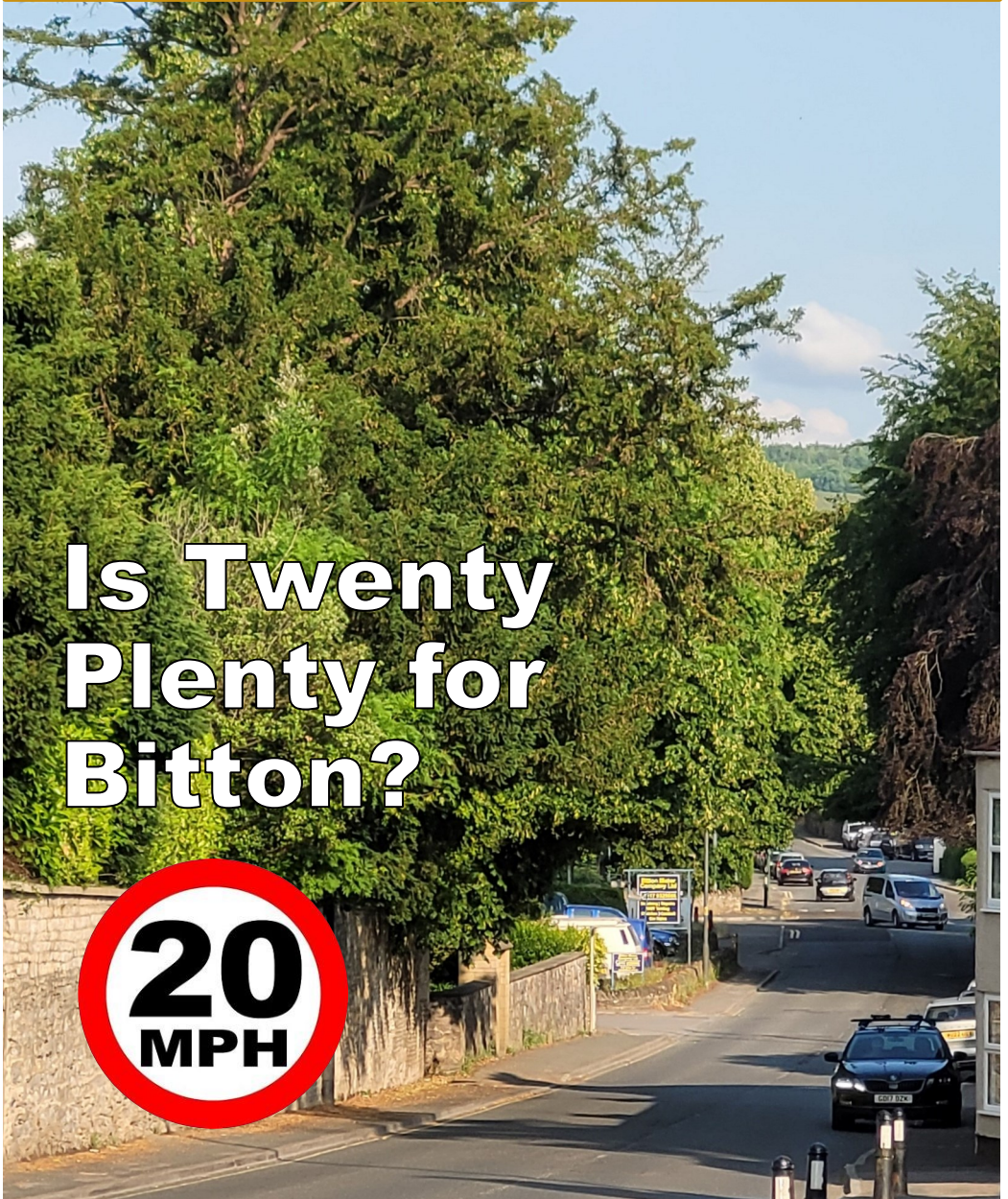


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Bitton Churches Magazine

July 2023

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

*Published by St Mary's Church, Bitton and
the United Reformed Church, Upton
Cheyney.*

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*Deadline for the August
edition is:*

Saturday 15th July

In this month's Focal Point:

- Page 14 ***Lay Minister's Letter - David Bailey***
Action on Climate Change is Loving our Neighbour
- Page 20 Pews—The Next Steps
- Page 23 Rosemary to be ordained priest
- Page 24 ***Is 20MPH plenty for Bitton?***
Steve Cox's Campaign for slower speeds
- Page 26 *Eco Church News*
- Page 28 Christian Aid Week raises £1374
- Page 29 Bitton Open Gardens
- Page 30 This year's Fête
- Page 31 ***Photography Competition***
- Page 35 PCC Report
- Page 36 ***WI News and Recipe***
- Page 39 ***Katia Rocks CMS in Brazil***
- Page 40 ***Puzzles***
- Page 42 ***Prize Quiz***
- Page 45 ***Last Word***

