



The GRAPEVINE

July 2025

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

Church Help Out
(page 7)

Hello Summer
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Roman Holiday part 2
(page 13)

**Metamorphosis and
Transformation**
(page 19)

1575 - 2025

www.stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk



The GRAPEVINE

Edition: July 2025

Editor:

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This month's cover:

Pulpit flowers from a wedding on 28th June and the West Door of St Nicholas' - a legacy of Queen Elizabeth I's visit to Kenilworth in 1575 (page 21)

Dear readers ...

We hope you enjoy this edition of **The Grapevine** magazine.

The Online edition is free. A small number of printed copies may be available in church for a donation of **£1.50**

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 in future editions.

Click the page title of the article below to visit the relevant page then click on any page number at the bottom corner to be brought back to this page. (*works on most readers*)

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If you wish to contribute, my copy date is currently the 25th of the previous month, when all items should be with the editor (Tony Shakespeare) at 7 Rosemary Mews, School Lane or email: grapevine@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk



Editor

View from the Vicarage

July 2025

As a Governor at St Nicholas Church of England Primary School, I spent a fair amount of my time in the school, working with the children that go there. I am constantly surprised by their ability to be amazed. One of the most common words I hear is 'Wow'!



I spray some perfume in an assembly about the woman who anoints Jesus' feet; 'Wow! That smells lovely'.

I tell them about the Luxor Sky Beam, a light on top of a hotel in Las Vegas, that is visible up to 275 miles away; 'Wow! That's really bright'.

I see some of them gathered around a dew-covered cobweb in the playground; 'Wow! That's so pretty'.

A wow moment is a moment where we are in awe. Awe at the wonder of God's creation, or the gifts and skills that God gives to people, or our ability to sense and feel. Awe often leads to wonder. We might wonder at how the cobweb got there, or the light was built, or how the smell of perfume lasts so long in the air.

Awe and wonder are the building blocks of spirituality, because when we experience them we are fully present in the moment and are paying deep attention. Rather than just looking we behold what is before us and around us, we notice its truth and beauty. When we are fully present and deeply attentive, we are close to God. Some people travel the world in search of awesome moments: sunrise over Machu Picchu, diving the depths of the Great Barrier Reef, or reaching the summit of Kilimanjaro. But awe and wonder are just as likely to be found in our daily lives. We can learn a lot from school children, who take time to notice the world around them and explore it with awe and wonder.

This summer, as you are relaxing in your garden, or in one of the beautiful open spaces in our town, why don't you try practicing some awe and wonder right where you are? Maybe you can hear bird song, or children playing. Perhaps you will notice a butterfly resting on some lavender, or the washing flapping in the breeze. It doesn't matter what you notice, just take time to really appreciate it and enjoy the opportunity, in that moment of being fully present, to be close to God.

Every Blessing

Rev Eira



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

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 the Church Newsletter or church notices for changes to regular services.

Reverend Richard Moore



There is a lot going on in the news this last week that impacts on where you think lines in the sand have been crossed. The news items I am going to highlight are not directly related to each other but they all share a common theme of life and death.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

(Psalm 139 v 11-13)

The Assisted Dying bill has passed through the Commons and will soon be put before the House of Lords. Will it end with the legislation that is being proposed or has the slippery slope begun? The decriminalisation of abortions, an amendment to the Crime and Policing Bill that ends the prosecution of women has also passed through the Commons.

The other news item that caught my eye was DNA testing of babies for two hundred genetic conditions. A good thing you may say, but how long before the testing will take place in the womb and what then lies in store for any unborn child that fails to meet the gold standard? I am not passing judgement on anyone directly involved in having to make a decision on any of the above. I do feel a sadness though that this week the value that society places on life in the womb and on the life of the elderly seems somewhat diminished.

Richard

Revd Richard Moore
Associate Minister

The A G M

St. Nicholas' Ladies Group

At the last meeting of St. Nicholas' Ladies Group we had our Annual General Meeting.

