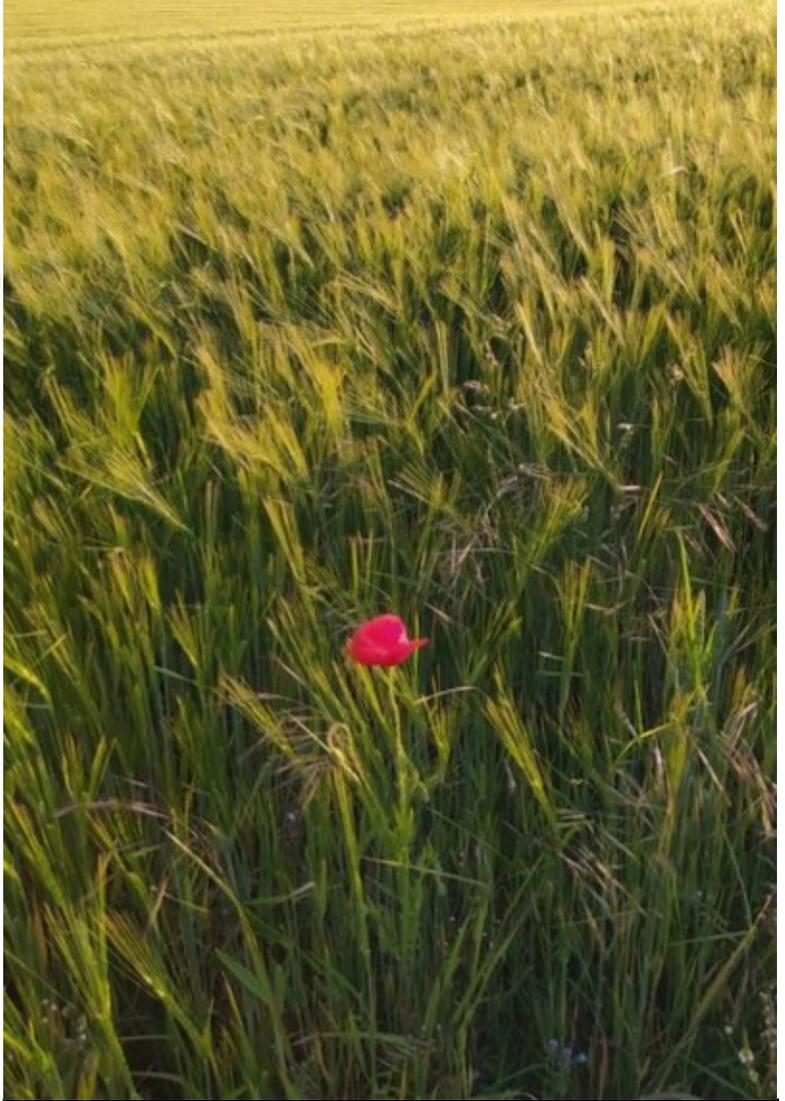


# St Helen's Magazine

July 2022

50p



St Helen's Church

Ashby-de-la-Zouch



Loving God, loving others, loving the world

# Parish Directory

(The dialling code for these numbers is 01530 except where stated)

ASHBY YOUTH FOR CHRIST	AYFC Office	560940
BELL RINGERS	Michael Davidson	DAVIDSON29029@aol.com
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CHURCHWARDENS	Shân Dyer	07368 615406
	Judith Lewis	564204
HERITAGE CENTRE LETTINGS	Elaine Shaw	07392 409745
		sthelenslettings@gmail.com
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	Andrew Chapman	07792 461782
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PCC SECRETARY	John Dennis	416124
PCC TREASURER TEAM	Andy Smith	07896 519807
PLANNED GIVING	Andy Smith	07896 519807
READERS	Sue Brown	417313
	Carol Eyley	412334
	Judith Lewis	564204
	Andy Smith	07896 519807
SAFEGUARDING	Elizabeth Smith	07941 935887
SERVERS	Eileen Barradel	838029
SOUND SYSTEM	Simon Starkey	415718
STREET PASTORS CONTACT	Chris Lewis	07828 463368

## St Helen's Church contact details:

Parish office: ♦sthelensashby@gmail.com

♦01530 411607

♦Community Heritage Building, 4 Church Yard, South St, LE65 1AA

♦Opening times Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10.00am - 1.00pm

♦ Facebook: St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch

♦ Instagram:

♦ Twitter: @sthelensashby

♦ Website: www.sthelensashby.net

### Giving

You can make donations to the work of St Helen's via our website - <https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/327469/Giving.aspx>

Cover photograph - Alison Westley

## Editor Writes ...

According to the website [daysoftheyear.com](http://daysoftheyear.com) Monday July 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday July 10<sup>th</sup> is Great British Pea Week. That's right; a full week to celebrate peas!



Here are some pea facts to help you to celebrate:

- The first-ever television commercial in the United Kingdom was for Birds Eye Frozen Peas in 1969
- In 1984, Janet Harris of Sussex, set the record for the highest number of peas eaten one at a time with chopsticks in one hour. She managed 7,175!
- Eric 'Badlands' Booker holds the record for pea-eating, consuming 9.5 one-pound bowls of peas within 12 minutes.
- The average person consumes almost 9,000 peas per year in Britain.
- At least 37 types of peas were grown by ancient Romans.
- The first known reference to mushy peas was in 1968, according to the Oxford English Dictionary. (Mushy peas get a mention on page 29 of the magazine, while tinned peas feature on the Foodbank's shopping list on page 21)
- The word pea came about in the 1660s. They were originally called 'pease' in English.

How else might you celebrate Great British Pea Week? One of the best ways must surely be to try growing your own at home. After all, nothing compares with the super-sweet flavour and tender texture of home-grown peas that have been freshly harvested. If you need any advice you can surely ask Alan Cross – his July gardening tips are on page 14.

There is only one thing better than growing peas, and that is eating them - Another way to celebrate could be by experimenting with delicious pea recipes. Reverend Margaret has a different sort of recipe for us on page 7.

Two St Helen's concerts and one of our archaeology events all land in pea week – If you want to come along it's easy-peasy because full details are on pages 8, 9 and 10.

Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> also happens to be World Chocolate Day, but that's not so exciting is it?

*Jill Chapman* •



# Carol Eyley Writes ...

## Last minute rush...

**H**ave you ever agreed to do something to help others, to be supportive, to give your time to help out at an event, to then make a note of it in your diary, only to think 'well it's weeks away, I can sort things out later on.' Life then takes over and that promise is forgotten.

Suddenly you get that reminder 'You offered to help at...' Yes, that last minute rush happens and you find that you have to change plans in order to be there for those who asked for your help. But life has taken you in different directions and you find that your plans cannot change and that you have to give your apologies, hoping that others will understand. It tends to leave you with that uncomfortable feeling that you have failed in some way.

