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St Mary's Church Hall:	Mrs Diana Fleming Tel: 01275 875081

The Parish Office, The Rectory Tel: 873257. The office is normally open 9 am - 1 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. Phone messages and emails will be checked daily.
Eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk; www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

CHURCHWARDENS

All Saints' East Clevedon with St Michael's, Clapton in Gordano	Mrs Kay Osborne, 2 Seymour Close BS21 6DU (342013) Mrs Monica Gore, 4 Plumers Close, BS21 5AW (791764)
St Mary's Walton	Mr Paul Middleton, 8 Edgehill Road,, BS21 7BZ (341908) Mrs Diana Fleming, Flat 5, 29 Edgehill Road, BS21 7BZ (875081)
St Paul's Walton in Gordano	Mrs Sue Betts, 1 Kings Road, Portishead, BS20 8HH (848645)
St Peter & St Paul Weston in Gordano	Mr John Bridges, The Bellows, Clevedon Road, Weston in Gordano, BS20 8PU (843380)

Website: www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

Facebook pages : All Saints East Clevedon Church; St Marys Clevedon;

St Pauls Church Walton in Gordano; St Peter and St Paul's Church, Weston in Gordano

The Parish Magazine

Diocese of Bath and Wells

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www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

Parish Office:

Tel: 01275 873257 email: eastcleveub@blueyonder.co.uk



July 2023

50P

SERVICES

All Saints', East Clevedon	Sundays	8.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am All Age Service (1st) Holy Communion (2nd, 3rd, 4th)
Walton St Mary Clevedon	Sundays	10.00 am Holy Communion (1st, 3rd, 5th) 10.00am Morning Prayer (2nd, 4th)
	Wednesdays	10.00 am Holy Communion
St Paul's, Walton	Sundays	11.15 am Sunday Worship
St Peter & St Paul, Weston in Gordano	Sundays	10.00am Morning Prayer (1st) 5.00 pm Choral Evensong (2nd & 4th) 5.00pm Holy Communion (3rd, 5th)
	Wednesday	11.00am Holy Communion (in church)

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive a weekly email with Readings and Prayers for the week and links to the YouTube Reflection and Monday Zoom at 10am

If you do not have internet access please contact the parish office and we will make hard copies available for you.

Please also see www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk for Clergy Reflection videos, copies of Morning and Evening Prayer and the current edition of the parish magazine.

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES: The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday and Friday mornings, 9.00am - 1.00pm although emails and phone calls will be answered on a daily and very regular basis. You are welcome to come to the Office on the mornings it is open or otherwise by arrangement.

MAGAZINE DETAILS

Magazine & Advertising editor: Laura Durrant
Mobile: 07890113851

Email: Laura.EastClevedonChurches@gmail.com

The deadline for copy for the August magazine is Monday July 17th and the magazine will be in church by Sunday August 6th.

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FIRST WORD from The Rector

This summer sees another Ashes cricket series with Australia. If you're interested in such things then it'll be yet another thing to worry about. If you're not interested then you might not even know it's happening.

So imagine the scene. A wood panelled court room in the summer of 1981. The various lawyers are assembled and the defendant is looking comfortable in the dock (he's had rather more experience than most of the legal profession in attendance). Your humble author, then a (very young) law student is sitting in the court representing a firm of solicitors taking notes of the case. There are the usual standings up and sittings down, applications made and the various frowning of brows. But mixed with this litigious scene is a rare frisson of excitement. England are one down in the ashes series but a small miracle is taking place. As the case continues notes are brought into the court and handed round the legal teams. It's the third test. Australia were out in their first innings for 401 declared, England were out for 174. It seemed a hopeless case. But as England followed on a miracle began to happen as Ian "Beefy" Botham scored an unbeaten 149 and were out for 356. "Bustling" Bob Willis then bowled 15 overs taking 8 wickets and it was this evolving game that were the content of the notes being handed round. The interest in the merits or demerits of the defendant's flimsy defence melted away as anxiety, incredulity and then amazement seized the court – we'd won by 18 runs and the defendant could simply have slipped away from the court and I swear no one would have noticed – indeed he was almost given an absolute discharge.

England went on to win the series 3-1 and it made Botham, Willis and the captain Mike "Brears" Brearley national heroes.

And it is to Brears Brearley that I'd like to turn. He was the perfect scholar at school combining a fierce intellect with sporting excellence and gained an academic scholarship to Cambridge to read Classics. He played cricket for the University – and occasionally for Middlesex. But as he progressed from University to become a philosophy lecturer he changed course and became instead a professional cricketer captaining Middlesex and then England. Why? Why give up (if indeed it was giving up) a very promising academic career for playing about with a silly game like cricket? Was he mad?



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His answer was clear. No. He argues that there should be no division between the mind and the physical. It is a myth to think they are somehow separate. He asked the question, “Is cricket a part of my sporting life or my other life?” “I’m inclined to answer”, he replies, “that it is, and has long been, a part of my life – of my life as a whole, not of one hived-off aspect of myself.” He went on to become not only perhaps the most thoughtful English cricket captain but also a very successful psychoanalyst. His profession, as in his professional sport, trying to make sense of the whole of life, physical, mental, emotional and spiritual and bringing them together. He says, “I have been aiming to integrate these various fields, to bring closer together body and mind.”

