# THE PARISH MAGAZINE October 2018



#### **Robert Grosseteste**

Bishop, philosopher, scientist October 9th 1253

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

**75p** 

Rector: **Associate Minister (Part-time):** The Venerable Simon Baker, The Revd. Linda Collins 17, Leyfields, Lichfield, Staffs, WS13 7NJ. Archdeacon of Lichfield Tel: 07915 091128 10 Mawgan Drive, Lichfield, Staffs, WS14 9SD. Email: lindacollins@hotmail.co.uk Tel: 01543 416232 Email: simonbaker57@outlook.com Days: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Day Off: Friday **Curate: The Revd. Melanie Clark Associate Minister** (NSM Part-time): 25 Lister Avenue, Streethay, Lichfield, WS13 8FY The Revd. Ruth Bull Tel: 07751 072332 36 Broadlands Rise, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS14 9SF Email: revdr.melclark@gmail.com Email: dkbrlcb@hotmail.com **Assistant Minister (NSM) Assistant Minister (PTO)** The Revd. Jeyan Anketell The Revd. Stephen Barton 7 Wissage Lane, LICHFIELD, The Master's House, St John's Hospital, Staffs, WS13 6DQ St John Street, LICHFIELD WS13 6PB Tel: 01543 268897 Email: stephen@the-bartons.com Email: jeyan.anketell@ntlworld.com **Assistant Minister (PTO) Assistant Minister (PTO)** The Revd Chris Baker The Revd Christine Polhill 15 Saddlers Close, Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 9ZW Little Hayes, Beaudesert, Cannock Wood, Staffs Tel: 01543 256320 WS15 4JJ Tel: 01543 674474 Email: C.J.Baker@bham.ac.uk Reader: Lesley Allen Reader: Phil Clayton 23 Follows End, Burntwood, Staffs, WS7 3QZ 21 Boley Close, LICHFIELD, Tel: 01543 308331 Staffs, WS14 9AR E-mail: <a href="mailto:phil@philclayton.net">phil@philclayton.net</a> Tel: 01543 251654 Email: lesley.allen21@googlemail.com **Reader: Trevor James Reader: Peter Salt** 36 Heritage Court, LICHFIELD, 7 Redlock Field, Lichfield WS14 OAB Staffs, WS14 9ST Tel: 01543 250723 Tel: 01543 258434 E-mail: <u>peter.salt@btinternet.com</u> Reader: Alan Toplis **United Benefice Office** Streethay Lodge, Streethay, LICHFIELD, Staffs, St Michael's Church, Church St, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS13 8LR WS13 6ED Tel: 01543 414651 Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri CLOSED Thursdays E-mail: alan.toplis@toplis.co.uk 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. Tel: 01543 262211 E-mail: office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk St Michael's Church St John's Church

Church Street, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 6ED

Green Lane, Wall, Staffordshire, WS14 0AS

#### **Reflections for October**

This year's Modern Church Annual Conference in July was entitled 'Ritual, Worship and Culture'. Professor Douglas Davies of Durham University delivered the stimulating opening keynote address. Ritual worship involved a number of processes: repeated performance, embodied knowing, reciprocal being, flow, rites of passage (status change and emotion shift), rites of intensification, also ritual being and becoming.

We have bodies with sensed awareness and emotional dynamics. Repeated performance involves both expression and imitation. Cultures involve places, times, things, actions, ideas and emotions. Cultures are the contexts of ritual processes where the individual 'mini-me' is transcended or framed by a social 'maxi-us', a kind of embodied knowing.

Reciprocal being concerns the threefold obligation to give, receive and return the gift (involving alienable, market-cost things) but also the fourth obligation involving inalienable, priceless things.

In early Christian ritual and culture, money became the medium of expressing one's sincerity of participation in the community. The Eucharist involves thanking, taking and eating. Thanking expresses the mood of the fourth obligation. Taking involves interaction; eating is the way of embodiment and covers a multitude of ideas.

'Flow' is the psychology of optimal experience. Is our worship fostering or hindering flow? Is it sharing or spoiling the peace? Is the sermon to comfort or to challenge? To flow or not to flow? That is the question.

Emotions and religion involve mood, and we need to select and manage the mood to correlate with our dogma or teaching. Mood involves music (which can embody ideas), movement (which can actualise doctrine) and place (which can frame doctrine). Most acts of private prayer and public worship are rites of intensification.

An 'IVID' formula can demonstrate the development of Religious Belief. We start with an Idea Idea + emotion = Value Value fostering Identity = Belief Belief framing Destiny = Religious Belief

There is a contrast between Society and Self in the development of personhood. <u>We</u> are the body of Christ' versus '<u>I</u> think therefore I am'. There is a ritual arena for the IVID process. There is a ritual being and becoming. We come to exist, and we develop personhood in the Eucharistic eating of ideas.

Unfortunately this brief summary does not do Douglas Davies justice.

