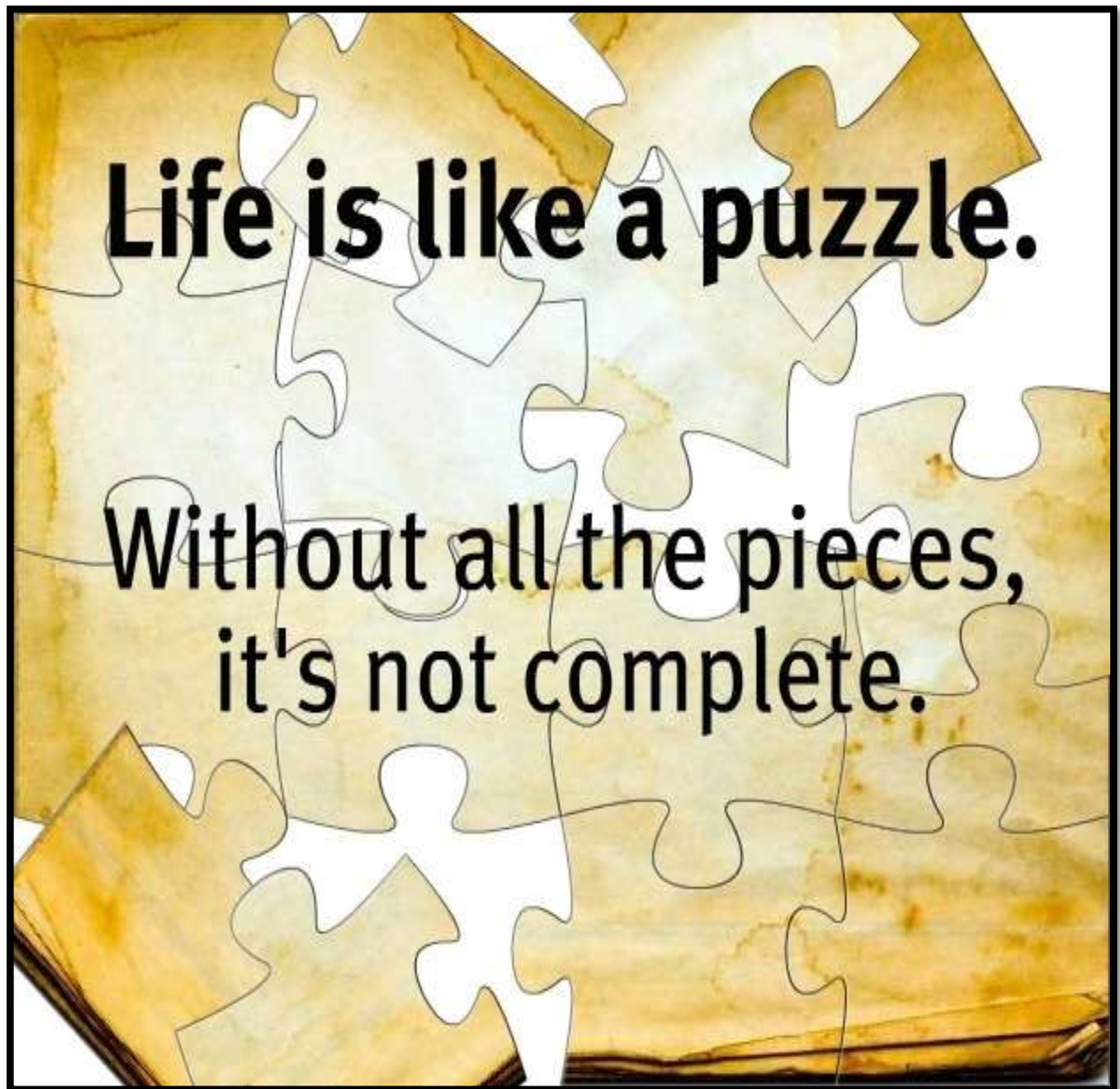


St Elphin's Chronicle



September 2025



Vol 137



Price 50p



Services & Events at St Elphins for September 2025

Wednesday 3rd	No service of Holy Communion today
Sunday 7th	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 10th	No service of Holy Communion today
Saturday 13th	
10.00 – 2.00pm	Heritage Open Day
Sunday 14th	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
3.00pm	Battle of Britain Service
Wednesday 17th	No service of Holy Communion today
Thursday 4.00pm – 8.00pm	Jigsaw Festival
Friday 12.00 – 5.00pm	Jigsaw Festival
Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm	Jigsaw Festival
Sunday 21st	
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 24th	No service of Holy Communion today
Sunday 28th	Harvest Festival followed by Pot Luck Lunch
8.30am	Holy Communion
10.30am	Holy Communion

Unfortunately there will not be any services of Holy Communion on Wednesdays during September.

However there are services at St Barnabas at 10.00am and at Christ Church Padgate at 10.30am.

The Parish Staff

Rector: Vacant

Contact Details:

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st.elphinwarrington@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Janet Cliffe 07778 899492

Assistant Kathryn Hayes 01925-656790

Churchwardens: Ken Jeffery
Dianne Rothwell stelphin246@btinternet.com

Websites:

St Elphin's: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

Diocesan Website: <http://www.liverpoolcofe.org>

Cathedral Website: <http://www.liverpoolcathedral.org.uk>



WarringtonParishChurch (Instagram)



www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15292 (internet)



warringtonparishchurch (Facebook)

If you would like to receive an electronic version of the parish magazine please email: stelphin246@btinternet.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Alternatively, you can download the magazine from our website at <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/15292>

If you would like to support the work of St Elphin's contactless payments can be made by using this QR code:



A message from Revd Anne

The saying 'if you can remember the 60's you weren't really there' almost applies to me – I was born in 1968 in a tied cottage opposite the church in a tiny village in Herefordshire and most of the excitements of that decade passed me by!



Before I was 2 along with my new baby sister we had moved a couple of miles up the hill out of the village to a smallholding. My parents have not really grasped the concept of retirement and are still there.

I was fortunate to be brought up in a churchgoing family and in a community where church events and services strongly shaped the year. My primary school – which was not a church school – was another strong influence on my faith, through assemblies and, especially, hymn singing. I was confirmed at 12, and for a year or so at 17 I even joined the PCC.

After A levels I worked for a year on a dairy farm in Derbyshire, and then went on to Agricultural College in Aberystwyth with a sandwich year on an agricultural research station in Berkshire. I started my first 'proper' job with the Scottish Agricultural College, working first in Ayr and later in Dumfries. I spent the next decade very happily measuring grass, talking to farmers and students about grass and measuring the rate (in bites per minute) at which grazing cows ate the grass. Throughout this time I attended the local parish churches wherever I was living, so a mixture of Church in Wales, Church of England and Church of Scotland congregations.

At some point around the turn of the century, I started to feel an itch to do something more useful. It took a while to work out what was going on but that itch eventually became a journey of discernment and vocation that lead to me heading back to Herefordshire. For the next few years I combined working for Herefordshire Council with working my way through the C of E's discernment process and studying with the local ministry scheme for the Dioceses of Hereford and Gloucester.

I was ordained deacon in Gloucester cathedral and served my title as Curate in Cheltenham and then worked as a Team Vicar in Exeter for four years. These two posts gave me the chance to work alongside some wonderful colleagues and congregations and to develop my ministerial skills and gifts. For the last nearly 11 years I have been the Team Rector in South Wye in Hereford. The two churches and nearly 22,000 parishioners of this benefice, together with lay and ordained colleagues and volunteers have taught me so much and been wonderfully supportive.

All of these experiences have been part of my formation as a priest and as a person and I am greatly looking forward to finding out what I will learn at and with the people of St Elphin's. I would be grateful for your continued prayers as I prepare for the move and my licencing with you.

With every blessing,

Anne

Ryfields & St John's Court Communion Service

Please note that there will not be any services in September.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me (07778 899492)


Janet Cliffe



St Elphin's Ladies Group



The Ladies Group are not meeting in September but will be having a planning meeting and pot-luck supper in October. Date and time to be advised in October's magazine.



Our next Jigsaw Festival is Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th September and we are asking for volunteers to help, either with setting up on Wed 17th and Thurs 18th or during the festival itself.

Warrington Running Festival takes place on Sunday 21st the Jigsaw Festival is now taking place from Thursday to Saturday

We are also collecting sweets and chocolates for the Treat Tombola and if anyone can make cakes for the Cake Stall there is a separate sign-up sheet.

Sign-up sheets are at the back of church.

Flyers and Posters are also at the back of church and we would be very grateful if you could take a handful and share them with family and friends and also in any local shops, clubs or anywhere who will display one for us.

Calling all Jigsaw Enthusiasts

St Elphin's, St Barnabas & Holy Trinity Churches
invite you to join them at St Elphin's Church,
Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL for a

Jigsaw Festival

18th - 20th September 2025

Thurs: 4.00 - 8.00pm

Friday: 12.00 - 5.00pm

Sat: 10.00 - 4.00pm



Please note: change of day
Now Thursday evening instead of Sunday

Other Stalls include:

Refreshments

Cake Stall

Chocolate Tombola

Jams Stall

Knitted goods

Candles

Stained Glass



Admission £2.00 - includes free raffle ticket
(free re-admission with programme over the 3 days)
Proceeds to be split between the 3 churches

With our Christian faith at the heart of all we do, we seek to help families explore and enjoy faith together. Our members are involved in supporting parents in this aspect of family life. For example, some of our members who run parents' groups include a session on faith in the family alongside other topics.

Baptism

We get involved in various ways when families come to church for the baptism of their children:

- Some of our members become involved with the families before the service and keep in touch with them afterwards, inviting them to church activities like toddler groups and parent events
- Members may support their church in the baptism preparation process.

We have also produced a *Families and Baptism* leaflet as an introduction to families considering baptism for their children.

Families and Church

Our *Families and Church* series is a set of leaflets which focus on different aspects of family life and the part the church can play in these. The topics are:

- Helping children through bereavement
- Celebrate with us – ideas to celebrate with the church family throughout the year
- Families and baptism

Each leaflet includes helpful information and practical advice and they also recommend further resources.

Gracious God, we give thanks for all those working to support families to build bonds of love and to strengthen communities worldwide. Thank you for their tireless efforts, bringing reconciliation, healing wounds and fostering unity, Amen.

Branch meetings 2025

Unless otherwise stated meetings take place in church at 2.00pm

Wed Sept 24 th	Celebrating Grandparents, please bring pictures of your grandchildren. No grandchildren, just come for a drink and a chat.
Wed Oct 22 nd	St Elphin's Church 2.00pm – topic to be advised
November	Possible meal out date to be advised
Wed Dec 10 th	Christmas meeting

Tea / Coffee in September

7 th	Wendy
14 th	Wendy
21 st	Volunteers required
28 th	Wendy

Please sign up on the list in the kitchen if you are able to help.

Harvest Festival, Sunday 28th September

Followed by a Bring and Share Parish Lunch.



We are supporting Warrington Foodbank for our Harvest Appeal this year.

We are only collecting tinned, dried and packet foods or toiletries. Please do not bring any fresh food or vegetables.

After the sign-up sheet can be found at the back of church so that we have a good variety of food to share.

Pause for Thought with Norma Fox

As harvest comes around again I think of the popular hymn:

*We plough the fields and scatter,
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered,
by God's almighty hand.*

It makes us joyful and grateful for the abundance of God's blessings.

It would seem that we are a nation of growers, people love to grow their own food, fruit and veg, farmers grow arable crops to feed the nation. Growing food is so important and necessary as part of survival, but spare a thought for another form of growing, that of growing the Gospel. It works in the same way. God gives us the seeds of love, kindness, faith and trust to sow in the hearts and minds of those around us, and He will do the rest.

I found this short story to illustrate my point:

A woman planned an event at a local park and invited all the neighbourhood children to join in. She was excited about the opportunity to share her faith with her neighbours. She recruited her three grandchildren and to high school students to help her, gave the assignments, planned a number of games and other activities, prepared food, prepared a bible story about Jesus to present to the children, and waited for them to gather.

Not a single child turned up the first day, or the second day, or the third. Yet each day the woman went through that day's activities with her grandchildren and helpers.

On the fourth day, she noticed a family picnicking nearby and invited the children to join in the games. One little girl came, entered into the fun, ate with them and listened to the story about Jesus.

Perhaps years from now she'll remember. Who knows what the outcome will be? God through the book of Galatians, encourages us *'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will*

reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity let us do good to all people'. (6:9-10)

Don't worry about numbers or other visual measures of success. Our job is to be faithful to set the seeds of God's love and then leave the harvest to Him.

*All good things around us
are sent from heav'n above,
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all His Love.*

1330 Warrington Squadron Air Training Corps

Invite you to join them for their annual service of remembrance for The Battle of Britain.

A commemorative poster for the Battle of Britain. The background is a blue sky with white clouds. Two black silhouettes of Spitfire aircraft are shown in flight, one on the left and one on the right, both trailing dark smoke. The text 'Warrington Gives Thanks' is written in a cursive font above the word 'BATTLE'. Below 'BATTLE' is the word 'OF' in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and below that is the word 'BRITAIN' in a very large, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text 'Sunday 14th September 2025 | Doors Open 2:30pm, 3pm Start' is written in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by 'St Elphin's Parish Church' and 'In partnership with Warrington Brass Band'. In the bottom left and right corners, there are clusters of red poppies. In the bottom center, there is a circular crest with a crown on top and a banner below it, and next to it is a large '85' with a Spitfire silhouette integrated into the '5', and the words 'BATTLE OF BRITAIN' below it.

Warrington Gives Thanks

BATTLE OF BRITAIN

Sunday 14th September 2025 | Doors Open 2:30pm, 3pm Start
St Elphin's Parish Church
In partnership with Warrington Brass Band



A New Pilgrim at Walsingham

On Thursday, 14th August, 23 pilgrims from various churches, led by St James Latchford, undertook a pilgrimage to Walsingham, England's Nazareth. After an uneventful journey, with two stops *en route* and slow moving traffic on the motorway and A roads, we left the hustle of everyday life, I noticed the peace and quietness as we followed the route into the village, singing the Pilgrim's Hymn.

We arrived at the Shrine and this calmness surrounding the area was a real surprise to me because my husband's experience in Lourdes had led me to expect people attempting to sell me all manners of goods. It never happened. Prayers were said outside The Shrine before we entered to see an altar which had a blue and white depiction of the Annunciation and then Dianne read Luke 1:26-38. From there we continued into the Shrine for further readings from scripture and prayer as preparation for our time there.

As we left the shrine and collected our luggage to go to reception, the peace of the place was evident with the serene movement of other pilgrims, both day and residential. The group from St Elphin's was placed in Mileham. I was in the room opposite Dianne where we shared a bathroom and both of us had 3 beds in our room. Meals were provided in the Refectory. The food was basic, but well-presented and enjoyable.

After dinner on the first night, we went to St Mary's Parish Church for a short service and a candlelit procession. As I entered the church, there was a beautiful smell of various herbs, including rosemary, thyme and bay leaf etc, that were along the aisles. You can imagine how the herbal aromas



were released as we walked through the church. We left the church singing hymns and processed to the Catholic Church for a reading, John “1-11 (The Wedding Feast at Cana) before going on the Shrine where we assembled around the Altar of the Mysteries of Light.



I have gone into detail on this to give you some idea of what happened while we were there. There were many services in which I participated, some with standing room only, but the two that touched me most were evening prayer in the Barn Chapel on Friday and the Saturday service of anointing, healing, confession and processing around the garden singing as the organ thundered out through the speakers. I found this most uplifting as it vibrated in your soul.



This description can only give a brief outline of what a most spiritual and worthwhile experience. It helped me examine myself in my faith in the company of likeminded pilgrims. I should offer a big thanks to Barbara for her organisation and if you want to soul search, then I wholeheartedly recommend it.

Charmaine Garner

(If anyone is interested in joining next year's Pilgrimage to Walsingham, 14th -16th August 2026, please speak to either Anita, Charmaine, Dianne or Kathryn and we will put you in touch with Barbara from St James.)



St Elphin's 50/50 Club



The results of the August draw are as follows:

1 st	Martin Butterworth	2 nd	Margaret Sephton
3 rd	Barbara Sheldon	4 th	Norma Fox

£105.00 went to church funds

The next draw will take place on Sunday 21st September and payments must be made by Sunday 14th to be in the draw. Any payments made after that date will be assumed to be for the following month. Any cheques should be made payable to 'St Elphin's 50/50 Club'.

The more people who are in the 50/50 the more money we collect for church funds and the better the prizes for the winners.

If you are not already a member, would you consider joining?

For more information, then please speak to Janet Cliffe.

Book Review from Mara

What does Israel fear from Palestine? by Raja Shehadeh



I have been brought to my knees so many times in the last year and ten months at the news from Gaza and Israel. My heart breaks at the news daily, but I wanted to understand a little more.

When the state of Israel was formed in 1948, it precipitated the Nakba or disaster, the displacement of the Palestine nation, creating fracture-lines which continue to erupt in violent and tragic ways today.

In the years that followed, while the Berlin Wall crumbled and South Africa abolished apartheid, the Israeli government rejected every opportunity for reconciliation with Palestine.

Raja Shehadeh, a human rights lawyer and arguably Palestine's greatest living writer, suggests that this does not mean the two nations cannot work together as partners on the road to peace, not genocide.

In graceful, devastatingly observed prose, this is a fresh perspective in a time of great need.

A beacon for hope.

*** YOUTH COLLECTIVE ***

Games, snacks and your space to talk about faith

MONDAY 6.30-7.30PM	WEDNESDAY 3.15-4.15PM	FRIDAY 7-8.30PM
YOUTH COLLECTIVE Warrington Youth Zone Dallam Lane Warrington WA2 7NG	YOUTH COLLECTIVE Fearnhead Community Centre Insall Road Warrington WA2 0HD	CC YOUTH Christ Church Padgate Station Road South Warrington WA2 0QJ

What Interests You ?

If you have time on your hands or want to get out more then Warrington U3A enables you to develop your interests, make new friends and above all have fun.

Warrington U3A has over 1000 members and has over 40 interest groups all organised by its own members.

You can join as many groups as you wish and joining in is made so much easier when you are surrounded by other members with similar interests.

Also, once a month, we invite all members to a general meeting where you can get together with friends, chat and listen to some really interesting speakers.

Warrington U3A welcomes you, whoever you are, whatever your background and whatever your circumstances.



A whole world of new experiences is awaiting you, so what's stopping you joining our groups ?

Art, Awaydays, Badminton, Latin Birdwatching, Bowling, Theatre Appreciation, German, American Square Dancing, Italian, History Guitar, Ukulele, Knit and Natter Line Dancing, Mah Jong, French Lace Making, Bridge, Badminton Literature, Guitar, Rummikub Philosophy, Scrabble, Book Club Natural History, Walking, Science Family History, Tai Chi, Spanish Film Club, Folk and Acoustic Table Tennis, Sea Shanties Photography, Patchwork Quilting and Singing for Pleasure

We are Warrington U3A

Contact : Andrew Young

Email me at :
wu3anewreg@outlook.com

Telephone : 07817 377238

Our web site is :
u3asites.org.uk/warrington/



Founded in 1981, we are part of the National U3A movement which has over 1000 branches and 400,000 members.



heritage open days

S a t u r d a y
13 · 9 · 25

The Anglo-Saxon Story:

UNCOVERING THE LEGENDS, NORMAN RULE
AND LEGACY OF ST ELPHIN'S CHURCH.

10AM
to
2PM

Heritage Open Days event
at St Elphin's Church.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE



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WARRINGTONCASTLE.CO.UK

Church Finances for 2025

For the last few years, I have been providing details monthly of the income and expenditure on the general account only. This account pays most of the church expenses including gas, electricity, insurance and clergy housing and other expenses. Therefore, this report for 2024 and 2025, now includes income and expenditure on all accounts **including fabric fund, and investments.**

Month	Income		Expenditure	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
January	23,488	9,283	4,960	7,001
February	5,621	45,237	7,453	6,257
March	6,665	37,780	11,369	10,440
April	17,601	15,080	7,060	9,072
May	8,153	8,992	14,720	8,627
June	4,679	7,939	5,930	7,310
July	13,081	8,386	7,623	7,106
Total	£79,291	£133,380	£59,115	£55,814

Income

January 2025 income included £15,000 from the estate of Paul Nener. Feb 2024 included £40k in Legacies. April 2025 includes £2469 tax relief and £11649 bank interest, May 2025 includes £5,602 in bank interest, July includes £10,194 in bank interest.

