

# St Mary's Acton St David's Wettenhall & St Oswald's Worleston July 2026



**The Cross Country Parishes  
of  
Acton with Worleston, Church  
Minshull and Wettenhall**

*Dear Friends,*



For many families July brings a change in the routine of everyday life. School terms come to an end and clubs close down for a few weeks as batteries are recharged. Not everyone will manage to get away, but hopefully most people will enjoy some space to rest, reflect and renew.

Many of us will be familiar with the children's story 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett, in which Mary & Colin restore a walled garden and their family's happiness.

Years before that book was written, the author was at a low point in her life and took refuge in her new home, Maytham Hall, where she spent countless days working in an enclosed garden. The more time she spent there, the more revitalised she felt. She blossomed along with the flowers and the shrubs she was planting.

The importance of being outdoors and connecting with nature is becoming more and more recognised as the answer to many of the problems of our modern living.

Scripture reminds us of a God who not only created the world but is continually remaking and refreshing us. Rest is not wasted time; it is a sacred opportunity to slow down and allow the quiet fruits of the Spirit to mature within us.

Whatever plans we have for this month, may we remember to take a quiet moment to catch our breath, to give thanks, to pause and to recognise the beauty of God's creation around us.

We might not have the surroundings of a walled garden but we are enclosed by the amazing beauty of the natural world.

Take time out and enjoy!

*Ann*

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# Sunday Services

### Acton

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am Communion
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jul 8:00 am Communion, **11:00 am United at Worleston**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jul 10:00 am Messy Church
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jul 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug **11:00 am United at Worleston**

### Church Minshull

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jul **11:00 am United at Worleston**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am Communion
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am Messy Church
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug **11:00 am United at Worleston**

### Worleston

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jul No Service
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jul **11:00 am United at Worleston**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jul No Service
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jul 9:30 am Morning Prayer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug **11:00 am United at Worleston**

### Wettenhall

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 12<sup>th</sup> Jul **11:00 am United at Worleston**
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jul 11:00 am All Age
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jul 6:30 pm Informal Communion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug **11:00 am United at Worleston**

**Additionally there is a 10:30 am Communion at Acton every Wednesday**

**Exception: There is no Communion on 29th July (Nantwich Show)**

| St David's Church Wettenhall                    |     |                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------|----------------------|
| Sidespersons                                    |     |                     | Cleaning and Flowers |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Jul | Mr G Tucker         | Mrs M Sherry         |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>                                | Jul | United at Worleston |                      |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>                                | Jul | Brownies            | Mrs A Nicholas       |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>                                | Jul | Informal            |                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                 | Aug | United at Worleston | Mrs A Brooks         |
| <i>Find us on the A Church Near You website</i> |     |                     |                      |

From The Register

Baptisms

30th May  
**William Mason-Howard**  
**Frederick Mason Howard**  
We welcome William and Freddie, on their first birthdays, into the family of the Church.

PHOTO on the Right



Condolences

To Mark, Sarah and Rachel Ward, on the sad passing of **Dorothy Ward** on 25th May.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with them and all who mourn.



Coffee and Cake

The next meetings will be on  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup>  
from 10-12 noon in Church.  
Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



## Darnhall and Wettenhall WI

### June Meeting

What better subject for a W.I. based in the very centre of Cheshire, but a talk about all things CHEESE? Many of you will know the cheese shop in Hospital Street in Nantwich. It's owner, Nick Birchall, was our speaker for June, and he brought along three delicious cheeses for tasting after the talk. He explained how Cheshire was an ideal county for the founding and development of cheese manufacture in Roman times. There was salt, lush grass plains and grazing cows to supply the milk. Cheshire cheese is the oldest known cheese, and still a great favourite across the county and further afield. He explained how cheese is made with milk and rennet [originally from calves' stomachs, but now also vegan sources] and is flavoured with salt, various herbs, varying tastes from milk at different times of the year, and by how long it is matured and its environment while maturing. Then it was time for the tastings, from a milder cheese to a beautiful 'Burt's Blue'. We learned how cheese is a staple throughout the year, but sales peak at Christmas with many people buying unusual or rarer cheeses to impress their guests. Why not try something different next time you buy cheese as a treat for the taste buds and for your family?

