St Mary's Acton St David's Wettenhall & St Oswald's Worleston September 2024



The Cross Country Parishes
of
Acton with Worleston, Church
Minshull and Wettenhall

Dear Friends



This is written at the beginning of August, and I wondered aloud, among a group of fairly sympathetic people, what to write about.

Well, don't go on about terrible knife crime, violence on the streets, Gaza, Ukraine, famine and starvation and all the other nasty things which fill our screens and newspapers.' said one. 'Hear! Hear!' said another. We then decided that it's almost too easy, as an alternative, to write platitudes about human decency, the love which overflowed in Southport, and how, as usual, the blame lies with a few fanatics who are filled with hatred and want power over others, or perhaps feel powerless and need to lash out at someone or something.

What has your reaction been when you've watched grief, violence and anger which has recently filled our screens and newspapers? We can't pretend that things were never like this 'in the old days'. They most certainly were! Through the ages there has, sadly, always been violence, warfare and poverty and sickness.

However, also through the ages, there have been people who have tried to do something about it - to negotiate peace, to bring aid where it's needed and comfort to those in distress. Christians don't have a monopoly in these good things but they should surely be in the forefront in active love and concern and prayer.

Perhaps this last-prayer - is all that many of us feel we can do. We feel helpless. What can we do? I suggest that we can pray for those caught up in any of the tragic happenings this summer, and especially for those who have to deal with the situation and make decisions and come up with possible solutions. I hope that everyone who reads this letter will do that. God listens to our prayers and knows and loves all the people we pray for.

In September we usually think about autumn, crops and the 'turn of the year' and celebrate with harvest suppers, and give hearty thanks for all our food. This letter doesn't quite fit the usual pattern! However, I pray that by the time you read it, the year will have turned for the good.

Isobel



	Contents			
	Page	14		
	•	Cross Country Pages		
Letter	2	Recipe	20	
Services	3	Worleston News	22	
Wettenhall News	4	School News	28	
Acton News	10	Contacts	35	

Sunday Services

Acton

- 1st Sep 11:00 am Communion
- 8th Sep 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 15th Sep 10:00 am Messy Church
- 22nd Sep 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 29th Sep 11:00 am United Communion
 - 6th Oct 11:00 am Harvest, 6:30 pm Harvest Songs of Praise

Church Minshull

- 1st Sep 11:00 am Cafe Church
- 8th Sep 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 15th Sep 11:00 am Communion
- 22nd Sep 11:00 am Messy Church
- 29th Sep 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
 - 6th Oct 11:00 am Service of the Word

Worleston

- 1st Sep No Service
- 8th Sep 9:30 am Communion
- 15th Sep No Service
- 22nd Sep 9:30 am Morning Prayer
- 29th Sep 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
 - 6th Oct 9:30 am Harvest Service

Wettenhall

- 1st Sep 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 8th Sep 11:00 am Communion
- 15th Sep 11:00 am All Age
- 22nd Sep 6:30 pm Communion
- 29th Sep 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
 - 6th Oct 6:30 pm Harvest Service

	St David's Church Wettenhall				
		Sidespersons	Cleaning and Flowers		
1 st	Sep	Mrs M Sherry	Mrs A Nicholas		
8 th	Sep	Mr G Tucker	IVIIS A INICIIOIAS		
15 th	Sep	Brownies	Mrs A Brooks		
22 nd	Sep	Informal	I WITS A BIOOKS		
29 th	Sep	United at Acton	Mare A Lleres et and Mare A Lleres et		
6 th	Oct	Mr A Burrows	Mrs A Hancock and Mrs A Hignett		
V'- '4 44					

Visit: www.wettenhallchurch.org.uk

All is Safely Gathered In

Please make a note to celebrate Harvest Festival on Sunday 6th October at 6.30pm. The service will be followed by a Harvest Supper to which everyone is invited. There will be a sign-up sheet in church to help with numbers for catering.

PCC Meeting

PCC meeting in church Monday 9th Sept at 7.30pm





Coffee and Cake

The next meetings will be on September 5th and October 3rd from 10-12 noon in Church. Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.





Darnhall Brownies

For our final Brownie session before the summer holidays 1st Darnhall Brownies enjoyed a special BBQ by kind permission of the Howard family. The girls and leaders had a wonderful time enjoying rounders and lovely burgers and sausages along with cake and ice-lollies.

We look forward to starting back in September and to hearing what all of our Brownies have been up to over their summer time off.



