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Lillington Parish Church
St Mary Magdalene's
Magazine

JUNE 2024



Lillington Parish Church
Knowing • Growing • Going



From the Curate

It has almost been a year since I was ordained a deacon and at the end of this month, on the 30th of June, I will be ordained a priest.

What's the difference? I hear you ask.

Well, according to the ordinal, the order of service for ordinations, a deacon is called to proclaim the gospel in word and deed, to serve the community, to seek out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless so that the love of God may be made visible. They are called to share in pastoral ministry, the leading of worship, preaching, praying, accompany those searching, and assist in administering the sacraments.

Whereas a priest is also called to be messengers, watchmen and stewards. They are called to teach and admonish, to feed and provide for the children of God, to hear repentance and to declare God's forgiveness. They are to preside at the Lord's table and to bless the people in God's name.

What does all this mean in practice?

Over the last year, I have led on the Advent Star project, brought Communion to those who can't get to church, I have lead, preached and assisted in our regular services, as well as leading on our Ukraine memorial service.

I regularly visit our nursing homes and we either have a service of singing hymns, which is great fun, or a service of Holy Communion. I have taken funerals and walked alongside those who grieve. I have been involved in welcoming children who come on school visits and I regularly support Octotots. I have been a part of our community activities, supporting Love Lillington and sitting on the Community Action Forum. As well as all this and many more activities, I attend regular training provided by the diocese and work towards a portfolio of work to complete my curacy.

And I have loved every minute of it! I will always be a deacon serving this community and others I am called to but I am looking forward to what the next year brings as a priest. I hope to enable encounters of reconciliation with God through celebrating Holy Communion and sharing God's love and forgiveness with all.



Cerys, Bishop John Stroyan and William at Cerys's ordination as deacon.

Therefore, as I come to the end of my first year as a curate I have a lot to be thankful for. I am thankful for William having said yes to having me as his curate, for the welcome I received when I arrived, the care and support you all have given me over the last year, the grace to learn and develop, and I am thankful for being part of this community.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Ordination of Priests at Coventry Cathedral on Sunday 30th June at 10.30am and my first Eucharist at 5pm that evening at St Mary Magdalene's. Please do come if you can.

Cerys Smith

APCM April 2024 election results

Thank you to everyone who finished their term, and welcome to any newcomers to their role.

The following were elected as Churchwardens:

Sarah Boad

Sally Druce

The following were elected as Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

Alison Simcock

The following were elected as Lay Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Lucy Dean

Eleanor Hucklesby

Jeff Williams

How is our “hello”?

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, questioning, well-heeled or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up, or just out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegans, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organised religion (we're not that keen on it either!).

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to look round. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both, or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids, or got lost on the ring road and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims,
tourists, seekers, doubters -
and especially you...

PLEASE COME IN!

**Seen outside a church
nearby – Welcome to
Coventry Cathedral.
Submitted by Alan Wright.**



We're with the band

I've always enjoyed singing and playing musical instruments, and I count myself doubly blessed that I get to sing each week in both the choir and the band. Sundays are a busy day but rewarding, with so many beautiful songs to join in with. Read on for a bit more information about our resident Star Church band, STARGAZERS...

It all started 4 years ago when Mark Bullock came to join us at St Mary Mag's. A local singer and performer, he'd been providing musical accompaniment at a different church in Leamington but was in need of a change. He and musical director Rachael Jefferies' keyboard skills drive the band and we are lucky to have Jules singing along with me and Mark. Kevin and John are in the band too. Stargazers has a constantly evolving lineup and we've been lucky enough to have both mandolin and double bass players over the years. Regular member Diana Taulbut is a multi instrumentalist, having taught herself guitar, drumming and the squeeze box. She currently plays bass! When asked what they enjoy most about being in the band, Diana replied:

'It's fun. I really enjoy it! Over the years I've played instruments but never been in a band before. I like knowing that I can contribute to worship.'

Mark told us 'Being in the band is so creative. You feel the spirit and every service is different. We have a relaxed attitude.'



Personally, I like to find harmonies in the songs we sing - this helps me as I find a lot of the songs either too low or high! It's a real joy to see members of our Star Church congregation bopping about, smiling and singing along: precious memories which make me feel so lucky to be part of this creative church community. If you haven't seen us play yet, come along to one of our Star Church services - Sundays at 11.15. And if you play an instrument and are interested in joining, come and talk to us. It's great fun.

