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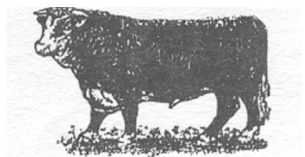
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## The Church Magazine

February 2026



St Edward's Church, Cheddleton

### Look inside for:

Evensong for All

Porch Update

APCM / Vestry Meeting date

Application forms for the Electoral Roll

Nomination forms for Church Warden and the PCC

Fancy being a Church Warden?

More of our Church History

Pop Up Cafe

FOSECC & Open Gardens

Pip's Appeal

Thank You

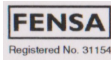


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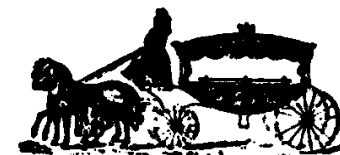
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Compassionate Father,  
In this season that celebrates life  
and joy, comfort those whose hearts  
feel the weight of sorrow and loss.  
Strengthen them to walk through  
these difficult days. Grant that  
Your comforting presence and  
peace surround them.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.



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Nominees must be:

- at least sixteen years of age;
- actual communicants;
- on the Electoral Roll of this Parish for at least six months

Proposers and seconders must be on the Electoral Roll of this Parish

No person shall be nominated unless they have signified their consent to serve, or there is in the opinion of the meeting sufficient evidence thereof. No person shall be nominated if they are disqualified from serving by the Church Representation Rules.

\*pursuant to Rule 76(1), by providing your email address you are agreeing to :

- (i) receive any communication authorised by or under the CRRs at that email address; and
- (ii) any disclosure of your name and address authorised by or under the CRRs will include your email address.

### **DISQUALIFICATION** (Church Representation Rules Part 7, Rule 68)

A person shall be disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or any synod under these rules if the person:

- (1) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a churchwarden or a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or a joint council if the person is disqualified from being a trustee of a charity (and the disqualification is not subject to a waiver which permits membership of a parochial church council, district church council or joint council).
- (2) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).
- (3) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (with that expression being construed in accordance with Rule 71(2) of the Church Representation Rules).
- (4) A person's disqualification under sub-paragraph (3) may be waived by the bishop of the diocese by giving the person notice in writing.
- (5) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person has been disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure 1977.

### **Note**

In order to confirm that you are eligible to act as a charity trustee, all newly elected PCC members will be required to sign a declaration confirming their eligibility to hold office as a charity trustee eligibility (i.e. non-disqualification under charity law). Most newly elected PCC members will also be asked to sign a Fit and Proper Person declaration. A copy of these declarations can be found at [www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/apcms/](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/apcms/)  
By confirming that you are eligible for election, you are confirming that you are able to sign these declarations.

### **Team Vicar of St Edward's The Confessor Church:**

Rev Dr Henry Hope 07421 462595

### **Licensed Lay Minister:**

Alan Baldwin 07976 131833

### **St. Andrew's Methodist Church Superintendent Minister:**

Rev Julie Hassall 01538 751907

### **St Andrew's & The Gathering Church & Community Engagement Leader :**

Richard Funnell 07446173533

**St Edward's Church Office: 07873 778135**

### **New Year, New Me**

With January turning to February, 2026 might already feel like old hat. Long forgotten are the hopeful resolutions made at the beginning of the year: those plans to be less wasteful and more conscientious about our environmental impact; those firm intentions to be more generous and forgiving in our interactions with others; those hopes for being gentler with ourselves, trying to make time in our busy lives for our physical, mental and spiritual well-being. By now, the reality of things is likely to have caught up with us, our dreams of a "new year, new me" drowned out by the ordinariness of our day-to-day lives, our many anxieties and worries. Much of the energy and enthusiasm with which we might have set out into the new year is likely to have worn off, not unlike many of the new toys and oh-so-exciting (oh-so-expensive!) Christmas gifts now discarded, broken and forgotten.

