



THE GRAPEVINE

The magazine for the Parish of St Nicholas with St Barnabas' Kenilworth

June 2024



www.stnicholaskenilorth.org.uk



Sunday Services

St Nicholas' Church and Parochial Hall

8.30am Said Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church,
Book of Common Prayer - on **first and third Sundays**.

10.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas' Church, with singing.
Family Praise - on the **second Sunday**
These services will also be livestreamed on [YouTube](#)



StN Kids on the **first and fourth Sundays at 10.00am** in St Nicholas' Church

6.30pm Choral Evensong on the **second and fourth Sundays** *Summer time*
NO Evening Services at St Nicholas' Church on first, third or fifth Sundays

Online: **Sundays at 10.00am** - livestreamed our Eucharist Service from St Nicholas' Church via our [YouTube channel](#), where you can also watch previous services.
Visit the church website at www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk and find the link for **Worship from Home** or [click here](#) for ways to take part in Sunday services on-line.



St Barnabas' Church

11.00am Morning Worship, with hymns on the **first, fourth and fifth Sundays**

11.00am Holy Communion on the **second Sunday**

Café Sunday 10.00am 3rd Sunday, now at **St Barnabas' Church**, Albion Street

Mid-Week Services

Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.45am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas' Church

Tuesday 11.00am 'Leavenses at St Barnabas' Church,

Wednesday 10.00am Mid-week Eucharist - on the **first Wednesday of each month** at St Nicholas' Church,

Thursday 4.30pm Evening Prayer at St Barnabas' Church

Please check newsletter or church notices for changes to regular services



St Nicholas with St Barnabas Kenilworth
*A Parish in the Church of England Diocese of Coventry
and Registered Charity 1126227*
e-mail: office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk
www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

View from the Vicarage

June 2024



In the last few weeks everything in my garden has come alive. From the ever-growing grass to the roses starting to bloom; the fresh green of the unfurled leaves on the trees to the cheeky fox cubs, that peer in at me through the patio doors of an evening. June is the time of year when it can feel that nature is at it's best. Light mornings and long evenings combine with warmer temperatures and time seems to stand still. There seems to be more time to notice and observe our natural world as gardens, hedgerows and meadows burst into life.

The blooming of the natural world has become intricately woven with different Christian festivals that occur at this time of year. At the end of May was the celebration of Pentecost. The celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit; that quality of divine aliveness that fills the created world and makes everything blossom and bloom – not just the gardens, hedgerows and meadows, but people too. During June, some churches will celebrate the festival of Corpus Christ, a thanksgiving for the gift of Holy Communion. At Arundel Cathedral in Sussex the nave will be carpeted with flowers and across Europe, especially in Italy and Spain flower carpets will fill the main streets of many towns. Also celebrated by many Christians in June is the feast of John the Baptist, when it is traditional to recite the Song of Creation, a biblical chant that in each verse implores a different element of creation to bless the Lord.

The Song of Creation expresses what I believe to be true: that the whole of the created world is buzzing with divine aliveness and shows the glory of God, simply by its existence.

Kenilworth is no exception to this celebration of the natural world in June. On 16th June the town will be alive with visitors from near and far for the National Garden Scheme Open Day. It is a wonderful opportunity to see the divine aliveness of creation in all its diverse, colourful glory. When I reflect on the diversity and vibrancy that will be on display in each of the gardens it makes me think of what God wills for this world; that all people would be able to love, honour and cherish the diversity and vibrancy amongst us.

However, you choose to notice and celebrate the aliveness of creation, and the aliveness of God in all people this month, may you be blessed with creativity, love and faith (and sunshine) which have their source in God. And if you are visiting the Open Gardens, why not drop into the parochial hall to treat yourself to tea and cake!

Continued on page 4 ➞

BLESS THE LORD ALL YOU WORKS
OF THE LORD:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD YOU HEAVENS:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD YOU ANGELS OF
THE LORD:
BLESS THE LORD ALL YOU HIS
HOSTS:
BLESS THE LORD YOU WATERS
ABOVE THE HEAVENS:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD SUN AND MOON:
BLESS THE LORD YOU STARS OF
HEAVEN:
BLESS THE LORD ALL RAIN AND
DEW:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD ALL WINDS THAT
BLOW:
BLESS THE LORD YOU FIRE AND
HEAT:
BLESS THE LORD SCORCHING WIND
AND BITTER COLD:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD DEWS AND
FALLING SNOWS:
BLESS THE LORD YOU NIGHTS AND
DAYS:
BLESS THE LORD LIGHT AND
DARKNESS:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD FROST AND COLD:
BLESS THE LORD YOU ICE AND
SNOW:
BLESS THE LORD LIGHTNINGS AND
CLOUDS:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

O LET THE EARTH BLESS THE LORD:
BLESS THE LORD YOU MOUNTAINS
AND HILLS:
BLESS THE LORD ALL THAT GROWS
IN THE GROUND:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD YOU SPRINGS:
BLESS THE LORD YOU SEAS AND
RIVERS:
BLESS THE LORD YOU WHALES AND
ALL THAT SWIM IN THE WATERS:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD ALL BIRDS OF THE
AIR:
BLESS THE LORD YOU BEASTS AND
CATTLE:
BLESS THE LORD ALL PEOPLE ON
EARTH:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

O PEOPLE OF GOD BLESS THE LORD:
BLESS THE LORD YOU PRIESTS OF
THE LORD:
BLESS THE LORD YOU SERVANTS OF
THE LORD:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

BLESS THE LORD ALL YOU OF
UPRIGHT SPIRIT:
BLESS THE LORD YOU THAT ARE
HOLY AND HUMBLE IN HEART:
BLESS THE FATHER, THE SON AND
THE HOLY SPIRIT:
SING HIS PRAISE AND EXALT HIM
FOR EVER.