**Churches' news and
information about acts of
worship pages 7 to 12**

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July 2023



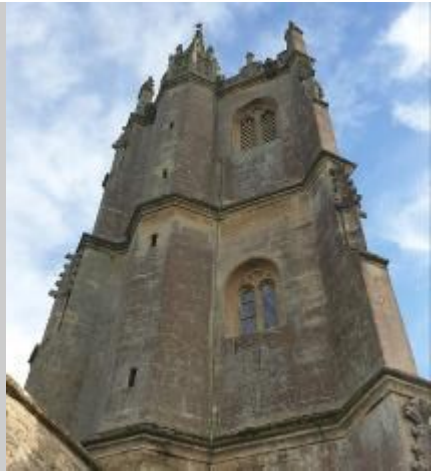
All Services are at 3pm

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday | 2nd | Service led by | Sue Cossey |
| Sunday | 9th | Service led by | Michelle Bates |
| Sunday | 16th | Service led by | Norman Parfrey |
| Sunday | 23rd | to be Arranged | |
| Sunday | 30th | Service led by | Jenny Clark |



**ST MARY'S
CHURCH,
BITTON**

www.stmarysbitton.org.uk



Vicar:

Rev Jeremy Andrew
The Vicarage, Warmley
0117 967 2724

Ordained minister:

Rev Richard Humphrey
Splinters, Kenilworth Drive
Willsbridge 0117 949 0502

Curate:

Rev Rosemary Radcliffe
revrosemaryradcliffe@gmail.com

Lay ministers:

Ken Gibson
8 Church Road
Bitton
0117 932 2122

David Bailey
Westover, Bath Road
Bitton
0117 932 8949

Churchwardens:

Simon Harris
41 Combe Park
Weston
BATH
07714 615817

Vacancy

Services for July 2023

Services at St Mary's

Sunday, 2nd July

Fourth Sunday after Trinity
10.30am Parish Communion
Celebrated for the first time by Rev Rosemary Radcliffe

Sunday, 9th July

Fifth Sunday after Trinity
10.30am Family Service with the Scout Group and St Mary's Minstrels
Followed by a Barbeque in support of Scout funds



Also—Songs of Praise at the White Hart Starts at 4.30—see page 13 for details

Sunday, 16th July

Sixth Sunday after Trinity
10.30am Morning Worship

Sunday, 23rd July

Seventh Sunday after Trinity
8.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Family Café Church



Thursday, 27th July

10.00am **Celtic Communion**
Followed by
11.00am **St Mary's Tea and Coffee Morning**



Sunday 30th July

10.30am **Eighth Sunday after Trinity**
Benefice Communion at St Mary's
followed by a Bring & Share Lunch.

Benefice Prayer Opportunities

Saturday 8 July at 9.00am

Prayer breakfast at St Barnabas Church Warmley

Tuesday 25 July at 7.30 pm

On Zoom

Church & Church Hall Bookings

The Church Hall is available for hire and is a popular location for children's parties as well as regular events. For larger events such as community meetings or concerts the Church itself may be more suitable.

For Church Hall bookings contact Jill Gibson on **0117 932 2122**.

Rates from £12.50 per hour.

For Church bookings contact the Social Secretary, Jenny Harris by email on **djacharris@hotmail.com**

Rates from £25 per hour (2 hour minimum hire).

THE SISTERS OF THE COMMUNITY OF THE CHURCH LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY

Gifts may be left in St Mary's Church Porch between 10.15 and 11.45 on the First Sunday of each month and will be delivered to the Sisters on the following Wednesday.

The Sisters have made a special request for toiletries:

Shower gel, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, shaving gel, sanitary towels, nappies, wet wipes, toothbrushes.

St Mary's Matters

I like to walk with our dog along the River Avon from the Swan Pub at Swineford out towards the cycle path not far from our church. The contrast in the last few months has been impressive. The river that looks so inviting most of the time as it slowly flows along towards Bristol can quite quickly be transformed into a raging torrent. It's not that long ago that we saw the flood plain under water and the closure of the road to Bath after prolonged rain. After the waters receded, it left behind a great deal of debris, a good deal of it plastic waste.

On subsequent walks, Mel and I kept picking up what we could carry as did so many others and before long the fields had been cleared. The trees and bushes lining the banks were also festooned with discarded packaging like trails of tinsel. It looked a right mess but with the Spring growth Nature has taken back control and grown around the eyesore. It now looks beautiful again.