National Garden Scheme

The National Garden Scheme is well represented throughout Cheshire, and throughout the Cross Country Parishes there are open gardens in Wettenhall, Barbridge, Nantwich and the surrounding villages. The season is drawing to a close, the summer has flown by so quickly, but there are still gardens to visit. In Wettenhall the garden at 2, Ashcroft Cottages, Winsford Road, Wettenhall CW7 4DQ is open on 7th and 8th of September 11.30am – 5.00pm. It has large borders, a wildlife pond and is full of colour and interest. It's the first year that it has been open, so go along to see it in the first season.

Meanwhile the garden at Milford House Farm has finished its period of opening for 2024. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers and generous visitors a fantastic £1918 has been raised at Milford this year. This sum has been divided between the National Garden Scheme [main supporter of Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and other health and nursing charities], Dementia UK, Cheshire M.S. Society and St. David's church in Wettenhall. Thank you so much. After five years we are going to have a rest next year in Milford, although we intend to open the garden in the future after a breather.

Eco Church

Eco Church at St David's-Bronze Award Achieved

St David's has been awarded the A Rocha Eco Church Bronze Award and is now officially an Eco Church. The certificate was presented to the whole church family on 21st July at our lively Green Café Worship.



We explored the land to discover what we have – one group measured and recorded all the trees we have. The method was fun to do and there was lots of laughter! Another explored the walls and boundaries to see what lichens, insects, invertebrates and plants we have. Another group found out the range of species we have in grasses and flowers. The group that had the most fun was the one that studied our graves and memorials! They discovered hundreds of facts about our graves, the motifs and artwork, and about Wettenhall families past and present. Together the group created rubbings, and drawings and completed a great scavenger hunt. I think our photo shows you what fun it was.

With lively songs, lots of cake and coffee, we shared our findings with each other, admired the common newts we found and, in our worship, marvelled at what God has given us. Our prayers and talk explored Deuteronomy Chapter 8, "The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land ... a land that has wheat and barley, vines and fig trees... where you will have everything you need."

What's next for St David's? More Green Café Worship in October and January. Our focus will be on recycling, reusing and understanding more of what we can do as individuals to reduce our carbon footprint. We'll start on our Silver Award too. More cake, activities and understanding what God wants us to learn about our land, which gives us responsibilities but is full of blessings.







Smile

Smiling is infectious

You catch it like the flu.

When someone smiled at me
today,
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner And someone saw my grin. When he smiled I realised I'd passed it onto him.

I thought about that smile, Then I realised it's worth, A single smile just like mine could travel round the earth

So if you feel a smile begin, Don't leave it undetected. Let's start an epidemic quick, And get the world infected.

The Quiet Garden & Labyrinth













"To see the world in a grain of sand And a heaven in a wild flower, Hold infinity in your hand And eternity in an hour"

Rev Malcolm Lorimer 01270 625278 maxcricket@btinternet.com



in the context of God's love."

The Quiet Garden & Labyrinth at Poole Methodist Chapel Wettenhall Road Poole, Nantwich, CW5 6AL









Life in a Jar

When things in your life seem too much to cope with, remember the mayonnaise jar... and the beer!

A professor stood before his philosophy class with some items in front of him. Wordlessly, he picked up a very large empty mayonnaise jar and filled it with golf balls. He asked the students if it was full. They agreed that it was. The professor poured a box of pebbles into the jar. He shook the jar lightly; the pebbles ran into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They again agreed that it was.

The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course the sand filled up the spaces. He asked once more if the jar was full.

The students responded with a unanimous 'yes'. The professor then produced two cans of beer and poured them into the jar. The students laughed.

'Now' said the professor as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognise that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – your family, your faith, your health, your friends etc – things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, then your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter, like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff.'

'If you put the sand into the jar first, he continued, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your energy on the small things, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Play with the children; take your partner out to dinner, go to church. There will always be time for D.I.Y. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.

When he had finished, there was a profound silence. Then one of the students, with a puzzled expression, enquired what the beer represented.

The professor smiled – I'm glad you asked, you see no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of beers!

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St Mary's Church, Acton Sidespersons		
1 st Sep	Sandra and Mike Houlston	
8 th Sep	Susan and Charles Hull	
15 th Sep	Tracey and Peter Foster	
22 nd Sep	Gill Evans and Elizabeth Bull	
29 th Sep	Susan and Charles Hull	
6 th Oct	Ena Furber and Miriam Harvey	
Visit: www.stmarysacton.org		

Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

The next walks are:

1st September

6th October

3rd November

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.