Every Blessing

Eira

Rev Eira



APCM Update

Our APCM was held on Sunday 19th May. It was a great opportunity to review the church activities across 2023, to receive the church accounts and financial statements for 2023 and to look forward to the year ahead.

As you will be aware, Tim Wilkes will be standing down from his role as Church Warden as he has completed his six year term. We thank Tim for his years of loyal service. **Frank Holt** was elected as our new Church Warden and will be fully instated at the Archdeacon Visitations in June. Congratulations Frank!

There have also been changes to the membership of our PCC with **Martin Henwood** (St Barnabas'), **Margaret Bull**, **Janet Cherry** and **Nigel Elliot** all being elected to join the current PCC team. Congratulations to you all and thank you for the continued service of current PCC members.

Many people were involved in the work to produce the reports and statements required at the meeting. My thanks go to them all, and also to Rosie Dalby for her work in assembling and circulating them all.

I look forward to the coming year where we can listen to one another, and God - strengthening our relationships and our relationship with God, through prayer.

Many thanks to all who work in so many different ways to make our church community thrive.

Rev Eira

This month's cover:

Pulpit flowers in May, at St Nicholas' Church



THE
GRAPEVINE



Dear readers ...

We hope you enjoy this edition of
The Grapevine magazine.

The Online edition is free. A small number of printed copies of **The Grapevine** will also be available in church for a donation of £1.00

The online edition has interactive [links](#) which were all working at the time of the copy date. Should you find one not working, please contact me so that I can correct it.

If you wish to contribute, my copy date is currently the 25th of the previous month, (see page 29 for details)

Editor

St. Nicholas' Ladies Group

Dear All

At our last meeting in May the Ladies enjoyed a talk given by Kate Harrison about foot care, she is a practitioner in Kenilworth. It was very interesting and she gave us a few basic exercises that can be done at home to manipulate all the small bones in the foot. She also recommended shoes which allow toes to spread. Sadly some of us may be of the generation that wore "winkle pickers and stilettos" They did us no favours! Basically do not suffer foot problems in silence, get help as required!

Our next meeting will be **4th June at 7.30 at St Barnabas' Church** when it will be our Annual General Meeting, we are hoping to have a raffle.

On **June 25th** we are off to the Talisman to see "*Notes from a small Island*" by Bill Bryson. All tickets obtained by us have been sold to members.

We are not having a meeting in July.

On **3rd September** we are celebrating **50 years of Young Wives**, now the Ladies Group, at Harringtons for afternoon tea. We still have some original members!

Coffee Wives at the Almanack

Coffee Wives continues to take place at the Almanack every third Monday of month at 10:30am. However, June and July may be our last until September. This is just a social and chat - putting the world to rights!

Our next Coffee Wives is on **Monday, 17th June, 10.30am to 12.00 noon.**

Thanking you

Gill Peppitt, Secretary 01926 512209



Friday mornings coffee and chat

Each Friday, from 10.15 to 11.30am. Please do come along and catch up with friends while enjoying a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits in St Nicholas' Church.



Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Strawberry Teas



St Nicholas' Mothers' Union are hosting a Strawberry Tea on **Wednesday 19th June** in the **Parochial Hall**, starting at **2.30 p.m.**

Tickets are £ 10.00 each, with the proceeds going to the

Summer of Hope Appeal.

If you would like to come along please ring Mary Leeson on 855199 or Margaret Rogers on 856353

Church Warden News

Tim Wilkes is standing down from his role as Churchwarden. He has been churchwarden for six years and has worked hard to care for the people and buildings of the parish in that time, especially during our recent vacancy.

We are having a collection for a thank you gift for him.

If you would like to contribute then please place your donation in a suitably marked envelope and give it to a duty warden by **June 9th**



Why not sponsor the Flowers at St Nicholas' Church?

Celebrate a special occasion, a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc. or in memory of a loved one.

Flowers can be sponsored through the Flower Guild or contact the parish office.

(Contact details on Who's who, pages 30-31)



The Flower Guild

Hello everyone



It was lovely to meet so many people at the Flower Guild Workshop. With lots of talk about the northern lights , and how they were seen over Kenilworth, it seemed appropriate that Barbara demonstrated a crescent design.

We had all the tips for ensuring a perfect curve. The result was calming and appropriate for many settings. As usual a few ladies made an arrangement too. I am sure you will agree that they are beautiful. The arrangement was given to Barbara's Wedding Team 'apprentice' - Trish with thanks for her hard work.

We had a lovely morning, so if you are free on **Saturday 13th July** we would enjoy having you join us. Barbara will post the information in the next Grapevine. I hope you enjoy the pictures!

Kind Regards to you all

Annie Ralphs



*This
Month in
History
1964*

60 years ago, on 4th June 1964 the Beatles' first world tour was held. Over two months they played 30 concerts in seven countries, beginning in Copenhagen.



THE NEW SOUND SYSTEM AT ST NICK'S

Many of you will have noticed that February at St Nick's was particularly busy as the new AV system was installed. The installation was actually completed within two weeks and was followed by basic training of the AV team. During the installation we overlapped the new system with the old to maintain streaming continuity and to allow us to get to grips with the intricacies of the new system and it worked for the most part. We also cascaded the training so that the audio part of the set up was available at all other non-streamed services. Everyone seemed to be amazed at how easy the desk was to operate which was lovely to hear as that was one of the most important parts of our remit. It was a given that state of the art audio and video was required and we're confident that Hilltop Audio Visual delivered exactly that. Our major target was getting everything together for Eira's Installation so that people who couldn't be present could still witness the event. It broke our YouTube "views" record by some distance with 448! Our weekly average is 60-70 and we have nearly 160 subscribers.