**Next meeting Tuesday July 7th Darnhall Village Hall 7.00pm – a cream tea .**



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## Brownies

At 1st Darnhall Brownies, we have been enjoying the lovely weather and sharing our hobbies with each other. We discovered a wide range of interests, from horse riding and swimming to reading and dancing. We have also been talking about our favourite books and stories.

During one of our meetings, we explored Darnhall Woods, searching for treasures in nature and creating beautiful nature pictures from the things we found.



## Calveley School Leavers

Best wishes to the eleven Leavers from Calveley Academy this month. We wish them well as they prepare to move on to their Higher education in September.

## Thank You

A huge thank you to all those who have so generously donated towards the 'Last Supper Candlestick Appeal'. We are now able to purchase a match for the original one donated by the families of Flight Lieutenant James Downey and Flight Lieutenant John Roberts.

## Summer Lunch

We were truly blessed with a beautiful setting at Ash House Farm for St. David's Summer Lunch at the end of May. Thank you to Audrey & Peter Howard and family for providing such a stunning venue and to everyone who supplied an abundance of meats, salads and a delicious assortment of desserts. Thanks also to Eddie and Sue Shaw for generously providing the new Cheshire potatoes. It was lovely to welcome friends old and new as we shared food and fellowship and raised funds for St. David's.



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| St Mary's Church, Acton<br>Sidespersons                                      |                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Jul                                                          | Lesley and Peter Latronico  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul                                                         | United at Worleston         |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul                                                         | Tracey and Peter Foster     |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> Jul                                                         | Chris and Christine Barratt |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug                                                          | United at Worleston         |
| <b>Visit: <a href="http://www.stmarysacton.org">www.stmarysacton.org</a></b> |                             |

## Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

### The next walks are:

Next walk 5<sup>th</sup> July, 13<sup>th</sup> September. There is no walk in August,

Tea at the Tower is open every Sunday from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

On the above date there is a guided walk departing the church at 12:45 pm. Nick organises circular walks varying between 3 to 5 miles, then returning to the church for a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and a slice of delicious cake.

The pace of the walks is relaxed, and the routes generally involve canal towpath and lane walking. The footpaths should be good (also hopefully dry?) and only a small number of stiles are negotiated. Stout outdoor shoes or walking shoes/ boots are recommended.

### All are welcome including dogs on leads

For further information please phone Nick Harley, Lead Walker, on 01270-620612 or 07710983125.



**Acton Movie Night Friday 10th July at 7:30pm**

**Mr Burton starring Toby Jones**

**Certificate 12, 2025**

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

31st May 26 **Barnaby George Brian Cope**

7th June 26 **Grace Summer Murray-James**

### Funerals

21st May 26 **Edgar ALLEN Wood** Aged 93

19th June 26 **John MARSHALL Dobson**  
Aged 90

Condolences are expressed to family and friends following their sad loss.

## Dorfold Autumn Gala

We will be holding a special fundraising lunch at Dorfold Hall at the beginning of Autumn, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Tickets will be £50.00 for a three course lunch and a glass of wine, and can be booked with Joyce Percival 07703292900



## Acton and Reaseheath WI

For our June meeting Jane Hughes came to give us a talk about Batik.

Jane is a retired Head Teacher who comes from an artistic family, and has always done watercolour painting, but when she retired she wanted to take up new hobbies that she'd not had time for while she was teaching. She looked on the CraftCourses.com website and started with a silk painting course, showing us a beautiful silk scarf she had made. She then tried a Batik course and really enjoyed that. Batik, which dates back to ancient Egypt, is the art of drawing, with liquid wax, on silk or cotton, then colouring in the background and/or dyeing the cloth, however, the dye doesn't take where the wax has been placed so creates a patterned negative when the wax is removed.

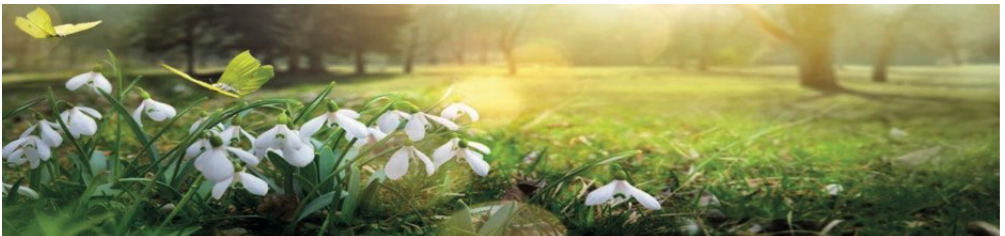
Jane brought a lot of pictures she had made over the years and when the war in Ukraine started she had some of the pictures made into cards which were sold to raise money for Ukraine. Since then, she has had many more cards printed which she sells in the market, in various shops and more recently in an art gallery in Eccleshall.

