



Thurcaston with Cropston and Anstey

Heart & Soul

of our community

ALL THE
FUN OF
THE FETES

SATURDAY 6 JUNE

SATURDAY 20 JUNE

Sunday morning
services: the times
they are a-changing

All Saints' Church
Thurcaston

June 2026

St Mary's Church
Anstey

ANSTEY, CROPSTON, THURCASTON - KEY CONTACTS

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Rector | Rev Matthew Gough | 07754 961 997 |
| | | revgough@gmail.com |
| Associate Ministers | Ian Dutton | 0116 221 3786 |
| | Clare Gough | claregough@yahoo.co.uk |

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, THURCASTON WITH CROPSTON

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Church Warden | Vacant | |
| Church Admin | Jane Westby | 0116 235 2226 |
| | | mowestby@virginmedia.com |
| Organist & Choir Master | David Evans | 07733 243 383 |
| PCC Secretary | Douglas Gilmour | 0116 236 2503 |
| PCC Treasurer | Peter Yardley | 0116 236 3485 |
| Captain of Bellringers | Peter Hunt | 0116 235 9601 |
| Harrison Room bookings | Jane Lacey | harrisonroomsbookings@gmail.com |

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ANSTEY

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Church Warden | Marian Driver | 0116 348 1587 |
| PCC Secretary | Pat Henderson | 0116 221 5981 |
| PCC Treasurer & Stewardship Secretary | Janet Collins | 07749 655 618 (<i>Txt messages only</i>) |
| Verger | Paula Hayward | 0116 367 8563 or 07584 254 729 |
| Bellringers | Marion Pegge | 07971 170 471 |
| Pastoral Assistant | Helen Nightingale | ansteypastoralcare@gmail.com |
| Music | Harvey Nightingale | |
| Church Room bookings | | Stmaryschurchrooms@gmail.com |



Find us on Facebook: [@asthurcastonwc](#) [@stmarysanstey](#)



The editor's note

Novelist John Steinbeck summed up the month of June pretty well when he wrote: "In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different."



Fellow writer Jean Hersey and poet Patience Strong were also pretty close to the mark when they, respectively, referred to June as "...the gateway to summer" and "...a love song written by nature".

With two Church Fetes taking place in the villages this month (All Saints', Thurcaston on Saturday 6th and St Mary's, Anstey on Saturday 20th) let's hope the weather delivers requisite sunshine to lift our spirits and prepare us for the summer ahead.

Saying that, I'm minded of the old adage that there's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing. So, if the sky's grey or overcast on either Fete day, simply pack a mac and carry on regardless!

Speaking of evolving seasons, there's also changes afoot in both of our churches, with Sunday Service times being adjusted to accommodate available ministry resources (see page 5)

However, as the French say: "Plus ça change" (The more things change, the more they stay the same).

Wishing everyone a warm and rewarding June - see you at the Summer Fetes on the 6th and 20th!

Ed

Ed's Joke of the Day:

A stereotypical joke walks into a bar. The barman says 'what do you want'. The joke says the punchline.

All Saints' and St Mary's exist for the benefit of the whole community - not just people who go to church on Sundays!

We're delighted to arrange baptisms and weddings, or to bring Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to attend church.

If we can help in this, or any other way, please contact the Rector or Church Wardens (contact details on left).

Visit our websites for further information about events, activities, services, etc:

stmarysandallsaints.co.uk

[All Saints' Thurcaston with Cropston](#)
[St Mary's Anstey](#)



Please send contributions, listings, suggestions or ideas for the July issue of the magazine to:
heartandsoulnews@gmail.com
(deadline Saturday 20 June)

USEFUL ADDRESSES

All Saints' Church / Harrison Room
Anstey Lane, Thurcaston LE7 7JA

Anstey Library
Paper Mill Close, Anstey LE7 AU

Cropston Evangelical Free Church (CEFC), Cropston Road, LE7 7GE

Jubilee Hall
Stadon Road, Anstey LE7 7AY

Methodist Church
Cropston Road, Anstey LE4 7BP

St Mary's Church / Church Rooms
Church Lane, Anstey LE7 7AF

Thurcaston Memorial Hall
Anstey Lane, Thurcaston LE7 7JA

Earthly thoughts...

Sir David Attenborough is 100!

I wonder if you have a sense of pride that this living legend and national treasure is a Leicester lad! In my last parish of Knighton, we made much of the fact that 'Life on Earth' began in the Washbrook stream at the back of church and that his father's garden is now freely open to the public.

The Attenborough Arboretum is a haven for peace and wildlife in the South of the city and well worth visiting if you have a spare hour that side of Leicester.

Sir David's gracious style and warmth make him such a magnetic character. Though perhaps like Jesus, we may find it easier to focus on the person rather than the things he says.



Jesus challenges us to change. Attenborough's latest productions end with 'this is my witness statement'. He is alarmed at the devastation to species and the landscape changes across his long 60-year career.

He impresses on his audience that all is not lost but humanity around the world and in this country too is experiencing reversible yet devastating consequences unless we change track.

You see farmers complain even in Leicestershire how many of our fields are becoming unfarmable for crops - waterlogged in winter and dehydrated in summer as we witness the birth pains of the extremes of climate breakdown.

The sobering message of the recently launched film, National Emergency Briefing with Chris Packham today's TV naturalist picking up the baton is that the extremes of weather we witness today will be the mildest in our (remaining) lifetimes.

Christians and churches can be some of the greatest champions of change, but sadly also the most complacent.

Some have told me that it is unchristian to be concerned about climate emergency as if it is a lack of trust in God...though when God commands us in Genesis (1, 26-28) to steward the earth and work it, I know that he also commanded us to let the earth rest in Sabbath.

Instead, our greed drive for maximising profit means exploiting natural resources to oblivion, destroying species and vital food chains in the process. It cannot go on like this.

If you want access to up-to-date climate breakdown with hopeful examples, why not come along to the free screening in Anstey of the National Emergency Briefing?

It is co-hosted with Youth Anstey Refills which we are proud to support. The film is part of a campaign to engage policy makers on primetime television. Please see page 13 for details and do come along if you can - we'd love to see you there.



Rev Matthew

Church fillers

Change to Sunday Service times

Please note that Sunday Service times have changed slightly at All Saints' Church in Thurstaston and St Mary's Church in Anstey.

As of Sunday 7 June, Sunday Services will be at:

- All Saints' 9.30am
- St Mary's 11am (coffee / biscuits / refreshments served from 10.30am - not after the service).

Traditional Prayer Book Choral Evensong at All Saints' Church

Sunday 28 June 6.30pm

David Evans will be leading an augmented choir for a full Choral Evensong with congregational hymns, accompanied by Paul Morley on the organ. Do come and join us for this lovely evening service.

