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Lillington Parish Church  
St Mary Magdalene's  
Magazine

JULY / AUGUST 2023

## From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

This month I am writing with some unexpected but delightful news. I have been invited by the Diocese to train a curate who will join us after her ordination on July 2nd. Cerys Smith (no relation!) has been training in Durham and will live in a house organised by the Diocese in Whitnash. Her first Sunday with us will be Sunday 9th July. A good curacy is always a partnership between the vicar who trains and the parish who welcome the curate and offer them a place to learn and experiment.



Ordination as Deacon means that Cerys will, for the first year at least, exercise a special ministry within the church. At the ordination service the Bishop outlines the role of the deacon using the following words:

“Deacons are called to work with the Bishop and the priests with whom they serve as heralds of Christ’s kingdom. They are to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, as agents of God’s purposes of love. They are to serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people. They are to work with their fellow members in searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God

may be made visible. Deacons share in the pastoral ministry of the Church and in leading God's people in worship. They preach the word and bring the needs of the world before the Church in intercession. They accompany those searching for faith and bring them to baptism. They assist in administering the sacraments; they distribute communion and minister to the sick and housebound. Deacons are to seek nourishment from the Scriptures; they are to study them with God's people, that the whole Church may be equipped to live out the gospel in the world. They are to be faithful in prayer, expectant and watchful for the signs of God's presence, as he reveals his kingdom among us."

The role of Deacon is a vital and precious part of the church's ministry. It is a servant ministry and to symbolise this Cerys will, until she is priested, wear her stole at an angle to represent the towel that Christ wrapped himself with as he washed his disciples' feet.

The servant ministry is, however, one to which we are all called and is certainly not something Cerys will give up when she becomes a priest next year. In response to Jesus' transforming love we worship him giving him our thanks and praise, we grow in our understanding and commitment as his disciples, and we seek to serve him in the community – to be Christ to those with whom we live and work.

As we welcome Cerys amongst us, we look forward to loving, supporting and encouraging her during her time with us. We are excited by all that God has planned and we are reminded also of our own calling and ministry, knowing God, growing in faith and going in service.

God bless

William

# Ringin' for the King

The Lillington ringers thoroughly enjoyed playing a part in the Coronation celebrations. We slipped out of the big screen broadcast in church and started to ring at the same time as the Abbey ringers. For 50 minutes we rang a mixture of call changes (appropriately moving from 'Queen's' to 'King's') and methods, being really happy to include our newest ringers, Katie Barnett and Barbara Alexander who both rang well without assistance.

On the Monday morning six of us scored a good quarter-peal of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, which no-one would have guessed was a first for Julia (a regular visitor from Radford Semele.) Then in the afternoon some of us



rang at South Warwickshire towers that have no ringers, with a warm welcome from villagers pleased to hear their bells rung. A splendid tea at Wellesbourne finished things off in style, leaving us with very happy memories of an excellent weekend.

The ringers on the photo are from left to right: Jane, David, Katie, Barbara H, Emma, Sue, Julia, Barbara A, Rosie, Roger, John and Martyn

**Barbara Howes**



# ECO TIP!

The “Plastic Free July” movement, [www.plasticfreejuly.org](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org), challenges us to refuse single-use plastic this month. The plastic bottles, bags and takeaway containers that we use just for a few minutes use a material that is designed to last forever. Every bit of plastic ever made still exists, and in the first 10 years of this century the world economy produced more plastic than the entire 1900s!

Alternatives to many plastic items are available (some suggestions are at [www.plasticfreejuly.org/a-z-alternatives.html](http://www.plasticfreejuly.org/a-z-alternatives.html)) and although they are sometimes not as cheap the benefits to our environment are huge. You can find alternatives in shops such as Zero Store (various locations), Gaia Co-op (Regent Place), Milk & More (online), Core Leamington (Regent Street), and more.

Have a look online.

