

STAFF

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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

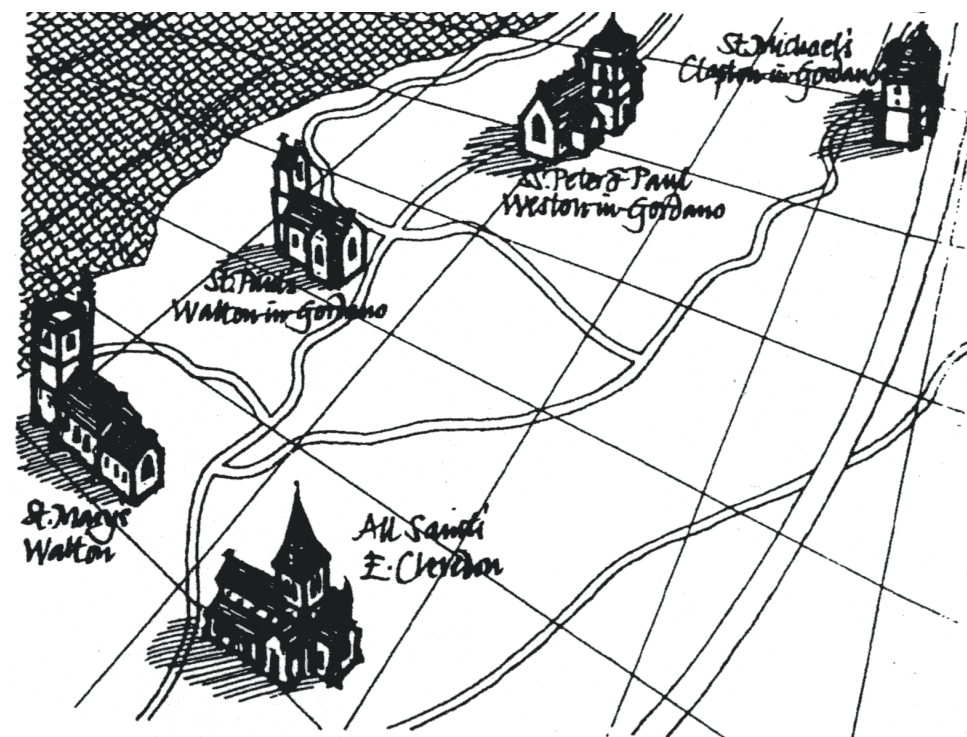
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Parish Office:

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September 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 October magazine is Monday September 18th and the magazine will be in church by Sunday October 1st.

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FIRST WORD from The Rector

I'd like to claim minority status please. These days we're all part of one minority or another (going to church is one), but this is mine.

Autumn is my least favourite season. "But why?" I hear many cry – think of the beauty, the leaf colour, the quiet and warm days of September, the conkers and chestnuts, the thick woollens and scarves emerging after their summer break. For many people autumn is their favourite season and Westonbirt Arboretum demonstrates why.

Yes – but – also think of the departing swallows and house martins, the cold yet warm days never knowing what to wear, the clinging onto summer yet knowing it's over, the long haul to Christmas. My favourite season is Spring with its fresh life and promise, then comes winter and its deep dark days and the joy of Christmas, then summer with its light, warmth and abundance, then comes Autumn. But why do I find autumn the poor relation? I love the colours, the harvest and the turn of the year, the ploughed fields and the "evening of the year".

The reason I find autumn (ever so slightly) depressing is that autumn is a kind of dying and I find the pathos of decline sets a mood of introspection. Things are turning inward, homeward bound. The abundance is coming to an end and it's the years equivalent of "Sunday afternoon blues".

But perhaps I should think again. Autumn is the church's season of remembrance. In autumn we see all the festivals of remembering – All Souls and Remembrance Sunday in particular – and they are there for a reason. The turning seasons reflect the seasons of life – birth, renewal, abundance, sleep and close – the year a sort of commentary on the seasons of life. And, of course, sleep is good. Evenings can be the nicest part of any day, a looking back at the day's activity with satisfaction, happily tired and ready for rest and new challenges in the morrow – what's not to like?

There's a rich spiritual lesson here too. A very large part of human spirituality, whether Christian or otherwise, is accepting the wisdom of knowing what to hold onto and what to let go of. This can be deeply challenging and even traumatic. But as we let go of each day and each year we do so to allow a new day and a new year to be born. This is healthy and good, and as things should be. None of us wants things to stay the same forever. Holding life at bay, preventing change and denying life's seasons is a kind of dying much worse than change. King Canute demonstrated this well as he famously sat by his seashore – holding back what God wills is like holding back the tide. To do otherwise is life denying and indeed is a kind of self-destruction.



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We all face change and the turning of life's seasons. Years ago, when I lived in Leicester, I went to a vibrant city centre church. Among the talented congregation and clergy was a musician who wrote a musical. I've forgotten the name of it, but it's point was to remind people that in any season of life we can meet and know Christ. There was one song that for some reason I've never forgotten and its catchy tune held the words, "every season has its greeting, getting ready for a special meeting". It was pretty corny but it stayed with me.