Soup-er-Lunch Christian Aid fundraiser

St Mary's Church Rooms hosted a special fund raising lunch on 16 May, which raised nearly £200 for Christian Aid.

Many thanks to everyone who attended, those who provided a delicious variety of home made soup and bread, and also everyone who helped with serving and washing up. All in all, a great event!

Blister Packs - No thanks!

Blister packs are no longer being collected by All Saints' Church Thurstaston - so please do not leave them outside St Mary's Church for collection. Boots at Beaumont Leys will recycle them and give you loyalty points.

All Saints' Garden Fete

This year's event takes place on Saturday 6 June. 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're having a clear out, please put suitable things to one side ready to bring down to Church (or call Jane on 0116 235 2226).

If you are planting at home, please do a few extra flowers and / or vegetables for the plant stall. Homemade cakes and preserves are also most welcome.

We will be setting up on Friday evening (5 June 5-7pm), and are happy to receive items at the Church at this time. If you have a little time to spare, help is required setting up and running the stalls on the Saturday. Looking forward to a sunny afternoon and lovely community event!

Trustees sought

The Church of England Alms Houses in Cropston provide cottages to single female pensioners. We are a friendly small group of dedicated trustees with representation from All Saints' Church and the local community.

We are seeking a couple of people who are sympathetic to the parish church, and interested in the welfare and care of older women. We meet formally three times a year, as well as during social meet ups with residents. If you interested in the role of Trustee, please approach the Rector, Jane Westby or warden Jane Lacey.

From the registers



Thursday 7 May

Christine Hazel Mary Emmitt

Funeral St Mary's Anstey followed by burial at Anstey Cemetery.

Friday 8 May

Lesley Anne King (Annie) of Thurcaston

Thanksgiving Memorial, All Saints' Thurcaston.

Sunday 10 May

Sarah Cole and Jamie Johnston

Wedding, All Saints' Thurcaston.

Friday 22 May

Christine Mary Marston

Interment of ashes, St Mary's Garden of Remembrance.

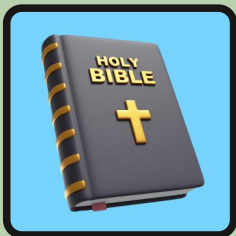
Wednesday 27 May

Pamela Joyce Davies of Anstey

Funeral at St Mary's followed by private cremation.

Come and support Confirmation candidates from the St Mary's Anstey community with the Bishop of Loughborough. Groby Parish Church, Sunday 7 June 6pm (clash with Taize)

June Readings (Ordinary Time - Green)



Sunday 7 June

Trinity 1

Romans 4.13-end

Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26

Sunday 14 June

Trinity 2

Romans 5.1-8

Matthew 9.35-10.8

Sunday 21 June

Trinity 3

Romans 6.1-11

Matthew 10.24-39

Sunday 28 June

Trinity 4

Romans 6.12-end

Matthew 10.40-end

Safeguarding Survey - Have your say

The Diocese of Leicester and Leicester Cathedral will soon be taking part in an independent safeguarding audit carried out by the INEQE Safeguarding Group.

INEQE has been appointed by the Archbishops' Council to take an independent look at safeguarding across Church of England dioceses and cathedrals, as well as the National Safeguarding Team.

They want to check how things are working day to day and help us make sure our churches and worshipping communities are places where everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

This audit is a chance to celebrate what we do well, be honest about what we could do better, and learn and improve together. It will be open for eight weeks in June and July.

It's an important part of the Church's ongoing commitment to safeguarding and being open, accountable and willing to learn.

You are invited to share your experiences through online surveys.

The more people who take part, the clearer and fairer the picture will be – so we're really hoping many of you will take the time to have your say.

Marian, Liz and Jane are available if you need to talk.

There are different surveys for:

- **Diocesan workforce**
- **Parish workforce**
- **Parish community members**
- **Cathedral workforce**
- **Cathedral worshippers**
- **Children and young people**
- **Survivors**

You can fill in more than one survey, depending on your role(s) in the parish, diocese or cathedral.

Taking part is completely voluntary, but every response matters, as your voice can help shape meaningful improvement.

All responses are anonymous and confidential – they go directly to the INEQE audit team, not to the Diocese, Cathedral or Church of England.

INEQE are carrying out the audit in relation to five safeguarding standards that were established by the National Safeguarding Team of the Church of England.

The Five National Standards are:

- 1) Culture, Leadership and Capacity
- 2) Prevention
- 3) Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk
- 4) Victims and Survivors
- 5) Learning, Supervision and Support

Further information about the National Standards can be found online:

churchofengland.org/safeguarding/national-safeguarding-standards#na

Further details about the safeguarding audit, and the survey questionnaires, are also available online:

leicester.anglican.org/safeguarding/audit

Have your say - make a difference. Let INEQE know what is working well, and what could be done better.



St Mary's Food Bank

I was delighted to receive an email from the year 4 teacher at Woolden Hill school in Anstey asking for information about the food bank in Anstey. The children in Year 4 wanted to adopt Anstey Food Bank as their project for the Archbishop's Challenge.



Following this, the class of Year 4 children made a visit to the food bank carrying some of the items. The children enjoyed squash and biscuits and were able to see the Food Bank in action.

I was invited to visit the class at their school and talked to them about the Food bank. I took in a food bag and showed them the contents.

I told them how the Anstey Food Bank is part of the Soar Valley Food Project which started in Rothley ten years ago and then moved to larger premises at Mountsorrel Baptist Church where our food bags are prepared. Many questions followed my talk and then I was invited to be interviewed and recorded.

A non-uniform day was organised by the school where all of the children brought in food items to donate to the food bank.

The remainder of the food was taken to Soar Valley hub at Mountsorrel. Later this month the year 4 class will present their project in the Cathedral. Thank You so much Woolden Hill for your kind gifts.

Anstey Food bank is available to anyone in need. We meet every Tuesday in Church rooms between 10 and 11.30am to provide food, refreshments and a warm welcome.

We are well supported in the community by willing helpers and food donations. We have a collection box in the back of St Mary's Church and in the Anstey doctor's surgery.

