

Focal Point

September 2019

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Focal Point

September 2019

Cover photograph:

Anika Gardiner who is leaving the Benefice. (Story page 6)

To advertise in Focal Point please contact the editor.

FOR ALL FOCAL POINT INQUIRIES

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Deadline for the October magazine is 15 September

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Cover Story

New challenge for Anika

Anika Gardiner has been Curate in the Bitton, Warmley and Syston Benefice for the past three years. She has been a much loved and respected member of the Ministry team. Now she is moving on to taking on the role of Team Vicar at St Francis', Keynsham on 30th September. Sarah Heavens talked to her about how she came to the Bristol area and her expectations for the future.

Life on the Farm

Anika was brought up on a farm in North Germany and spent her childhood with her elder and younger brothers playing outside all the time. She remembers bringing cold drinks and food down to her father while he was working in the combine harvester during harvest. She also enjoyed playing the trumpet as a child. Her family attended church at Christmas and at Harvest time and Anika was confirmed when she was 15 years old, along with a large group of teenagers from her village. There were two years of confirmation classes before her confirmation and she became very interested in Christianity and she heard God's call on her fifteenth birthday, telling her to join Him in working with young people.

Youth Worker

After school she took two gap years and worked on the Pais Project, an organisation originally founded in England to create partnerships between schools, community projects, businesses, and churches. After this she left to go to University in England – the first person in her family to do so. She studied Youth and Community Work and Applied Theology at St John's, Nottingham in a course run by Oxford Brookes University.

Focal Point, September 2019

Her mother was pleased to tell friends Anika was studying at Oxford! She met her husband Dan on the course and in her third year they married.

God's Call

After graduating they moved to Bristol and Anika became a Youth worker at St Michael's, Stoke Gifford, where she worked for eighteen months. She and Dan went to visit New Wine Christian festival and again she was called by God. She says: "I felt God was having a laugh! He called me to be an ordained minister after all this time and training to be a youth worker!" However, she followed the call, even though it took a few years to get there. She had to go through the discernment process and have a three-day interview by the Bishops' Advisory Panel. They decided she was the right candidate for training, and she went to Trinity Bristol in 2013 with Dan and her young son, Toby. "The training helped prepare me practically as well as spiritually," she says.

Continued overleaf



Toby, Dan, Ezra and Anika in Leigh Woods

Curate

In July 2016 she was ordained as a Deacon and came to the benefice as a Curate. She says: "I could not see myself going to a rural place but in fact this was perfect as it is close to Bristol, but also many members of the community come from farming backgrounds, so I was able relate to them really well." In 2017 she was ordained as a priest, so can now take wedding services and oversee communion. She says: "I have really loved Bitton. I am not particularly interested in buildings, but St Mary's feels a very special place. I loved celebrating Midnight Mass for Christmas and the carol service is wonderful. To celebrate weddings in such a beautiful church means a lot. Although I did not really relish getting up so early 8.00am communion is such a calm, peaceful service. The Fête is a great event and the community really comes together for this."

After three years a curate must look for other jobs. Anika applied for four other posts, including one in Canada, but has been accepted as Team Vicar at St Francis', Keynsham. The parish is large, including St John's, Burnett, Queen Charlton and Chewton Keynsham – again her rural upbringing will help her here. She will work in all five churches, but her focus will be on St Francis'. Anika is very excited about her new post; "Keynsham is a developing community, "she says. She is looking forward to living in the parish and her boys, Toby (8) and Ezra (4) will be at Castle School, within walking distance. She wants the Church to play its part in the community and to take the Church out into the community.

Chewton Keynsham—an Eco Church

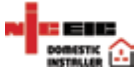
The Church in Chewton Keynsham has an eco-service once a month. Anika is keen to take this further – the Church should talk about sustainability and the environment and encourage litter picking and get more involved in this crucial issue. She tries to walk more, cycle more, has stopped eating meat and takes the ferry back to Germany rather than flying. She is on the prayer list for the group Christian Climate Action.

Anika's last service at St Mary's is on 1st September and she will be licensed on 30th September at 7pm at St Francis's: everyone is very welcome to come to both services.

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Churches & services



UPTON CHEYNEY United Reformed Church



Sunday services are at 3pm

Services in September :

- Sunday 1st Service led by Sue Cossey
- Sunday 8th Special Church Anniversary Service led by Male Voice Choir
- Sunday 15th Service for the RAOB led by John Creech
- Sunday 22nd Service led by Christine Jones
- Sunday 29th Bible Study led by Steve Britten

Our coffee afternoon will be held on Tuesday 24th at 2pm



ST MARY'S CHURCH, BITTON

Vicar:

Rev Jeremy Andrew
The Vicarage, Warmley
0117 967 2724

Ordained minister:

Rev Richard Humphrey
Splinters
Kenilworth Drive
Willsbridge
0117 949 0502

Services at St Mary's in August

Sunday 1 September

TRINITY XI

10.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 8 September

TRINITY XII

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Parade Service *followed by lunch at the Crown in Keynsham*

Sunday 15 September

TRINITY XIII

10.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 22 September

TRINITY XIV

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Family Café Church

Friday 27 September

9.30am Celtic Communion

Followed by coffee and cakes

Sunday 29 September

10.30

TRINITY XV

MICHAELMAS

No service at St Mary's

Benefice Communion Service at Warmley
followed by a bring and share lunch



Lay ministers:

Ken Gibson, 8 Church Road,
Bitton
0117 932 2122

David Bailey, Westover,
Bath Road, Bitton
0117 932 8949

Churchwardens:

Pete Midgley
30 Kenilworth Drive, Willsbridge
0117 932 6898

Jacqui Harris
29 St Anne's Drive, Wick
0117 937 4706

St Mary's flower rota

7th September	FÊTE	Judith Butson
14th September		Judith Butson
21st September		Helen Pugsley
28th September		Janet Ballinger

From the Register

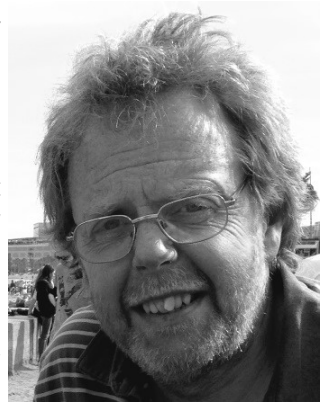
3rd August Wedding - Mitchel Gould to Abby Hanks



St Mary's Matters

As you read this we will have just said our official farewells to Anika as she prepares to leave us and move to Keynsham in September. You will find a detailed interview with Anika elsewhere in the magazine, but it would be wrong not to mention her departure in St Mary's Matters and to wish her well in her new parish.

Anika and her family have truly enhanced the life of St Mary's and the whole benefice while they have been with us and it is lovely that they are not moving far away. Even though they will be in a different diocese I hope they will keep in touch and pay us a visit from time to time.



Pete Midgley

Barbara Merritt also deserves a special mention this month as on 31st August she celebrated a significant birthday. She tells me she moved to her Great Aunt's house in Bitton from a farm on Carsons Rd when she was 14 and started going to St Mary's church. It is about 50 years since she started teaching in the Sunday school, something she continued for very many years. Barbara has been a pillar of the church all her life, contributing in many different ways. Happy birthday Barbara!

The church Fête is looming large at the end of the week. It is always a wonderful occasion which brings the whole village together and I'm sure this year will be no exception. Thanks to the many people who make it possible. See you there!

This year is a little unusual in that Fête day precedes the second Sunday in the month. Our patronal festival service will therefore be a family service at 10.30 on Sunday 8th. Everyone is most welcome to come along.

Could you be a Scout Leader?

If you know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a Scout or Beaver Leader, David Harris, would be delighted to hear from you as without new leaders it may be difficult for the group to continue .

Contact djacharris@hotmail.com



News from Upton Cheyney URC

Firstly I would like to thank our recent preachers who put time aside once more to visit Upton chapel, namely Veronica Jackson, Janet Donnelly, Norman Palfrey, Des and Hilary Colechin and John Creech.

Last Sunday Steve Britten returned to lead our service. He is always interesting and even entertaining as he always remembers to bring along the odd magic trick or two. On this occasion I had two five year old grand children with me. They are always lively and never quiet. However they were stunned to silence when Steve gave them a lamp bulb and challenged them to light the room just using their hands. An hour later they and I were still unable to work out how to do it for ourselves. They've asked to come again and now expect magic to be served up every time they turn up. Afterwards over tea my remaining three grand children appeared for cake, Even they put aside some of the cake to try and work the now infamous light bulb.



Stuart Turner

So now we are back into colder wetter weather we are coincidently back to our renovation work as well. Firstly we have been offered some generous help with our most urgent maintenance jobs. There include sorting out part of our boundary hedgerow, some carpentry, a broken window sash, rebuilding and repointing part of our wall. If anyone else has any spare time and would like to help please let me know. We have a myriad of small maintenance opportunities to catch up on.

Finally we are now receiving quotes for our current project of the ramp, patio and external stairs. We really want to complete this before Winter arrives so that we can make it easier getting to the graveyard. We are all resolved to make this happen and then to be ready to move straight into the next phase in the Spring.



Evelyn Underhill 1875 –1941

The Vicar writes

Dear friends,

As I write we are in the midst of the August holiday season and often we are afforded some time to sit back and relax, perhaps see a different part of the world and reflect on our lives and what the next few months leading to the end of the year will bring. Over this holiday season I have been reading again about spirituality and the “inner life” and in particular a book by Evelyn Underhill called ‘concerning the inner life’ with ‘the house of the Soul’. It’s a bargain and well worth a read since contained within its covers are gems and treasures about the spiritual life as well as offering two books together.

Evelyn Underhill was a poet, novelist and spiritual writer as much as she was an academic. She was a fellow of Kings College for Women as well as being an honorary Doctor of Divinity at the University of Aberdeen and lecturer on the philosophy of Religion at Manchester college Oxford.

Whilst the books were published in a different age and perhaps addressed a different world, not least because it was a world without the internet, what Underhill offers, at least in my view, is timeless. Pay attention to the inner life which is an ongoing conversation with God born out of more listening than speaking. Make time to be alone, to retreat, to hear the silence, to ruminate on your thoughts, to find peace with your conscience, to dissipate guilt and fear and to trust. All of this is not floating around in an ethereal stupor but rooted in the earthy everyday life so that we find our spirituality, so that we are able to find God in our workaday lives; a moment at the sink washing up, time to listen and ruminate while mowing the lawn or carving out 15 minutes to get away from the noise of the world and be silent.

September is a time, because school terms are locked into our minds, to begin again and perhaps begin something new and I encourage you, in the words of John Lennon, to “give peace a chance”, to make everyday silence and peace part of your habit, to give it time. To pay attention to your inner life.

Jeremy

Bristol Diocese Uganda Link celebrates 50 years of partnership



Ugandan Church leaders with Bishop Lee Rayfield—*Picture Bristol Diocese*

Every diocese in the UK is linked to the Anglican Church in an overseas country. Bristol's link is with Uganda, a beautiful country right in the middle of Africa.

The Kingswood and South Gloucestershire Deanery, of which we are part, has three link dioceses in Uganda: Ankole, West Ankole and Ruwenzori. These are in the South West of Uganda close to Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Link began in October 1969 so next month we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Link culminating with a celebration in Bristol Cathedral on Saturday 12 October. There will also be a visit from the African Youth Fellowship Band to our own Deanery. Details of all these events will be in next month's magazine.

Focal Point, September 2019

Over these 50 years the aim of the Link has been to exchange news with those three dioceses and by exchange visits get to know each other. We are not trying to replace missionaries and aid agencies working there nor are we asking for money for them. However to enable our Uganda partners to visit us the Deanery asks each of our Churches to contribute ¼ of 1% of their annual income to the Uganda fund. In the case of Warmley and Bitton this amounts to about £125. On behalf of our Deanery Uganda Link I would like to thank our parishes for faithfully giving this amount year by year.

The visits work in both directions. During August a team of young people from the Deanery visited Ankole and West Ankole Dioceses to work and share experiences with young members of the Ugandan Church. And in October we hope to welcome Bishop Johnson of West Ankole and his wife Joy to our Deanery (provided Joy's passport comes through in time – please pray that it does).

I will be looking after them on Monday 7 October and although this is intended to be a relaxed day for them both Jill and I hope to host an informal get together at 8 Church Road sometime during that day to enable members of our Benefice to chat with the Bishop and his wife. Let me know if this is of interest to you and I will be in touch with details nearer the time.

Meanwhile, please pray for Uganda and for our three Link Dioceses.

Ken Gibson, Benefice Uganda Link representative.

50
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LINK

Jeremy to be new Area Dean



The new Area Dean for the Deanery of Kingswood and South Gloucestershire. Has been announced by the Bishop of Bristol, Rt Revd Vivienne Faull and it is to be our own vicar, Jeremy Andrew.

Jeremy has been vicar in Warmley, Bitton and Syston since 2014 and will continue in that role alongside his Area Dean responsibilities. Before coming to the benefice, he was the vicar of four rural churches in the Diocese of Truro. Over the last eight months, he has been working as the Advisor for Ministry Development and continued to be an Assistant Director of Ordinands.

Jeremy grew up in Bristol and went to St Mary Redcliffe School. He went on to complete an engineering apprenticeship, first with Yate Foundry Ltd and then British Aerospace Plc. After theological college in Durham, Jeremy served his curacy in Newquay in Cornwall and his first incumbency in Perranporth, just along the coast.

Jeremy is married to Rachel and they have two daughters, a son and a granddaughter.

Jeremy said he was "pleased and excited to be invited to serve the church as Area Dean for Kingswood and South Gloucestershire and I look forward to supporting and encouraging our deanery clergy and churches in ministry and mission together."

There are seven deaneries in the Diocese of Bristol. Area Deans play a key role in helping resource parishes as they implement the diocesan vision and priorities, as well as reporting to the Bishop on any significant matters arising from their churches.

Bishop Viv said: "I am delighted to appoint Jeremy as Area Dean of Kingswood and South Glos. He has faithfully served the Diocese for the last five years, both as an incumbent and as part of the Diocesan Support Services and I look forward to working alongside him in his new role. Please do continue to remember him in your prayers as he steps into this post."

BENEFICE MIDWEEK MEETINGS

This Autumn features a wide variety of Midweek groups including -

- The Morning Group on second and fourth Wednesdays at 10.30 starting on 11 September.
- Wednesday and Thursday evening groups studying Philippians starting on 18 and 19 September
- Celtic Communion in the Lady Chapel followed by coffee, tea and cakes on the fourth Friday of the month starting on 27 September
- A monthly Prayer meeting from 7.30 to 8.30 pm on first Tuesdays starting on 3 September.at the Vicarage
- A monthly Benefice Prayer Breakfast from 9 to 10 am on third Saturdays starting at Bitton Church Hall on 21 September.

Full details are on the Midweek Card available in the Church.
Everyone is most welcome.



**Royal British Legion
Bitton and Oldland Branch**

**Harvest Auction
Monday 23 September
8 pm at the Upton Inn**

Everyone is welcome at The Upton Inn, Upton Cheyney
by kind invitation of Jamie Pike and his team

Auctioneer David Hawking
Music from Oldland Brass

Enjoy a wonderful night!
All proceeds will go to the Royal British Legion

St Mary's adopts *Parish Giving Scheme* for regular donations

There are a lot of misconceptions about the funding of the Church of England. As a national church many people expect it to be funded by the Government or at least for its ancient buildings to be supported as they are in France. This is not the case and nor is it true that the Church centrally is very rich and can afford to live off its investments. In fact, over 75% of the church's costs are met by ongoing personal donations.

Most parishes have for many years provided a means for people to give money on a regular basis through a standing order or by pledging to give a certain amount each week in a discreet envelope that they can place on the collection plate at services. Money given in this way can be *gift-aided* by the giver pledging to waive the income tax benefit they could claim on the donation and give it to the church – that way each pound given by a taxpayer is worth about 25 pence more. But this system is time consuming and costly to manage and the recovery of gift aid tax only takes place once each year.

Now a new system has been developed which many parishes have adopted called the ***Parish Giving Scheme***. The Parish Giving Scheme is more cost efficient because the costs are shared nationally, it operates on a direct debit arrangement and, most importantly, it returns the gift aid element of the donation to the parish on a regular basis through the year. At July's meeting of the Parochial Church Council, it was agreed that St Mary's would start to adopt the Parish Giving Scheme and regular donators are being approached to change to the new arrangements.



Focal Point, September 2019

One additional element of the Parish Giving Scheme is that those signing up can also agree to increasing their donation each year in line with inflation, if they wish. In the longer term that is a real benefit as standing orders tend to remain the same for many years and people often don't think of changing them.

So, where does the money go? One thing to emphasise is that the money raised from donations in the parish stay with the parish and gifts given through the scheme cannot be used elsewhere. It is for the parish to decide how the money is used and where it goes.

Maintaining a Grade 1 listed church building is expensive in maintenance costs and in heating and lighting, but what the parish raises also has to fund all the work of the church locally including the costs of our vicar and other ministers. Keeping everything going costs about £65,000 annually or £1250 each week. While fundraising events such as the annual fête are important St Mary's relies heavily on the regular donations given by the people living in the parish.

If you would like to join the Parish Giving Scheme, please contact the Church Treasurer, John Bennetts (932 4696) or one of the churchwardens. Your gift will be greatly appreciated.



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Becky Feather caught this picture of the tower at St Mary's in the early evening light as a storm was brewing providing a stark contrast between the grey sky and the honey colour of the stone.

Church & Churchyard in the Summer Light



The churchyard in mid August. Unlike the dry summer of 2018, the weather of sunshine and showers has made the grass grow quickly and left an overall appearance of lush vegetation.

Barbara Merritt writes: Jacqui Harris and I would like to thank everybody who has given their time and money to keeping St. Marys church looking so beautiful this summer. It is very difficult to find a happy medium between wild life and grass cutting. Special thanks are due to David Bailey for strimming the Garden of Remembrance. I have been asked to remind people who might like to help pay for the grass cutting that cheques should be made out to **St Marys Bitton Churchyard Fund**, and if you can gift aid we get another 25%.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 7 September	Annual Church Fête
Saturday 21 September	An evening of stand-up comedy with Harriet Beveridge
Sunday 13 October	Harvest Festival
Saturday 19 October	Adrian Snell– musical evening
Thursday 21 November	History Society Meeting
Sunday 22 December	Advent Carol Service
<i>And in 2020</i>	
Saturday 2 May	VE Day themed concert by Westerly Winds

Don't miss the raffle for a princely hamper

Raffle tickets for the annual summer draw are now on sale. This year's first prize will be a special Fortnum and Mason Hamper packed with Highgrove foods and wine. Many other prizes will be awarded to the lucky winners. The raffle will, as usual, be drawn during the St Mary's Fête on 7 September.





Picture: Shutterstock

Flicks returns with Queen Tribute

Flicks in the Sticks returns for the winter season on Friday 20 September with the critically acclaimed ***Bohemian Rhapsody***. The film charts the rise to stardom of Queen and its lead singer Freddie Mercury (more details page 30). There will be monthly screenings mid month until next April (December excepted). Entrance at the door, this year, is £2.50 in the church hall. A licenced bar, choc ices and good company make each screening a pleasure and a special night out.

The Winter season dates for your diary are

Friday 20 September 19
Friday 18 October 19
Friday 15 November 19

Friday 17 January 2020
Friday 21 February 20
Friday 20 March 20
Friday 17 April 20

Saturday 7 September 2019 at 1.30pm

St Mary's Church Fête



While this August has been memorable for some very wet weather (Bitton fared better than most parts of the country) hopes are high for good weather on Saturday 7 the September for the annual Church Fête. But whatever the weather, the fête committee can promise a fun afternoon for all.

This year we are opening the gates earlier at 1.30pm to allow people to get a drink or something to eat before the opening pageant at 2.15 and there will be two food serveries on the field—pulled pork for the early birds and the traditional barbeque opening a little later in the afternoon.

As always, the aim is to provide a traditional fête that is relaxed and brings

CAN YOU HELP AT THE FÊTE?

There are so many ways you can assist both before after and during the fête – even for just an hour or so. There's the heavy gang to set up and dismantle the tents on the Friday and after the fête closes, programme sellers and stall helpers.

If you are able to spare some of your time please contact Ann Willis 431-0270 or Ken Gibson 932-2122.

Focal Point, September 2019

the village together. There will be all the usual stalls, the dog show, a licensed bar and, if good weather, a special Pimm's Tent. Also, for young and old there will be a **Punch & Judy Show**. We are very pleased that the Somerset Morris will be able to entertain us and the Companions of the Longbow will be present for those wishing to improve their archery skills.



The church will be open serving teas and cakes and providing the opportunity to look round this ancient building. So too will Church Farm, where a delicious cream tea will be on offer together with the music of the *world renowned Jazzbeans*. Music on the field will be provided by Oldland Brass.

As always, the fête will only be over once the **Egg Throwing Competition** is complete and the **Raffle** called. This year we also have a **Photography Competition** (see page 29 for details).

WANTED!

Items are required for the following stalls. Please give generously

Books	<i>Sarah Heavens</i>	0117 932 5376
White elephant	<i>Nicola Bennetts</i>	0117 932 4696
Nearly Nu (clothes)	<i>Annette Vowles</i>	0117 932 6352
Bottles	<i>Sarah Craddock</i>	0117 932 8644
Raffle & Tombola	<i>Ann Willis</i>	0117 431 0270
Cakes & Jams	<i>Janet Ballinger</i>	0117 932 4728
Plants	<i>Jean Hook</i>	0117 932 8693



Photo— Andrew Russell

Target reached in defibrillator appeal



Good news about the Bitton defibrillator . After just six weeks, enough money has been raised through fundraising and donations for the defibrillator and the cabinet to be installed in the White Hart and should all be in place early this month.. Ongoing fund raising, including a Quiz Night at the White Hart on 18 August (pictured above) will pay for training and maintenance. Congratulations to the five fundraisers: Carolyn Russell, Claire Thorogood, Anna Palmer, Becky Feather and Sue Wakefield who led the campaign and the support of the White Hart.

The need for a defibrillator was identified after a customer at the White Hart died from a heart attack who may have ben saved had such equipment been available. The new defibrillator (an example inset above) will now be stored at the White Hart but available for any village emergency.

St. Mary's Church Fete Photography Competition



The St Mary's Church Fete, Bitton on Saturday September 7 includes a Photography Competition, open to all. The photographs must be printed and be a maximum size of 200mm x 200mm, it must be your own work and been taken within the last two years. There are six categories (see below) and two sections, one for adults (entry fee of £1 per picture) and one for juniors under 16 (entry fee of 50p per picture).

Colour or black and white photos accepted.

1. Happy
2. Bitton Scenes
3. Mad Moment
4. Architecture
5. Animals/Wildlife
6. Food



Entries must be supplied in a sealed envelope together with the entry fee, your name, contact number, date the photo was taken, adult or junior entry and category. Entries can be either be supplied directly to 2 Ceres Close, Longwell Green, BS30 9AR (by 6:30 pm on Friday September 6 at the latest) OR to St Mary's Church (ONLY between the hours of 4:30pm —

6:30pm on Friday September 6).

WHY NOT GIVE IT A GO ?

**Bitton Village Residents' Association
Flicks in the Sticks**

Welcome to our new Winter Season of films starting on

Friday 20 September

when we will be screening

Bohemian Rhapsody

starring

**Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton, Gwilym
Lee**

with Tom Hollander

Bohemian Rhapsody is a foot-stomping celebration of the band Queen, their music and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury. Freddie defied stereotypes and shattered convention to become one of the most beloved entertainers on the planet.

The film traces the meteoric rise of the band through their iconic songs and revolutionary sound, through their catastrophic breakup and legendary reunion, leading up to, and including, their famous performance at Live Aid in 1985.

***If you have enjoyed the music of Queen you cannot miss
this Oscar winning film that celebrates
the genius of Freddie Mercury.***

Doors open 7.30pm. Film starts 8pm.

The Church Hall, Church Lane, Bitton

Drinks will be available from the Licensed Bar, Choc Ices will be served in the interval and there will be time to chat with friends

Admission £2.50



BITTON TIME CAPSULE— Please don't open until 2069

Marlene Gallop had an enjoyable day when pupils from The Meadows Primary School buried a time capsule at Linden Homes' Bitton Mill development in Bitton in conjunction with the Bitton Parish History Group.

The whole school got involved in selecting objects to be buried, which can be dug up in 50 years' time for people to see how Bitton has changed. The items included: coins, a grocery receipt for a weekly shop, the school's timetable and menu, photographs and a map of the school, a school jumper, information on technology, toys, school work, the school motto and logo.

Mike Gates



St Mary's Family Café Church

Fourth Sunday of the month at 9.30 am

An informal café style event with time to relax and listen to music from keyboard and flute. Café Church is designed for families with primary and pre-school children. A Bible story is followed by a craft session and refreshments are available throughout.



Join us on
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September
at 9.30 am



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7.30 pm Saturday 21st September

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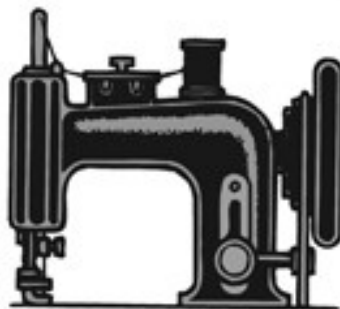
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News from Bitton WI

Leslie Brain took a few of our members on a summer stroll. We met at Willsbridge Mill car park, Longwell Green, and were taken on a round trip ending at the Mill for lunch. It was a lovely day and very relaxing.

As we have no meeting in August we went on a trip to St. Fagan's open air museum Cardiff. The museum was started in 1946 following the donation of the castle and lands by the Earl of Plymouth; it opened to the public in 1948. More recently, a six year £30m redevelopment of the site took place, which was funded by a number of sources, most notably by the Welsh Government and the National Lottery, and was completed in October 2018.

Buildings were brought from all over Wales and reconstructed, from an Iron age round house to a 1948 prefab bungalow. It was lovely to step back in time and walk through all the buildings to explore how people lived. If you haven't been I can thoroughly recommend it and it's a wonderful place to take children. They cater for all ages, lots of picnic areas and lots of seats. It's also free—you just pay for parking.

Our next meeting is September 9th when the Speaker will be Claire Stone who will talk about nutrition.

Please come to our stall at the Bitton fête on September 7th.

Jean Hook



Evening promises rich melodies and lyrics

We are incredibly fortunate to be able to welcome Adrian to St Mary's on October 19th. Adrian is a composer and singer-songwriter with a difference, and we can look forward to an evening of beautiful and moving music. His songs have been described as 'having rich sound textures, haunting melodies, intelligent lyrics and a remarkable ability to connect the listener with the subject of the songs at a profound level', a description I fully agree with.

Adrian was classically trained at Leeds College of Music and has since had a music career that spans nearly four decades, during which he has produced twenty-three original albums. At the turn of the century he took a break from performing and trained as a music therapist and is now working as music therapist and arts therapy consultant at a school in Bath. He works primarily with children aged 4 to 19 with a variety of special needs, as well as making a yearly visit to Albania where he works with vulnerable children and adults.

Just over three years ago Adrian finally returned to the concert stage bringing new insights, skills and sounds from his work as a therapist, which are integrated with his skills and experience as performer, composer, recording artist and communicator.

Having listened to Adrian's music and seen him perform many times, we are hugely privileged that he has agreed to come and perform here in Bitton. All profits will support a charity close to his heart, the Life Project, which cares for people with learning disabilities and their families in Bath.

www.adrian-snell.com

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4C1dgExUwY>

Jane Lings

ADRIAN SNELL

in concert

St Mary's

Bitton

October 19th

7.30

Tickets £12

Proceeds shared with



a Bath based charity
supporting people with
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August's quiz answers

Lat month's quiz was about famous horticulturalists or gardeners.
The correct answers are:

1. Bob Flowerdew;
2. Charles Jencks;
3. Diarmuid Gavin;
4. Dan Pearson;
5. Debbie Roberts;
6. George Carter;
7. Geoff Hamilton;
8. Gertrude Jekyll;
9. Helen Dillon;
10. Henry Wise;
11. James Corner
12. Jinny Blom;
13. Kim Wilkie;
14. Kim Wilde;
15. Lancelot Brown
16. Monty Don;
17. Percy Thrower;
18. Robin Lane Fox;
19. Roberto Burle Marx;
20. Vita Sackville-West

Winner

August's winner is Bryan Garlick

The September Quiz

This months quiz is on Eponymous Inventions / Discoveries i.e. the invention or discovery is named after the creator e.g. the measure of power the Watt is named after James Watt

	Name	Invention / Discovery
1.	James D	Household cleaning Item
2.	Sir Francis B	Scale
3.	James V A	Cosmic
4.	Samuel P	Safety Line
5.	Julius P	Dish
6.	John V	Diagram
7.	Henry H	Medical Procedure
8.	Joseph H	Vehicle
9.	Humphry D	Safety Lamp
10.	John M	Glass Jar
11.	Joseph W	Imperial sizes
12.	Donald B	Bridge
13.	Hans G	Measuring Device
14.	Gerardus M	Projection Method
15.	Jacqueline N	Medical Condition
16.	Maria G-M	Crater in the Solar System
17.	Beatrice S	Aviation
18.	Father Pierre C	Fruit
19.	Joseph J	Loom
20.	Charles R	Scale

Name:

Contact:

Please send your answers to Carolyn Russell at Martin House, Church Road, Bitton (the yellow house) or email mrsrussell@icloud.com by 15 September



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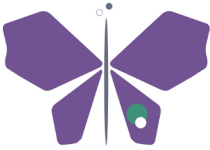
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The last word

Putting together a magazine in the middle of August can be a challenge. Newspaper editors refer to it as the silly season when all sorts of extraordinary and often silly items find their way onto the front pages as there is little else to report. My expectation was that I would have to reduce the number of pages in this edition due to a lack of anything to report. I have been pleasantly surprised, and, in the end, it came down to squeezing some items in.



September will, of course, bring us the St Mary's fête. If the sun shines (as we hope and pray that it will) we can expect to attract not only people from Bitton but from far afield. Last year we undoubtedly deserved good weather after the wash-out of 2017 and we hope that it will be fine on 7th September.

The fête has been fixed in the calendar on the first Saturday in September for some time and this year is as late in the month as possible. That means there can be no excuse for failing to identify what you have available in books, household goods or clothes that you no longer require but could be found a new and good home through one of the fête's stalls. Unwanted gifts, bottles and any home made jams or plants are all gratefully received. Details of those collecting for these stalls is given on page 27, but they can also be left in the church porch which is open daily.

In September, we can also look forward to the return of Flicks in the Sticks and a special Comedy Evening in St Mary's which promises to be a truly wild event. Harriet Beveridge (formerly Bennetts) may have started out locally, but has gained an international reputation at the Edinburgh Fringe. She recently even appeared on Radio 4. She will be leading a comedy evening on 21st September for which tickets are available.

Finally, congratulations are due, both to our Vicar, Jeremy, on his appointment as Area Dean and to Anika Gardiner, who becomes Team Vicar in Keynsham Chewton. While Jeremy stays with us, Anika is moving across the river and into the Bath and Wells Diocese. It is a good move for her but sad to see someone leave who has been such a part of the church's ministry over the past three years – not just as Curate but also leading the Ministry Team during Jeremy's secondment to the Bristol Diocese last winter. We wish her well in the future and hope to see her occasionally in Bitton.

Jim Heavens

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