Much more beautifully expressed is a line in one of my favourite autumnal films, "Shadowlands". Made in 1993 it features Sir Anthony Hopkins as C. S. Lewis, Debra Winger as Joy, his wife, and Joseph Mazzello as Douglas, Joy's young son. Based on real life, it tells the story of how Lewis, a tweedy bachelor Don of a certain age in Oxford, met, married and fell in love (in that order) with Joy his American wife. He's taken by surprise by his powerful love for her even as she threatened and then destroyed his quiet, comfortable, bachelor life. He was happy before he met her, content with his theology, his books and his clubbish circle of friends. But Joy and Douglas woke him up, shook him down and opened a new life of emotion for him – a new life of love. But as tragedy struck, as Joy was diagnosed with cancer, so his brief window of love was seemingly doomed. As she died the film asks the simple question, is it better to have loved and lost or never to have loved at all?

The Christian response, I believe, is the former. The loss is part of the gain and to choose to avoid loss is to choose not to live. This, in the film and in faith, is set in the wider context of faith and the film ends with Lewis and Douglas, both grieving, walking into the Golden Valley in Herefordshire which is the film's metaphor for heaven. Joy asks Lewis shortly before she died, "were you happy then, before our marriage?" He replied, "yes. But I wouldn't want to be happy in that way again." That's the spiritual heart to this. It's a response akin to the profound Christian insight that to lose ones life is to find it.

So let's embrace autumn. It's beautiful, rich and fulfilling. It reminds us of our commitment to life, change and faith. In Shakespear's Hamlet, Edgar says to Gloucester "Men must endure their going hence, even as their coming hither; ripeness is all." – in other words, life brings change continually, but acceptance and readiness for change (ripeness) is all. Enjoy the season as every season in the year, as in life, has its greeting.

Noel

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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St Paul's Church

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Pause for Thought

The Prayer of St Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430)

*Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you.
teach us in this world to give ourselves to your service,
that here we may have your peace,
and in the world to come may see you face to face,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

In his First Word article last month, Noël quoted a line from this great prayer, so I thought it appropriate to make it the subject for this month's Pause for Thought.

There were two important Saints called Augustine in the early centuries of Christianity – this one, and St Augustine of Canterbury (died 604AD). He was sent by Pope Gregory the Great in 597AD to evangelise England, and founded Canterbury and Rochester Cathedrals.

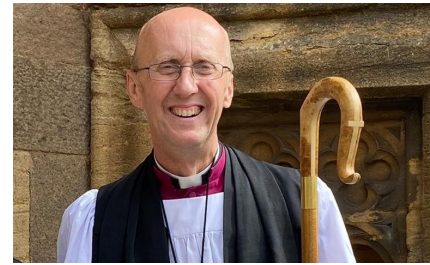
St Augustine of Hippo was born in North Africa in 354AD. His writings massively influenced the development of Western philosophy and Christianity, but he only became a Christian in his thirties. His conversion was greatly influenced by his mother St Monica's prayers and the teachings of St Ambrose, who baptised him on Easter Day 387. As he writes in his famous 'Confessions' – "Belatedly have I loved thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new. For you were within and I was without, and I sought thee out there." It was that appreciation of the God-shaped space inside each of us that Augustine came to discern within himself, and longed for everyone else to

experience.

This was already one of my favourite prayers when I went to be Vicar of Sway in 1987, where a 20-bed Drug Rehab Centre opened at exactly the same time as I arrived. Its director was a reformed drug dealer who, like St Augustine with unbelievers, wanted drug users to see that they could discover a better path in life, but only if they came face to face with their problems. So he called it the 'Face to Face Drug Rehab Unit', and I had the privilege of being involved with its work.

I love this prayer because it challenges us each and every day to see where our faith is leading us. Do we truly discern God's presence within us, as he longs for us to, and are our actions Christ-like as a result? Above all, are we restless in seeking that sense of inner stillness and joy, found not in things but, as St Augustine discovered, only in the peace of God - the greatest goal to which we can aspire?

Nicholas Maddock.



LETTER FROM THE BISHOP

Learn from the Master

When you hear the word 'disciple', what comes into your mind? A learner? A follower? A super Christian? Someone

kitted out in Biblical dress complete with robe, sandals, tea towel head covering and beard?

The New Testament's word for disciple doesn't quite match any of these descriptions. It's much closer to the word we'd use in English for 'apprentice'.

Back in history, and still today, to be an apprentice meant spending time in the presence of a master in order to learn a craft – maybe carpentry, or blacksmithing, baking or butchery. You'd start out doing the simple stuff – sweeping floors or sharpening tools. Then gradually you'd acquire more and more skills until you learnt to work confidently with materials producing beautiful things, products of utility and worth. Apprentices often learnt their craft while living alongside their masters, becoming members of their trade through time spent together at work and rest and play.