Marian Driver

ALL SAINTS' ANNUAL SKITTLES EVENING

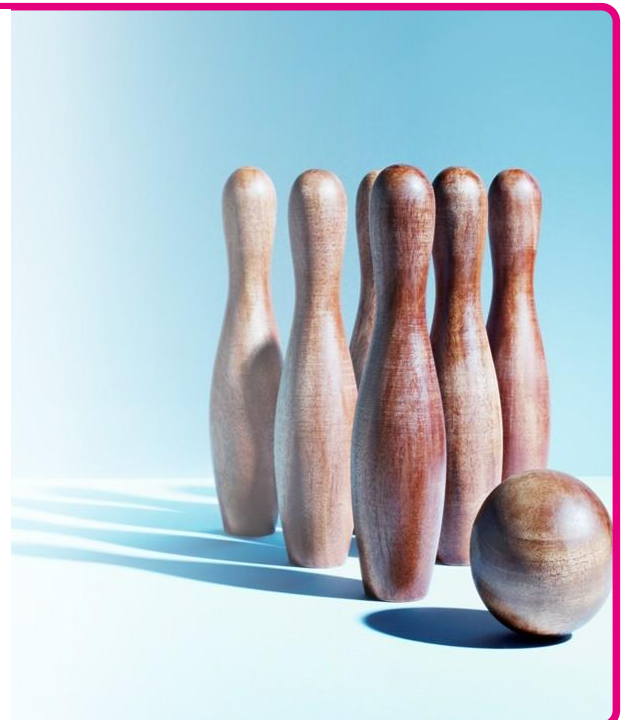
Tickets on sale now

**WHEATSHEAF INN
THURCASTON
Wednesday 8 July
6.30 for 7pm**

£15 per head (includes Skittles supper)

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

**Further details:
Eleanor 07834 48 38 50
eleanorlj@aol.com**



Birstall and District Art Society

Members of Birstall and District Art Society meet for informal painting sessions on Friday mornings 9.30am-12 noon at the Coop Sports & Social Club, Birstall and on Wednesday evenings at Wanlip Village Hall 6.30-8.30pm.

All abilities are welcome and those with less experience can benefit from the expertise of longer-standing members (if desired!). There is also the opportunity to take part in taster sessions before deciding if you wish to join.

Demonstration evenings are held on the second Tuesday of most months at the Palmer Tomkinson Centre at the Cedars Academy, Birstall. These start at 6.45pm and there is a charge of £5 for non-members. Further information can be found on their website: BADAS.uk

Forthcoming events / activities

Tuesday 9 June: Steve Woodhams returns for an Experiment in Cubism.

Tuesday 11 August: BADAS welcomes a new artist - Chris Jay Rogers - who will be focusing on skies and clouds in landscape, using soft pastel.

Tuesday 8 September: Paul Berryman will be demonstrating portraiture.



GAS-SERVWELL

Established 1984

All gas appliances serviced, repaired and fitted

- General Plumbing & Repairs
- Same Day Priority Breakdown Visits
- Power Flushing and Heating Upgrades
- 5-15 year Guarantee On Fitted Boilers - Parts & Labour



OAP
Reduced
Rates

**15-YEAR GUARANTEE
ON BOILER INSTALLATIONS**

Tel: 0116 236 7923 • 01509 839 272 Mob: 07860 73506

Email: bobzgas@gmail.com

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH THURCASTON SUMMER FETE



**£1 entry,
free entry
for
children
with a
teddy
bear**



**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 6th June

1pm-4pm

**Donations of quality items welcomed.
Drop at Church
Friday 5th June 5-7pm
or contact Jane Westby
0116 2352226
mowestby@virginmedia.com**



St Mary's Church
Fundraiser

Summer Fete

BBQ

BRING YOUR APPETITE AND GOOD VIBES!

SATURDAY 20 JUNE

11AM – 2PM FREE ENTRY

CHURCH ROOMS CHURCH LANE

**STALLS-SAMOSAS-CAKES-TOMBOLA-RAFFLE-
TEAS & COFFEE**



Local cinema

Anstey Film Club - Anstey Community Library

Wednesdays 2pm

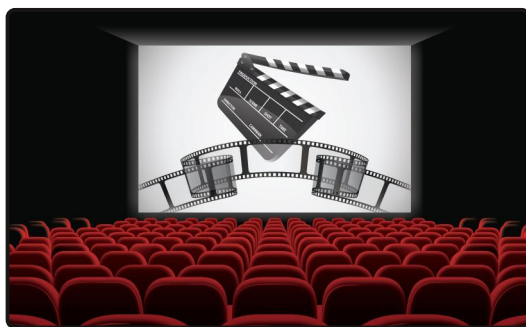
Enjoy a friendly, relaxing hour or two with good company in the library every Wednesday afternoon. Films are shown on a new large screen TV with surround sound. Entrance price is just £3, which includes cake and a drink. Films are chosen on a weekly basis, so we're unable to provide details in advance - visit the website ansteylibrary.com or pop into the library to discover what's on each week.

Save the Cinema - Thurcaston Memorial Hall

Friday 12 June, 7.30pm (duration 1 hour 49 minutes)

The scene is set in the 1990's in Carmarthen, south-west Wales, for this long-awaited British film. It's based on the true story of Liz Evans, a hairdresser who's leader of the Lyric Youth Theatre. She begins a campaign to save the theatre from closure.

With the help of the local politician, they get Steven Spielberg to come and show a premiere of Jurassic Park, in a bid to 'Save the Cinema'. Does the plan work? This story could almost be about our village film shows.

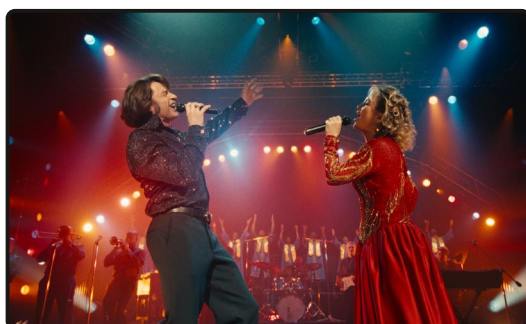


Song Sung Blue - Thurcaston Memorial Hall

Friday 11 September (duration 2 hours, 12 minutes)

Starring Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson, this film is a musical drama and true love story about two very successful musicians playing beautiful music in a Neil Diamond tribute band called "Lightening and Thunder".

We see them face great misfortune in an almost unbelievable set of circumstances. After overwhelming odds, will this loving musical couple triumph over such adversity?



Thurcaston and Cropston Parish Council will be showing these two films in Thurcaston Memorial Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets will be £6, which includes a lucky prize draw and wine or fruit juice during the interval. You can pay for your tickets at the door, if there are any left, or buy in advance from Diana (0116 2362 619), Sylvia (0116 2352 873) or the Parish Office (0116 2367 626).