Steve Hucklesby



*Phil Edwards*  
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**General Handy Man**  
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e-mail:  
[philedwardsramg@gmail.com](mailto:philedwardsramg@gmail.com)

# Mission & outreach - home groups

Home groups are a great way of keeping in touch with our faith; developing understanding of the Lord's teachings; finding new ways to worship; trying to find answers to the big questions; socialising and having fun...the list goes on! We sometimes engage in community projects or get together for church led occasions such as the Christmas Fair or carol singing.

If you are unsure about Home Groups or perhaps are thinking of joining one but need more information to help you decide which, then this article is for you. Or, you might want to start your own Home Group, in which case we'd be delighted to help you get going/ provide ideas; resources etc.



As Rachel Duff wrote in our PCC 2023 Annual Report: 'It can be difficult to get to know people on a Sunday morning at church, but a home group provides a safe place to be yourself and feel part of the church family, doing life together with others. If you are interested in coming along to see what we do, then please ask.' Thank you Rachel!

At present, there are 5 Home Groups within our St Mary Magdalene's family which meet regularly. These are:

Where	What	When	Extra info	Contact
Cromer Road In church (we alternate)	Bible studies Sharing news Musical worship Book studies Prayer Philosophical enquiry Social events Occasional community events – so far bulb planting and carols in the churchyard	Every Tuesday evening 7.30 - 9	We're currently reading 'The Church of Tomorrow' every other week; we alternate this with musical worship in the church. We have occasional meet ups with the Sandown Close group and often follow the same text as this group.	Diana Taulbut Sara Snatt
Park Road	Bible Studies Prayer News sharing Fellowship Book studies Social events	Usually monthly on Thursday mornings	We discuss aspects of Christian faith and practice using various resources. We have occasional social activities at other times; we meet more often during Lent.	Roderick Clark Maureen Reynolds
Sandown Close	Bible studies Sharing news Book studies Prayer Social events Occasional community events – so far bulb planting and carols in the churchyard	Every Monday evening 7.30 - 9	Also reading 'The Church of Tomorrow'. We meet up with the Cromer Road group several times a year.	Rachel Duff Juliet Mee
Rotating	Bible reading and discussion Prayer and silence Convivial conversation	Every other Wednesday evening	We sometimes use paintings or poems as a stimulus for discussion.	Trevor Humphreys Rev Rosemary Pantling
The Vicarage	Bible reading and discussion Prayer Pastoral care	Usually every other Tuesday evening 7.30 - 9	We are currently following the Sunday sermon series.	William Gaynor Cook

## FAQs

### Do I have to come every week?

Some groups meet more frequently; some less. You don't

have to commit to coming every time – just come along and see what works for you.

**Do I have to know the Bible really well?**

No - we're all learning together. Even those who are more familiar with God's teachings can learn something new, and that often comes from the fresh perspective brought about by new members.

**Do I have to come to church?**

No - you might find a Home Group works better for you in your spiritual journey.

**Do I have to be very 'academic'?**

No – none of us know all the answers; often our discussions are question based and tend to be more enquiry-led rather than reliant on facts.

**Do I have to stay with the same Home Group?**

No – you might decide you want to try different ones to see which is the best fit for you.

If you've been wondering whether to join or start a Home Group, why don't you give it a try? All it needs is a little leap of faith! We all have something to bring to Home Groups. As group members have found: "There are diversities of gifts but the same Spirit." 1 Cor 12.4.

**Sara Snatt**



# WE NEED

# VOLUNTEERS

JOIN OUR  
TEAM

## PANTRY HELPERS

Lillington Community Pantry is a community supermarket based at Pound Lane in Lillington. We provide a long term solution to food poverty by providing low cost food and wrap-around support to those facing food poverty.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

### Wednesdays

- Taking Deliveries
- Re-stocking
- Supermarket Pick-Ups

### Thursdays & Fridays - Open To The Public

- Morning Set Up
- Working with members
- Helping in the cafe

If interested in volunteering please contact:  
[lillington@thecommunitypantry.org.uk](mailto:lillington@thecommunitypantry.org.uk)



# Lillington Community Fun Day 2023

Lillington Community Fun Day 2023 is taking place from 1.30pm – 5pm on Saturday 22nd July in the Holt Rec, Cubbington Road. As usual there will be plenty of entertainment for the whole family. Among the activities planned will be a bouncy castle, climbing walls and rides, a ukulele concert, bhangra dancing and drums. Local services, organisations, societies and clubs will be running stalls.