Sara Snatt

Welcome to St Mary Magdalene's Open Gardens

Here is your guide to a selection of lovely Lillington gardens you can visit on
Saturday 22nd June, 2pm – 4.30pm

110 Valley Road CV32 7SD (Jenice Stalker)

An exceptionally lively rose garden filled with standards, bushes and more. Expect to see stunning jasmine, peonies, wildflowers and perennials. Refreshments including cake will be served. Excellent wheelchair access.

30 Cromer Road CV32 7RZ (Snatts)

A large, interesting garden with ponds and a varied and unusual collection of trees. Optional rabbit petting(!), refreshments including cakes and a Plant Sale. Good wheelchair access.

7 Chestnut Gardens CV32 7UW (Mark and Sally Bullock)

Small but perfectly formed, this is a garden filled with interest and a multi-layered approach to planting. Expect natural wooden sculptures, unusual plants and plenty of wildlife. Limited access due to slate path.

11 Cloister Way CV32 6QE (Jackie Frampton)

A mature garden covering one third of an acre. Stunning borders, large lawn and some lovely sculptural topiary; a garden to interest and delight all visitors.

12 Garway Close, CV32 6LH (Len Dixon)

An easy access garden planted with dwarf fruit trees, forming a patio orchard, as well as acers. Lawn with mature borders plus flowering annuals.

St Mary Magdalene's Congregation
presents



Saturday 22nd June 2 - 4.30
Lillington Open Gardens
Including Plant Sale

Take a Stroll around Lillington to
join us for a day of beautiful gardens

- *Cakes *Tea *Coffee**
- *Refreshments *Raffle**
- * Plant Sale**

Follow the Trail!

**Scan to find our
gardens or come
into church for
your guide**



Thank you Love Lillington

Just a note to say how amazing the Love Lillington Team are. A Lillington resident (also a Foodbank client) was recently re-housed due to his accommodation being condemned. The stress & trauma led to a spell in hospital. On discharge he was re-housed in a different property but all his belongings had been cleared out, leaving him with nothing.

He had managed to beg & borrow a few items but could not afford an oven. Within a week of referral to Love Lillington, this chap was not only provided with a brand new, fully installed oven but also a vacuum, bedding and other household items.

The difference this has made should not be underestimated. He is cooking meals again and is able to keep his new home clean. He feels valued & supported, there is a visible difference in his demeanour.

From the point of view of the referrer, I'd like to say how efficient the whole process was & how sensitively the support was given.

On behalf of this resident, I would like to say a very big thank you to everyone involved in Love Lillington, you have helped him 'feel normal' and you make a positive difference to your community.

Miriam Bowen
Warwick District Foodbank



Mike Hyslop – A tribute from Jeff Burgess

Mike Hyslop died in The Albemarle Rest Home on 23rd April. He was a great supporter of St Mary Magdalene Church serving in many capacities including Gift Aid Secretary, member of the Banking Rota and CARE Committee and Lesson Reader. For many years he was treasurer of Abbeyfields Care Home and, although this was a volunteer role, it did involve dealing with all the finances including the paying of staff. He and Ann came to live in Leamington on his retirement in 1992.

Ann was born and brought up in this vicinity, whereas Mike was from Wolverhampton. So how did they meet? It was probably all down to Mike's poor dancing skills. He, his brother and friends were holidaying in an Hotel in Torquay at the same time as Ann and her friend. Dancing was the evening entertainment and Mike was dumped by his partner on account of his two left feet. Casting round for a new partner, Mike's eyes alighted on Ann. She, too, had to watch her toes!

Tennis was a shared interest and Ann was impressed when Mike told her that he was chairman of his local tennis club. The fact that he drove an Alvis car did not go unnoticed. An invitation to stay with Mike and his parents followed and the rest, as they say, is history.