Climate and Nature

A special community screening of The People's Emergency Briefing

Saturday 13 June, 7-8.30m
St Mary's Church, Anstey

Join us for a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing - an eye-opening 50-minute film bringing together nine leading UK scientists and experts with the latest evidence and why it matters for things like:

**Extreme weather
Health**

**Food security
Cost of living**

The film is based on the National Emergency Briefing in Westminster, with appearances from Chris Packham, Deborah Meaden, and a range of voices from across the UK.

After the film there will be an open discussion about what it means for our community and what we can do locally.

We will be inviting local civic leaders and politicians and we are optimistic that they will join with constituents for this important discussion about our future.

Seats are free but limited so please book in advance. Bring a friend, neighbour or family member: everyone is welcome. Please note: This film is suitable for ages 16+

There is limited parking around the Church and on Church Lane. Parking options are at The Nook free car park or the nearby Co-op. Alternatively please try to use public transport, cycle or walk where possible.

Scan the QR code on the right to book a ticket - or book via youthansteyrefills@gmail.com. If after booking you are unable to attend, please let us know so that we can re-allocate your ticket.



All Saints' 200 Club winners



May 2026 Draw

1st Carolyn Warrington

2nd Pam Mason

3rd Nick & Lorna Cutts

Congratulations!

It's not too late to join the All Saint's 200 Club. Contact Jane Westby for an application form:
mowestby@virginmedia.com

Local history

Thurcaston & Cropston Local History Society

How do people really behave in church? It's not always in the way the clergy and architects who plan the buildings might have intended! Our speaker in May was Claire Strachan, who works for the Diocese of Coventry advising churchwardens and PCCs on the maintenance of the historic structures in their care.

Claire is fascinated by the apparently insignificant markings in these buildings – the “small things forgotten” that give clues about what past congregations actually did and how they thought.

Many of these signs are in the form of graffiti, which is frowned on now but was more acceptable in the past: there are even examples engraved by the vicar himself!

Perhaps the most familiar form of graffiti is commemorative, with a name or initials, often accompanied by a date.

These are mostly from the 17th century onwards, when more people became literate and there was more focus on individualism. The dates seem to cluster in periods of uncertainty, such as times of war, disease or bad harvests.

Another type of graffiti comprises devotional signs, such as crosses or “Marian marks”, which are overlapping V V symbols that represent the Virgin Mary.

These signs could be used to ask for divine aid or protection. They are sometimes difficult to distinguish from “apotropaic” markings, which were specifically used for protection against evil spirits.

One common marking is the daisy-wheel design of overlapping circles, which can be created with a pair of compasses or even sheep shears.

Apparently, demons would become trapped going round and round them so would be prevented from harming the congregation!

A similar idea might be behind a drawing of the church, a house or the outline of a person's hand or shoe: the devil would be drawn to the image instead of attacking the building or the person themselves. Such marks are often found near doors and windows where the devil would be most likely to gain access.

On a lighter note, gaming boards – especially for Nine Men's Morris – can sometimes be found. They are most common on benches in the porch, where people probably spent a lot of time waiting or sheltering, but they can be on other flat surfaces such as windowsills.

In Shepshed there is a nice example on the seat of a pew, which would originally have been positioned behind a pillar to be hidden from the pulpit!



Photo accreditation: Doyle of London, CC BY-SA 4.0 creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/, via Wikimedia Commons



Local history

Before the widespread adoption of clocks and watches, rural life was marked out by the chiming of the church bell for services. But how did the sexton know when to ring the bell?

He might have used a “scratch dial”, which is a simple sundial that you can often find on the south side of the church, close to the door into the chancel.

Other parallel scratches on the stonework are often said to be the result of sharpening arrows during archery practice but this is unlikely for several reasons.

Instead, it probably shows where people scraped dust from the sacred building to add potency to medical treatments. Keep your eyes peeled for these and other examples.

We now start on our programme of summer outings, which include a Civil War walk in Leicester, a visit to Shepshed Watermill and a tour of Whitwick.

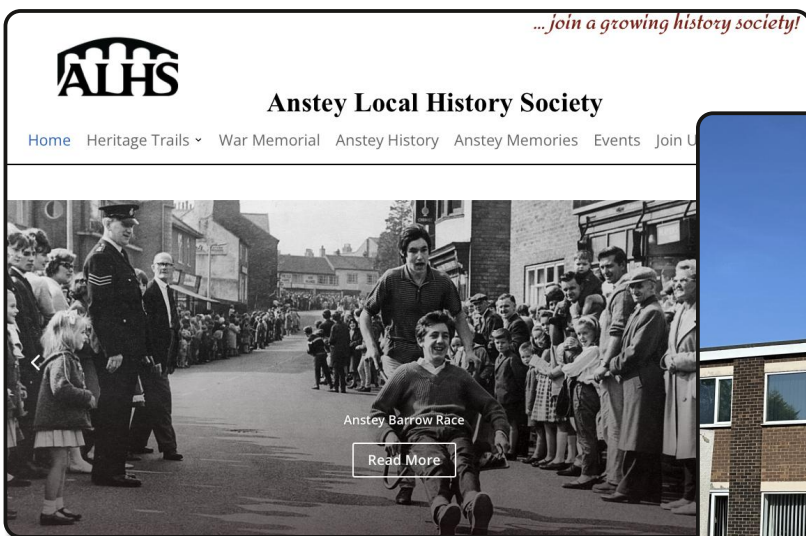
These events are usually open only to members of the Society but you are of course very welcome to join. The annual fee is £16 and details can be found on our website: thurcastoncropstonhistory.org.uk

Anstey Local History Society

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17 June, 7.30pm at Jubilee Hall, Staddon Road, when guest speaker Robert Gent will talk about Ulverscroft Large Print Books.

Ulverscroft Press has been based in Anstey for more than 60 years and many Anstey people have worked for the company. Robert will not only tell us about the company's history and legacy, but also the wonderful work the company continues to do around the world to help blind or visually impaired people. Members: free. Non-members: £3.