Jesus was often called 'the carpenter's son' – apprenticed to his worldly father Joseph, growing in skill at the plane and the lathe. He was also the apprentice of his heavenly father. The Gospels speak of Jesus withdrawing to spend time with God in order to know God's mind, hear God's voice, grow in God's ways.

Apprenticeship was and is a story of growth, development, discovery and change. It's the journey that Jesus invites us to take with him too – of baby steps and toddler stumbles, of emerging skill and increasing understanding.

Churches near you are offering opportunities to apprentice yourself to Jesus this autumn - from practical action that gets you involved in Jesus's service to the world, to learning and discussion that comes with courses such as Alpha, Exploring Christianity or Pilgrim.

Why not sign yourself up and learn from the Master?

Every blessing

Bishop Michael

READINGS AND PRAYERS

Sunday, 3rd September – Trinity 13

Jeremiah 15: 15-21

Matthew 16: 21-end

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 10th September – Trinity 14

Ezekiel 33: 7-11

Matthew 18: 15-20

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 17th September – Trinity 15

Genesis 50: 15-21

Matthew 18: 21-35

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 24th September – Trinity 16

Jonah 3: 10-end of 4

Matthew 20: 1-16

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call

St Peter & St Paul, Weston in Gordano

3rd 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn

10th 5.00 pm Evensong - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

17th 5.00pm Holy Communion - The Rector
Sr Carol preach

24th 5.00pm Evensong - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn preach
Michael Dyne lead

Every Wednesday 11.00 am Holy Communion - check for venue

Walton St Mary, Clevedon

3rd 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock

10th 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rector
Michael Dyne lead

17th 10.00 am Holy Communion - The Rev'd Nicholas Maddock
Michael Dyne preach

24th 10.00 am Morning Prayer - The Rector

Every Wednesday 10.00 am Holy Communion at St Mary's

September SERVICES

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

All Saints, East Clevedon

3rd	8.00 am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	All Age Communion - The Rector Michael Dyne preach
10th	8.00 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn
17th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30am	Holy Communion - The Rector
24th	8.00am	Holy Communion - The Rector
	10.30 am	Holy Communion - The Rev'd Tim Daplyn cele & pr Michael Dyne ante

St Paul's, Walton in Gordano

3rd	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Sue Betts
10th	11.15 am	Holy Communion - The Rector and parish conversation
17th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - Joshua Fowler
24th	11.15 am	Morning Prayer - The Rector (harvest)

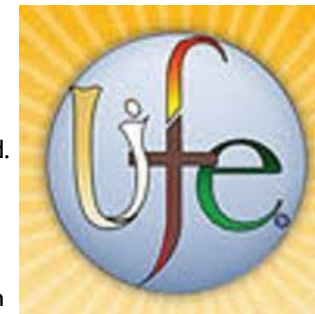
upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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ALL SAINTS THEN AND NOW

from the archives

SEPTEMBER ORGAN RECITAL

It is proposed to have a series of short afternoon Organ Recitals at the Church at intervals during September. The first is fixed for Saturday, Sept. 9th, from 3 to 4, and will be given by the Rev. J.H.C. Twisaday, of St. John Baptist's, Kensington, who is no stranger to us. The vocalist on this occasion will be Miss Irene Hill – East Clevedon's Gold Medallist – who will give the following two delightful items: (1) "Ave Maria" (Cavalleria Rusticana) Pietro Mascagni. (2.) "Come unto Him" (The Messiah) Handel.

It is intended to have a different performer and vocalist at each recital, the names and date being duly announced, and probably they will all be on Saturdays at 3 or 3.30 – unless any special reason arise for changing the day. The collection, which will be taken in plates at each Recital, will be devoted to the cost of the new Porch, which is rapidly approaching completion, and it is hoped that this fact will tend to stir up interest in this series of musical treats, which will certainly repay all who appreciate music. One of the recitals, later on, will be given by Dr. Davis, of Wells, and it is hoped that Mrs. Davis will be able to come with him and play the viola. But each will be announced in due course. *Father Irving writing in the East Clevedon Parish Monthly, September 1922.*

*These concerts, along with other events this year, were all to raise money for the South Porch. It was built as a memorial to Silas Dyer, who had been church warden for many years. He ran a grocery from Bristol House at the junction of Old Street and Highdale Road. At the same time, the two small windows, with fine glass by Comper, were inserted on either side of the South Porch door to admit light to the South Transept.

Julia Elton



ALL SAINTS, East Clevedon

Belated birthday greetings to Lindsey Ivens who celebrated her 65th on July 22nd. Also on the 6th August Joyce Leighton celebrated her 66th so, as she says, is now officially a pensioner

and can apply for her free bus pass!

It was our All Age Service on the 6th and Joyce spoke about her favourite hymn and why she had chosen it: "Now thank we all our God". She said the lines "who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way", we particularly meaningful, as

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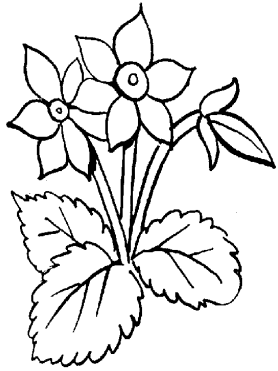
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Garden Talk

September is here and summer has gone. Or has it? The autumnal equinox is not until the last week of the month and until then it is still summer! There are some lovely flowers which are at their best at this time of year in the mellow, slanting light. There are the dahlias and chrysanthemums, of course, but I would like to focus on four less celebrated flowers which dominate our gardens in September.