Things do get missed, no matter how organised we are. One of the times we are organised in life is when the holiday season is upon us. Recently people's holiday plans that have been in place for months ahead are no longer happening as expected. At the last minute those plans are disrupted, changed, flights are cancelled, departure times of trains moved, bags lost – it's total chaos. How can we cope with so many changes and the need for last minute decisions on what to do next. It is difficult not to be upset, and to find anger is your dominant emotion. How do we cope with those moments in life when things become a last minute rush? When carefully made plans don't work out, be it due to COVID, strikes, or lack of transport? How do we find calm, and put anger to one side? It is so very difficult, and it is not restricted to holiday plans. Simply getting out to work on time can be a last minute rush, from sleeping through the morning alarm, to the shower not working, or children forgetting to hand over the school letter about the class assembly happening that morning...

That last minute rush is a real constant in our lives and a cause of unwanted stress. How are we, as Christians, dealing with the last minute rush we are experiencing? We can feel so far removed from God and his love that we forget that he is with us, deep within the chaos of our lives, as well as the chaos in our world. That still small voice of calm is always there. We just need to stop and hear it. In our daily lives, with all the demands we have on our time, do we grab at God as a last minute rush, asking for his help, love, and support, or are we making space in our day to listen for his voice in our lives?

At the start of the pandemic I began to keep a journal, making time for a mug of coffee and time to write. A friend heard about my journal writing,

and gave me a beautiful Christian diary. A dilemma – which one do I use? Both! I found myself making time to write a daily prayer in the Christian diary. This activity quickly became a quiet time to the start of each day - my daily coffee with God. A time when I step away from life's routines,



stop, and make time to be still. A coffee and a chat with God may be all that we need to move away from the stress we feel when life throws up that 'last minute rush'. As we make time to have that coffee (or tea!) with God, the cup or mug we use can be a reminder that we are shaped by the potter, shaped by God. We may be 'flawed' and 'limited' but the God who lives and works in us is not! Philippians 2:13 : 'For it is God who works in you to will and to act accordingly to his good purpose.'

**Carol Eyley**

## GOD'S WILL FOR YOU

**ALWAYS**  
CONTINUALLY  
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

- WHEN YOU SHOULD BE JOYFUL
- WHEN YOU SHOULD PRAY
- WHEN YOU SHOULD GIVE THANKS

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

Chris Lewis

Counsellor / Psychotherapist

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# Recipe for a “thin place”

I have been requested to share the recipe for a “thin place” according to the Holy Island pilgrims as used in my sermon on Trinity Sunday.

No need to put the oven on – it will just happen.

Wait for God’s call and then take a peaceful, un-commercialised place with a sense of sacred history or even a little conflict and place it on a boundary – an island would be ideal....

Stir in a little sunshine and add sea and wind to taste.

Mix in the song of the skylark and leave it to rest on a beach for a while.

Keep some moments of solitude whist you listen and watch and wait for the thin-ness to enter the horizon of your recipe.

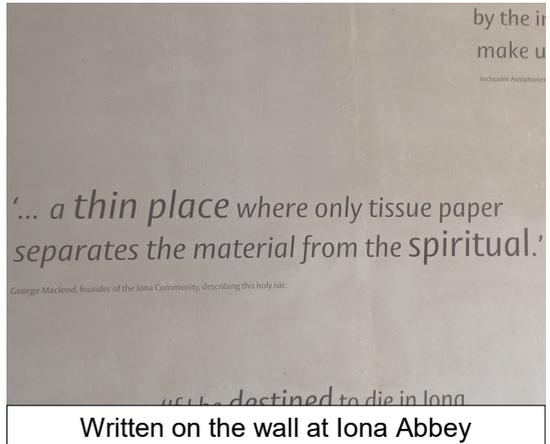
Wonder if you are the only person to find it here and whether God has prepared it just for you.

Taste your recipe and if there’s still a little too much of the present time holding it tight – add a sprinkling of eternity until the present disappears and heaven breaks through.

Sit and watch and savour but don’t eat it all at once because once it’s gone you will have to wait for God to bake all over again – and who knows where or when that will be.

This is the recipe for an experience – something that we experience that we are not in charge of – something that is a mystery – but we only know that it’s happened because we experience it – we experience the mystery – trying to put it into words is no easy feat.

God the Holy and undivided Trinity is something like that. A thin place – God is something that you experience as per Paul’s letter to the Romans. The Father who loves us, the Son who is gracious to us, and the Holy Spirit who conveys that love and joins us in the community which is God. So a question : Are our hearts open to experience God or are we running about like headless chickens and miss the opportunity?



**Rev. Margaret**



The  
**What's  
On**  
Notice board



## Helen's Heritage Centre

4 Church Yard, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics, LE651AA

# Festival of Archaeology 2022

**Monday 25th July 2022, 9-12**  
**Family Archaeology Day**

Come along and find out what lies beneath our amazing site!  
Explore our dig boxes and guess the artefacts that we have unearthed.

Suitable for age 3+, KS1 & KS2.

Drop in sessions. No booking required  
£3 per child. Refreshments available. .

**Friday 8th July at 2 pm**

**Tuesday 26th July at 10 am & 2 pm**

## Guided Tours of St Helen's Church

Join our knowledgeable guides for a tour of this Grade 1 listed Parish Church. The current building dates to the 1470s, when it was built by William Hastings, Lord Chamberlain and close friend to King Edward IV. Interesting monuments include a magnificent alabaster table tomb and a unique 15th Century Pilgrim effigy.

Tours start in our Community Heritage Centre, opposite the church.

Free, but donations welcome. Refreshments available.

Booking preferred via: [sthelensheritage@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensheritage@gmail.com)



[Facebook.com/sthelenschurch](https://www.facebook.com/sthelenschurch)



[Instagram.com/sthelenschurchandheritage](https://www.instagram.com/sthelenschurchandheritage)

Website: [www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)





St Helen's Church

# ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERT

- back after 3 years!

St Helen's Choir & friends  
... are celebrating!

Vaughan Williams' 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
Queen's Jubilee

Friendships

The joy of music-making

Bernard Cribbins!

Post-Covid reunions

9<sup>th</sup> July

5.30pm

Free entry

Refreshments



Facebook: St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch  
Website: [www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)  
Email: [sthelensashby@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensashby@gmail.com)



LOTTERY FUNDED



St Helen's Church  
Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Must see!

# 3 SUMMER CONCERTS:



Concordia



## JUBILATION!

Choral tribute to Her Majesty

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 3.30pm

£10 (Under 16s free)

Afternoon Tea

St Helen's Choir & friends  
**ANNUAL SUMMER  
CONCERT**

... back after 3 years!