I do feel hugely privileged to live in this area. As well as the easy access to marvellous open country, there are the seasonal events. My family have always enjoyed the Badminton Horse Trials and we try to go every year. This year was affected by heavy rain but the show went on with extremely muddy conditions and plenty of tractors on hand to tow off those cars stuck in the mud. The organisers claim that this is one of the biggest sport spectator events with 150,000 attending for cross country day alone. I still marvel that a 4.5 mile course separates the world champion horses and riders from the spectators by no more than a piece of string. By contrast the traditional Bath and West Show down at Shepton Mallet, enjoyed hot and dry weather as we basked in the heat wave. Fingers crossed for those attending Glastonbury. These events mark the tempo of the seasons progress. Before long it will be Wimbledon on the TV and then before we know it, time for the Fête.



Simon Harris

Focal Point, July 2023

Within the church, we interrupted the Summer open-house policy for a couple of days whilst the electrician fitted some more sockets and eliminated the need for the daisy chains of extension leads that seem to grow when the back is turned. Phil and I also scaled the ladders to clear the church gutters. Thanks are also due to our volunteer irrigation team who are tending the recently planted trees.

I always welcome any thoughts from worshippers after the service or when out and about in our beautiful church yard. Wishing all of our readers best wishes for the Summer.

From the Register

4th June Baptism

Isla Rose Gillett and
Maeve Marie Lancaster



Summer Mid-week Groups

During the months of June and July, all 4 groups will be meeting to learn about the life of King David and discussing what lessons we can take from his many faceted life – some good and some bad.

During the two months each group will meet on 4 occasions and will plan their dates to fit with people's holidays. You will be very welcome at whichever suits you. Just contact the person named below to find out the date upon which that group will be starting:

Tuesdays at 7.30 pm at the Warmley Vicarage

Contact Jeremy Andrew 0117 967 2724

Wednesdays at 10.30 am at Westover, Bath Road, Bitton

Contact David Bailey 0117 932 8949

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm at 8 Church Road, Bitton

Contact Ken Gibson 0117 932 2122

Thursdays at 7.30 pm at Kenilworth Drive, Willsbridge

Contact Pete Midgley 0117 932 6898



James and Jemma
invite everyone to
join them for

**Songs of Praise in the White
Hart Garden**

**On Sunday
9 July 2023
4.30 to 6.00**

With Oldland Brass and
the St Mary's Minstrels

**Barbecue available from
4.00pm**

David Bailey—Lay Minister

Action on Climate Change is Loving our Neighbour

The second Commandment is to love our neighbour. This includes our neighbours in other countries, arid deserts and coastal cities at growing risk of flooding.

So how can we help?

At Home

Much of our domestic heating is still powered by gas (mainly), oil and coal. Programming our appliances (e.g. washing machine & dishwasher) to come on and off at off-peak times saves energy, is easy to do and costs nothing. Upgrading all the bulbs to LED costs very little & immediately saves electricity. If we can afford it, we can reduce loss of heat by making sure we have complete loft insulation and double glazing. Get a quotation for solar panels. Although the payback time may be 10 years, the panels will add value to our homes. If money is no object, changing our older, inefficient boiler to an electric heat pump will reduce carbon footprint and may be cheaper to run.

Our Transport

There is a strong argument for hanging on to our inefficient, older cars because the carbon footprint for producing new cars is very high. Nevertheless congestion charges for older vehicles in Bath & Bristol are making us all look at electric or hybrid cars as alternative transport. Electric bikes are increasingly popular & we are all thinking twice before we use the car (aren't we?)



Britain is a big user of energy, much of which still comes from fossil fuels. All the small actions by each of us add up.

At St Mary's

We have signed up with the A Rocha Eco church scheme. This is a scheme which incentivises churches to think about their carbon footprint and make appropriate changes. There is a limited amount we can do with an old church building but, the development project will provide the opportunity to look carefully at other more efficient and renewable sources of heating.

So far, we've looked at making the churchyard more wildlife friendly, adding nest boxes and bird feeders, and keeping a wild area for wildlife. This of course does not reduce our carbon footprint, but it is an area of eco church that we have the ability to address. Likewise, promoting fairtrade goods; we have started to use fairtrade tea and coffee in church. All lights are LED and we have started to use a recycling box.

Continued on next page

Countrywide

We can use peaceful means possible to influence our Government to act swiftly and decisively on Climate Change. This might include lobbying our MP and engaging with whoever will listen at local level to get our message across. But it isn't all bad news. Wind power in the UK is the largest source of renewable electricity generating 25% of our electricity needs. This figure is increasing year on year. UK has the best location for wind power in Europe. Each year we are adding wind farms with a payback of 6-12 months. Wind technology is very cost effective. The UK has accelerated its decommissioning of coal power stations.