First is the Montbretia or Crocosmia. Starting in August and continuing long into autumn, its orange flowers brighten up many a dark corner. Montbretia tolerates some shade but it needs sun to bloom at its best. It likes moist soil and grows by the roadsides in the west of Ireland and parts of Cornwall which get more than their fair share of rain. It can be rather 'spready' so it may need restraining after a few years.

My second September hero is the Sedum, sometimes called the Ice Plant. My favourite variety is the German 'Herbstfreude' (Autumn Joy) which produces large pink flower heads, composed of a great many tiny flowers, which pollinators love. Sedums are drought tolerant and their fleshy leaves do not attract snails and slugs so that in many ways they are the ideal garden plant. Scientists have decided that they are not true sedums and have reclassified them as Hylotelephiums – an irritant for traditional gardeners who are used to the old, simple names.

Plant number three is the Japanese Anemone. These delicate pink or white flowers grace many a garden at this time of year. Anemones are members of the buttercup family (Ranunculaceae) and so they prefer a moist site - ours suffered in last year's drought but have come back well this season. They tend to resist being moved, often springing up again in their original place when they should be somewhere else! The variety 'Honorine Jobert', a pure white, is thought to have been discovered in a garden in France as a 'sport', that is, a natural mutation from the original stock.

My fourth and final selection is the Michaelmas Daisy. We have three clumps in our garden and they are in flower on Michaelmas Day (29 September) without fail. The variety 'Monch', with larger flowers, is a little earlier. Again the scientists have been at work, declaring that the New England daisies are sufficiently distinct from the asters of Europe to be reclassified as *Symphotrichum novae angliae* – what a mouthful for us simple gardeners!

So there we have it, four lovely plants to brighten your late summer garden.

William King

she had worked in the NHS for over 40 years as a midwife.

Noel's talk that day, *The Transfiguration*, was different, but good as ever! He talked about fear, loneliness, disappointment, rejection, and for each of these emotions he donned a pullover as a layer of 'defense', ending up with 4 pullovers and a jacket on, all at the same time! He was thankful that we weren't actually experiencing a heatwave at the moment!

It was good to see Julia Elton back in church after her hip operation, playing in the music group.

We send our love and prayers to Kay, our churchwarden, who is struggling on with her painful knees. Let's hope she will have good news of a date for surgery very soon.

Coffee at the Court is planned for the 14th October, and we really need as much help as possible again to make this another great success. Please, please consider offering any help you can, whether it be manning a stall, baking cakes, washing up, setting up tables etc. All help will be gratefully appreciated.

The Grand Draw tickets are enclosed in magazines delivered from All Saints, so do support us by buying some of the tickets and you may win one of the lovely prizes!

Monica Gore

August Coffee Morning- we celebrated Jo Gray's 90th birthday at the coffee morning on 9th August. It was a lovely morning with lots of chat. Thanks to Margaret for organising the birthday cake. Jo would like to thank everyone for the card and their best wishes. Everyone is welcome to join us at the monthly coffee morning.

Sandra Sallis



ST MICHAEL'S, Clapton in Gordano

The old proverb 'The grass is greener' or indeed the 1967 song by Thomas Jones Woodward - 'The green green grass' is causing us a dilemma for the Friends of St Michaels, but I guess that its

not unusual!

In the recent past we had become reliant of the goodwill and many hours spent by Steve Smith taming the hedges and grass on the upper and lower churchyards. Unfortunately due to his requirement to prioritise his house and family, we have lost his valuable services.

But, with a little luck we hopefully have acquired the services of local gent, Lionel Franklyn, to help us out. We are also aiming to purchase from our modest funds, a suitable and adaptable mower/trimmer type of machine. Thus with the help of Lionel plus a hearty few volunteers hopefully, once a month, to perform the task of clearing the grounds of St Michaels. Not an easy task as the individual graves take time to trim. Although the church building is covered by the Church Conservation Trust, the grounds ie

church yard, cemetery etc are our responsibility for care and maintenance. So, with a little luck, a goodly few helpers, we can keep the grounds clear, and thus respect the permanent residents of church yard, and of course any welcome visitors to the grave sites.

A hearty thanks to all who helped with the Summer Concert, and especially all who supported the event with their attendance. We raised over £850 net to to cover the event, after all outgoings were settled.

And finally..... A reminder of the two services remaining for 2023.

Remembrance Sunday 12th of November 10:45, with a meet up in the Black Horse at 10:15. And our Carol service 17th December at 15:00.