We have had a very successful year (which was our 50th Anniversary - starting out as Young Wives) this title was dropped some years ago! We still have some original members; we just keep going. Any lady is welcome to join, we have excellent speakers, inhouse meetings and social events.

Subscriptions are still only £18.00 for the year September to July, which covers cost of speakers, venue hire (St. Barnabas') and tea or coffee at meetings. We raise enough money from Ladies to be able to give a yearly charity donation. This year it will be to Cancer Research as some of our ladies are suffering from cancer and related illnesses.

Our first meeting will be **2nd September at 7.00pm, at St. Barnabas**; as yet programme still being arranged; but please turn up.

We are off to Calke Abbey for our Summer Outing on 1st July. The bus will be leaving from Bridge Street at 9.30am sharp. Members of the National Trust - do not forget your NT Cards.

Coffee at the Almanack will continue during Summer. The next meetings are 21st July and 8th August, at 10.30am, and then September 15th and every third Monday of the month thereafter, always at 10.30am.

God Bless to everyone,

Gill Peppitt, Secretary 01926 512209



Friday mornings coffee and chat

Each Friday, from 10.30 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.





The Flower Guild Workshop

Barbara Sheppard

Hello everyone

It is mid-summer and we are having exceptional weather which I hope that you are enjoying, or perhaps you are like me, love the sunshine but don't enjoy excessive heat. Last week was a bit much for me, but we mustn't complain.

The next workshop will be on the **Saturday, 12th July** at the usual time 10.30am in St Nicholas' Church. We do hope that you will join us for our mid-year demonstration and coffee morning. When we next meet, in September, it will be a complete change of season.

To celebrate summer I will demonstrate a **diagonal shape in a box**. It sounds difficult but it isn't and very rewarding. You will receive many compliments from your friends, so why not join in the workshop afterwards, the recipe is below.

Everyone is welcome, the cost is £3.50 which includes your refreshments and a very warm welcome.

I look forward to seeing you,

RECIPE FOR A DIAGONAL ARRANGEMENT IN A BOX SUMMER

This is a traditional design. The diagonal shape is very useful in a box or in a basket, I would like you to use a box as it is elegant and lovely using summer flowers.

RECIPE

A box with a lid. This can be a cigar box, tea chest, a chocolate box or a biscuit tin - any box of your choice can be used. Not too big though, as you will need a lot of flowers. If the lid on your box is loose we can always attach it.

Foam to fill, which can be purchased

A selection of small leaf foliage e.g., Ivy Hebe Choisya, Euphorbia. Have a look around your garden as to what is coming out.

A bunch of Roses or 9 stems of Gemini

A bunch of Freesia or any other small delicate flower of your choice: bridal gladioli, sweet peas.

I shall look forward to seeing you, and to a happy morning with flowers. If you have any queries, please contact me.

Barbara Sheppard 777367

“Church Help Out”

4th Kenilworth Lead Volunteer



4th Kenilworth (St Nicholas) are a church sponsored Scout group, so this year we decided to do something different to help the church.

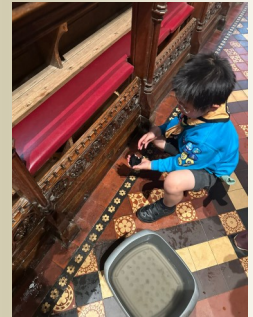
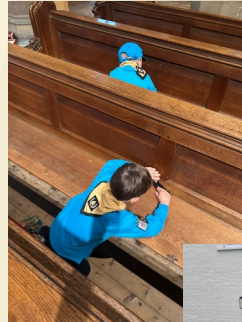
On Monday 9th June over 60 Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, supported by several parents, leaders and members of the church, spent three hours doing jobs inside and outside the church.

The Beavers started the evening by building bug houses with loose sticks in the churchyard, and inside they cleaned and polished the choir stalls.

The Cubs then took over and set to work on the pews, they had all the cushions off and cleaned all the pews. Outside, one group cleared moss from the path by the vestry and belltower, whilst another group oiled the bench in the herb garden. After Cubs we held some investitures for those moving up to Scouts in the church.