There will also be plenty to eat and drink; a barbecue serving hot dogs using locally sourced sausages, a stall serving soft drinks including squash, and last but not least



a refreshments stall inside Lillington Free Church Hall serving tea, coffee and cakes, home-made or shop bought. Apart from an ice cream van that will be in operation, everything at the Fun Day is free.

The refreshments stall is being jointly organised by members of Lillington Free Church and St Mary Magdalene. Cakes will be needed on the day as well as volunteers to set up from 12.30pm, and to serve refreshments on a rota from 1.30pm – 5pm. If you can assist with this please sign the form on the table in church.

Please note that cakes may be dropped off at the Free Church on the morning of the Fun Day. If this isn't convenient please contact me.

**Amanda Stevens, member of the organising team**  
01926 833242 / 07429 260405

# When Church Bells Were Banned

During the second world war, the ringing of church bells was forbidden by law except as a warning of invasion by air or sea. However, in November 1942 that ban was lifted temporarily to allow a celebration of the Eighth Army's victory in the battle of El Alamein. On Friday 20th November 1942 the Northampton edition of the Mercury and Herald carried this report:

## VICTORY PEALS WARNED OF DEFECTS TO BE REMEDIED

While church bells from towers in many parts of the land were pealing forth their message of hope in celebration of the Eighth Army's brilliant victory in the Battle of Egypt, many people lost sight temporarily of the fact that those same bells to which they were listening had been, and still are, intended as a signal of grimmer things – a warning of invasion.

Only the campanologists, who had to overcome manifold difficulties during the permitted hours last Sunday morning, realised how necessary it is to put defects right if the church bells are to provide a fully efficient method of warning.

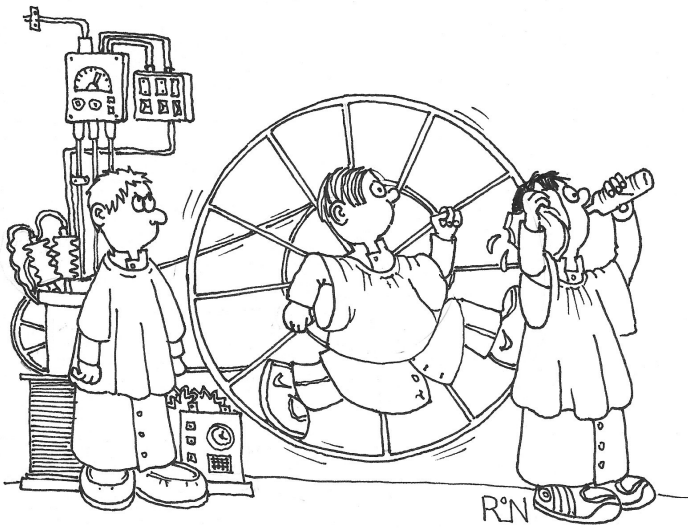
As forecast in last week's Mercury and Herald, not more than about 25 per cent of the 220 belfries in the Peterborough Diocese were able to ring. There were places where the bell ropes had been removed to prevent rotting – those bells could certainly not have been rung quickly as an invasion signal – and in other cases broken ropes through disuse have been reported – a contingency which cannot be overlooked. In addition, many parishes have lost almost all their ringers to the armed forces.