If you look around the church you'll see relatively small speakers in the eaves of the side aisles and a couple of large bass speakers on the floor either side of the altar area. They're very powerful and alongside the shotgun and ambient microphones placed around the building allow us to boost the choral part of services giving a much rounder, fuller sound. The shotgun microphones that are located in the choir have really added to that. The microphones on the lectern and mobile lectern have a proximity sensor which means that they activate when someone's within speaking distance and activate automatically. They're also self-regulating volume-wise so they can pick up quieter voices and no one needs to shout! Our clergy have a choice of lapel mics and/or "Madonna" mics depending on preference. Both have their idiosyncrasies but thankfully the AV desk allows us to adjust the volume accordingly. Handheld microphones are also still available.

Our main cameras are located on the west wall above the doors. They're Pan-Tilt-Zoom ("PTZ") cameras with 20X zoom that allow us to focus from one end of the church to the other. We also have two fixed cameras that are focused on the high altar and the font. The video from these inputs can be seen by James who now has a 10" monitor on the organ and the bell ringers who have a 32" monitor in the bell tower – ideal for weddings and funerals when you need to see who's arrived and/or about to depart.

One or two people have commented on the size of the desk. There's no denying that it is big but as well as being the focal point of all of the new kit, it houses all of the equipment that used to live in the outer vestry that we've incorporated into the new system. It also allows room for the 48 channel mixer, the video switch and monitor, the amplifiers, the Bluetooth aerial and two operators!

Continued from page 9 - The new sound system

Three months in and we're feeling much more comfortable, operationally. There are still a few things we need to polish and we're working on those. I'm incredibly grateful to Dave Edwards and Brough Skingley who did most of the specification work and auditioned the suppliers at the end of last summer before ironing out the finer details at the beginning of this year. I'm also grateful to Dave Edwards, Andy Brown and Kai AKA the AV team for acclimatising so quickly from the old kit to the new and continuing to ensure that we stream the 10 o'clock service every week as well as extra services at major festivals. We're a small team and we'd love to add to our numbers – it really is quite simple and full training is provided!

Tim Wilkes, Churchwarden



National Garden Scheme and Church Teas

June 16th 12.30-5.00pm in the Parochial Hall, High Street.

Come and enjoy pots of tea, filter coffee and homemade cakes and visit our garden.

Offers of help, (on a rota), and homemade cakes to serve will be greatly appreciated. There is a list at the back of both churches.

Thank you. Janet Cherry 857931

Please note that there will not be Church Teas in St Nicholas' this month on Sunday 9th June

There are 16 gardens open in Kenilworth.

For group openings you pay one admission price and you get entry to all the gardens on that day. See below for gardens that are part of this group. Please note that sometimes not all gardens open on every open day.

For information about the National Open Garden Scheme in Kenilworth, visit:

<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/25527/Kenilworth%20Gardens>



Lego Club @ St. Barney's



Lego Club continues to thrive and be enjoyed by a loyal group of children and their carers. We're averaging six or seven per week, with three others who come when they are able.



We've delved more into some of the great Old Testament stories this

term, extending activities and stretching the imagination for the models.

The enthusiasm from the young and the grown-ups produces ever more sophisticated sculptures in Lego, though we do seem to always include a dinosaur and a wheeled car!

Can you spot the lion in Daniel in the Lion's Den? Clare found the instructions online and a couple of the youngest children followed them through to the letter, to produce this fierce representation! It is towered over by a giant Daniel, and a deep, dark, damp pit of imaginary lions! We're limited by the Lego we have available so - just the one lion!

Lego Club is back after the half term on Tuesday 4th June from 3.30 onwards.



There is always a warm welcome and heaps of food for any youngsters who would like to join us .

What we've been up to at Stay and Play!!



We heard about Moses crossing the Red Sea so we went fishing and matched numbered fish with the correct number of dots.

We made horns and marched around the walls of Jericho like Joshua.



We listened to the story of how David defeated Goliath so we drew and decorated our versions!

It has been very busy, with up to 50 children, plus their carers coming along. What a brilliant testimony to work God is doing with children and their families!

As always, we value your prayers and support and please do contact me for any information or to volunteer!

Clare (kids@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk)



Pause For Thought

Whilst looking through some paperwork, deciding what to keep and what to throw away, I came across the following article.

Be thankful that you don't already have everything that you desire.
If you did what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times as difficulties help you to grow.

Be thankful for your limitations, they give you the opportunity for improvement.

Be thankful for your mistakes, they will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired & weary, it means you've made a difference. It's easy to be thankful for the good things but a life of rich fulfilment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can be your blessings.

I decided to keep this so, you will be pleased to hear that it didn't end up in the bin as it gave me something to think about; hope that it gave you something to reflect on too!

Lesley O'Connor

Wednesday Study Group

The Wednesday Study group will next meet on June 12th and 26th at 2.30pm in St Nicholas' Church.

We will be studying **the Holy Spirit**. Anyone who would like to come and join us would be most welcome.

We generally meet in St Nicholas' Church from 2.30 - 4.00pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Please contact me if you would like to know more.



