

# THURCASTON CROPSTON *PARISH MAGAZINE*

*The magazine for your parish since 1951*

**VOLUME 74**

**No 06**

**June 2025**



**All Saints' Garden Fete**  
**Saturday 14th June 1.00pm until 4.00pm**

RECTOR	Revd Matthew Gough	07754 961997 Email: revgough@gmail.com
ASSOCIATE MINISTER	Mr Ian Dutton	0116 221 3786
CHURCH WARDEN		
CHURCH ADMIN	Mrs Jane Westby	0116 2352226 Email: mowestby@virginmedia.com
ORGANIST & CHOIR MASTER	Mr David Evans	07733 243 383
PCC SECRETARY	Mr Douglas Gilmour	0116 236 2503
PCC TREASURER	Dr Peter Yardley	0116 236 3485
CAPTAIN OF BELLRINGERS	Mr Peter Hunt	0116 235 9601
HARRISON ROOM BOOKINGS	Jane Lacey	harrisonroomsbookings@gmail.com

**Contributions for the July magazine by 20th June to:**

Richard & Barbara Bradley, 3 All Saints Road, Thurcaston, Leics LE7 7JD  
Tel: 0116 236 6469 or Email: [thurcastonallsaints@gmail.com](mailto:thurcastonallsaints@gmail.com)

**Never miss an issue of your monthly Parish Magazine (in-print and online) - 12 issues £10!**

**Church details, events and services can be found at  
[www.stmarysandallsaints.co.uk](http://www.stmarysandallsaints.co.uk)**

All Saints Church exists for the benefit of the whole community, not simply those people who come to church on a Sunday!

*We are always delighted to arrange baptisms and weddings, or to bring Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to come to church. If we can help in this, or any other way, please contact the Rector or Church Wardens.*



Find us on Facebook - [asthurcastonwc](https://www.facebook.com/asthurcastonwc)





## *Inside this month's magazine...*

**M**eteorological summer is defined by a fixed date range. The Met Office defines it as the months of June, July, and August. This means meteorological summer always begins on June 1st and ends on August 31st. June signals the start of our summer social programme so let's hope the weather is summery, although all the gardeners among us could do with some rain after the recent dry spell.

The two big outdoor events in our benefice during June are the All Saints' Garden Fete on 14th and the Thurstaston & Cropston Open Garden Weekend on 28th/29th. Last year the Fete was lucky enough to coincide with a fine day in a wet month.

After missing last year the Open Gardens sees a number of new gardens taking part this year. Let's hope for fantastic weather on both weekends. Turn to our Whats On



section to find out more about both events. Congratulations to our Bell Tower Captain, Peter Hunt, on his 25 years in the post. The Bell Tower has certainly gone from strength to strength under his leadership. Our Bell Tower ringers also took part in the national bell ringing for the 80th Celebration of VE Day. See the full story on page 11.

**Richard, Barbara & Adam**

## **Father's Day – what we most value in our fathers**

**F**ather's Day is 15th June – a day to honour and appreciate our fathers and father figures, such as grandfathers and fathers-in-law. Many of us will make a special effort to see them on the day.

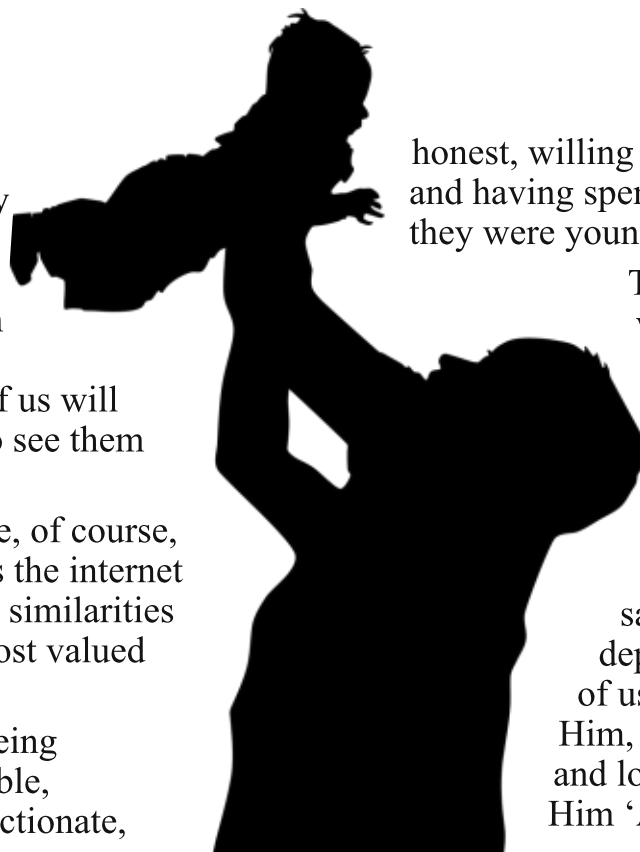
No two fathers are alike, of course, but various polls across the internet reveal some interesting similarities of what people have most valued in their dad.

These traits include: being dependable, approachable, protective, patient, affectionate,

honest, willing to listen, compassionate, and having spent time with them when they were young.

That's quite a list! People whose fathers had even some of those strengths have a lot to be thankful for.

Thankfully, our Father in Heaven certainly has all those traits. Jesus said the Father is totally dependable and protective of us, longs for us to turn to Him, and is full of compassion and love. And we are to call Him 'Abba' – Daddy!



*Just a thought...*

# Minster Communities Full Steam Ahead!

“Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” Jesus had just stilled a most ferocious, life threatening storm on Lake Galilee, with the power and strength that he had from God, and his disciples who were with him in the boat were struck with awe and fear. (Mark chapter 4, vs 35-41). We do well to listen to whatever God has to say to us whether through scripture, creation, circumstances, or a body of believers enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

This story has been read repeatedly, each time your representatives have met to discuss the introduction of “minster communities” with other neighbouring churches, and it offers rich food for thought beyond the space I have here. Our churches in Anstey and Thurstaston with Cropston have had to choose between connecting EITHER with Beaumont Leys, Stocking Farm and various other city churches, OR with Newtown Linford, Groby, Ratby, Markfield and other county parishes (see below). Our reps reported to the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in All Saints and St. Mary’s, recommending that we go with the county parishes, and both meetings voted unanimously in favour.

We might have loved the status quo, but it was not an option. Because churches’ total financial giving has not kept pace, and this is reflected in what is passed to the diocese,



the diocese was losing two million pounds a year, and this was unsustainable. The diocese has had to reduce its staff, and will be supporting fewer stipendiary clergy. A minster community of just over a dozen churches is likely to get three or four stipendiary clergy paid for by the diocese in the future. Additionally there are self-supporting clergy and various kinds of lay minister like myself. To be clear, churches will continue to minister to their parishes, and churches the size of All Saints and St. Mary’s will continue having their own services.

Links with both faith and community schools are important, and school catchments overlap between parishes. Minster communities will encourage churches to collaborate as they try to give spiritual and religious support to schools.

With the news that the latest generation seems to take faith seriously, it seems more important than ever.

Your representatives in the process so far are Revd. Matthew Gough, Marian Driver, Jane Westby, Peter Yardley, Doug Gilmore, Andrea Knight and myself. There are more All Saints reps because responsibilities were split; Jane and Peter did the city and Doug and Andrea did the county. It is good that All Saints and St. Mary's will retain their present link, and the other county parishes likely to link with us are: Newtown Linford, Groby and Ratby; Markfield, Thornton, Bagworth, Stanton and Copt Oak; Barlestone, Kirby Mallory, Newbold Verdon and Peckleton. Birstall would also be welcome if they chose to join in. It is also good that all these are village churches with whom we might expect some affinity, although one or two are at a low ebb and parishes like ours might consider helping them in the future.

The next stage of the process is set to begin with a "Kick-Off" Zoom meeting on 18th June at 7.30pm:

(<https://leccofe.zoom.us/j/92403795897?pwd=ebgnSG58eaOnb5lxiXNmAv8pirthpB.1>)

\*. This is not restricted to reps or PCC members, but anyone can attend online and

be informed and invited to further participation. Working groups will then form and get to work in probably early July, bringing together the nitty-gritty of creating a minster community in liaison with the diocese. Based on recent experience, and subject to evolving procedures, there could be four groups working and gathering information on:

- Geography, Context, Resources and New Communities;
- People, Ministry, Engagement and Diversity;
- Buildings and Finance;
- Discipleship and Mission, Growing Faith and Schools.

There are interactions, and for example our buildings, ministry and mission all interact.

The process is hoped to culminate with the new minster community being commissioned by the bishop in the summer of 2026. Do please hold it in your prayers, as well as considering what you have to offer.

**With my prayers and best wishes,**  
**Ian**

*\*P.S. I would hope that we can let people have the Zoom details electronically as well.*

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## Christian Aid Fundraising Week



**T**hanks to all from the Benefice who helped raise with Gift Aid a total of **£645.24**.

Special Thanks to Clare and those who came to the Cake & Quiz Afternoon helping contribute to this healthy total.

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# From the registers...

## Baptism



Sunday 4th May

**Tommy Bishop of Anstey,**

Baptism at St Mary's Church, Anstey.

## Diane Denton

The Local History Society was sorry to learn of the recent passing of Diane Denton, who did much to research and disseminate the history of Thurcaston & Cropston.

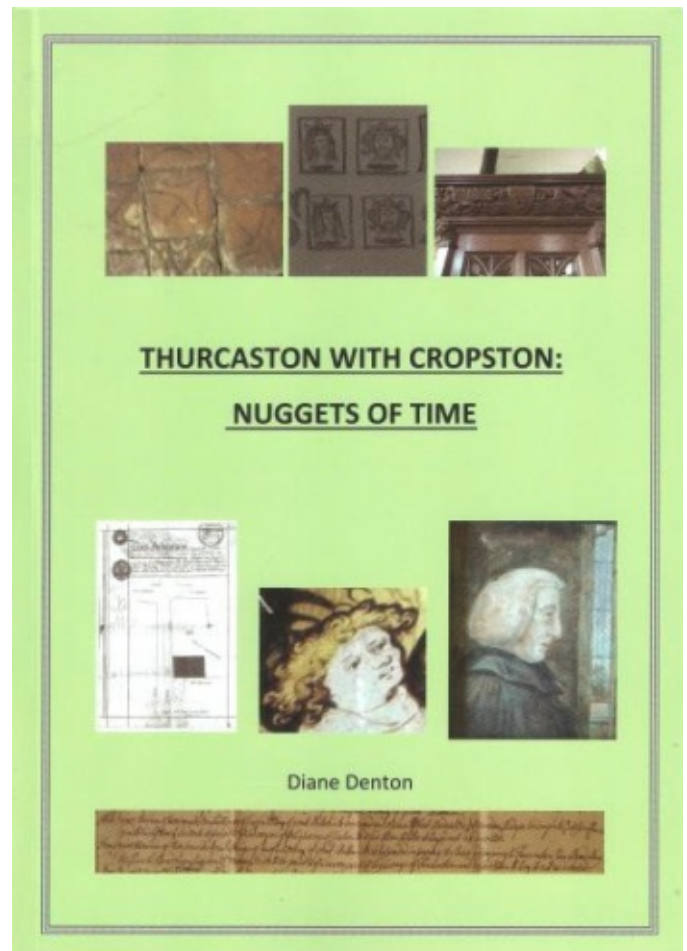
Diane was the first – and only – Heritage Warden for the parish and in that role she published articles about our local history in the free periodicals that most villagers receive through the door. The articles ranged in time from the Domesday Book through to the 2001 Census and covered subjects as diverse as the two medieval bridges; All Saints' Church, its rectors, bells and memorials; the Guild Holiday Home and the Cropstone Land Society.

In 2018, Diane compiled the articles into a book, "Thurcaston with Cropston: Nuggets of Time", which the Leicestershire Historian described as "an entertaining and informative overview of the two villages for past and current residents and 'outsiders' alike."

She had previously (as Diane Cole) published a book about our former rector Thomas Willet (1510-1598).

For the centenary of the First World War, she carried out research into the lives of the men whose names appear on war memorials in Thurcaston.

Diane had a particular interest in stained glass and, as a member of the local group of NADFAS (now called the Arts Society), she



was instrumental in bringing them here to conduct a detailed survey of all the fabric and fittings of the church, which will be an invaluable record for generations to come.

Funeral details are as follows:

**11.30am on Friday 13th June at All Saints' Church, Thurcaston.**

*Following the service a hot and cold buffet will be provided at the Wheatsheaf, Thurcaston*

# Readings for June

<b>June 1st</b> <b>Easter 7</b>	Acts 16. 16-34 John 17.20-26
<b>June 8th</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	Acts 2.1-21 John 14.8-17
<b>June 15th</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b>	Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31 John 16.12-15
<b>June 22nd</b> <b>Ordinary Time</b>	Isaiah 65.1-9 Luke, 8.26-39
<b>June 29th</b> <b>Trinity 2</b>	Galatians 5.1, 13-25 Luke 9.51-end

## Lost in Translation

### *Four Reflections on early Christian Language and Spirituality*



**TIME:** 7 pm.

**PLACE:** Harrison Room,  
All Saints. Immediately  
followed by Compline at 8  
pm.

**Please email:**

catbenefice@gmail.com  
to secure a place

**1:** *A City set on a Hill: The dramatic language of the New Testament* 11th May 2025

**2:** *The Vision of God: Images, icons and cryptograms* 18th May 2025

**3:** *In the Image of God: Human nature in early Christian thought* **1st June 2025**

**4:** *He Gave them Power to become Sons of God: Humankind as a work in progress* **8th June 2025**

# Journey in Faith Course

## What is the Journey in Faith Course?

A 3 term course that provides the time and space for people to:

- Grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith
- Deepen their relationship with God
- Explore how to live out faith in the whole of life

## Who can join?

It is open to anyone—there is some reading to do between sessions but you don't need to have done any studying before.

## What does a previous participant say?

"If you want to know more about yourself and your Christian faith, then JiF is the course for you. You'll be welcomed and challenged, affirmed and changed, and you'll definitely be glad you came."



## Course Details Introductory Session

Saturday 13th September  
9.30-12.30 at St Martin's House

### Course Venues

Monday evening	Nanpantan
Tuesday evening	Frisby on the Wreake
Wednesday evening	Ellistown
Wednesday evening	Knighton, Leicester



Please consider a donation of £40 per term to cover course costs

## How do I join a course?

For more information email:  
[liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org](mailto:liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org)

To book a place:  
visit the Hub or email  
[mmbookings@leicestercofe.org](mailto:mmbookings@leicestercofe.org)  
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# Bellringer celebrations!



*VE Day 80 Band*



**I**t's been a busy few weeks for the Tower and Handbell Ringers with several notable events to recognise and celebrate.

In April our Tower Bell Captain Peter Hunt reached 25 years in the role, having been appointed at Easter 2000. He also had a milestone birthday coming up in May so we took the opportunity to surprise him with the presentation at the Annual Bells Dinner, which took place at Lingdale Golf Course. A commemorative bell and an anthology of writing about bellringing called 'Inspired by

Bells' were presented to him by our after dinner guest speaker (and handbell ringer) Baroness Hazel Byford.

To continue the celebrations on Wednesday 7 May the tower bell ringers assembled to ring a Quarter Peel (1280 Plain Bob Major) – and the following evening a group of nine ringers took part in the national bell ringing for the 80th Celebration of VE Day.

The Handbell Ringers have also started their Spring & Summer programme of performances with a visits to Cedar House and LOROS in May.



# 'Blitz spirit' captured in Anstey VE Day celebrations!



Anstey Parish Council and the Royal British Legion organised celebrations for the 80th anniversary of VE Day at Jubilee Hall on Saturday, 10th May.

In the afternoon, music was provided by the wonderful Leicester Big Band, who performed songs and music from the 1940's Glenn Miller era, and it was lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves, both indoors and outside, on such a sunny day.

Afternoon tea was available, and Wendy, Marian and I were on tea and coffee duty in the kitchens, soaking up the atmosphere, while the bar was kept very busy.

After the Ukelele Band had performed, there was a break until the evening session when Beatles tribute Band 'Come Together' came on stage, followed by 'The Cheeze', another

excellent band who did cover versions of pop songs, bringing people onto the dance floor.

All agreed it was a great turn out and well worth doing.

The Royal British Legion are now making plans to commemorate VJ Day, to be held on Saturday, 16th August at the Old Hare & Hounds, which we hope will be another day of celebration bringing people together.

**Mary Mitchell**

# Trench Candles for Ukraine

Over the last few months, we have contributed to this appeal, which has been running for three years for the collection of old and unused candles so that Trench Candles could be made to send to the soldiers on Ukraine's front line against the invading Russian forces. They are used both for low level lighting and to keep their

hands warm in the bitter winter there. These have been collected and taken to St Mary's Church in Arnold near Nottingham. We shall soon be delivering a further 25kg of wax to the Ukrainian Centre in Nottingham, making a total of well over 300kg – over 4,000 Trench Candles have been sent so far.

Teams of volunteers at the Centre create the candles by rolling corrugated cardboard into old baked bean tins, placing a splint into the middle, and melting the candle wax to fill the tin. This means that every few weeks, hundreds of candles are being sent by lorry



to Ukraine. Very many thanks to all those who have been collecting their unburnt candle bits for this cause.

We all pray that this most unusual way to spread the Light of Christ to those in need of His love and care will not have to continue for too much longer. The collections are now suspended over the summer months and hopefully, the situation in Ukraine will be resolved soon. The amazing collection of candles over the past couple of years is so very much appreciated by the Ukrainians. Thank you.

## Benefice Open Meeting



Anstey Rectory  
1 Hurds Close

**Monday June 23rd 7pm**

Developments in Minster Communities

Ministry, worship, serving our villages

What matters most to you?

What developments and ideas do you have?

*Light refreshments provided*

*Come along*





# Monday Club meet at Rothley Court Hotel

**A**s an alternative to an outing further afield, a small group of members and guests gathered at the Rothley Court Hotel at 11am for an informal meeting to enjoy morning coffee and biscuits.

Taking advantage of the gloriously sunny spring weather, we were able to sit outside, although we did make use of the parasols over the tables to provide some shade. It was good to while away a couple of hours in pleasant company and to share some lively conversation. Thank you to Diane Rouse for making the arrangements.

Our next meeting at our regular venue of Cropston Evangelical Free Church (CEFC)



**Rothley Court Hotel**  
12th May 2025

will be at 2.15pm on Monday 9th June, when the speaker will be Wendy Coley who will be making a return visit to talk about the latest developments with the charity Medical Detection

Dogs.

Also at this meeting, bookings and payments of £20.95 per person will be taken for the afternoon tea to be held at Lingdale Golf Club on 14th July, to arrive for 2pm.

Visitors are most welcome to attend our usual monthly meetings at CEFC at a charge of £4 per person. No pre-booking required, just turn up on the day.

**From Jenny Kennington**

## Further information from:

Mrs Jenny Kennington  
Contact telephone: 0116 2365402

Mrs Maja Tompkins  
Contact mobile: 07709 201881



*Keith was very strict about confetti in the churchyard*



*"Well, no, I'm not dressing like this to create common ground with today's youth culture – I've always worn a hoody."*



# John Sutherland Award



**C**ongratulations to Eleanor Gough, a dedicated and talented young rower from Leicester Rowing Club, who was awarded the John Sutherland Award at the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 15th April for her exceptional rowing achievements during 2024.

Eleanor regularly represents the East Midlands and will be rowing at the women's Henley Regatta this year. As well as her own personal sporting development. She helps coach local school children and visually impaired people learning to row.

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## Update of start time for licensing service

**Licensing Service Saturday 7 June**

**New start time 3pm not 3.30pm as advertised.**

**Saturday 7 June, 3pm – Leicester Cathedral**

A celebration of lay ministry, licensing of new Associate Ministers and the commissioning of the Lay Ministry Council.

Bishop Martyn will lead worship and Carrie Myers, the national lead for lay ministry, will preach.

All are welcome to support and pray for the richness of lay ministry in the Diocese of Leicester.

Clare Gough will be licensed at this service. Do come along - all welcome!

**Please note this service will now start at 3pm.**

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# Ruffle's walks - Ruffle jumps!

*By Rachel Greaves*

**R**uffle was playing in the station garden with his favourite red ball. Eric's granddaughter, Jill, was on holiday from school so had come along to the little station to help Eric. She decided to take a break from the gardening and sat down to watch Ruffle as he tossed his head to make the ball fly into the air then pounced on it when it landed, just like a playful puppy.

Ruffle noticed Jill watching him so trotted over and dropped the ball next to her, hoping she would throw it for him to chase after. Jill knew exactly what Ruffle wanted so picked up the ball and threw it over the other side of the grass, next to the vegetable patch. The ball bounced twice on the grass then disappeared over the little fence that separated the vegetable patch from the lawn. Ruffle was after the ball like a shot.

Undeterred that the ball was nestling in the middle of Eric's cabbages, he took a flying leap and cleared the little fence with ease. He grabbed the ball then returned over the fence with an equally impressive jump.

'Ruffle! What a good jumper you are!' exclaimed Jill as Ruffle returned to her. 'I wonder - let's see if Grandad has some canes in the station shed that we could use to make some jumps. We could have our own agility course!'

Ruffle followed Jill over to the shed, still holding the prized red ball firmly in his mouth. They found Eric in the shed so Jill explained her idea to her grandad.

'How could we make some proper jumps?' asked Eric, who loved making things and was already thinking about the best colour to paint the jump poles. 'I have some hollow



plastic tubes that will make ideal poles - they are very light so won't hurt if Ruffle's legs catch them. I can make the supports either side of the jumps quite easily. And how about that material play tunnel you used to play with? That would make a great tunnel for Ruffle to run through••:

Jill laughed as she saw that in his mind, Eric had already planned out an agility course in the station garden. They spent the rest of the afternoon making a couple of jumps and looking out the play tunnel. Once finished, Ruffle was eager to try out the obstacles and had great fun as Jill gently threw the ball over the jumps and through the tunnel for Ruffle to follow.

*For further information about Ruffle's story books and other adventures visit [www.ruffletheraildog.co.uk](http://www.ruffletheraildog.co.uk) or watch the series of short films on YouTube under 'Ruffle's Walks'*

# Why aren't dinosaurs in the Bible?

**T**he Bible wasn't written to list all the animals on earth or tell us about science. It was written a long time before people started to use science to learn about the world.

When the Bible was written, people didn't even have a word for dinosaurs yet! But it's not just dinosaurs that aren't mentioned in the Bible, it doesn't talk about armadillos, kangaroos, sabre-toothed cats or penguins either!

That doesn't mean that the Bible is out of date or wrong, or that these animals aren't important. Rather than teaching us science, many Christians believe that the Bible was written to tell people about God, how much He loves them, and all the amazing things He has done.

The Bible says that God made everything, and loves everything He made, so that includes dinosaurs. It also encourages people to explore and find out all about the wonderful things it says God has made. Science is a part of this exploration.

## ***Did God make the dinosaurs?***

The Bible (the holy book that Christians read) says that God made everything. All the stars, the Earth and all the amazing plants and animals that have ever lived here.



So yes, most Christians believe that God made the dinosaurs!

The Bible also teaches that God loves it when people explore His creation, and science is a great way of doing that. So, for many Christians, science is one of the fun things we can use to learn all about how God made everything, including all of the dinosaurs!

## ***Were humans and dinosaurs ever living on earth at the same time?***

Yes! But probably not the kind of dinosaur you're thinking of! Most of the dinosaurs died out a very, very

long time ago, way before humans first lived. But some of the smaller, feathery dinosaurs survived and over a long time they have evolved into the animals we call birds.

So, from chickens and robins to penguins and ostriches, there are dinosaurs living all over our world today!

*These questions and answers are taken from The Faraday Kids website ([www.faradaykids.com](http://www.faradaykids.com)). For even more science-faith Q&A's, check out 101 Great Big Questions About God and Science, Edited by L Henderson & S Bryant (Lion, 2022)*





## Wednesday Hub – Summer 2025 Update

- As last year we'll be having a short break over the summer so the last meeting will be on **Wednesday 9 July** and we'll be back again on **Wednesday 3 September**
- Over the summer we will be meeting up for a **picnic**  
The date for this has yet to be confirmed but we'll let you know asap
- Other dates for your diary:
  - ❖ **Wednesday 11 June** – Richard Hill School choir coming to sing at the Hub at 3pm
  - ❖ **Church Summer Fair, Saturday 14 June, 1-4pm**
  - ❖ **Open Gardens weekend** – the church will be open on **Saturday 28 June**
  - ❖ **Skittles Night** at the Wheatsheaf Inn Thurcaston, **Wednesday 2 July**, 7 for 7:30pm – £13 per head including a hot supper, please see Eleanor for tickets



*Any questions & to keep in touch over the summer  
please call Eleanor on 07435 265397*

# **All Saints' Garden Fete**

## **in the Church, Churchyard and Harrison Room.**

### **Saturday 14th June 1.00pm until 4.00pm**

**C**ome and join us for tea and cake, or a glass of beer and be entertained by The Titanic Jazz band and the Marydene Guitar society. Have fun on the games and a little flutter on the tombola, browse the plants, books and jigsaws, and treat yourself to homemade cakes and preserves.

Items are needed for all the stalls so if you are having a clear out, please put suitable things to one side ready to bring down to Church or ring Jane on 0116 2352226. If you are planting at home, please do a few extra both flowers and vegetables for the plant stall. Homemade cakes and preserves are very welcome.

We will be setting up on Friday evening 13th June, from 5pm to 7pm, and are happy to receive items at Church at this time. If you have a little time to spare, help is



*Last year's Garden Fete proved very popular helped by a window of good weather!*

required setting up and running the stalls on the Saturday.

Looking forward to a sunny afternoon and lovely community event.

## **ALL SAINTS' ANNUAL SKITTLES EVENING – tickets now on sale**

WHEATSHEAF INN,  
THURCASTON  
Wednesday 2 July 2025  
7 for 7.30pm  
**£13 per head including  
Skittles supper**

All welcome, come as a team of six  
or join a team on the night

For further details please contact  
Eleanor on 07834 483850 or  
[eleanorlj@aol.com](mailto:eleanorlj@aol.com)











# Dates for your diary

## *Four pages of Events and Activities this month*

Date	Time	Event
<b>Sun Jun 1</b>	9.15am	<i>Breakfast in the Church -Thurcaston All Saints' (TASCHR)</i>
	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship Cropston Evangelical Free Church (CEFC)</i>
<b>Mon Jun 2</b>	11.00am	<i>Bible Study (CEFC)</i>
<b>Tue Jun 3</b>	10.30am	<i>Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - coffee/tea, biscuits &amp; chat ANSTEY JUBILEE HALL(AJH) Staddon Rd LE7 7AY (AJH)</i>
<b>Wed Jun 4</b>	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake &amp; chat</i>
<b>Fri Jun 6</b>	9.15 am	<i>Coffee Morning - St Mary's Church Rooms</i>
<b>Sat Jun 7</b>	10:30 am	<i>Charity Coffee Morning (CEFC) - The charity for 2025 is "Operation Smile", All welcome.</i>
	19:00	<i>Newtown Linford Choral Society See Poster</i>
<b>Sun Jun 8</b>	10.30am	<i>Sunday Worship (CEFC)</i>
<b>Mon Jun 9</b>	2.15pm	<i>Monday Club - Schoolroom, (CEFC) - Mary Coley, Medical Detection Dogs Charity</i>
<b>Tue Jun 10</b>	11:00 am	<i>Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms</i>
	Noon	<i>Leics MS Tuesday Group - coffee/tea, biscuits &amp; chat(AJH) Staddon Rd LE7 7AY (AJH)</i>
<b>Wed Jun 11</b>	2.00pm	<i>Wednesday Hub - (TASCHR) - coffee/tea, cake &amp; chat</i>
	15:00	<i>Richatrd Hill School Choir singing at Hub</i>
	7.45pm	<i>Gardening Club - Memorial Hall - Perennials for Every Season</i>
<b>Fri Jun 13</b>	9.15 am	<i>Coffee Morning - St Mary's Church Rooms</i>
	5-7pm	<i>Please bring any donations for the fete to the church as we set up. Thank you</i>
	7.30pm	<i>Friday Film - What's love got to do with it - Memorial Hall</i>
<b>Sat Jun 14</b>	1pm-4pm	<b><i>All Saints' Thurcaston Summer Fete (See advert)</i></b>



**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

**1pm-4pm**



## **June Services All Saints'**

### **Sunday 1st**

8.30am Communion (Breakfast 9.15)

10am Morning Praise

8pm Night Prayer

### **Sunday 8th**

10am Holy Communion

8pm Night Prayer Compline

### **Sunday 15th**

8.30am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 22nd**

10am Holy Communion

### **Sunday 29th**

10am Joint Bradgate Service at St Mary's

Anstey Holy Communion





## **June Services St Mary's**

**Sunday 1st**

10am Holy Communion

**Sunday 8th**

Pentecost Service at New Covenant Church

10.30am (Churches Together in Anstey)

**Sunday 15th**

10am Holy Communion

**Sunday 22nd**

Fresh Morning Praise

**Sunday 29th**

10am Holy Communion

**Every Wednesday**

9.30 Traditional Holy Communion

# Dates for your diary

## *Events and Activities this month continued*

Date	Time	Event
Sun Jun 15	10.30am	Sunday Worship Cropston Evangelical Free Church
Mon Jun 16	11.00am	Prayer meeting (CEFC)
Tue Jun 17	NOON	Leics MS Tuesday Group - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat(AJH)
	10.30am	Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms
	By 7pm	History Society: Anstey Heritage Trail meet by hairdressers/Nook car park, Staddon Rd
Wed Jun 18	2.00pm	Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat
	20:00	Anstey History Soc - Arch Bosworth and Bosworth Wright Box Factory
Fri Jun 20	9.15 am	Coffee Morning - St Mary's Church Rooms
Sun Jun 22	10.30am	Sunday Worship(CEFC)
Tue Jun 24	10:30 am	Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms
	NOON	Leics MS Tuesday Group - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat (AJH)
	2.00pm	Just for Ladies (CEFC) - Bring a craft, play board games or just have a chat. There will be a short Christian thought for the day.
Wed Jun 25	2.00pm	Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat
Fri Jun 27	9.15 am	Coffee Morning - St Mary's Church Rooms
	3.30 - 5pm	Tea & Crafts - ASMCR
Sat Jun 28	2 - 6pm	<b>OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND</b> See poster Church open Saturday ONLY
Sun Jun 29	2 - 6pm	<b>OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND</b> See poster

Thurcaston &amp; Cropston

**OPEN GARDENS**Saturday & Sunday  
28th/29th June, 2-6pm

Tue Jul 1	10.30am	Food Bank. Anstey St Mary's Church Rooms
	Noon	Leics MS Tuesday Group - coffee/tea, biscuits & chat L(AJH)
Wed Jul 2	2.00pm	Wednesday Hub - All Saints' Church - coffee/tea, cake & chat
	7.30pm	All Saints Skittles Night see poster
Sat Sept 6th	2.30pm	Thurcaston & Cropston Annual Show see advert for more details
To place your event in our Diary next month, email Barbara at <b>TCAdiary7@gmail.com</b>		

The times for services at St Mary's and All Saints' can be found on the centre pages.



## An uplifting romantic comedy

**W**hat's Love Got to Do with it? (2022 film) will be shown on 13th June and lasts 108 mins.

Our June film is a British romantic comedy, NOT about Tina Turner. It stars Lily James and Emma Thompson, having won the award for Best Comedy at the Rome Film Festival. Zoë Stevenson is a filmmaker who documents the experience of her next-door neighbour and childhood best friend Kaz, in his arranged marriage, in Pakistan, to Maymouna. The wedding does happen with splendid colours, but life in Lahore becomes very complicated, yet hilarious. Will this marriage last and what will happen to Zoë?

**We will not be showing films during July and August. Enjoy your summer!**

*Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council will be showing these films in Thurcaston Memorial Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets*



*will cost the usual £5, which includes a lucky prize draw and refreshments during the interval. You can park free in Richard Hill School. You can pay for your tickets at the door, if there are any left, or buy in advance from Diana 0116 2362 619 or Sylvia 0116 2352 873 or the Parish Office 0116 2367 626.*

## Open garden weekend

**All Saints' will be open on Saturday 28th June from 2pm to 6pm**

**T**he Church Garden will be open on the **Saturday only**, along with the Church and Harrison Room where refreshments and an accessible toilet will be available. The garden is a lovely tranquil place to sit and contemplate the beauty of

God's world. If it's a hot day, the Church is a nice cool spot to linger and rest your feet while you soak up the history and beauty of this ancient building. Plants and books will be on sale.

