


# Wye Bridge News

The Magazine of  
South Wye Benefice

St Martins & St Peters Bullinghope churches    £1.00



July  
2026



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## Forward From The Reverend Jackie Nevill

Hello July, welcome!

The 7<sup>th</sup> month of the year features significant observances across multiple faiths, but not so for we middle of the road Anglicans.

We're at the beginning of the second half of the year, the days are getting shorter, ( is it too early to put THE TREE up? Yes, I jest)

I always feel July is a sort of bridging month, we've welcomed the joys of early summer (I'm not dwelling on the last week of June), and everything seems to be a winding down these few weeks, exams over, sports days and fetes will be dealt with. There are many goodbyes as people leave schools etc and wait.....in anticipation ....for August.

But how does July fare in the church? We're in what is known as Ordinary (green) Time. Ordinary Time, like July, is a bridging period of quiet after all the seasons since the beginning of Advent last year. It's a time to rest, to chill a bit, making the most of opportunities to read a new book, perhaps delving deeper into faith and spirituality, (it doesn't have to be a heavy theological tome)

The Tuesday group is starting a study on the book of Hebrews, everyone welcome 1pm in the Narthex at St Martin's. Or perhaps this is a good time to read Matthew's Gospel, which continues as the Gospel reading until Advent, be prepared for what the sermons over the next months might speak to you.

Referencing the end of June, I hope July is not as hot, a maximum of 25 degrees would be perfect, but if the mercury climbs do please take care and follow all the advice.

Jackie †

## Churchwarden News—St Martin's

St Martin's Church has had a very busy month on the 13<sup>th</sup> June we were invited to join Irene and Michael Goodman to their beautiful home and gardens for a coffee morning with a large raffle with wonderful prizes been donated and a grand total of £260.00 plus gift aid was raised for church funds.

Thank you to Irene and Michael for their wonderful hospitality.

John and Myself as church wardens attended Visitations service, John went to Pontesbury St George nr Shrewsbury on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and I attended, along with Irene a service @ Hereford Cathedral on 17<sup>th</sup> June this was followed by myself and Irene having a wonderful lunch hosted by the Bishop.

Young @ Heart was held on June 18<sup>th</sup> it was a very enjoyable afternoon and was great to see over 30 attending. Rev Jackie gave us such interesting talk on her life in Rwanda, Portugal and other interesting places before she returned to Herefordshire and now conducting the majority of the services in St Martins Church as we do not have a resident vicar. Thank you Rev Jackie for all your hard work. Also, another big thank you to Marline, Julia, Andrew and Carl for helping myself prepare the refreshments for the afternoon tea which everyone enjoyed following Jackie's talk. Donations received for St Martins Church Funds totalled £180.00 plus Gift Aid. Thank you to everyone for your kindness.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> in Hereford Cathedral a service of Confirmation took place, and 4 members of St Martin's congregation were confirmed Qinmei, Peter, Mathew and Keiron. This incredibly special service was followed by tea, served in the gardens of the Bishop's Palace in the sunshine.

Messy Church was well attended with an enjoyable afternoon of fun and games followed by delicious refreshments prepared by the wonderful helpers also Twilight Plus was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The students from the academy together with Barry and Rev Jackie enjoyed a lovely hour of singing accompanied by violin, reading and keyboard playing by the students. Thanks to everyone.

## Churchwarden News—St Martin's Continued

Bible Study in Narthex on the 23rd June, we welcomed Rev Phil Brown to give a talk on Icons and wall paintings, it was so interesting and Rev Phil brought with him Icons which he had made. In St Martins church there is an Icon that is placed by the alter which Rev Phil produced when he was vicar at St Martins. Thank you Rev Phil for such an interesting afternoon.

Regarding mowing of the churchyard, Scott has had several problems with mowers breaking down, so I have donated a nearly new mower to the church. Scott has said "thank you Onnie for making life so much easier now when mowing".

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to keep St Martins Church in order every little helps coming into the month of July with the Fete fast approaching, July 11<sup>th</sup> any Donations for stalls, raffle prizes and help with be greatly appreciated. Following morning after the fete, 12<sup>th</sup> July a Full English breakfast will be served in the hall after the church service.

Thanks to everyone, Onnie

## Churchwarden News—St Peter's—Simon

As of July our service pattern will change slightly.