The Scouts then got hard to work making very long feather dusters to clear the cobwebs at the top of the columns. Meanwhile outside the herb garden was mowed, trimmed and tidied.

The young people really enjoyed doing something different and were proud of their hard work, plus they have all worked towards badges. It looks like we'll be back again to do the same next summer!



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15th June, 2025

To the Editor,
The Grapevine,
S. Nicholas' Church
Kenilworth

Dear Sir,

People are asking me what has happened to my wife, Vedra. Many know that she was diagnosed as having Alzheimer's Disease in 2019, and that since then she has rarely been seen in public. The disease took its toll on Easter Tuesday and she died peacefully at home with me at her bedside.

I am hearing remarks like 'A lovely lady' and 'Someone without an enemy in the world' from people who knew her.

She asked specifically that she should not have a funeral or a memorial service – her modesty went to that extent. It is difficult then to have 'completion', so what I am proposing is that, with members of my family and hers, I take her ashes to Durham and scatter them beside the River Wear. Although people were aware that she had an unusual name, they didn't know where it came from. Her father chose it because it is the name the Romans gave to the River Wear, beside which she was born, so what we are doing seems wholly appropriate.

May I take this opportunity through you, sir, to say how very grateful I am for the condolences and well-wishes I have received since her death? I would add to that huge thanks for the support over the last six years in the form of prayer and practical help from our brothers and sisters at S. Nicholas' – Christian love in action.

May she rest in peace.

Yours faithfully

Norman Stevens

The Grapevine is Changing

Tony Shakespeare (Editor)

Over its lifetime, our Parish Magazine has undergone a number of changes, starting out originally as The Chronicle.

It is about to undergo some more changes. It will still be called The Grapevine and will continue to be the magazine of the Parish of St Nicholas' with St Barnabas, Kenilworth and it will retain much of its familiar format.

Currently it is published online at the beginning of each month for eleven issues, with December and January being a combined 'double' edition. After August's edition this will change to only **four editions per year**. Each edition will be a review, celebrating the events, people and achievements of the previous months. In November, the Harvest edition will look back over August, September and October, with most articles and photographs reflecting what has taken place in the parish, church groups and our churches over those months.

The four editions will be:

- ♦ The January (Winter) edition, looking back at Advent and Christmas over November and December;
- ♦ The May (Spring) edition, will focus on January, February, March and April, taking in Easter and Holy week;
- ♦ The August (Summer) edition, will look back over the summer months, May, June and July;
- ♦ The November (Autumn) edition will look at Harvest and the months August, September and October.

The publication dates will be flexible enough to accommodate the church calendar.

We hope that this will allow the editions to be proof read, as they used to be, and give contributors more time to write their articles, which we hope will encourage more people and groups to contribute.

We want to make it more about our parish, our church and people with articles about individuals who make a contribution to church life, photos celebrating big occasions and hearing more about other groups within our church.

While the magazine will tell you about the things that have happened and what the parish and church have been doing, your weekly Newsletter will still provide week-to-week information about what's on, upcoming events, church groups and services taking place. Do make sure you are signed up to have it delivered to your email weekly. (*Page 22 for instructions*)

William Butler



This magnificent memorial tablet to William Butler, shown above, is placed high on a wall of the chapel situated in the south-east corner of St Nicholas Church in Kenilworth. When Nick Bennison was Organist and Choirmaster there some years ago he regularly used to call upon me to play the organ for funerals, weddings, and Sunday evening Choral Evensong services when he was unavailable himself.

The organ console at that time was situated opposite William's memorial and was out of sight of the congregation, choir and vicar. It was quite possible when not actually playing the organ to wander around the chapel unobserved.

Geoff Cowley

There were plenty of interesting things to see there, but my attention always returned to this memorial, in particular the part when, it was anticipated, on the Last Day it would be discovered "What Manner of Man" William Butler was.

My imagination sometimes used to go into overdrive wondering what William used to get up to to warrant such an epitaph, leaving a possible question mark against his character, be it good or bad (I generally focussed on the latter). Perhaps he helped himself to his Lordship's brandy and cigars whilst unobserved, or, even worse, perhaps made unwanted advances to members of the female staff when his wife Mary was not around. Who knows ?

Around that time it was part of my social round to meet up with a couple of Kenilworth friends at the Old Bakery Hotel on High Street for a convivial pint or so on most Sunday evenings. It was just a couple of minutes walk from the church, so playing the organ for Evensong followed by a pint immediately afterwards meant I could combine two pleasures.

One Sunday evening I decided to take my camera with me and take a photo of this memorial, and ask my friends what they thought the epitaph meant. This I did. One friend, obviously more alert than I, immediately noticed the strange coincidence that William had died exactly 250 years before to the very

day - it was 14th February 2010. The date stamp on the photo reads 'Date Taken: 14/02/2010 19:29:17'.

If ever I think about William Butler now, I conjecture, not about any good deeds or misdemeanours which the Last Day is likely to discover about him, but if a further coincidence may be possible - that he may have passed from this world at exactly 17 seconds after 29 minutes past seven, on the evening of 14th February 1760.

I wonder ?

Annual Strawberry Tea



The Mothers Union Committee would like to thank everyone who supported the **Strawberry Tea** last Wednesday, thanks to your generosity we have managed to send **£ 400.00** to the **Summer of Hope Appeal** which this year is helping families fleeing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Thank you all again,

Margaret Rogers.

More on page 12 

Wednesday Study Group

The Wednesday group meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.



We will be meeting in St Nicholas' Church, as it is summer and warm enough, on **July 9th and 23rd** to continue with the study of The Lord's Prayer. Anyone who would like to join us, please do.

If you would like to know more about the group please contact me, Heather Alford.

Heather Alford 01926 858308

Hello Summer 2025, with the Mothers' Union

Thelma Mitchell

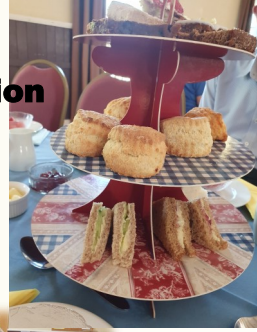
After the reprint of last year's review last month, I am almost at a loss as to how to praise the Mothers' Union Annual Strawberry Tea 2025! I worried that I had used up all my purple prose already! Could I use 'berrylicious' again? H'm. Yet there it was, another triumph of the tastebuds, the MU strawberry tea.

So, where to start? On a hot, hot afternoon it was another elegant party, the scones as light and floaty as ever, dainty sandwiches, delicious, flavoursome cakes, generous bowls of strawberries and cream and a welcoming atmosphere. The conversations flowed over the refreshments and members weaves amongst the tables constantly to refresh teapots and top up the cake stands.

A beautiful baptism stole, made and embroidered by Heather Marshall, with exquisite detail, was shown round the room. It is truly a work of art and will be used by those officiating at baptisms at St. Nicholas'.

A goodly amount was raised for this years' cause; the Mothers' Union Summer of Hope Appeal. Taking as their text; 'those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy' (Psalm 126, verse 5) the MU are focusing their resources this year on the Democratic Republic of Congo, where conflict is uprooting families and devastating communities. The movement nurtures resilience and brings hope to these families.

So much hard work was again put in by the MU members to provide this splendid occasion. It was a great afternoon – thank you for all the effort that you put into fund raising, your attention to detail and your faithfulness. It is a privilege and always a pleasure to join you on these occasions.



A Roman Holiday part 2

Thelma Mitchell

In last month's Grapevine I wrote about spending Easter near Rome, and Easter morning worship at All Saints', near Piazza di Spagna. The day we left we heard the news that Pope Francis had died.

With great speed a new Pope, Robert Francis Provost, who has taken the regnal name of Pope Leo XIV, was elected and inaugurated into office. The speed of his election probably reflects the increasing ill-health of his predecessor. And it is rumoured that the cardinals had met in advance and had already made their decision, for various reasons, including a blessing from Pope Francis on Robert Provost as his successor, in advance of the Conclave.

Robert Provost was born in Chicago in September 1955, so he is a relatively young papal appointment. He is the first North American pope and also the first one who holds Peruvian citizenship. He joined the Augustinian monastic order as a novice in 1977. He became a full member of the order in 1981 and was ordained priest in 1982. He spent part of that time studying in Rome. In 1984 he was sent to do missionary work in Peru. Elected prior general of the Augustinian Order, he became Bishop of Chiclayo from 2015 until 2023. Pope Francis recalled him to the Vatican, appointing him prefect of the Dicastery of Bishops, which is the administrative department of the Curia, the central governing body of the Catholic church.

He was also president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

He was inspired to take the papal name of Leo from Pope Leo XIII who developed modern Catholic social teaching during the second industrial revolution in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century

And why do I find this particularly of interest?! Well, Pope Leo is an Augustinian. The village where we lived in Italy from 2003 and 2018, Genazzano, is an Italian Augustinian parish. The semi-ruined villa we used to use in the early days, from the late nineteen eighties, San Pio, belonged to the Irish Augustinians in Rome. And the first visit which the new Pope made away from the Vatican was to the basilica in Genazzano where there is a shrine to Our Lady of Good Counsel! There is a picture there, a fresco of a Madonna and Child, the baby Jesus with sparse blond hair, identifying it as coming from Albania.

Even the story behind this icon is, to say the least, curious. In the thirteenth century the church, now designated a basilica, was built in the centre of the village, high on the ridge. By the mid-fourteenth century the church was in dire need of repair when the money ran out halfway through. Pilgrims stopped coming with their ready and often generous income. The picture was said to have been flown in by angels and dropped into the half-repaired church. The local townsfolk claimed to have

heard heavenly music, and a mysterious cloud descended. When this cleared a small fresco, 18 inches square and on thin card-like background, had appeared, apparently mysteriously transported from a church in Scutari in Albania, just before the Ottoman invasion.

In truth, it was probably stolen and later dropped off in Genazzano by soldiers returning from the Italian Albanian skirmishes of the time, as too hot to

handle! But it worked! The pilgrims returned, financing the repairs bountifully, especially the rich ones buying their way into heaven! It is a truly magnificent church, with a marble altar rail attributed to scholars of Bernini. The image is still revered amongst Catholics, with pilgrimage made to it by earlier popes from the seventeenth century onwards and including Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict, and also in the nineteen eighties, by Mother Theresa, who was born in Albania.

Friends of ours who know Genazzano well, whether they believe the story or not, are

VERY excited that the new Pope made this his first choice to visit 'our' village! It is a tribute to the most recent popes, that we work much more together at grass roots level. As we pray for the appointment of our new Archbishop of Canterbury, may we also pray that relationships between the different denominations will continue to flourish.



"Fresco of a Madonna and Child, the baby Jesus with sparse blond hair, identifying it as coming from Albania"

Lego Club becomes Brick Club @ St. Barney's

Thelma Mitchell



The two years have flown since we began preparing for the launch of Lego Club. It is a wonderful blessing to see it going off in unplanned but exciting directions and thriving. We welcomed thirteen children one week recently which was,

admittedly, organised, noisy chaos, filling all the corners of St. Barnabas church. (Most weeks we average between 8 and 10 children.) The two babes are now joining in with Duplo and the older ones have become ace model makers, interpreting the stories with their own imaginative ideas.

Good friendships have been made with our multi-national carers who bring children from as far as Leamington and Warwick and who sometimes talk about faith and perhaps ask for our prayers. They also get stuck in and are a great help in the model making!

Heather has introduced weekly Lego challenges which are great fun, such as seeing if boats made of Lego will sink! (Apparently not!) This was for the week we looked at the story of the prisoner Paul and the shipwreck off the island of Malta.

We also consume quantities of food, especially straight from school! It is a sign that the children enjoy themselves at St. Barnabas – for birthdays they bring cake to share so we can enjoy a party with them.