## Good quote

*A certain bishop had a fondness for using Bible quotations whenever he visited a function. When he arrived to open a new Maternity Home the organisers thought: "Now we have him stumped." However, after a few well-chosen words, the bishop smiled and said: "I know you are waiting for a quotation, so here it is: 'We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed!'"*

**Thurcaston & Cropston**

# OPEN GARDENS



**Saturday & Sunday  
28th/29th June, 2-6pm**

- REFRESHMENTS & ICECREAMS
- PLANT SALES
- WI COUNTRY MARKET
- OVER 20 GARDENS TO VISIT DURING THE WEEKEND

**Tickets - £5 per adult (valid both days)**

Accompanied children and wheelchair users free.

Tickets available on the day from any open garden, look out for the pink balloons!

**All ticket sales in aid of local Air Ambulance**



For latest information see **[www.tcog.org.uk](http://www.tcog.org.uk)**



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH THURCASTON SUMMER FETE



**Live music with Titanic jazz band & Marydene Guitars,  
Pop up Bar from Anstey's Kneaded Pint Micropub,  
homemade cakes, preserves, refreshments, plantstall,  
preloved, books, tombola , Zipwire teddys & more...**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

**1pm-4pm**



**Donations of quality items welcomed.  
Drop at Church  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 5-7pm  
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0116 2352226  
[mowestby@virginmedia.com](mailto:mowestby@virginmedia.com)**









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TIME AFTER TIME  
MUSIC OF THE NIGHT  
& many more**

**Musical Director: Sue Ford  
Accompanist: Sam Giles**

**7.30pm Friday 6th & Saturday 7th June  
Optional: Bring a picnic/nibbles for 7pm (no drinks).**

***Matinee: 2.30pm Sunday 8th June***

**Picnic/nibbles & drinks (own glasses) for 2pm**

**Village Hall, Newtown Linford**

**Tickets: £12 (£6 U18/students)**

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**Licensed Bar Fri/Sat ONLY**

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# Choosing Plants to Create a Cut Flower Garden

## – with Karen Gimson

The May meeting of the Thurcaston and Cropston Gardening Club was an illustrated talk by Karen Gimson. Karen is a garden designer and journalist with 25 years' experience. Her talk was about choosing colourful and exciting plants to create beautiful cut flowers for the home, family and friends.

Karen made the point that many plants can be grown in containers so you do not need much space to grow them, and a few flowers with lots of foliage can make striking 'jam jar' arrangements or small hand-tied posies.

Karen grows a huge variety of plants to use as cut flowers – growing annuals from seed, perennials, and shrubs. Throughout the talk, she showed photos of many of the arrangements she creates using different combinations of plants depending on the effect required.

She grows in flower beds and also in many containers of all sizes. She has some favourite plants that she uses in many displays – such as Blue Boy cornflower with 'electric' blue tones and corncockle. Another favourite is Ammi majus – which she often grows from seed in October. Karen brought with her to the talk a lot of plant material and she made a number of flower arrangements, which she donated to



*Some Club members with flower arrangements they won in the raffle.*

the Club raffle. In almost all the arrangements she made, she used some foliage from shrubs which she feels adds form and structure.

This was an informative and entertaining talk, attended by a lively audience of Club members.

*The Gardening Club meets in the Thurcaston and Cropston Memorial Hall*

*Whether an experienced gardener or an enthusiastic beginner we are sure you will find something of interest in this year's programme. New members are made most welcome. What's more, it's excellent value!! The membership fee is only £15 for the year (pro rata) or £3.00 per meeting. So, if you are interested in gardening - come and give the Club a try.*

**For more information about the Club, please contact**

**Dave Haddon (0116) 235 9758:  
david.haddon20@ntlworld.com**

**Or Richard Elks (0116) 236 8313:**

**cropston161@hotmail.co.uk**

The next Club events are: -

**Wed 11th June 2025**

Steve Lovell – Perennials for Every Season

**Thurs 17th July 2025**

RHS Flower Show at Wentworth Woodhouse

(A few tickets remaining – at the time of writing)

**Wed 13 August 2025**

Danny Wells – Joseph Paxton 'The Busiest Man in England'

## Launch of Youth Anstey Refills



*First customers Cllr  
Broomhead and Penny  
Broomhead*



**C**hurches Together In Anstey with the help of the Parish Council and Thurstaston based Real Refills has launched a social enterprise for young people interested in sustainable environment practice that continues the great work of Sandra Woodward's No Plastic Refills which closed in January.

There is a growing need for people to want alternatives to disposable plastics. Each Saturday we run a stall at Anstey Methodist 9.30-11.30 selling detergent, soap,

conditioner, and cleaner refills from £2 per 500ml.

Come along and get less plastic, quality products that contain no harmful chemicals for your body and do not pollute the environment.

Follow Youth Anstey Refills on Facebook and if you are aged 14-19 and passionate about the environment and want some voluntary work experience please email [youthansteyrefills@gmail.com](mailto:youthansteyrefills@gmail.com)



# History Society learns about Mary Attenborough

**S**ir David Attenborough is known throughout the world, and so is his brother Richard. Some local people might also be aware that their father, Frederick, was a Principal of University College, Leicester, before it became a full university in 1957. But who knows anything about their mother? Our speaker in May was Richard Graves, who is on a mission to tell the story of Mary Attenborough and demonstrate that she deserves recognition in her own right.

Mary (née Clegg) was born in 1896 and grew up in New Sawley, Derbyshire. By chance, her family home in the Arts & Crafts style has been beautifully preserved. Her father was a progressive headmaster and Mary attended his school, where she was a bright pupil. In 1914, she went to the Sorbonne to study modern languages but on the outbreak of the First World War she was forced to return home and she completed her degree in Nottingham. Her father employed two refugees from the fighting in Belgium as French teachers in his school and this seems to have had a big influence on Mary, as we shall see. Frederick Attenborough was also a teacher at the school. The couple were married in 1922 and three children followed: Richard, David and John.

Frederick was appointed to Leicester in 1932 and the family lived on campus in College House, which is today surrounded



by the blocks and towers of later university development. Mary soon embarked on various social projects in the city, founding a luncheon club and a local branch of the Soroptimists, who campaign to improve the lives of women. She was active in another organization that provided support for girls from the North of England who came to find work in Leicester. She became a marriage guidance counsellor and a magistrate and continued those roles for the rest of her life.

In 1936, Mary led Leicester's movement to receive Basque children fleeing the Spanish



Civil War. They leased Evington Hall to house 50 of the children and David remembers his mother scrubbing the floors to make it fit for their arrival. With the rise of the Nazi Party in Germany, Frederick became involved in helping Jewish academics move to the UK. Through these connections, he and Mary learned of the three Bejach girls, who were under threat as daughters of a Jewish doctor. The two youngest, Helga and Irene, escaped Germany on one of the final Kindertransport evacuations and the Attenboroughs took them in. The expectation was that the girls would soon travel on to join their uncles in New York but that proved impossible and in fact they stayed on as part of the Attenborough household until 1946. The girls' father had died in Auschwitz but they built new lives in America, always remaining in touch with their adoptive family.

In 1951, Frederick retired and he and Mary moved to London to be closer to their sons. There, Mary continued her good works until her life was sadly cut short in a car accident in 1961.

Richard Graves' biography of Mary Attenborough was published in 2022, with a foreword by Sir David, and it can be bought online. Richard also urged the University to provide some recognition for Mary, as a result of which her name has now been given to one of the buildings on the new Freeman's Common site.

Over the summer months, we arrange outings instead of indoor meetings. This year, we start with a walking tour of Anstey on the evening of Tuesday 17th June (£3 per person). The outings are not normally open to visitors but please contact us through the website if you would like to join.

[www.thurcastoncropstonhistory.org.uk](http://www.thurcastoncropstonhistory.org.uk)

## GRANTS TO ASSIST WITH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



### ***Richard Hill's Church of England School Charity***

The Trustees of the Charity invite those under the age of 25 years who are attending, or have attended the Richard Hill School to apply for a grant to assist with educational activities (including social & physical training) not otherwise provided by the Local Authority.

Successful applicants have received assistance with funding for various activities including -  
Training course expenses: fees, accommodation, travel, equipment etc.,

- School trip to Gambia    • Diploma in Legal Practice
- University Expenses    • Further Education Drama Course
- Masters Degree in Civil Engineering    • Music Lessons    • Computer and Software

***We look forward to hearing from you!***

Applications should be made to the Clerk, Mrs Anne Stringer,  
Email: [rhillcharitytrustees@hotmail.com](mailto:rhillcharitytrustees@hotmail.com) or Telephone: **0116 234 0625**

*The Trustees meet twice a year and closing dates for applications are **30th June** and **31st December**.*

***Grants ranging from £100 to £1,000***

*will be awarded to applicants who meet the necessary criteria.*

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# Cedar House... residential care that keeps the spring in your step.



*Happy May Day everyone! We hope you had a fabulous time.*

**M**ay was another busy month for us at Cedar House... We continue to try old and new things!

We received lots of visitors and had special visits from Lilliput Nursery Group and Sidney Shakers.

On Thursday 1st May 2025 we met Vic, the gardener, who has taken on the challenge of updating and replanting our courtyard gardens.

The morning started with a presentation of the project (aims and outcomes), feedback and ideas from the residents, a plant quiz, a

plant sensory session and a planting potting session.

We even sang happy birthday to Margaret with plant pots as birthday hats - Margaret loves gardening!

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day we had a whole week of activities and events.

For example, we went back in time to a wartime music hall... There was lots of dancing and singing! Followed by a traditional British fish and chip supper by royal decree!





We took part in a special VE Day church service and a session of remembrance.

We also took part in a VE Day general knowledge quiz.

In addition, as our current chef, Sam, has previously taken part in the Great British Menu we decided to have our own Cedar House bake off... Sally (our Activities Manager) versus Sam. The chosen item, by the residents, was a traditional British Bakewell tart. The residents marked them on presentation and taste. At the end of the food trial the residents were told which Bakewell belonged to who.



Sam scored the most points on presentation and Sally on taste. However, overall, Sam became the reigning champion of the Cedar House Bake Off... CONGRATULATIONS!

We also did a VE Day exercise session... Hannah put the troupes through their paces!

We even celebrated VE Day with members from Sidney Shakers and had our own airplane fly past.

We also had a wartime sing-along with Colin Jackson!

Some of the residents also watched the VE Day coverage on tv... Such as the VE Day parade, church service and concert.

On Saturday 10th May 2025 some of the residents enjoyed making white and milk chocolate cookies. Yumalicious!

On Monday 12th May 2025 some of the residents enjoyed having a ride along the canal from Loughborough to Normanton on



Soar. Plus a beautiful picnic. The weather was amazing!

On Wednesday 14th May 2025 the residents enjoyed having a go at basket making, weaving and flower arranging!

On Friday 16th May 2025 some of the residents enjoyed designing and making glass coasters. Superb everyone!



On Saturday 17th May 2025 some of the residents enjoyed doing a bit of gardening and enjoyed relaxing in the sun.

On Monday 19th May 2025 residents, staff, visitors and the nursery group enjoyed being entertained by Thurcaston Ringers. Participants also had a go at a bit of hand bell ringing themselves.

***Life is one big adventure at Cedar House!***



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# On what security cameras in church will tell you



The Rectory  
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Much against my better judgement, after a recent series of small thefts, we have installed security cameras here at St James the Least of All. Thank goodness the suggestion for trip wires that opened the gate to Mrs Poppleroy's garden next door, thereby setting loose her deranged Pekingese, was narrowly defeated – though I had to use my casting vote.

So now we have a complete record of everything that goes on when no one is about. It makes such interesting viewing that I have cancelled my television licence and spend every evening watching the antics of my parishioners. I wonder if there is some niche television channel which would be interested; it could help the tower restoration fund no end.

Miss Margison seems to imagine she is now part of some theatrical performance every time she cleans the church; her body language as she wields a feather duster is of operatic proportions, as is her final bow to the cameras as she leaves.

I have at last found the several hiding places where Mr Prentice secretes his bottle of whisky every week when he comes to wind the tower clock.

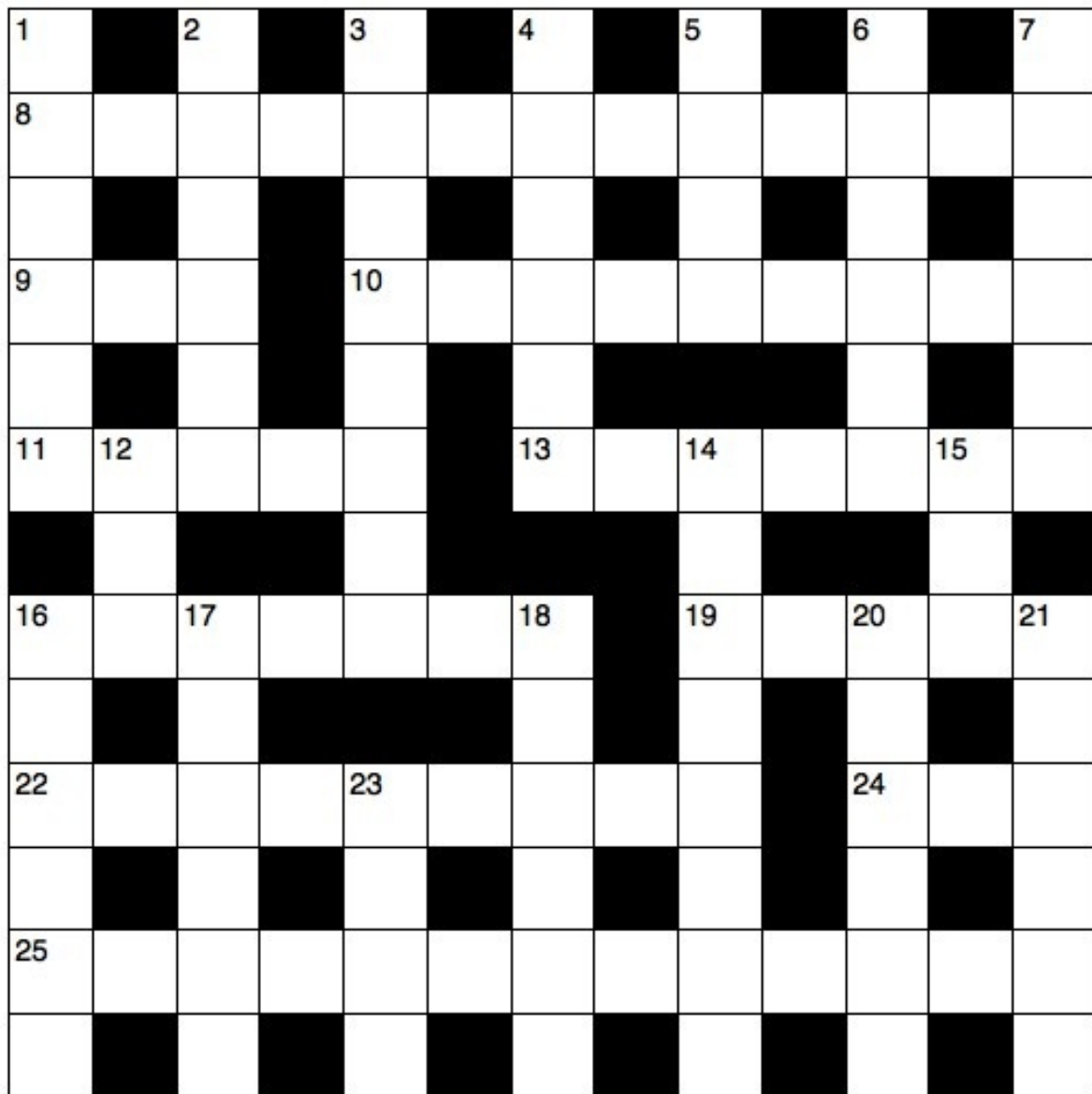
Colonel Wainwright, who served for some time in the security services, is now worried that photographs of him cleaning the brass will be circulated in Russia. He fails to appreciate that his disguise as a French onion seller, with striped jersey, beret and waxed moustache does tend to make his presence rather more interesting than he imagines – to us, if not to the KGB.

The flower arrangers seem to imagine that we are recording sound as well as pictures and so whenever they are in church together, all gossip is written down and passed round by hand as they work in total silence. So far, they have remembered to take their pieces of paper home with them. One slip and I shall probably learn more about my parishioners in five minutes than I have done in the last five years.

The cameras have also solved the mystery of who has been pilfering the items – and even the nest where they have hidden it. If only I could teach the magpies to extract money from pockets and place it on the collection plate.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

## Crossword



### Across

- 8** Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9** In favour of (3)
- 10** 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11** Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13** 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16** Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19** Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22** Holy Communion (9)



## **Crossword**

**24** 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)

**25** Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

### **Down**

**1** 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)

**2** 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)

**3** The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)

**4** The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)

**5** Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)

**6** One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)

**7** 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)

**12** Ate (anag.) (3)

**14** 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)

**15** Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)

**16** Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)

**17** 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)

**18** 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)

**20** Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)

**21** 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)

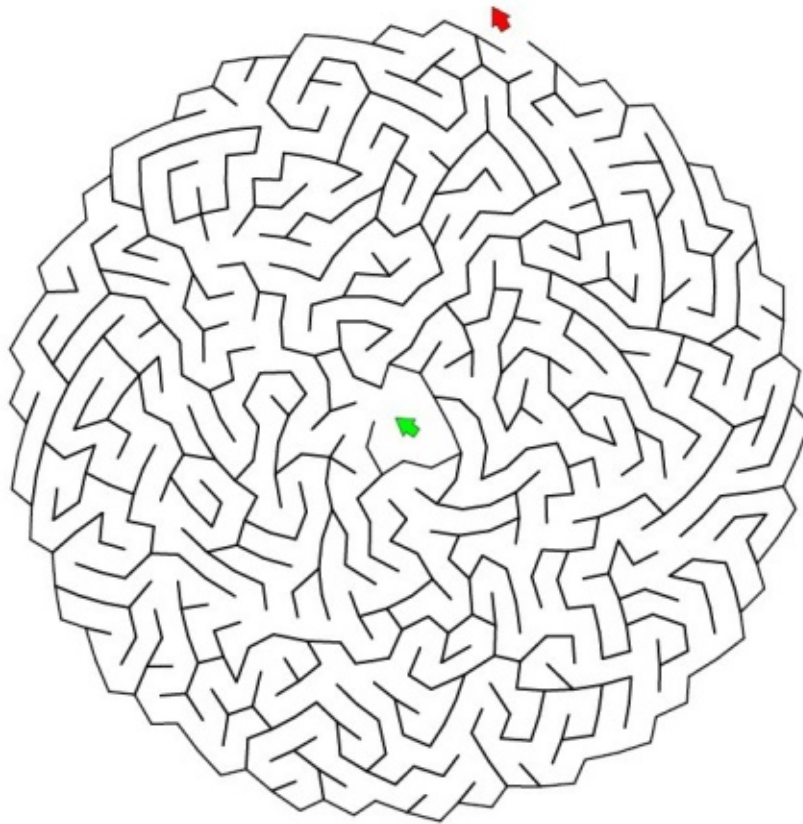
**23** Diva (anag.) (4)

**Sudoku**

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

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

# Maze



## Crossword solution

E		F		E		T		B		A		O
G	R	A	N	D	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N
Y		V		O		O		U		M		E
P	R	O		M	A	R	V	E	L	L	E	D
T		U		I		N				E		G
S	T	R	U	T		S	T	A	R	T	L	E
	E			E				D			O	
B	A	B	Y	S	I	T		O	R	A	T	E
R		E				H		P		R		X
E	U	C	H	A	R	I	S	T		M	A	P
A		O		V		S		I		I		O
C	O	M	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	E	R	S
H		E		D		O		N		S		E



**Sudoku Solution**

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

*All Saints 200 Club winners...***MAY 2025 Draw****1st** *JENNY PAGE***2nd** *CAROLYN WARRINGTON***3rd** *LIZ WALKER-SMITH****Congratulations to May's winners!***

Make next month one to remember and join today.  
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