Heather Alford 01926 858308

NORMANDY



I took a short holiday with my wife in the middle of May, back to Bayeux, a favourite destination for us both. We first visited the area in June 2004 with the intention of capturing the flavour of the celebrations for the sixtieth anniversary of D-Day and the Normandy landings by the Allies on 6th June 1944. 2004 marked the last large scale commemoration, HM Queen Elizabeth, presidents and heads of state converged on Normandy and there was a large contingent of veterans still living and in good health able to make the pilgrimage to the beaches.

This year the anniversary is more low-key, once again, tragically we have war in Europe and more understandable, the passing of the years has taken their toll on the ever-dwindling numbers of men and women who served in WWII. The French though, to their credit make an effort and remember Le Débarquement - the bunting is out, the shops and cafés have their windows dressed for the occasion and everywhere flags are flying; Tricolour, Maple Leaf, Stars and Stripes and of course the Union Jack.

Even though I wasn't expecting to meet any veterans I was still slightly disappointed – but as it turned out my disappointment was premature for on the ferry taking us back to Portsmouth I struck up a conversation with one Dickie Forrester, a sprightly, sharp-as-a pin ninety-eight-year-old former Rifleman who went ashore on D-Day +1. His campaign medals recalled not only the Normandy Landings but also Arnhem and the liberation of the Netherlands, a truly remarkable character. There is an ongoing discussion as to what the 'D' in D-Day is short for, my understanding has always been that it is D for Deliverance – deliverance from evil, deliverance from the tyranny

symbolized by the Nazi jackboot.

Walking along the Normandy beaches and peaceful as they now are I will never forget that we owe our deliverance, our freedom through the sacrifice of the generation represented by Rifleman Dickie Forrester.



"TEA 4 ALL"

Please do join us at St Barnabas' Church for "TEA 4 ALL" on Saturdays 1st June, 3rd August, 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November and 7th December.

We are ready to welcome you from 1.00pm, if you would like to join us for lunch. "TEA 4 ALL" is then from 2.00pm.

We have bottomless cups of tea, coffee and hot chocolate, or cold drinks if you prefer, and delicious cakes for all to enjoy.

There is no charge for this event, but any voluntary donations will go to church funds.

(Please note there is no "TEA 4 ALL" in July or January)



Lesley O'Connor



Lego Club @ St. Barney's

Lego Club is back for the new term!

Where? St. Barnabas' Church, Albion Street, Kenilworth CV8 2FY

When? Doors open for hot toast and squash at 3.30pm

What? At 4pm - a Bible story and lots of Lego as well as Meccano until 5pm

Who? A warm welcome for ages 5 to 11 years and carers

DATES for this term:

Lego Club is back for the second half of the summer term on 4th June; 11th; 18th; 25th June and 1st, 9th and 16th July.

*This
Month in
History
1994*

30 years ago, on 6th June 1994 that the **highest individual score in first-class cricket** was achieved. **Brian Lara** scored 501 not out while playing for Warwickshire against Durham. It is the only score of 500 or more in first-class cricket history.



Eighty years ago, on 6th June 1944, the D-Day Normandy Landings took place. More than 150,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy. The Battle of Normandy ended on 25th August with an Allied victory.

The question of what the D stood for has never been absolutely determined: some say it just stood for Day; others maintain it was Disembarkation, because it was an amphibious operation. What is sure is that there was a spiritual dimension. General Eisenhower, the commander of Operation Overlord, urged those taking part to “beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking”, and President Roosevelt broadcast a prayer to the nation – the United States, that is.

Before June 5 – the original date for D-Day, before bad weather forced a rethink – a massive and successful series of deceptions were put in place to make the Nazis think the invasion would come elsewhere. The Germans were certainly confused. Hitler, thinking the attack was a feint, refused to send reinforcements, and their strategy was hampered by the absence of their brilliant Commander Erwin Rommel, who was on leave.

Nevertheless, the Americans suffered over 2,000 casualties at Omaha Beach, which was the most heavily defended. Altogether it was reckoned that over 4000 Allied troops were killed, but ➤

about 156,000 successfully stormed the beaches, and many landed behind the lines,



including American paratrooper Private John Steele, who descended on to the pinnacle of the church tower in Sainte-Mère-Église, the first village to be liberated by the U S Army. Lit up by searchlights, he survived by pretending to be dead, was captured and then escaped, joining the invading soldiers.

This year handmade silhouettes of almost 1,500 servicemen were transported to Normandy for an art installation, Standing with Giants, to mark the anniversary.

The Parish Pump

80th ANNIVERSARY D-DAY LANDINGS



A short service of commemoration will be held at Kenilworth War Memorial at **11.00am on Thursday 6th June.** All are welcome.





The Coach to Croome Park

We were very blessed with the weather, sandwiched between some incredibly wet days. A grey start led into a perfect day, sunny with a light breeze and the possibility of being outside the whole time. On to the coach and a quiet drive – we weren't a noisy crew! - through some picturesque Warwickshire and Worcester

countryside. As we drove into Worcestershire the creamy horse chestnuts were in full bloom, including some with unusual deep red candles. A glorious sight!

Croome Park and house enjoy wonderful, elevated views, lying as it does in the shadow of the Malvern Hills and valleys. White clouds against the blue sky were active and the vistas seem to go on for miles.



As indeed they do! The sixth Earl of Coventry inherited the wealth of his immediate forebears made in the cloth trade. This included the old house. In 1751, wanting to create a Utopian ideal, he commissioned Lancelot 'Capability' Brown to redesign and extend the house, Brown's first architectural venture, and the estate. In 1763 the medieval church was demolished, and a village cleared to open uninterrupted views across the countryside from the house.

There are man-made lakes, a river, statues, temples and a number of 'eye-catchers', such as the Panorama Tower and the Park Seat, to draw the eye wider into the landscape. I particularly enjoyed trying to spot the ha-ha! Robert Adams designed the new church, the follies and the temples.