Mindful of how quickly we lose sight of our hopes and visions, I've been particularly struck this year by one of the special prayers that we have been using at St Edward's throughout the first few weeks of January:

Lord Jesus Christ,  
in you the Father makes us and all things new.  
Transform the poverty of our nature  
by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory.  
Amen.



This prayer speaks powerfully of God's capacity to bring new life. The One who created all things in the beginning, so our Christian faith assures us, continues to make all things new. Creation isn't, as we might instinctively believe, a one-off, once-in-a-lifetime event, but Creation is an ongoing process. Our God is in the business of working change - not for the sake novelty-value, because our God is somehow bored, but in order to bring blessing. As the prayer words it so beautifully, God longs to transform our human poverty in order that all people might come to encounter and enjoy God's heavenly glory, made visible in our lives.

When you find ourselves exhausted, wearied, or "stuck" in the months ahead, deflated, lacking vision and energy, anxious and uncertain about the future, may this prayer offer you strength and reassurance. May we all find new hope in the knowledge that our life together here in this community, no matter what, is ever held in the loving hands of our creator God: transformed and renewed by the riches of God immeasurable grace, today, tomorrow, and every day of our lives.

With every blessing,

Henry  
(revdhenry.hope@posteo.uk; 07421 462 595)

**St Edward's Church, Cheddleton**  
**Parish Office open by appointment only**  
**Mondays 12 noon till 2 pm**  
**Wednesdays 9 till 11 am**  
**Phone: 07873 778135**  
**Email: stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com**



**THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**  
**The Diocese of Lichfield**



**THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR**  
**CHEDDLETON**

## **NOMINATION FOR ELECTION TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

Proposer

Seconder

We (*insert names*)

of (*insert Address*)

email address\*

being members of the electoral roll of this parish, hereby nominate

Name of nominee:

of

(*insert nominee's address*)

email address\*

as a candidate for election to the Parochial Church Council at the annual meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Proposer

Seconder

Signed

I declare that I am communicant of 16 years or over and not disqualified, and that if elected, I consent to serve.

Nominee's signature:

Date:



### FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS MEASURE 2001:

1. The churchwardens of every parish shall be chosen from persons who have been baptised and -
  - a. whose names are on the church electoral roll of the parish;
  - b. who are actual communicants;
  - c. who are twenty - one {21} years of age or upwards; and
  - d. who are not disqualified as laid out below.
2. No person shall be chosen as churchwarden of a parish for any period of office unless they -
  - a. have signified consent to serve as such; and
  - b. have not signified consent to serve as such for the same period of office in any other parish (not being a related parish) or, if such consent has been signified and the meeting of the parishioners to elect churchwardens of that other parish has been held, was not chosen as churchwarden of that other parish.

### Disqualifications

3. A person shall be disqualified from being chosen for the office of churchwarden if:
  - a. A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a churchwarden or a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or a joint council if the person is disqualified from being a trustee of a charity (and the disqualification is not subject to a waiver which permits membership of a parochial church council, district church council or joint council).
  - b. A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).
  - c. A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (with that expression being construed in accordance with Rule 71(2) of the Church Representation Rules).
  - d. A person's disqualification under sub-paragraph (3) may be waived by the bishop of the diocese by giving the person notice in writing.
  - e. A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person has been disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure 1977. Without prejudice to the above, a person shall be disqualified from being chosen for the office of churchwarden when that person has served as a churchwarden of the same parish for six successive periods of office until the annual meeting of the parishioners to elect churchwardens in the next year but one following the date on which that person vacated office at the end of the last such period: Provided that a meeting of the parishioners may by resolution decide that this section shall not apply in relation to the parish concerned.

### Note

In order to confirm that you are eligible to act as a charity trustee, all newly elected Church Wardens will be required to sign two declarations, being: (i) confirmation of trustee eligibility (i.e. non-disqualification under charity law); and (ii) a Fit and Proper Person declaration, copies of which can be found at [www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/apcms/](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/pccs/apcms/). By confirming that you are eligible for election, you are confirming that you will be able to sign these declarations.