**John Nutt**

# What's Happening

Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Coffee morning	10am	Octagon
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Film Evening	6pm	Church
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Vicarage Bring and Share	12 noon	Vicarage garden
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Lillington Fun Day	All day	The Holt Playing Field
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	Coffee morning	10am	Octagon
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Film Evening	6pm	Church
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Vicarage Bring and Share	12 noon	Vicarage garden





When the solar panels weren't working,  
there was Plan "B"

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- BATHROOM INSTALLATIONS
- ALL GENERAL PLUMBING

# Charity of the month

Each year our church donates 10% of its income to charities. The Charity Committee decide on 12 Charities, one for each month of the year.

July's charity of the month is...



Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre provides support for refugees and asylum seekers. Help given includes English lessons, guidance towards employment and counselling. This charity empowers asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants in Coventry to rebuild their lives and achieve their potential; it now assists over 4,000 people each year, including destitute families, victims of trafficking, modern slavery, unaccompanied children and those escaping conflict zones from around the world.

# Join Us Online!

Did you know you can attend our church services online?

If you are unable to join us in-person due to illness, caring or travel, you can still join our weekly services. You can join us live if you are at home, or catch up later if you're otherwise engaged.

You can participate from anywhere in the world and from any time zone. We have regular virtual congregation members from Australia and Germany among others!

We stream our Sunday morning service live at 9.30am and our Wednesday morning service live at 10am. There are booklets on our website so you can follow the service.



You can join us via our website:  
[www.lillingtonparishchurch.org/streaming](http://www.lillingtonparishchurch.org/streaming)  
or follow us on Twitch:  
[www.twitch.tv/lillington\\_parish\\_church](http://www.twitch.tv/lillington_parish_church)



Do give it a go - you may be at home but you will feel like you are with us in person and we welcome your participation.

**Diana Taulbut**



# Walkers' Group

For our walk on June 3rd, 14 of us drove to Dunchurch, where we parked at the Green Man, ordered our lunches, and set off along the Southam Road to cross the M45, before turning into Toft Lane, which serves Toft Alpacas. It was pleasant walking weather – quite warm, and dry underfoot.



From the lane we passed through a gateway into a field next to the one accommodating the alpacas, with fine views down over Draycote Water; we followed a path leading downhill to exit on the Water's perimeter path. This provided a firm surface for walking for about a quarter of a mile before we took a right turn through a gateway leading to a concrete path uphill to the village of Thurlaston. We paid a visit to St Edmund's Church - unusually open to visitors - and then stopped for a break at the bus shelter (the village still has about four buses a day), which also



serves as a library and newspaper dropping off point for the village residents.

A period of road walking followed as we took the road over the M45 again and up to the old A45 (now B4429) which leads back to Dunchurch village. We were able to use a footpath beside this; after about a mile we crossed the road and headed north to meet an old track known as Northampton Lane. Interesting that in days gone by this was used to get to Northampton via Crick and West Haddon rather than the present day route through Daventry.

We followed Northampton Lane eastwards till it met the road from Cawston (the old Cawston Lane) which we followed back to Dunchurch. Here we returned to the Green Man to enjoy our lunch.



Bob Cooke



## Lecture programme

This year's programme spans some six centuries, from the Flemish Renaissance landscapes of Pieter Bruegel to the contemporary designs of Thomas Heatherwick and the role of the arts in progressive programmes of rehabilitation and education within the Criminal Justice System. The lecture on Paul Cezanne is timed to coincide with the exhibition of his work at Tate Modern, and that on Joaquin Sorolla to coincide with an exhibition of Spanish art at the Royal Academy. Lucy Kemp-Welch painted many people's favourite painting in Leamington Museum and Art Gallery: if you're not familiar with Winter's White Silence then do go to see it before it goes 'on tour' in a forthcoming exhibition of her work in Bournemouth.

**Our lectures are held at the Royal Spa Centre, Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa CV32 4HN at 11:00am and 2:00pm.**

**Coming up...**

**Wednesday 5th July 2023**

**A Bit of a Carry On**

**Speaker: Tyler Butterworth**

# Celebrities in our midst!

Our very own Helen and Stan Ireland were featured in the Radio Times - here it is in case you missed it!

French, made her a joy to watch.