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Acton Community Film Night

This is the first night of our new community film venture. Please support – funds raised will go towards the upkeep of heritage buildings in Acton: The Church, The Alms Houses and the Parish Hall.

Showing:

Friday 6th September, Acton Parish Hall, Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. There will be an interval.

No bookings - just arrive early.

Entrance - Adults £5 (cash only)

Refreshments and Bar available (cash only)

'A Kingdom United'. 12A



A true story following the lives of the Prince Seretse of Botswana and a white British clerk in 1940s; a romance that shook an Empire.

For further details contact:

Clairelewisjones@btinternet.com



Harvest Weekend

A special Harvest Songs of Praise will be held at 6.30 pm on Sunday 6th October, when a wide selection of Harvest Hymns will be sung at the end of "Generosity Week". We will be thanking our Generous God for another bountiful harvest. This will be followed by a harvest supper served by our Social Committee. If you would like to choose a harvest hymn then please ring Joyce Percival 07703292900.

Acton and Reaseheath WI

Our July meeting was held at Milford House Farm, Wettenhall, which was participating in the National Garden Scheme, kindly hosted by Heather and Chris who were very warm and welcoming. The weather was kind to us for our tour of the garden which was definitely a labour of love for over twenty years when they first moved into the property. We started in the front garden which was bursting with colourful plants. We then walked through a calming Zen like space which keeps evolving over time into different themes.

The walled garden was built by Heather's father with sash shaped walls. This area had their personality stamped on it as in between the planting there were various ornaments and sculptures from fairies to frogs. The sweet peas were doing very well whereas due to the weather some plants are a little slower to show their usual best appearance. Something which the gardeners in the group were in agreement that this year the weather has been somewhat challenging. Heather told us that when they created the walled garden they moved 16 tonnes of gravel to create all the pathways with the help of a neighbour who carelessly volunteered.

Chris had built a very sturdy bridge over their brook which leads you to the woodland area. Chris and his helpers had managed to get not one but two loaders stuck in the ground whilst putting in the steels of the bridge. These were then supporting railway sleepers weighing around 900kg. Chris was hoping the weather would be good enough to finish all the handrails before the Garden opened to the general public that Saturday.

We had a lovely evening with refreshments provided in the marquee which was the venue for our meeting too.

If you would like to know more about our WI please come and join us at Acton Parish Hall where we meet every second Monday of the month at 7pm March to October and 1.30pm November to February or phone Fiona Ross for more information on 07791 171415. You will be very welcome.

Photographs on opposite page











Cross Country Pages



this month to

Callum Woodward Olivia Uttley
Elizabeth Parton Phoebe Presland
Ella Thibeault Ruby Basford
Henry Jones Sally Redmond
Isla Presland Thomas Herbert

Matthew Major

On a Lighter Note

A minister pulled into a petrol station at the start of the Bank Holiday weekend and found it really crowded. The busy attendant eventually got to the vicar, who had been waiting a long time. He apologised, saying, "Seems like everybody waits until the last minute to get ready for a long journey." The vicar smiled and said, "I know what you mean. I have the same problem in my line of work."

The Sunday School Class were studying the story of the return of the Prodigal Son and the jealousy of his brother. "Now let me see how well you've paid attention to this story," the teacher said, "at the feast that was given to celebrate the return of the Prodigal, there was someone to whom the whole party brought no joy, only resentment and bitterness and disappointment. Who was this?" A small boy raised his hand and said, "I'd say it was probably the fatted calf."

Ladies' Lunch

Wednesday 18th September
Tollemache Arms, Alpraham
12:30 pm - Cost: £12.30
For further details contact:
Heather (528755), Isobel (624521),
Ann (528273) or
Joyce (07703 292900)

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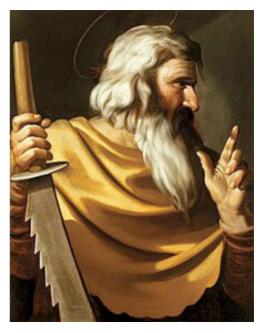


The Apostles; Simon the Zealot

Simon the zealot, or Simon the Canaanite. Whatever his actual fate, he is said to be is the most obscure of the twelve apostles. Little is really known about him, and different scholars of the ancient world tell very different versions of his life. To distinguish him from Simon Peter he is usually known as the Zealot, or Simon the Canaanite, and some writers say that he was a member of the Zealots political party before being called by Jesus. The name Canaanite indicates that he was born in Cana in Galilee, but the Hebrew word 'Kananite' can be translated as zealot. He may have been particularly strict in his following of the Laws of Moses and became known as a zealot because of his character. He may have been a cousin of Jesus, or even Joseph's son from a previous marriage. There is a tradition that he was bitten on the hand by a snake, and the wound was healed by Jesus. Jesus then told Simon that one day he would be a disciple.