Mike volunteered to serve an extra year in the RAF after his two year's National Service, so that he could continue studying for his accountancy qualification. He rose to the rank of corporal. He was a successful sprinter and mile runner and also enjoyed a game of football. At the time he met Ann, he worked for Boulton and Paul, the aircraft makers. They were married in 1964 and lived in a village outside Wolverhampton. Mike qualified as an accountant and, when his company was taken over by the Dowty Group, they moved to Cheltenham. Mike's work took him on business trips to Europe and The USA but financial trouble was brewing at a subsidiary in Canada. It took three years to get that company back on an even financial keel and it was whilst they were living outside Toronto that the first of their three daughters (Fiona) was born. Back in the UK, they lived initially in Cheltenham (where Helen and Anna were born) and then Worcester followed by Beaconsfield.

Mike was interviewed for Crosstalk by Roderick Clark in 2011 and, speaking of his life, he said:

“Everything was based on Christ and Christianity from my point of view. I had a reasonably successful career but I had to deal with some horrible business situations and I brought my faith into it. Once I was told to produce a whole set of accounts over the weekend ready for Monday. I tried to play with a straight bat, to be reasonable, however others were behaving. I would not be part of any dirty tricks”



Mike's faith was an “anchor” as they moved around and so was Ann as she set up a succession of homes and managed the children.

Mike and Ann might have chosen to live near one of their daughters in retirement, but Ann's parents were needing a bit of support, so Leamington was chosen. Their life in Almond Avenue has provided a well earned period of calm after such a busy career. Mike was able to indulge his passion for model engineering and the 174 feet gauge 1 railway track in the garden was testament to that. The steam locomotive which puffed its way around that track was built from scratch by Mike.

Ruth and I enjoyed several holidays with Mike and Ann and found them such good fun to be with. Rest in peace, Mike and may God bless Ann, Fiona, Helen, Anna and seven grandchildren as they mourn.

The funeral was in the church on Monday 20 May.

Jeff Burgess

Green Tip!

Sustainable fashion. How can we use our influence as consumers to encourage more sustainable manufacturing of clothing? Time is precious and we need quick and easy ways to shop responsibly. Here are two suggestions: -

Buy fairly traded clothes if you can. Do a search on the internet for sustainable fashion and also check out the Fairtrade website where you can find a short list of clothing producers in their section on “cotton”.

However, these specialist sustainable brands tend not to offer the wide selection of clothing items that we need. So consider writing to your favourite retailers to ask them to reduce the impact of their business and sourcing of materials on the planet. A great site for this is **directory.goodonyou.eco**. Good On You rates both retailers and clothing producers for their impact on planet, people and animals. Most companies fall within the bottom three ratings of “we avoid”, “not good enough” and “it’s a start”. Far fewer companies fall in the top two categories of “good” and “great”. If you need to buy clothes from retailers or brands in the lower categories then drop the company an email stating that you would like to see the company perform better in Good On You’s ratings so that you are happier to buy from them in the future. You will need to find the contact email address or online contact form from the clothing retailers website. Once you have done that it is quick and easy to send a short message. And then expect a positive and serious reply!

If you have other suggestions please do share them!

Steve Hucklesby

stevehucklesby@yahoo.co.uk

Annual Visit to the Bluebell Woods at Ryton Pools Country Park



Back in April, a group from church went to see the beautiful bluebells. Parts of the woods were 'carpeted' in bluebells and wood anemones and primroses were also seen. We even heard the beautiful song of the blackcap.

It was a great social event and well attended, as you will see from the traditional photo on the tree trunk. After a relaxing stroll, we enjoyed refreshments and pastries in the café. We just escaped the rain!

Wendy Driscoll

Saturday Coffee Mornings Recipes

Apricot & Walnut Bread

This dense bread is fantastic eaten as hot buttered toast. It's a brilliant after-school teatime snack that keeps children going until supper. Best to make two loaves and freeze one for another day.

Makes 2 loaves (you will need an electric mixer with a large bowl for this)

Ingredients

250g dried apricots roughly chopped
1 earl grey tea bag (or any tea bag!)
75g oats plus 2 tbsp extra for sprinkling
2 eggs lightly beaten
150g golden caster sugar
500g self-raising flour
1 tsp salt
1 tbsp baking powder
100ml milk
100g walnut pieces

Method

1. Put the dried apricots and the tea bag in a small pan with 450ml water and bring to the boil. Simmer very gently for 5 minutes then turn off the heat and remove the tea bag. Stir in the 75g oats before covering with a lid. Allow to cool.
2. Preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas 3, and line 2 x 900g loaf tins with greaseproof paper.