Rev Dr Sandra Millar's contribution 'Life Rituals and Spiritual Journeys' is easier to summarise in a constructive way. We have amazing opportunities to share our unlimited good news with families and congregations who attend gatherings to mark births, marriages and deaths.

We want to make warm contacts with people at the centre of and engaged with the ceremonies. There are at least 6 people at each baptism, 2 at each wedding and 3 at each funeral. We also want those others attending to have positive memories of the occasion. Overall the Church will encounter about 1.2 million such people each year, many of whom will have had little if any experience of church.

We want to attract, care for and build relationships with people who come to us for weddings, baptisms and funerals and likewise with their guests. Making a difference will mean listening to their real feelings, balancing the personal with the process, and supporting their spiritual journeys. Show warmth at the first contact, share information at the first home visit, smile at their first church attendance, and show friendship and interest: something for the whole people of God to share in.

#### **Harvest Prayer**

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth
in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and
for our own well-being;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

#### **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> Monday evenings in the month by appointment only. Please telephone 01543 262211 or email office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk to make an appointment.

## CHAD BLOG—LICHFIELD DIOCESE NEWS My cup overrunneth



#### Team spirit and episcopal ambition.

## The Bishop of Wolverhampton's pastoral letter for September 2018

As summer draws to a close, so does another cricket season, and especially poignantly for the members of the Diocesan Cricket team. For we have come to the end of an era, one filled with unprecedented success and golden memories.

It was on the day of my announcement as the new Bishop of Wolverhampton, back in 2007, that I was asked by our then Director of Communications, Gavin Drake, what I most wanted to achieve in my new role. I unaccountably went off message and failed to speak of doubling the size of every congregation by 2020. What I actually said was that I wanted to win the Church Times Cup with Lichfield!

Four years later the dream became a reality as we held the trophy

aloft, triumphing over Bath and Wells in our first ever appearance in the 60 year history of the competition. Joy unbounded! And joy shared with the large number of supporters from different parts of the Diocese who had got up ridiculously early to make the journey to London.

That has been our only victory, though we have made the final on four subsequent occasions. We have often come tantalisingly close but in recent years the muscular and far more youthful London team have just prevailed.



This year it was Bristol who ended our dream in the semi-final, a match which saw two of our key players depart to pastures new, one of whom was of course Bishop Mark Rylands. Responsible for many wonderful innings over the years, Bishop Mark was also both the most congenial but also the most competitive player I have played with! And he found the temptation to use clergy cricket as a recruiting mechanism

for the Shrewsbury Episcopal Area quite irresistible.

Our dressing room has always been a crucible of diversity, with not only every tradition within the Church of England represented, but also ministers from other denominations enriching the mix. None more so than our late, great, skipper, Jeff Reynolds, from whose peerless banter there was no escape, and who managed to combine the sober responsibilities of being a Methodist Superintendent with playing in a soft rock band. His royalties from CD sales helped him buy his round.

Unforgettable Anglicans include Peter Hart, ex professional footballer, whose batting style owes more to baseball than to the MCC coaching manual, but whose mighty blows have scattered both sheep and spectators over the years, and Phil Searle, the narrowboat dweller with the thunderous laugh and uncomplicated approach.

Our dressing room has been a place where we have tried, not always successfully, to treat triumph and disaster just the same. It has been a place of support, encouragement and friendship, and on occasions, good disagreement. A place where theological differences can be aired and respected, without bats disappearing though windows. On a good day, in the aftermath of a good win, where everyone has been able to contribute, it has felt a special privilege to be part of that Body, diverse but unified, joyful, if rather sweaty. As one in our sense of purpose, but fully aware that for each of us, there is a greater goal, a higher purpose, even than winning the Church Times Cup. How special it is to share that bond with one another, and with all those who have faithfully supported us over the years.

+Clive Gregory

#### **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



#### **Deadlines!**

#### Magazine:

Usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday every Month. Contact David Bull

#### **Pew Sheet:**

7:30am every Thursday Morning. Contact Parish Office

#### CHILDREN'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

## First Steps



Monday 15th October
10am St Michael's

## Family Praise

Sunday 14th October 10am St Michael's



Come and join us at our ...

#### **MESSY CHURCH**

for craft, story, song and food on



#### **SUNDAY 21st October**

4.30 - 5.45pm

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

# Going Deeper The Rabbi and The Bishop in Conversation

With

Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers

Community Educator at The Movement for Reform Judaism and

#### The Rt Revd Anne Hollinghurst

The Bishop of Aston

with

Opening Remarks by

#### The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave

Bishop of Lichfield and Chair of The Council for Christians and Jews

Chaired by

#### The Revd Prebendary Deborah Sheridan

Formerly Prebendary of Whittington

#### Tuesday 9th October 2018 19:00

St Giles' Church, Whittington,

Lichfield, Staffordshire WS14 9LE

Entry by Donation - Light Refreshments - Ample Parking



#### 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 Church Hall

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 Choir7.15pm Other parts &

St Michael's Singers

#### Monday before 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

7:30pmMusic Group

**Prayer Group**, St Michael's 1st Wednesday of the month Contact June Frayn (264920) Brenda Liptrot (251863)



#### **Bells Practice**

Every Thurs 7:30pm, St Michael's

#### **Baptism**

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

#### **Parish Surgery**

Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday by Appointment from 6:30pm at the Parish office in St Michael's Church. Please call 01543 262211