Future Technologies

Our capacity for innovation has ensured the survival of human civilisation through millennia. Look at our creative response to new vaccines to combat Covid! What took 10 years was reduced to a few months.

Its going to take more than wind turbines, however, to limit our temperature rise to 1.5°C.

Here are some technologies that may play a part in the future

1. Carbon capture

The warming effect of greenhouse gases can persist for thousands of years, so we need to actively remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) technologies, though very expensive at present, may provide an answer. It's possible that the captured carbon dioxide could be converted to sustainable aviation fuel

2. Lab-grown meat

14.5% of greenhouse emissions come from livestock but demand for meat continues to rise. There are exciting opportunities for culturing cells taken from living cows to produce a viable and ethical alternative to our "Sunday roast". A simple, positive contribution we can all make is to eat less meat in our diet or become vegetarian.



The effects of climate change are often felt hardest by people in the poorest and least developed parts of the world

3.Nuclear Power

This is the only low-carbon technology that can provide a reliable, constant baseload of energy to balance the variability of wind & hydroelectricity

Nuclear power at present provides one third of the UK's clean energy. Advances in fusion & fission designs promise to make future nuclear power stations cheaper & more efficient.

Continued on next page

Focal Point, July 2023

4. Creative use of our waste

The energy used for manufacturing metals contributes to 8% of greenhouse emissions. There is scope for extracting metals from waste and recycling them

5. Hydroelectricity

It may be possible to use the static electricity that forms on water droplets in the air to produce electricity (we see this energy produced in lightning strikes)

At the recent 2023 G7 summit in Hiroshima, there was agreement that new incentives, industrial policies & public & private investments are urgently required to meet the Paris climate commitments.

We owe it to our neighbours, our children and our grandchildren to act quickly and limit the damage to our amazing planet.

David Bailey

With contributions from Anne Carrington and Jane Lings



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OPEN 12-3pm

please join us for family
stalls, games, tombola &
refreshments

Pews— the next steps



The Future Committee's consultation on the pews has received almost universal approval for both the new prototype pew and the need to make the church more flexible. While the consultation day did not attract a large crowd, it has resulted in some more donations and left us in a position where tenders for completion of the work can be sought for the remaining pews.

We now plan to ask the Registrar of the Diocese for permission to undertake work on the pews to make them mobile but to leave the floor as it is until further funds have been raised. The wheels on the pews should be able to deal with most movement even on the uneven ground.

It is still possible to sponsor a pew and a leaflet is available in the church as well as information on the church website. Additional funds will mean that some of the funds currently committed to pews can be redirected to other works.

The next piece of work for which we are seeking sponsors, is to conserve and clean the walls. Cleaning the walls will make them much brighter, but some of the walls of the church are very old indeed and were part of the Anglo Saxon church that existed before 1066. We already have a price for the work – currently £32,000, but likely to rise with inflation.



Wessex Water Donation

Wessex Water have been a generous sponsor for work on the pews and have donated £4,000 towards their conversion. Wessex Water Project Manager, Kelvin Brick, who has taken a keen interest the work in St Mary's, visited recently to view the prototype and discuss the next steps with Jim Heavens (Chair of the Development Project) and Nicola Bennetts (Chief Fundraiser).

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Rosemary to be ordained priest



Our Curate, Rosemary Radcliffe, is due to be ordained priest at Bristol Cathedral on 1 July.

The service, which starts at 3.00pm, is public, and members of the Bitton congregation and community are invited to attend.

Also being ordained is Sharon Glead, a familiar face in the Benefice who is now in the Gauzebook Group of churches in north Wiltshire..



Please pray for Rosemary, Sharon, and all those being ordained.

Rosemary will be celebrating communion for the first time at St Mary's at the 10.30 service the following day. Please join us on this special occasion!

Is **20** MPH Plenty for Bitton?

Steve Cox thinks so and he is urging people to support his campaign.

Steve, who has lived in Bitton with his family since 2000, is well known to many users of social media as the moderator of the Bitton Community Facebook page. He is also the owner of very large dogs and is often to be seen walking with them in the village.

Steve became increasingly concerned at what seemed to be a considerable increase in the speed and volume of traffic through the village and how it affects road safety and the environment. He started researching the impact of traffic speeds in villages and small towns worldwide. His research led him to the conclusion that reducing the speed limit to 20 mph would not only address the speed issue but would also bring considerable benefits to the community and users of our local roads.

He launched a poll on the community group on Facebook to test opinion and what people thought of a reduction in the speed limit. Of the 162 who responded:

- **61% of respondents were in favour of a 20 mile and hour speed limit.**
- **20% voted for the status quo.**
- **A further 15% asked for other traffic calming measures including rumble strips and widened pavements.**

Steve has now set up a dedicated Facebook group - **20 is Plenty for Bitton** and is canvassing for support from the local community..

So why lower the speed limit to 20mph?

"Simple" says Steve. "It's safer, it significantly lowers the risk of accidents, reduces casualties, improves public health, lightens the load on the NHS—and it's better for the environment."

"Each 1mph reduction in urban average speeds delivers a 6% reduction in casualties. The benefits go much beyond, into population-wide improvements in public health. 20mph is 25% cleaner than 30mph in urban settings – and 50% quieter!"

Of course, not everyone agrees with this position, as Steve's poll showed. Some might say that on most days you would be lucky to travel through Bitton as fast as 20mph. One element that drivers do find annoying is the lack of adequate signage when speed limits are changed and the constant change in speed on relatively short distances of the road.

Steve's keen to hear from anyone who wants to be involved and can be contacted through the Facebook page or directly at steve@photoportunity.com



Steve recently retired after 25 years as a senior executive in the technology industry. Steve is a keen cyclist and is currently training for this year's annual Bristol-Bordeaux charity ride in July.

WHAT'S YOUR VIEW? Is this a good idea.? Should it apply just to Bitton or other parts of the parish?

As always, Focal point is happy to publish all viewpoints.



This month we're thinking about reducing our carbon footprint using the three 'Rs' : reduce, reuse, recycle. The scale of the climate change problem can sometimes seem overwhelming, but the good news is there are small steps we can all take which can make a difference.

"Reduce" is all about reducing the amount of materials that we use and also the resources such as fuel and water that we use. There are many easy ways we can do this, and some are good for our health and our pocket too! For instance, turning the thermostat down by one degree is hardly noticeable but will save fuel and therefore money. Walking when possible instead of taking the car is a triple bonus: it reduces carbon emissions, saves petrol money and improves our health. Other suggestions for reducing our consumption are rejecting single use items such as plastic straws, plastic cups, etc, and trying not to buy goods with excessive packaging. A great way of reducing plastic packaging is to buy from a shop that has a re-fill station, so you can use your own container to buy food such as pasta, cereals, dried fruit, nuts, etc. Savour in Keynsham, run by Cat Midgley, is just such a shop and has a great selection of local fruit and veg too, so reducing food miles.

"Reuse" is about creating as little waste as possible. If you have an item that you can no longer use or simply do not want, but is still in perfectly usable condition, you might be

able to find a way that it can continue to be used rather than throwing it away. For instance, charities such as the Sofa project will take and redistribute old furniture. Clothes can be donated to charity shops or sold on sites such as ebay. Websites such as freecycle or freegle are great for giving away something you don't want to someone who needs it. Or you may just be able to re-purpose the item and use it a different way, for instance using old yoghurt pots to grow seedlings in.

“Recycle”: we are fortunate now that many everyday items can be recycled, and we have kerbside collections so we don't need to take our waste to a depot. Paper, card, glass, cans and plastic can all be recycled. We are doing our bit at St Mary's by using our recycling box as much as possible, and buying goods made from recycled products where possible: for instance, using recycled paper for our printer. Never put anything that can be recycled in the black bin. If we all do our bit, it will make a difference; every little helps!

Eco tip of the month:

Help hedgehogs in hot weather. Hedgehogs particularly need help in a heatwave, as their usual prey of slugs, snails and worms are often unavailable. Leaving out a juicy snack, such as mealworms or canned dog food, can



help in sustained warm weather. If you have a garden pond, ensure there's always a way for hedgehogs (and other small mammals) to climb out if they fall in.



Christian Aid Week raises £1374

The house-to-house collection for Christian Aid week (14th—20th May) raised £1,374.74.

Very many thanks to the hard-working collectors and very many thanks to everyone who put money in their envelopes. Thanks too to those who were out when the envelopes were collected but who took the trouble to deliver their gift to the collector or to me. Finally thank you to those who completed the gift aid slip of the envelopes and thereby added 25% to their donation.

If you meant to give but have not yet got round to doing so IT'S NOT TOO LATE! Give to the

Bitton Christian Aid donation [St Mary's Bitton - Christian Aid Envelope](#) or use the QR code below:



Thank you!
Nicola Bennetts

Bitton Open Gardens



This year's Open Gardens, organised by the Garden Club, took place during one of the hottest and driest months of June on record. Unfortunately it rained during the openings

having been sunny and warm both before and after, but that didn't reduce the enthusiasm of the openers or the visitors. Nine gardens opened with a plant stall and teas at Church Farm.

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who opened the gardens, to the organisers and to Martin and Bridget Hetzel for the use of their garden.