3. In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat together the eggs and sugar. Sieve the flour, salt and baking powder together before adding to the egg mixture with the motor running on its lowest setting. Add the cooled apricot mixture and the milk and continue to mix until completely combined.

4. Turn the motor off before adding the walnuts. Fold these in with a metal spoon so as not to break them up too much.

5. Spoon into the lined loaf tins, sprinkle with the remaining oats (I personally found a tbsp extra per loaf for sprinkling a bit much so just put a dessert spoon on). Bake for 1-1 ¼ hours. The bread will be cooked when the surface is cracked and a skewer inserted in the loaf comes out clean.

NB : My electric mixer bowl is not big enough to complete the mixing when making two loaves. I transfer the mixture to a large mixing bowl for the final stages.

Christine Butler

Thank you from Myton Hospice

Thank you so much for the very kind donation of £258.50 as your nominated charity in January. Your support mean so much to us, our patients and their families!

Sending very best wishes to you all

Louise Careless

Community Fundraiser
Myton Hospice



When it was Mrs Wilson's turn to do the flower arrangements, she always kept the vicar's hay fever in mind

What's happening

**Saturday 8th
June from 10am**

Coffee Morning in the Octagon

**Saturday 15th
June at 6pm**

Film Evening "Notting Hill" – in church

**Saturday 22nd
June 2-4.30pm**

Open Gardens – Walk round the parish and visit some lovely gardens.

**Saturday 29th
June at 10.30am**

Curry & Kerala – Sally Druce talks about growing up in Kerala, India and ends with a Curry lunch

**Wednesday 10th
July at 10.45am**

Charity Coffee morning in church – for Graham Fulford Charity Trust (Prostate Cancer)

**Saturday 13th
July at 10am**

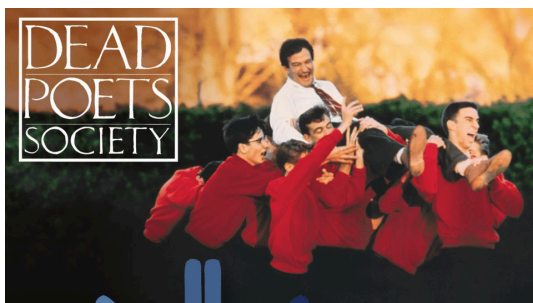
Coffee morning in the Octagon

**Saturday 20th
July at 6pm**

Film Evening "Dead Poets Society" in Church

**Wednesday 24th
July at 12 noon**

Visit and talk at Warwickshire Lavender Farm



Hire our Octagon!



Are you looking for a venue? The Octagon is a modern room built adjacent to the church. It can be hired at very competitive rates for small groups, meetings or parties. Please contact the church office on 01926 470449 for details.

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Services in June

2 June	Trinity 1	9.30am 11.15am 6.00pm	Holy Communion (in church & on line) All Age Communion (in church) Evening Service (in church)
9 June	Trinity 2	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Star Church (in church)
16 June	Trinity 3	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Star Church (in church)
23 June	Trinity 4	9.30am 11.15am	Holy Communion (in church & on line) Star Church (in church)
30 June	Trinity 5 Cathedral Ordination of Cerys Smith	8.00am 5.00pm	Holy Communion (in church) Holy Communion (in church & on line)

Weekday Services in June

Wednesdays Holy Communion **in church** and online at 10.00am on
5, 12, 19 & 26 June

From the church records (May)

BAPTISMS: None
WEDDINGS: None
FUNERALS: John Edwin
Hostler



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 vicar@lillingtonparishchurch.org.

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.