## Saturday 6th October

7.30pm@ Wall Village Hall Tickets £10

**Musical Entertainment** 

### Bring your own drinks and glasses

Contact the Office 01543 262211

Email: office@stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk

### HARVEST SERVICES

St John, Wall
Harvest Service
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October,
10am



### St Michael, Lichfield

Harvest Family Praise

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October** 

10am@St Michael's Church



#### **Robert Grosseteste**

**Robert Grosseteste**, (born *c.* 1175, Suffolk, England—died October 9th 1253, Buckden, Buckinghamshire), English bishop and scholar who introduced into the world of European Christendom Latin translations



of Greek and Arabic philosophical and scientific writings. His philosophical thinking—a somewhat eclectic blend of Aristotelian and Neoplatonic ideas—consistently searched for a rational scheme of things, both natural and divine.

Grosseteste was educated at the University of Oxford and then held a position with William de Vere, the bishop

of Hereford. Grosseteste was chancellor of Oxford from about 1215 to 1221 and was given thereafter a number of ecclesiastical preferments and sinecures from which he resigned in 1232. From 1229 or 1230 to 1235 he was first lecturer in theology to the Franciscans, on whom his influence was profound. The works of this, his pre-episcopal career, include a commentary on Aristotle's *Posterior Analytics* and *Physics*, many independent treatises on scientific subjects, and several scriptural commentaries.

Grosseteste became bishop of Lincoln in 1235 and held this office until his death. His career as a bishop (during which he translated, among other works, Aristotle's *Nichomachean Ethics* from the Greek) was remarkable for his ruthless pursuit of three abiding principles: a belief in the supreme importance of the cure of souls, a highly centralized and hierarchical conception of the church, and a conviction of the superiority of the church over the state. His challenge of the widespread practice of endowing officials in the service of the crown and papacy with ecclesiastical benefices intended for the cure of souls

brought him into conflict with both. He attended the Council of Lyon (1245) and argued before the papal curia at Lyon (1250).

https://www.britannica.com/biography/Robert-Grosseteste

Grosseteste died on 9 October 1253. He was aged between seventy and eighty.

He is buried in a tomb within his memorial chapel at Lincoln Cathedral. Its dedicatory plaque reads as follows:

In this place lies the body of ROBERT GROSSETESTE who was

born at Stradbroke in Suffolk, studied in the University of Paris — and in 1224 became Chancellor of Oxford University where he befriended and taught the newly founded orders of Friars: In 1229 he became Archdeacon of Leicester and a Canon of this Cathedral —



reigning as Bishop of Lincoln from 17th. June 1235 until his death.

He was a man of learning and an inspiration to scholars, a wise administrator while a true shepherd of his flock, ever concerned to



lead them to Christ in whose service he strove to temper justice with mercy, hating the sin while loving the sinner, not sparing the rod though cherishing the weak.

An image of Grosseteste from a late-14th-century illuminated manuscript

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert Grosseteste

## United Benefice Walking Group

We had an lovely walk on Gentleshaw Common in August, even if some of it was a little steep. The weather was fine and not too hot! We learnt a lot about the flora and fauna that can be seen at this SSSI. The views across Staffordshire were clear and we enjoyed trying to work out what the buildings on the skyline were. We thoroughly enjoyed our carveries at the Wych Elm in Burntwood. In all, a lovely day out!

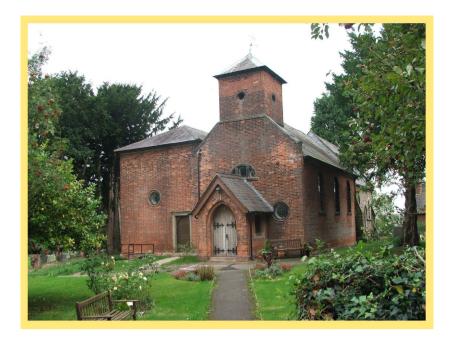


#### **OCTOBER WALK**

We invite you to join us for our **October Walk.** On **Saturday October 20th.**, we shall be having a local walk at **Wigginton**, near **Tamworth**, about 6 miles from Lichfield.

We meet at 10.00 a.m. at St. Michael's and drive to the Car Park of The Old Crown Pub in Wigginton, ready for the start of the walk.

We will be walking in the village and then along a Public Footpath into the countryside around Wigginton, and then make our way to The Church of St. Leonard. The Vicar of St.Leonard's is The Reverend Debra Dyson, who was Curate at St. Michael's until her appointment as Vicar of Wigginton in 2012. We will have a tour of the Church and after that, there will be refreshments provided in the Church Centre. These are free but donations to the Church will be welcome.



