

THE PARISH MAGAZINE

October 2022



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

£1

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St Michael's Church Church Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6ED	St John's Church Green Lane, Wall, Staffordshire, WS14 0AS

United Benefice Office

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Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri **CLOSED** Thursdays
9.00 am to 12.00 noon.
Tel: 01543 262211
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LARGE COPIES of the
magazine are available
on request

Reflection

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,

There is no shadow of turning with thee;

Life, especially at the moment, can seem to be constantly changing, which can feel very unsettling. Just as we were getting used to Brexit and all that followed that change, the pandemic came. That was, and at times still is, a time of change, fear and often great sadness.

Then came the invasion of Ukraine, bringing war and suffering much closer to home than it had been for a long time. Yes, wars happen all the time in parts of the world, but one actually in Europe was alarming. Seeing the crowds of people fleeing from their homes, fearing for their lives, was tragic to watch but also raised anxiety levels in many people, watching from the safety of their own homes.

News of the cost-of-living crisis and forecasts of massive rises in the cost of fuel, have added to this sense of foreboding and worry. With the onset of winter, there are many people who will be wondering how they are going to be able to keep warm and feed themselves in the coming months.

The change of Prime Minister has been another unsettling event for many, as we waited for the outcome of the contest and to see what would happen as a result. Then, the death of Queen Elizabeth II, although not totally unexpected, still came as a shock and yet another constant in our lives had gone. Whether monarchists or not, her

death, after seventy years on the throne, has brought about yet another change in our lives.

Change is unsettling. Whether a longed-for change or not, every change is accompanied by a loss. Even changes that are welcomed and invited, still mean something is left behind. A new job, may be hoped for, but still the previous job and colleagues are left behind. Leaving home may have been craved and anticipated for a long time, but when it happens, we can suddenly realise how alone we feel after always having family around, however annoying they may have sometimes seemed – and the same applies to parents left at home without their child.

Our lives are full of change – always have been and always will be – but it is how we deal with all this change and uncertainty that is important.

At the start of these words, I quoted the first lines of one of my favourite hymns, written by Thomas Chisholm – a hymn that means a lot to me. It is a reminder that through all the worries, anxieties and uncertainties of this life, there is one constant, and that is God.

We may wander away from God, at times in our lives, and that can make us feel that we are alone and without help, but God has not left us. If we turn back to God, we will find that nothing has changed and God's love and support is waiting for us. God will guide us through the tough times and rejoice with us in the good. As the hymn says, *strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow* – that is what God gives us and in these unsettling times it is good to know that God is there as a constant in all our lives.

As we move forward, with a new Prime Minister and a new King, I pray that we may all know the comfort and support of God in the coming months and years and that, despite the hardships and changes in life, we will all be able to start each day being able to rejoice -

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed thy hand hath provided,

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Ruth Bull

Deadlines!

For **November** Magazine: Deadline is

SUNDAY 16th October

Please send articles to David Shiel

AND the Parish Office

shielfamily@gmail.com

office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk

Pew Sheet:

every Thursday

7:30am

Contact

Parish Office



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MICHAEL

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I share the deep sorrow of people across the Diocese of Lichfield at the death of Her Late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and send our condolences to all members of the Royal Family.

The Queen lived a remarkable life of faithful service and maintained strength, courage and grace as she led our country through countless changes and challenges. She has served all our communities tirelessly and lived a life

the like of which we are unlikely ever to witness again.

The Queen's strong personal faith in Jesus Christ informed her sense of duty and her role as Defender of the Faith. We pray now that she finds rest and peace, assured by her faith, and for our cathedral and other churches across the diocese in the coming days and weeks as they offer a place of consolation for all those who mourn.

We also pray for His Majesty The King Charles III at the beginning of his reign, and we pray that he may know comfort as he grieves his mother's death.

With my best wishes and my prayers,

+Michael

There is an online book of condolence, prayers and the opportunity to light a virtual candle at www.churchofengland.org



DIOCESE OF
LICHFIELD



A prayer on the death of Her Majesty The Queen

Gracious God, we give thanks
for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,
for her faith and her dedication to duty.
Bless our nation as we mourn her death
and may her example continue to inspire us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.





A Prayer for our new King, Charles III

*Everlasting God, we pray for our new King.
Bless his reign and the life of our nation.
Help us to work together
so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness
flourish among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Regular Services and Worship in the Benefice

Regular Services at St Michael's Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion

10:00am Holy Communion

1st Sunday

10:00am Family Praise

Thursdays

9.30am Morning Prayer

Regular Services at St John's Sundays

10am Holy Communion

Baptism @ 11.30am

Last Sunday of the month

Other Services at St Michael's Sundays

1st Monday 10.00am

First Steps

2nd Sunday 4:30pm

Messy Church

3rd Sunday 6:00pm

Choral Evensong

Last Sunday 12:30pm

Holy Baptism

Music in the Benefice

St Michael's Church

Wednesdays

6.30pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday before 1st Sunday

7:30pm Music Group & Choir
Rehearsal

Baptism Preparation

First Saturday 10:30am

at St Michael's

Bells Practice

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

CHILDREN'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Family Praise

Sunday 2nd October

10am St Michael's



First Steps



Monday 3rd October

10am St Michael's

Come and join us at our ...