**Michael Bradley**

*London SW1*

...Congratulations to all involved with Eurovision, which brought a great sense of togetherness and



sharing. Could we also express praise for Radio 3 *Breakfast's* entertaining take on Eurovision (12 May), featuring a piece of music from each of the countries in the final. In our opinion, none of the composers featured deserved "nul points" and they're all worth revisiting in the future, especially those who were new to us.

As the choice of music couldn't be known until the full list of finalists was announced the evening before, it involved working through the night.

Congratulations to producer Susan Kenyon, host Petroc Trelawny and the whole production team for their hard work and dedication.

**Helen and Stanley Ireland**

*Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire*

## ... OR NUL?

Whoever thought it was a good idea to have BBC1's Mel Giedroyc commentating over the results and, even worse, the run-through of all the entries? I found it



**FIGH**  
*Rain Dogs*  
(Daisy Ma

# Help to keep our magazine going!

If you have enjoyed reading this issue of Crosstalk and you are able to, please consider donating a small amount to help with our running costs.

## Donate cash

In church - look out for the donation box and mark your cash with 'Crosstalk'

## Donate via bank transfer or cheque

Our church bank details are:

Bank: HSBC

Account Name: Lillington PCC

Sort Code: 40 27 06

Account Number: 91308580

Reference: CROSSTALK



Thank you for all you are able to give.



**Lillington Parish  
Church**



# Sudoku

Make a cuppa, sit down and have a go at this 'medium' difficulty sudoku!

2		5				8		
			6	5	3			
9							6	
			4		6			1
3								4
7			2		9			
	2							9
			5	7	4			
		4				6		5

Email the editor [crosstalkeditor@gmail.com](mailto:crosstalkeditor@gmail.com) for the solution...

## RECIPE 8: BANOFFEE TART SERVES: 4, TIME: 50 MINUTES

### EQUIPMENT:

25cm Pastry Flan Tin  
Knife

Chopping board  
Scales

Oven preheated to 200 degrees celcius  
Wooden Spoon

Palette knife (or large spoon for spreading caramel)

Whisk

Large bowl

Medium bowl

Clingfilm

Baking beans or uncooked rice

### INGREDIENTS:

250g Plain Flour

175g Butter (room temperature)

45g Caster Sugar

1 Egg Yolk

2 x Ripe Bananas

1 x 397g Tin of Caramel

300ml Whipping Cream

A Pinch of Salt

Chocolate to grate (optional but really tasty!)

### METHOD:

1. Cream the butter, sugar and salt together with a wooden spoon until light and fluffy. Add the egg yolk and a little bit of the flour and combine. Then add the rest of the flour and mix until just together. If it feels too stiff add a couple of splashes of water, but don't mix the dough too much.
2. Bring together into a ball, wrap in clingfilm, and put it in the fridge to rest for an hour.
3. Roll out on a floured worktop to the thinness of a pound coin, and place into the flan tin, pressing it in well. Don't trim the pastry now, wait until it has cooked to cut off the excess pastry (feel free to eat it, it takes like good shortbread!)
4. Put some cling film in the tart, and fill with the rice/baking beans. Bake for 15 minutes, take the rice + clingfilm out, then back for another 7 minutes.

## METHOD CONTINUED:

5. Allow to cool for half an hour. While tart case is cooling, whip your cream until it holds its shape well.

6. Once cool, spread caramel on bottom layer. Slice banana into coins and layer on the caramel. Spread cream on top, grate chocolate over the cream.

## COOKING TIPS:

Don't worry if the pastry cracks as you're putting it into the flan tin, just press some extra pastry into the cracks and it will mend as it cooks.

If you're feeling adventurous, you can flavour the cream with lime zest and desiccated coconut.

If you don't like bananas, pineapple would also work well.

The Salvation Army launched The Victory Programme to help people to make tasty, nutritious meals that will save them money. We include a recipe each issue for you to try out!