After coffee we will go on a 2nd. walk, along lanes in another part of the countryside surrounding Wigginton. There is a stile on the walk, but much of it is on flat land. However, sturdy walking shoes or boots are recommended.

The total distance of the 2 walks is around 3 miles.

The walk will end at the pub where we are having lunch. Could you please let me know if you intend to have lunch as I need to give the lunch orders to the pub a few days before the start of the walk.

We should be back at Lichfield at about 2.30-3.00 p.m.

Join us if you can for this Autumn walk in this pleasant rural village not far from Lichfield.

Ray Allen 01543 251654

#### St. Michael's Churchyard

It has now been a year since the formation of our Churchyard Working Party and I would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all who have helped in the Churchyard over the past year. It has been wonderful to see new, lighter areas created, wider paths and clear, picturesque vistas made.



NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDED

We have had many positive comments, from Church members, and



also from members of the Community as they have been walking through and by the Churchyard.

Our Working Party this month is on Saturday October 27th., from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. I am hoping that we will be planting daffodils and other bulbs as well as our continued bramble clearance and removal of moss from the Churchyard Boundary wall. Refreshments will be provided Mid-Morning.

On Wednesday August 29th. we had the first of our **Tree** and Wild Flower Survey Days led by Mark Duffell, a Shropshire Botanist. Mark began by explaining how the survey was to be undertaken. We then went into the Churchyard and



spent the rest of the day recording, with Mark's help, the names of the trees and wild flowers in various parts of the Churchyard. There will be 2 more days of surveying next year, to give us a picture of the plants to be seen in the main growing seasons of the year. It was pleasing to see so many people taking part throughout the day, with obvious interest and enjoyment. If you weren't able to come to this first day, do try to attend one or indeed both of the other 2 days, which will be in Spring, 2019.

Ray Allen 01543 251654



### St. Michael's Film Club

### 1. Murder on the Orient Express

(111 min. Cert 12. Drama 2017.)

Classic Agatha Christie with opulent set and a twist! Stars Kenneth Branagh, Judi Dench, Johnny Depp – stellar cast! Not based on true events.

### Monday October 1st.

Refreshments £2.50 from 1.00pm. St. Michael's Church Hall (behind Aldi). All welcome.

Contact: Parish Office 01543 262211

## 2. Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society

(124 min. Cert 12. Drama/Romance 2018.)

After World War II, a writer forms a bond with the residents of Guernsey with a book about their war experiences. Lily James, Tom Courtenay, Penelope Wilton.

### Monday November 5th.

#### **Breathe**

## Jonathan Cavendish's film about his parents.



On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September over 50 of us saw Jonathan's film at St. Michael's Parish Hall. In 1958, Robin Cavendish, aged 28, was struck down by Polio while in Africa. Robin and his wife, Diana, against medical advice, installed a respirator at their home for Robin. With the help of inventor Teddy Hall they developed a bath chair that carried a battery driven respirator. The film shows them loading it into a 1960's Bedford van, and taking it to Spain. Their love of life was shared with family and friends in-spite of Robin's inability to breathe or move any part of his body from neck down. His spirit was strong and healthy.

This joy contrasted with the prison atmosphere created by the 1960s hospitals and the social attitudes that supported them. Robin and his support team were rebels to this philosophy and pioneers in a more modern way of supporting the disabled.

The film contained romance, drama, pathos and humour. Congratulations should go to screen writer William Nicholson, lead actors Andrew Garfield and Claire Foy who produced a film that was approved of by the real Angela Cavendish, in her 80's.

The adventurous spirit of survivors is repeated the world over. My sister-in-law, Averil, lost her ability to walk at the age of 16 from Polio. Terry and Averil persuaded an adoption agency in London to allow them to foster a young boy. They learnt to live and laugh in the same way as most families.

Millions of people caught polio during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1988 Rotary International started the campaign to remove Polio from the world. New cases have dropped from 350,000 in 1988 to 22 in 2017. Local Rotary Clubs across the world promoted and supported the

distribution of the vaccination sugar lumps. Rotary International raised \$1.7billion with the help of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. More finance and work is needed.

We hope this film helps move Polio Eradication forward. Further information can be obtained by entering Rotary and Polio into any search engine.

Brian Homewood

#### For sale

John Bunyan: "The Pilgrim's Progress, Grace abounding, Relation of the Imprisonment of Mr. John Bunyan, and notes." OUP, England, 1925. Hardcover, no dust jacket, 500 pages. edited with biographical introduction and notes by Edmund Venables, M.A. Second Edition, revised by Mabel Peacock, the dark blue cover is lightly a worn and the former owner's name is present on the inside of the front board, the binding is tight and square and the contents fine.

A previous reader had made some lightly pencilled notes and underlining to the Pilgrim's Progress portion and on the inside of the back cover which do not obscure the text but do add interest to the book.

Suggested price
to St Michael's Church funds £10.
Phone 01543 411050 to view.



## LIGHT PARTY!

Alternative Halloween!