Visit ansteyhistory.com or call 07870 197 958 for further information



Dates for your diary: June

Monday 1

11am Bible Study (Cropston Evangelical Free Church: CEFC)

Tuesday 2

10am Food Bank (St Mary's Church Rooms)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

Wednesday 3

2pm Wednesday Hub - Coffee/tea, cake, chat (All Saints' Harrison Room)

Thursday 4

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 5

9.15am Coffee Morning (St Mary's Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Saturday 6

11am Charity Coffee Morning (CEFC)

Sunday 7

9am Breakfast in the Church (All Saints' Church)

9.30am Morning Praise (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits (St Mary's Church)

11am Holy Communion (St Mary's Church)

10.30am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

6.30pm Taize Service (St Mary's Church)

Monday 8

2.15pm Monday Club (CEFC)

Tuesday 9

10am Food Bank (St Mary's Church Rooms)

10.30am Anstey Musical Memory Box (Jubilee Hall)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

Wednesday 10

9.30am Prayer Book Communion (St Mary's Church)

2pm Wednesday Hub (All Saints' Harrison Room)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

7.45pm Thurcaston and Cropston Gardening Club (Memorial Hall)

Thursday 11

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 12

9.15am Coffee Morning (St Mary's Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

7.30pm Save the Cinema film (Memorial Hall)

Sunday 14

9.30am Holy Communion (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits (St Mary's Church)

11am All Age Worship (St Mary's Church)

Monday 15

11am Prayer Meeting (CEFC)

Tuesday 16

10am Food Bank (St Mary's Church Rooms)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

2pm Just for Ladies - bring a craft, play board games, chat (CEFC)

6.45pm Birstall & District Arts Society (Cedars Academy)

7.30pm Thurcaston & Cropston Local History Society (Memorial Hall)

Wednesday 17

9.30am Prayer Book Communion (St Mary's Church)

2pm Wednesday Hub (All Saints' Harrison Room)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

7.30pm Anstey Local History Society (Jubilee Hall)

7.45pm Gardening Club (Memorial Hall)

Thursday 18

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 19

9.15am Coffee Morning (St Mary's Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday 21

9.30am Prayer Book (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits (St Mary's Church)

11am Holy Communion (St Mary's Church)

8pm Night Prayer Compline (All Saints' Church)

Monday 22

11am Prayer Meeting (CEFC)

Tuesday 23

10am Food Bank (St Mary's Church Rooms)

10.30am Anstey Musical Memory Box (Jubilee Hall)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

Wednesday 24

2pm Wednesday Hub (All Saints' Harrison Room)

2pm Wednesday Film Show (Anstey Library)

Thursday 25

7pm Anstey Chess Club (Methodist Church)

Friday 26

9.15am Coffee Morning (St Mary's Church Room)

11.30am RVS Lunch Club (Jubilee Hall)

Sunday 28

9.30am Holy Communion (All Saints' Church)

10.30am Sunday Worship (CEFC)

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits (St Mary's Church)

11am Fresh Morning Praise (St Mary's Church)

6.30pm Choral Evensong (All Saints' Church)

Monday 29

2pm Tea & Crafts (St Mary's Church Rooms)

Tuesday 30

10am Food Bank (St Mary's Church Rooms)

12noon Leics MS Group (Jubilee Hall)

1pm Anstey Art Club (Methodist Church)

See page 3 for venue addresses

June services - All Saints' Thurcaston

Please note new service times for both churches

Sunday 7th

9am Breakfast

9.30am Morning Praise

Sunday 14th

9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 21st

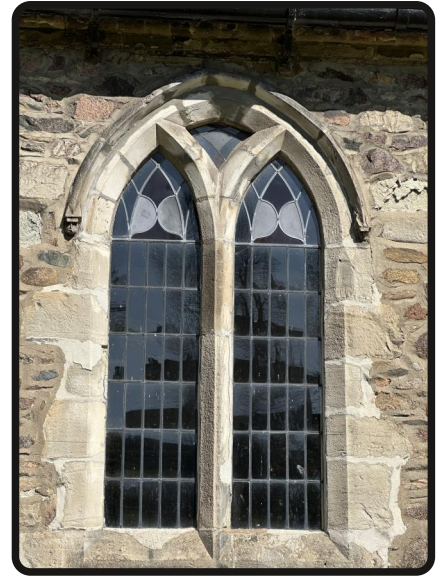
9.30am Prayer Book

8pm Night Prayer Compline

Sunday 28th

9.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong



June services: St Mary's Anstey

Sunday 7th

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits

11am Holy Communion

6.30pm Taize Worship

Sunday 14th

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits

11am All Age Worship

Sunday 21st

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits

11am Holy Communion

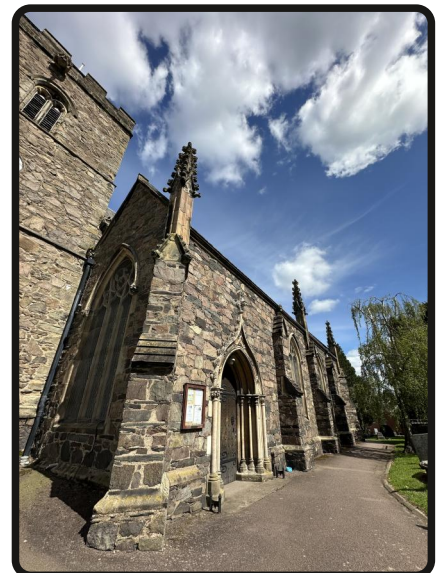
Sunday 28th

10.30am Gather for tea, coffee, biscuits

10am Fresh Morning Praise

Every Wednesday

9.30am Prayer Book Communion



Art Classes

with Liz Dowding Artist

Thursday evenings 6-8pm
June 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

Cost - £40.00 for all four or £12 per week

**Do you have a picture or photo
that you really want to try and paint for yourself?**

**Bring along your own reference
and receive full tuition as to how to recreate it
from sketch to painting.**

Places limited to 12, ensuring tuition time for all

**All Saints' Church, Thurcaston with Cropston,
Anstey Lane, LE7 7JA**

Please contact Liz with any questions on;

07885 729549

lizdowdingartist@gmail.com

Facebook - Liz Dowding Artist

Instagram liz_dowding_artist

Latimer Players

Hot on the heels of their successful play 'The Park Bench', Latimer Players are happy to announce that their next production will be a murder mystery:

A Fateful Fête (someone's about to get their just desserts)

The bunting is up, the cakes are iced, and the parish council is doing its best to look organised. But beneath the cheerful chaos of sponge cakes, raffle prizes, and WI rivalries, tensions are rising — and not just in the Victoria sponge.

With the village in shock, an investigator steps in to untangle a web of petty grudges, parish politics, suspicious baking, and questionable characters. Every character has something to hide, and every audience member becomes part of the investigation.

A Fateful Fête is a cosy, comedic murder mystery evening where you'll question the suspects, examine the clues, and decide who had the motive, means, and opportunity to turn a friendly village fête into a crime scene.

Will you uncover the truth behind the chaos - or be led astray by red herrings, gossip, and the world's most dramatic cake table?

The production takes place at Thurcaston Memorial Hall on Friday July and Saturday 25 July. Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. The hall will be arranged with the popular café-style seating and audience members are invited to bring their own drinks and nibbles. There will be a performance and a chance to question the cast to decide 'who dunnit'.