That’s it. Bringing closer together body and mind. And his view of religion? That from a boy he was aware that it “offers a sort of aesthetic meditation on the potential beauty of life” and that his philosophy and the Christian faith of Rowan Williams match in large part although without the Church’s settled doctrine on Christ.

But the rich spiritual lesson in this, even from the field of sport, that what affects us physically will affect us emotionally or spiritually and what affects us emotionally or spiritually will affect us physically. There is no separation, or rather the two realms of the physical and intangible are inexorably linked. No wonder people find in sport, nature, in gardens, in walking and in the physical beauty of sight, sound, touch and smell the fulfilment of their senses and therefore a window into God. No wonder people find in the physical act of taking communion the invitation to a spiritual connection to God; that in the beauty and stillness of a church one can feel closer to God and be invited to think and pray. There is a rich and unbroken Christian tradition of linking the physical and the spiritual.

You may have little or no interest in Cricket. But you will have an interest in the physical – your health, fitness, comfort, senses and your environment will bear directly onto your wellbeing and your faith. That’s why Mike Brearly played cricket as a Philosophy lecturer and psychoanalyst and that’s why sport, nature and intellectual curiosity can lead us to God.

Enjoy the summer – and all it brings to your senses and to your soul.

Noel

Ps Laughter is a great physical release and will make you feel better. Go to “Brian Johnston and Jonathan Agnew on Test Match Special” commentating on the 9th August 1991 England and West Indies “leg over” first test. I defy you not to laugh...

Subscriptions and donations

For magazine subscriptions and other donations to our churches please use the following details. General donations to the United Benefice can be made using the bank details provided.

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Cheques payable to ‘PCC All Saints, Clevedon’

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For further information: Angela 01275 871247

Pause for Thought

St FRANCIS of ASSISI (?1181 - 1226)

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

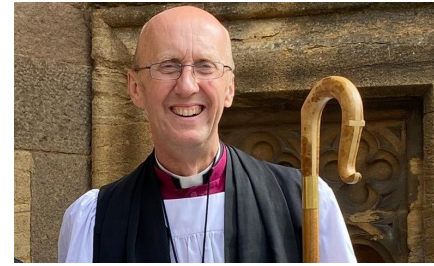
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

As I sit down to write about this great plea to God for peace I see it is 6th June – “D-Day”. That date won’t resonate with the young of today, but on this date in 1944 almost 200,000 young men from Britain and its allies landed on the beaches of Normandy, not for a day at the seaside, but to fight for peace and freedom in Europe. Sadly, many thousands of those men were killed and injured. In all, over 2 million allied troops took part in the Normandy campaign, of whom more than 226,000 were killed or wounded in the cause of ridding Europe of the scourge of Nazi brutality.

In June 1995 I was invited, as Padre of the Somerset Normandy Veterans Association, to accompany 50 veterans of that conflict back to those landing grounds and battlefields, on what they called a Pilgrimage. It was an unforgettable experience to learn of their courage and many sacrifices in the cause of humanity. Amongst the places we visited was ‘Hill 112’ – a vital strategic battlefield for the 43rd Wessex Division in which many of those men had served. It had to be taken and held or the invasion would fail. That was where Sir David Willcocks was awarded the MC “for exemplary gallantry”. It is hard to imagine that peace-loving choirmaster in the thick of a bloody battle. As we look at all the tragic conflicts scarring the world today we see peace is not a given - it has to be hard won. As a young man St Francis himself took part in a war between Assisi and Perugia, as a result of which he was held prisoner for about a year, and became very ill. But that led to his receiving a life-changing vision from God, and to committing his life to the cause of making this world a better place.

The men who took part in the Normandy Campaign weren’t saints or heroes – they simply answered the call to do what they could to bring peace and justice in the world. This great prayer calls on each of us to do the same – to seek God’s power in our lives that we, like St Francis, may be instruments of peace – in our families, in our neighbourhood, at work, wherever we are. It won’t bring us fame or fortune, but we will have the deep satisfaction of knowing that we have spread love and happiness to those around us – “a treasure that money cannot buy”!



LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

What a joy!

‘In response to God’s immense love for us we seek to be God’s people living and telling the story of Jesus.’ In conversations with people from around the diocese about our vision in recent months, we have talked of all the different ways that we can serve the communities in which we are based - how we can enable the life of the whole of the people of God.

One of the community connections that many of our churches nurture is with their local school, in particular with our church schools where day in, day out teachers and their support staff reflect God’s love and teachings with the pupils in their care. As rewarding as that role is, it is a tough one. The long summer holiday may be in sight but anyone who knows a teacher or member of school staff will tell you how much that is needed as well as how much work is done during that ‘break’. They truly need our support and love and prayers. We should also give thanks for those working in our schools during the summer, cleaning, building, or preparing for the new academic year.

Not all of us are blessed with the gifts to teach, but many of us have other gifts that can help our school communities. For some it is the gift of storytelling, sharing the teachings of Jesus as an Open the Book volunteer, others serve as chaplains. Some will simply live out their Christian faith by volunteering in classrooms or in the playground or by praying regularly for the school community. All of these roles are valuable to our schools, and rewarding for those who fulfil them.