St. Michael's Church

4.30 - 5.45pm

Weds Oct 31<sup>st</sup>

Free! Craft, games, food, bible story, songs, pumpkins, glow in the dark! Free fun!

Sparkly dress (nothing scary!)

## LIGHT PARTY!

#### **The Camas Newsletter 2018**

#### **Our Week**

We were quite a small group at Camas this year, only 17. For those who remember our early Camas expeditions that would have been normal, allowing a group intimacy that the larger numbers recently (around 25) haven't quite permitted. Our youngest this year were Chelsea and Harriet (both 13), who had been before, and we had three newcomers, Luke (19), Carley and George (both 15). It meant no set bedtimes and allowed young and old to gel as a single group. We had three wonderful young leaders in Brigid, Tom and Sean (from Wade Street Church) who kept everything moving along without fuss.



Camas has changed its schedule this year and that has meant several



changes to our arrangements.
The group took everything in its stride and we left Oban Youth Hostel, after a bit of a rush to cook and eat breakfast, on time and with everything neat and tidy, as

usual. We couldn't arrive at Camas until early evening so we visited Iona. We were offered wonderful hospitality at the Abbey before some went walking and most went to North Shore for a very chilly swim. We don't always get the chance to visit Iona and this was an opportunity to connect with the wider Iona Community and to see the Abbey without scaffolding for the first time in many years.



The B Marie in Iona Harbour with the Abbey in the Background

Once you've walked down the track and seen the familiar bay, quarry and the 180-year old buildings you forget all about changes and just settle into the familiar routine. Within minutes there were people on the beach throwing stones at the bell and in the games room playing table tennis and pool. After a filling vegetarian meal there is always the opening Reflection in the Chapel of the Nets, when we are told the history of Camas, how quarrymen, farmers and fishermen have lived together in community for hundreds of years. Tuesday morning started with the Granite Challenge for those wishing to swim every morning in the chilly waters of the bay before breakfast. Then came the familiar chores, with the organic garden and feeding the hens as the most popular, before playing a hectic game of giant noughts and crosses on the lawn as our morning Reflection. We used dry





Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to abseil, climb and kayak but there was a heavy storm on Tuesday afternoon, so we donned our water-proofs and went out to play our favourite games on the wet and windy hills: Camouflage and Plant the Flag. This was the Year of Games and we played them inside and out, day after day.

On Wednesday afternoon we fished for mackerel on the B Marie with Mark and his son, Stuart, catching 38 mackerel – a new record.



Some-times it wasn't possible to take photographs of the catches as shoals of fish hit three or four lines simultaneously. The fish gutters got to work and we had a wonderful extra fish course on the Thursday evening. Our wild camp at Market Bay that night had to be cancelled and we were taken instead to Knockvologan Bay, which must be the most beautiful bay on Mull. There was lots of swimming and, inevitably, beach games in the sunshine. On Friday morning some went off to the trig point above the quarry to see the islands, including Staffa, spread out across the straits as far as Tiree.

The others played games! On Friday afternoon and evening we took on the Camas Challenge of cooking, decorating, preparing a Reflection and entertaining. It's always fun and a great success, and this year was no different. Maybe it was because we were such a joyful group that the entertainment seemed funnier than ever this year. Linda called our Camas Family Praise on 9 September "Joy, Joy, Joy" and it certainly summed up the spirit of this year's Camas. We spared the congregation Ninja but we did have them playing another of our favourite games, Whoosh! As well as Family Praise we always hold a service at Camas and this year it was an Agape Meal based on the liturgy of the Corrymeela Community from Northern Ireland. It was led by Sean and members of the Girls' Choir boosted the singing, finishing with *Gaelic Blessing* before we all left the Chapel of the Nets in silence and peace to enjoy a hot chocolate in the Common Room.

As ever we left Camas in drizzly rain but enjoyed our usual Farewell Reflection at the roadside before bus, ferry and train to Glasgow. Delays meant that we had to catch a later train to England (Plan B) in order to have time for our traditional hot 'chip supper'. Unfortunately that train ran late as well and there was no Plan C. Thanks to Beth Knox, and others with their smartphones, we got into Lichfield only two and a half hours late – tired but very happy.

#### **Personal Contributions**

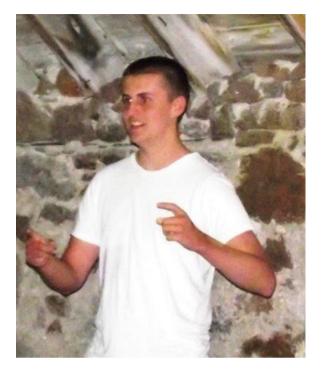
Tom has described his feeling as a Young leader, Luke has explained how he felt as a first-timer, Rueben has offered some reflections and Harriet has explained how it felt abseiling for the first time after being 'not sure' in 2016. Finally Beth Knox and I have offered our thoughts on our last joint visit to Camas.