## St Edward's Church, Hollow Lane, Cheddleton, ST13 7HP February 2026

Sun 25 Jan 11 am Parish Eucharist  
(Conversion of Paul)

Sun 1 Feb 10 am Parish Eucharist

Sun 8 Feb 11 am Parish Eucharist

Sun 15 Feb 9.15 am Parish Eucharist

Wed 18 Feb 6.30 pm Ash Wednesday

Sun 22 Feb 11 am Parish Eucharist

Sun 1 Mar 9.15 am Parish Eucharist

Come and join us for any of our upcoming  
worship services here at  
St Edward's Church on Hollow Lane.  
Bring a friend!  
You would be sure of a warm welcome and  
there is always tea / coffee and  
biscuits after service.  
There is also Morning Prayer  
8.30 am till 9 am Mondays, Tuesdays,  
Wednesday & Fridays and  
Holy Communion 5 pm Fridays.



## St Edward's Church Hollow Lane, Cheddleton, ST13 7HP Parish Register

### Funerals

4 January 2026  
8 January

Kenneth Wright  
Eunice Matthews

# St Andrew's Methodist Church



Ostler's Lane, Cheddleton

Minister with Pastoral charge: Reverend Julie Hassall  
Church and community engagement leader: Richard Funnell.  
richard.funnell@smmethodist.org.uk

## Services and events at St Andrew's in February

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 10-30am Morning worship, with  
Rev Julie Hassall.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 10-30am Morning worship with  
Rev Colin Cooper

If you prefer informal café style worship there is a  
meeting of The Gathering every Sunday afternoon at  
St Andrew's.

Refreshments from 2-15pm, service at 3pm.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February from 10am until 12 noon.

*Dabble and Do.* A morning of Christian based crafts and  
activities, ideal for children ages 5 to 9, but all ages are  
welcome.

Light refreshments are also provided, all free of charge.

In addition there are the following regular activities:-

Coffee mornings 10 am until 12 noon.

*Mixed Blessings* coffee mornings for all ages during  
term time

Daytime fellowship/bible study: Thursday afternoons  
at 2pm.

Prayer group: Tuesday mornings at 9-30am

If you want more information about any of the above  
please contact Richard Funnell at the above email address.



**THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**  
The Diocese of Lichfield



**THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR  
CHEDDLETON**

## **NOMINATION FOR CHURCHWARDEN**

We the undersigned, being either

- members of the church electoral roll of this parish or
- members of the local government register of electors by  
virtue of residence in this parish hereby nominate:

\_\_\_\_\_

for election to the office of Churchwarden in this Parish.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seconder's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposer's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seconder's Name

I, *(insert nominee's name)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
the above-named nominee, hereby certify that

- I am eligible for election to the office of churchwarden in this parish
- I am not disqualified from holding that office, and
- I am willing to hold that office.

Signed

## Notes

### General matters

- 1 The only Churches at present in communion with the Church of England are other Anglican Churches and certain foreign Churches, as listed in the Supplementary Material to the Canons (but note **Rule 83 (3)** of the Church Representation Rules, which provides for any question as to whether a particular Church is in communion with the Church of England to be decided by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York acting jointly).
- 2 Membership of the electoral roll is also open to members in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity where those members are also prepared to declare themselves to be members of the Church of England.
- 3 Every six {6} years a new roll is prepared and those on the previous roll are informed so that they can reapply. If you are not resident in the parish but were on the roll as a habitual worshipper and have been prevented by illness or other sufficient cause from worshipping for the past six months, you should complete declaration 2B or 2C as follows –
  - (a) delete the first set of words in square brackets and
  - (b) at the end of the second set of words in square brackets, briefly state the reason for not having worshipped as mentioned.
- 4 If you have any problems with this Form, please approach the clergy or lay people responsible for the parish, who will be pleased to help you.
- 5 In this Form 'parish' means ecclesiastical parish.

### Use of email addresses and other personal data

- 6 You do not have to provide an email address on this Form. If you do provide one, the Parochial Church Council and the electoral roll officer are entitled to use that email address to communicate with you in connection with the maintenance or revision of the Roll or the preparation of a new Roll or with elections to or membership of the Council.
- 7 The Church Representation Rules impose certain requirements for your name and address to be given to a third party, such as the diocesan electoral registration officer, in connection with elections to or membership of a deanery synod, diocesan synod or the House of Laity of the General Synod. If you provide an email address on this Form, it will be given to the third party along with your postal address.
- 8 A third party to whom your name and address have been given under the Church Representation Rules is in certain cases required by the Rules to pass them on to another person, such as the presiding officer in a synodical election. If you provide an email address on this Form, that email address will be given to the other person along with your postal address.
- 9 Any person to whom your email address or other personal data is given under the Church Representation Rules is required by those Rules to hold the data securely. Furthermore, if you do provide an email address on this Form, that does not give anybody the right to use it for any purpose other than those permitted by the Rules; so it cannot, for example, be used for social matters or fund-raising.
- 10 The roll is published after each annual revision and after the preparation of a new roll. The published roll will include your name (as well as the name of every other person on the roll) but none of your other personal data (as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018) will be made public as a result of your inclusion on the roll.

## Evensong for All

Choral Evensong is, without a doubt, one of the real treasures of the Church of England. At St Edward's, Choral Evensong has formed a core part in our worshipping life for many years, made possible by the skill and dedication of our fantastic choir.



This year, we're starting a new venture, offering Choral Evensong during the week, and starting at an earlier time (3.30pm). We hope that this new format will allow us to share the beauty of this service with those unable to join us on a Sunday afternoon. In particular, we hope that this new time might make it easier for young families to join us, immediately after school.

What's more, rather than meeting week-by-week rehearsing for this service, we've set aside a few dedicated rehearsals (on four Thursday evenings, 6pm - 7.30pm), in the hope that singers old & new might fancy giving it a go without needing to commit for the longer term. If you've fancied having a go, this is the perfect opportunity!

Please do get in touch with Revd Henry (07421 462 595; [revdhenry.hope@posteo.uk](mailto:revdhenry.hope@posteo.uk)) if you'd like to find out more about singing with the choir.

In short, we're hoping to make sure that our service of Choral Evensong truly is for all, nourishing us in our faith and bringing joy to our community.

The first mid-week Evensong will take place on **Wednesday, 25 March, at 3.30pm**. Do join us, whether as a member of the congregation or as part of the choir. All are warmly invited!



## Porch Update

You may recall reading in one of the last issues of this magazine about the pressing need for repairs to our iconic porch at St Edward's. Thanks to the generosity of our readers and supporters, we have been able to raise almost £7,000 towards this work in the past year - a fantastic base-line from which we can now begin to apply for matched funding from relevant trusts. Thank you for your kind support so far!

We are, of course, still some way away from the estimated overall cost of £25,000 needed to restore the porch to its full glory, and so any donations to this project continue to be gratefully received. The easiest way to donate is by using our giving website: <https://givealittle.co/c/stedwards>. For alternative ways of giving, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Nicky in the parish office ([stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com)).

## Did You Know...

- ... that it costs us almost **£14 a day** to insure St Edward's?
- ... that we pay over **£173 per week** for water, gas and electricity?
- ... that we require about **£250 per month** for regular maintenance work and repairs?
- ... that our overall expenditure at St Edward's is over **£50,000 each year**?
- ... that our **budgeted deficit for the year is over £15,000**?

We depend on the generosity of our worshipping congregation, our visitors, and our local community to meet these costs. Without additional financial support, St Edward's is likely to run out of funds by the end of 2028. We need your help. Please help us to keep St Edward's open for future generations, continuing to bring hope and joy to this community for generations to come. Any donation, no matter how small, makes a real difference.

To donate, go to our giving website (<https://givealittle.co/c/stedwards>) or get in touch with Nicky in the parish office [stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com).

You can also use the QR code here to make your donation.

Thank you for your generosity!



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
The Diocese of Lichfield



THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR  
CHEDDLETON

## APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT ON THE CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Name:

Preferred title (if any):

Full address:

Postcode:

Email address (optional):

**1: I declare that** (please tick only one box from options A or B)

1A ☐ I am baptised and am aged 16 or over

1B ☐ I am baptised and become 16\* on \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Those who become 16 in the next twelve months may complete the form and become eligible to be entered on the roll on their sixteenth birthday.*

**2: I declare that** (please tick only one box from options A, B or C)

2A ☐ I am a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) and am a resident in the parish.

2B ☐ I am a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and, not being resident in the parish, I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

2C ☐ I am a member in good standing of a Church (not in communion with the Church of England) which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare myself to be a member of the Church of England and I have habitually attended public worship in the parish during the period of six months prior to enrolment.

**I declare that the above answers are true and I apply for inclusion on the church electoral roll of the parish.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**THE PARISH CHURCH OF  
SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR**



### **The 2026 Vestry meeting**

(for the election of Churchwardens)

will be held in

### **St Edward's the Confessor Church**

on

**Sunday 22 March 2026**

after the 11 am Parish Eucharist

### **The 2026 APCM**

will be held in

Immediately after the Vestry meeting above

There are several vacancies for church officials, including Church Warden, PCC, Treasurer, Fabric Officer

Application form for the Electoral Roll and nomination forms for the Church Warden role and the PCC are on the back pages of this magazine, at the back of church or available by email on application to either

**[stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com) or**  
**[pccsecretaryofstedwardchurch@gmail.com](mailto:pccsecretaryofstedwardchurch@gmail.com)**

These meetings may be attended by:

- All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the Parish and
- All persons resident in the Parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence.

*In this Notice "parish" means an ecclesiastical parish.*

*Voting is limited to those registered on the St Edward's Church's Electoral Roll.*



**SAINT EDWARD THE COFESSOR CHEDDLETON**  
**REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL**

Notice is hereby given

that the Church Electoral Roll of the above parish will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on Sunday the 22nd day of February 2026, and ending on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

After the revision, a copy of the Roll will be published by the Parochial Church Council, on or near to the principal door of the Parish Church for at least 14 days and a copy of the Roll will be available for inspection on a reasonable request being made to the Council.

Under the Church Representation Rules any lay persons are entitled to have their names entered on the roll if the person is—

- (a) is baptised,
- (b) is aged 16 or over, and
- (c) has made one of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.

The second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

The third declaration is that the person is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

Application Forms for enrolment can be obtained from the Church Electoral Roll Officer. In order for a person to be entitled to attend the annual parochial church meeting and to take part in its proceedings, an Application Form for enrolment must be returned by the date shown above for the ending of the revision of the Church Electoral Roll by the Parochial Church Council.

Any error discovered in the Roll should at once be reported to the Church Electoral Roll Officer.

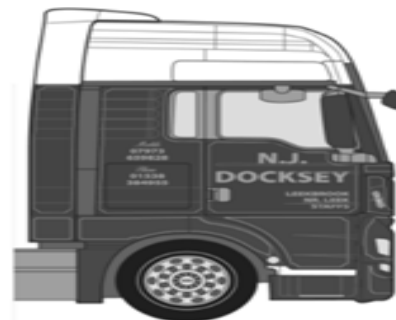
Dated this 23rd day of January 2026

*Church Electoral Roll Officer*

*Address Hawthorn Cottage, 81 Station Road, Cheddleton, ST13 7EE*

*Email caroleball81@ymail.com*

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***What is a Churchwarden?***

That is a question that I am often asked along with 'what do they do'. I have always thought that the Churchwarden is the link between the congregation, the village and the Vicar, caring for the church family and supporting the Vicar. The Churchwarden, along with the PCC helps organise services, events and activities for the enjoyment of everyone.

It may seem a daunting amount of work and responsibility being the Churchwarden, which it can be, but it also gives so much pleasure and satisfaction of a job well done. I could list all the tasks that are in my remit but it could take pages. I think it's safe to say that everything is on my list but there are other people who are better at many of the tasks than I am. If the safe door will not open I know exactly who to ask to repair it and if I have a question about advertising then I know that Nicky is the person to turn to. There is always someone who has a skill which they are willing to share to help out.

Much of the Churchwarden's job is behind the scenes with the clergy and PCC trying to organise activities and events to raise money to keep the church open. It is always hard work but has to be done to try to get on top of the losing battle of balancing the budget and keeping on top of rising prices to keep our beautiful church open.

The part of the job which I enjoy the most is Sunday morning. Having everything ready for the service, greeting the congregation, sharing their joys and concerns which we may be able to ease in some way is such an honour. I always know that whatever problems fall in my path I have Revd Henry to back me up and discuss any problem with. He also knows that he has my full support and problems are often resolved with tea and the Vicar's home made cake.

One of the biggest joys is meeting the congregation and being part of their lives, sharing their joys and sorrows, being able to share their friendship and help one another sharing God's love with everyone.

It is my privilege and joy to work with Revd Henry and the PCC to shape the way we work together to grow God's love throughout the community.

If anyone has any questions please do ask and I will try to answer them, or find someone who can.

Mary Williams, Churchwarden

## St. Edward's Church, continued

The early years of our church were spent under the control of Dieulacresse Abbey. The predominant religion at this time was Roman Catholicism, which was imparted by monks from the abbey. Our first known priest was Peter, who came here in the year 1200. The church then was very different from what we see today. The floor would have been earth, or possibly stone slabs and heating would have been out of the question. Through much of the year therefore, the atmosphere would have been, at best, chilly! To add to the discomfort, there would have been no seating, so the congregation were obliged to stand throughout the services. These were probably quite prolonged and conducted almost entirely in Latin. Often, some local squires, landowners or aristocracy were known to insist that their tenants or serfs attended the services under threat of severe penalties if they failed. This system continued until the Protestant faith was introduced to England by Henry VIII. It is quite likely that some form of seating was introduced around this time, but only for the wealthy and were closely supervised. At some point in the 18th Century, box pews were built. These were again owned by the wealthy, with their names attached and locks on the doors. Over time, these pews were traded, with significant amounts of money changing hands. We still have records of these transactions. The pews we have today were installed during the very significant Victorian restorations of the mid 19th Century. At this time the stone rood loft was removed and replaced by the present wooden screen. Prior to this, the Chancel, according to a contemporary account, was basically derelict and 'open to the elements and the grazing of sheep and cattle'. The account states that the incumbent of the time was responsible for ten parishes between here and Stone, but neglected them because 'he was inordinately fond of his horses, his hounds and his cups'. It must be said that this account cannot be independently verified, but the evidence contained in the stonework gives rise to speculation. Maybe more will come to light at a later date.

Mike



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## Living Nativity & Christingles 2025

What a wonderful Christmas Eve evening! Thank you to all the folks who joined us to make Christingles at school and all the characters ... and Alan, the donkey.

The Living Nativity to Church was absolutely magical as was when the Christingles were lit in church.

If you have never seen or heard our Vicar playing the saxophone, come and join us Christmas Eve this year!



It's odd, really, to think that that confessing one's sins to God should be linked to making pancakes. And yet the beginning of Lent brings us both - Shrove Tuesday is Pancake Day, and is followed by Ash Wednesday, and so Lent begins.

In centuries gone by, the pancakes were made to use up the milk and eggs before the fasting of Lent. More recently, many readers will have childhood memories of the wonder of watching our mothers break an egg, mix it with milk and flour - and out of that gooey mess, to produce a light and delicious pancake.

These days, more of us buy pancake mix, or even ready-made pancakes.