Continued from page 15 - Lego Club becomes Brick Club

To avoid copyright infringements we are relaunching as Brick Club in the autumn, though I suspect it may still be referred to as Lego Club amongst ourselves.

And again, grateful thanks must go to Heather for her enthusiasm and ideas and to the leaders and assistants for their unfailing commitment, support, reliability and catering. And thanks to those who are so encouraging - it means a great deal. Let's pray for a continuing-to-thrive Brick Club 2026!

We finish the term with a picnic party at the Parochial Church Hall on 8th July and return as Brick Club @ St Barney's in the autumn on 9th September 2025.



**Belltower
is open
3pm - 4pm**

St Nicholas' Church Teas

Church teas are on **Sunday, 13th July**
2.00 to 5.00pm

We welcome you all to come and enjoy pots of tea, filter coffee and homemade cakes, served Café style, in the beautiful surroundings of St Nicholas' Church and outside, weather permitting.

All income goes to Parish Funds.

Every second Sunday of the month, throughout the summer. 2:30 - 5:00pm

Volunteers to help with cake making and serving are always welcome.

Please contact Janet on 01926 857931



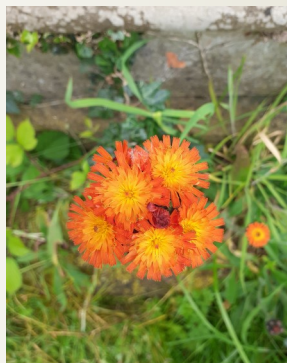
Janet Cherry



An Insect Hotel



Nature Count



Fox and Cubs

From 7th to 15th June, it was **Cherishing Churchyards, Churches Count On Nature, and The Great Big Green Week** and we held four activities, linking up with other groups and events in three of them. All four were aimed specifically at cherishing our churchyard at St Nicholas'.

On Saturday, 7th June, there was a joint working party with Friends of Abbey Fields. We carefully tidied up in the newer section of the churchyard. This included cutting back the green alkanet that had finished flowering and was now encroaching both the ancient walls and the nearby graves. The bees love the blue flowers of the alkanet, but the plants take over if they are not managed. Thanks to the helpful and hardworking volunteers of Friends of Abbey Fields, this part of the churchyard looks so much better. Hopefully, they will come back and help us again!

On the evening of the 9th, the 4th Kenilworth Scouts (youngsters from 6 to 14) came to St Nicholas' as part of their 'Big Help Out'. They divided their time between inside the church and in the churchyard. Outside, the younger children swept the paths, and made twig and moss piles for insects and other wildlife. The slightly older children, with adult help from leaders and parents, concentrated on the herb garden, including mowing and strimming the lawn, and clearing round the bench by hand and then oiling it. The oldest children concentrated on filling a large gap in the hedge with dead twigs and branches, to stop litter gathering there. Everyone was brilliant and it really was a 'big help out'.

On Thursday, 12th, we had a nature count in the churchyard. There were eight volunteers: three birdwatchers, four identifying wildflowers, and different bees and insects, and one photographer. In an hour, we noted 23 types of birds (mostly from their call); 12 types of bees, moths and insects; 46 types of wildflowers, and one squirrel. The results of the count were recorded on Caring for God's Acre's national register. We intend to do nature counts every year; next time, we will focus on sections of

the churchyard for wildflower and insect identification – the area as a whole is too big to cover effectively.

The last activity coincided with Kenilworth Open Gardens, on Sunday, 15th, which draws a lot of garden-loving visitors to the town. Volunteers from St Nicholas' serve lunches and tea and cake in the Parochial Hall, so Eco Church provided a simple 'Guess the herb game' for each table. We also handed out 'Interesting things to see in St Nicholas' churchyard' sheets for self-guided walks. It was a hot day and the main thing I noticed was how hard the volunteers in the Parochial Hall worked to serve up tasty food and cups of tea.

All in all, with the help of others, we achieved everything we set out to do. For that, Eco Church is both thankful and happy. Do take time to enjoy our churchyard – there are interesting things to see and a lot of wild life.



Tea, Cake and 'Guess the Herb'

The Flower Guild

Judith Walmesley

Hello Everyone

I hope you have all coped well with this very warm spell of weather. Keeping cool can be somewhat of a trial. The gardens despite the lack of rain have looked wonderful, particularly the roses.

It has been a quiet month for the Flower Guild. Heather Marshall arranged flowers for the Civic Service and as usual weekly flowers have been arranged.

This year it will be 60 years since the inception of the Flower Guild. Such a momentous occasion is something to celebrate, consequently in October we will be holding a 'Diamond Harvest'! Watch this space!

On July 12th we will be having a Demonstration and Workshop and look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.

Enjoy the rest of Summer.

Judith

METAMORPHOSIS AND TRANSFORMATION

Jean Bunce



Sadly, last year we, in the Mothers' Union, lost two of our most revered members, Alison Wiggins and Avril Smith. Both their families wanted us to share some of the money collected at their funerals in their memory so for some time we tried hard to think of suitable things or ways to remember them.

As the MU is an organisation focused on strengthening and preserving marriage and family life, we have always been involved in the baptisms in St Nicholas Church: we provide the books which are given to each child to mark their baptism (a different arrangement when an adult is baptised). We also deliver a card on the anniversary of the baptism for the next four years. Together with a stock of books to last for many months to come, the choice of a special stole to be worn by the member of the clergy conducting the baptism service seemed an appropriate way to spend the money.

We were delighted when Heather Marshall agreed to make the stole for us and she and Eira met with two of our committee members in the coffee shop, to discuss details. It involved a great deal of work and time but when we were given it at the Strawberry Tea, it meant a good number were able to see it. It is really beautifully made and under the theme of

"metamorphosis and transformation", it represents the growth and development in the church of those baptised. On a pattern of leaves and flowers we see a pearl representing the egg, then the larval stage and finally the fully grown butterfly. All this is on a background of blue/green fabric and stitching. We are absolutely thrilled with it and thank Heather so much for her work and expertise.

We hope to have the stole presented and blessed at the next Wednesday morning Communion service. Hopefully this will be thought a fitting memorial for Alison and Avril.



The poster features a central purple cloud-like shape with a yellow scalloped border. This is set against a background of red and white diagonal stripes radiating from the center. The word 'Retro' is in a small blue font, while 'SUMMER FAIR' is in a large, bold, blue, all-caps font.

Retro

SUMMER FAIR

St. Nicholas Church Hall.
SUNDAY 13th JULY 2 - 4PM

Family fun afternoon with retro games, hook a duck, soak a leader, tiny teddy tombola, lucky dip, guess the bears favourite song, human hula.
And plenty more.



The legacy of Queen Elizabeth I's visit to the Parish Church of St. Nicholas 1575

In July 1575, Queen Elizabeth I graced St Nicholas' Church several times during her renowned 19-day stay at Kenilworth Castle, hosted by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. This visit was part of an elaborate royal progress, showcasing the splendour of the Elizabethan court.



Dudley installed the elaborate West Door to the church, taken from one or more doorways from St Mary's Abbey although Elizabeth had to use the North Door.

A treasured artefact associated with this visit is the silver-gilt chalice and cover, crafted in 1568 and presented by the Earl of Leicester. Tradition holds that this chalice was used during the communion services attended by the Queen. The chalice remains in the church's possession and is still used regularly for the service of Communion.

Extracts from Langham's Letter referring to the Queen's visits to the church:

On Sunday, 10th of July 1575:

"The forenoon occupied as for the Sabbath-day, in quiet and vacation from work, and in divine service and preaching at the parish church"

On Sunday, 17th July 1575:

"On Sunday, opportunity, the weather broke up again; and after divine service in the parish church for the sabbath-day, and a fruitful sermon there in the forenoon. At afternoon, in worship of this Kenilworth Castle, and of God and Saint Kenelm, whose day, forsooth, by the Calendar this was ..."