Derek Roberts

WALTON ST MARY

One of the joys at this time of the year is to welcome back members of the congregation from their holiday travels. Tales abound which are all so interesting. For me, I've enjoyed a trip to the tropical Isles of Scilly and walked down the streets of the ancient city of Pompeii with the deeply rutted cobbles providing clear evidence of a bygone age of horse drawn carts.



We celebrated our Patronal Festival on 13th August with a service, so ably led by Ian Hubbard and a stimulating sermon by Bishop Barry. Barry started with a quiz on patron saints which quickly led us to our own patron saint, St Mary and for her possible wish that our church be an advertisement for God's Kingdom – a community that welcomes a stranger and a community that shares its wealth. Thanks were also given for Reverend Rawden Hautenville who, with the financial support of Richard Godwin of the tile manufacturing company, fulfilled his vision and rebuilt our church.

Looking forward to early in the New Year, plans are already underway for our local ukulele band UkeBox to return for another Ukraine fundraising concert which will again include especially composed readings by local poet Peter Gibbs.

Lord: it is time. The huge summer has almost gone by.

Now overlap the sundials with your shadows,

and on the meadows let the wind go free.

Command the fruits to swell on tree and vine;

grant them a few more warm transparent days,

urge them on to fulfillment then,

and press the final sweetness into the heavy wine.

Paul Middleton

EATING HEALTHILY WITH DEMENTIA

Monday 12th June and
Monday 18th September 2023



A workshop which explores ways to incorporate all aspects of eating a good diet for those with Dementia and their Carers.

Not just looking at relevant nutrients but incorporating hints and tips to help meal times become enjoyable and beneficial for the mind, body and spirit.

Victoria Kubiak is a Nutritional Counsellor and Cookery Demonstrator with over 30 years of experience.

Her husband also had Frontal Temporal Dementia and was able to stay at home during the duration of his illness for 12 years - during which time Victoria learnt many aspects to what a meal time and food would incorporate.



Monday 12th June and
Monday 18th September 2023

The Vestry, All Saints Church, Clevedon, BS21 6AU

Please meet in the
Vestry at 2.15pm
Start: 2.30pm
Finish: 4.30pm

**This workshop is free of charge
but to register your place
please contact Victoria:**

01275 876688

info@victoriakubiak.co.uk

www.kubiakdementiafoundation.co.uk

**ENJOY AN INTERACTIVE
DEMENTIA FRIENDLY DAY**
For people in all stages of Dementia and those who support them



	 HEALTHY EATING TALKS WITH TASTERS	 ARTS & CRAFTS	
 SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT	Saturday 29th July 2023 Saturday 4th Nov 2023 11am - 4pm	 MUSIC	
 ADDRESSING COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES	All the family welcome Free event Penny Brohn UK, The Garden Room Wing, Chapel Hill, Pill, BS20 0HH	 HEALING, MASSAGE & REFLEXOLOGY TASTERS	
 REFRESHMENTS & LIGHT BITES		 CONNECTING GENERATIONS	
	 NATURE WALKS & ANIMAL INTERACTION	 INFORMATION CORNER	

 info@kubiakdementiafoundation.co.uk
 01275 876688
www.kubiakdementiafoundation.co.uk

Scan to
Donate: 

Footnote:

It is with great sadness that I inform everybody of the sad passing of my dear wife Jill who was an active churchgoer all of her life and, at St Mary's contributed to its good work, serving at the altar, flower arranging and much more. A Service of Thanksgiving is being arranged, details of which will follow.



ST PETER & ST PAUL, Weston in Gordano

Toward the end of July (25th) our good friend Margaret Jacobs died after a year of unexpected illness. Margaret and her family have lived in the village for 45 years and Margaret was a most faithful member of the church, twice churchwarden, and contributing a great deal both to St Peter and St Paul church, and to the village.

Her service of thanksgiving took place on Wednesday 16th of August, but at Margaret's own request her body was received into the church the evening before. There were white flowers on the wicker coffin and the building too was full of white flowers, beautifully arranged by the church team, with marguerites in the window sills and more flowers in the porch... which years ago Margaret worked to keep open as a welcoming space. It was a packed congregation for a service prepared years before by Margaret so that we had her own choice of readings and hymns. How lovely to sing "Be still for the presence of the Lord..." and the final "When I survey the wondrous cross". The entire front section of the church was taken with Margaret's extensive family almost all of whom still live locally. She was much loved and so there was a very real grief but also a proper sense of thanksgiving for a life well and fully lived. The family tribute was so moving and read by daughter Maria and granddaughter Alayna, giving testimony to a deeply loving woman, who was also full of life.

Margaret had the great gift of hospitality combined with catering skills from which church and village benefited on many occasions. With the weather cooperating the wake was held immediately after the service in the churchyard, with ample refreshments provided by the family, in the spirit of Margaret herself... The servery, renovated by the family at the initial instigation of Margaret, was put to good use. The wake fostered that sense of community and sociability which Margaret herself worked for. Her warmth and kindness were reflected there. She loved the Lord and she loved other people; she loved creation too, in her gardening and her dogs.

