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**Lillington Parish Church
St Mary Magdalene's
Magazine**

JUNE 2023

From the Vicar

Dear Friends,

A few years ago the BBC screened a programme called “Monastery” which looked at the experience of five men who were invited to spend 40 days and 40 nights living, and working with an order of Benedictine monks. One of the biggest challenges for them was the stillness and silence. How do you think you would have fared? Stopping still in a busy world isn’t easy.



One of the most loved of all the psalms reflects on this theme. Psalm 23 is a passage many people choose to have read at weddings or funerals. Its words have become favourite hymns like Crimond, and indeed many people go as far as to learn the psalm off by heart.

Scripture is such a treasure trove with a seemingly endless supply of gems to enrich our understanding of God and ourselves. In the second verse of the 23rd Psalm the Authorised Version translates: “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.” The psalms are poetry, and while I generally prefer to read the Bible in a modern translation, there are occasions when the poetry of the psalms and the poetic nature of the Authorised Version of the Bible combine to give a reading that is truly sublime. So it is with the 23rd Psalm

and in particular verse two. You see, the more modern version replaces “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures” with “He lets me rest in fields of green grass.” And what struck me when comparing the two is that in the first reading God seems to take the initiative, almost insisting that there is rest, while in the second he seems simply to give permission for rest.

My experience is that there are occasions when God says to me: “It’s time to stop rushing around. It is time to be still and to rest.” And it is as if God takes the initiative and pulls the plug, puts the brakes on, and throws the anchor over the side. I really identify with the idea of God making me stop and rest occasionally.

The discipline of the monastery was a real challenge for some of the participant in the BBC2 documentary. Yet God was very present within the discipline of the day, discipline that demanded stillness and silence. And the wonderful thing was that without exception this “making to lie down in green pastures” had a profound effect on all concerned.

Is God asking you to slow down? Is he prompting you to rest? When we read and commit passages of scripture to memory it gives God a vocabulary with which to talk to us. If you haven’t read this psalm for a while – give it another go and see what happens.



William

AID FOR UKRAINE and beyond

Thank you to all who attended the Coffee Morning for Ukraine on 8th April 2023. It was very well attended, and the money raised will be handed over to the Sisters from the congregation of St Joseph's when they visit the Leamington Pump Rooms on 21st May 2023. Please continue to donate medical supplies in the box in church (anything you can buy from a Chemist shop will do). The items are collected regularly and taken to the Ukrainian Charity Shop in the Royal Priors, where they are collected and transported overland.

Again, a big thank you to all!



From all the team

Phil Edwards
Handyman Services

General Handy Man
NO JOB TOO SMALL!

Whatever you need doing, a dripping tap, some shelves putting up, gutters cleaning, or the garage clearing out, give me a call.



Home: 01926 424485
Mobile: 07931 812235
e-mail:
philedwardsramg@gmail.com



Coffee & Craft Morning

With Plant Sale

Supporting our appeal for

“CHAIRS FOR CHURCH”

Donations to our Re-ordering Fund

Saturday 10th June 2023

10.00am – 12.00 noon

Children's Craft Corner, Plant Sale

**Coffee morning offerings of delicious savoury
snacks/cakes/coffee/tea/hot chocolate**

Place : Octagon

Lillington Parish Church

St Mary Magdalene's CV32 7RH

<https://www.lillingtonparishchurch.org>

All Welcome!

MISSION AND OUTREACH

‘A One-Man Radio on the Street’

Recently, several of us have been pondering the difference between ‘mission’ and ‘outreach’, and thinking about how we can develop our involvement in both from our church base. To help, author and theologian Tim Challies defines outreach as ‘an act of reaching out, bringing an organisation’s services ... into the community. When a church engages in outreach, it is reaching out to the community in order to meet needs or to let people know of its existence.’ Through outreach, Challies says, ‘believers take their love ... into the community and ... see changed hearts in action.’



Mission is more difficult: it asks us to go out into the community and, amongst other things, spread the good news of Christ. Do we all feel comfortable with this? Challies tells us: ‘We must not confuse outreach with evangelism. Jesus gave His church, the body that He valued so highly. He gave His life for it, a commission to go to the world and share the Good News of what He did. Every believer is responsible before God to do this.’ I believe our challenge as a church community is finding ways to do this.

One person who shares his belief with others is Mark Bullock. Mark is resident guitarist/vocalist in 'Stargazers', our 11.15 service band, but his music goes much further than that, as he uses it to take the word of the Lord onto the streets of Coventry.