What our schools and Academy Trusts need in particular are governors and trustees. There are many opportunities, especially for foundation governors and trustees who have a distinct responsibility for championing the Christian character of our schools. That may sound daunting, but that responsibility isn’t held alone as there is support locally and from our excellent diocesan education team. And if you do take on that role, what a joy to know that you are playing your part to support and nurture our young people in the way of our Lord who said, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.” 3 John 1:4.

Bishop Michael

READINGS AND PRAYERS

Sunday, 2nd July – Trinity 4

Jeremiah 28: 5-9 Matthew 10: 40-end

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 9th July – Trinity 5

Zachariah 9: 9-12 Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-end

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 16th July – Trinity 6

Isaiah 55: 10-13 Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.

God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

St Peter & St Paul, Weston in Gordano

2nd 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

9th 5.00 pm Evensong - The Rector
Michael Dyne preach

16th 5.00pm Holy Communion - The Rector
Ante Comm Michael Dyne

23rd 10.00am Morning Prayer- The Rector
Baptism of Rosie Hall

30th 5.00pm Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

Every Wednesday 11.00 am Holy Communion - check for venue

Walton St Mary, Clevedon

2nd 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rector
Ante Comm Michael Dyne

9th 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Very Rev'd David Frayne

16th 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rector

23rd 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

30th 10.00am Holy Communion - The Rector
Michael Dyne preach

Every Wednesday 10.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's

July SERVICES

Correct on going to press - please check with the parish office or
www.eastclevedonchurches.co.uk

All Saints, East Clevedon

2nd	8.00 am	All Age Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
9th	8.00 am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rector
16th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	10.30am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn Ante Comm Michael Dyne
23rd	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Very Rev'd David Frayne
30th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	10.30am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn

St Paul's, Walton in Gordano

2nd	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Sue Betts
9th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Michael Dyne
16th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Robb Robinson
23rd	11.15 am	Holy Communion - The Rector
30th	11.15am	Morning Prayer - Joshua Fowler

Sunday, 23rd July – Trinity 7

Isaiah 44: 6-8

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Sunday, 30th July – Trinity 8

I Kings 3: 5-12

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

FROM THE REGISTERS....

BAPTISMS

25th June – Monty Fryatt, All Saints

ALL SAINTS THEN AND NOW

from the archives

OUTING TO MALVERN

On Thursday April 26th a group of us were taken in Father Keith's transport on a trip to Malvern – by no means directly. After a long hold-up on the Severn Bridge we drove through Tintern for a quick view of the Abbey. We then climbed up to Trelleck where we had a coffee break and a glimpse of Trelleck church (worth a visit). On then to Kempley old church (as different to the new church) – the church was abandoned when the village evacuated to a higher site to avoid flooding. This little church then having white-washed walls which when they peeled revealed quite special wall paintings and frescoes. These have been dated to about 200 years before Michael Angelo. We then went on to the Malverns via Ledbury, through the hills along Jubilee Drive, the weather quite pleasant with a beautiful view over the Welsh Hills. We stopped here briefly for a picnic lunch. Then on to the guest House of the Convent of the Holy Name. Sister Carol showed us over the beautiful Chapel which was designed by Sir Ninian Comper, the famous Victorian architect. We also saw some magnificent Icons and vestments. Cups of tea and a stroll through the gardens, now in sunshine, completed our “trip”. We returned by the faster route through Upton-on-Severn to the motorway and home. *Gwen Griese writing in the Parish Magazine, July 1988.*

Julia Elton



ALL SAINTS, East Clevedon

How lucky we are to have the expert ‘cable-layer’ that is Mike Clark! He has been laying and routing the internet cable in the church and parish rooms and we are so very grateful to you Mike, and all your helpers, for all you do. On 28th May we celebrated with Tony Manley, in church, with a cake and flowers for his 90th birthday, which was on the previous Tuesday, 23rd May. It was lovely that we had Rev'd Ian Hubbard with us celebrating at the 10.30am service. Ian knows Tony and his son through their connections with St Mary's, Yatton. Tony would like his thanks passed on for all the good wishes he received, and to the church as a whole for the gift of the cake and the lectern floral display, done in his honour. On Monday 5th June, Kay and I, along with other churchwardens from our Diocese, were invited as guests of Bishop Michael to Evensong at Wells Cathedral, followed by a get-together with nibbles (delicious cakes made by Lizzie ‘Mrs Bishop’!) at the



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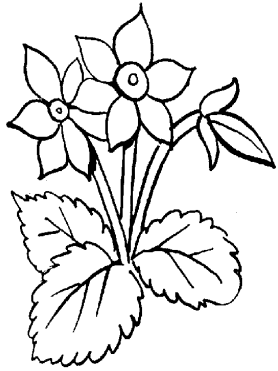
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Garden Talk

All art falls into two broad categories, the classic and the romantic. That might be a rather sweeping statement but it is certainly true for flower gardening, which is really painting with plants. (Vegetable gardening is more of a science than an art.) Classical gardens emphasise straight lines and geometric shapes. Plants are carefully selected and often limited to just a few species, arranged and colour co-ordinated. Romantic gardens, on the other hand, are like impressionist paintings, full of colour seemingly

haphazardly arranged, with an emotional appeal which contrasts with the intellectual appeal of the classical garden.