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Bitton's ever popular Church Fête is set for 2nd September this year. A range of entertainments, stalls and refreshments, old and new, are being planned for the day.

There are many ways you can help, through donations of items (as below) or by offering to assist on the day.

We are also looking for volunteers to make jams and chutneys (jars, labels and lids provided and sugar and fruit costs will be reimbursed) -it's just your energy that you give!

More information on our website www.stmarysbitton.org.uk or contact the Fête organiser, Helen Pugsley on 07767 777019.

Donations are already welcome for the following::

Bookstall – contact Sarah Heavens 0117 932 5376

White Elephant - Nicola Bennetts 0117 932 4696

Nearly Nu (clothing) Annette Vowles 0117 932 6352

Bottle Stall - Sarah Craddock 0117 932 8644

Tombola - a wide range of items would be welcome for the tombola including toiletries, games, sweets, chocolates , household items etc – Alison Wride

0117 932 4931

Items can be left in the church porch when the church is open (usually 10am to 5pm). Please don't leave them outside when the church is locked.

St Mary's Church Fête
2nd September 2023

**PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION**

Entries are invited now

Photographs can be in colour or black and white. It must be your own work and have been taken within the last 2 years.

There are 6 categories for both adults and juniors (under 16s). Entry is £2 per photo for adults and free for under 16s.

The categories are:

- **Coronation**
- **Best friend**
- **Happy place**
- **The colour blue**
- **My Bitton**
- **In motion**

Printed photographs must be a maximum of 20x20cms.

The digital limit is 10MB. Digital photographs will be printed 8"x6"

How to enter:

1. **Printed photographs** should be submitted in an envelope with your name, contact details, the date the photo was taken, category from above and your age if you are under 16 to:
Rosewell, Church Road, Bitton. - **OR**
2. **Submit a digital photograph** online on our website, or using one of these QR codes:

ADULT



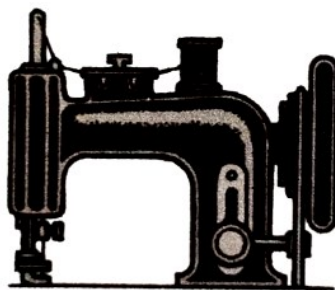
UNDER 16



ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY by 6:00PM on Thursday 24th August 2023.

Join us at the fete where all entries and winners will be displayed. The overall winner will receive the David Smith Cup, and there will be other prizes too.– **GOOD LUCK**

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St Mary's Church Bitton
Parochial Church Council

PCC Report

New electrical sockets were installed in the church during May, following a decision by the PCC at its May meeting. Concerns had been raised about the number of extension leads in use. Electrical work has also been carried out on the church hall which was now recertificated. A lottery application has been made to help with costs of a replacement heater and redecoration.

The PCC also reviewed the recent Easter services, The Easter Experience, held on Good Friday was considered to be a success, but attendance at the early morning communion service on Easter morning had few attenders, most people wanting to join the Parish Eucharist at 10.30am. The PCC also decided to change its Patronal Festival from the day after the fête to the following Sunday, giving those organising and working on fête stalls time to recover.

A St Mary's coffee morning is also to take place after the Thursday Celtic communion (on 3rd Thursday of the month)

Safeguarding

Jacqui Harris, as the safeguarding officer for St. Mary's, will soon be in contact with the members of the PCC who need to renew their DBS (Police safeguarding Check) those who have recently done this will only have to renew their DBS every three years.

As well as a DBS check all PCC members must attend and complete safeguarding training. We are trying to organise an in person training for the benefice with the diocesan Safeguarding training officer so that we can fulfil the requirements. PCC members must have a DBS and Safeguarding training because they are counted as trustees of a charity.

Continued on next page

Energy Audit

St Mary's has also been invited to be a part of a Diocese Energy Audit Programme, which would chime with some of the Futures works. PCC were in agreement to go ahead with this particularly as there may be some additional funds to support this.

Strategy

At the previous meeting the PCC had started to consider the key issues that it felt were important at present and the future. This had been completed using a note storm process and some of the results were fed back. From that Jeremy suggested that there seem to be three clear questions that need to be addressed:

- What is needed for the community in Bitton?
- How will the church serve the people of Bitton?
- What will be the impact?

For each there are three elements concentrating on: Community, Young People and Outreach.

Among other items discussed were:

- Purchase of a new St George's flag with the Bristol Diocese Crest.
- Car parking for people attending church for services and events.
- The two trees planted as part of the late Queen's Green Canopy were recorded on the Terrier and noted that they would require regular watering to become established.
- A new printer needs to be purchased.

Dates for future meetings

2023:	17 July	2024	
	11 September		05 Feb
	06 Nov		25 Mar

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 15 April 2024.