After her talk she gave a quick demonstration of the wax painting while we were having tea and home-made cake and drawing the raffle.

Next month's meeting will be a visit to a garden in Burland on Monday July 13th.

Refreshments are not provided so please bring a cold drink with you and if anyone would like a lift please meet in the Acton car park by 6.40pm and we will take just a few cars.

*Judith Canning*



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### *On-site Café*

Relax and enjoy refreshments in the waterside café offering breakfasts, light lunches and sweet treats - an ideal location to immerse yourself in nature.

### *Events & Workshops*

We offer a range of workshops in floristry and horticulture, gardening clubs for adults or little ones and many seasonal activities throughout the year.



Little Porters Hill  
Frith Lane, Wrenbury  
Cheshire, CW5 8HQ

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[www.canalsidegardencentre.co.uk](http://www.canalsidegardencentre.co.uk)



## Cross Country Pages

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

this month to

Adam Hitchen      Emily Woodward  
Elizabeth Macay    Harry Kenwright  
Ellie Chapman      Sam Lister  
Elsie Heler

Belated Congratulations to

**Emma Brookes** on her 30th birthday in June

Also to

**Brenda Brockbank** Who celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the end of June

### Congratulations

To Pat Hough, who has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the King's Birthday Honours list for her services to the Theatre and the community of Nantwich. A member of Nantwich Players wrote a poem in her honour. *See page 16.*

Also to

Emma Trott and Hannah Crowley on the birth of their baby daughter Olivia Mae, born on 25th May.

### Nantwich Show

Nantwich Show Opening Service and Blessing of the Showground  
Tuesday 28th of July, 6.00p.m.

Everyone is cordially invited to this special service to mark the start of the Nantwich Show, to pray for fine weather and a safe and happy event.

#### The Show

Wednesday 29th July  
Nantwich Showground,  
Reaseheath College  
Gates open at 8:30am

### Ladies Lunch

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July  
at

Milford House Farm  
Wettenhall

12:30 pm

£12.50

All Welcome

For further details contact:  
Joyce Percival 01270 691315,  
Heather (07887 760930), Isobel  
(624521), or Ann (528273)

### Mobile Library

| Jul                    | Aug              | Aug              | Tuesdays  |       |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup>       | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 25 <sup>th</sup> | Arr       | Dep   |
| Badger Church Minshull |                  |                  | 10:20     | 10:45 |
| Home Farm Park South   |                  |                  | 11:10     | 11:20 |
| Lea Green              |                  |                  |           |       |
| Home Farm Park North   |                  |                  | 11:30     | 11:50 |
| Lea Green              |                  |                  |           |       |
| Wettenhall Church      |                  |                  | 12:05     | 12:20 |
| Station Rd Calveley    |                  |                  | 13:35     | 13:55 |
| Tollemache Arms        |                  |                  | 14:05     | 14:30 |
| Alraham                |                  |                  |           |       |
| Jul                    | Jul              | Aug              | Thursdays |       |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>        | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Arr       | Dep   |
| Pinfold Craft Centre   |                  |                  | 11:00     | 11:25 |
| Poole                  |                  |                  |           |       |
| Worleston Station      |                  |                  | 11:35     | 11:45 |
| Aston Juxta Mondrum    |                  |                  |           |       |
| Worleston Village Hall |                  |                  | 11:50     | 12:10 |
| Jul                    | Aug              | Aug              | Thursdays |       |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>       | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 27 <sup>th</sup> | Arr       | Dep   |
| Farmers Arms           |                  |                  | 10:00     | 10:15 |
| Ravensmoor             |                  |                  |           |       |
| Goodwill Hall Faddiley |                  |                  | 10:30     | 10:50 |
| Greenfields Farm       |                  |                  | 11:05     | 11:20 |
| Gradeley Green         |                  |                  |           |       |

## Archbishops Of Canterbury: John Bird Sumner

### A Bishop of Chester

It's good to know that one of our local Bishops progressed to the role of Archbishop of Canterbury, this honour was held by John Bird Sumner. He was born in Kenilworth on 25th February 1780, his father, Richard, was the Vicar of Kenilworth, his mother, Hannah, a first cousin of William Wilberforce. He was educated at Eton College and then at King's College Cambridge. In 1802 he became an Assistant Master at Eton, known as 'Crumpety Sumner' to the boys and married Marianne Robertson [1748 - 1829] in 1803, going on to have at least nine children during their marriage. Marianne's father was a Naval Captain and her mother was the grandchild of Francis Lewis, a signatory to the American Declaration of Independence. John Bird Sumner was elected as a Fellow of Eton in 1817. The following year he was presented by Eton to Mapledurham in Oxfordshire and became a senior member of their clergy. His writings at that time included a 'Treatise on Records of Creation and the Moral Attributes of the Creator' and 'The Evidence of Christianity Derived from its Nature and Reception'.

On 14th September 1828 he was consecrated as the Bishop of Chester by the Archbishop of York in York Minster. At that time the diocese covered Cheshire, much of Lancashire, and parts of Cumbria and Wales too. It was a time of expansion in the diocese, new churches and schools being built throughout the area. Close to our area these included the churches of St. John The Evangelist in Alvanley, Kingsley, Manley and Norley. In 1848 this hard work was rewarded with the elevation to the role of Archbishop of Canterbury, along with a salary of £15,000 per annum. In the same year he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society and entered the House of Lords. In

Parliament he supported Catholic Emancipation, which bought him into conflict with many in the clergy, although he strongly opposed the admission of Jews to Parliament. He also supported the Divorce Bill, another controversial arrangement. Not content with this he became the President of the Canterbury Association, which founded Christchurch in New Zealand. In 1851 he had the honour of leading the religious service at the opening of the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park with Queen Victoria, a service commemorated in a painting by Henry Courtney Selous. His individual portrait by Eddis hangs now in Lambeth Palace, its replica in King's College Cambridge. He is remembered in Lambeth at the Archbishop Sumner Church of England Primary School and a public subscription after his death resulted in a reclining effigy in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral. A fitting memorial for a former Bishop of Chester .



*Heather Pope*

## Recipe

### Strawberry and Elderflower Semifreddo

Serves 8

#### Ingredients

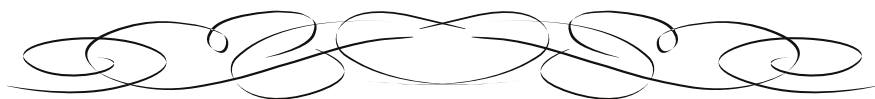
- ▮ 500g strawberries hulled & quartered
- ▮ 50g caster sugar, plus 2 tbsp
- ▮ 6 tbsp elderflower cordial
- ▮ 300ml double cream
- ▮ 300ml full-fat Greek yoghurt



#### Method

- ▮ Line a one litre loaf tin with clingfilm
- ▮ In a saucepan, cook 300g strawberries with sugar & 4 tbsp cordial for 8 mins.
- ▮ Leave to cool.
- ▮ Whisk cream to soft peaks, then fold in yoghurt..
- ▮ Gently fold in strawberries to create a ripple effect
- ▮ Tip into lined tin and smooth top.
- ▮ Cover with cling film and freeze overnight.
- ▮ To serve, remove from freezer & turn onto serving plate.
- ▮ Peel off cling film and defrost for 20 mins.
- ▮ Meanwhile mix rest of strawberries with remaining elderflower cordial.
- ▮ Sprinkle over 2 tbsp sugar and pile on top of dessert.

Enjoy



## National Garden Scheme Open Garden

Milford House Farm CW7 4DN Saturday 11th July

The garden at Milford House Farm will be open to raise funds for the National Garden Scheme health related charities from 11am to 5.00pm Admission £6 for adults, free for under 16s. Parking at St. David's Church, where there will also be refreshments on sale, alongside stalls offering jewellery and other items. Funds will also be raised to support the work of the church. We will be delighted to see you [and your dog] at the garden. Full details online or in the 'Garden Visitors Handbook'.



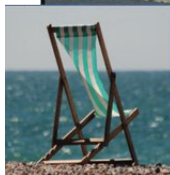


**“Canon Anne wishes to thank everyone for their good wishes and gifts, especially the Country Parson rose and the bouquet of flowers from the Parishes, on the occasion of her 60th Birthday. They were greatly appreciated.”**



**GREAT ORME TRAMWAY**

**Day Out at Llandudno**  
**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2026**  
**Cost: £15 per Person**  
**Depart from Acton Church at 9am - Return at 5pm from Llandudno**



**Details from Joyce Percival**  
**01270 601315 or 07703 292900**



## **The Nantwich Dame!**

Pat arrived with husband John  
All set for theatre-life that became full-on  
To several charities she gave her time  
And served hot meals seasoned with thyme  
The girls arrived and amounted to four  
And for a while, they kept Pat from the stage door

– 0 –

The Players committee was high on her list  
As was performing a play with laughter or a twist  
She led from the top to raise much-needed coffers  
To enhance the theatre and give patrons plenty of offers  
The President's shoes, she was to fill  
For thirty-seven years with pride and thrill

– 0 –

John's passing was a sad day for all  
But Pat soldiered on to stay strong and tall  
She inspired the team and the drama thrived  
Especially when gentleman Peter arrived  
Wedding bells rang as they tied the knot  
And lived in a cottage, it was the perfect spot

– 0 –

A pat on the back from the council came  
With 'Salt of the Earth' honoring her name  
Her reward was a community award that day  
For devotion to drama along the way  
A British Empire Medallist she became  
It was the fitting prize for the Nantwich dame!

*Pauline Patricia Knifton Hough*  
*honoured in His Majesty King Charles III Birthday Honours List 2026*



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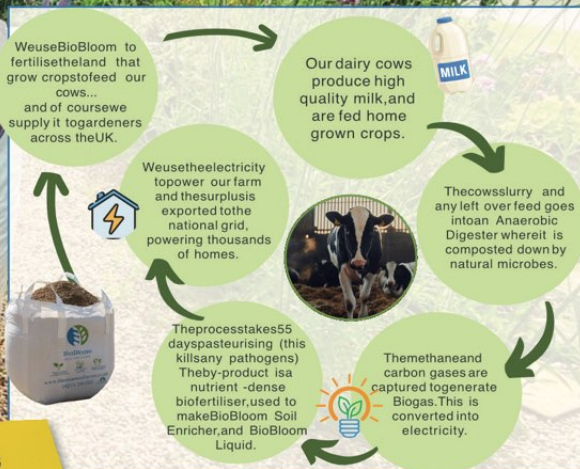
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## St Oswald's Church, Worleston

| Sidespersons                         |                         | Coffee                |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul                 | Marilyn and David Booth | Anyone free to help   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> Jul                 | Marilyn Booth           | Diane Darlington      |
| Flowers                              |                         | Cleaning              |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul                 | Isobel Burnley          | Please see note below |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Jul                 | Marilyn Booth           |                       |
| <b>Website currently unavailable</b> |                         |                       |

### From the Register

#### Funerals:

21st May 26 **Celia Betty Evans** Aged 85

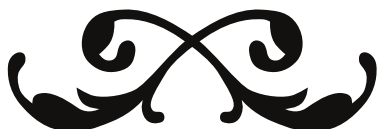
#### Cremation only:

8th June 26 **Douglas BRIAN** Nagington  
Aged 85

#### Wedding

28th May 26 **Graham Albert Slate & Anne-Marie Ghosh**

*Photo on Right*



### Cleaning Note

All that is required is that those who come to services give a quick vac of the carpet and porch but only if it is needed. The rest has been attended to, as age has caught up with the cleaning volunteers!



### Coffee and Cake

Saturday 4th July from 10-12 noon in Church.  
Come along and enjoy Coffee, Cake and Chat.  
Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



# *A special UNITED SERVICE for our Cross Country parishes*

*will be held on Sunday July 12th at 11am.*

**This will be to celebrate Canon Anne's 25th anniversary  
of being ordained as a priest.**

**It will be a joyful occasion, so come and join us.**

The advertisement features a green background with a yellow and green striped pattern on the left. At the top left is the HJ Lea Oakes logo, which consists of a yellow circle with the letters 'hjl' in black. To the right of the logo is the text 'HJ Lea Oakes' in white. Further right, in smaller white text, is 'Independent British Millers / 1675'. Below this is a yellow banner with the text 'MILLERS OF HIGH QUALITY ANIMAL FEEDS' in bold black letters. Underneath the banner is the text 'DELIVERING HIGH PERFORMANCE' in bold black letters. Below this are three bullet points in white text: '- PROVEN CONSISTENT CONVENTIONAL & ORGANIC FEEDS', '- EXCEPTIONAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT', and '- FLEXIBLE PRACTICAL APPROACH'. The bottom half of the advertisement shows two green HJ Lea Oakes trucks parked in front of a large industrial building. The truck on the left is a smaller model, and the one on the right is a larger Volvo truck. Both trucks have the HJ Lea Oakes logo and name on their sides. The background building has a sign that says 'HJ Lea Oakes Aston Mill'. At the bottom of the advertisement is a green banner with the text 'T: 01270 782222' in white on the left and 'www.hjlea.com' in white on the right.

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## Calveley School

It has been a wonderful few weeks at Calveley Primary Academy. Our Year 6 pupils have completed their SATs, showing real resilience and determination throughout. We are incredibly proud of them; they showed real kindness and support to each other, alongside giving their best in the tests.

Beech Class were away on their residential during our last issue, and we're delighted to share that they had an amazing time. They embraced every challenge, formed new friendships and showed great bravery, especially those staying away from home for the first time. Beech Class enjoyed a brilliant mix of outdoor adventures, including den building, marshmallow toasting and team-building challenges. They also loved exploring the forest and taking part in pond dipping, discovering all sorts of fascinating wildlife. It was a great opportunity for them to work together, build confidence and enjoy the outdoors.

Sycamore Class also enjoyed a remarkable experience, performing with the Hallé Orchestra at Manchester's Bridgewater Hall. The children represented the school beautifully.





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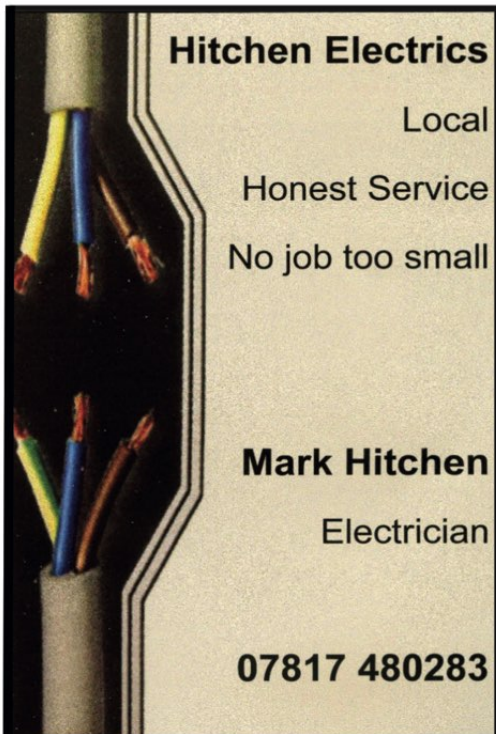
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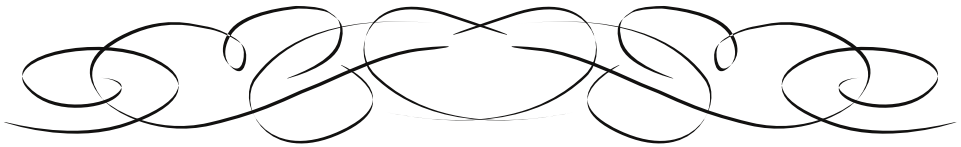
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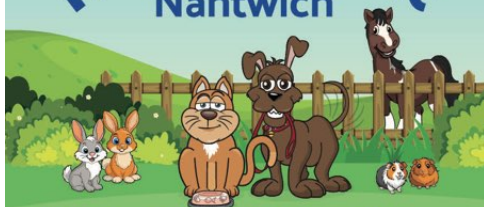
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**Parish Secretary:** Mrs Rosemary Shaw [crosscountryparishes@outlook.com](mailto:crosscountryparishes@outlook.com)

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#### Churchwardens

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Mrs J Percival  
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#### Other Parish Office holders PCC Secretaries

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