My grandfather, like most gardeners in the 1950s, was in the classical mould. His house in Bristol was fronted by a long, straight path leading to the front door. There was a narrow flower bed either side of the path in which he planted red and yellow wallflowers in alternate colours all the way to the house. The effect, which must have been intended, was that of a tidy municipal park. Even as a young child, I much preferred the cottage garden style, with its riot of colour and exuberance. Nowadays, the neo-classical style has returned to popularity. It is very different from the classical gardens of the past but it still has a strong focus on order and design. They are the so-called architectural gardens with lots of hard surfaces, geometric lines and just a few evergreen shrubs selected for their size and shape rather than their colour. At the extreme, there may be no plants at all, just a statue or a sterile pond, and it is arguable whether they can really be described as gardens in the normal sense of the word.

Fashions come and go. Lawns are out, gravel gardens are in and drought tolerant wildlife gardens are increasingly popular. Is our temperate, maritime climate changing to become more like the dry, sun-baked climate of the Mediterranean? We cannot be sure, but wise gardeners will be prepared for long periods of drought by installing water butts and choosing suitable plants. This year I have planted a number of salvias, curry plants and helianthemums (rock roses) which should survive without a lot of watering, along with such cottage garden stalwarts as cranesbills, marigolds and stocks. Gardening is always something of a juggling act - that is part of its fascination - but, to change the metaphor, if we cover all bases, there is a good chance we shall not be disappointed.

William King

Bishop's Palace. We complimented him on the part he played at the Coronation of King Charles. He was asked how he had been selected for the part and he explained it had been the 'gig' of the Bishops of Bath and Wells since the seventeen hundreds! It was a lovely informal evening in a beautiful setting and glorious sunshine.

On behalf of the congregation I would like to say a big 'welcome' to Varvara who has recently started worshipping at All Saints. She says she felt so welcomed and already feels part of our family. Also, from us all I'd like to say a very Happy Birthday to Darya, Varvara's daughter on her 18th birthday on 13th June and wish her all the best for the future as she prepares for University.

The monthly coffee morning took place on 14th June and was enjoyed by the nine attendees who appreciated the coolness of the vestry in the current hot weather. We next meet on Wednesday 12th July 10am in the vestry - all welcome.

Monica Gore



ST MICHAEL'S, Clapton in Gordano

A group of the Friends met in the church on the evening the 15th of May to hold St Michaels AGM for 2023. A report is in the process of preparation and will be released for all interested parties, when completed. The covid outbreak, changes to the Friends membership plus extremely busy personal lives prevented us from holding the meeting until now.

17th of May saw the family and friends of Roland Kieth Aldom celebrate his life at his funeral service in the church and internment in the upper cemetery. As a local man, who incidentally was a worker during construction on the nearby M5. He was laid to rest within a short distance from that roadway. Well over 60 family and friends paid their respects. The Rev Noel Hector conducted the service. Following, the mourners were invited to attend Roland's wake at the Black Horse pub.

The Friends cleaned, prepared the church prior to the service, and wish to thank the staff at the court for taking time out in providing car parking facilities for the many mourners who attended.

One of the seemingly many hidden tasks of keeping our church yard ship shape & Bristol fashion, is the mowing of not an inconsiderable amount of grass growing within the upper and lower graveyards. We had been fortunate in the past to utilise the services of Steve Smith, but due to increased responsibilities with his family and farm we have lost his reliable skills. Efforts are being made to find a replacement gardener. Thanks to Steve for his past exemplary work.

And finally..... Whilst I am writing this section of The Parish Magazine, the edition of which, will be actually released after our annual Summer Concert is held in St Michaels, on June 30th. Notifications of the concert have been placed around

Clapton and Portishead for information. We hope for another successful and enjoyable evening for all, with entertainment provided by our talented local performers.
Derek Roberts



WALTON ST MARY

As we no longer do house to house collections for Christian Aid Week, St Mary's decided to hold a coffee morning to raise funds for the charity. This was well attended and together with a Bring

and Buy stall we were able to forward the sum of £450.00 to support this much needed charity.

At our recent PPC. Meeting we discussed our on-going Ancient Well Project, and I am happy to report that work on the refurbishment is going splendidly. A custom-made iron grill has been fitted and gravel surrounding the area laid.

We will be part of the Clevedon History Trail and an information board (as has been seen around other places in Clevedon) will be put up in the churchyard.

This well dates from the 12th century and as such is a very important part of the history of Walton St Mary. We intend to have various fund-raising efforts through the year and hope that you will give us your support.

It was also decided to cut down the box tree next to the yew at the lych-gate. This year it became heavily infested with caterpillars, and we have been advised that the foliage is very unlikely to recover.

On Thursday 15th June Paul and I attended the Archdeacon's Visitation at All Saints in Weston, Bath. This is an annual event for Churchwardens and during the service we are required to pledge our service in this role for the coming year.

We had our "Open Gardens" event on Saturday 17th June. Mark and Pam in Castle Road and Sally and William in Ash Grove kindly invited people round to enjoy a cream tea or cake in their beautiful gardens. A big thank you to both couples for their hard work and hospitality. Altogether over £300 was raised towards the Well Garden. A fantastic result!!