As is often the way, the house and estate had had a chequered history. Subsequent earls, with easy, unearned wealth and property, a sense of entitlement and nothing much to do, gambled and drank away the Croome inheritance. As they say in Lancashire, clogs to clogs in 3 generations!



It was commissioned during World War II to the RAF, as RAF Defford, who used it as a training camp and airfield, as well as research and development of the then new Radar system. The Dutch King and

Queen stayed there for two weeks as a place of refuge but found it too noisy, especially the airfield, and emigrated to Canada.



The estate was sold in 1948 to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, and the house became St. Joseph's Special School, run by nuns. The driver of the buggy which took some of us up and down to the house told us that he had had a passenger only an hour before who had been a pupil of the school! Later it was acquired by the Hare Krishna movement, who used it as their UK headquarters and training centre and who put their own stamp on it. (The rumour is that it was purchased and donated by George Harrison.)



It is now run by the National Trust who are immensely proud of it. The volunteers just love coming to work there. Over the years the Trust has restored the house, floor by floor, and largely empty of the original furniture and art work which was all sold off to meet the accrued family debts by 1948. As it was a part of its history, the artwork and paint colours from the Hare Krishna movement have been left in the former dining room. The church, buildings, follies and grounds are beautifully maintained. The Trust saved as many of the RAF huts which had survived, including the Medical Block which now houses the first-rate café, with forties style furniture.



The welcome when we arrived was as warm as the day. We toured the house and grounds, ate outside of the Medical Block canteen, chatting over lunch in the sunshine. Purchases were made at the shop and plant stall – we bought a beautiful dahlia in a pot, in pink and deep purple, with many buds which is a delight. We were ready to return at 4.30, happy and relaxed, and still quiet on the coach! It was a jolly friendly, inclusive group and a very well organised trip – a great day out and we are looking forward to the next!



A Good Read ...

The Tattooist of Auschwitz

By: Heather Morris

Publisher: Zaffre



Perhaps one should start by quoting the Author's note at the beginning of this moving, uplifting but heart-wrenching account of surviving the horrors of the Auschwitz concentration camp for three years from 1942 till 1945. As

Heather Morris writes,

"This is a work of fiction, based on the first-hand testimony of one Auschwitz survivor. It is not an authoritative record of the events of the Holocaust. While some encounters and conversations have been imagined, that the events in this story occurred largely as described is not in doubt and the information presented as fact has been sourced and researched."

The survivor in question was Lale Sokolov. He took the place of his elder brother, a family man, when the Jewish families in Slovakia were compelled to send someone to work for the Germans. Lale reported his presence in Prague and was forced to board a train of cattle trucks for a two day journey to Auschwitz in Poland. He joined other arrested people in the Auschwitz concentration camp. There he remained for three years.

This book tells the story of those years in the camp. He was made the official tattooist and had the job of tattooing everyone who was sent to the camp, both men and women. As he says in the book, "Tattooing the arms of men is one thing, defiling the the bodies of young girls is horrifying". But, of course, he witnessed countless numbers of more horrifying events in his time in the camp.

The other main character in this story is Gita.

Gita had been sent to the camp in 1942 as a young girl in her teens and was already there when Lale arrived. One of the strengths of this book is that the author does not let the story of Lale's and Gita's growing relationship dwarf the description of the daily struggle for survival and the wanton cruelty of the SS guards.

As one critic writes this is a story about the extremes of human behaviour existing side by side : calculated brutality alongside impulsive and selfless acts of love.

This is an extraordinary story, written some 70 years after the events. It is both brilliant and heartbreaking. It is finally also extremely uplifting as it shows how love and selflessness can exist (and win) in the most horrendous of circumstances.



Kenilworth LIONS Grand Show 2024

Saturday, 8th June 2024

Abbey Fields, 12:30 - 21:30

Come and join the Kenilworth Lions for a fun-filled day out for all the family. Well supported with stalls, events, refreshments and entertainment. Free entry and car parking is available.



Churches Together In Kenilworth & District, (CTKD), at The Lions Show

The Lions Show is on Saturday 8th June. CTKD will be having a stall, and is asking if you can spare an hour or more to help. It would be appreciated.

Volunteers are needed to be in the Abbey Fields to help set up the stalls at 10.30am and at 5.00pm to take things down, also to hand out leaflets and talk to people during the day.

Also, if anyone has a large car or van and is willing to help transport folding tables, chairs etc.

Please contact the parish office if you are able to help in any way for any length of time.

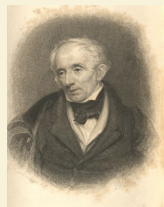
Thank you

Margaret Bull

A Night in June

The sun has long been set,
The stars are out by twos and threes,
The little birds are piping yet
Among the bushes and the trees;
There's a cuckoo, and one or two
thrushes,
And a far-off wind that rushes,

And a sound of water
that gushes,
And the cuckoo's sovereign cry
Fills all the hollow of the sky.



By *William Wordsworth*

Wonders of the Living World

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

What are the best metaphors we could use to describe biological things? You might be used to hearing phrases like ‘your genetic blueprint’ or ‘survival of the fittest’, but are they helpful or even accurate? Some of these words fail to capture the wonder and joy of understanding something new about the nature of living organisms.

