up, disposing of wrapping paper (is it recyclable or not?!), putting away the tree and the decorations for another year.

January is a time for taking stock, a time of new beginnings. Some of us were able during Advent to turn aside and contemplate the birth of the Christchild in Bethlehem so long ago. The birth of a baby is a life changing event for the parents – certainly the birth of this baby was, not only for Mary and Joseph but also for many of us down the centuries. As we enter the new year in our world of turmoil, anxiety for the future of our planet, anxiety for the right way ahead for our country, I am reminded again of a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins which I included in my Ramblings a year or two ago. King George VI repeated it in his Christmas broadcast in 1939 at the beginning of WW2 and it seems particularly apt for us this year so I repeat it now....

## ***The Gate of the Year***

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:*

*“Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.”*

*And he replied:*

*“Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.*

*That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.”*

*So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.*

*And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.*

As we move forward into the unknown, let us put our hand into the hand of God and put our trust in Him.

*Christine Higgs*



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# Winter Bird Walk



Photo: Peter Norbury

Photo: Tony Heggett

**A guided winter bird walk at RSPB  
Middleton Lakes led by Julia Winhall**

**Saturday 4 January at 10:00 a.m.**

**Meet in reserve car park, Bodymoor  
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**Under-18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Contact (01543) 257812**



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## LICHFIELD WILDLIFE GROUP



# Wildlife Photography: Field Notes and Anecdotes



**A talk by Andy Holt**  
**Tuesday 4 February 7:45 p.m.**

**Wade Street Church**  
**Frog Lane, Lichfield WS13 6HL**

**Under-18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Contact (01543) 257812**



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# Bible Readings

**Sunday 5th January**

**Epiphany**

**[White]**

Ephesians 3.1-12

Matthew 2.1-12

**Sunday 2nd February**

**Candlemas**

**[White]**

Hebrew 2.14-end

Luke 2.22-40

**Sunday 12th January**

**Baptism of Christ**

**[White]**

Acts 10.34-43

Matthew 3.13-end

**Sunday 9th February**

**3rd Sunday before Lent**

**[Green]**

1 Corinthians 2.1-12 [13—end]

Matthew 5.13-20

**Sunday 19th January**

**2nd Sunday of Epiphany**

**[White]**

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

John 1.29-42

**Sunday 26th January**

**3rd Sunday of Epiphany**

**[White]**

1 Corinthians 1.10-18

Matthew 4.12-23

**Sunday 26th January**

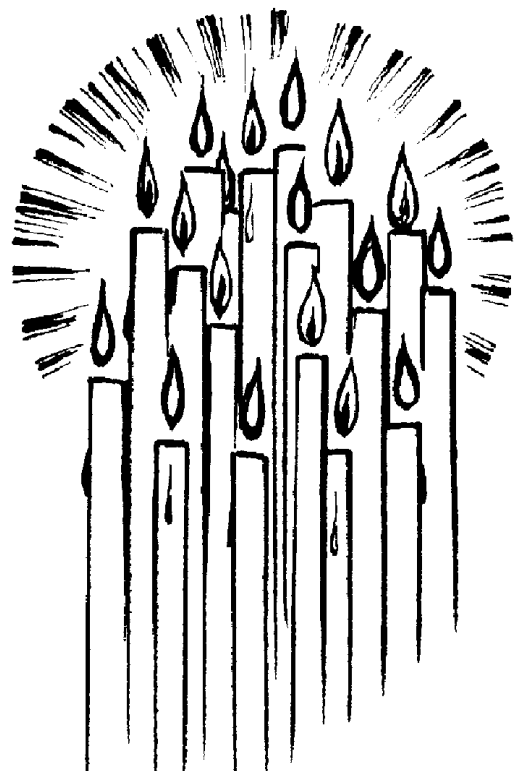
**3rd Sunday of Epiphany**

**EVENSONG**

**[White]**

Ecclesiastes 3.1-11

1 Peter 1.3-12



# *From the Registers*



## **Baptism**

St Michael	1st Dec	Emily Olivia Buckle	10 months
St Michael	1st Dec	Thomas Beebee	adult



## **Wedding**

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## **At Rest**

St John	3rd December	Eva Linney	78
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## St Michael's Rota - January 2020

<b>Sunday 8.00 am</b>	<b>5 January</b>	<b>12 January</b>	<b>19 January</b>	<b>26 January</b>
<b>Sidesperson</b>	Sandy Baker	David Bull	Martin Dewes	Brian Smith

<b>Sunday 10.00 am</b>	<b>5 January</b>	<b>12 January Family Praise</b>	<b>19 January</b>	<b>26 January</b>
<b>Welcomer</b>	Brenda Eley	Pat Toplis	Shirley Trelfa	Maureen Brand
<b>Sidespersons</b>	Lynn and David Edge	Viv and Stephen Oliver	Judy and Mike Godfrey	Brenda Liptrot Richard Keay
<b>Reader</b>	Alison Staines		Mike Godfrey	Angela Burgess
<b>Servers</b>	Kay Martin Elizabeth Salt		Elizabeth Allen David Shiel	Maggie Easton Phil Clayton
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Sheila Vaughan		Phil Clayton	Maggie Easton
<b>Intercessor</b>	Ted Green		Trevor James	David Easton
<b>Coffee</b>	Elizabeth Allen Trish Jones	Alison Anketell Judy Godrey	June Frayn Betty Lyne	Anne Lingwood Angela Burgess
<b>Healing</b>				David Easton Sheila Vaughan
<b>Transport</b>	Ron Plimmer	Elizabeth Allen	Brenda Liptrot	Ray Allen
<b>Flowers</b>	Christmas flowers	TBA	TBA	TBA

<b>Sunday 6.00 pm</b>	<b>5 January</b>	<b>12 January</b>	<b>19 January</b>	<b>26 January</b>
	<b>Iona Big Sing</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>No service</b>	<b>Evensong</b>
<b>Sidesperson</b>		Margaret Frean		Ray Allen
<b>Reader</b>		Margaret Frean		Phil Clayton
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		Trevor James		



# And Finally

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

*Mahatma Gandhi.*

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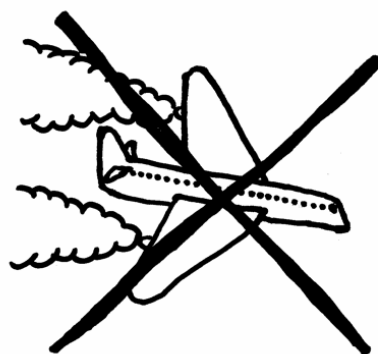
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