MESSY CHURCH

for craft, story, song and food on



SUNDAY 9th October

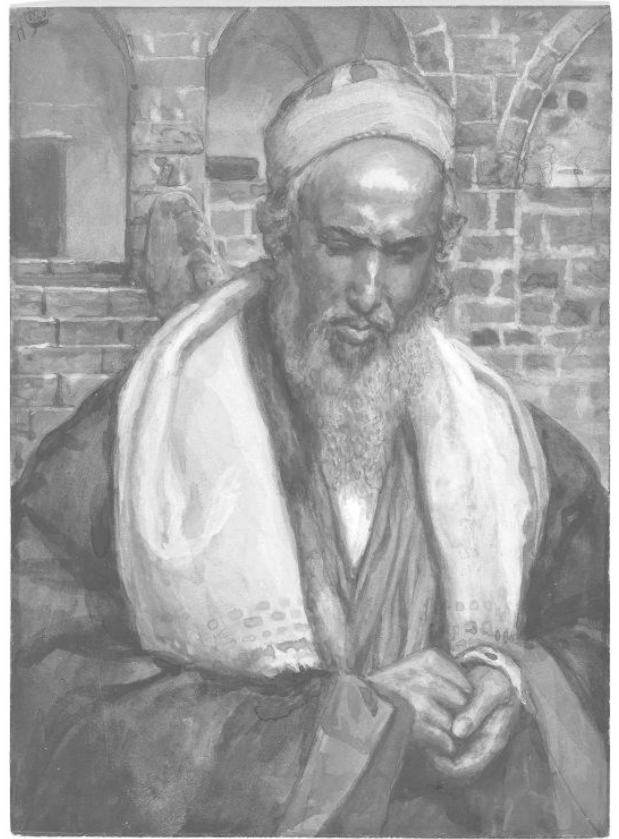
4.30 – 5.45pm

in St Michael's Church

Ages 0-11 yrs. welcome

Luke the Evangelist

Luke was a dear friend of the apostle Paul, and is mentioned by him three times in his Letters. Paul describes him as 'the beloved physician' and, in his second Letter to Timothy, as his only companion in prison. He is believed to be the author of two books of the New Testament, firstly the gospel which stands in his name and also the *Acts of the Apostles*. Luke's narrative of the life of Christ has a pictorial quality and shows the sequential pattern from the nativity through to the death and resurrection. The developed sense of theology comes over in Paul's writings is virtually unknown in Luke but, as a Gentile, Luke makes clear that the good news of salvation is for all, regardless of gender, social position or nationality. Traditionally, Luke wrote his gospel in Greece and died in Boeotia at the age of eighty-four.



Luke the Evangelist is symbolized by a **winged ox or bull**, a figure of sacrifice, service and strength.

Photo taken at the Sagrada Familia by Angie King

Film Club

at St Michael's Church

FREE ADMISSION AND REFRESHMENTS

Doors open at 2pm

The Call of the Wild

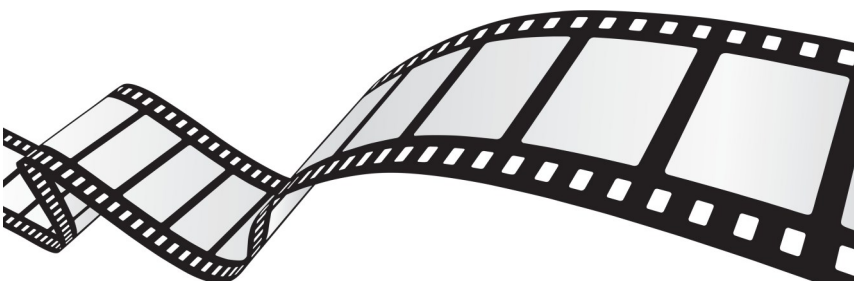
(2020, PG, 1h 40m Adventure/ Drama/ Family)

Starring Harrison Ford.

**A sled dog struggles for survival
in the wilds of the Yukon.**

Mon 3rd October 2.30pm start

**Tea/Coffee and Cake will be served
at the interval
All welcome.**



Save the Date:
Next Film Club
November 7th



THE PATHWAY PROJECT

Turning Victims into Survivors!!

The Pathway Project in Lichfield first opened its welcoming doors some 30 years ago, the brainchild of Kathy Coe, who at the time was a member of St. Annes Church in Chasetown, the baton was picked up at St Michaels by the late Caroline Green in 2004 and has been magnificently supported here at St Michaels ever since, in numerous ways from cash envelope collections at Pentecost Sunday services to Toy Service donations at the December Family Praise Service and supplemented as required with cake-making by the St Michael's Mothers' Union plus special one-off requests for items of children's and women's clothing when required, to supplement dwindling clothing stocks at the Pathway Project's two Support Centres.

For ways that you can help to support The Pathway Project access the website on www.pathway-project.co.uk or talk to Ted Green or Liz Allen here at St. Michaels.

What is *The Pathway Project*??

It is a Domestic and Sexual Abuse service based in Lichfield and Tamworth – it has two Refuges, Eden House and Rebecca House, emergency confidential and safe accommodation where women can go, alone or with their children, to escape the abuse of a partner* more on the term partner later in this article. The Lichfield Refuge offers 24hr support meaning that they often house more complex, or high-risk women. They also provide outreach services to adults and children across the community, including additional support for mental

health and economic abuse, group work and counselling, is delivered from the Hope Centre in Lichfield.

The two houses have bed-sitting style accommodation for between 4 and 20 families with cooking facilities and a TV. There is also a shared lounge, a shared bathroom and shared shower and toilet facilities.

Residents are free to come and go as they please up to 11.00 o'clock at night. The room becomes their home for as long as it takes to arrange suitable more permanent accommodation.

