

St Mary's Acton
St David's Wettenhall &
St Oswald's Worleston
June 2023



**The Cross Country Parishes
of
Acton, Church Minshull,
Wettenhall & Worleston.**

Dear Friends



Help! I Can't do Maths!

I make no secret of the fact that I am dyscalculic and don't handle figures well. I was seriously bad at Maths in school. It is perhaps one of the reasons I turned to Religious Studies and Theology. Here was something I could understand.

Imagine my distress when I discovered that I hadn't escaped maths after all. If I was going to start to understand God, I had to tackle the mathematics of God. You know, the bit about God is one, but no, it's not that simple, God is also three. One in three, three in one. Who can begin to fathom the mathematics of God?

It is the problem which Christians down the centuries have grappled with. It is the problem which has made preachers quake and congregations despair as Trinity Sunday approaches. But, just maybe, the Trinity is not all that difficult to understand. Our Celtic forebears certainly didn't think so.

There is a story of St Patrick picking a shamrock leaf and using it to explain the Trinity to a group of Irish Christians in the 5th Century CE. Here we see that God is three in one, not as an intellectual, philosophical problem, but as the most simple, natural thing in the world. And to the Celts it was simple.

Far from being a remote, inaccessible idea, the Trinity was found in the simplicity of daily life, as this traditional Celtic Prayer suggests:

*“Three folds of the cloth, yet only one napkin is there,
Three joints in the finger, but still only one finger fair,
Three leaves of the shamrock, yet no more than
one shamrock to wear,
Frost, snowflakes and ice, all in water their origin share.
Three persons in God; to one God alone we make prayer.”*

The Trinity was part of daily life. Close by, part of the activity of life. Far from being a mathematical problem which must be solved or a philosophical idea which must be explained, for the Celts, the Trinity was part of the accepted normality of life. Present from morning till night, birth to death. Part of every activity our Celtic ancestors ever experienced.

There is much we can learn from the Celtic tradition as we celebrate Trinity Sunday this month.

Yours,

Revd Anne

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Sunday Services

Acton

- 4th Jun 11:00 am Communion, 6:30pm Evensong
- 11th Jun 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 18th Jun 10:00 am Messy Church
- 25th Jun 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 2nd July 11:00 am Communion, 6:30pm Evensong

Church Minshull

- 4th Jun 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 11th Jun 11:00 am Cafe Church
- 18th Jun 11:00 am Communion
- 25th Jun 11:00 am Messy Church
- 2nd July 11:00 am Service of the Word

Worleston

- 4th Jun No Service
- 11th Jun 9:30 am Communion
- 18th Jun No Service
- 25th Jun 9:30 am Morning Prayer
- 2nd July No Service

Wettenhall

- 4th Jun 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 11th Jun 11:00 am Communion
- 18th Jun 11:00 am All Age
- 25th Jun 6:30 pm Communion
- 2nd July 11:00 am Morning Prayer

St David's Church Wettenhall			
Sidespersons		Cleaning & Flowers	
4 th	Jun	Mrs A Brooks	Mrs H Wilson & Family
11 th	Jun	Mr N Moss	Mrs S Ward and Mrs I Drinkall
18 th	Jun	Brownies	
25 th	Jun	Informal	Mrs M Sherry
2 nd	Jul	Mrs M Sherry	
<i>Visit: www.wettenhallchurch.org.uk</i>			

The Coronation Big Lunch

On Sunday 7th May the Cross Country Parishes celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla with a special commemorative service followed by the Big Coronation Lunch in St. David's church at Wettenhall. The church was decorated in an extravagant manner, with the flags of St. David, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, King Charles and the Three Lions all hung amongst the Union Flag bunting. Every table was decorated with more flags, red, white and blue napkins and shining glassware. A screen displayed photographs of the coronation service to remind us of the ceremony and it's pomp.

Ann Nicholas led the service, with its special prayers for the Royal Family and the reading from Kings regarding the decision of King David to choose his son Solomon as his successor. It was a moving and joyful service, closing with the National Anthem in support of King Charles III. The Big Lunch is an initiative of The Eden Project, aiming to bring communities together to enjoy a meal and conversation. It certainly achieved that at St. David's with almost 50 people coming together with a feast of cooked meats, salads, pasta, and cheeses. As usual the savoury course was followed with sweet treats, including trifles, cakes and fresh fruit medley. Best of all was the friendship, laughter and conversation, rounded off with a sparkling toast to Charles and Camilla for their reign together.