Langham's Letter, 1575

To commemorate the Queen's visit to the St Nicholas' Church there will be an special Evensong Service on Sunday 27th July, 6.30pm which will include Blessing of the Chalice.

Copies of **Langham's Letter, 1575**, detailing much of the Queen's visit to Kenilworth, is available at the Abbey Museum and local bookshops, £3.50

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

Sponsoring Flowers and Bells at St Nicholas' Church



Celebrate a special occasion, a birthday or wedding anniversary or in memory of a loved one by sponsoring the church flowers or the ringing of the bells.

As well as sponsoring church flowers floral arrangements for weddings and special occasions can also be arranged by our **Flower Guild**, including flowers for the church, table arrangements and the bridal flowers.

For details or to arrange sponsoring flowers or bells, contact the Parish Office, on 01926 857509 or email: office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Or for floral arrangements by the Guild, contact the Flower Guild directly or contact the parish office



**Making . imagining . creating
crafting . playing . exploring.**

**Festival of
play**

Every Tuesday and Thursday in August. 2 -4pm

St. Nicholas Church, Abbey fields, Kenilworth.

£3.00 per child.

For pre and primary school children and their carers

More information kids@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Open Gardens Teas

Malcolm Trewick

Photos of the Parochial Hall during the **Open Gardens Teas**. It was a warm day, but not too hot to wander around.

We served lunches to about 50 or so people and Tea/Coffee and Cake to about 200 people. Overall, we took **£1610.50** and made a lot of people happy.



StN
St. Nicholas
with St Barnabas
Kenilworth



Hall Hire Available

01926 857509

parochial.hall@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Times currently available for one-off and regular Hire: -

Tuesday 9.00am - 6.30pm

Thursday 12.00 midday - 8.00pm

Fridays 12.45pm - 8.00pm

Other time slots also available please call or email to check availability.

As from January 2025: -

Saturday 9.00am - 8.00pm available also.

**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:

St Nicholas' and St Barnabas'
Church,
The Parochial Hall, 28, High Street,
Kenilworth, CV8 1LZ



Who's Who?

Vicar **Revd. Eira Hale** 07983 265037 or 774906
vicar@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Parish Priest **Revd. Richard Moore** 07539 431186
richard@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Reader Heather Alford 858308

Pastoral Assistant c/o parish office 857509
Pastoral Care Coordinator pastoralcstn@gmail.com

Churchwardens David Morgan david.morgan467@outlook.com
Frank Holt tbp

Parochial Church Council Secretary
Mark Lovegrove 07532 490990
markdlovegrove@btinternet.com

Gift Aid Officer Jane Kempton janekempton@hotmail.com

Administration

Parish Administrator Debby Bailey 857509
Parish Office office@stnicholaskenilworth.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dail Lloyd 07975 807330
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Bellringers Cathy Weir kenilworthringers@gmail.com

Flower Beds Janet Cherry 857509
Flower Guild Judith Walmesley 857931

judith.walmesley@btinternet.com

Children and Young People

Children and Families Heather Marshall

Who's Who? (continued)

4th Kenilworth Scout Group Group Lead Volunteer
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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 and

Friday. Otherwise, if you have an urgent enquiry

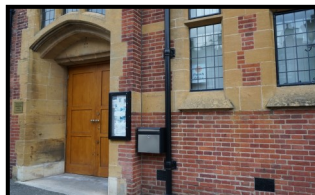
which needs responding to in a time sensitive manner please contact the churchwardens or Revd Richard Moore.

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.**

To post anything by hand, there is a post box outside the Parochial Hall



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



Coventry Cathedral Chorus



presents an evening of

Elizabethan and Tudor music

*works by Elizabethan
composers including
Morley, Tallis and Byrd*

Saturday 12th July
2025, 7pm

St John's church,
Kenilworth



ticketweb

£20 in advance

£25 on the door

(includes a glass of wine/soft drink)

Tel: 0844 477 1000

www.coventrycathedralchorus.com

Coventry Cathedral Chorus

Director: Rachel Mahon

ReginaVictoria.com