For children there is a safe and well-equipped **Ofsted** registered playroom and a play area in the secure and pleasant garden.

The houses are both situated near to local amenities with friendly, well-trained, and experienced staff who can offer support and are happy to work with residents to find permanent and safe accommodation.

It can be scary and frightening to suddenly find yourself alone – but with *The Pathway Project* residents will never be in the situation of having to do everything alone or without help – they are encouraged to make their own decisions and to follow-through with the support of a Keyworker who is fully trained and qualified to guide them through the maze of problems they see ahead of them.

Whilst realising that additional help and services may be required, the Keyworkers can tap into all the support available at the Hope Centre, including counselling, wellbeing groups, craft sessions and educational sessions – there are also practical activities i.e.. Pamper or Bingo sessions and coffee mornings in which residents can participate as and when they feel ready to.

There is also a self-help group to help residents look back at what has happened and try to make some sense of it.

How long do residents have to stay?

It is found that generally, it is between 6-12 months. This has become longer due to the issues around housing availability for families, especially those with larger families.

After leaving the refuge residents can access resettlement support while they transition back into their own home, or can attend the Hope Centre and access provisions there.

If you or anyone you know may be in need of *The Pathway Project's* services there is a 24-hour helpline on **01543 676 800** or email on ***talktoeve.pathway@virgin.net***

*Of course, abuse can present itself in so many ways, ***it can happen to anyone***, regardless of age, ethnicity gender or sexuality and it is not only male partners who are the abusers – statistics show that **a man is severely assaulted by his partner every 14.6 seconds. *The Pathway Project*** does offer a range of community-based services to male victims.

It can happen to anyone!

It is a widely held myth that if the abuse does not involve hitting, punching kicking, or being strangled then it isn't really **"ABUSE"**.

There are many faces to abuse, and many do not involve physical contact

i.e.

- Name calling
- Isolation from family/friends

- Controlling behaviour
- Veiled threats
- Sexual assaults
- Social isolation
- Financial control.

For obvious reasons men cannot avail themselves of The Pathway Project's refuges, which are safe spaces for women and children, however if any of the above applies to male partners, please do not hesitate to access support, and **REJECT abuse**, in any of its manifestations, and get help by calling *The Pathway Project's* 24-hour helpline [01543 676 800]. where there are highly trained and experienced advisors who can offer advice to help to **understand**, to **stop the hurting** and can be **trusted** to help **find answers** to problems to **make the abuse stop**.

It takes courage to admit there is a need for help, so don't be afraid to talk to an advisor, anonymously if necessary, who will offer advice and support to find ways of preventing the abuse from escalating

I hope that this article has helped to raise awareness of the evils of domestic and sexual abuse in our present-day society.

Editor



www.pathway-project.co.uk

LATE NIGHT LISTENERS REPORT 27.08.22

Hi all,

Catching the fading Mediterranean climate, our seven strong team were out on another end of the month, Saturday night session. (we were a wee bit top heavy as one of the team could only stay for a couple of hours). With the stories of a serious assault having taken place in the City the previous Saturday night, the team were eager to bring an uplifting and positive presence to this particular evening. The streets were quite litter strewn with a number of over-flowing litter bins as a result of the day's Food Festival...

We were regaled with a number of the almost regular comments, of how we are 'good people', 'saints' and 'angels', which is very humbling and good to know that is how our role is seen by the general public. One couple stopped for a beverage with the male of the partnership telling us how he was from Perth, Australia and that they. had something very similar in his city...we were almost expecting a 'good on ya mates'!!

A few of the regular homeless guys were out in their usual spots where we got to chat with a couple of them. Seeing an 'orphaned shopping trolley that clearly belonged to a particular supermarket beginning with T, two of our team decided to return the orphan to its mother and proceeded to wheel said trolley through the Lichfield streets in the direction of the aforementioned supermarket. Lo and behold on their way the duo came across another abandoned trolley and by the time they arrived at the supermarket's car park they had collected 4 trolleys. There was a brief temptation to take a selfie and post it online to let T know what had been done but it was decided someone might think we were off our trolleys!!

A group of young men came over with one of them so enamoured by us that he wanted to give everyone a hug, precipitating an abrupt recoil from some members of the team (it seems that Covid has

maybe left a bit of a scar!).

For the first time since the emergence from the impact of Covid, we had biscuits (albeit they were individually wrapped) out on the table again...these seemed to go down quite well.

The Senior Community Safety Officer at the District Council stopped by for a chat and was very positive and encouraging about the work being done for the Community via LNL. We have been encouraged to apply for some funding that would give us some Hi-Vis tabards for the warmer evenings and some more portable lighting.

Towards the end of our session the lovely Bobby (security guy for the Millennium Chicken establishment) brought us over a box of fresh cooked fries which is always welcomed at that time of night.

It was a briskly busy night but with a genuine calmness...which is how we like to leave it...night all!

David WM

ADVERTISING IN THIS MAGAZINE

If you would like to advertise here, the prices per year are:


Full page £280

Half Page £150

Quarter Page £85

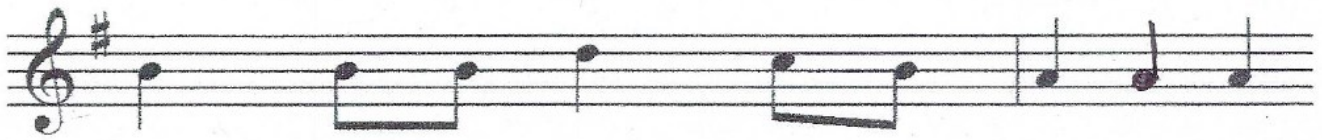
Eighth Page £50

Please contact the office

 01543 262211

 office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk

Active Body, Active Mind



All forms of Dancing are really great exercise for both body and mind. Be it Folk dancing, Morris dancing, ballroom dancing, line dancing, ballet or tap dancing they all require a physical and/or Mental agility which will help to keep both body and mind in a state of fitness to cope with the strains and stresses of modern-day life. There are exponents of all the above in and around the Lichfield area.