### **Morning Prayer.**

On first Sunday of the month we have a service of Morning Prayer. This is the only regular non communion Sunday service in South Wye. If anyone would like to come to our Morning Prayer service, you are more than welcome to join us.

### **Holy communion**

Third Sunday will now be Holy communion both services still begin at 11:15. We have new holy communion booklets. Thank you to Jackie and John for arranging this.

### **Summer songs of praise**

On Sunday 9th August at 6pm we will be holding a Summer Songs of Praise service with a mixture of hymns and some readings and some very light refreshments afterwards.

Also 'Thank you' to Rev Penny Littlewood for taking our communion service in June.

Please come and join us and enjoy an afternoon of favourite songs from a bygone era . See below for details. Thank you to Geoff for organising this.

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**[www.ticketsource.com/herefordgands](http://www.ticketsource.com/herefordgands) £12, under 16s £5**



**Come and Join us for a  
delicious Afternoon  
Strawberry Tea @  
St Martin's Church Hall.  
Sunday 26th July @ 3pm.**

## **Volunteers Needed**

Can you help ?

Do you have an hour or more to volunteer @ St Martin's ?

Every little helps us maintain our church and community. We have an existing team of volunteers but are always open to new people joining our church family.

We have lots of opportunities for folks who can help us , in a variety of ways.

Please enquire at the Church office for details of what we need help with and how you can help .





## St Martin's & St Peter's Diary—advance dates

- ◆ PCC— 7th July
- ◆ Messy Church — 10th July
- ◆ Quiz night TBC
- ◆ Summer Fete Saturday 11th July 12 pm–3pm—see page 16
- ◆ Strawberry Tea Sunday 26th July— 3pm— see page 6
- ◆ 9th August 6pm St Peter's Summer Songs of Praise evening



## St Martin's, Visiting Clergy

Sunday 5th July 09:30am Rev Jane Plackett – Ferguson  
11:15 am Morning Prayer @ St Peter's

Sunday 12th July 9:30 am Rev Jackie Nevill

Sunday 19th July 9:30 am Rev Dr David Thomson  
11:15am TBC

Sunday 26th July 9:30am Rev Jackie Nevill & Barry Stevens

ST. MARTIN'S

Messy  
Church

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH HALL, ROSS  
ROAD, HERFORD

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

4 – 5:30pm

ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, GAMES, FOOD  
AND A BIBLE STORY  
FUN FOR ALL AGES  
CHILDREN MUST BRING AN ADULT

## What am I reading on Sunday?

Please check with the person running our service.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday 5th July</b>
<b>'Sunday'</b>	5th Sunday after Trinity
<b>Colour</b>	Green
<b>1st Reading</b>	Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58 –end
<b>Psalm</b>	45: 10– end
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 7: 15– 25a
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 11: 16-19, 25 –end

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday 12th July</b>
<b>'Sunday'</b>	6th Sunday after Trinity
<b>Colour</b>	Green
<b>1st Reading</b>	Genesis 25: 19-34
<b>Psalm</b>	119: 105-112
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 8: 1-11
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday 19th July</b>
<b>'Sunday'</b>	7th Sunday after Trinity
<b>Colour</b>	Green
<b>1st Reading</b>	Genesis 28: 10-19a
<b>Psalm</b>	139: 1-11
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 8: 12-25
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday 26th July</b>
<b>'Sunday'</b>	8th Sunday after Trinity
<b>Colour</b>	Green
<b>1st Reading</b>	Genesis 29: 15-28
<b>Psalm</b>	105: 1-11
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 8: 26-end
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 13: 31-33,44-52



## Meet The Neighbours

### The Yellow Meadow Ant – Scientific Name *Lasius flavus*

Let me introduce you to the remarkable yellow meadow ant, a natural engineer, farmer, gardener, and conservationist. We are fortunate to have a small colony in our grounds. Workers measure 2–5 mm, the queen measures about 8 mm, and an established colony typically contains around 5,000 ants.

This harmless ant does not bite humans and is often found in churchyards, where it builds mounds beside sun-facing gravestones. Its tunnels may extend up to a metre below ground, helping to regulate temperature and humidity, and some colonies can be more than 100 years old.

Because they depend on the sun's warmth, yellow meadow ants keep the surface grass short. They spend most of their lives underground, feeding on honeydew from aphids they farm on grass roots and occasionally eating the aphids for protein. On chalkland, they also have a close relationship with the chalk hill blue butterfly, protecting its larvae in exchange for a sugary substance the larvae secrete.

A healthy mound produces around 200 queens a year, some can produce up to 500. The nuptial flight tends to be around late August to early September, they vary each year depending on weather and temperature.



## St Martin's Bible Study Group

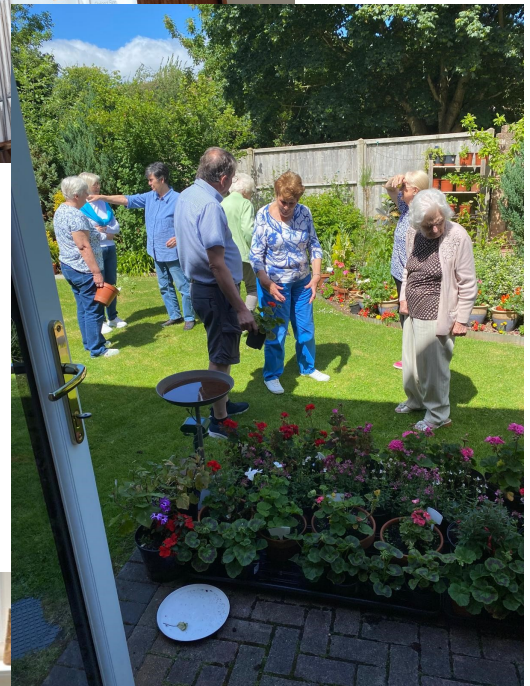
The Reverend Phill Brown gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on Christian Icons at our Bible Study meeting.

Christian icons are sacred, symbolic images—predominantly found in Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Anglican traditions across the UK—that act as "windows to heaven" to facilitate prayer and connect the physical world with the spiritual .

We are fortunate to have an Icon written by Reverend Phill here in St Martin's.



# St. Martin's



**£260.00 + Gift Aid was raised at Irene's Coffee morning.  
Thank you to Irene and Michael and everyone who attended.**

# Coffee Morning



## St Peter's Bullinghope



Our successful coffee morning raised £147.00 for church funds for St Peter's , Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success.

Our combined service with St Martin's on Sunday 28th June also raised £79.00 for church funds.

Simon

Young @ Heart was held on 18<sup>th</sup> June it was a very enjoyable afternoon and with over 30 attending the Rev Jackie gave such an interesting talk on her life in Rwanda, Portugal and other interesting places she lived and worked before returning to Herefordshire and now conducts the majority of the services at St Martins Church as the parish is still without a resident vicar ,Thank you Rev Jackie for all your hard work. Also, another big thank you to Marline, Julia, Andrew and Carl for helping myself prepare the refreshments for Tea following the talk and to all the Donations received for St Martins Church Funds a total of £180.00 plus gift aid thank you to everyone for their kindness.

The next Young @ Heart will be held on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July** in the church hall 2.00pm with a Sing -along with Irene playing the keyboard followed by a delicious tea. Thank you to everyone who attended. Onnie.





# Summer Fete

St Martin's Church

Ross Road Hereford

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2026

12pm – 3pm

Please come along we will have a Prize Draw - Cake Stall – Bottle Stall – Plants- Book Stall - Bric -a- Brac- Craft Stall-Toys and Games. We still need donations for these stalls to make the day a success. Please drop your donation off at the church office.



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## Regular Sunday Services

### St Martin's, Ross Road

9.30 am Holy Communion

Baptisms on request.



**There will be no live Facebook screening of services during the Interregnum. We will be live screening Night prayer every Monday on Facebook.**

### St Peter's, Bullinghope

#### **Morning Prayer.**

On first Sunday of the month we have a service of Morning Prayer, services still begin at 11:15am

#### **Holy communion**

Third Sunday will now be Holy communion, services still begin at 11:15am

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of Wye Bridge news.

Please let us know what you have liked and would like to see in

Future editions. Please email - [office@stmartinshereford.org.uk](mailto:office@stmartinshereford.org.uk)

Thank you

Sue the editor



# Meet The Team

## Clergy

We are currently in the interregnum for South Wye churches.

Updates will be provided and timescales announced when known.

## Team Office Staff



### ***Team Administrator***

Sharron Brown

### **Financial Co-Ordinator**

Kirstie Weaver

### **Sexton**

Scott

### **Cleaning Specialist**

Sara

Wye Bridge News Editor

Sue Wilce

### **TEAM OFFICE** (at St Martin's Church)

**89 Ross Road, Hereford HR2 7RJ** [office@stmartinshereford.org.uk](mailto:office@stmartinshereford.org.uk)

**OPENING HOURS** Mon - Thurs 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday 11:00am-15:00pm

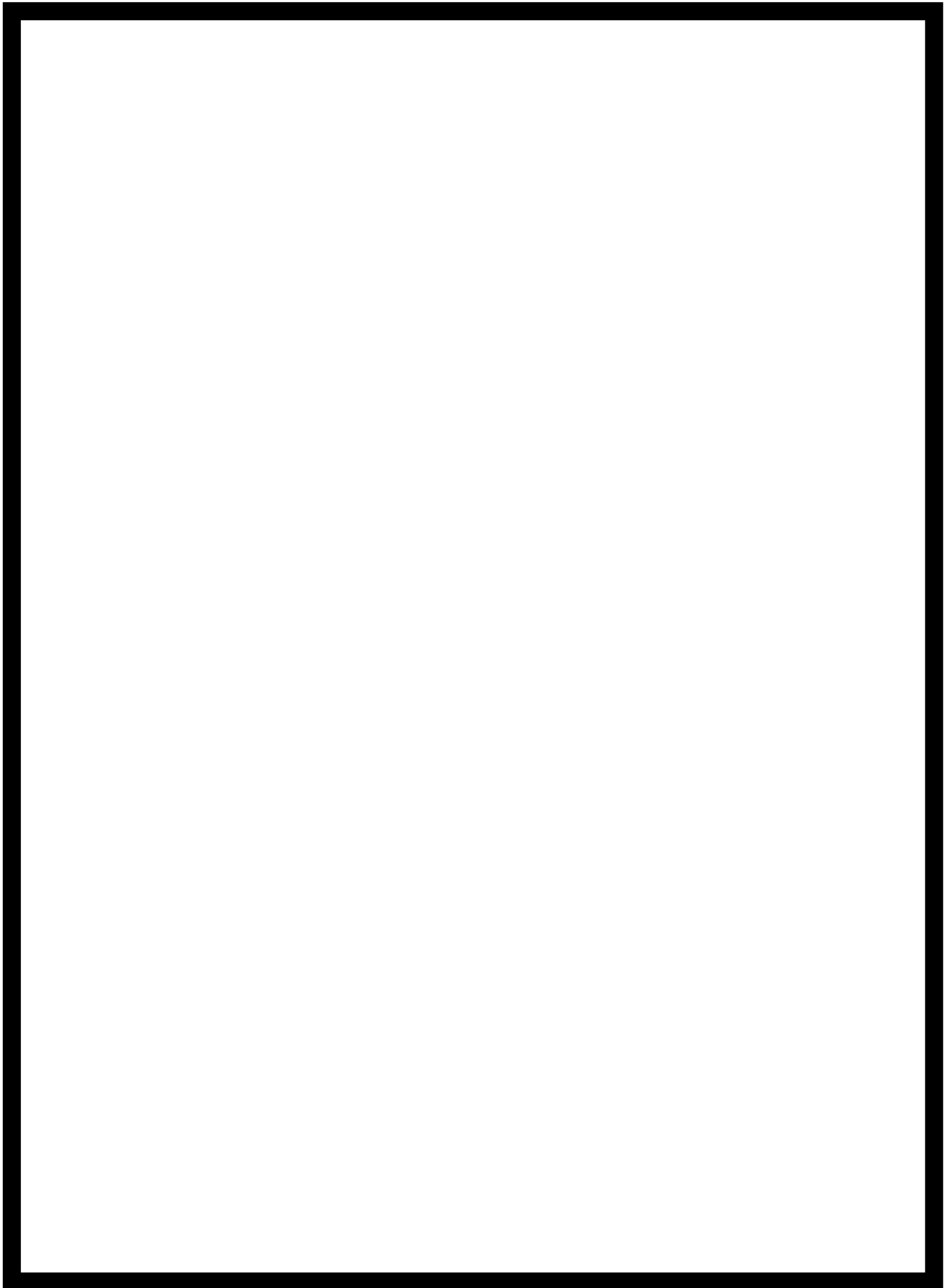
Call in to see us on a weekday morning or phone us on 01432 353717

### **Websites:**

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St Martin's Church, Ross Rd, Hereford

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# DOODLE BOX





July  
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