It all began about 20 years ago, when Mark was performing as part of a gospel band in Leamington. From this, Mark got the feeling that he was ready to take his music further afield and use it as a means of spreading the word of the Lord. As Mark puts it, 'God said "Get yourself a guitar."' When Mark replied that he couldn't sing, God told him, "You haven't heard the voice I'm going to give you!"

At this stage, Mark was performing in various churches, and it was one of these which asked Mark to join them outside. This was Mark's first opportunity to (as he calls it) busk-preach. Although Mark was worried about the task ahead, he remembered God telling him, "Don't worry – just get out there and worship." He remembered the words of God as spoken through Jahaziel in 2 Chronicles, Chapter 20: 'The Lord says to you, "Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope because of this huge army. The battle is not yours. It is God's...Stand firm... The Lord will be with you.'"

Mark has been regularly busk-preaching for the last three years; usually once a fortnight and in that time he has had only positive experiences. As Mark says, 'God really has given me the words to say on the street. I find a way of doing it. The gospel is "God loves you and he wants you for his own." I do it because I feel impelled to and I get so much joy and fulfilment from it. Everybody has something in their heart they can do, that God puts there to serve Him and bless others. I consider myself to be a one-man Christian radio on the street!'

Over the years, Mark has seen many transformations including people giving their lives to God; a homeless man suddenly being given a home and people being helped out of difficult situations such as alcoholism. Mark gives any donations he might be offered to homeless people he meets. Not all of us are 'called' to mission in the way Mark is. There is a range of ways to communicate our faith and it is finding what we are called to do that is important. If you have any thoughts on how we can develop our spiritual lives and those of our community, please get in touch. And, if you know of someone in our church community who is making a real, positive difference to other people's lives, we'd like to hear about it.

Please contact me at sazzysnatt7@icloud.com or editor Alex.crosstalkeditor@gmail.com.



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VENUE: Cubbington Village Hall
Broadway, Cubbington CV32 7LP



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Recycled hat by Lynne Chapman

MAY PCC REPORT

The May meeting of the PCC is the first meeting of the newly elected Church Council after the April Annual Meeting. We usually take the opportunity to go away for the day to a venue outside the parish to reflect on the last 12 months and set our priorities for the year ahead. This year we went to St Michael's Budbrook and hired their church centre for the day.

The first part of the meeting involved the usual PCC business and the appointment of various official posts. We then reflected on the last 12 months. Highlights were felt to be our involvement in both the local and wider community. Links with the Lillington Pantry and Polish Centre were celebrated. We have had a growth in attendance and new people have joined homegroups and an additional home group has started bringing our total to five that meet regularly around the parish. The Easter joint service celebration was a highlight with everyone coming together. The variety of worship services was appreciated and the broadcasting appeal had raised £12,500. We were grateful for the positive response to this and the ongoing interest from the online community that stretches from Honduras to Australia and everywhere in between. The Vision-On initiative to appeal for Time, Talents and Treasure had resulted in many offers of help and an increase of 27% in planned giving.

The meeting then reflected on a passage from Luke's Gospel where Martha and Mary welcome Jesus for a meal. There is a tension in the story between 'doing' and 'being' and this is a tension we all have to wrestle with. Churches can become very busy places and there always seems such a lot of work to be done. But Mary is commended for prioritising time with Jesus and we reflected on the importance of balance and sharing responsibilities. It was good to

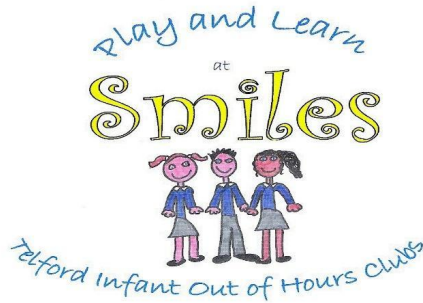
celebrate that at St Mary Magdalene's so many people are involved which means that there should always be time to 'be' as well as 'do'.

Before we broke for lunch, we looked at priorities for the coming year. These included responding to all those who had generously offered time and talents in the recent Vision-On initiative. Funding for all the Phase one reordering will need to be prioritised as we look at our seating, storage, access and refreshment area. We need to progress the Broadcasting installation which has been on pause while we await a funding application with the Diocese. We have two important posts to recruit for namely the post of Church Warden which is still vacant and that of PCC Secretary which Bob Cook wishes to hand over at Christmas. Our work with youth and our mission and outreach must be a priority as we move forward. It was also recognised that Homegroups will increasingly play a central role as we grow as a church and each group will offer great potential for nurture and pastoral care.