Little is known of his life alongside Jesus, but after Jesus's death he became associated with Jude the apostle. Simon travelled to Egypt after Jesus' death and then met up with Jude in Persia. They journeyed to Armenia and to Beirut in Lebanon. They were said to have travelled throughout Africa and the Middle East. Confusion surrounds Simon's death, both its cause and location. There are many versions in ancient writing, he is said to have been crucified in Beirut or Samaria. sawn in half in Suanir in Persia, or dying peacefully in Edessa in Turkey. There is even a legend that he travelled to Roman Britain during Boadicea's rebellion, in around 60 AD, and was crucified in 61 AD by the Roman leader Catus Decianus at Caistor in Lincolnshire! He is often represented in art alongside a large saw to indicate his grisly death.

buried with St. Jude Thaddeus in the transept of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, under the altar of St. Joseph. Simon shares his feast day of 28th October with Jude, his fellow traveller and friend until the end.



Heather Pope











CHESHIRE HARVEST

Sunday 22 September, Chester Cathedral



Farmers market, Exhibits, Market, Lunch and Service Service is open to all and limited places for the lunch so book early!

www.nantwichshow.org/cheshireharvest









The Nantwich Churches at Nantwich Show

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who supported the churches on a very hot show day. After working on the showground all day, Rev Anne led the opening service on Tuesday evening, blessing the varied sections which come together to create an Agricultural Show. The officials all presented a token to represent their section of the competitions, which were blessed along with the showground at Reaseheath.

On Wednesday morning representatives from all the Nantwich Churches gathered round their gazebo to create a welcoming "Love Nantwich" area. A model of the Olympic rings gave a focal point to which show visitors were invited to attach their prayers.

On the hour the most popular hymn, voted for by passers-by, was sung and a few moments of prayer observed. We were able to give away much needed bottles of water, to which a biblical verse was attached, and the children loved the jammy dodgers with jammy hearts as they passed the stand.

It was an excellent opportunity to display the love of God and Christians working together in Nantwich at our annual Show.





Llandudno here we come.

A full coach load of parishioners boarded the Malbank Coach for the annual outing to Llandudno. For some it was their first time, especially 10 month old George, and some had been each year since we started in 2010. The weather wasn't promising and a variety of coats and brollies were carried on.

But no rain came, although it was quite breezy for those who walked the length of the promenade or to the top of the Great Orme. Two eighty plus ladies were seen on the Ferris wheel. Others shopped and everyone had lovely lunches and plenty of ice cream.

Unfortunately Louise Probin was taken poorly and Elizabeth Bull had a fall. We wish them a quick recovery.





Top Ten Cyber Security Tips

- Limit the personal information given to online services and frequently monitor your credit score and bank accounts for signs of fraudulent activity. Report anything suspicious to your financial institution immediately.
- 2. Never send sensitive information in an unencrypted form. Look for the green lock in your browser on websites.
- 3. If you are storing sensitive data or information on a removable drive, use an encrypted drive or encrypt the files themselves.
- 4. Be aware of emails that you are not expecting that contain attachments; verify the validity of the attachment from the sender prior to opening it. If the message appears suspicious, do not open the attachment. Spear-phishing emails often appear to be from a colleague or corporation known by the target, but contain an attachment that is actually a virus or Trojan.
- 5. Exercise caution when following links on social media sites or in emails, as they could be scams. Enable your email server so that it disables auto-clicking on links will protect against some phishing scams and other unsolicited emails.
- 6. Download trusted applications and limit the sensitive activities that take place on your mobile devices. While malware exists for all mobile operating systems, Android is by far the most vulnerable due to its susceptibility of system attacks and viruses. iOS products—such as the iPhone and the iPad— are generally more secure than their Android counterparts because Apple fully vets all applications before they are available on the App Store.
- Be aware of your surroundings when at an ATM or other point of sale; always cover the number pad when entering PIN numbers during a transaction to prevent someone from recording your PIN.
- 8. Shred sensitive paper documents.
- 9. Sign up for a credit monitoring service that provides you with alerts. You can also lock your credit by contacting the credit bureaus.
- Always use two-factor authentication with any websites, social media accounts, or services that have sensitive information. Use a password manager such as LastPass to help manage complex passwords.

I know we have put this in before but the occasional reminder doesn't hurt, people who are only to happy to part you from your hard earned money are still out there and **very** active.







Recipe

Sicilian Lemon Pudding Serves 6

Ingredients

- Rind and juice of 3 large lemons

Method

- Grate lemon rinds into large bowl. Add eggs, cornflower, sugar and whisk together to make a thick cream.
- Scrape mixture into a pan, and add water and the juice of the lemons.
- © Cook over a low to medium heat, whisking all the time, until the mixture is thick. Do not allow the mixture to boil.
- Pour into 6 glasses or bowls and cool overnight in the fridge.
- Serve alone or with fruit and/or shortbread.





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St Oswald's Church, Worleston				
	Sidespersons		Coffee	
8 th Sep	Pam Haigh		Pam Haigh	
22 nd Sep	Diane Darlington		Sarah Parker	
29 th Sep	United at Acton			
Flowers			Cleaning	
8 th Sep	Marilyn Booth	Sept	Diane Darlington	
22 nd Sep	Anne Fletton	Oct	Any Volunteers?	
Visit: www.worlestonchurch.org.uk				

Canon Bill Baker

We were all very sad to hear of Canon Bill Baker's death in June. He will be remembered as our Rural Dean for many years, a tutor on the Reader course, and a wise friend who gave help and encouragement to our parishes. He was also an enthusiastic and good cook! We send our sympathy to Pat, his wife, and to all his family and will remember them in our prayers.



Congratulations

For some time now, Sue Irwin has delivered bundles of magazines to our volunteers who then put them through your door. She is now unable to continue to do this, and Daniel Hesketh has volunteered to take on the job. You may know Daniel as he is the manager of the Royal Oak.

Many thanks to Sue and also to Daniel. Your help is much appreciated.



Coffee and Cake

There will be no coffee and cake in September Normal Service will resume in October





Worleston WI

The Craft Group of Worleston WI entered the Co-operative section in the Craft and Produce Section of Nantwich Show, held at Reaseheath on 31st July 2024. This section is for a number of members to provide items for the entry, rather than one single member.

The entries were in the following categories:

The Paris Olympic Games 2024, where three items of produce and two items of handicraft were judged. The Craft Group also provided the staging and items within the staging.

Harvest Supper had to have three different items of cookery attractively staged on our own covered base.

Red, White and Blue had three different items of craft attractively staged on our own covered base.

Members were very pleased that Paris Olympics and Harvest Supper were awarded second places and Red, White and Blue was given first place and 'Best in Show' for the Co-operative section and awarded a silver salver.

A reporter from BBC Radio Stoke interviewed WI members, Annita Grunner, Denise Cornes and Rosalind Lea about their entries in the show.

WI members of the Craft Group included Annita Grunner, Denise Cornes, Gwen Winstanley, Hazel McLean, Jeanne Soddy, Marilyn Booth and Rosalind Lea.

Denise, Gwen, Jeanne and Rosalind also entered single classes, in the show, and were rewarded with places for their items.







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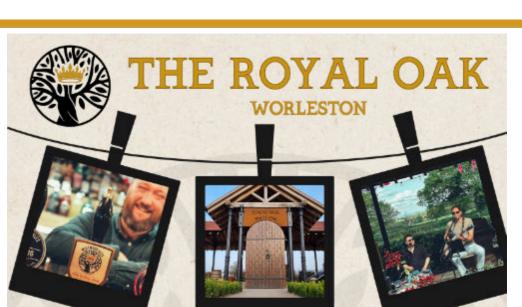
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Calveley School

Congratulations to the children who participated in the Nantwich Show Arts and Crafts exhibition. Well done to Amelia, Ieona and Andrea for their winning entries of Olympic Rings and Medals!

We wish all the children and staff a happy start to the new year and a special welcome to the new entrants.



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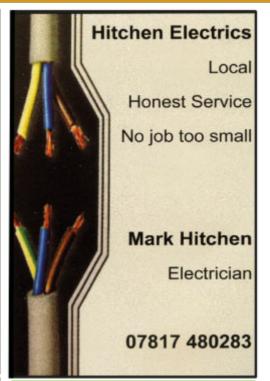
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