Expenditure

Expenditure is currently running about £3k more than the same time in 2024, mainly due to the reduction in the Parish Share, and the cost of roof repairs to the clergy vestry.

Many regular donations are now either through the Parish giving scheme or through other electronic means which means less visits to the bank and less cost to the church as banking cash and cheques incur additional charges. Thank you for those who are now using these methods, If anyone would like to know more about how to donate or about the church finances please see me.

Wendy Bailey, PCC Treasurer, Tel: 07963 021172



Big Clean

Thank you to everyone who helped with our recent Big Clean day.

Dates for the rest of the year are: 6th September 27th September, 1st November and 6th December.

Dedicate a Hymn Book

You will be aware that a lot of our hymn books are dedicated in memory of a loved one but we still have several books that have no dedication in them.

If anyone would like to dedicate a book in someone's memory please speak to Janet.

Donations:

General Fund

Donation from John Hankey	45.00
In memory of Mavis Leather from Gaynor Hankey	10.00
In memory of Mavis Leather from Barbara Molyneaux	10.00
Donation from Ann Bean	32.25
Donation from Margaret Madden	31.50

Hymn Book Dedication

In memory of George Richard Barrett from Barbara and family	20.00
In memory of Norman Westland from Kathleen and family	10.00

St Elphin's Prayer List

All those who are ill or in need of our love and prayers:

Daisy Easton	Margaret Lomax	Scarlett Keegan
Carol Shaw	Brenda Hill	Emily Craddock
Doreen Robinson	Andrew Clare	Gill Molyneaux
Maynard Glover	Margaret	Ron Close
Joy & Ray Foster	Gurney	Sharon Hopkins
Ron Leather	Mike Hughes	Don Fox
Sam and Barbara Sheldon	Fred Allen	Stan Rowe
Canon John Holden	Ann Finlay	Joyce Bradbury
Dave Prescott	Ron Hart	Victor Moran
Roland Jackson	Terry Buxton	David Wood

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism in August

17th Albie Stephen McColl
 Alannah Josie Webb
 Noah-Oliver Ronnie McGowan



Holy Matrimony in August

9th James Steven Maires and Sarah Ann Somerset



Christian Burial & Cremation in August

6th Barbara Holden

Age 78



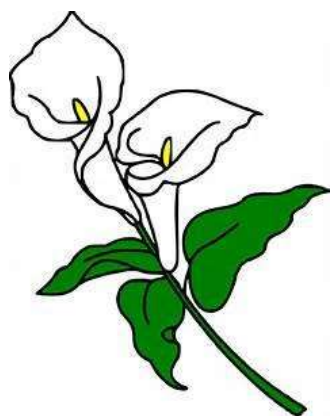


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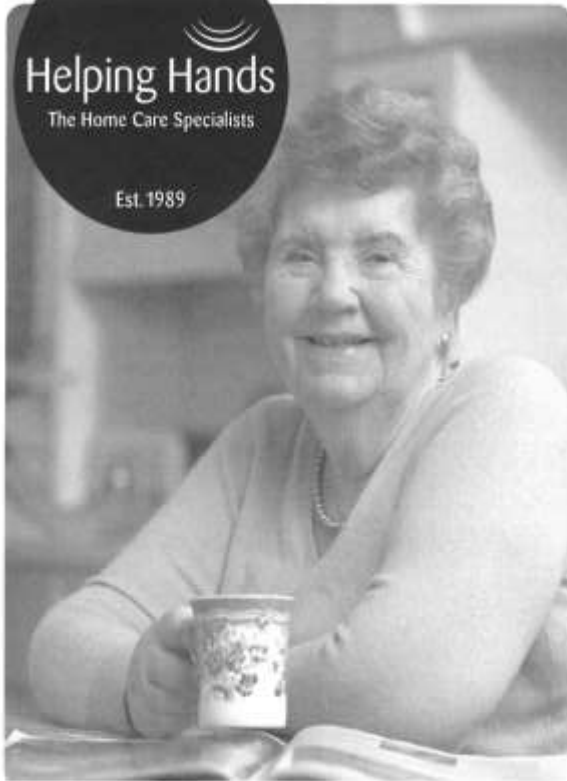
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visit: **www.helpinghands.co.uk**