The community had risen to the occasion, with John and Ann Bridges cleaning up the church, the choir mustering for the occasion and leading the Nunc Dimittis and Nicholas Maddocks not only leading the service so well for us but helping greatly before hand. Thank you Ruth for playing the organ for us. And how good it was to see Rosemary Smart present from Devon, Margaret having served her longer term of warden when John Smart was rector. It was a rich ADIEU to a

person who will be so much missed. Thank you Margaret for all you were and all you did.

This report is already late and must go, with apologies for anything I have left out.
Sister Carol

*Just after sending my report Robb Robinson unfortunately fell at home, breaking many ribs. Taken into hospital she later suffered severe complications which necessitated surgery on Tuesday 22nd. She is currently (23rd) in ICU and we wait to hear more. Prayer for her and her family will be much appreciated.




ST PAUL'S, Walton in Gordano

The Sheep Fair
The day arrives of the autumn fair,
And torrents fall,
Though sheep in throngs are gathered there,
Ten thousand all,
Sudden, with hurdles round them reared:
And, lot by lot, the pens are cleared,
And the auctioneer wrings out his beard,
And wipes his book, bedrenched and smeared,
And takes the rain from his face with edge of his hand,
And torrents fall.

The wool of the ewes is like a sponge
With the daylong rain:
Jammed tight, to turn, or lie, or lunge,
They strive in vain.
Their horns are soft as finger-nails,
Their shepherds reek against the rails,
The tied dogs with tucked-in tails,
The buyers' hat-brims fill like pails,
Which spill small cascades when they shift their stand
In the daylong rain.

An extract from 'The Sheep Fair' by Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

I picked this poem because I thought it captured nicely all the rain we have been having. Maybe by the time you are reading this the weather will have improved,



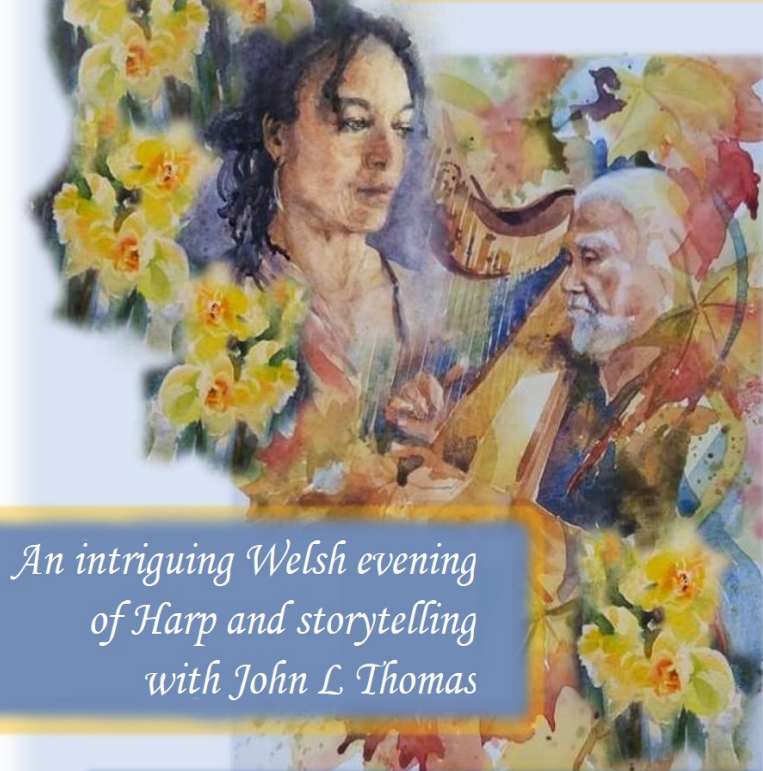
The 3 C's - Coffee (cake!) and Conversation is a discussion group that takes place on the first Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm – 2.45pm at All Saints Vestry using “Day by Day with God” notes as the focus for discussion (notes available through the Parish Office) A relaxed and informal space to learn 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 5th September, Tuesday 3rd October (Life Bookshop visit), and Tuesday 7th November. 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.

Bach, Beatles & Blodzuwedd



*An intriguing Welsh evening
of Harp and storytelling
with John L Thomas*

**Saturday 23rd Sept at 7:30 pm
St Peter's & St Paul's Church**

Tickets £10, inc refreshments. Cash bar.

Tickets available from John Bridges (843380) or Robb Robinson
(399097) or any member of the PCC

obviously not hot like the poor people in southern Europe have been enduring or like the sort of temperatures we had last year in this country, but a bit of sunshine would be nice. I was looking back at last year's September magazine, when I was writing the copy (sometime in mid-August 2022) we were about to experience our second heatwave of last summer – not quite as bad as the first but still pretty awful. Also, the Lionesses had just become European Football Champions – maybe by now they have added to that amazing achievement by winning the World Cup and are now World Champions as well. Then as now we are still praying for peace in Ukraine – with no sign of a cessation of fighting. Last year we were on the verge of getting a new Prime Minister – and of course we have in fact now had two new PMs.