I learned that one researcher was using the phrase ‘The Snuggle for Existence’ as a way to convey the idea, familiar to biologists, that cooperation is at the heart of the living world. For example, every cell more complex than a bacterium contains minute energy factories, each one containing their own piece of DNA – which makes them a sort of miniature cell, hidden away inside the larger host cell. These ‘mitochondria’, as biologists call them, turn raw materials from the host into chemical energy. In this way, everyone benefits: the mitochondria now have a safe a place to live, and the host receives the energy it needs. There are many more examples of organisms working together to produce something that is more than the sum of its parts, where often the individual parts could not survive on their own.

‘The Map of Life’ is a way of describing the regularities we see in biological processes. Eyes, legs and wings have emerged in the living world again and again, and why not? If the properties of light and gravity remain constant, we should expect living things to find the same solutions to seeing or getting around. When we look at these organisms’ family trees, we see they share a common ancestor that had no eyes, or no wings. These structures have developed completely independently, or you could say that the paths of the living world have converged on the same solution. That’s not to say they had a conscious goal, but that the world has certain properties, and those properties have channelled biological processes in certain directions.

None of these stories give us definite evidence for God. Science simply provides data, which can often be interpreted in several different ways. Perhaps the world just happens to be full of mathematical regularities, maybe there’s an overarching physical law we don’t yet understand, or perhaps there are multiple universes and ours happens to be the one in which life has arisen. But I believe that the observations scientists make about the living world are compatible with the existence of the God described by Christian faith.

More at wondersofthelivingworld.org.

God in the Arts: Music - June 2024

"Glorious the song when God's the theme": Johannes S Bach

This month, the Revd. Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music, with the composer Johannes S Bach.



'Surprised by Joy' is the title C S Lewis gave to his spiritual autobiography. To him, joy meant not just the name of the woman he eventually married, but also an awareness of God's glory and goodness. It was something that, like Wordsworth, he experienced in childhood, and later in his thirties when his faith was relit. That experience of joy Jesus shared with His disciples at the Last Supper: it is a word that permeates chapters 16 and 17 of St John's Gospel.

And it is a word that lies at the heart of the music of J S Bach. Whenever he set Freude, the German word for joy, his music rises to a new level of movement and excitement. The joy is there, not just as a word set to music, but as the heart and life of all his compositions. Almost a thousand works with many for church worship: two Passions, three oratorios, six motets, a Magnificat, a great mass setting, nearly 200 church cantatas, 143 chorale preludes for organ, and dozens of other works – and that is just the music we have, for much has been lost.

When Bach moved to Leipzig in 1723, he had the task as choirmaster of composing cantatas for each Sunday of the year for five years, as well as looking after the choir, teaching, and tending his own family. And all with a reduced salary and social status, dreary living conditions, and a choir that was ill-fed and badly housed. The miracle is that he produced work of such beauty and wonder and grace. There is a logic and a technical precision behind his music, but also a living pulse. One moment he can reach into the depths of the soul as it faces the realities of sin, death and judgment. The next, it is ecstasy and joy at the birth and resurrection of Christ.

Next month we continue our look at Bach's music.

Revd Michael Burgess - The Parish Pump

*This
Month in
History,
1824*

200 years ago, on 16th June 1824, a London vicar, Arthur Broome, and some 22 of his friends, including the MPs William Wilberforce (anti-slavery campaigner) met at Old Slaughters Coffee House to found the SPCA – the first national animal protection society in the world. By 1840 Queen Victoria had given permission for it to be called the **Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.**



The Parish Pump



KENILWORTH CARNIVAL WEEKEND SATURDAY 29TH & SUNDAY 30TH JUNE 2024

This year the Procession takes place on Saturday 29th June and leaves Forrest Road, Kenilworth at 3.00pm. With a full line up of entertainment, live bands at 5.00pm and 8.00pm, stalls, food, licensed bar, and a funfair in Abbey Fields, Forrest Road until 10.00pm.

Once again there will be a picnic in the park on the Sunday 30th June with entertainment, live bands, food, bar, stalls, Kenilworth Carnival Car Show and Bob Wilson's Fun Fair from 12.30pm till 6.00pm.

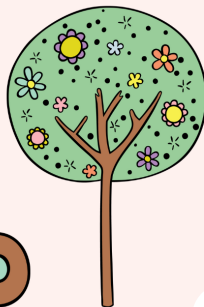
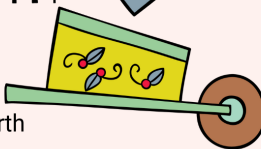
The Grand Prize Draw will take place on Sunday 30th June, 5pm. Don't forget to buy your Grand Draw tickets, which will be available over the weekend at £1 each.

ST NICS GARDEN GANG

**HOLIDAY CLUB FOR PRIMARY AGED
CHILDREN**

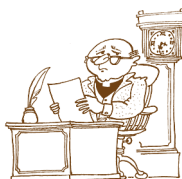
**MONDAY 5TH - FRIDAY 9TH
AUGUST 9:30 - 11:30AM**

St Nicholas parochial Hall, High Street, Kenilworth



On the impossibility of keeping silence in church

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace,' the vicar of St James the Least of All, to his recently ordained nephew, Darren...



The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Your remark that you rather liked the silence we keep before starting Services gave me pause for thought. I suppose all things are relative. I know that the noise your congregation makes before worship resembles a packed stand on the football terraces any Saturday afternoon, but the days seem long-gone when I could expect our congregation to sit in real silence for ten minutes.

There's the sound of the treasurer counting the previous day's jumble sale takings, of the ladies at the back asking each other when the fish van will next come round, and of Major Hastings's deafening whisper as he comments some women's choice of hats. Add to this the weekly competition between the organist and the bell ringers to see who can make the most noise, the roar from the choir vestry as they all complain they don't like my choice of hymns and the sound of books, umbrellas and collection money being dropped. I sometimes suspect that an informal rota is arranged whereby people volunteer to drop heavy objects in rotation, thus maintaining a constant clatter, for which no single person can be held responsible.