# Services in July & August

## SUNDAY WORSHIP – July 2023

July 2	4 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity - Serving all people	9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (in church & on line) All Age Communion (in church) Evening Service (in church)
July 9	5 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity – Using our Gifts	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)
July 16	6 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity - The Holy Spirit in me and you?	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)
July 23	Patronal Festival Mary Magdalene	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)
July 30	8 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP – August 2023

August 6	9 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity	9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (in church & on line) All Age Communion (in church) Evening Service (in church)
August 13	10 <sup>th</sup> After Trinity	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)
August 20	11 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)
August 27	12 <sup>th</sup> after Trinity	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Worship for All (in church)

## Weekday Services in July & August

### Wednesdays

Holy Communion **in church** and online at 10.00am on 5, 12, 19 and Morning Prayer on 26 July. Morning Prayer on 2 August and Holy Communion on 9, 16, 23 and 30 August

## From the church records (June)

**BAPTISMS: None**

**WEDDINGS: None**

**FUNERALS: None**



**Services are streamed live**  
and are also available afterwards on the website  
[www.lillingtonparishchurch.org](http://www.lillingtonparishchurch.org)

**For Funeral, Baptism and Wedding enquiries,**  
please contact Rev. William Smith on 01926 316475  
or email [wms.smith@btinternet.com](mailto:wms.smith@btinternet.com)

**For general enquiries** please contact the church  
office by telephone on 01926 470449 or email  
[office@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:office@lillingtonparishchurch.org). Outside of office  
hours, please leave a message on the answer phone  
and we will return your call.



# Junior Crosstalk

The tale of  
the  
Tower  
Builder

BUILDING  
SITE  
FOR SALE



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS

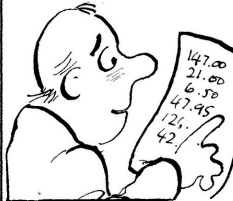


ON ONE OCCASION JESUS  
EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T  
ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



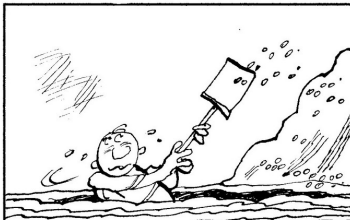
JESUS BEGAN, 'IF ONE OF YOU  
PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....'

...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO  
WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL  
COST.



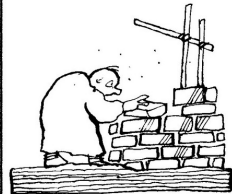
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....

...YOU MIGHT MAKE A  
START, ....

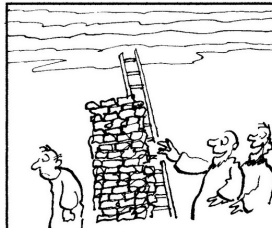
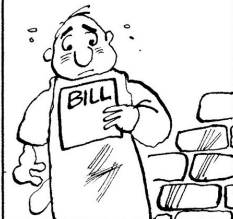


...WORK VERY HARD ON THE  
FOUNDATIONS. ....

...THEN START TO LAY  
THE BRICKS....



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT  
OF MONEY!!



THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH  
AT YOU!

TOWER TO  
BE  
CANCELLED  
BUILT  
HERE

WE NEED TO REALISE THAT  
ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING  
JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING  
TO DO; IT'S ALSO A GREAT  
CHALLENGE.

# CONTACT US

**Please do contact us with any questions or queries, or just to say hello!**



## **Church Office & General Enquiries**

Wendy Driscoll

office@lillingtonparishchurch.org

01926 470449

*The Church Office is normally open 9:30am to 1pm,  
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday*

## **Vicar**

Rev William Smith

01926 316475

## **Churchwarden**

Sally Druce

sally.druce1@gmail.com

07933 295350

## **Love Lillington**

Christine Butler

j.butler1christine@gmail.com

07963 229756



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**SACRIFICE**  
that's Free Gift of Grace  
**GIVING**  
God's Free Gift of Grace  
God loves a cheerful giver

Parish website:  
[www.lillingtonparishchurch.org](http://www.lillingtonparishchurch.org)

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND