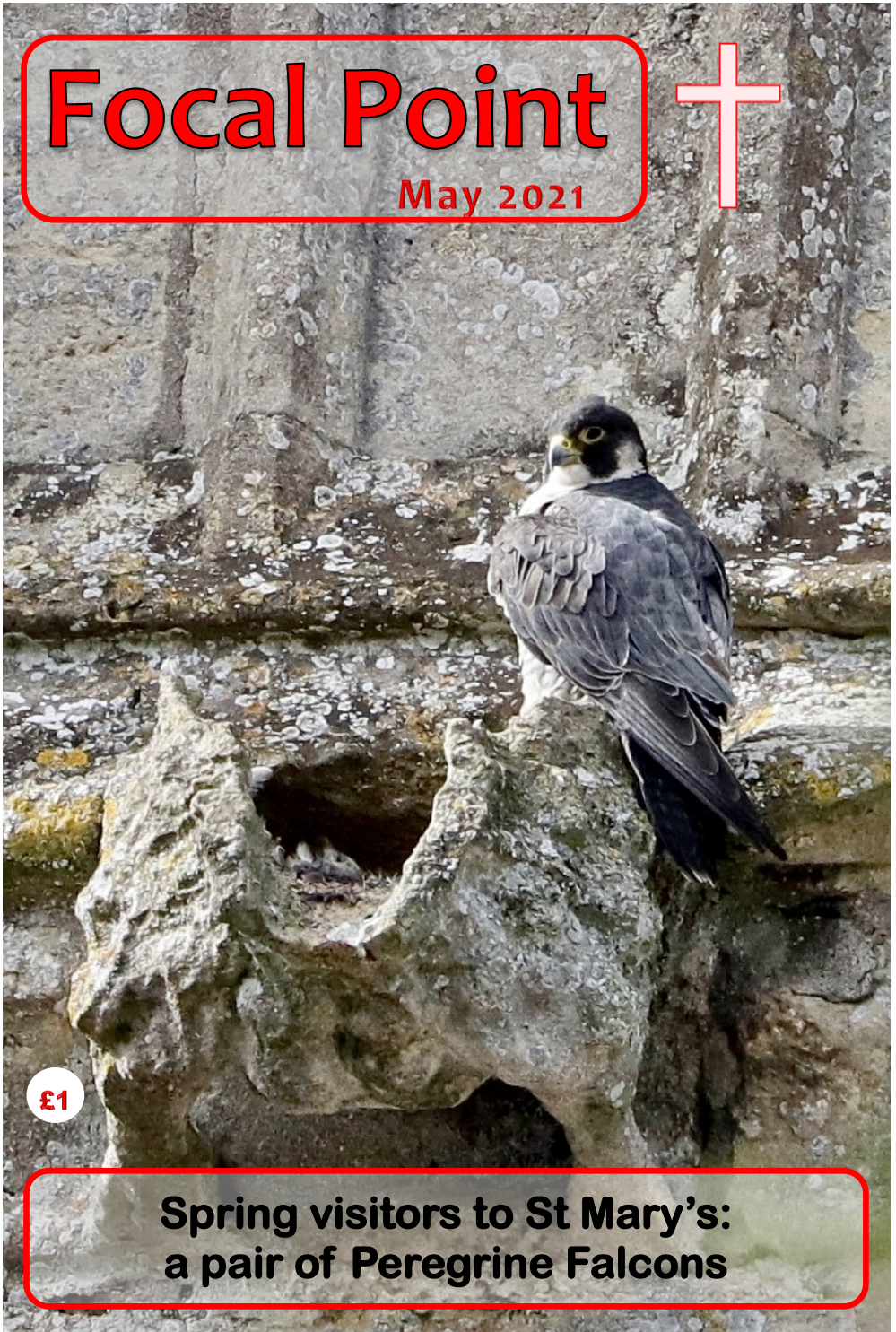


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May 2021



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**Spring visitors to St Mary's:
a pair of Peregrine Falcons**

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Focal Point

Bitton Churches' Magazine

May 2021

*A monthly church newsletter serving
Bitton, Swineford, Willsbridge,
Upton Cheyney & Beach*

*Published by St Mary's Church, Bitton and
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Cheyney.*

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*Deadline for the June
magazine is:*

Thursday 20 May 2021

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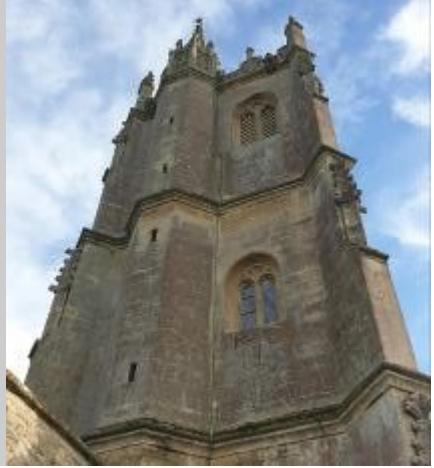
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- Churches & Services -



**ST MARY'S
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Vicar:

Rev Jeremy Andrew
The Vicarage, Warmley
0117 967 2724

Ordained minister:

Rev Richard Humphrey
Splinters, Kenilworth Drive
Willsbridge **0117 949 0502**

Lay ministers:

Ken Gibson, 8 Church Road,
Bitton
0117 932 2122

Churchwardens:

Pete Midgley
30 Kenilworth Drive, Willsbridge
0117 932 6898

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

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

Services for May 2021

Services at St Mary's

Numbers are limited so if you intend to be there please send an email with the number attending from your family group to Jacqui Harris at timjaqui@aol.com or phone 0117 937 4706

Sunday, 2 May

Fifth Sunday of Easter
10.30 Parish Communion

Sunday, 9 May

Sixth Sunday of Easter
10.30 Morning Worship

Thursday, 13 May

Ascension Day

Sunday, 16 May

Seventh Sunday of Easter—*Sunday after Ascension Day*
10.30 Morning Worship

Sunday, 23 May

Pentecost—*Whit Sunday*
9.30 Family Café Church

Sunday, 30 May

Trinity Sunday
10.30 Morning Worship

Online services

Links to the services will be posted at www.stmarysbitton.org.uk

If you are unable or do not wish to attend church for services, a benefice service is available online both midweek and on Sundays. The service is recorded and available through YouTube. A link to the service is available on the front page of the St Mary's website www.stmarysbitton.org.uk



UPTON CHEYNEY United Reformed Church Services for May 2021



Sunday services are at 3pm

Sunday 2nd May - Service led by Neville Lintern

Sunday 9th May - Service led by Steve Britten

Sunday 16th May - Service led by Janet Donnelly

Sunday 23rd May - To be advised

Sunday 30th May - Service led by Steve Britten

News from Upton Cheyney URC

We're back at Upton Chapel. After so long in lockdown and due to tremendous demand, we are holding our first service on Sunday for many months. We don't expect the normal size of congregation as many people are still isolating in one way or another. However, we felt it was safe enough for us to at least start.



Stuart Turner

On Tuesday we spent quite a while cleaning the chapel. The spiders had been hard at work and their webs took a lot of hoovering. After the cleaning we had coffee outside on the patio. That was a pleasant chat for the first time in ages. Maybe we will be able to hold our first coffee afternoon after the next lockdown release at the end of May.

Whilst we've been away there has been a lot of gardening work done in the background. Brian and Valerie have made a huge difference. Many weeds have disappeared, the bank has been stabilised and lots of flowers have been planted. And so now the real work of the chapel recommences.

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St Mary's Matters



Pete Midgley

It has been such a pleasure to welcome people back to live services at St Mary's beginning with Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Such a contrast with last year when we had just closed the church and we were unable to have any services over Easter. Back then there was a real sense of uncertainty and fear. Since then we have supported one another through a very strange year and it feels as though this Easter has genuinely been a time of hope for the future. It is my sincere hope that we will now be able to have live services every Sunday and begin to develop our styles of worship as we move towards doing away with social distancing.

One unexpected benefit of the pandemic has been the ability to use Zoom meetings to meet people a long distance away. In our church context this has meant that we have been able to invite people to our online prayer meetings. At one meeting we were able to catch up with John Angle of the Hope Christian Trust and catch up with the situation in Palestine. In another we were joined by Jimmy and Katia Rocks who are our CMS missionary links in Sau Paulo, Brazil. Again, having up to date information directly from them meant being able to pray in a fully informed way.

The archaeological work carried out next to the south wall of the church has revealed some very interesting findings and there should be an opportunity to present these findings once we can get together again. There is also the possibility that further digging will be needed and it is hoped that this might involve members of the community taking part.

If you have not made it back into church again yet, you will be most welcome. Remember to contact Jacqui on timjaqui@aol.com in good time to book a seat.

10 DAYS OF PRAYER FROM ASCENSION TO PENTECOST THURSDAY 13 to SUNDAY 23 MAY

During these 10 days we will be following the theme Thy Kingdom Come. A booklet will be available at the back of the Church with suggested readings from the Psalms.

In addition you will find on-line each day a short reflection. Links to these will be circulated by email and published on the St Mary's website



St Mary's Annual Parish Meeting

St Mary's held its Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 19th April, for the second year on Zoom. The meeting, which is open to all parishioners is usually held in the church, but due to restrictions was held on-line this year.

Jacqui Harris and Pete Midgley were elected, unopposed, to serve as churchwardens for a further year. John Bennetts and Alison Wride agreed to serve as treasurer and secretary respectively. It was agreed that all other positions would remain as last year with the expectation that in 2022 a new PCC could be elected and new responsibilities appointed.

Reports from the various committees were circulated and received.

The accounts for the previous year were presented and approved for submission to auditors.

There are 65 electors on the church roll.



The Duke of Edinburgh with The Queen, in 1947, during their honeymoon.

Alamy Stock Photo

Lay Minister's Letter

THE FUNERAL OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

I am writing this on Saturday 17th April. As I look up from my computer it is a perfect sunny afternoon with brilliant blue sky. Looking down Church Road to my right I can see the tower of St Mary's with its flag at half mast reminding us of the sad passing of Prince Philip.

Focal Point, May 2021

When Jill and I settled down after lunch to watch the funeral service from Windsor I expected to be depressed by a sombre occasion with our Queen and her family denied the opportunity of a proper farewell by the pandemic restrictions. But for me it did not turn out like that at all. The quiet pageantry of the procession and then the peace and space of St George's Chapel were full of comfort. There was time to think and pray without the distraction of trying to spot famous faces in a packed congregation.

The masks which would have been unbelievable a year ago were soon forgotten and the music led by just four singers carried me away with its beauty. The words- including the passage from Ecclesiasticus 43 which I did not know at all – were full of deep meaning. And the quiet prayers from the Dean and the Archbishop led me along to the climax where we reflected how the Duke had not only begun a great service to Queen and country but continued it to the end until it was thoroughly finished.

Like no other funeral I found that this one was uplifting. How can I say that when time and again our eyes were drawn back to the small figure sitting alone with just a handbag in the seat beside her? My hope and belief is that she felt that all of us – her dear husband looking down from heaven, each member of her family sitting around her and all of us watching on TV around the world – were there supporting her.

I expect that rules could have been waived dispensing with masks and allowing someone to sit next to her but that is not the Queen's way. Throughout lockdown she has shared the rules with us every step of the way. She knows that countless families have had to cope with pandemic restricted funerals over this past year. Just as her mother was glad to share with fellow Londoners the experience of being blitzed so our Queen shared the experience of a Covid-19 funeral with many others.

The funeral which I thought would leave me downcast has in fact encouraged me and I hope you too shared that experience. As we, like our Queen, journey onwards we can be thankful for those who come alongside to support us and we can be on the lookout for those whom we can support. And, echoing the words of Eternal Father, the Duke's favourite hymn, we can be sure that God is alongside to protect us whereso'er we go.

Ken Gibson

Bell tolls in Bitton for Covid and Duke's passing



Tower Captain, Sue Elliott, rings the Tenor Bell on 23 March

Photo: Nigel Scudamore

DAY OF REFLECTION

Julie, one of the Bitton Bellringers writes: *“Following the minute silence on the anniversary of the first lockdown on 23rd March 2021, the tenor bell was rang 126 times at St Mary’s in remembrance of the 126,000 who have sadly lost their lives to Covid 19 by Sue Elliott, Tower Captain.*

It is only as you stand there listening to the poignant tolling do you reflect on the scale of grief and loss so far to this pandemic.”

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Bells were tolled again on two Saturdays in May to mark the death of the Duke of Edinburgh on 10 May and on the day of his funeral on 17 May.

Churchyard gets first cut for Easter



Unlike last year St Mary's was able to hold church services this Easter, although numbers attending were strictly controlled. The Easter Garden, usually in the church was , this year, placed outside where churchyard visitors could see it.

Barbara Merritt writes:

The churchyard had its first cut in time for Easter and for the last month we have all enjoyed the greening trees and blossom, as we walk and sit and think in this peaceful space watching the squirrels and birds. Jacqui and I would like to thank all those who make this oasis possible. Those who have given financially to support grass cutting and maintenance, and those who have given their time.

In response to Covid we put the Christmas tree outside this year and also the Easter Garden. This was such a good idea that we will continue in happier non Covid times.

You can help keep our space looking good for remembering and meeting by giving to ST MARYS BITTON CHURCHYARD FUND, Tel 9323926.

The logo for Christian Aid, featuring the words "christian" and "aid" in white lowercase letters on a red background. The text is tilted upwards to the right.

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

We're not safe until we're all safe. How often have you heard that recently? The pandemic has underlined our global interdependence. Never has Christian Aid's work been more relevant or more urgent.

Yes, Christian Aid is supporting the vaccine roll-out in the Third World but the focus of this year's envelopes is on another crisis which, like Covid-19, affects us all. We've already experienced occasional extremes of weather but, in countries like Kenya, climate change is already a daily challenge. A see-saw of floods and droughts has destroyed crops and communities are going hungry.

Alongside tireless campaigning to raise awareness and get governments to address climate issues, Christian Aid provides humanitarian help to those whose lives are threatened by the new weather extremes. The envelopes feature Rose whose community is being helped to build a water dam to survive periods of drought.

Christian Aid week runs from 10th to 16th May and this year there's a range of ways in which to donate. Here are the details:

Envelopes – most will be collected as usual but some will have a drop-in collection point for you to deliver your donation. The address will be on the envelope.

Focal Point, May 2021

No cash? Don't worry – we now have a Bitton Christian Aid donation page <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/st-mary-s-bitton-christian-aid>

or use this QR link



Lost your envelope? Your collector will have a spare – though we'd rather you had it ready for us when we call back.

Wondering how else you can help? We'd love to have some more collectors in the team. (And it's a great way to see people's gardens at a beautiful time of year.) If you could help please ring me on 0117 9324696.

If you've saved money in lockdown here's a wonderful way to put it to good use. Please give generously – and please take the time to increase your donation by filling in the gift aid form on the envelopes.

Nicola Bennetts



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Peregrine Falcons visit St Mary's

The early evening of March 9th brought the excitement of seeing a peregrine falcon occupying one of the gargoyles on St Mary's Church Tower. As it was visible from Church Road, a small crowd gathered. Certainly, more was known about peregrine falcons by the following morning!

There were two birds in fact, quite different in appearance - a male and female although they are not a confirmed pair. Sue contacted a wildlife friend and photos were taken and sent off for possible identification. Further photos were requested - of legs! We discovered we had a juvenile female approximately eleven months old, un-ringed due to the suspension of ringing in Spring 2020 (Covid restrictions) and an adult male. Although too young to breed this year, she became a frequent visitor and tried out most of the gargoyles despite the protests and discouragement of the resident Jackdaws. His presence was much more fleeting, but much more vocal!

On 29th March, thanks to permission from the Church we were able to visit the tower with local peregrine experts, Ed and Hamish and take a closer look. On this glorious day, although she was 'out' when we arrived,

once the tower had been climbed and the gargoyles and the roof examined for evidence, we were treated to an amazing flypast and display from her on her return, thus enabling an assessment of her condition. She passed with flying colours!

Despite not being a constant presence, she was still a regular visitor in mid-April. It has been a real privilege to observe her for over a month. If she remains in situ, she will gradually start to look quite different as her imminent first moult begins, gradually transforming from her speckled brown 'fluffy' image to the more familiar grey and white sleek plumage of the adult.

Whilst peregrines are no longer regarded as "endangered", they are still a rare and protected species. Originally breeding on cliff ledges, in recent years these magnificent birds have taken to favouring more urban locations like Church towers, including Lincoln and Norwich Cathedrals, St John's Catholic Church in Bath and Salisbury Cathedral (you may have seen web cam recordings). We will have to see if St Mary's Tower has been assessed by the peregrines as a suitable 'cliff residence' worthy of a return in the future.

Pam Booth and Sue Murtagh.



Previous page and left—the young female. **Above** -the male seated on a gargoyle.

All pictures by Pam Booth

Ellacombe Chimes Bicentenary—26th June 2021

Bitton anniversary to be ce

Final chime Vancouver, Canada 8pm	US Mountain Time 7pm	Mid- Western US 6pm	Eastern US & Canada 5pm	UK and Ireland at Noon	South AF 11am
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Nineteen hour chime around the world at noon in each



H T Ellacombe
in 1817

Make sure you put Saturday 26 June in your diary. That is the day when we hope to link four continents in the 200th Anniversary of the Ellacombe Chimes.

Starting in New Zealand at 11am, the Ellacombe Chimes will ring in New Zealand followed by 53 other chimes across the globe—each at 11am.

The government's current plans for 21 June to be the day when socialising are removed means that the chimes will be out of the country to provide an event that takes place at St Mary's around 12 noon. This will allow local residents from Bitton.

Celebrated around the world

Africa

Western
Australia 5am

Eastern
Australia
3am

First chimes in
New Zealand
1am



time zone—times shown are those in Britain (BST)

1 am in Britain, the first set of chimes in the city of Timaru in New Zealand. The chimes were first rung in other churches and bell towers at 12 noon local time.

As a roadmap out of restrictions, the date when legal restrictions end. But as the best place to go, plans are underway to open doors, plans are underway to take place in the churchyard at the end and to welcome, particularly in June. It is a date not to be missed.

The chimes were devised and first installed in St Mary's in Bitton, by its then curate and later vicar, HT Ellacombe, enabling all the bells to be chimed by one person rather than rung by a team of bell ringers.

The story goes that Ellacombe got into a dispute with the bell ringing teams at Bitton, and the chimes were a means to outwit them. Since then, Ellacombe chimes have been installed in many churches throughout the world, a few of which will be joining us in June.



Royal British Legion Centenary

15 May 1921 to 15 May 2021

After the First World War, Britain's economy plummeted, leaving 2 million people unemployed in 1921. Over 6 million men had served in the war. Of those who came back, 1.75 million had suffered some kind of disability and half of these were permanently disabled.

On 15 May 1921 The British Legion was formed, bringing together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves to support those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War.

In September 1921 Anna Guérin arrived from Canada and persuaded the Legion to adopt the Poppy as a symbol of Remembrance . That same year the First Poppy Appeal raised £106,000 and 2,500 branches of the British Legion were established across the country. Among the earliest was the Bitton and Oldland Branch of the British Legion –the 'Royal' was added in 1971 on the 50th anniversary.

Many ex-servicemen joined after each of the world wars and over 100 attended the Branch Annual Dinners at the Bitton Recreation Ground.

In 1922 the Legion's Poppy Factory opened in the Old Kent Road, London where 40 disabled men manufactured 1,000 poppies a week. Now the Legion poppy factories produce many millions of poppies for the annual poppy appeal which in a normal year raises £100 million.

Focal Point, May 2021

Our Branch continues to organise the Poppy Appeal locally and raises around £25,000. Although the pandemic reduced this by half in 2020 we hope with the valued support of ASDA to get back to normal levels this November.

Another popular event is the Harvest Auction at the Upton Inn and Theresa and Chris Meaker have invited us to hold a Centenary Harvest Auction at the Upton on Monday 6 September – watch Focal Point for details.

As we move forward into the next 100 years we are keen that the Branch which now has 25 members plus another 25 Poppy sellers continues to flourish. If you are interested in being involved please contact Jeff Dando – your support for this important cause will be very welcome.

Ken Gibson President

Jeff Dando Chairman and Secretary

0117 932 2608 jeffjeff.dando@gmail.com

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This month, in profile:

Jacqui Harris



High speed car chases? People person? Keeping us safe in church? Jacqui Harris, our charismatic church warden has done it all.

Jacqui was born in Salisbury and educated at South Wiltshire Grammar School for Girls. She loved school, but a 52 mile a day journey to and from sixth form meant that she did not receive the grades predicted and went to work for Trebor Sharpe in the distribution centre. Realising that she wanted to be working with people and encouraged by her father who was a senior ranking police officer she joined the traffic police in 1984.

Her ambition at the time was to be the first woman traffic serjeant, an aim which caused much hilarity, as there were then no women at this level. Driving courses were not offered to women, but this did not deter Jacqui. All her family loved driving, her brother worked for a racing team, and Jacqui finally managed to get on the course. She progressed rapidly to the advanced course and then completed the instructor's course, being one of only two women driving instructors in the country. She was the third woman who worked in traffic, on a staff of 300. Now the ratio is about 20% women.

Based in South Bristol she had to deal with many burglaries. On one occasion she gave chase to robbers of an off license at Long Ashton. She had to avoid missiles of gin and whisky bottles thrown out of the window of the car she pursued – the glass and the fumes were everywhere! She and her colleague managed to catch them after they crashed behind Bristol Hippodrome. Most of the criminals caught accepted they had done wrong but occasionally a few had no remorse. The most challenging part of her job was giving death messages. She says that there was no occupational health support when she started, and this was very hard. Her first death message was made with a senior officer to a Bristol family. Inside the house she saw a wedding cake on the hall table. This was for the couple's daughter who was getting married the following day, an event which sadly could not take place as Jacqui had to let them know their daughter had died.

Jacqui worked for 32 years in the police force - an interesting and fulfilling job. In the last 12 years she worked part time looking after her children Greg and Olivia. Both Jacqui and Tim, a CID detective who she had met a work and who had discovered she was a bad loser at squash (being

Focal Point, May 2021

ambidextrous!) and married in 1986, took turns looking after their children as both worked on shifts. Initially living in Cherry Garden Hill, they moved to Wick as the family grew.

Jacqui attended St John's in Keynsham. She was brought up as a Christian, her father was church warden. She remembers giggling a lot with her mother in Church and one occasion when she was not there and her mother was so grateful as she inadvertently pulled down the hymn-board while doing the reading – she was glad Jacqui was not sitting there laughing! Later she began to worship at St Mary's. She thought the building was stunning and there were several families with young children who attended. She thinks that church is the people not the building, she loves the community and variety of people who attend. She has really missed the human contact which we took for granted before the pandemic. Arranging for people to sit 1.5 metres away in services has been a challenge as people like to sit in their 'usual' places which now may not be possible. Also she has to shoo people outside after the service as chatting inside is not permitted. There has been one positive test of a church goer but as everyone was in masks and socially distanced the disease did not spread. Jacqui is looking forward to these restrictions ending and planning for new events such as the Fête.

"But what I'm really looking forward to," she says "is going to visit my house in Dalyan, Turkey. We have not been there since 2019 and I really miss the turtles and the beach. But more importantly, family and friends are staying healthy so I will have to see how it goes."

Sarah Heavens

St MARY'S FAMILY CAFÉ CHURCH Sunday 23 May at 9.30



An informal café style event aimed at families with primary and pre-school children. There are refreshments and music and a Bible story.

#HereForCulture

St Mary's awarded recovery grant

As a grade 1 listed building, and heritage site, St Mary's has recently been awarded a grant from the Government's £1.57 billion *Culture Recovery Fund* to help the church recover and reopen.

Exactly how much the grant is worth has yet to be fully determined, but the church is in the frame to receive up to a maximum of £15,700.

Maintaining the grade 1 listed building as a heritage site, as well as a place of worship, is expensive. Many of the fund raising activities that help to keep the church in good order were cancelled or much reduced during the pandemic. The grant will provide a much needed boost to the church's maintenance fund and enable some improvements to safe opening and communications.

The Vicar and Churchwardens were pleased to be notified of the grant and said:

"St Mary's aims to be at the heart of the community in Bitton, as a place of worship and a centre for community events; we also attract visitors from further afield to this historic and ancient church. This grant will help us to reopen this summer and to continue to tell its rich story."



Transforming Church Together— discussion comes to an end



Picture: Diocese of Bristol

Not all the events held for Transforming Church Together by the Bristol Diocese were quite as colourful or exciting as the one shown here. Nevertheless, by the end of March the open conversations had received over 1000 responses by questionnaire completed by individuals or more often by groups meeting together to help shape a new vision and set of priorities for the coming years. Workshops have also been running across the diocese on Zoom, structured around six focused questions that explore what we do well and what we need to improve on.

The PCC held its own workshop early in April to provide a local contribution to the initiative. This taking part felt that the questionnaire did channel the discussion, perhaps to a much greater degree than they would have wished, but it was possible to place the priorities in agreed order, placing people at the top of ten agenda.

We now await to hear the outcome and how the priorities will influence decision about the deployment and use of valuable diocese resources.

Looking forward to a great fête in September



Helen Pugsley, Fête Committee Co-ordinator serving Pimms at the 2019 fête.

Saturday 11 September is the date set for this years' church fête and plans are in train to make it the best fête ever.

The fête committee met in April to start the process of planning for this year in the expectation that the event can return to its traditional site on the Glebe Field this year after last years had to be confined to an on-line event.

Helen Pugsley is this years committee co-ordinator and she and the committee are busy contacting the regular stallholders and other contributors. Among those confirmed already are the Companions of the Longbow, the Somerset Morris and a Punch and Judy. It is also hoped to run the very popular dog show, the aim as ever, is to make the day a truly memorable day that helps to bring the whole village together.

Can you help?

Don't be shy—there is plenty to do and lots of jobs before , during and after the fête and we really need more people to take part. There's everything form the heavy gang to put up and take down the tents, to stall helpers and raffle ticket sellers. All help is greatly appreciated and (really) it is good fun.

Please contact Helen Pugsley on 07767 777019

News from Bitton WI

At last I have some good news of Bitton WI. Today April 15th I was able, with five other committee members, to meet in Ros's garden for a socially distanced meeting. We were really pleased to be able to meet, and after the minutes of the last meeting were read and a review of our financial situation we began to discuss our future meetings.

It was so good at last, to be able to look forward to actually all meeting again, after over a year of being apart. It was thought that after not seeing one another for so long it would be nice not to have our usual meeting with a speaker, but to hold a social gathering, where we could come together outside and socially distance. Florence has kindly offered us the use of her garden, so I am very pleased to announce that our first meeting will be an afternoon tea party at Lower Cully Hall Farm on Friday June 25th. July 12th will be when we return to our normal monthly meetings and I will give you more details in the June magazine.

We need, like other organisations, to try to fund raise during the rest of the year, with that in mind a table has been booked in November at Hanham Community Centre, and we could do with some suggestions as to what we should sell. We will also have a stall at St Mary's Church Fête and would be grateful if anyone has any ideas as to what we could do to make it a success.

There will also be a group event at Oldand Parish Hall on September 24th where there will be a flower arranging demonstration, with the usual WI tea and delicious cakes.

Now to our usual monthly recipe, I have Mary Smale to thank once again for her recipe of Lamb in Tomato Sauce which will serve 4 people.

I hope you will enjoy making and most importantly eating this recipe.

It is with pleasure that I can say I hope to see you all on Friday June 25th. Keep safe and well until then.

Lyn Coles



Lamb in Tomato Sauce

Ingredients

30ml (2 tbsp) polyunsaturated oil
900g (2 lb) lean shoulder of lamb, boned, trimmed of fat and cubed
1 medium onion skinned and sliced
20ml (4 tsp) plain wholemeal flour
397g (14 oz) and 227g (8oz) can tomatoes
30ml (2 tbsp) tomato purée
pinch of raw cane sugar 2.5ml (1/2 tsp) dried rosemary or
5ml (1 tsp) chopped fresh rosemary
60ml (4 tbsp) red wine (optional)
salt and pepper
lamb or beef stock, if necessary
snipped fresh chives, to garnish

Method

1. Heat the oil in a flameproof casserole, add the lamb and fry over a high heat until browned on all sides. Remove from the casserole with a slotted spoon and set aside.
2. Add onions to the pan and fry for 5 minutes until soft. Stir in the flour and cook for 1 minute. Add the tomatoes with their juice, the tomato purée, sugar, rosemary and wine, if using. Bring to the boil, stirring all the time.
3. Return the meat to the pan and add salt and pepper to taste. Add a little stock, if necessary, to cover the meat. Cover the casserole and cook in the oven at 170° C / 375° F / Gas Mark 3 for about 2 ¼ hours until the meat is tender. Sprinkle with snipped chives and serve hot.



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April's Quiz Answers

Last month's quiz was about compound words—to find a word which combined with each of the clues to make new words.

The correct answers are:

(1) Brain; (2) Life; (3) Fore; (4) Moon; (5) Day; (6) Air or Work; (7) News; (8) Under; (9) Pay; (10) Honey; (11) Key; (12) Back; (13) Sun; (14) Over; (15) Butter; (16) Pass; (17) Back; (18) Bed; (19) Head; (20) Rain.

Correct answers were received from:

Pam & Jon Booth

This month's winners are: Pam & Jon Booth

The April Quiz

This month's quiz is a good one to think about first thing in the day, it's all about breakfast

No. Clue

1. Round bun with a hole in the middle (B)
2. Cereal advertised with the slogan "Snap, Crackle and Pop" (RC)
3. A French flaky roll often in the shape of a crescent (C)
4. Preserve made from Oranges (M)
5. Mix of oats, dried fruit, bran and nuts (M)
6. A dish containing fish, rice and hard-boiled egg (K)
7. Large round citrus fruit, often served halved (G)
8. Made from oats cooked in water or milk, traditionally stirred with a spurtle (P)
9. Honeycomb-shaped batter cakes often served with maple syrup (W)
10. Maize kernels, boiled in water, popular in the US southern states (G)
11. Smoked herring (K)
12. A fried flat cake sometimes referred to as a hotcake or griddlecake (P)
13. Tony the tiger advertised this cereal with the slogan, "They're gr-r-
14. Can be boiled, poached, fried, scrambled along with other cooking methods (E)
15. Made from batter usually circular, 8 cm in diameter, 2 cm thick, with a holey but flat top (C)
16. Over 90% of UK homes own an appliance for making this (T)
17. Soft rice soup popular in China (C)
18. Rolled laminated dough, with one or two pieces of dark chocolate in the
19. Smoked salmon, eggs and hollandaise sauce served on a muffin (EB)
20. Legend says Napoleon ate one for breakfast and ordered a giant one for his army the next day (O)

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 May



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The last word

WOW!



Have you had your vaccine yet.?

Sometime in May I will receive my second dose. I am looking forward to it. The staff and the volunteers at the centre are all cheerful and anxious to explain what is happening and to ensure that you are well looked after and in good shape before you leave. Very different to the last time I recall being involved in a communal inoculation when I was given the routine BCG jab at school in the early 1970s to prevent TB. I don't remember much in the way of explanation or of consent and there were definitely no screens or privacy. It was fast in and fast out and as a reminder it left a small lump on my shoulder that was still visible many years later.

Yet to my parents and grandparents who had witnessed family members dying from tuberculosis, the development of this vaccine was not underestimated. To them it had something of a WOW factor—an amazing development that 30 years earlier could only have been a dream. Wow was not a word they would have used, but it would explain how they felt.

It is really how we should feel about the vaccines we now have to fight coronavirus. That were developed so quickly.. Equally “wow” is the fact that these vaccines are being manufactured in huge numbers and millions are receiving them. The knowledge and technology that exists today is truly amazing.

Of course, TB has not been eliminated by vaccine and we should not assume that the Coronavirus vaccines will do so either. If further spread of coronavirus is to be prevented I have no doubt that we will need to take other precautions too.

But they do mean that we can start to plan for the year ahead with some return to normality. The problem with normal is that we somehow take it for granted. So as you enjoy the reduction of restrictions and even some of the events we are planning for later in the year—say a little wow. And the normal may feel a bit special.

Jim Heavens



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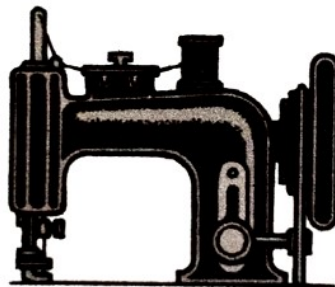
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