Finally, don't forget to leave a space in your diary for the Annual Strawberry Tea which will be held in the Well Garden on Saturday 15th July.

Diana Fleming

St. Mary's flowers

4th June - in loving memory of Betty and John Ainger, requested by their daughter Christine Sutton;

11th June - in loving memory of Bob Sutton, requested by his wife Christine;

18th June - in loving memory of Mike Mander, requested by his wife Carol.

So I grew up in the church and the village from my childhood. My next step in the church was as an adult when I became churchwarden.

No-one had come forward to take up the role and as my Auntie Gladys wanted to step down a plea was made after a Sunday service. We were all compelled to sit in the church in silence until someone cracked under the pressure and I was the one who broke first.

My role at St Paul's

I have been churchwarden off and on since the 1990s. Even so it's very difficult to describe what the role entails.

Fundamentally you are a servant to your church family in which you give your trust, trust in these lovely people and trust in God to lead you through thick and thin. Also I see my role as a pebble in a pond dropped in to start ripples. However big the initial splash nothing can happen without the great support I receive from so many people over all these years.

ALL SAINTS FLOODLIGHTING

24th June - To celebrate my grandad John Bennett's 80th birthday.
Lots of love, Cara xx



8th July - In memory of Grahame Ruddock, missed every day, forever in our hearts. Lynne & family

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting please email Sandra Sallis at allsaintspcc@gmail.com. Your dedication will be on the pewsheet, magazine and All Saints Facebook page.

What is your “Ministry”?

Sue Betts—St Paul’s

A bit about me

I can't remember living anywhere else than Walton in Gordano as a child. My Dad had bought our cottage in a pub and rebuilt it over many years, I'm not sure if he ever finished, there was always a new project as our family grew and grew. We seemed to spend all our time playing on Walton Common, what freedom children had in those days.

After school there was Uni where I studied Horticulture and went on to be a garden centre manager. Then there were my lovely Roy and my two beautiful boys and a happy time as a mum. I started working at High down Infants as a teaching assistant in the year 2000 and I'm still there!

What brought me to St Pauls?

Two truly inspirational women brought me to St Pauls; Mary Sangar-Davies and Mary Browning. They did everything, played the organ, led the choir, ran the Sunday School and organising Nativity plays performed in the village hall where at the time there was a proper stage with proper stage curtains which my Mum had the terrifying responsibility of drawing and closing at the right time. The hall was always packed.



ST PETER & ST PAUL, Weston in Gordano

Two pieces of good news to begin this months offering . First of all the plant sale on May 28 th was a great success , not least financially. Ann Chavasse , who worked hard for it, reports.

It is very heartening indeed that Caroline Beekmann is beginning as ‘ registered voluntary helper’ for the re establishing of the Friends of St Peter and St Paul. The historic church and it’s immediate surrounds are peaceful oases just off the main road: an asset to all the village and to visitors . Sometimes people sit on the chairs outside , enjoying the pastoral view across the Gordano Valley. The heavy inner door of the church is a bit of a disincentive to the timid but perhaps the Friends will be able to help remedy that in due course! Once inside the church speaks its centuries old history of worship and prayer. Thank you Caroline for the paperwork you have already begun to tackle on our behalf.

Next up the Silent Auction on June 16 th organised and reported on by Robb Robinson. The patronal festival falls on June 29 th , celebrated this year on the Sunday before, with wine and other refreshments following. Less than 10 years ago there would have been a full congregation . Times have changed , with the sobering statistic that the UK is one of the least religious countries in the World . Its worth remembering that Christianity , particularly through its monastic houses in earlier centuries , was a focus of education , medicine , and agriculture . In other words it was a civilising force. More recently it has inspired or underpinned organisations such as the Samaritans , food banks and more. There is , however, also a good Biblical precedent for the ‘ faithful remnant’. Small numbers are not necessarily the end of the story . We report on the patronal festival next month.

Coming up is the village fete at 2.00 pm on July 15 th in orchard field behind the church. This is a united effort across the village which is coming to life again! Major professional but voluntary work is currently going into attempts to reopen the closed White Hart as a pub and community hub. The website for this opens in July. The village ‘green’ and the ‘planters’ are also being kept in very good order by our various gardeners. Then I caught Ian Borland in green jacket picking up litter from the road side and asked if he was doing community service in the legal sense (Sorry Ian!)

We could , however, do with more younger contributors in all areas of village life . Might this be you?

Sister Carol

The Silent Auction has finally happened. It was a sociable and enjoyable evening, and the “nibbles” were as delicious as promised. We were given a number of superb items and most of them were sold to our discerning bidders. There were several real bargains in original art and brand new items of all sorts. I’m very grateful to our generous donors and bidders for their support. Ann Bridges and Caroline Beekmann were treasures beyond price in the help and support they gave

so willingly. My heartfelt thanks go to all who helped in organising the event; I hope they weren't too exhausted. The total raised was £687.00 which will go a small way towards paying for the urgent repairs needed to the cross above our East Window. Thank you to all who came and supported us.

Robb Robinson

The success of this year's Plant Sale was a complete surprise. Many, many people contributed to this success and we thank them all..... First of all, the people who supplied the wonderful selection of quality plants and the village gardening group members who set up the tables, helped display and price the plants, serve refreshments and clear up at the end of the day. Thank you to AnnB and her team with the AsNew clothes and jewellery sale. Also the Refreshment ladies and cake and sandwich makers. Last but not least we thank our generous customers for coming and hope that their purchases grow well.

As well as being a very enjoyable, happy event £2,452 was raised which will help pay for mowing the churchyard and upkeep of walls and trees, keeping it a peaceful haven for all villagers.

Ann Chavasse



ST PAUL'S, Walton in Gordano

Flying Crooked

The butterfly, the cabbage-white,
(His honest idiocy of flight)

Will never now, it is too late,

Master the art of flying straight,

Yet has – who knows as well as I? –

A just sense of how not to fly:

He lurches here and here by guess

And God and hope and hopelessness.

Even the acrobatic swift

Has not his flying crooked gift. Robert Graves (1895 – 1985)

I have been lucky enough to see three different types of blue butterflies in the garden this year – a Small Blue, there always used to be loads of them up on the Common; a Holly Blue, somewhat displaced because its' holly tree has been cut down; and what looked to me like a Large Blue. I am in no way knowledgeable about butterflies, but I got out our old butterfly and moth book and both the top and the underneath of its' wings looked just like the picture. How lovely to see such fragile little creatures here in Walton.

We start this month with a quick look back to the end of May and our Scarecrow Festival, returning after a considerable absence.

When things are tough (as they are sometimes, particularly in a deprived parish like this one) this sense of vocation makes all the difference to one's resilience and ability to keep on keeping on, as the phrase goes.

Hannah continues to work at the Suspension Bridge and is in the middle of a large-scale building project to put a permanent archive onsite at the Visitor Centre in Clifton. She has also undertaken some academic tutoring recently. In August, she's doing a sponsored walk for Tearfund with her mum, who turns 75 this year. We still have Fridays off together - and sometimes we're even awake enough to have a conversation! The children keep growing (as children do). Amy is in Year 4 now, and Aidan starts secondary school in September locally. They both fly the Little musical flag, with Amy taking violin lessons and Aidan now playing guitar and drums. It's a noisy house, but a happy one! We recently had a wonderful holiday in West Wales - fast becoming our favourite getaway for a recharge.

It is a lovely bonus that I see a fair bit of Caroline Sackley, since her and Bob retired to Burnham-on-Sea. With Bob's recent surgery they've had a dramatic few months, but seem settled and happy. Of course I sometimes see Noel and Sr Anita at diocesan things, but I do miss the camaraderie of our clergy team, and the thoughtfulness and laughter that would often accompany our shared ministry. I am, however, blessed with a very lovely retired priest here, as well as a retired Baptist minister and his wife who have brought many gifts with them. I've kept up with my friend Rob Bethel from All Saints and, as you may know, we've started a Podcast together called 'God Botherers'! As I write, we've just finished recording episode 4. It's a wonderful privilege to share a journey of faith with someone as kind and thoughtful as Rob, and also have the opportunity to share this a little wider too. Do tune in if you get the chance!

There's always much more to share. but I'll simply send you my gratitude for all that we received during my curacy, and our heartfelt blessings to you as you love and serve our Lord together. We'd be delighted to hear from anyone in any of the parishes - you remain ever dear to us. God bless you!

Martin, Hannah, Aidan and Amy.

An update from the Littles

Dear sisters, brothers and others of the East Clevedon Parishes,

Greetings from warm, sunny Highbridge! I am only a few junctions down the M5, and yet I feel strangely far away from you all, and curacy feels like a long time ago. Many thanks to those who have made the effort to keep in touch, to ask how we are doing and to send me your news. The last time I saw many of you will have been at my licensing in November 2021, when so many of you came to support me and the family - I will never forget this kindness! I remember Bishop Barry in particular drumming up the troops to give me a really good 'plumbing in'! Come to think of it, when I was in Clevedon a few months ago for a Diocesan Synod, we also bumped into lots of people, which was really special, and reminded us of many connections we've made.

All in, I have now been in Highbridge for over 2 years. I am clinging on to my single church parish with all ten fingernails - as you are no doubt aware, the cuts in stipendiary ministry in the diocese make for a sobering outlook. I am attempting not to be anxious, but just to get on with parish ministry as best I can - after all, it's what dear Noel (and all of you) were good enough to train me for! St John's congregation are a lovely bunch. We are a small congregation but when we do our afternoon children and family services we regularly attract lots of local families. I'm sure you remember how I used to help with 'Little Lights' in Weston-in-Gordano? Well, I have had the opportunity to do something similar here, and offered to assist with our local school choir, 'Churchfield Harmony'. I am in school every Tuesday for practice, and the children sing regularly in church every 1-2 months at a 'Messy Church' style service, with games, crafts and food. This has been a great way to connect with local families, and to gently share the gospel with them here. I'm also (for my sins) a school foundation governor, and do lots of collective worship leading and RE sessions with the children - building on all I learned working with All Saints School.

As well as services and school life, we've done lots of live music and arts projects here, including Blues in the Pews - a jam night for local musicians - and we just finished being part of an event called the Front Garden Music Festival, which is now in its third year. It's been loads of fun. I didn't necessarily plan to do all these things, but when God seems to open up an opportunity, it's worth taking a punt! Not everything has been successful, of course, but the Holy Spirit seems to be blowing in enough right directions that I feel secure that I am in the right place.

What an amazing collection of Scarecrows, some on display in the churchyard and some in people's gardens. Well done to everyone who took part, especially Deb who came joint first with her 'Princes in the Tower' - two little scarecrows locked up behind bars in a tower cleverly made of a cardboard box - brilliant. Modesty should prevent me from mentioning the other joint winner (but obviously, it hasn't) my version of Robert the Bruce and the spider did in fact look more like ET - the extra-terrestrial and an alien come down to earth under the carport. Despite the nippy breeze the sun kept shining and plenty of people came along to walk around the scarecrow trail and to enjoy a bacon or sausage roll. Thank you to all who joined in and especially to Sue and her band of ladies who kept the tea, cake and bacon going all afternoon. And thank you to Emma for bringing along the Village Archive - if you've never had a look at this fascinating collection of village artifacts, then don't miss your chance next month, Emma will have it all on display at the Village Summer Fete.

At the beginning of June our 'Welcome In' coffee morning was followed by a meeting with the Village Social Committee. This turned out to be a great chance to add names to the list of who's doing what for the Village Summer Fete (more on the Fete later in the report, and don't forget for all the latest village news The Cross Tree Chronicle is the place to go either online or as a printed copy - please let Emma know if you want to join the Village WhatsApp group or email list).

The 'Morning Gathering', on the following day, included the choice of our Favourite Hymns everything from a modern hymn 'In Christ Alone' to the traditional 'The Old Rugged Cross'. Hymns bring back memories of times and occasions, and it is interesting how many favourites are the ones we sang when we were young either in the choir or at school.

Also, in June Sue attended this year's Visitation. This is the event at which church wardens sign in for the coming 12 months and have a chance to meet the Archdeacon and discuss any issues that have arisen in the last year. This seems like the ideal opportunity to say thank you on behalf of us all to Sue for her unstinting dedication to our Church. Where would we be without her hard work and creativity, and her seemingly unending stream of brilliant ideas for fund raising, joyous occasions. Sue always says that it's all about teamwork and not in any way about leadership - but every team whether it's Manchester City or the Church or Hall Committee needs encouragement and support, and someone to say, 'well done and thank you'. So, here's a very well deserved 'thank you' to you Sue. Last month's magazine included the sad news of the death Grace Davidson - a long time resident of Walton. Grace's memorial took place in the middle of last month and although not a religious service it is heartening to know that Grace felt that our Church was the appropriate place for the coming together of her family and friends to mark her long and full life. We sent our love and prayers to all who loved and cared for Grace.

And now for this month.

On Saturday 1st July, starting at 10.30am, is our 'Welcome In' coffee morning -

probably in the churchyard if the weather is as sunny as it has been in June. The next day, Sunday 2nd July, is our Morning Gathering, a simple service led by the congregation – this might also be outside in the sunshine – and the service will be followed by a ‘bring and share’ lunch and our Parish Conversation where you have the chance to raise any ideas or issues you have to do with the Church. The on the next weekend we have our Village Summer Fete on Saturday 8th July. There is still time to volunteer to help on the day – or on the Friday – please contact Barbara on 873652. Raffle tickets will be attached to this month’s Cross Tree Chronicle, and any donations of Bric a Brac, Bottles, cakes and Raffle Prizes - - anything you can give will be gratefully received – can be dropped off at the Village Hall on Friday 7th, or arrangement for collection can be made, please contact Barbara as above.

The Fete Kicks off at 1pm and there is an afternoon packed with all sorts of entertainments and refreshments ahead of you. No traditional village fete would be complete without the accompaniment of a brass band and we are lucky enough to have The Black Nore Brass/Portishead Town Band playing for us throughout the afternoon. We have all kinds of traditional stalls, everything from Plants and Books, Handicrafts and Bric-a-Brac, and sideshows like the Coconut Shy. There will be Childrens’ Races, the annual village Tug of War, the Vintage Cars, and now we need a fanfare – back by popular demand – the Fun Dog Show with all manner of categories for the dogs to show off in, including ‘the Dog with the Waggiest Tail’. And don’t forget Emma’s Archive will be on display.

And if all of this has left you in need of sustenance then you will be spoilt for choice. Tea and cake will be served in the Hall, and for something more substantial there is a Barbeque, also a licensed Bar, and don’t forget if you’re getting hot there are always ice creams.

It all seems to be building up to a fabulous afternoon, so why not come along – meet people you haven’t seen in ages, be thoroughly entertained by the Fun Dog Show, and enjoy some delicious refreshments, you might even win a prize in the raffle – what could be better.

During July and August there will be a number of Prayer Stations in the Church. And what are Prayer Stations, I hear you ask – they are tables set out with ideas to lead you in prayer, and when approached altogether they make up Our Lord’s Prayer, there will be different activities on each table to initiate your reflections. Our Church is always open, summer and winter, and everyone is always welcome to come in and spend a time either following our Prayer Stations or just sitting in the quiet and the stillness of our Church. Please remember to pull the door closed after you when you leave.

The first weekend in August starts with our ‘Welcome In’ coffee morning on Saturday 5th – join us at 10.30am in the Church.

On the next day we have our Lammas Service at 11.15am. Lammas is one of our traditional rural celebrations and marks the gathering in of the first cereal harvest for the season, the flour would be ground and then a loaf was made to be blessed at the service. Following our service there be a simple lunch and our Parish Conversation.



The 3 C's - Coffee (cake!) and Conversation is a discussion group that takes place on the first Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm – 2.45pm at All Saints Vestry using “Day by Day with God” notes as the focus for discussion (notes available through the Parish Office) A relaxed and informal space to learn and encourage. We have had many interesting discussions over the months so if it’s something you’d like to try out do join us or for more information please contact Kate Hector on 873257.

Next meetings are Tuesday 4th July and Tuesday 1st August . Tea, coffee and cake always provided!

BIBLE NOTES can be ordered through the Parish Office.

We currently order in “Day by Day with God” and “New Daylight” Bible notes. These provide bite-size Bible passages explained by those who themselves have found the Bible to be a source of strength and inspiration for life. The cost per edition is £4.75.

ALL SAINTS COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

10am - 12 noon in All Saints Vestry

Second Wednesday in the month—next meetings

July 12th and August 9th

Just turn up or contact Sandra Sallis on 878848/07443905634



Weston-In-Gordano

VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 15^h July 2pm

in the

Church Orchard

- Cream Teas, Ice-creams, Refreshments and Country Bar
 - Plants, Cakes, Home Produce, Bottle Tombola, Pre-loved Items, Games and Competitions
 - Children's Fancy Dress Parade and Face Painting
 - Lucky Number Programme Gate Entry: £1 for Adults, Children free
- Free Parking adjacent to site
- **GRAND RAFFLE AT 4PM**
Please note, this is a CASH ONLY EVENT!

A look ahead to the August Bank Holiday weekend and our Flower Festival (Saturday 26th, Sunday 27th and Monday 28th) – as mentioned last month the theme this year is 'At Home with our Favourite Animals'. If you haven't picked your favourite animal and/or their habitat yet, then there is still time to contact Sue and have a go at representing this year's theme in a flower arrangement. I seem to be doing guinea pigs in the Church porch, not that the Church porch is the natural habitat of guinea pigs, but I'm having a bash at it and so could you – you by no means need to be an expert. The response to the call for people to do an arrangement has been brilliant but there is always room for more. Or how about coming on one of the days over the weekend and lending a hand with the refreshments or on one of the stalls in the churchyard or doing the washing up. As the saying goes 'Many hands make light work' and there will still be time to have a chat and have a look round at the flowers and enjoy a cup of tea and a delicious piece of home-made cake. Of course, there will be a raffle – after all it is Walton-in-Gordano. A lot more details in next month's magazine, and next month's Chronicle.

Congratulations to Josh on his exciting new job teaching Religious Education at St. Bernadette RC School in Bristol – a big well done from us all here at St. Paul's. Sue is in the process of compiling her Village Cookbook – there is still time to add your favourite recipe just contact Sue. Sue is hoping to have the booklets on sale at the Flower Festival, all funds will go 'The Heart of the Village' appeal to raise money for a defibrillator for the village.



And finally, our Mouse Musings: That sounds rather nice a Cookbook full of delicious recipes, please buy one and try the recipes, don't forget we mice are very good at hoovering up crumbs. See you at the Summer Fete! Love Miss CM



Diocese News

A visible presence

The Church Tent has been at two of our largest gatherings in the diocese this year, the Bath and West Show and Glastonbury Festival. The tents were manned by ecumenical teams and served a steady flow of visitors.

At the Bath and West Show the Yeast Scrapstore from Glastonbury created a display on the theme of The Servant King. A series of questions; 'what are you worried about?', 'Who has been your greatest influence?' 'What are you thankful for?' and 'How do you serve?', prompted people passing by to add their thoughts, comments and prayers to a board outside the tent.

Green security

In what's thought to be the first project of its kind in Somerset, Kilmersdon Church of England Primary School has created a 'green' security hedge to keep the children safe, instead of a wire fence.

The school wanted to construct something which reflects their vision to care for and manage God's creation. The hedge will not only provide security but over time it will support wildlife such as birds and insects as well as some small mammals.

Headteacher, Steve Bamford said, "The children are really proud of this solution to our need for site security. We are excited about what animals, birds, insects and plants might make their home at Kilmersdon in and around our hedge as it grows, adding to the considerably diverse existing wildlife on site!"

Read more about the initiative.

Supporting the Hidden Voices

The latest course for Hidden Voices Somerset, the joint initiative between Bath and Wells and Clewer to tackle modern slavery, is underway at St Francis Church, Bridgwater

Sian Owens, the local coordinator for Hidden Voices Somerset, says, "Despite people's expectations, modern slavery is happening across our diocese. It is not just to people trafficked from other countries but also vulnerable local people, young and old. The Hidden Voices course will help you identify ways to help your community build resilience against this exploitation, to spot signs of the activity and to understand the steps that can be taken to safeguard any individuals. "