Ted Green

Tom Braddock (pictured during the Camas Challenge entertainment). Leading at Camas after seven years of visiting as a child was a fairly familiar experience. Of course there were many head-counts to do, and meeting with the Camas staff every morning to organise the day's activities felt rather official, but the fundamental experience was as good as it always is. There was some added responsibility, mainly while travelling, but I found that being a leader didn't detract from my enjoy-

ment of the week one bit.

One of the fun aspects of my role as a leader was keeping everybody



in the loop of what activities we'd get up to. Seeing the group light up after I told them we'd be playing 'Camouflage' (an outdoorsy take on the classic game 'What's The Time, Mr. Wolf?') was brilliant. The group's energy was always so ecstatic and positive – it was wonderful to lead such a lovely group alongside Brigid and Sean.

Having a group of just 17 not only made leading a tad easier, it made the sense of community incredibly tight. Seeing so much love and laughter every evening in the common room was as amazing as it is every year; having such a small group meant that everybody got along with each other that much more closely. The staff members this year were some of the best we've ever had, and they did more than their fair share to enhance our enjoyment of the trip. Their amenability was helpful to Brigid, Sean and me as leaders, and it ensured that the group got a week full of fun activities. Notable was a trip to a new beach as the route to Market Bay was too wet. The beach day was, for many people, the best of the week, and all thanks to the staff's inventiveness.

Overall, leadership felt like a fairly big responsibility but it only furthered my enjoyment of the week. It gave me a new appreciation for the administrative side of Camas and the stress Ted and the staff must go through every year for the rest of us!

**Luke Cotton.** So... I'd like to start off by saying that I thoroughly enjoyed my adventurous trip to Camas. One would think that for a 19 -year-old adult, no electricity, no Wi-Fi and no phone service would be an unbearable nightmare. In fact, this was very far from the truth. No social media to cloud anyone's minds. No head-ache screens to befuddle our young brains and I love the idea of being amongst nature's wonders.



Luke and Friends

The balance of chilling out time and activity time was perfect and I loved the activities that were on offer. I felt a sense of mutual respect among the community we lived in, and the staff at Camas and I formed a special bond. Thank you very much for the Camas experience, I will be back again next year.

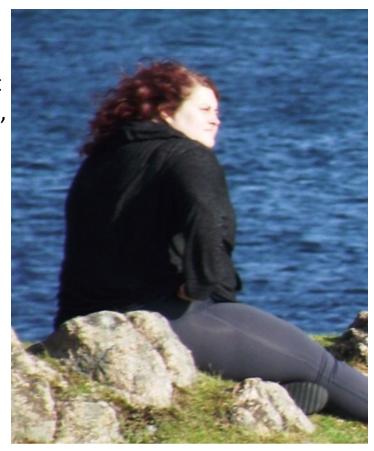
Reuben Tinsdeall. For me, there were two standout things from Camas this year. Firstly, the scones at Iona Abbey. They were without doubt the best scones I've ever had. Huge, full of big juicy sultanas, and not even slightly crumbly. The fact that they were the best scones I've ever had is even more impressive considering that they were served without cream (just imagine if they'd had cream). Secondly, the entertainment in the Camas Challenge was absolutely top notch - the best we've had in quite a few years, which is saying a lot since they didn't have funny man Drew (Dyson) at the helm.



Harriet Lilwall. Last time I came to Camas I made so many memories and had some amazing opportunities, however I did not take part in abseiling as I was too scared, but this time I ignored my nerves and listened to the kind encouragement of my friends and everyone at Camas and I took a leap of faith. I am so proud of myself for doing it as it was a once in a life time opportunity. I had so much fun and will treasure the moment when I got to the bottom of the wall forever.

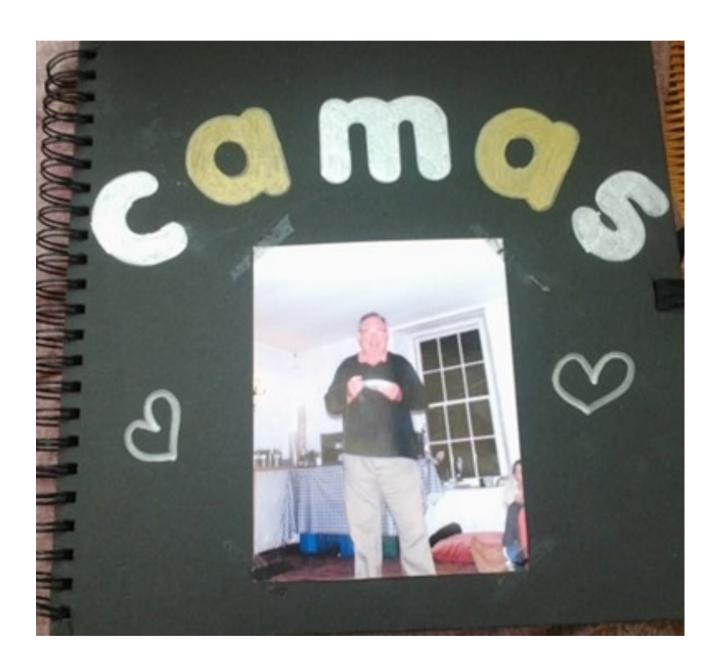
**Beth Knox** (pictured overleaf on her favourite rock, looking out to sea). This was the last trip I was going to do with the St Michael's group. It was my tenth time going to Camas and it's amazing how much has changed since 2007. Getting on the train at Lichfield Trent Valley Station is very much part of the Camas tradition, although this year I wasn't looking forward to the long journey - one that I had done many times. We finally arrived at Camas around 7pm on Monday after spending the afternoon in my favourite place, the beautiful Iona. Walking the track and then over the last hill I was welcomed by the view of the islands in Camas Bay, which has always been a lovely feeling. Also knowing I can put my bag down and get off my feet was also very much appreciated! Camas for me this year was about just being there rather than doing all the activities. It is such a relaxing place and with our group it is always filled with music and laughter. Every year, I have laughed enough to keep me going till my next visit. The groups that comes to Camas aren't just acquaintances that I see occasionally, they are a second family that even if I don't see them often, I know they are always there. Being at Camas and knowing it was my last time for a bit, I really took in the sights and savoured every moment at the beautiful place. I made sure I enjoyed the evenings in

the common room, playing games together and just being happy. Although this was my last time with the St Michael's group, this will not be my last visit to Camas or Iona. Camas is and always will be a home from home, no matter how many times I visit in my life time.



**Ted Green.** Camas is the most spiritual place I have ever visited, even more so than Iona. It's partly the beautiful setting, whether the weather is mild or wild, but mainly it's the people, staff and our group members, and the wonderful feeling of togetherness. I have so many people in Lichfield to thank for the last fourteen years of Camas: Chris Polhill for introducing us to a magical place and for showing me the ropes; Christine, Debra, Lesley, Ruth and Linda for putting together wonderful Family Praise services; the parents for bringing up such wonderful children and entrusting them to my care; the congregation of the United Benefice for their unwavering support; and, last but not least, the wonderful young people who have made up our groups over the years. At Camas there have been so many wonderful staff members, and this year's group was outstanding. It would be invidious to pick out individual names, although we all have our own favourites, so I'm just going to name the Leaders I've met and worked with since 2004: Sarah, Dot, Mary, John, Abbi, Darragh and Hannah. Thank You All.

I'll continue to run the Camas project for the foreseeable future but it will be for others, some-times parents and sometimes old hands from our groups, to lead the weeks on Mull. My final thanks go to all those who contributed to the wonderful book of Camas memories that I received at our last Family Praise service. The messages are generous and warm, like the people who wrote them, and I will never forget any of you. The baton passes but we hope that St Michael's Camas project will continue for many years to come.



## Lichfield and District RSPB LOCAL GROUP

Join us on our leisurely 2 hour birdwatching walks where we visit local reserves and countryside to observe birds and wildlife, which gives you an opportunity to get some gentle exercise and hopefully learn how to identify those little brown jobs that we see around.

Walks start at 10am at the starting point. Can also share transport from Lichfield. All you need is stout footwear, weatherproof clothing and ideally a pair of binoculars.

Our 2018 Autumn programme is:

20th September - Fradley Junction

19th October - RSPB Sandwell Valley

27th November - Ladywalk reserve

17th December - RSPB Middleton Lakes

For more information on any of these events, call Dennis Muxworthy on 0121 353 6886 or email dennis.muxworthy@btinternet.com





## LICHFIELD WILDLIFE GROUP



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

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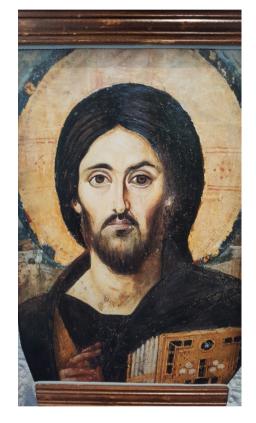
### WALL NEWS

#### Ramblings in Kephallonia

In September I returned to Kephallonia and again visited the monastery where I had found the icon of Christ which is now in the

sanctuary of St. John's at Wall.

The icon is a Byzantine icon and is one of the earliest of the icons of Christ dating from the 6<sup>th</sup> century. It is believed to have been given to St. Catherine's Monastery in Sinai by the Emperor Justinian. The right side of the face of Christ is thought to show His divinity with His right hand raised in blessing and His expression one of judgement. On the left hand side Christ holds a copy of the Gospels and His expression is one of compassion. I have



always liked this icon, not just because it is a very early one but also because its portrayal of Jesus is very realistic. It makes Him look like a real person.