Father's Day colour-in



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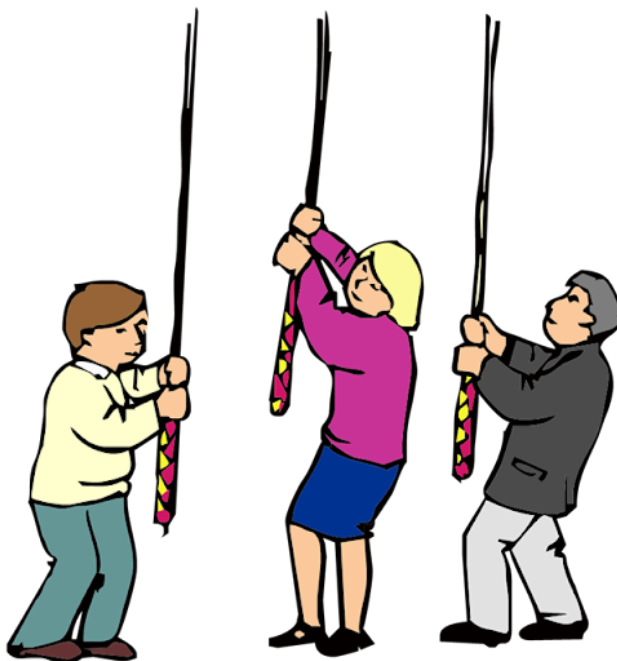
General Handy Man
NO JOB TOO SMALL!



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

Bell Sunday success



A belated but very big thank you to all who helped to make our first Bell Sunday a resounding success! It was a great example of teamwork with invaluable contributions from all sides - towards the music, the publicity, the technical wizardry, the porch decorations, the biscuits and the services themselves.

If anyone missed out in May, or would like to move from chiming to 'real' ringing, please get in touch with Barbara on 07973 199692 and we can fix up a day-time session in the summer holiday on a 'silenced' bell. We're still looking for recruits!

Thank you again from all the bell-ringers.

Barbara Howes

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

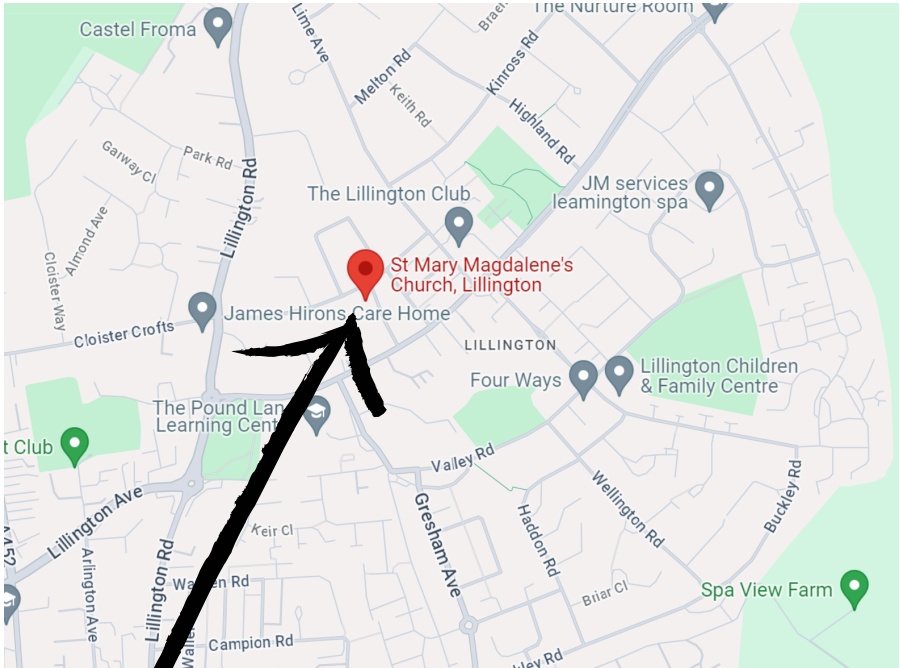
Our church bank details are:

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.

Find us



**We are on the corner of Church Lane and
Vicarage Road in Lillington!**

**For directions, use Google Maps or email
office@lillingtonparishchurch.org**

Contact us

Hello

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

Churchwardens

Sally Druce	Graham Cooper
sally@lillingtonparishchurch.org	grahamx.cooper@tiscali.co.uk
07933 295350	01926 426942

Love Lillington

Christine Butler
j.butler1christine@gmail.com
07963 229756

Follow us on Facebook!

facebook.com/LillingtonParishChurch

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, multi-colored galaxy or nebula, featuring swirling patterns of purple, blue, green, and red, dotted with numerous bright stars of various colors. In the lower right foreground, there is a black silhouette of a person standing and looking through a telescope mounted on a tripod. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the galaxy.

The heavens are telling
the glory of God
and the firmament
proclaims his handiwork

Psalm 19: 1

Parish website:

www.lillingtonparishchurch.org

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND