

St Mary's Acton
St David's Wettenhall &
St Oswald's Worleston
September 2026



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

Dear Friends

Like everyone else in Cheshire East, we recently found that a new outdoor food waste caddy had been delivered. My reaction was 'What food waste?' It seems to be a very large caddy and will be collected once a week I understand. I was glad to find that I can continue to use the small caddy which is emptied into the appropriate bin fairly infrequently. That does the job very well.



It was interesting to hear the reactions of friends and acquaintances who all now have a new green bin.

Perhaps age had something to do with it as people like me, that is 'old', all said 'I don't have any waste worth bothering about. Potato peelings and banana skins etc go on the compost heap. I have a few meat or fish bones, of course but I don't need a large bin for that.'

It would be easy to drift into a young versus old debate where familiar opinions would be aired. The older people would say that they had to eat what was on their plate when they were young and money was tight and so waste didn't happen. That becomes a habit. The young would claim, quite rightly, that life isn't like that now, and, in any case, they don't have a compost bin.

It would be more constructive to think of how we could all reduce our food wastage. Perhaps we could shop more carefully, turn spare food into soup or chutney or jam, put surplus food in the freezer more promptly, share extra produce. At the end of a service on one Sunday recently, a number of people happily went home with cucumbers and marrows which one family had grown and had more than enough for themselves.

Thinking about food should make us thankful for the variety and abundance of food we have. We often take God, the Creator's gifts entirely for granted, and forget to thank him. However, we will be celebrating and giving thanks for our farmers and food and God's care in our Harvest Festival services.

I know that the problems of the many people in the world who have little or no food, and the growing problems connected with water supplies and water waste, have not been addressed here. They are two big topics in themselves. However, if the new 'Food Waste Only' bins make us stop to think, and, then think again each time before we use them, then they will have done us all some good after all!

Isobel

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Sunday Services

Acton

- 6th Sep 11:00 am Communion
- 13th Sep 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 20th Sep 10:00 am Messy Church
- 27th Sep 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 4th Oct 11:00 am Harvest

Church Minshull

- 6th Sep 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 13th Sep 11:00 am Cafe Church
- 20th Sep 10:00 am Communion
- 27th Sep 11:00 am Messy Church
- 4th Oct 11:00 am Service of the Word

Worleston

- 6th Sep No Service
- 13th Sep 9:30am Morning Prayer
- 20th Sep No Service
- 27th Sep 9:30am Communion
- 4th Oct No Service

Wettenhall

- 6th Sep 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 13th Sep 11:00 am Communion
- 20th Sep 10:00 am All Age Service
- 27th Sep 6:30 pm Harvest
- 4th Oct 11:00 am Morning Prayer

Additionally there is Communion Service every Wednesday at Acton Church

St David's Church Wettenhall			
Sidespersons		Cleaning and Flowers	
6 th	Sep	Mr A Burrows	Mrs S Ward and Mrs I Drinkall
13 th	Sep	Mrs A Hignett	Mrs A Nicholas and Mrs M Drinkall
20 th	Sep	Brownies	
27 th	Sep	Churchwardens	Mrs M Drinkall and Mrs B Brockbank
4 th	Oct	Mrs A Brooks	
Find us on the A Church Near You website			

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathy to David and Mary Drinkall on the loss of David's brother Keith at the end of June.

Condolences to the family and friends of Katie Noden, especially to Jayne and Charles. Katie was a long-standing member of Wettenhall PCC along with her late husband Tony. Following their retirement to Wistaston she continued to help with catering for functions and loved to decorate St. David's for the many special occasions during the year. She will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and all who mourn at this time.



August Coffee and Cake →

Coffee and Cake

The next meetings will be on September 3rd and October 1st from 10-12 noon in Church. Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



Apology

Apologies to the family of the late Joan Darlington for the incorrect information last month.

Joan's funeral service took place at Wrexham Crematorium on 21st July. It was followed by a Thanksgiving Service in St. Mary's Church Acton where Joan had enjoyed attending Evensong for many years of her life.

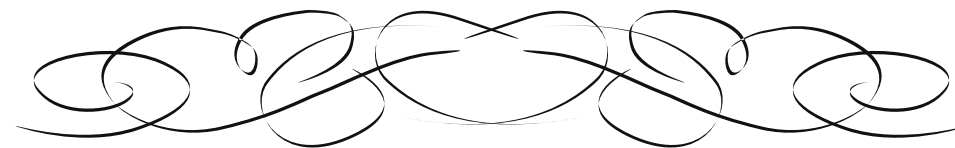


All is Safely Gathered in

We have so much to be thankful for, even after a long dry Summer. Our Harvest Festival service will take place on Sunday 27th September at 6.30 pm. This will be followed by our usual Harvest Supper. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church or ask a church member to do this for you. This helps us with the catering numbers - although we'll always make sure there is plenty for everyone and everyone is very welcome!

Brownies

Fifty years ago under the guidance of Brown Owl Ann Hignett, Darnhall Brownie pack was formed. Later this year we will celebrate this momentous occasion and hope that many past and present 'Brownies' will attend to share in this wonderful occasion and reminisce on those happy days. If anyone has any photographs from those early years then we would love to display them at our celebration. Look out for more details to follow



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Darnhall and Wettenhall WI

August 2026

Our August meeting was centred around a talk by historian Joanna Williams, who has a background in teaching and lecturing at the University of Manchester and Altrincham Grammar School for Girls. Her subject was 'The Great Miss Lydia Becker, a woman of great intellect, persistence and political power, now long forgotten. In the 1860s she discovered a legal loophole in a law concerning the voting rights for 'people' with property in British elections who owned property above a certain value. Although it was meant to mean voting rights for men only, it did not stipulate that and used the word 'persons' instead. By uncovering and publicising this loophole 1000 women were able to vote in the 1868 General Election, more than fifty years before all women were eligible to vote on equal terms with men. By 1881 she had achieved voting rights for all women, equal to those of men, in the Isle of Man parliament, The Tynwald. Throughout the remainder of her life, until her death in 1890, she led campaigns for women's suffrage, academic education for poor girls, corresponded and met with people such as Charles Darwin, and published The Women's Suffrage Journal to keep interested people abreast of progress in the campaigns. All this in the decades before the well known Suffragettes had started their own campaigns. What a woman! The speaker was excellent, with a wide knowledge of her subject and the politics and personalities behind it. We left the meeting full of enthusiasm, admiration and thankfulness for Miss Lydia Becker. The next meeting is Tuesday 1st September 7.00pm. Darnhall Village Hall. It's a hotpot supper.

National Garden Scheme; Milford House Farm

The NGS Open Garden scheme at our house on 11th July 2026 was dominated by the incredibly hot weather, both before the event and on the day itself. However, this did not stop the private visits, Ladies' Lunches, or the day itself from going ahead and raising an amazing amount of money for charity. It is a cliché to say that, without all the volunteers, this would not be possible. Yet it's so true. We had help with preparing, donating, and serving refreshments, selling plants, selling tickets, helping those who came to see the garden, parking, and a thousand other tasks. Family members made and sold jewellery and displayed delightful miniature models. Our dog was cared for away from the crowds and sausage butties given out to volunteers at lunchtime. Thank you all!!

All this effort was amply rewarded by the generosity of every participant. We reached a total of £2,535.00 when the cash, online, 'Sum Up' and generous donations had been totalled together. This has been divided between The National Garden Scheme, St. David's Church Wettenhall, Cancer Detection Dogs and Dementia UK. We might even do it all again next year! Heather



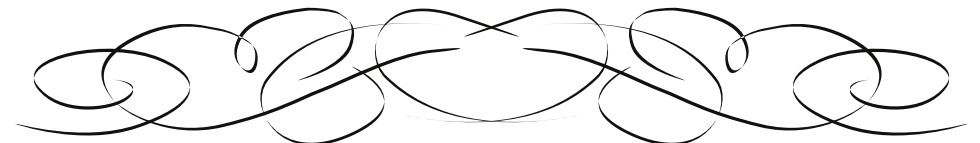
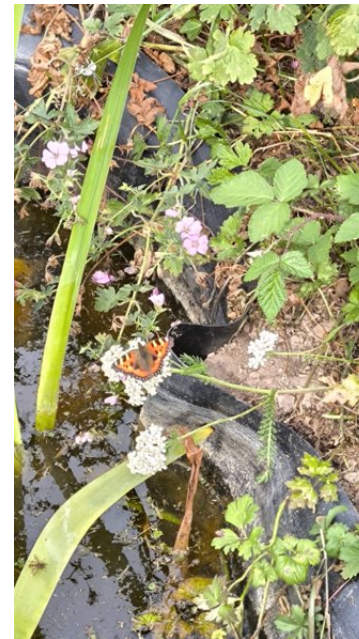
Eco Church at St David's

Eco Church in Summer

August brings time to assess our work during the year. We built the pond in May and June and planted nectar rich plants at its margins. We have seen it steadily attracting insects such as damselflies and butterflies – as you can see in the pictures taken. The bug hotel is in need of building to fill the gaps, more information on what you can do to help next month. If you would like to know how you can encourage insects in your churchyard, investigate a webinar on You Tube called "Making our Burial Grounds a Home for butterflies." It is presented by Mike Watkins from Warwickshire Butterfly Conservation.

September and October bring Creationtide, giving thanks in our worship for all of creation, the world we live in, all its creatures, as well as the skill and divine creativity in growing, harvesting and re-seeding. We start with celebrating Harvest in September and continue with focusing on Creation. We will have Green Café Worship to end our thoughts, prayer and celebrations for the season in October. Come for the cake, informal worship, activities to help our conservation work – and maybe some news about our Silver Award.

Brenda Brockbank



St Mary's Church, Acton Sidespersons	
6 th Sep	Sandra and Mike Houlston
13 th Sep	Kath Edwards and Elizabeth Bull
20 th Sep	Tracey and Peter Foster
27 th Sep	Mary and Brian Titterington
4 th Oct	Gill Evans and Philip Percival
Visit: www.stmarysacton.org	

Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

The next walks are:

Next walks are 13th September, 4th October and 1st November.

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

On the above date there are guided walks 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.



From the Registers

Wedding:

25th July 2026

Steven Tait and Danisha Yohani Mudalige

Photo on Page 9

With every happiness for their married life together

Funerals:

17th July 2026 Robert Alan Taylor Aged 77

27th July 2026 Kathleen (Kathy) Anne Edge Aged 84

4th August 2026 Cremation at Crewe Crematorium only - Geoffrey John Bawcutt Aged 95

17th August 2026 Service at Acton followed by Burial at Nantwich Cemetery - Audrey May Overall Aged 76

19th August 2026 Zoe Elaine Sutton Aged 96
Our sympathy is expressed to all who mourn.

Dorfold Autumn Gala

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

Tickets Now Available



Confirmation – Last Call For Candidates who want to be Confirmed in December.

A Confirmation Service with Bishop Sam will take place at 11.00 am on Sunday 6 December 2026

If you have not been Confirmed and would like to think more about being Confirmed, please contact Canon Anne (countryvicar@outlook.com or 01270 628864).

A 6 week course looking at the Christian faith will be held in the Autumn for anyone interested in Confirmation or in refreshing their understanding of the Christian faith.

If you have already been Confirmed but have recently come back to faith it is possible to renew your Baptism Vows as a way of publicly re-affirming your commitment to Christ. Adults who have not been Baptised and would like be Baptised are normally Baptised and Confirmed at the same service.

Participating in the course does not commit you to being Confirmed, although you will need to do the course if you wish to be Confirmed, Baptised or renew your Baptism Vows.



Steven Tait and Danisha Yohani Mudalige Wedding



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Cross Country Pages

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Callum Woodward Matthew Major
Elizabeth Parton Olivia Uttley
Ella Thibeault Phoebe Presland
Henry Jones Sally Redmond
Isla Presland Thomas Herbert

Ladies Lunch

Thursday 17th September
Olde Barbridge Inn
Barbridge
12:30 pm
£13.50

Beer Battered Fish and Chips with
Garden or Mushy Peas.
Cumberland Sausage with Mash and
Onion Rings.

Grilled Sea Bass fillet with broad
beans and spinach risotto.
5oz Gammon with egg, chips and
peas

All Welcome

Please book your Menu choice with
Joyce Percival
077033292900

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

"I wonder what we will wear in heaven?" a lady said to her next door neighbour, "I know what I will wear if we are there together," her friend said. "What is that?" the first lady asked, "A surprised look," her friend said.



Mobile Library

Sep	Oct	Oct	Tuesdays	
15 th	6 th	27 th	Arr	Dep
Badger Church Minshall			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				
Sep	Oct	Oct	Thursdays	
10 th	1 st	22 nd	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
Sep	Oct	Sep	Thursdays	
17 th	8 th	29 th	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: Justin Welby

Justin Welby [born 6th January 1956] was the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury from 2013 until 2025. He was born into a well-connected family, his maternal great uncle being Rab Butler, who was deputy Prime Minister in the 1950s and 60s. Another historical ancestor was Robert Stewart, the illegitimate son of King James V of Scotland. His early life was turbulent, his mother Jane was personal secretary to Sir Winston Churchill, his Father Gavin Welby a financier and businessman. It was only aged 60 that Welby found out that Sir Winston's Private Secretary, Anthony Montague Brown, was his actual Father. Gavin and Jane Welby divorced after only three years, and in 1975 she married Charles Williams, a supportive stepfather. Justin was educated at Eton and Trinity College Cambridge, studying history and law. It was at Cambridge, on 12th October 1975, while praying with a Christian friend that Welby felt the presence of God and became a Christian. At age 19 he started speaking in tongues and says that he does this every day of his life in prayer.

After university Welby worked in the oil industry for Elf Aquitaine and Enterprise Oil plc, spending time in Nigeria and its oil fields. In 1989 he decided to leave the industry and be ordained. His desired ordination was rejected by the Bishop of Kensington, but welcomed by the vicar of Holy Trinity, Brompton. This is traditionally a charismatic evangelical church, an aspect of belief that Welby always followed during his priesthood. After studying theology at Cranmer Hall and St. John's College Durham he became a deacon in 1992 and a priest in 1993, both at Coventry Cathedral. He was a curate in Nuneaton and then vicar of St. Michael and All Angels in Coventry. By 2002 Justin was a Canon at Coventry Cathedral and co-director for international ministry at the International Centre for Reconciliation, moving to Liverpool as Dean in 2007. From then onwards his career advanced incredibly quickly, becoming Bishop of Durham in September 2011, entering the House of Lords in January 2012

and then becoming the Archbishop of Canterbury in December 2012. He described his move to Lambeth Palace as 'a joke', coming so soon after his move to Durham.

Justin Welby's time as the Archbishop saw the appointment of the first woman Bishop [Libby Lane], and the blessing of same sex relationships in 2023. He presided over the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, along with the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II and the coronation of King Charles III. However, these momentous events were overtaken in 2024, when a report was issued regarding the physical and sexual abuse of boys at Iwerne Camp, a Christian camp, by a deceased barrister called John Smyth. During the time of this abuse [the 1970s and 80s] Welby had been a Dormitory Officer at the camp. He strongly refuted ever knowing about the abuse, but in November 2024 he resigned and said that he was ashamed of long standing reports about Smyth and safeguarding failures in the Church of England. A speech that he gave in the House of Lords, following his resignation, appeared to make light of the situation and Welby was criticized widely. He said that he was profoundly ashamed of the speech and apologised publicly a few days later. It was an unfortunate end to an incredible time as the Archbishop of Canterbury.



Heather Pope

Recipe

Ruthie's Chocolate Pudding Serves 4 - 6

Ingredients

- ▯ 8oz/225g good dark chocolate
- ▯ 2 1/2oz/60g butter
- ▯ 2 eggs
- ▯ 2oz/50g caster sugar
- ▯ 12 fluid oz/350ml double cream
- ▯ 2 tablespoons amaretto liqueur or any other liqueur
- ▯ 3 little packets Maltesers

Method

- 1 Beat eggs and sugar well - it will not thicken
- 2 Melt butter and cooking chocolate in double saucepan - or similar
- 3 Whisk cream and amaretto, or choice of liqueur, until thick but not too stiff
- 4 Fold everything together.
- 5 Stir in Maltesers . Add another packet if you wish.

Spoon into ramekins or large bowl.
Freeze or put in fridge.

Decorate with blobs of whipped double cream, and/or crushed Maltesers.

Enjoy

Llandudno Day Out



*A Grand Day Out
was enjoyed by many from the Cross Country
Parishes.*



August Ladies Lunch



*It was a lovely day for the August Ladies
Lunch at White Lodge Acton, the home
of Joyce and Philip Percival*



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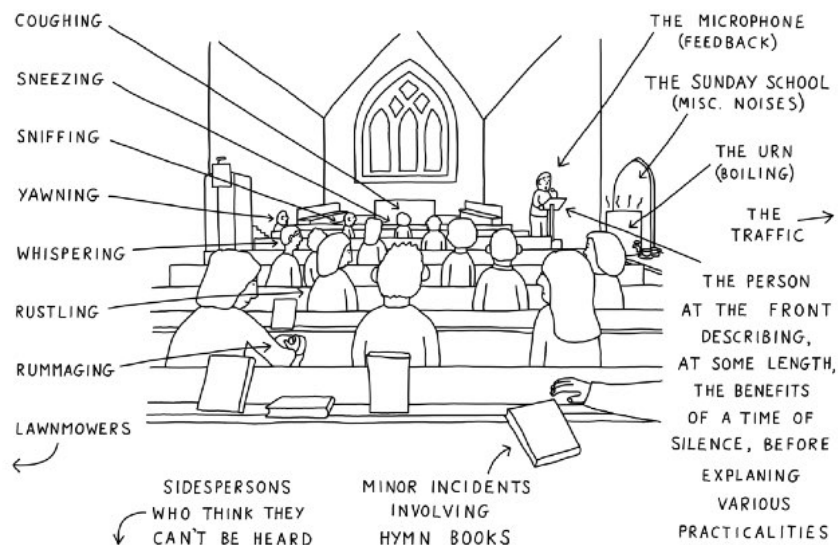
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St Oswald's Church, Worleston

Sidespersons		Coffee	
13 th Sep	Marilyn Booth	Alison Stokes	
27 th Sep	Diane Darlington	Sarah Parker	
Flowers		Cleaning	
13 th Sep	Lynne Ablard	Please see note below	
27 th Sep	Felicity Adams		
Website currently unavailable			

From the Register

Wedding
Saturday 18th July
Joshua Aaron Chrich and Grace
Elizabeth Wallace
With every happiness for their married life together

Funeral
5th August 2026 Service in Church
followed by Cremation at Crewe
Crematorium - Janet Winifred Wright
Aged 83

Burial of Ashes
31st July 2026 - Douglas Brian Nagington
With deepest sympathy to all who mourn.



Joshua Chrich and Grace Wallace Wedding

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 5th September 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.



From the Register

We were very sad to hear of the death of Kath Alexander on 31st July. Kath had been an active member of St Oswald's for many years and gave unstinting support to her husband, Mike, when he was Church Warden. We send our love and condolences to Mike and all the family and assure them of our prayers

HJ Lea Oakes

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Summer 2026

Worleston WI members held their final meeting before the August break, featuring a very informative talk by Julie Love. As a highly experienced, long-serving NHS nurse, Julie is playing a central role in both clinical operations and the upcoming development of the new £1.3bn Leighton Hospital. Plans have been approved for a six-storey facility, which is set to be fully operational by 2032/33.

Members were delighted to learn that all inpatient rooms will be single, en-suite spaces, significantly enhancing privacy and infection control. The development will also include a standalone ambulatory Cancer Care Centre. While the campus will feature digital and net-zero carbon technologies, several existing structures, including the current Emergency Department, will be retained.

Current parking issues were also discussed. Although 1,600 spaces will be available at the new site, it is hoped that parking pressures will be further eased by reconfigured parking and improved public transport links. Reassuringly, Julie confirmed that the hospital's design fully factors in local housing growth and new builds. Since construction is not scheduled to begin until 2028, Julie promised to return in the future to update members on progress and address any ongoing concerns.

In addition to the meeting, members also enjoyed a wonderful evening at a summer barbecue hosted by Ros Lea, where the weather was on their side and the food was scrumptious. Worleston WI meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at Acton Parish Hall. For further details contact Secretary Lyn Whitmore on 07778503191



Nantwich Flower Club has been extremely busy over the Summer

Members enjoyed a presentation and floral demonstration by Eleanor Davies entitled *Peter and Me*, inspired by the tales of Beatrix Potter. The innovative designs included floral arrangements featuring carrots, alongside many exquisite displays incorporating much-loved Beatrix Potter characters, as shown in the accompanying photographs.

This was followed by a delightful Garden Party hosted by Chris and Ian McKellan at their home, Magpie Cottage. Members enjoyed a traditional Afternoon Tea while exploring the beautiful gardens, with the weather being kind to everyone.

Members also enjoyed an inspiring demonstration by Becca Morris "Inspired by Nature" when beautiful designs were made before being raffled off to members

If you would like to join Nantwich Flower Club, the group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Acton Parish Hall. Meetings are held at 7.30pm during the summer months and 2.30pm during the Winter months. The club is a very friendly group, offering enjoyable and fun meetings throughout the year.

For further details, please contact the Secretary, Lyn Whitmore, on 07778503191





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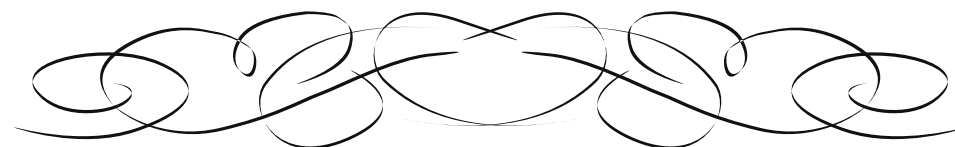
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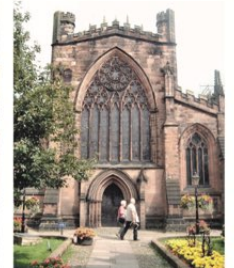
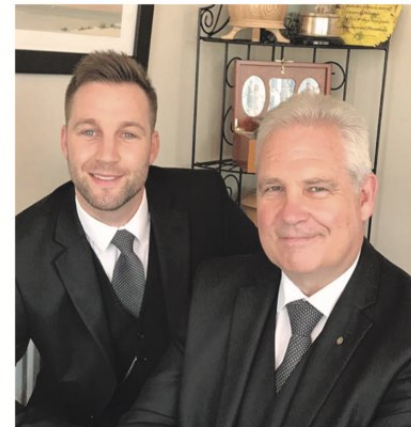
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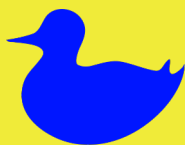
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The Vicarage, Chester Rd,
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