Tickets are priced at £8 and are available from Christine Deavin, by phone 07740 477 746 or email: christinedeavin@gmail.com



Following the murder mystery, rehearsals will start for the **annual pantomime** in November. If you are interested in getting involved, either on or off stage, please contact the director Laura via email: latimerplayers@yahoo.com

Trustees sought for Hinds Sisters' Alms Houses

The Church of England Alms Houses in Cropston provide cottages to single female pensioners. We are a friendly small group of dedicated trustees with representation from All Saints' Church and the local community.

We are seeking a couple of people who are sympathetic to the parish church, and interested in the welfare and care of older women. We meet formally three times a year, as well as during social meet ups with residents. If you interested in the role of Trustee, please approach the Rector, Jane Westby or warden Jane Lacey.

**ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
SCHOOL CHOIR EDITION OF:**

JOSEPH

AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ANSTEY

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE 2026

4.00PM-4.45PM

(CHOIRS REHEARSING FROM 3.00PM)

**JOINT PERFORMANCE BY
LATIMER SCHOOL CHOIR
& RICHARD HILL SCHOOL CHOIR**

**FREE ENTRY
RETIRING COLLECTION FOR
ST MARY'S CHURCH**

Cedar House update

May was another busy month 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.

We had our monthly church service with lots of song, pray and fabulous conversation.

On Friday 1 May the residents enjoyed listening and dancing along to guest performers Glenn and Julie. For May Day the residents made their own May crowns.

A few days later some of the residents had a go at making botanical, floral tiles or small trinket bowls with Sam from Spark Arts UK. Once dry the next stage will be painting... Watch this space.

Following on with the flower theme, some of the residents also joined the gardeners outside to plant up some flowers in the different beds.

This month the residents enjoyed doing chair exercises with Sally, Boogie Beatz and Dancing Memories.

To show her appreciation and to say thank you to volunteer Harvey for all the help he has given her, Jenny bought Harvey a

theatre t-shirt to wear, which he absolutely loved. Harvey loves the theatre... particularly ABBA and Wicked!

On Thursday 7 May 2026 the residents enjoyed doing music and movement with Sidney Shakers. There was also lots of props and bubbles!

At the end of the session the children had a good look at the May crowns made by the residents and chose two winners - Enid with her golden crown and Pam with her floral crown.

In honour of Sir David Attenborough turning 100, and him celebrating more than 70 years presenting world-leading natural history programmes, we decided to have a pet therapy session, with Lion Learners - from the familiar to the exotic. Activity Assistant Katie also bought in Gary the tortoise to meet us. He was so tiny!

This month activities manager Sally, and Cedar manager Lisa enjoyed spending time with community partnership manager Caroline from Radfield Home Care Leicester East, Groby & Oadby, discussing future collaborations, joint trips, and days out for residents.

Carolien says: "Thanks so much for your time Sally

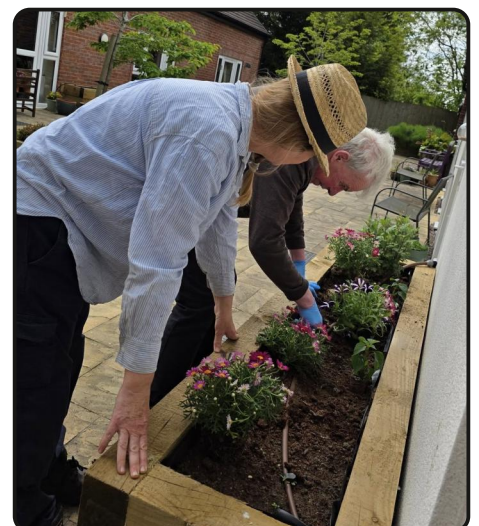
and Lisa, I really enjoyed seeing you and spending time brainstorming future events."

Mid May some of the residents enjoyed making floral frames with Pat and Summer from Sweet Petals.

Some of the residents and staff also went to see The Bodyguard at the Curve in Leicester. It was a fabulous show.

Bring on June and all its adventures!

Sally



Monday Club

Jenny Kennington reports on the Monday Club's latest meeting at Rothley Court Hotel on Monday 11 May:

Once again, Club members and their guests met at Rothley Court Hotel, on this occasion to partake of afternoon tea and cakes. Unlike last year when we were able to sit outside in the glorious spring sunshine, the weather was less accommodating, so we were comfortably seated in the hotel dining room.

The staff were very attentive in serving our refreshments and there was some lively conversation accompanied by much laughter, so that the time passed swiftly before we all departed after a very pleasant afternoon.

Thanks again to Diane Rouse for making the arrangements, and to the hotel staff for ensuring we had an enjoyable experience.

The next Monday Club meeting will be held at our regular venue of Cropston Evangelical Free Church (CEFC) and will be at 2.15pm on Monday 8 June, when the speaker will be Vanessa Morgan who will tell us about "The History of the Family at Calke Abbey".

Also at this meeting, bookings and payments of £21.95 per person, for members and their guests, will be taken for the forthcoming afternoon tea to be held at Lingdale Golf Club on Monday 13 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.

Further information is available from:

- Jenny Kennington: 0116 236 5402
- Maja Tompkins: 07709 201 881

Monday Club meetings start at 2.15pm, on the second Monday of each month. Annual membership is £15, plus an entrance fee of £2 (£4 for visitors) which includes tea and biscuits. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Tom's Tree & Garden Services

All aspects of Tree Work and Garden Maintenance

● FREE QUOTE

● FULLY QUALIFIED



tomstreeservices@outlook.com

07541 271584

Thurcaston & Cropston Gardening Club

The Thurcaston & Cropston Gardening Club welcomed Andrew Mikolajski to talk about how to 'Contain Your Enthusiasm' last month.

Andrew is a speaker and lecturer, the author of over 40 gardening titles, a consultant on RHS reference works, and a contributor to the RHS website.

We had a full house to listen to a very dynamic presentation with over 60 people in attendance.

Andrew suggested that you can always tell a good gardener – they inevitably have loads of plants growing in containers. It's as though the garden itself just isn't enough! Pretty much any plant will adapt to life in a container.

Containers greatly increase the range of plants you can easily grow, but plants in containers will need more regular attention than plants in beds and borders.

They are great for creating seasonal displays but they are also good to plant long term.

Keeping plants going long term, such as figs or olives, will need repotting every few years to refresh the compost. If the plant has reached the desired size, this is a good opportunity to root prune it at the same time.

For seasonal displays go for maximum impact. Andrew recommended just a few, large containers, lavishly planted. Spend time choosing plants to find the best colour combinations – do you want bold and impactful or something more gently calming?

The biggest decision is what compost to use. Potting composts have become quite an issue for gardeners, and there's a bewildering array of growing media out there.

Soil-based composts (John Innes nos.1–3) usually give good results. Quality peat-free compost such as Melcourt are based on renewables but are expensive. Multi-purpose composts vary hugely and may not reliably give you the results you want.

For any long-term plantings, use John Innes No.3. Multi-purpose composts are fine for short-term plantings such as summer bedding but adding drainage materials such as perlite or vermiculite will aid success.

Andrew favours peat-free compost. While it's an excellent growing medium it tends to hold on to moisture. When using peat-free composts bear in mind that although the upper surface of the compost may dry out, compost towards the base of the container is still moist. It's tempting to overwater, a common cause of problems. So, water only when you're sure the plants really need it.

Andrew then undertook a lively and interesting practical demonstration of planting a pot for summer seasonal display. The display he created was based on a colourful plastic pot and common annuals that can be bought in most garden centres. But in his demonstration, he included many practical tips such as filling the bottom half of the pot with a lightweight material such as polystyrene to save on compost.

The Gardening Club meets in the Thurcaston and Cropston Memorial Hall. New members are most welcome.

Membership fee is £15 for the year (pro rata) or £3 per meeting. So, if you are interested in gardening - come and give the Club a try.

For more information about the Club, contact

Dave Haddon 0116 235 9758
david.haddon22@gmail.com

Richard Elks 0116 236 8313
cropston161@hotmail.co.uk

Forthcoming Club events:

Wednesday 8 July: The Flower Farmer – Melanie Arnold

Wednesday 12 August: Outing to Arley Hall and Gardens

Saturday 5 September: Annual Craft & Produce Show (open to all)



**HEADSTONE CLEANING
RE GILDING INSCRIPTIONS
RESTORATION WORK
ALL WITHOUT MOVING THE STONE
ALSO REGULAR TENDING**

FULL UK COVERAGE

5* REVIEWS

0116 2245403

07976 182923



Wednesday Hub

One of the younger regular attendees at the Wednesday Hub is Sharne Hawksley, who collects her gran, Glenis, on her way home from teaching in Leicester. Sharne had a surprise when she arrived in the Harrison Room on 29 April, four days after completing the London Marathon which was her first time running that distance. All of those attending clapped and cheered and held aloft a photo of her taken while running.



Sharne, who is a sports teacher at Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I College, was pleased by the reaction, which she had also experienced from students and staff on her first day back after her first London Marathon. She was running for LOROS and has so far raised an amazing £3,700, so many congratulations to her for this achievement.

The Wednesday Hub meets every Wednesday afternoon at All Saints' Church from 2-4pm, and is a friendly community where everyone is welcome. The age of our Hub attendees ranges from 3 months to 96 years! To find out more about the Hub, call the Thurcaston & Cropston Good Neighbours on 07435 265 397.

CHANGING CONNECTIONS

Helping you and your loved ones to live well and build better bonds in your community. We can help you find out more about your local community, discover new social groups, engage better with your neighbours, provide you with information and support, connect you with professional services, and more.

Contact Vikki on 07519 316 461
vikki@ruralcc.org.uk

NEWTOWN LINFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

All Creatures Great and Small

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| The Lion King | Hail Holy Queen | Jungle Book | You've Got a Friend |
| Whale of a Time | You Raise Me Up | Penny Lane | Oliver, and more... |

Friday 12 and Saturday 13 June. 7.30pm (licensed bar)

Matinee Sunday 14 June. 3pm

Village Hall, Newtown Linford.

Tickets: £13 (£6 U18/students)

Call 01530 243 822 for information and tickets.

Best Value Around

Lloyd's

GARAGE LEICESTER LTD

Trusted Family Business

Check out our Google & Facebook Reviews



INTERIM SERVICES FROM £100
FULL SERVICES FROM £180
DIAGNOSTICS FROM £25
MOT'S PLUS FREE RE-TEST £40

0116

2237048

Chestnut Road, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8DB
e-mail: lloydsgarageltd@gmail.com



@lloydsgarageltd



@lloydsgarageltd

Tebbatt Kitchens & Electronics for perfect planning and fantastic fitting!



Quality kitchens for all budgets. Choose from traditional to modern, all manufactured in the UK. Integrated appliances from NEFF, Bosch and Siemens for reliability and style.

A choice of durable Corian Granite, Quartzstone, Ceramic, Real Wood or Vinyl worktops. For the perfect finish: Quooker or Abode hot taps, Blanco or 1810 Company taps and sinks.



Supply and fitting of Electrical Appliances, both freestanding and integrated



TEBBATT

KITCHENS & ELECTRONICS

Call us now on 0116 236 3898 or email: info@tebbatt.co.uk

The Crossroads, Anstey Lane, Thurcaston LE7 7JA www.tebbatt.co.uk

Junior Corner

We continue our series of short stories about Ruffle, a mischievous Airedale Terrier, and his adventures on a steam railway...

Ruffle and the dark shape

By Rachel Greaves

As Ruffle ran to the station one day
He noticed a dog shape was going his way
Along the fence ran the shape as he did
But when the fence stopped, the dog shape then hid
First the shape appeared upon the platform floor
Then alongside Ruffle upon the station floor
The other strange dog shape was flat and dark
Would it speak to Ruffle - perhaps a little bark?
Ruffle gave a bark and then jumped around
The shape followed exactly, yet it made no sound
Whatever Ruffle did in this fun-filled game
The dog shape was watching and doing the same
Eric had been watching from the station window
Ruffle, you've been playing with your own shadow!



That shape will follow you everywhere, always at your feet
On every sunny day you and your shadow will meet!
A playmate then for Ruffle that will jump around and walk
But one that he now knew would sadly never talk
Looking at his shadow, Ruffle had to blink
For he was sure his shadow had given him a wink!

Visit ruffletheraildog.co.uk for more of Ruffle's adventures.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

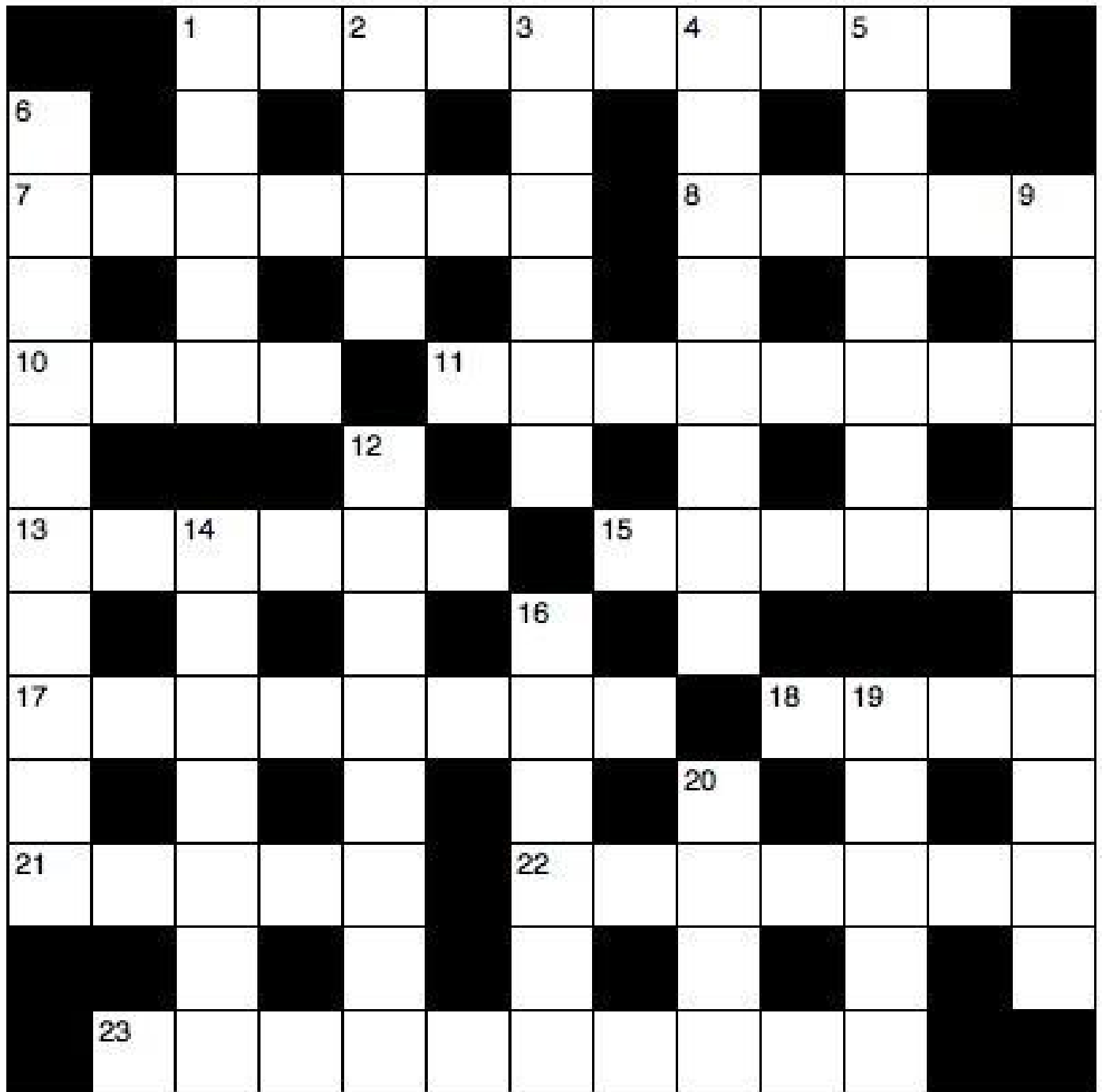
Puzzle Corner (Sudoku)

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

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Puzzle Corner (Crossword)



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Across

- 1** Evil [Genesis 6:5] (10)
- 7** Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom [2 Kings 3:15] (7)
- 8** The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' [Luke 11:1] (5)
- 10** 'We are hard pressed on every—' [2 Corinthians 4:8] (4)
- 11** Fraud [2 Corinthians 6:8] (8)
- 13** 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' [Job 19:12] (6)
- 15** Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent [Genesis 31:34] (6)
- 17** 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be —' [1 Corinthians 12:1] (8)
- 18** Nomadic dwelling [Genesis 26:25] (4)
- 21** 'As for man,his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field' [Psalm 103:15] (5)
- 22** Or I live [anag] (7)
- 23** Those guilty of 1 Across [Romans13:4] (10)

Down

- 1** 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' [John 3:16] (5)
- 2** 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3** Mob ten [anag] (6)
- 4** 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' [2 Kings 17:29] (8)
- 5** Began [Luke 9:46] (7)
- 6** Speaking very softly [John 7:32] (10)
- 9** Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi [Ruth 2:3] (10)
- 12** Put in jail [Acts 22:19] (8)
- 14** Aceturn [anag] (7)
- 16** Discharge [Acts 21:3] (6)
- 19** 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' [Mark 7:23] (5)
- 20** 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' [Revelation19:7] (4)

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Puzzle Corner (Solutions)

Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | W | I | C | K | E | D | N | E | S | S | |
| W | | O | | R | | N | | A | | T | | |
| H | A | R | P | I | S | T | | T | E | A | C | H |
| I | | L | | B | | O | | I | | R | | A |
| S | I | D | E | | I | M | P | O | S | T | E | R |
| P | | | | I | | B | | N | | E | | V |
| E | N | C | A | M | P | | S | A | D | D | L | E |
| R | | E | | P | | U | | L | | | | S |
| I | G | N | O | R | A | N | T | | T | E | N | T |
| N | | T | | I | | L | | G | | V | | E |
| G | R | A | S | S | | O | L | I | V | I | E | R |
| | | U | | O | | A | | V | | L | | S |
| | W | R | O | N | G | D | O | E | R | S | | |

Sudoku

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

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Reach more of your local customers with an advert in this magazine.

Prices start from £10 a month for a third of a page.

Includes free design and copywriting.

For further information, email heartandsoulnews@gmail.com to discuss how we can help you.



ANSTEY SHOE REPAIRS

SHOE REPAIRS

ENGRAVING and MEMORIAL PLAQUES

KEY CUTTING and CAR KEY PROGRAMMING

GARDEN TOOL SHARPENING

WATCH STRAPS and BATTERIES

Telephone

0116 236 8150

email:- ansteyengravers@hotmail.co.uk

6 CROPSTON ROAD, ANSTEY

Coffee Morning
St Mary's Church Rooms
Everyone welcome



Every Friday
From 9.15 am
Everyone welcome

Anstey & District

Est. 1992 Independent Funeral Services

0116 234 0548

We can take care of every detail, advise and help you on each and every step of the way.

- Qualified Funeral Directors
- Floral Tributes arranged
- Hearse, Limousines and alternatives available
- Monumental Service
- Car parking available
- Online tribute and donation profile
- Catering suite
- Chapels of rest
- Funeral plans available
- 24 hour service



Funeral arrangements can be made in the comfort of your own home if preferred.



Golden Charter 
Smart Planning for Later Life

Talbot House, Leicester Road, Anstey, Leicester, Leicestershire LE7 7AT
Email: talbotthouse@ansteyfunerals.com Website: www.ansteyfunerals.com