Pictures on opposite page

Please Note!

The coffee and cake date for June has moved to the second Thursday rather than the first Thursday!!

Coffee & Cake

The next meetings will be on Thursday 8th June & 6th July from 10-12 noon in Church. Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



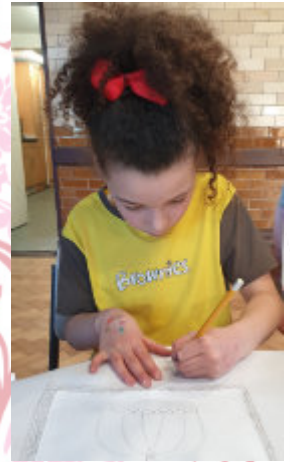
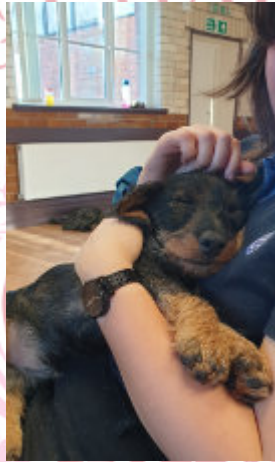


Darnhall Brownies

1st Darnhall Brownies have been busy designing & making aprons for King Charles III coronation.

They also enjoyed playing with a four-legged friend at one of their April meetings.

The girls had a party to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. They wore party clothing and had jelly, ice cream and cakes.





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Wednesday - Thursday 2 pm - 12 am

Friday - Saturday 1 pm - 12 am

Sunday 12pm - 11 pm

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St Mary's Church, Acton Sidespersons

4 th Jun	Ena Furber and Miriam Harvey
11 th Jun	Chris and Christine Barratt
18 th Jun	Tracey and Peter Foster
25 th Jun	Gill Evans and Elizabeth Bull
2 nd Jul	Sandra and Mike Houlston
<i>Visit: www.stmarysacton.org</i>	

Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

The next walks are:

4th June 2023

2nd July 2023

There is no walk in August

Tea at the Tower is open every Sunday from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

On the above dates there is a guided walk departing the church at 12:45 pm. Nick organises circular walks varying between 3 to 5 miles, then returning to the church for a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and a slice of delicious cake.

The pace of the walks is relaxed, and the routes generally involve canal towpath and lane walking. The footpaths should be good (also hopefully dry?) and only a small number of stiles are negotiated. Stout outdoor shoes or walking shoes / boots are recommended.

All are welcome including dogs on leads

For further information please phone Nick Harley, Lead Walker, on 01270-620612 or 07710983125.



Acton St Mary's Sunday 7th May

The congregation at the special communion service, held at Acton St Mary's on Sunday 7th May, to mark the historic day of the Kings coronation.



Ringling for the Coronation

On Saturday 6 May, eight ringers stepped up Acton Church tower to ring for the King at the Coronation. They rang from quarter past ten until eleven o'clock and the sequences rung included Kings (in which the bells sound in the order one, three, two, five, four, six) and Queens (in which the order of the bells is one, three, five, two, four,



six). Bell one, or the treble, is the lightest bell and has the highest note. Bell six, or the tenor bell, is the heaviest and therefore also the deepest note. The ringers were John Batchelor, Val Simcock, Chris Owen-Roberts, Carole Sturgess, Marion Moulton, Leona Edge, Heather Newton and Vicky Batchelor (L - R in the photo). To mark the occasion the ringing chamber in the tower was decorated with union flags and all the ringers were wearing red, white and blue!

Chris Owen-Roberts



Acton Bell Ringers wish a wonderful and "Happy 70th Birthday!" to Steve Newton, a ringer at Acton for many years.



A Royal Afternoon Tea at St Mary's Acton

In Acton we celebrated the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla with an afternoon tea on a grand scale. This was a Tea @ the Tower special event. Approximately 175 people enjoyed sandwiches, cakes and tea or coffee in and outside the church. We enjoyed music by a local folk band, made crowns (with prizes for the best ones) and had a fun quiz. The church was majestically decorated with two huge crowns suspended high above our visitors. Other highlights included royal memorabilia, mock Crown Jewels and lots of bunting. There was also a prize draw. To round off a jolly good do, we had Opera singer Jessica Thayer lead us in The National Anthem. God Save the King!

Tea @ the Tower is held every Sunday at 2:30 pm at St Mary's Acton - you are always welcome to come and join us.

Claire Lewis-Jones

Pictures overleaf





Cross Country Pages

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Archie Lloyd	Emma Holman
Ava Chapman	Grayson Donnellan
Bethany Kinsey	Isabelle Edwards
Daniel Mason	Lauren Drinkall
Edward Whalley	Sophie Burrows
Ella Edwards	Thomas Powell
Emily Powell	Warren Nixon

Other Birthdays

Other Birthdays being celebrated this month:

Rev Anne Lawson

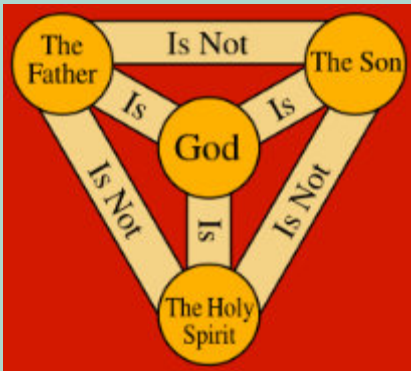
Ann Nicholas

Steve Newton

*We wish them all a Happy Birthday
and many happy returns*

Trinity Sunday

Sunday 4th June



Ladies Lunch

Thursday 22nd June

By kind invitation of

**Deana and Gerald Emerton at
Glebe House, Monks Lane, Acton**

12:30 pm - Cost: £10.00

**For further details contact:
Isobel (624521), Ann (528273)
or Joyce (624158)**

Mobile Library

Jun	Jun	Jul	Tuesdays	
6 th	27 th	18 th	Arr	Dep
Badger Church	Minshull		10:20	10:45
Home Farm Park	South		11:10	11:20
Lea Green				
Home Farm Park	North		11:30	11:50
Lea Green				
Wettenhall Church			12:05	12:20
Station Rd	Calveley		13:35	13:55
Tollemache Arms				
Alraham			14:05	14:30

Jun	Jun	Jul	Thursdays	
1 st	22 nd	13 th	Arr	Dep
Pinfold Craft Centre			11:00	11:25
Poole				
Worleston Station			11:35	11:45
Aston Juxta	Mondrum			
Worleston Village Hall			11:50	12:10

Jun	Jun	Jul	Thursdays	
8 th	29 th	20 th	Arr	Dep
Farmers Arms			10:00	10:15
Ravensmoor				
Goodwill Hall	Faddiley		10:30	10:50
Greenfields Farm				
Gradeley Green			11:05	11:20

Cursillo Retreat

Cursillo: "Make a friend, be a friend and be a friend to Christ."

Cursillo is a Spanish word meaning 'little or short course'. It is also a movement of the Anglican Church providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action. This leads to a deeper understanding of how to apply their Christian perspective to every aspect of their lives.

Twice a year there are 'Cursillo Weekends'. During the three days of the Cursillo Weekend the participants live, work and worship together listening to talks given by different people, both lay and ordained, leading to lively follow-up discussions in small groups on subjects like Grace, Faith, Study, Sacraments, Ideals, Evangelism and the Christian Community in Action. There are 15 talks in all with lots of learning, praying, sharing, singing and laughing together with a wonderful group of caring, considerate and compassionate people.

After the weekend course, we are encouraged to continue our journey of faith together. This is called the 'Fourth Day' (the rest of our lives!).

Cursillo's real strength is its method of helping Christians to grow through prayer, study and action and enabling them to share God's love. It has given me the chance to meet regularly with two or three others for a 'Group Reunion' and share where I am in my Christian life. There are also other meetings, at local and diocesan level, held regularly in various localities, called Ultreyas.

I am still feeling incredibly grateful to all who made it possible and humbled by the experiences I gained on the Cursillo weekend. I particularly enjoyed the prayer and meditations and can honestly say I have never felt so close to God as I did during the weekend. It was an absolute joy to have met people with similar beliefs (of all ages and backgrounds) sharing in the prayers, silences, eucharists and discussions. I have benefited from it greatly and it has certainly developed my spiritual strength as well as forming deep bonds of friendship.

Anonymous



Tuesday 20th & Wednesday 21st

June 2023

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Gates Open 8am - 6pm

Acton Church Spring Concert

Fund-raising Spring concert takes place at Acton Church

A fund-raising 'Spring Evening Concert' took place at St Mary's Church on Saturday 13th May 2023, when the highly acclaimed Acton Operatic Society performed the best from London's west-end! Profits from the concert will be split equally between the Acton Operatic Society and St Mary's Acton.

The evening was truly wonderful - a whistle-stop tour through the best of musical theatre. The 160-strong audience was captivated by this phenomenal performance. The comper for the evening was Stephan Davies from Acton Church.

The audience enjoyed refreshments of wine and soft drinks - and an opportunity to have a natter! Joyce Percival did a sterling job running a prize raffle. Our treasurer will let us know the good news about the funds raised, over the next few days!



Modern Martyrs; Manche Masemola.

Modern Martyrs; Manche Masemola

There are ten statues in the series at Westminster Abbey commemorating Modern Martyrs, most representing mature people who had reached an age when they could, perhaps, come to terms with their impending martyrdom. However, one of the statues represents a girl who was around 15 years old when she was prepared to face death rather than relinquish her Christian faith. Manche Masemola was born into the Pedi tribe in the village of Marishane in the Sukhukhuneland area of the Transvaal in South Africa. When she was born in 1913 her family were living in reserved lands, poor farming land where tribes had been relocated from the colonial farming areas. For many years there had been German and British Christian missionaries building churches in the area, developing a small Christian community alongside the majority traditional beliefs. The Christian believers were widely mistrusted, although they were tolerated by the local chief. Manche's family was her father and mother, two older brothers, a younger sister [Mabule] and Cousin Lucia. In 1919 Fr. Augustine Moeka of the Anglican Community of the Resurrection established a mission which was attended by Manche and Lucia. They had no previous education and started to attend classes twice each week. Manche's parents became more and more concerned about their daughter attending the mission. If she had decided to leave their farm, or refused an arranged marriage, they would all have suffered significant economic hardship. They started to punish their daughter to deter her from continuing with her faith. The beatings were harsh and led her to tell Moeka and Lucia that she would be baptised with her own blood.

Unfortunately, this is exactly what happened on 4th February 1928, when her parents took her to a remote hillside and murdered her, burying the body under granite rocks. For an unknown reason, only a few days later her sister died too and was buried at that same location. Their father planted euphorbia trees at the site as an act of remembrance and by 1935 a small number of Christians had started to visit the site, further pilgrimages taking place in 1941 and 1945. Manche's mother was eventually baptised in 1969 and by 1975 the name of Manche Masemola was added to the Calendar of the Church of the Province of South Africa, attracting thousands of Christian pilgrims since that time.



A poor, uneducated, African girl whose bravery and faith led her to be sculpted in stone on a World famous Abbey.

Heather Pope

Calveley School

A real highlight for the Calveley community this month was Sports Day! Due to the ground source heat pump work it had to be held in May, rather than later in the summer, but the weather held out and a fantastic time was had by all. The adults even had their time to shine in races for Mums, Dads and Teachers. Students from year six helped the youngest children and set up between races keeping everything running smoothly. We were very proud to see the support and compassion the students showed towards each other. Well done to Hedgehog house for winning the most points.

Continuing the sporting theme, we were thrilled to welcome team GB swimmer Lauren Quigley into school. Children took part in a sponsored circuit raising money to buy new sports equipment for the school. They also learned more about Lauren's story and what it takes to be a professional sportsperson.

Also this month, children took part in a mini-beast experience where they could meet all sorts of weird and wonderful creatures including African snails, sun beetles, millipedes and even a tarantula!

And if that wasn't enough excitement, Sycamore Class completed a three day residential at Robinwood in Lancashire. Activities included zip wire, challenge course, rock climbing, canoeing and a giant swing. These gave the children chance to work on their problem-solving and communication skills as well as challenging their resilience, teamwork and patience. Students arrived back to school very happy (and possibly quite tired!) having made some fantastic memories with their friends.





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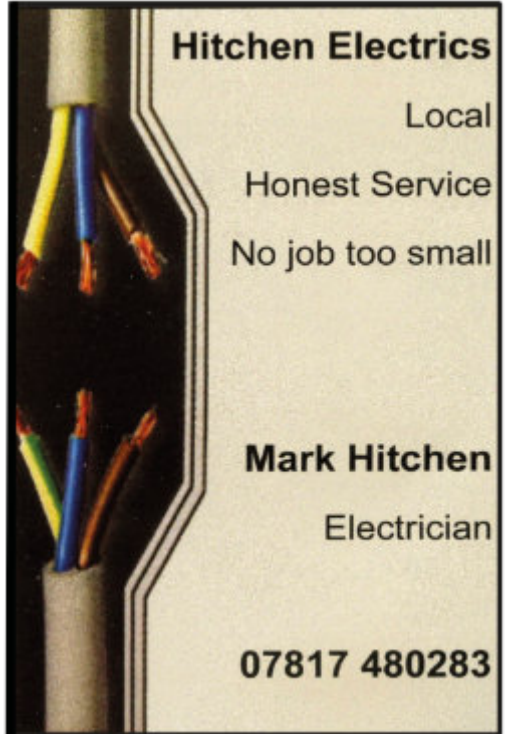
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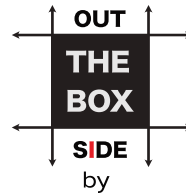
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Recipe

Queen Mab's Summer Pudding

Ingredients

- ▣ 8 slices of white bread without the crusts
- ▣ 675 grams of soft fruits, strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants etc
- ▣ 2 tablespoons of water
- ▣ 150 grams of sugar.



Method

- ▣ Start by lining a 1 litre pudding basin with cling film.
- ▣ Then line the basin with the bread, saving some to be a lid. Wash and prepare the fruit, then put it into a saucepan with the water and sugar.
- ▣ Gently bring to the boil until the sugar melts and the fruit juices begin to run.
- ▣ Do not let the fruit disintegrate.
- ▣ Spoon the fruit into the prepared dish, and make a lid with the remaining bread.
- ▣ Put a piece of cling film over the top of the basin to seal in all the juices.
- ▣ Put a saucer or small plate, that fits inside the dish, on top and weigh down with weights or a heavy tin.
- ▣ Chill for eight hours
- ▣ Remove the weights, plate and cling film, then turn pudding onto a serving dish, before removing the remaining cling film.
- ▣ Serve with whipped Cream and enjoy.

Enjoy

St Oswald's Church, Worleston

Sidespersons	Coffee
11 th June Mrs A Fletton	Mrs J Bailey
25 th June Mrs A Stokes	Mrs J Alexander and Mrs K Alexander
Flowers	Cleaning
11 th June Mrs J Bailey	June Mrs Foster and Mrs Morgan-Wynne
25 th June Mrs J Alexander	
Visit: www.worlestonchurch.org.uk	

Help Wanted

Does anyone out there fancy a little job helping to produce this magazine? It involves finding and collecting information about rotas, baptisms, the school etc and sending them, by email, to the editor. Then part of a morning is spent proof reading all the contributions. Please let one of the Wardens know if you are interested. Thanks.



Don't miss the opportunity to experience the magical world of *Alice in Wonderland* come to life on stage at Worleston village hall. Get your tickets now for the musical production of Alice in Wonderland! Just scan the QR code on the advert and purchase online or call **01270 669329**.

Join Alice on her journey down the rabbit hole, where she meets whimsical characters like the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter and the Queen of Hearts. With stunning costumes, dazzling choreography and unforgettable music this show is sure to delight audiences of all ages. **Don't wait!** Secure your seats today and get ready to be transported to a world of adventure and imagination. See you at the show!

Coffee & Cake

Saturday 3rd June from 10-12 noon in Church. Come along and enjoy Coffee, Cake and Chat. Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



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Mr R Brooks
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