There is also the weekly ritual when the vergers – always waiting until the church is full – goes round each microphone, giving them a bash and bellowing "Testing, testing" and relishing the echo as it bounces off the walls.

The only time the noise level drops significantly is if the congregation see Miss Simpson sidle up to me to have one of her confidential little chats about someone in the village. Everyone knows that her information will provide more than enough to keep gossip flourishing for the following week.

Equally, periods of silence during Services are rarely welcomed; some find them threatening, but the majority simply assume it means I have lost my place. I gave up after one occasion when, on announcing we would say the Lord's Prayer and then leaving a time of silence for recollection, a choirman leaned over to me and whispered helpfully: "It begins 'Our Father'".

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

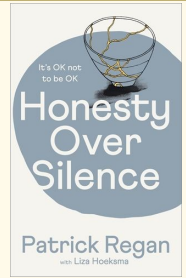
Honesty Over Silence – it's OK not to be OK

By Patrick Regan, SPCK, £9.99

This book opens the conversation on spirituality and mental health in a way that shows you that you are not alone.

Honesty Over Silence tackles topics that many find difficult, such as trusting God when life is painful, dealing with anxiety and depression, learning to look after ourselves, developing our character, and living with thankful hearts even in tough seasons.

It examines our strength in letting go of our need to be in control, as well as looking at how we can stop comparing ourselves to others, and instead live authentically and honestly as we grow into the people God has created us to be.



On the Way to Work

By Chris Gillies, BRF, £12.99

Does your work give you a sense of purpose? How do you feel when work serves up difficulties and problems? How do we work well? Is there a God, and might God have something to say about the way we work?

Weaving together biblical perspectives with academic research and his own experiences of working in different settings, Chris Gillies lays the theological foundation for work, moves on to examining biblical role models from both Old and New Testaments, and concludes by exploring common issues we wrestle with in our work, from money matters or managing and leading others to knowing if we're in the right job or simply doing the right thing.



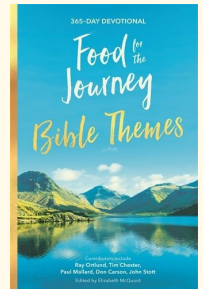
Food for the Journey Bible Themes: 365-Day Devotional

Various Authors, Edited Elizabeth McQuoid, IVP, £25.99

This book provides Bible readings for the whole year from trusted Bible teachers at the Keswick Convention.

Featuring well-known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Don Carson, Jonathan Lamb, Peter Maiden and many more, it offers daily encouragement to draw closer to God through His Word.

The book is an omnibus of the Food for the Journey Themes series, with a theme for each month of the year. It features three brand new themes that are only available in this volume: Grace, Suffering and The Holy Spirit.



How to See Life: A Guide in 3 2 1

By Glen Scrivener, 10 Publishing, £8.99

Perspective is everything. So how do you see life? This book is your chance to slow down, get your bearings, and look again at life according to Jesus.

How To See Life: A Guide in 321 is an introduction to the deepest Christian truths. It also works with 321, a free interactive course: <https://speaklife.org.uk/321course>.

Written in a chatty tone, it includes QR codes with links to the 321 course videos.

Evelyn Underhill - Mystical writer of the 20th century

For anyone interested in Christian mysticism, Evelyn Underhill may be a good place to begin. She died on 10th June 1941 after a life full of remarkable achievements: author of more than 30 books that explored the intersection between the spiritual and the physical, the first woman ever to lecture to the CofE clergy, the first woman to conduct spiritual retreats for the Church, the first woman to establish ecumenical links between churches, and one of the first women theologians to lecture in English universities. Evelyn was also an award-winning bookbinder.



Born in 1875, the daughter of a barrister from Wolverhampton, and then wife to a childhood friend, also a barrister, Evelyn moved in cultured, educated circles, and travelled widely each summer along the Mediterranean – both her father and husband were keen yachting enthusiasts.

Evelyn's inner, spiritual journey was more complex: from agnosticism to theism, on to Neoplatonism and then Roman Catholicism she went, until in 1921 she became an Anglican – with a later fascination for the Greek Orthodox church. Her daily life was one of reading, writing, and doing various forms of religious work, from visiting the poor to counselling people in trouble.

Her spiritual search began in childhood, after a number of “abrupt experiences of the peaceful, undifferentiated plane of reality—like the ‘still desert’ of the mystic—in which there was no multiplicity nor need of explanation”. Trying to understand these mystical experiences sparked her passion and lifelong quest.

Evelyn became one of the most widely read writers on mysticism in the first half of the 20th century. Her greatest book, *Mysticism: A Study of the Nature and Development of Man's Spiritual Consciousness*, was published in 1911, and is romantic, engaged, and theoretical rather than historical or scientific. While writing it she came into contact with Baron Friedrich von Hugel, who became her spiritual mentor for many years. He gradually steered her away from mysticism and towards a more Christocentric view of reality.

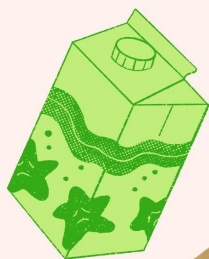
During World War I Evelyn worked in naval intelligence, but in later years became a Christian pacifist.

ST NIC'S GARDEN GANG

WE NEED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS
FOR HOLIDAY CLUB THIS YEAR.
CAN YOU HELP?