KIM

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VEGETABLE GARDEN AVAILABLE

A vegetable garden has become available in Kelston. Would suit a keen gardener or couple wishing to grow more vegetables. The garden has been well maintained but the owner is currently unable to look after it and would like someone to have the benefit. Contact **Pat Jeffries 01225 429448**

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News from Bitton WI

Our June meeting was held in the cool of the church hall on a very warm and sunny day much to the relief of many of us! Just the month before we were arriving in warm coats and putting the heaters on!

Following the usual welcome and minutes, Jean, our President, told us of the many events and outings planned for the summer across the Federation. We can look forward to a steam train trip, playing Pétanque, walking in Arnos Vale Cemetery and a visit to Hampton Court Palace! Our own August outing to the SS Great Britain needs a couple more members to attend to make it viable. If you haven't put your name down yet, please get in touch.

A few of our members had attended a First Aid demonstration where they were shown how to use a Defibrillator (Defib). We were reminded that there is a Defib in Bitton and that if it is ever needed, we need to dial 999 to receive an unlock code. The call handler will guide you through using it until help arrives.

All things Chocolate

Our speaker was much anticipated as tasters had already been mentioned! Hue Evans came to speak to us about all things Chocolate. Hue had worked at Cadbury's in Keynsham for 25 years before it closed down and now gives talks to raise money for the Children's hospice in Wraxall. Hue started by showing us where the cocoa bean is produced across the world telling us that most of the beans used in the UK come from the Ivory Coast and Guiana. The cocoa trees can live until 100 years old, but only produce the fruit of the cocoa bean for around 25 years.



Focal Point, July 2023

He showed us how the cocoa pod grows straight out of the main branches of the tree which looked very odd. Each pod has around 40 seeds surrounded by a soft sweet pulp. He described the process of how the beans are fermented, dried, shipped to the UK where they are processed further until they have nib, butter and solids. Milk and fats are added to the dark chocolate to reduce the chocolate mass to make the chocolate bars. Most chocolate bars have 30% mass, though this changes dependent on the type of bar.

Hue told us how chocolate has been used for thousands of years. Initially, it was a drink for south American tribes used for rituals, ceremonies and sacrifices. The Aztecs used chocolate as currency. The Conquistadors brought chocolate back to Spain and this spread all across Europe. It came to the UK in around 1728 as a health drink made by *Churchman's* who set up business in Bristol, moving to a large site on Union Street. When his son took over it was then known as J S Fry & Sons. The chocolate bar was invented in 1847 in Bristol. Apparently there is still an original bar in the Frenchay museum!

The factories in Bristol grew to 8 huge factories around Union Street but all closed by 1930. Cadbury became more successful by 1879 and joined in a partnership with Frys just after the First World War. The more familiar factory we know in Keynsham was built in 1922 and at it's peak employed more than 5,000 workers. It produced Crunchie bars, Fry's Cream bars and at one time 4,000 tonnes of mini eggs!

Hue treated us to a sniff of the nib and solids which definitely had our mouths watering! Luckily, we were then treated to the much anticipated tasters of dark chocolate, dark milk and milk chocolate which we all enjoyed.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 10th July, 2pm, Church Hall, Bitton.

Obviously, our recipe this month has to be with Chocolate. This is one I make regularly. It's definitely a winner with family and friends. Give this Chocolate Brownie recipe a try – you won't regret it!

Karen Davidson

Chocolate Brownies



Ingredients

- 1 lb Caster Sugar
- 4 oz Plain Flour
- 8 oz Butter (though I have used block margarine which is just as nice)
- 5 oz Dark chocolate broken in pieces
- 2 oz Cocoa powder
- 5 medium eggs.

Method:

1. Heat your oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5 and line a 20x30cm/8x12in baking tin with greaseproof paper.
2. Melt the butter and sugar together gently in a large saucepan until melted.
3. Take off the heat and add the chocolate, still until melted.
4. Beat in the eggs and stir in the flour and cocoa powder until well mixed.
5. Pour into your prepared tin and bake for 30 – 35 mins until the top is firm but there is a slight wobble in the middle.
6. Leave to cool and cut into squares.

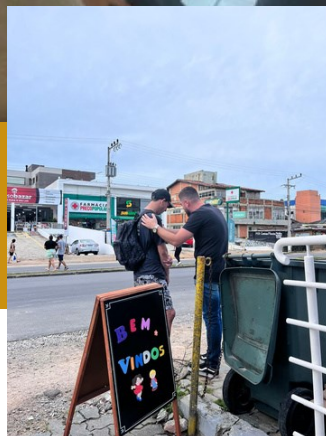
You can add chocolate chips or your favourite chocolate bar pieces just prior to baking for that extra chocolate kick!