The monastery near Karavados in Kephallonia is old. In the grounds there are several low walls built in a circle where in olden days donkeys would have been tethered in the centre so that they could tread out the corn. Now there is only one nun left but she runs a thriving community. The small church has services regularly, led by

the local priest who leads the Liturgy in several churches in the area and the nun has a school for the children on a Saturday where they can learn about the Orthodox faith. When we arrived, we were welcomed with a drink by the group of ladies who were there. There were a couple of friendly dogs, chickens and a superior cockerel on the site. There were two shops, one selling icons and religious books and one full of second hand clothing for those in need. I continue to be impressed by what one woman of faith has achieved in her community.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Linda and Mike's wedding took place on Saturday 8th September at St. James Church, Brownhills.

Linda is now Mrs Linda Gillion.

She and Mike have been coming to our SACRED group and three of us were able to go to their marriage service.

We all wish them God's blessing in their life together.



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# From the Registers



#### **Baptism**

St John's	26th August	Ivy May Scotton	5 mths
St Michael's	2nd Sept	Leo Peter Edward Ackroyd	1 yr
St Michael's	2nd Sept	Thea Alexandra Hussain	6 mths
St Michael's	2nd Sept	Lucas Mitrasenko	2 yrs

#### Wedding

#### At Rest



St John	24th August	Emily Florence Hunt	95

#### **Bible Readings**

#### @ St Michael's Sunday 7th October 19th Sunday after Trinity [Green]

Hebrews 1.1-4;2.5-12 Mark 10.2-16

#### @ St John's Sunday 7th October Harvest Service [Green]

1 Timothy 6.6-10 Matthew 6.25-33

#### @ St Michael's Sunday 14th October Harvest Service [Green]

1 Timothy 6.6-10 Matthew 6.25-33

#### @ St John's Sunday 14th October Harvest Service [Green]

Hebrews 4.12-end Mark 10.17-31

#### Sunday 21st October 21st Sunday after Trinity [Green]

Hebrews 5.1-10 Mark 10.35-45

#### Sunday 28th October Bible Sunday [Green]

2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 John 5.36b—end

# Sunday 4th November All Saints Day [White]

Revelation 21.1-6a John 11.32-44

# Sunday 11th November Remembrance Sunday [Red/Green]

Hebrews 9.24-end Mark 1.14-20



### St Michael's Rota - October 2018

Sunday 8.00 am	7 October	14 October	21 October	28 October
Sidesperson	Martin Dewes	Brian Smith	Martin Dewes	Brian Smith

Sunday 10.00 am	7 October	14 October Harvest Family Praise	21 October	28 October
Welcomers	Pat Toplis	Maureen Brand	Shirley Trelfa	Alison Anketell
Sidespersons	Brenda Liptrot David Bull	Joan and Ken Sharman	Barbara Homewood David Rock	Viv and Stephen Oliver
Reader	Alison Staines		Caroline Green	Elizabeth Salt
Servers	Maggie Easton Elizabeth Allen		Maggie Easton Phil Clayton	Kay Martin Elizabeth Salt
Communion Assistant	Maggie Easton		Caroline Green	Ray Allen
Intercessor	David Bull		Ted Green	Stephen Barton
Coffee	June Frayn Betty Lyne	Lynn and David Edge	Anne Lingwood Angela Burgess	Elizabeth Allen Trish Jones
Healing				ТВА
Transport	Martin Dewes	Brenda Liptrot	Ray Allen	Betty Bradbury
Flowers	Diana Baker	Harvest flowers	Lesley Allen	Lesley Allen

Sunday 12.30 pm	28 October Baptism	Sunday 6.00 pm	14 October	28 October
			Communion	Evensong
Reader	Sonia Doidge	Sidesperson	Margaret Frean	Ray Allen
Intercessor	Rita Athersmith	Reader	Margaret Frean	Ray Allen
Server	Kay Martin	Communion Assistant	Phil Clayton	

# **And Finally:**

People know what you are by what they see, not by what they hear.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

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Sue Jones 415242

**Assistant Wardens:** *June Frayn 264920* 

Caroline Green 262342

David Easton 255308

Treasurer: Viv Oliver 258054

PCC Secretary: Phil Clayton 308331

**Stewardship Recorder:** David Athersmith

255979

**Electoral Roll Officer:** *Mike Godfrey* 264255

St John's PCC

**Churchwardens:** 

Christine Higgs 410351

John Alsop 480240

**Assistant Churchwarden:** 

Linda Rubisch 481294

Treasurer: Sheila Irvine 252982

**PCC Secretary:** Christine Higgs 410351 **Assistant Treasurer & Electoral Roll:** 

Linda Rubisch 481294

PCC Lay Vice Chair: Christine Higgs 410351

St Michael's Church

Verger: Lynn Rock 252634 or 07765 312411

**Sacristan and Head Server:** *Maggie Easton* 

255308

Organist and Choirmaster: Peter Hawks-

worth 251938 or 07771 986538

Music Group: Richard Brooks 07918 906

350

**Transport Rota:** Brenda Liptrot 251863

Pastoral Care: Peter Salt 250723 Flowers: Diana Baker 01543 416232 Safeguarding: Maureen Brand 264880

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**Mothers Union:** *Elizabeth Allen 304938* **Social Team:** *Contact via the office 262211* 

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