And it has been a year since Her Majesty the Queen passed away on Thursday 8th September 2022, her death while not unexpected was still a shock to the whole nation – we pray for the King and the royal family as they remember their mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

August began with a very busy 'Welcome In' coffee morning, and then on Sunday 6th our Lammas service, one of our rural festivals, celebrating the bringing in of the 'first fruits' of the year. The Church was filled with the aroma of the bread rolls freshly baked by Sue to be shared amongst the congregation to mark bread made from the first cereal harvest, although Sue did not go out and gather wheat from the field, she did go to Portishead high street and buy a bag of flour from Sainsbury's. These special Lammas bread rolls were traditionally blessed and kept, in the same way as hot cross buns, and then crumbled to make medicine to treat all manner of ailments throughout the year. It's thought that there could very well have been some benefit from this practice as the bread would have inevitably gone mouldy and therefore could have provided a small dose of something like the drug penicillin. As is often the way here at Walton things had got a bit muddled and Graham Roberts who was giving the sermon had based this on the readings for The Transfiguration of Christ, which would have been the service for this week if we had not been having Lammas. So as Sue said the service became a bit of 'a mash up' between Lammas and The Transfiguration – which is the time when Jesus took Peter, James and John up to the top of Mount Tabor, Elijah and Moses then appeared, and Jesus spoke to them, and the voice of God could be heard as he called Jesus his Son, and Jesus was transformed. Graham spoke of special, sacred places like Mount Tabor and places like Mount Sinai where Moses is given the Ten Commandments from God, Mecca where the Prophet Muhammad was born, The Temple Mount in Jerusalem – a place venerated by all three major monotheistic religions. Graham described

these as 'thin places' a term often used by the Celtic saints and others to denote where heaven touches the earth, and the division is only 'thin', thereby opening up a greater spirituality. Sue was then thinking of the words from The Gospel of Matthew – 'When two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them' – and felt that as everyone was 'gathered together' here in St. Paul's this must make our Church a 'thin place' too where God's present feels only too real. Thank you to Graham for once again delivering such a well-considered and thought-provoking sermon.

At the time of writing we are still looking forward to our Beetle Drive and then of course to our Flower Festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend. A report on both events in next month's magazine.

This month will begin with our 'Welcome In' at 10.30am in the Church on Saturday 2nd September, come and catch up with all the news from the Flower Festival, there are always lashings of tea, coffee and delicious home-made cake. The next day, Sunday 3rd, we have our Morning Gathering at 11.15am – a simple coming together led by members of the congregation.

A bit of a change to our pattern of worship with our Holy Communion on Sunday 10th being followed by lunch and our Parish Conversation this month. Join us for the service and/or the simple 'bring and share' meal, and then as you are enjoying your lunch take the opportunity to voice any concerns or comments you have pertaining to the Church – all opinions are welcome.

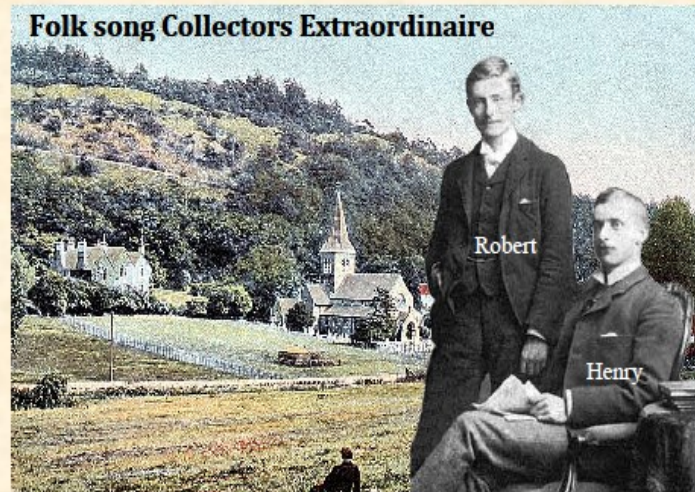
Sunday 17th September is our Morning Prayer at 11.15am, always a very approachable service.

Then on Sunday 24th we have our Harvest Festival. Always a service to look forward to with a lovely mix of prayers and poems to mark this most rural of celebrations and the final one of our annual cycle of countryside services. There will also be all the traditional and favourite Harvest hymns, all the ones you remember from your school days. When you arrive you will have the chance to help with decorating the Church ready for the service – all you have to do is fill a jam jar with flowers to go up on one of the windowsills, flowers and jam jars will be provided. Once again, this year the collection will be in the form of tins and packets of food (please make sure they are in date) – all donations will go to the Clevedon Food Bank, which everyday is helping people of all ages as they struggle with the continuing rise in the cost of living.

The service will be starting at 11.15am, and then from 12.30pm there will be a Harvest Home Lunch, all provided by the Church committee. Surely apple and blackberry crumble or pie, or maybe even both, will be on the menu. What a perfect

The Hammond Brothers of East Clevedon

Folk song Collectors Extraordinaire



Using songs, words and images

The Hotwells Howlers

**tell the brothers' fascinating story and
the stories of the people they collected from**

All Saints' Church, East Clevedon, BS21 6AU

**FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2023, 7.30pm
Admission Free - Collection for Weston Hospice**

What is your “Ministry”?