To serve

Whipped Cream & Berries



Katia Rocks— CMS in Brazil



There's been no let-up in the activities of our Church Mission Society (CMS) link Katia Rocks, in Florianopolis in Brazil.

Since returning to the country in March, her church has become a centre for evangelism and prayer. Intercessions are held there each Thursday before the team moves outside to work on the streets of the city. Wednesdays sees her working with the homeless offering coffee, snacks, and a prayer. The rehabilitation centre is currently seeing an increase in people seeking its help.

She has also started working in a women's prison and was delighted by the response she received.

You can read more about Katia, in the community section of the St Mary's website. Her updates are also sent to those on the St Mary's correspondence list.

Puzzle Pages

SUDUKO CHALLENGE

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

Answers to both puzzles are available on the church website www.stmarysbitton.org.uk - click on **News & Focal Point** or use this QR code



WORD SEARCH

This word search is themed around the St John's Gospel Chap 1 35-50 and of St Philip meeting with Jesus

f	m	l	p	c	k	h	j	q	t	x	m
i	s	o	n	o	t	d	b	a	g	a	g
g	i	p	r	m	p	o	e	n	c	o	d
x	s	a	r	e	o	h	l	g	o	o	d
n	t	x	b	i	c	s	i	e	z	t	b
n	a	t	h	a	n	a	e	l	g	g	j
k	i	z	d	u	a	c	v	s	i	j	e
i	r	s	a	f	r	i	e	n	d	p	s
n	w	i	s	r	a	e	l	h	g	e	u
g	a	l	s	h	e	a	v	e	n	s	s
p	y	l	j	c	y	t	r	e	e	b	b
k	v	y	p	r	o	p	h	e	t	e	n

You are looking for:

come
stairway
tree
son
Moses
Philip
cheat
believe

good
prophet
Nazareth
Nathanael
friend
King
silly
Israel

fig
more
Prince
Jacob
angels
God
Jesus
heaven

July Prize Quiz *by Carolyn Russell*

This month's quiz is finding a word which can make 3 new compound words with the 3 given words
Example: table / tea / soup, can all be merged with spoon to make 3 new compound words.
I will allow any word in the Oxford English dictionary.

No. Clue

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|---------|
| 1. | brush | pick | paste |
| 2. | pay | work | break |
| 3. | day | end | night |
| 4. | roar | set | take |
| 5. | coat | spin | gate |
| 6. | band | dresser | haircut |
| 7. | way | down | over |
| 8. | water | night | rain |
| 9. | work | fighter | place |
| 10. | letter | paper | flash |
| 11. | cat | star | angel |
| 12. | go | foot | dog |
| 13. | guard | work | suit |
| 14. | house | weight | bulb |
| 15. | coat | line | band |
| 16. | life | show | long |
| 17. | super | light | fish |
| 18. | show | bed | news |
| 19. | day | down | glasses |
| 20. | straw | goose | blue |

This month we have three options for you to submit your answers, which need to be returned by Sunday 16th July:

1. Submit your answers online. Use the QR code opposite or visit the church website and go to the Focal Point section where you will find a RED button to submit your answers.
www.stmarysbitton.org.uk
2. By email to bittoncm@outlook.com
3. By sending your answers to Eastover, High Street (corner of Golden Valley Lane).

The July Quiz by Carolyn Russell



June Quiz Answers

Last month's quiz was about the names of military aircraft.

Answers:

(1) Atlas; (2) Hastings; (3) Canberra; (4) Vulcan; (5) Lightning; (6) Javelin; (7) Chipmunk; (8) Bombay; (9) Meteor; (10) Reaper; (11) Hercules; (12) Spitfire; (13) Typhoon; (14) Hurricane; (15) Hawk; (16) Lancaster; (17) Camel; (18) Griffin; (19) Poseidon; (20) Globemaster.

Correct answers :

For a second month, no-one returned a full set of correct answers. However, Frank Fitzgibbons answer of Raptor was accepted in place of Hawk for answer 15, which means he wins this month's prize.



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The last word



Is this an Eco edition?

Editing Focal Point can be a something of an odyssey. One never knows what is going to come up or be written about.

It was certainly not planned for this edition to contain so many environmental items—David Bailey's reminder that everyone is our neighbour in these matters, the Eco tip on hedgehogs or even Steve Cox's campaign to reduce speeds—all have some environmental aspects

Is it the recent warm weather that has reminded us that our climate is changing? Most likely it was simply coincidence, but a reflection of our times too that we all recognise the importance of environment and the need to protect it, for ourselves, for future generations and everyone with whom we share this planet.

Jim Heavens

Robert Pearce has over 40 years' experience



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