- CARDBOARD CARTONS
- 1L OR 2L PLASTIC BOTTLES
- CARDBOARD TUBES

PLEASE DROP ANY ITEMS INTO
THE CHURCH HALL/OFFICE AND
CLARE WILL COLLECT THEM.
THANK YOU!

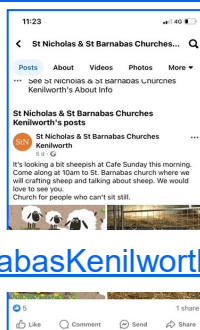


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Find us [here](https://www.facebook.com/StNicholasStBarnabasKenilworth) or at:

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



The **Abbey Museum** is OPEN

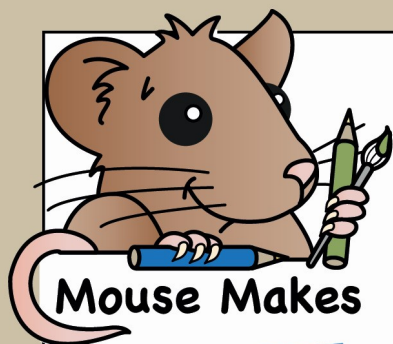
Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays
throughout the summer

2:30 - 4:30pm

FREE ADMISSION



**Kenilworth History &
Archaeology Society**



Mouse Makes

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter before it in the alphabet.

TFF XIBU LJOE PG
MPWF UIF GBUIFS
IBT HJWFO UP VT
UIBU XF TIPVME
CF DBMMFE
DIJMESFO PG HPE
POF KPIO UISFF: POF

Solomon's father defeated a giant and became a King. Who was he?

1 Samuel 48-50

Whose daughter was healed by Jesus?

Mark 5:21

A G A D A U G H T E R E G
V A S E Z E C H A R I A H
J M O S E S A J A C O B O
A Z L I B O F A T H E R P
I J O S E P H J A N O A H
R O M A D A V I D G E H N
U B O A E I D A S O N A O
S V N C E E Z E A D A M A

WHO IS MY FATHER?

Who was created by God and became the first father?

Genesis 2:20

Who had a son when he was very old?

Genesis 21:5

Shem Ham and Japheth's father built a huge boat, who was he?

Genesis 6:10-14

Who gave his son Joseph a robe of many colours?

Genesis 37:2-3



This Roman puzzle square reads the same from the top, bottom and sides and translates: "Arepo the sower guides the wheel with skill."

ROTAS
OPERA
TENET
AREPO
SATOR

If you rearrange the letters it can spell **PATER NOSTER** which means "Our Father".

A
P
A
T
E
R
N
O
S
T
E
R
O

Look up the Bible verses to find the fathers then look for them and the words below in the word search.

FATHER • GOD
SON • DAUGHTER
JOSEPH • ISAAC
MOSES • JOB
SOLOMON
ZECHARIAH
ZEBEDEE

The GRAPEVINE

Contributing to The Grapevine

There are 11 monthly editions of the magazine with December and

January being a double edition.

If you wish to contribute an article for **The Grapevine**, it would be most welcomed.

The deadline for all copy is currently the 25th of the preceding month when all items should be with the editor (Tony Shakespeare) at 7 Rosemary Mews, School Lane or email:

grapevine@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk



Smile



**She caught the flower guild
red-handed - dealing trugs!**

Church Newsletter

Make sure that you receive the Church Newsletter, delivered by email, for church news, updates, details of services and things taking place within the parish.

We use mailchimp to send out our weekly newsletter. *(It may go into your spam or junk folder if you cant see it).*

If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please *unsubscribe* via the link at the end of the newsletter

If you are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, please go to the website,
www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk
scroll down to bottom of the page, add your email address in the box and click subscribe.

Subscribe to our newsletter

Enter your email address below to receive our weekly newsletter. Your address will not be used for any other purpose.

Email Address *

Subscribe

**The Parish Church of St Nicholas,
Abbey Fields, Kenilworth, CV8 1BP
And St Barnabas' District Church,
Albion Street, Kenilworth, CV8 2FY**
Registered Charity Number 1126227

Postal and Parish office address:

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Church,
The Parochial Hall, 28, High Street,
Kenilworth, CV8 1LZ



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richard@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

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Pastoral Care Coordinator pastoralcstn@gmail.com

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David Morgan tbc

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Organist & Choir Master James Hunt c/o parish office 857509

Flower Beds Janet Cherry 857931

Flower Guild Annie Ralphs annieralphs@virginmedia.com

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Diocesan website www.dioceseofcoventry.org

Facebook facebook.com/StNicholasStBarnabasKenilworth

Prayer and Fellowship

For detail of our various groups, contact the office who will be able to pass your details onto the group leader.

Parish Office

The Parish Office is located in the Parochial Hall, High Street.

The Office is open and you can contact Debby, the Parish administrator during the usual office hours

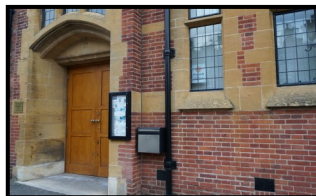
11am – 2pm on Tuesday, Wednesday &

Friday. Otherwise, if you have an urgent enquiry which needs responding to in a time sensitive manner please contact the churchwardens or Revd Richard Moore.

Email or telephone:

01926 857509 | office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Our postal address is: **St Nicholas' and St Barnabas' Church,
The Parochial Hall, 28 High Street, Kenilworth, CV8 1LZ.**



Why not celebrate a special occasion, a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc. or in memory of a loved one by **sponsoring the flowers at St Barnabas' Church.**

Sponsor forms are on the notice board at St Barnabas' Church. or ring Rita on 07450069399, or speak to her in church.



MONKS GARDEN TIDY UP