- Vaughan Williams' 150<sup>th</sup>
- Queen's Jubilee
- Bernard Cribbins!

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July 5.30pm

Free entry

Refreshments

Ashby String Orchestra

## SUMMER CONCERT

- Graupner • Sammartini
- Mendleson • Rutter

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 7pm

Free entry

Retiring collection



Facebook: St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch

Website: [www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)

Email: [sthelensashby@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensashby@gmail.com)



LOTTERY FUNDED



# St Helen's Community Heritage Centre

Ashby-de-la-Zouch

## Heritage Talks 2022—2023

September 27th	Peter Liddle	<i>Discovering the Rutland Roman Villa</i>
October 25th	Wendy Freer	<i>Films: Dinner at St Helen's &amp; Comrades in Arms</i>
November 22nd	Anne Heaton & Julie Starkey	<i>A Thousand Years of the English Parish Church &amp; some of its vicars</i>
January 24th	Mike Hawkes	<i>Graffiti in Medieval Churches - is the writing on the wall?</i>
February 28th	Rachel Askew	<i>Catholic Resistance and Subterfuge at Breedon</i>
March 28th	Peter Ackers	<i>Religious Nonconformity &amp; the early Leicester Labour Movement</i>

**Tuesdays at 7.30 pm / £3 including light refreshments**

**Tickets available on the door**



Facebook.com/sthelenschurch

Website: [www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)



Instagram.com/sthelenschurchandheritage



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- Verrucae
- Cracked heels
- Foot health advice and diabetic foot care
- Ingrown toenails

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# An Insomniac's Prayer

I am a dreadful insomniac so I thought I'd share this prayer with any other insomniacs out there. If you're fortunate enough to be a good sleeper, you might pray this prayer for those who just don't have the knack.

**Jill Chapman**

**L**ord, the bogymen is here again  
Stealing away our rest  
Haunting our dreams  
Playing with our fears  
In the wee small hours

When our monsters stalk the corridors of our minds  
Wading through the backwaters of our day  
And our pain, anxiety and worries run riot  
When our medication is not working  
When the only voice we hear  
Is the echo of our own doubt

Laughing at our fragile faith  
Shaking the foundations of our belief  
Wake from your sleep at the back of the boat dear Jesus  
And calm the waters, quell the storm that engulfs us  
Bring your calm, your peace, your rest.

When our feeble faith deserts us  
And fear runs amuck  
Lend us yours  
We know that will be enough  
As it has been so many times before

Let nothing cause us to fear  
To send us running  
Let no concern overwhelm us  
Let all pain be dulled  
All nerves be calm  
Take us gently back in to sleep  
Watching over us till dawn's light

## July Gardening Tips

**W**ith the Jubilee Celebrations over it is time to continue enjoying the long warm days of July. While the weather can be unpredictable (both wet and hot but not necessarily at the same time), there is a sense of fullness of summer as the garden is in full bloom and it is just a beautiful time of year.

Plants at their best are Delphiniums, Clematis, Achillea, Roses and many more. However, remember to dead head both bedding and perennial plants to encourage new blooms. When the flower heads of Delphiniums, Foxgloves and Verbascum have faded, cut them back by removing the flower head only (just the spike) and not the whole stem as where there are side shoots surrounding the heads they should produce a second flush. Also be sure to support tall plants and climbers in case of bad weather.

During July, plants that originate closer to the Equator, such as Cannas, Cosmos, Dahlias and Agapanthus begin to flower and, in doing so, bring a richer display to our borders and pots alongside our roses, sweet peas and other herbaceous perennials.

Don't forget to give shrubs a summer feed particularly after they have flowered and so are putting on more growth that will ripen into flowering wood ready for next year's display. It is a good idea to weed and fork around the base of the shrub before scattering slow-release granules or a high potash fertiliser. Use an ericaceous feed for Kalmias, Pieris, Skimmia and Rhododendrons. Water well in dry weather and particularly later in summer when the flower buds begin to develop.

Rose Suckers can be a problem. These are unwanted growth from the root stock and can often, "Take over" the rose. Sucker foliage is often lighter in colour, with different shaped leaves and also very vigorous. Remove them by pulling away by hand (with gloves on!) or prune.

The vegetable garden also begins to deliver the first of its summer harvests supplying an abundance of broad beans, peas, salad crops and delicious new potatoes as well as soft fruit such as strawberries.

This is a good time to increase the number of strawberries. Select runners from the healthiest plants, taking no more than six from each plant. Press the plantlet nearest to the plant on each runner into a small pot of potting compost using a, "Hairpin", piece of wire to keep it in place. Cut



off the extension runners and, if possible, sink the pots into the soil around the plants.

The lawn needs some attention this time of year, especially when there are a few days of dry sunny weather. Put the sprinkler on the lawn to keep it looking lush and green. Any areas that were left uncut because of daffodil foliage that had not properly died down may now be looking a bit brown and bare. Fork it over, apply a dressing of fertiliser and water well.

Finally, July is the best month for Alfresco Dining. Invite over family and friends for a relaxing afternoon and show them the fabulous results of your month-by-month gardening advice.

**Alan Cross**

## Bag a Solution

Customers requested fold up bags to pop in their pocket or handbags – so look what’s arrived at fair2all – Recycled Sari folding shopping bags. Each one is different so it’s a



complete surprise what colour bag is going to be in the small triangular zipped pouch they come in. Hand crafted in India by a small family business that specialise in textile products and who share work with disadvantaged groups within their community.



**Mandy McIntosh**

fair2all, 17 Bath Street, Ashby 01530 417286

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## North Street School

Most people know that what is now the library and museum in North Street was once a school, and some of you may have been pupils there. Just before it closed in 1987, Kenneth Hillier of Ashby Museum wrote a book giving its history, but that publication was not widely distributed and has long been out of print. It is likely, therefore, that the full history of the school is not so well known.

It opened in 1836 as a National School, in the days when there was no such thing as state education. The National Society for the Education of the Poor was an Anglican movement founded in 1811. Money to build the school was provided largely by local people and the land was donated by the Marquis of Huntingdon. The Board of Trustees were all members of St Helen's Church, and the Chairman was the vicar, Reverend Vavasour.

When it opened, the building consisted of only that which today forms the main room of the library. This was divided into two classrooms; the infants' room designed to take up to 300 children and the National School for 150 older pupils. North Street carpark and the garden would have been the playground. There was also a separate house for the headteacher.

Overcrowding was always a problem, and in 1862 the first additional classroom was added on the north side. This, together with five more added



North Street Infants circa 1890-1900  
photograph courtesy of Ashby Museum

in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, are what now form side rooms, store rooms and office for the library. You can get a better impression of this if you look at the back of the building from the outside. The last additional classroom was added on the end of the building and this is now the smaller of the two galleries in Ashby Museum. The final addition to the building was what now forms the main part of the Museum. This was built in 1927 as a cookery school, which was used by the girls from the National School and the Girls' Grammar School.

At some point during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, only the Infants department was both boys and girls. At about the age of 8, boys transferred to another school, possibly the Green Coat School in Lower Church Street. Girls remained at the National School until they were 10, although attendance was not compulsory for children until 1880.

In 1911, a new school for boys was opened in Burton Road and the Green Coat School closed. By this time, the school leaving age was 12, and it was raised again in 1918 to 14. North Street continued as a mixed infants school and girls' National School, but more changes happened from the end of the Second World War.

By this time, the teacher's house was no longer being lived in. It was converted to cook dinners for the school, which were served in what had been the cookery school. In 1949 the former teachers' house was declared unsuitable for cooking and the children had to walk up to the Parish Rooms, (now The Venture Theatre) for their lunchtime meals. The former dining room reverted to its original use as a cookery classroom until 1974, when it



North Street Infants early 20th century  
photograph courtesy of Ashby Museum

was once again used as a dining room. The meals were cooked elsewhere and brought in each day; the former teacher's house was demolished around this time. In 1953, the Ivanhoe School opened as a secondary modern for children from the age of 11. The school in Burton Road became a mixed junior school and only the mixed infants remained at the North Street School.

In 1969 and 1977 two more primary schools opened in Ashby. These were Willesley and Hilltop. The end finally came for North Street School in 1987 when Woodcote Primary School opened and the remaining infants transferred to there. The school bell at North Street had rung for the last time, but rather than demolish the old building, it was later converted into what we know today as the library and the museum. If you go into the library, you can still see the evidence on the ceiling of where the room was divided into the original two classrooms. Some of the original windows also remain although they are now on an internal wall. A short film about the history of the school can be seen on the touch screen in Ashby de la Zouch Museum.

Wendy Freer

## Deportation Flights to Rwanda

On 14<sup>th</sup> June all of the Lords Spiritual signed a letter to The Times, voicing alarm about the Government's plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda. They wrote:

Sir,

Whether or not the first deportation flight leaves Britain today for Rwanda, this policy should shame us as a nation. Rwanda is a brave country recovering from catastrophic genocide. The shame is our own, because our Christian heritage should inspire us to treat asylum seekers with compassion, fairness and justice, as we have for centuries. Those to be deported to Rwanda have had no chance to appeal, or reunite with family in Britain. They have had no consideration of their asylum claim,



recognition of their medical or other needs, or any attempt to understand their predicament.

Many are desperate people fleeing unspeakable horrors. Many are Iranians, Eritreans and Sudanese citizens, who have an asylum grant rate of at least 88 per cent. These are people Jesus had in mind as he said when we offer hospitality to a stranger, we do it for him. They are the vulnerable that the Old Testament calls us to value. We cannot offer asylum to everyone, but we must not outsource our ethical responsibilities, or discard international law — which protects the right to claim asylum.

We must end the evil trafficking; many churches are involved in fighting this evil. This needs global co-operation across every level of society. To reduce dangerous journeys to the UK we need safe routes: the church will continue to advocate for them. But deportations — and the potential forced return of asylum seekers to their home countries — are not the way. This immoral policy shames Britain.

The Most Rev Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury;  
the Most Rev Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York;  
the Right Rev Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London;  
the Right Rev Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham;  
the Right Rev David Urquhart, Bishop of Birmingham;  
the Right Rev John Inge, Bishop of Worcester;  
the Right Rev Christopher Cocksworth, Bishop of Coventry;  
the Right Rev Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford;  
the Right Rev James Newcome, Bishop of Carlisle;  
the Right Rev Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans;  
the Right Rev Donald Allister, Bishop of Peterborough;  
the Right Rev Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely;  
the Right Rev Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark;  
the Right Rev Nicholas Baines, Bishop of Leeds;  
the Right Rev Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester;  
the Right Rev Martin Warner, Bishop of Chichester;  
the Right Rev Vivienne Faull, Bishop of Bristol;  
the Right Rev Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby;  
the Right Rev Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn;  
the Right Rev David Walker, Bishop of Manchester;  
the Right Rev Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford;  
the Right Rev Robert Atwell, Bishop of Exeter;  
the Right Rev Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford;  
the Right Rev Martin Seeley, Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich;  
the Right Rev Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham

# Our Worship on Sundays in July

Week	8.30am	10.30am	pm
<b>1</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Staunton Holy Communion	<b>St Helen's</b> All Age	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>St Helen's *</b> Evensong Isley Walton Holy Communion
<b>2</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> July		<b>St Helen's *</b> Holy Communion	
<b>3</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Staunton Morning Prayer	<b>St Helen's *</b> Morning Prayer— Word & Worship Breedon Holy Communion	
<b>4</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> July		<b>St Helen's *</b> Holy Communion	<b>12.30pm</b> <b>St Helen's</b> Baptisms <b>3.30pm</b> Coleorton Messy Church
<b>5</b> 31 <sup>st</sup> July		Breedon Deanery Service	



\* - denotes services at St Helen's which are streamed live to Facebook, on the Flagstaff Family of Churches Facebook page, and later on the website - [www.sthelensashby.net](http://www.sthelensashby.net)

## Other Regular Services:

- Wednesdays - Holy Communion - 10.30am
  - First Wednesday of the month - Holy Communion - in church
  - Second Wednesday of the month - Holy Communion - at Prior Park Community Centre
  - Third Wednesday of the month - Service of the Word - in church
- Saturdays - Parish Prayers - 9.30am in church (Hastings chapel or, if weather is fine, the Community Heritage Centre garden)

## Regular activities:

Monday mornings, term time

First Tuesday of the month

Third Tuesday of the month

Third Tuesday of the month

Fourth Tuesday of the month  
(October to March only)

First Wednesday of the month

Thursdays

– Little Fishes

– MU meeting 7pm - 9.30pm

– MU branch meeting 10am - 12.30pm

– PCC meeting 7 - 9.30pm

– Heritage lectures 7pm - 9.30pm

– ‘We’re In Stitches’ Knit & natter 2 - 4pm

– Choir practice 6.30-8.30

## Ashby Foodbank

Recently the Foodbank in Ashby celebrated its 9<sup>th</sup> birthday. When it started the hope was that by now there wouldn't be a need for a Foodbank. Alas, they are busier than ever.

In May they helped 74 families, giving out 2.2 tonnes of food. In June they helped 71 families, which is nearly 50% up on June last year. They gave out 1.8 tonnes of food, and had 1.3 tonnes in from either donations or bought stock.

They would like to thank everyone for their continued support which is very much appreciated.

(Donations can be left at the back of St Helen's Church, from where they will be collected and taken to the foodbank. Ed.)



### July Shopping List

- Tinned carrots, sweetcorn or peas
- Instant mash
- Longlife fruit juice
- Tinned hot meat such as chicken in white sauce, beef stew or meatballs
- Pasta sauce
- Packet or tinned custard
- Instant coffee
- Tea
- Tinned fruit
- Washing tablets
- Washing up liquid
- Shampoo
- Bars of soap

Donations can be left in the boxes in the porches of Holy Trinity Church or the Congregational Church or in the boxes in the Co-ops in and around Ashby and at Sainsburys in Melbourne.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support

# Net Zero Carbon Routemap

General Synod voted in February 2020 for the whole of the Church of England to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. The vote recognised that the global climate emergency is a crisis for God's creation and a fundamental injustice.

The Synod asked for a plan to be made, setting out how to get to net zero carbon. That plan of action, called the Routemap, is now complete and will be presented to General Synod for approval in July 2022. It includes guidance on how we can achieve year-on-year reductions in our greenhouse gas emissions and, ultimately, reach net zero carbon.



Bishop Graham Usher, lead bishop for the

Environment, has said, "There is no question that achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2030 is an almighty challenge, but this detailed Routemap, that has been developed in partnership across the whole Church, sets out a practical and pragmatic way to making this a reality.

This is a crucial decade for the planet, and I want to approach the challenge of Net Zero Carbon with a hope-filled realism that we can achieve this together."

It is thought to be possible to *reduce* carbon emissions from nearly every building by relatively easy and cheap methods that reduce energy consumption, improve energy efficiency and make the building more comfortable. However, eliminating *all* carbon emissions from a building will be more challenging and costly, although it is expected it can be done with existing technologies. The Routemap therefore prioritises identifying high energy-consuming, high carbon-emitting buildings, and developing plans to tackle carbon emissions from them.

The Routemap suggests some 'easy wins' which cost little and are low or

no risk but can deliver big benefits:

- Establish working groups, develop understanding of the issues and communicate them, share experience, and identify and implement policy changes. Working collectively can help you to think through all the issues and helps when it comes to communicating the changes to the wider church community.
- Gather data, such as energy use and carbon emissions, to enable the benefits and year-on-year reductions to be demonstrated.
- Encourage people actions – switching off unneeded lighting and equipment, turning down the thermostat, not making unnecessary journeys and choosing low-carbon travel options.
- Switch to green electricity and gas tariffs at point of contract renewal.
- Upgrade lighting to LEDs.
- Encourage walking, cycling, public transport and lift-sharing.
- Develop replacement plans for equipment before they are urgently necessary, especially for ageing heating systems: that way you can take the time to make sure you have chosen the right solution for your needs.

The Routemap includes seven planning principles to guide all of the work, and inform the action across the Church of England across the country:

1. Based in theology: treasuring God's creation
2. Urgent, relevant and widely understood
3. Data-driven, focused and transparent
4. Embedded in all we do
5. Using less energy, and from cleaner sources
6. Travelling sustainably
7. Offsetting only what we cannot reduce

Of course, the encouraging thing for us here at St Helen's is that the PCC and the Buildings Committee are already thinking in this way, and are in a good place to take us all on this challenging route.

For more information on the Routemap visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/net-zero-carbon-routemap>

**Jill Chapman**

# Anthony Watson

Vicar 1622-1646

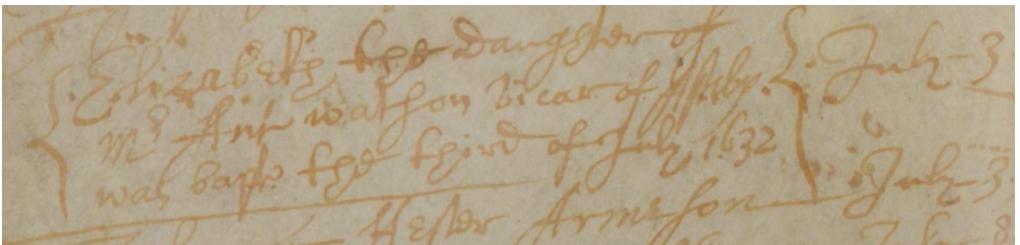
A wooden board beside the Tower records the names and dates of St Helen's vicars. In respect of Anthony Watson, it is incorrect. It records that Arthur Hildersham was vicar from 1593-1632. In fact, Hildersham's career at St Helen's was chequered due to his Puritan stance and for many years he was 'Lecturer' at the church, temporarily removed from the role or even, on occasion, in prison. Anthony Watson was appointed vicar after the departure of Thomas Pestell in 1622. Pestell's name doesn't appear on the board at all, but that's a story for another day.

There is little information about Anthony Watson. Lesley Rowe, in her book on Hildersham, describes Watson as 'something of an enigma.' He recognised Hildersham's seniority in the town and deferred to him. For instance, a letter from leading townspeople to the Mayor and Corporation of Leicester in 1625, stating that Ashby was not – as widely rumoured – rife with plague, a circumstance which was severely damaging trade in the town, was signed first by Hildersham and second by Watson.

Watson entered Pembroke College, Cambridge at Easter 1607 and graduated with a BA degree in 1610 and an MA in 1614. He was ordained deacon at the Bishop's palace in London on 18th December 1614, aged 22, which indicates that he was born around 1592. However, he was not ordained priest until September 1620.

The clergy database records that he was Curate of Harfield (now Harefield) in Middlesex for a while, then priest in Peterborough and 'perhaps Vicar of Ashby de la Zouch, Leics 1632.' He was certainly vicar of Ashby from 1622, appointed by Ferdinando, 6th Earl of Huntingdon, though he may have been in Ashby before that date. Clerks in Holy Orders were often employed as teachers, but there is no reference to him in the early records of Ashby Grammar School.

Anthony Watson must have been married, because there is an entry in the baptism



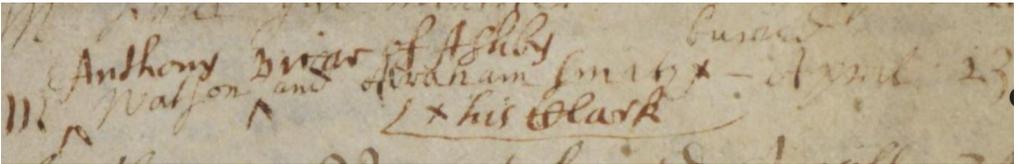
register at St Helen's – "Elizabeth daughter of Mr Ant Watson Vicar of Ashby was baptised the third of July 1632."

There is another possible entry for the birth of a daughter to Mr Watson and his wife in March 1627, but it is very difficult to read. The birth of a son, Anthony, to Mr Anthony Watson is recorded in the registers of Harefield, Middlesex, in March 1619, during the time of Watson's curacy there. This may be his son.

Lesley Rowe writes that Watson was considered sympathetic to the puritan cause

and was presented to the authorities in 1629 for administering Communion to a parishioner who was standing instead of kneeling. 'In 1636 he protested his conformity to a commission of enquiry. He certainly engaged in some unseemly legal wrangling with his predecessor, Pestell, and had appeared in court over allegations of sexual impropriety with servant girls.' Watson was accused of seduction by servant Mary Bailey in 1630. He denied misconduct but other servant girls made the same complaint. In the summer of 1631, Watson sued the Baileys for defamation, as gossip spread. Hildersham was apparently supportive of Watson and they worked closely together. Watson was one of the witnesses to Hildersham's will and inventory.

Anthony Watson died in April 1644 and was buried at St Helen's Church on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The burial register notes the burials of "Mr Anthony Watson vicar of Ashby and Abraham Smith his Clerk" on that day. Some of these details have been added by a different hand, with the original entry reading "Mr Watson and Abraham Smith."



There was a major outbreak of plague in Ashby in 1645, during the Civil War siege of the castle. Could it be that Mr Watson and Mr Smith fell victim to plague in 1644? It's likely that we will never know.

**Julie Starkey**  
June 2022

### Sources

*Entries from the Parish Registers of St Helen's Church have been accessed on Find My Past. Clergy of the Church of England Database Cambridge University Alumni 1261-1900 (Ancestry)*  
Quotations are from: Lesley A Rowe: *The Life and Times of Arthur Hildersham, Prince among Puritans.* Reformation Heritage Books. 20 March 2013



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## Mary Magdalene Day

July 22<sup>nd</sup> is the feast day of Mary Magdalene - follower of Jesus, financial supporter of his ministry, first apostle, and a great heroine of faith.

To mark the occasion here is one of poet Malcolm Guite's sonnets, from his collection *Sounding the Seasons*, published by Canterbury Press, and, opposite, a Church of England prayer.

### Mary Magdalene

Men called you light so as to load you down,  
And burden you with their own weight of sin,  
A woman forced to cover and contain  
Those seven devils sent by Everyman.  
But one man set you free and took your part  
One man knew and loved you to the core  
The broken alabaster of your heart  
Revealed to Him alone a hidden door,  
Into a garden where the fountain sealed,  
Could flow at last for him in healing tears,  
Till, in another garden, he revealed  
The perfect Love that cast out all your fears,  
And quickened you with love's own sway and swing,  
As light and lovely as the news you bring.

Malcolm Guite



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OF ENGLAND

# PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Intercessions for Mary Magdalene, Common Worship: Festivals

Mary Magdalene was the first to greet your risen Son and carried the news of his triumph over death to the disciples. Strengthen us to be faithful witnesses to the gospel in the world and grant your grace to all who preach and teach the faith. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.



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# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

In June, which was an Open Meeting, our Mothers' Union members & visitors enjoyed an afternoon to socialise and enjoy a superb Cream Tea in the Heritage Centre. Monies raised will be held in branch funds until our AGM where our charitable giving will be distributed as usual.

The annual Wave of Prayer service received by members could be prayed at anytime between 29<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July. The service is written afresh each year & keeps it fresh & interesting. A particular prayer this year was that "In unity & love we link hands with our Worldwide Family of God".

Unite us in worship;  
build us in service,  
as together we seek to share your love.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

Mothers' Union is present in the UK and worldwide, we are active in 84 countries, with over 4 million members and work tirelessly to serve communities whilst offering Christian care for families, regardless of faith or background. It is a grassroots organisation with a global vision. Our Ashby branch has links with Wappy Wappy, and their recent correspondence advised us they have a member who hopefully will regularly contact Eileen Coombs electronically.

*Adrienne Sedgman*



## Add a Word, Ruin a Hymn

This is a light-hearted idea, very much the kind of game that is played on BBC Radio 4's I'm Sorry I haven't a Clue, if there are some fellow fans out there. It would be good to have it as an occasional series, so please do let me know if you think of any I can share here.

Ed.

Doctor Who Would Valiant Be  
Immortal Invisible God Ernie Wise  
We plough the fields and scatter rambles  
For the Beauty of the Earthworm  
In Heavenly Love Island Abiding  
Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory of the Coming of The Lord Lieutenant.  
O For a Thousand Tongue Sandwiches.  
The Church's One Maybelline Foundation  
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Trainer  
Amazing Auntie Grace  
We Three Kings of Leyton Orient Are  
Make Me A Shopping Channel of Your Peace  
Thine Be The Knickerbocker Glory  
What a Facebook Friend We Have in Jesus  
This Little Light Beer of Mine  
In Christ Home Alone  
Be Thou My Vision Committee  
Why Were You There?  
For the Beauty of the Middle Earth  
How Great Thou Art Garfunkel  
There is a lip balm in Gilead  
It Came Upon a Midnight Train to Georgia  
Morning Has Broken Down  
Be Thou My X-Ray Vision  
He's got the whole world in his jazz hands  
Brother, sister let me serve you tea  
Make me a channel of your mushy peace  
The Church's one foundation garment  
Away In A Pret a Manger  
Be still for the presence of the Time Lord  
Rock of ages 8 and up  
Oh Happy Clappy Day  
Blest are the pure in Hertfordshire



# From the Albums -



Quiet morning:  
Fire of the North  
& the Celtic Saints

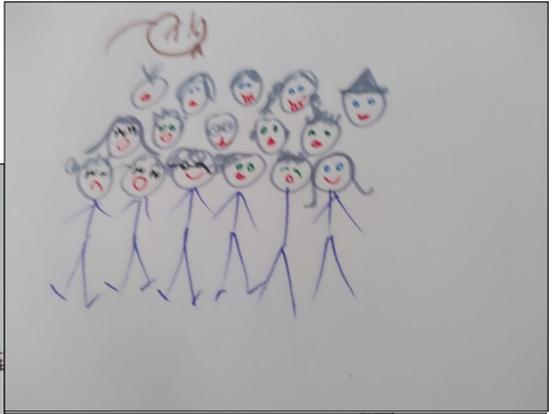


Grace's baptism



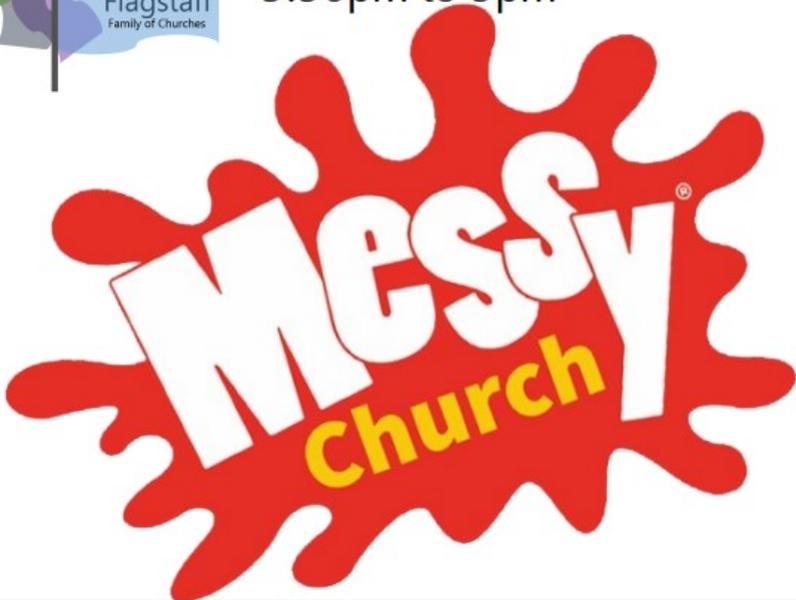
# Messy Church in June

- the feeding of the five thousand



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month

3.30pm to 5pm





## **Rock Solid**

Rock Solid is for school years 7-9. We have a parallel discipleship stream for school years 10 and up. These apprentices with varying reliability and effectiveness serve the younger members. On Fridays attendance amongst the younger members is irregular and unpredictable. In the last week of June only 2 of the 10 humans in attendance were in the year 7 - 9 category. This might have made for an unbalanced, awkward atmosphere but it didn't - such is the rapport across the wide age range. Please thank God for his blessing on this group.

As the summer term comes to an end and each school year-group clunks forward into their new designation, please pray for wisdom as we think and pray how to move forward - serving the older apprentices, the current years 7 - 9 and the soon to be invited year 6's.

Please also pray for the parents of the young people we serve, who tell us of their great concern for the safety of young people. They seem to have a sense of impotence as guardians, and are pained that they can not protect their precious young people from certain dangers. This might seem like a terribly bleak way of thinking but it might also be a tremendous revelation of reality. If we as parents think we can protect our children from all of the perils of living in this fallen, rebellious world we are deluded. Believer or not we need the salvation and care of our loving and majestic Shepherd. Please thank God for revealing this to parents. Please pray they would be in earnest seeking God's salvation and guardianship of themselves and their children.

**Vernon**

## **Sk8ers**

During June we took 12 keen Sk8ers rock climbing. This was such a popular trip we had to close bookings just minutes after they opened! We saw the young people supporting each other, cheering each other and all round having good fun. The only casualty.....Vernon's frisbee. Yes sadly, the frisbee never made it back and valiantly going into the brush to explore, we simply couldn't find it after it mastered its camouflage skills. We will miss you buddy.

Please would you pray that we have the right amount of young people come along each session for the numbers of volunteers. Pray that God sends those who most need his touch and that nothing stops those particular

young people from coming along.

If you feel the urge to come along and volunteer with us, do get in touch - we have a rota, so even just once or twice a term would be great!

Please pray for an ex Sk8er with whom we had a chance meeting. They said they wanted to stop being a 'bum' and make something of their life. When it was explained they still had options to go back to college for free, they jumped at the chance, and a merry email/google pursuit of a relevant course is now afoot. Please pray that this young person in particular find their way and is led to a better path, than where they find themselves.

Please pray that the young people come along each week with open hearts and minds to hear the message and maybe start their summer this year, with a new found peace from Jesus, as we give them an opportunity to respond to the gospel.

**Katie & The Sk8ers team**

## **Football**

One of the lads in the <16 session has set up a WhatsApp group to share messages about the session. He's called it Christian Football. What makes a game of football Christian? I wonder. We talked about justice and grace and they seemed to get it. Justice is being awarded a goal if you put the ball in the net or being awarded a red card if you hack someone down when they have a shot on goal. Grace is fetching the ball when someone else hoofs it over the fence. Justice is being punished for your wrongs, grace is praying God will forgive those who are killing you.

The session seems to have become a drop-in for a range of young people. Most attend irregularly and turn up at times that suit them. Please pray that my flexibility, creativity and sensitivity would be renewed so I can be faithful in my service and witness.

Please pray for those lads who seem to be in raw conflict with so many of their peers. Pray for them as they worry and react defensively in ways that often worsen their chances of reconciliation or good relations.

Please pray for the parents of players when I contact them for the first time. Pray they will be challenged and pleased that their son is involved in Christian Football.

Our 16+ session sees large numbers attending.

Please pray for players as they cope with the frustrations of playing on a crowded pitch and for us as we attempt to plan with little ability to forecast numbers attending.

Naturally, any competitive large gathering of unacquainted young males is

going to result in conflict. Such large numbers mean I am unable to witness all of the clashes, and trying to organise so many people each with their own agenda can be an administrative challenge I know is beyond me - especially as I'm also trying to fit in a period of witness, Biblical exegesis and prayer.

Thirst is common amongst footballers on a warm summer's day. The sight of me carrying the water bottles always stirs great desire in the lads who haven't thought to bring their own or who have already finished theirs. Please pray that these young people will be as conscious of their desperate spiritual lack. Pray they will be still more thirsty (and blessed) as they hear Jesus saying, 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled' (Matthew 5:6)

I am conspicuously inadequate when it comes to leading football sessions for young people. I am disqualified in all sorts of ways. Which is why there must be something or someone behind this enormously enjoyed session that / who is adequate. I know you know this or you wouldn't be a part of the sessions though your prayers but I want you to be reminded of it because it is my refreshed experience every Wednesday. Imposter Syndrome is the term given to explain the low sense of self belief that successful people experience even as all evidence points to their great worth. Before the games, as I think and pray over the many challenges faced by the young people who are likely to be in attendance, I become sharply aware once again of the unlikelihood of the following hours passing without major human mess erupting. I seek inspiration as I think over what I will say to them and how I might serve individuals in incisive and nurturing ways. Often I remain without clarity or any kind of uncertainty.

For me to suffer from imposter syndrome I would have to call myself a referee or coach so it's not imposter syndrome I suffer from. It's more like what my 2 year old daughter Joy suffers from. She's aware that in a fight between her and an articulated lorry she would lose. However she also believes in her daddy and so when she is held by him she need not fear an approaching HGV. For her to trust me this much is endearing but naive. When we trust God to do his bidding in spite of the apparent foolishness involved I believe we move him - not because of our brilliance but because he's our dad. And he is an omnipotent dad. And he is a dad who is desperate to adopt more of his precious creations into his family.

'A man would do nothing if he waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault' John Henry Newman

Thank you for your prayers. Thank you for not waiting until you are an enlightened, brilliant, 100% success rate intercessor before asking God to act in love, mercy and power.

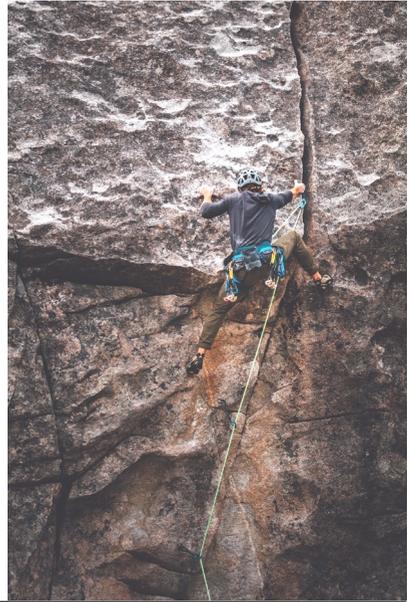
**Vernon**

## Outdoor Activity Holiday Club

Ashby Youth for Christ would like to invite any young people who will be in school years 7-9 from September, to young us in a summer activity club. We have three activities on offer, walking to the highest point in Leicestershire, rock climbing and mountain biking. Each day will cost £30 with a discount on offer if you book all three days.

- Bardon Hill on 8<sup>th</sup> August
- Markfield Rock Climbing on 10<sup>th</sup> August
- Mountain Biking at Hicks Lodge on 11<sup>th</sup> August

There are limited spaces available. For any more information contact [Vernon.ayfc@gmail.com](mailto:Vernon.ayfc@gmail.com)



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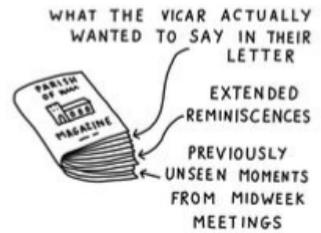
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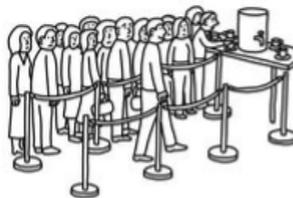
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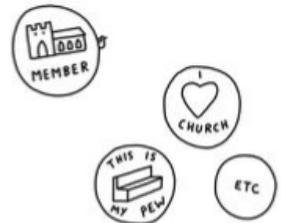
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## Quotes for the Month

'I note that this hymn ... seems to have been written in a key that means you either sing it at a very low pitch, like Lee Hazlewood, or go at it in a very high pitch, like that of Kate Bush attacking Wuthering Heights ... [I'm] speculating a hymn book called Hymns in a Practical, Mid-Range Key would be an immediate bestseller.'

*Caitlin Moran, Interview with Revd Richard Coles, The Times, May 21<sup>st</sup>*

'Prince Andrew is seeking to make amends, and I think that's a very good thing.'

*Justin Welby, asked about forgiveness in ITV News interview, May 31<sup>st</sup>*

'Now we all know that Her Majesty likes horse racing ... let me observe that your long reign reflects the distance of Aintree more than the sprints of Epsom. Certainly, less dressage than

most people imagine ... Your Majesty, we are so glad you are still in the saddle ... thank you for staying the course.'

*Archbishop of York, Sermon for Platinum Jubilee Thanksgiving Service, St Paul's, June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable - if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise - think about these things.'

*Bible reading read by Boris Johnson, Platinum Jubilee Thanksgiving Service, St Paul's, Jun 3<sup>rd</sup>*

'Taking a leaf out of the Queen & @paddingtonbear's books, I had a marmalade sarnie stashed in my handbag for use in this morning's service.#PlatinumJubilee.'

*Revd Jules Middleton, Twitter, June 5<sup>th</sup>*

'Clare Balding's tone darkened as she told the country (indeed, the world) that one of the Queen's titles was Defender of the Faith, and what an "unfortunate" thing this was.'

*Archbishop Cranmer blog re BBC coverage of Platinum Jubilee Pageant, June 6<sup>th</sup>*

'We ... end up once again saying "It's a mystery" in a voice that tries to sound deep and wise rather than "who knows?!"'

*Revd Sheridan James re Trinity Sunday, Twitter, June 10<sup>th</sup>*

'There should be a book called "Wrong things people believe about God." It would be a big book, longer than the Bible.'

*Christian Misfits Community, Facebook, June 10<sup>th</sup>*

'As a [music] group consisting of a mandolin with a string missing, an ocarina, and a hay-fever-sufferer playing a kazoo, it can be difficult to pick up the tune from them. Or the rhythm.'

*The Beaker Folk of Husborne Crawley, June 12<sup>th</sup>*

'It is ungodly that people should be dying in the channel ... I believe [Britain's] position is a moral one because everything else has been tried.'

*Ann Widdecombe on Rwanda deportations, BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme, June 12<sup>th</sup>*

'Christianity compels its adherents to weigh up decisions in the light of the teachings of Jesus. That some of its key public proponents have done so ... should only be a shock to someone who has slipped into a coma at the height of the Cromwellian Commonwealth and only just woken up.'

*Reverend Fergus Butler-Gallie, In defence of meddling priests, The Spectator, June 14<sup>th</sup>*

'One of the reasons why I've ponced around in the mainstream so much is because I'm really conscious of the people who we don't address anymore.' - The Rev Richard Coles

*Naomi Longford Wood, Twitter, June 17<sup>th</sup>*

'God has a funny way of bringing you to exactly where you were meant to end up.'

*Musician & rapper Stormzy, on receiving honorary degree from University of Exeter, June 22<sup>nd</sup>*

'When God calls you to something no person can get in his way no matter how wicked or woke.'

*Rev Calvin Robinson re ordination in breakaway Free Church of England, GB News, June 25<sup>th</sup>*

'Thank you for our ancestors in the faith who knew their dignity originated in you and not in the whims of those who sought to dominate them. Help me draw upon the power of Mary's song, Jael's hammer, Shiphrah & Puah's sneakiness, and the Syrophenician woman's sass.'

*Nadia Bolz-Weber, Sunday Prayers on Facebook, June 26<sup>th</sup>*

'I love God, and out of all the things in my life my faith is what I'm most proud of. And there is this thing where people say you can't be Christian and gay together, and I was sitting there knowing you can be because I am!'

*Team GB Olympic swimmer Daniel Jervis, interview with BBC Sport, June 28<sup>th</sup>*

'Hold my beer, I need to go to the front and give me life to Christ ... ' #TG22

*Overheard by Carl Beech of Christian Vision for Men, at The Gathering , Twitter, June 29<sup>th</sup>*

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