After lunch we discussed the working groups that would be responsible for ensuring we keep to our priorities. The groups for the coming year will be: Fabric, Finance, Social, Youth and Nurture. There was a discussion about the importance of perhaps an additional group focussing on Mission and Outreach but it was recognised that the call to grow and reach out should be part of our DNA and so it was suggested that each of the five working groups have Mission and Outreach as their guiding principle.

The Away Day concluded with a simple Eucharist. We listened as Mary did to the words of Jesus, prayed for the needs of the parish and the wider world and then broke bread together.

William



Lots of fun, lots to do, come and join Out of Hours Clubs too!!

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Please contact the SMILES Manager, Mrs Francesca Berry
07925 823386 between 7.25am and 8.25am or 3.40pm and 6.00pm
Or by email: smilesclub@welearn365.com



GREEN TIP!

Green salad is easy to grow even if you don't have much of a garden – if you choose “cut and come again” you can have salad throughout the summer at a fraction of the cost of a bag from the supermarket.

If you don't already grow herbs why not try some that have flowers – for example, chives will attract bees and butterflies if you let them flower and taste delicious chopped up in a salad or an omelette.

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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.

June's charity of the month is...



Church Homeless Trust is a national organisation which supports homeless people by awarding individuals grants of up to £250. The money is aimed at helping people take the next step in their journey towards a home of their own and could mean getting them into a hostel or into their first private tenancy, with a front door of their very own.

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
or follow us on Twitch:
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



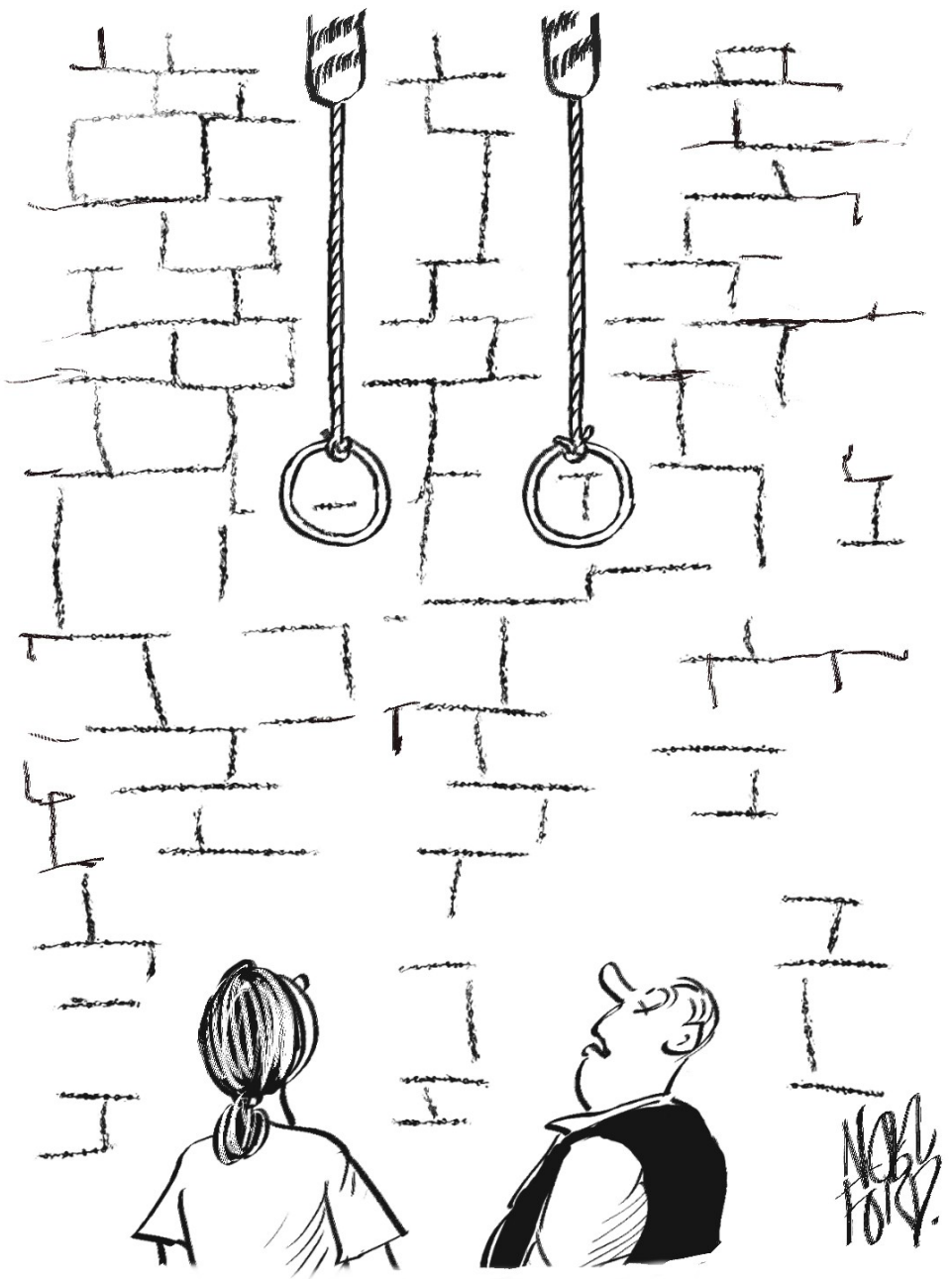
Walkers' Group

On Saturday, May 13th, 10 of us set off for a four-mile walk, starting from Eathorpe. The first part of the walk was through the village but quickly we were “in the country”. We were guided through very quiet countryside & seemed to be the only people about but when approaching Wappenbury met one of our congregation! We continued back to our cars to go to the Rugby Tavern for lunch.



Thank you Don for leading the walk.

Thelma Dawkes



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"



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.

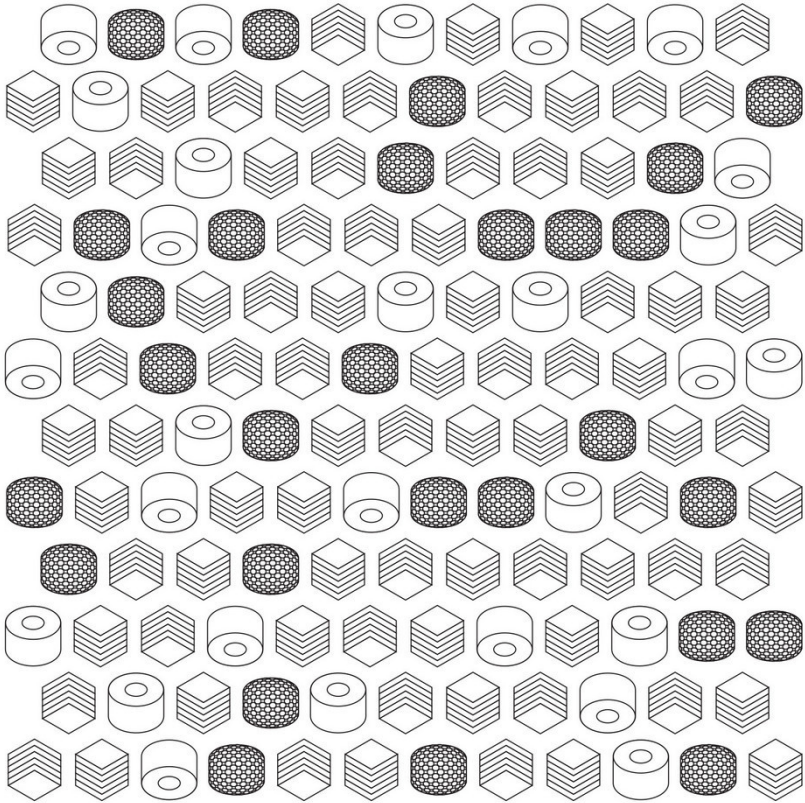
Our lectures are held at the Royal Spa Centre, Newbold Terrace, Leamington Spa CV32 4HN at 11:00am and 2:00pm.

Coming up...

Wednesday 7th June 2023 – Leni Riefentahl: Hitler's Filmmaker

Wednesday 5th July 2023 – A Bit of a Carry On: Tyler Butterworth

Colour me in!



God welcomes
all sorts!

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!

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

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Email the editor crosstalkeditor@gmail.com for the solution...



RECIPE 7: BBQ HUNTERS CHICKEN

SERVES: 4, TIME: 40 MINUTES

YOU WILL NEED:

Large Non-stick pan with lid
Large Spoon
1 x Medium Bowl

Sharp knife for chopping & chopping board
Measuring Spoons (tablespoon/teaspoon)
Spoon for mixing sauce

INGREDIENTS:

2 tbsp Olive Oil or Vegetable Oil
1 x Leek
2 x Carrots
4 x Boneless Skinless Chicken
(thighs or breast) cut into bitesize pieces
1 x Pack of Smoked Bacon (or Lardons)
1 x 400g Tin of Chopped Tomatoes
½ tsp Garlic Granules
1 tbsp BBQ Seasoning

½ tsp Smoked Paprika
1 tsp Mustard Powder
1 tbsp Tomato Puree
1 tbsp Balsamic Vinegar
2 tbsp Worcester Sauce
2 tbsp BBQ Sauce
1 tsp Honey
Squirt of Lemon Juice

METHOD:

1. In a medium bowl mix together the tomatoes/tomato puree/garlic/paprika/mustard/BBQ seasoning/balsamic vinegar/ Worcester sauce/BBQ sauce/honey/lemon juice. Put to one side.
2. Chop the onion & carrots into small pieces
3. Heat the oil in the pan and cook the onion & carrots for 15mins - pan lid on. Stir occasionally until the vegetables are softened and lightly coloured.
4. Chop the bacon into small pieces.
5. Add in the chicken and bacon and allow this to cook until slightly browned. Approx. 15mins stirring to make sure nothing sticks to the bottom.

METHOD CONTINUED:

6. Next add the prepared sauce and bring to a bubble, adjusting the temperature accordingly.

7. If the sauce is runny, leave the lid off the pan and this will thicken over a few minutes. If you like food spicy then add more curry powder and some chilli powder

COOKING TIPS:

It might seem a lot of spices to buy, but they make a real difference to the flavour, and they can be used again and again as a little goes a long way.

The smaller you chop the veggies the better, and the more it feels like one dish.

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 June

04/06	Will you come and follow me? Call to follow Jesus	9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (in church & online) All Age Communion (in church) Evening Service (in church)
07/06		10.00am	Holy Communion (in church & online)
11/06	We need to talk The need to pray	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & online) Worship for All (in church)
14/06		10.00am	Holy Communion (in church & online)
18/06	Reading the instructions Reading the Bible	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & online) Worship for All (in church)
21/06		10.00am	Holy Communion (in church & online)
25/06	Fuel for the journey Church & taking Communion	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & online) Worship for All (in church)
28/06		10.00am	Holy Communion (in church & online)

From the church records (May)

BAPTISMS: Sebastian Liam McCarthy

WEDDINGS: None

FUNERALS: None

Services are streamed live
and are also available afterwards on the website
www.lillingtonparishchurch.org

For Funeral, Baptism and Wedding enquiries,
please contact Rev. William Smith on 01926 316475
or email wms.smith@btinternet.com

For general enquiries please contact the church
office by telephone on 01926 470449 or email
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 RICH FOOL

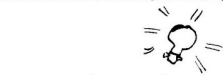


JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN
WHO HAD LOTS OF LAND WHICH
GREW WONDERFUL WHEAT.

I HAVEN'T ANYWHERE TO
KEEP ALL THIS FOOD

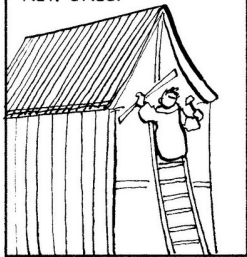


I KKNOW! I'LL PULL DOWN
MY BARN AND BUILD
BIGGER ONES



THE MAN DEMOLISHED HIS
OLD BARN...

...AND BEGAN TO BUILD
NEW ONES.



SOON I'LL BE THE RICHEST
MAN IN THE TOWN!



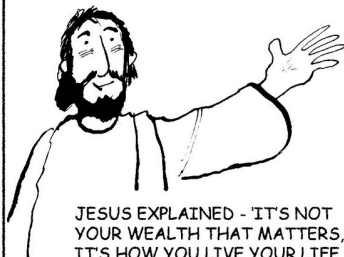
I'M SO LUCKY - I CAN
EAT, DRINK AND BE
MERRY!



BUT THAT VERY NIGHT,
THE MAN DIED!



WHAT GOOD WERE HIS
RICHES NOW?



JESUS EXPLAINED - IT'S NOT
YOUR WEALTH THAT MATTERS,
IT'S HOW YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE
THAT'S IMPORTANT

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

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