A recent BBC Podcast by Dr Michael Morley in his “Just One Thing” series explained the benefits of Dance for both physical and mental health and wellbeing

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0017cfl>

Research shows that dancing can cut GP & A&E visits by more than a quarter and doctors are being advised to, sometimes, prescribe dance instead of drugs.



Lichfield Folk Dance Club (LFDC) has also celebrated its Platinum Anniversary this year and would welcome new members. Mostly our members come from Lichfield and the surrounding area, our dances are a variety of dances ranging from Country Dances first published in the 17th and 18th centuries to Contras and Square dances from America and many dances composed more recently.

Dancing is good for romance too! St. Michael's John and Christine Polhill were keen folk dancers in their younger days, and they first met through their interest in Folk dancing - They have been members of LFDC since 2001, having previously danced in St Albans - The accompanying photo is of John and Christine in their younger days ready to attend a **Playford Ball**, a costume ball where dancing was mainly done to dances written down by members of the Playford Family during the 16th. To 18th. centuries and to whom gratitude is owed for many of the dances danced to this day.



St. Michael's David and Maggie Easton also met through their interest in Folk dancing - although their dancing now is focused on Morris (see accompanying photo) and they can be seen performing with the Lichfield Morris at many of Lichfield's iconic events such as the Lichfield Bower, the Lichfield Folk Dance Festival and others.



For Folk dancing you don't need any special clothing, but comfortable footwear is recommended. Come as a couple or on your own. One thing you do need to bring is a drink (non-alcoholic) as we do not have access to facilities to make a drink in the interval.

Like any new activity it can take a few weeks to get to know where you are going but you are guided through each dance by a caller accompanied by live or recorded music.

Lichfield Folk Dance Club meets on Monday Evenings (term time only) at

7.30 pm to 9.30 pm in the Bader Hall, King Edward VI School, Lichfield.

Your first visit will be **free** and then subsequent visits will be £4.00, However if you become a member for £5 a year, then the club night fee is only £3.00. LFDC resumed classes on 5th. September 2022.

Further information is available on our website:

<http://www.lichfieldfolkdanceclub.co.uk>.

We hope very much that you will come and join us – remember your First Night is FREE! If you want more information, please contact me.

Kathryn Wright

Membership Secretary

Lichfield Folk Dance Club

KathrynWright5@aol.com or 01543 268756

PS from the **Editor**: -

If you can read music you may find the heading to this article interesting.



*Chris and John Polhill at the June 2011 Folk Festival
doing the Sword Dance*



St. Michael's Churchyard

I was delighted to receive an email at the beginning of September from one of the leaders of St. Michael's Guides to ask if daffodils, in memory of the Late Barbara Homewood, former Guide Leader and Mothers Union, could be planted in the grass at the sides of the crab apple avenue. I was very pleased to agree to this initiative and we look forward to seeing the daffodils in bloom next Spring. Our Late Queen was a Girl Guide and later became Patron of The Girl Guides' Association.

Here is important information from the Rector and Churchwardens.

St. Michael's Church recently achieved the Eco Church Bronze Award. We are now aiming for the Eco Church Silver Award and we need your help!

We ask you to please

**REMOVE ALL PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES
FROM THE CHURCHYARD
BY SATURDAY OCTOBER 1st.**

**From October 1st. filled water bottles will be available for you to use
to water your flowers.**

These will be stored in a large container by the New Churchyard Entrance Gate.

Please return the empty water bottle to the container after use.

If you prefer, you can use your own bottle but please take it home with you after you have used it.

Thank you

Rector and Churchwardens
St. Michael's Church, Lichfield

SAINT MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

We will be meeting on

**Saturday October 15th
from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.**

Do please join us if you can as we continue to make improvements to our beautiful Churchyard



One of our tasks will be

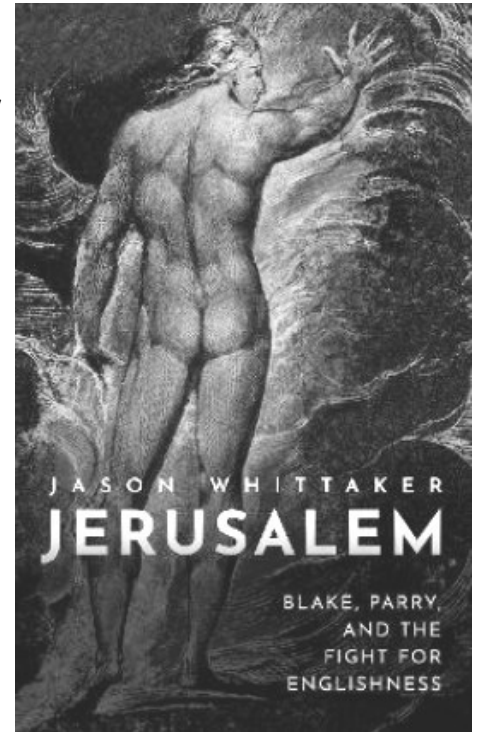
Planting Daffodils

All Gardening Tools are
provided.

**Refreshments (Tea/Coffee/Cake)
will be served during our Mid-Morning Break**

For more information please contact Ray Allen
01543 251654
email: lesley@existenz.org.uk

Jerusalem: Blake, Parry and the Fight for Englishness, Jason Whittaker, Oxford University Press, 2022, 249p, £21.99. ISBN 9780197519646.



As boy almost seventy years ago in Woodside, aged nine, I have vivid memories of my year group being taught the text of 'Jerusalem' and how to sing it properly with appropriate emphases. It was treated as a central feature of our aesthetic learning. Obviously unaware of the link, I had also visited Felpham where famously William Blake had composed 'Jerusalem'. For me this is the context in which I have enjoyed Jason Whittaker's very thorough exposition of how Jerusalem was originally authored and how it passed through an evolution over two centuries to the point where, as he indicates, it is so strongly associated with Englishness.

Jason Whittaker takes us very carefully on a journey from Felpham to where we now regularly encounter 'Jerusalem' in the 'Last Night of the Proms', within the world of Women's Institutes, within sport and with its identification with various and quite disparate political ideologies.

The four stanzas of 'Jerusalem' were originally composed as part of William Blake's *Milton*. Blake was hardly part of the political mainstream, to the extent that in 1803 he was actually prosecuted, albeit unsuccessfully, for sedition because of remarks that he had made to a soldier in Felpham. Very few original copies of his stanzas existed in his lifetime but in the mid-nineteenth century people began to explore the meaning of his remarkable text.

The text lent itself to a variety of interpretations, such was its brilliance, that quite differing scholarly responses emerged. Some felt that he had simply accepted the idea that Joseph of Arimathea had visited England, indeed possibly bringing his young relative, Jesus, and that the sense of this was reflected in this poem. Others looked for evidence of which part of Britain would have seen the 'dark satanic mills' to which he refers.

Those who insisted that they were in the north had not realized that in Blake's time, as Defoe had remarked only in the 1720s, the early stages of industrialisation were to be seen in the Weald of Sussex, the very countryside with which Blake was familiar, or indeed that the ten-mile long River Wandle which joins the River Thames at Wandsworth had the largest concentration of industrial mills of any river in England, again an area which he knew well.

By the end of the nineteenth century this poem had begun to attract a great deal of interest. Its transformation into the phenomenon with which we are familiar came with the commissioning of Sir Hubert Parry to set it to music in 1916. Parry's involvement had been drawn in because one of his former students, Henry Walford Davies and Robert Bridges had recommended him. It was first performed for the Fight for Right organization led by rather nationalistic Sir Francis Younghusband but in 1917 it was played for a suffrage demonstration, involving Millicent Fawcett. Just before his death in 1918 he passed the copyright to the music to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, a confirmation of where the sympathies of himself and his wife lay. This points to how 'Jerusalem' became associated with the Women's Institute movement.

Politicians of the left such as Clement Attlee warmed to the resonances of the message conveyed by 'Jerusalem' and it was a favourite song of George V. Indeed in 1935 when the finalised programme for his Silver Jubilee concert was published, its absence led the king to say that he would go on stage and whistle the tune himself. Of course, it was then added at the last moment!

Jason Whittaker has taken us on a remarkable journey from the composition of Blake's sixteen lines of verse through its transformation by Parry into a music classic, to the degree that it is has become a national treasure with a variety of resonances for a wholly disparate range of audiences. This is an important piece of research.

Trevor James

This review was prepared for the on-line Aspects of History magazine.



UNITED BENEFICE WALKING GROUP

Heath Hayes Park

Date: Sat 8th October

Meeting Point: Heath Hayes Park Car Park, Wimblebury Rd, Heath Hayes, Cannock WS12 2EW

Start Time: 10.30 a.m.

Walk Details: From the car park we will walk through the park into the woodland area behind it. We will visit one of the many small lakes that can be found around this old mining area. We will then walk to Wimblebury Mound to see a number of wood carving that are part of the nature trail. We will then return to Heath Hayes Park.



Lunch: The Five Ways Inn,
Hednesford Rd, Heath Hays,
Cannock WS12 3HU

Angie King

beneficewalkinggroup@gmail.com



History & Heritage on our Doorsteps

“The Battle of Burton Bridge”

Whenever you visit Burton, for whatever reason, depending on which end of the town you go to you may or may not be aware of the magnificent bridge spanning the River Trent, and giving access to Ashby Road, Bretby and Swadlincote. Obviously this is not the same bridge that existed in Medieval times which at 515 yards long and a mere 15 feet wide was considerably smaller than the present bridge.



OLD BRIDGE

NEW BRIDGE



Some 700 years ago in March 1322 this was the scene of a bloody showdown between King Edward II and his cousin,, and rival, Thomas, Earl of Lancaster. who had led bitter opposition to the power and influence bestowed by King Edward on his Court favourites, Piers Gaveston and Hugh Despenser.

Robert Bruce's resounding victory over Edward at Bannockburn in 1314 had substantially weakened Edward's military position. Thomas had contributed, in no small way, to Bruce's resounding victory by refusing to join Edward's Scottish campaign.

In the 6 years between 1314 and 1318 an agreement was reached between Edward and Thomas which meant that Thomas, effectively, ruled England.

Edward was not a happy King!!

King Edward's army arrived in South Derbyshire on 7 March 1322 and set up camp at Caldwell. Whilst at Burton the medieval bridge spanning the River Trent was barricaded and manned by Lancaster's forces and with the river in flood and the nearest crossing at Wychnor destroyed on Lancaster's orders. A temporary stand-off ensued. Heavily outnumbered, but well-supplied from his stronghold at Tutbury Castle Lancaster planned to hold onto his position until the expected arrival of reinforcements from the north of England arrived to bolster his numbers, before engaging in battle with the King. On 10 March 1322 Edward launched an attack on Burton Bridge while a separate Royal force forded the river at Walton and marched north to Burton. At this point Thomas's former ally, Robert Holland defected to Edward and after initially engaging in battle the overwhelming odds persuaded Thomas to withdraw, but not before putting Burton to the torch to delay Edward's pursuit!

The two armies finally met at Boroughbridge in Yorkshire on 16 March. When Thomas's rebel army of around 700 met with the King's

force of around 4,000, soon to be augmented by troops from nearby York. Following an inconclusive engagement, a truce was negotiated and many of the earl's men deserted overnight.. Faced with the inevitable, Thomas surrendered, was taken to Pontefract Castle, summarily tried, convicted of treason and executed on 22 March 1322. He was buried before the high altar of the Cluniac Priory of St. John in Pontefract.

To commemorate the rout at Burton Bridge King Edward had a chapel built and dedicated to St. James.at the west end of Burton Bridge

In the lawless aftermath of the events at Burton in March 1322 there was widespread looting, Tutbury Castle was ransacked and left a derelict ruin until its rescue by John O'Gaunt some 40 years later.

Among the miscreants charged in the aftermath of the Battle of Burton Bridge was Abbot William. Bromley of Burton Abbey who was tried, found guilty, fined £300, but later pardoned.

Thomas's former friend and ally, the turncoat Robert Holland, was eventually made Lord of the Manor of Yoxall and granted a manor house at Melbourne which Holland started to rebuild as Melbourne Castle. He later changed sides again and fought with Lancaster at Boroughbridge and after the surrender he was imprisoned at Warwick Castle, later at Northampton Castle from where he escaped and was subsequently murdered near Henley-on-Thames in 1328.

And you thought Burton was only known for its beers!!!???!

Editor

My grateful thanks and acknowledgement go to Richard Stone for the inspiration I received from his article on this event in the March 2022 edition of *The Mid-Trent & Mercia Historian* magazine.

News from the Hawksworth Family in China

As the Summer break came to a close, there was lots of excitement building for the children's return to school.

Milo, Rupert and Gabriel will all attend SPGS International, the school at which Peter is Founding Headmaster. Ellie will go to a special needs school where she can access the support she needs to help her through her schooling.

All the children were very excited to be starting school again.

We knew that Covid was back in our province of Sichuan and were following the daily case numbers carefully. The government advised that everyone take a Covid test every third day to help identify which areas were most at risk. This became every second day, and anyone without a 48hr negative test result and green health code and travel code was refused entry into the Metro stations, shops, schools, parks, etc.

Finally, on August 31st, we were given 24hrs notice that on the following day (September 1st 2022) we would be going into a 'Soft lockdown' for 4 days. Everyone was to be tested daily, and only one person from each household could leave the compound to buy food. Deliveries were still available but would be left at one of the compound's three gates for you to collect later.

We dutifully obeyed the new rules and did a test every day. Peter is our nominated person to leave the compound. This role is not changeable. The guards are understandably anxious to make sure everyone follows the rules.

We are now on day 11 of soft lockdown with no sign or suggestion of it being lifted anytime soon. We know that there are two



Moon Cakes for the Mid-Autumn Festival

big events in the Chinese calendar: Mid-Autumn Festival and the inauguration of President Xi Jing Ping in October. The government is keen for the daily case numbers to stay below 0. Reading between the lines we don't think the lockdown will be lifted any time before mid-October, although we're hoping this won't be the case!

September brought us another earthquake! This one measured 6.6 - stronger than the June 1st earthquake that measured 6.1!

Unfortunately, this earthquake killed around 70 people close to the epicentre in rural areas. The advice given by the government around earthquakes is to get outside as soon as you hear the sirens, somewhere with open space and away from tall buildings. As you walk around Chengdu, you will often see big green signs with 'Emergency shelter this way' written on them. This is designed to provide shelter if you're outside in a built-up area, to avoid being hit by falling debris!

We have plenty of tremors but big earthquakes are very infrequent. We didn't feel the most recent one as our compound is built above a carpark. We were on the ground floor having a Covid test, but I think had we been in our apartment, we'd have felt it!

We spend our week days trying to do the work we need to do. Having 4 children at home, supervising them in their online lessons, as well as going for a Covid test and trying to do all the daily house chores is quite a challenge. Peter is very hands-on with the children and we take turns to make lunch and dinner as well as manage the laundry. It's far from ideal, and if I'm honest, I didn't think we'd still be living our lives still in fear on catching Covid. Having said that, the vaccination rate here is very low. People just don't trust the government vaccine and refuse to take it. It's hard but we know that, ultimately, it's a small price to pay for being able to live and work in China. We've made some wonderful friends and enjoy our way of life here.

We still keep up to date with what's happening in the UK. We were sad to learn of the Queen's passing. She was dearly loved by so many people. Ru and Gabe don't really understand who she is, apart from

being Paddington Bear's friend! I was explaining to Milo that she was Britain's longest serving monarch and the only one that my mum and I have known in our lifetimes! We look forward to seeing Charles take on his new role as King.

We hope you are all safe and well!

Sending love, as always,

The Hawksworth family xx

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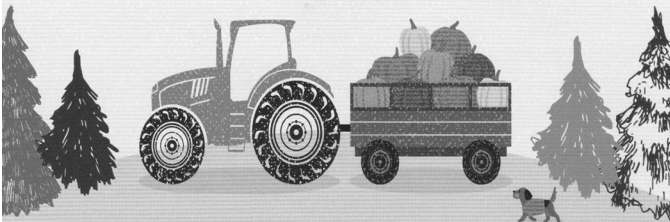
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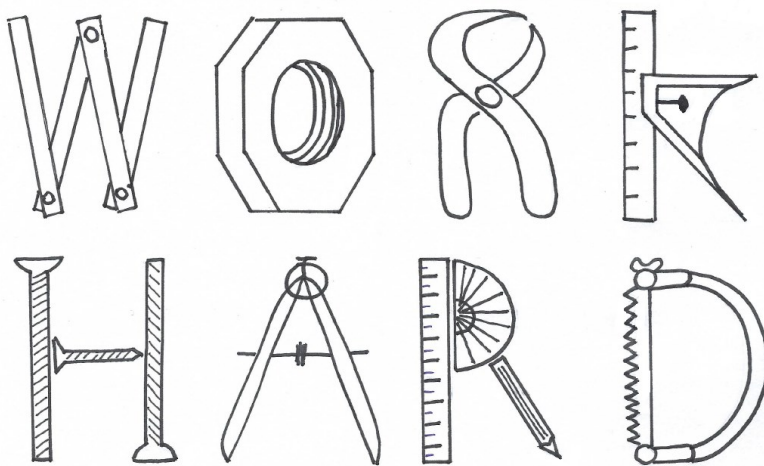
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PROVERBS

PRAYERS

12.11 The one who stays on
the job has food on
the table;
the witless chase
whims and fancies.



12.14 Well-spoken words
bring satisfaction;
well-done work has its own reward.

12.24 The diligent find freedom in their work;
the lazy are oppressed by work.

12.27 A lazy life is an empty life,
but “early to rise” gets the job done.

13.4 Indolence wants it all and gets nothing;
the energetic have something to show for their lives.

14.23 Hard work always pays off;
mere talk puts no bread on the table.

16.3 Put GOD in charge of your work,
then what you’ve planned will take place.

(The Message)

Father, you have given us different gifts and talents that we can all use to your glory. Help me to stay focused and work hard so that I always do my best because everything that I do is a reflection of You.

Help me to work hard, not just for myself and my family but for my community and all those in need of any help that I can offer. I ask this, in Jesus name.

Angie King

MEMORIAL BOOK

Having the name of a loved one written in our Memorial Book is another way of remembering their life. The Book is kept in the case in the Prayer Corner and the pages are turned twice a week, so that names are visible through the glass on the date of their death. It costs £10 to insert a name.

Please complete this form and return it to

✉ Parish Office, St Michael's Church, Church Street, Lichfield, WS13 6ED

✉ office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk

Name of Deceased (as you wish it to appear in the Memorial Book)

Date of Death:

Age at Death:

Name of Contact (in case of any problems or queries)

Telephone Number:

Please make cheques payable to 'PCC of St Michael and St Mary'

If you wish to pay by bank transfer the details are

Bank: Lloyds

Sort Code: 30 95 04

Account Number: 00114488

Please label your payment: **MEMBOOK** follow by your surname

From the Registers

Baptisms		
St Michael's	28th August	George William James Bentley
St Michael's	28th August	Hudson Peter Allsopp
St Michael's	18th Sept	Iris Beatrice May Lewington
St Michael's	18th Sept	Orla May Derry
St Michael's	18th Sept	Beatrice Rose Derry

Weddings		

Funerals		
St Michael's	16th Sept	Patricia Paton (interment of ashes)

Bible Readings

Sunday 2nd October

Harvest

[Green]

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

John 6.25-35

Sunday 9th October

Trinity 17

[Green]

2 Kings 5.1-3, 7-15c

Luke 17.11-19

Sunday 16th October

Luke the Evangelist

[Red]

Isaiah 35.3-6

Luke 10.1-9

Sunday 16th October

Evensong

Trinity 10

[Red]

Ecclesiasticus 38.1-14

Colossians 4.7-end

Sunday 23rd October

Last Sunday of Trinity

[Green]

Jeremiah 14.7-10, 19-end

Luke 18.9-14

Sunday 30th October

All Saints' Day

[White]

Ephesians 1.11-end

Luke 6.20-31

Sunday 6th November

3rd Sunday before Advent

[Red/Green]

Job 19.23-27a

Luke 20.27-38

Sunday 13th November

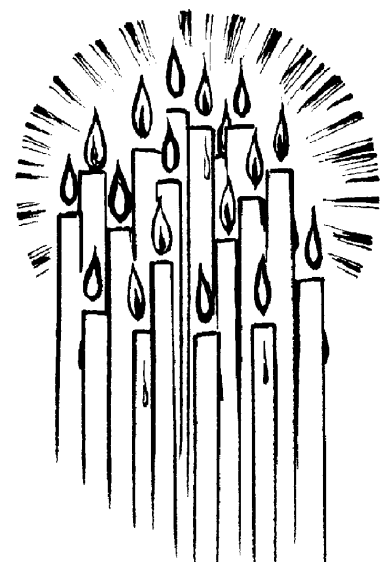
2nd Sunday before Advent

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

[Red/Green]

2 Thessalonians 3.6-13

Luke 21.5-19



St Michael's Rota – October 2022

Sunday 8.00 am	2 October	9 October	16 October	23 October	30 October
Sidesperson	Brian Smith	Brian Smith	Brian Smith	Brian Smith	Sandy Baker

Sunday 10.00 am	2 October Family Praise Harvest	9 October	16 October	23 October	30 October All Saints
Sidespersons	Pat Toplis Mike Jones	Judy and Mike Godfrey	Maureen Brand Ray Allen	Enid Barry Brenda Lip-trot	Viv and Stephen Oliver
Reader		Mike Godfrey	Ray Allen	Kay Martin	Angela Burgess
Servers		Elizabeth Allen David Shiel	Kay Martin Elizabeth Salt	Kay Martin David Shiel	Kay Martin Elizabeth Salt
Communion Assistant		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Intercessor		Ted Green	Elizabeth Salt	Trevor James	Brian Rostill
Coffee	Elizabeth Allen Trish Jones	Veronica Morris Betty Lyne	June Frayn Shirley Trelfa	Brenda Eley Audrey Dudley	Judy Godfrey Lesley Allen
Healing			TBA	TBA	

Sunday 30 October 12.30 pm	Baptism	Reader	Intercessor
		TBA	TBA

Sunday 6.00 pm	2 Oct	9 Oct	16 October Evensong	23 Oct	30 Oct All Souls
Sidesperson			Margaret Frean		Ray Allen
Reader			Margaret Frean		
Server/					

..... and Finally

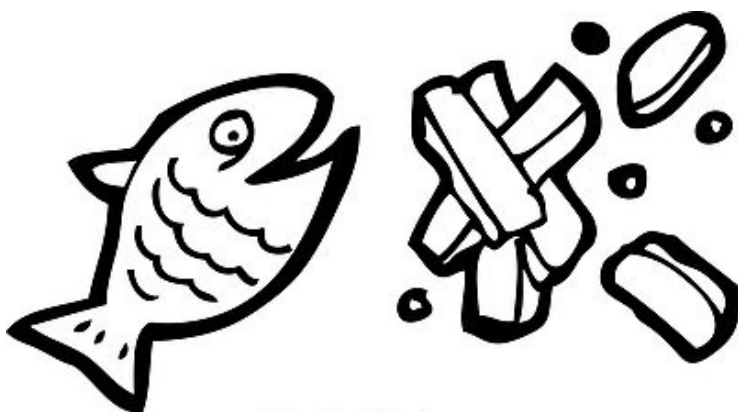
Let the Games begin**

AT WALL VILLAGE HALL???

This is an early warning of two events to help you spend two early winter nights in convivial company and give St. John's church some support into the bargain -- in Wall with a tasty and nourishing meal thrown in – not literally!!

The first is a lively and competitive **SKITTLES NIGHT** on Saturday 1st. October -- the second is an exciting **RACE NIGHT** on Saturday 19th. November. The venue for both events is Wall Village Hall and full details of cost etc be available on Sunday Service Notice sheets nearer the time but make a note in your diaries to keep the dates free.

Editor



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<p>St Michaels PCC</p> <p>Churchwardens: <i>Lyn Shiel 320437</i> <i>Sue Jones 415242</i></p> <p>Assistant Wardens: <i>June Frayn 264920</i> <i>Liz Clarke 268862</i> <i>David Easton 255308</i> <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p>Treasurer: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>PCC Secretary: <i>Veronica Morris</i></p> <p>Stewardship Recorder: <i>Sandy Baker</i> 256320</p> <p>Electoral Roll Officer: <i>Mike Godfrey 264255</i></p>	<p>St John's PCC</p> <p>Churchwardens: Pat Owen 410826 John Alsop 480240</p> <p>Assistant Churchwarden: Christine Higgs 410351 Linda Rubisch 481294</p> <p>Treasurer: Paul Wright 01543 483230</p> <p>PCC Secretary: Christine Higgs 410351</p> <p>Assistant Treasurer Linda Rubisch 481294</p> <p>PCC Lay Vice Chair: Christine Higgs 410351</p> <p>Electoral Roll: Angie King office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk</p>
<p>St Michael's Church</p> <p>Verger: <i>Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411</i></p> <p>Sacristan and Head Server: <i>Maggie Easton</i> 255308</p> <p>Organist and Choirmaster: <i>Dudley Ray</i> 07847 643373 dudleyrayuk@yahoo.co.uk</p> <p>Music Group: <i>Richard Brooks 07918 906</i> 350</p> <p>Pastoral Care: <i>June Frayn 264920</i></p> <p>Flowers: <i>Brenda Liptrot 251863</i></p> <p>Safeguarding: <i>Maureen Brand 264880</i></p> <p>Junior Praise: <i>Viv Oliver 258054</i></p> <p>Bell ringers: <i>Gillian Eastwood 07568134115</i> Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:55pm. gillieastwood@gmail.com</p> <p>Mothers Union: <i>Elizabeth Allen 304938</i></p> <p>Social Team: <i>Contact via the office 262211</i></p>	<p>St John's Church, Wall</p> <p>Verger: Hilary Barker 01543 482027</p> <p>Safeguarding: Maureen Brand 264880</p> <p>Other Useful Numbers</p> <p>St Michael's School: 227425</p> <p>Parish Magazine</p> <p>Magazine Distributor: <i>Liz Clarke 268862</i> liz.clarke@virgin.net</p> <p>Magazine Editor: <i>David Shiel</i> 01543320437" shielfamily@gmail.com</p>
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