Graham Roberts: St Paul’s

A bit about me.

I’m 68 years old, and live with my wife Sylvie in Clevedon. My son lives in Clevedon, and I have a daughter in Germany and one in Australia. I love being a member of Clevedon Bowling Club and cycling (with a little help from a battery) to church every Sunday. I grow a lot of veg in my small garden and have a caravan near Dartmouth.



What brought me to the benefice?

A neighbour planned a walk one Sunday, when I was in a dark place spiritually. He realised my need to do something on the Lord’s Day, having really struggled with not being able to meet for worship during lockdown, and maddeningly even beyond it. God led us to St Paul’s churchyard, where the footpath cuts through, just as the tiny congregation of St P’s was exiting the church after their service. A lovely lady called Maureen invited me in, even though I wasn’t able to wear a mask. I told her I’d see her next Sunday, as her welcome was so different to what I had recently experienced . I’ve been attending Walton’s gem of a church ever since.

My role in the benefice.

Having had a “call to preach” some years before, and nearly completed a local preacher training course before Covid, I was waiting for God to show me what He had planned next. Talking with Noel about the struggle to provide worship leaders every Sunday for the whole benefice, Noel mentioned that the Anglican worship leader training course might be the answer. It would enable my calling to proceed, and ease the load on the stretched clergy team. So Sue Betts (our church warden) and I are currently in the middle of this course, and Noel has kindly overseen my efforts to preach a few times at St P. As my father used to say:- “God doesn’t have a plan B for our lives, He has another best!” Preaching is the best thing. Saving the lost and encouraging the saved is the best thing. If God can use me, He can use anyone.

way to celebrate the hard work of our nation’s growers and farmers, and all those in this challenging profession around the world. And also the perfect way to give thanks to God for nature’s bounty that we too often take for granted. So, let’s say ‘thank you’ at prayer, in song and as we sit and share our Harvest meal together. A couple of dates for October. Next month starts with our ‘Morning Gathering’ on Sunday 1st October at 11.15am – no lunch this month as we will have Harvest just the week before. Then on the following Saturday, 7th October, the first Saturday in the month, we have our ‘Welcome In’ at 10.30am in the Church. Sue is still putting out a request for any spare produce including apples – even if they are a bit bird pecked - if you have any fruit or veg then please let Sue know. She has the pickling pan out and ready to go – all her delicious preserves will be on sale to raise funds for our Church.

We wish Ray Booth a belated Happy 100th Birthday, we hope you had a brilliant day – I’m not sure a can remember anyone in the village reaching 100 before, maybe you know better?



Our Mouse Musings: Did someone say apple and blackberry? Or should it be blackberry and apple? Whichever way you say it, we mice say – ‘can we have some more, please!’ Love Miss CM

FROM THE REGISTERS....

WEDDINGS

24th August – Lucinda Mann and Paul Curtis, St Mary’s

ALL SAINTS COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

10am - 12 noon in All Saints Vestry

Second Wednesday in the month—next meetings

September 13th and October 11th

Just turn up or contact Sandra Sallis on 878848/07443905634

Diocese News

Young Christians gather

Young people from churches across Bath and Wells and beyond attended the Satellites Christian festival at the Bath and West Showground, near Shepton Mallet, in August.

The aim of the festival is to break young people free from the idea that faith is limited to specific moments or places. Youth Worker Emily Hatton, Christ Church Clevedon, says, "Being at Satellites this week has been so fun! Despite all the rain and soggy tents, it's been so beautiful to watch our young people connecting with God in worship.

"I'm already so excited to see how they'll take all they've learnt back into their daily lives. Such a joy!" Find out how you get a free place at next year's event. bathandwells.org.uk/satellites.

Serving communities

Churches across Bath and Wells offered opportunities for fun, faith and food during the school summer holidays. St Paul's Weston ran a Treasure Island-themed weekend of fun and faith and offered two course meals for families, twice a week at their Little Kings gatherings, with the help of Waitrose supermarket, while St Mary's in Bridgwater fed families every Tuesday at their Grub's Up family drop-in with the help of Morrisons.

New website shares Abbey history

With almost 1,500 memorials, Bath Abbey probably has more commemorative wall tablets and gravestones than any other church in England. Spanning the 16th to the 20th centuries, the life stories they tell are a fascinating part of the Abbey's rich history.

The new memorial website is the result of eight years of research by Bath Abbey's archive team of staff and volunteers which was carried out as part of the Footprint Project, funded largely by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Find out more at bathabbeymemorials.org.uk



Coffee at the Court – A date for your diary

Saturday 14th October 2023 10.00am – 12 noon

Coffee at the Court

Clevedon Court, Tickenham Road, Clevedon

With all the usual stalls, entrance fee includes refreshments (accompanied children free of charge)

Help on the day itself, the day before or providing items etc for the stalls is always appreciated.

More details to follow in October magazine.