Send in and share your favourite recipe and toppings!



## What's On In The Week in Cheddleton

### Monday

10 am -12 noon	Pop In Café	St Edward's Centre (Old Choir House)
7.30 pm	Endon Scout Ventures	Headquarters
7.30 - 9 pm	St Cecilia Singers	Community Centre

### Tuesday

10 am -12 noon	Mixed Blessings Coffee Morning	St Andrew's (Term Time)
2.00 - 3.00 pm	Reading Group	St Andrew's (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday)
6 - 8 pm	Pilates	St Andrew's
7.30 - 10.00 pm	Women's Institute	St Andrew's (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)

### Wednesday

5.30 pm	Rainbows	Community Centre, Main Hall
6.00 pm	Brownies	First School
6.45 pm	Guides	Community Centre, Main Hall
7.15 pm	Scouts	First School
7.30 - 8.30 pm	Bell Ringers	St Edward's Church

### Thursday

1.30 - 3.30 pm	Mums & Toddlers	Community Centre
2 - 4 pm	Lace Group	St Andrew's
6 - 7 pm	Beavers	First School
10 - 11 am	Yoga	Community Centre, Main Hall
6.30 - 7.30 pm	Yoga	Community Centre, Main Hall
7.30 - 8 pm	Meditation	Community Centre, Main Hall
7 - 8.30 pm	Cubs	First School
7.30 pm	Church Choir	St Edward's Church
7.30 pm	Cautionary Lands Charity	St Andrew's Church (Quarterly)

### Friday

7.30 pm	Chess Club	St Andrew's
---------	------------	-------------

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## Contact Numbers

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Bell Ringers	07725 882073	NHS Fellowship	07980 342577
Brownies	01538 360847	Rainbows & Guides	01538 360569
Discover	07799192626	Reading Group	01538 360900
Chess Club	01782 550112	Scouts	01782705656
Cubs	01782705656	Senior Citizens	01538 361082
Dru Yoga For All	07709 625273	Spinning	01538 361766
Guiding Senior Section	01538 360847	Venture Scouts	01538 360652
Lace Group	01538 753961	WI	01538 360774
Mixed Blessing	01538 360990		

Please let us know of any changes or corrections: [ubmaged@mail.com](mailto:ubmaged@mail.com)

## Booking the St Edward's Centre

The St Edward's Centre is available to hire to non-church based groups at a cost of £7.50 per hour. Contact St Edward's Office on 07873 778135 or email [stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com) for more details.



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We are now open and welcoming new residents for both permanent and short stay placements. *The home is filling up fast, so if you'd like to take a tour of the facilities, or discuss options for yourself, or for a family member, please do get in touch as soon as you can.*

We are also recruiting for Senior Care staff and Care staff, and other employment opportunities going forward, if you are passionate about caring for older people please apply on line at [www.boroughcare.org.uk](http://www.boroughcare.org.uk) and follow the link "Work with us".

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Please check out our website [www.boroughcare.org.uk](http://www.boroughcare.org.uk) and also our reviews on [www.carehome.co.uk](http://www.carehome.co.uk)



## CHURCHES' CONTACT NUMBERS

### ST EDWARD'S CHURCH, CHEDDLETON

Team Vicar	Rev'd Dr. Henry Hope	07421 462595
Church Warden	Mary Williams	07779 157449
PCC Lay Chair	Arthur Yardy	01538 421498
PCC Treasurer	<b>Vacant Enquiries welcomed</b>	
PCC Secretary	Agnes Hill	07982 699562
Funerals Enquiries	Church Office	07873 778135
Verger for Weddings	Pam Kinshott	01538 361098
Safeguarding Officer	Andy Bloor	07342 970981
Electoral Roll Officer	Carole Ball	07920 207431
Gift Aid Officer	Agnes Hill	07982 699562
Baptisms	Call	07873 778135
and	or email the Church office at	
Weddings Enquiries	stedwardscheddleton@gmail.com	
Bell Ringers	Roy Cooper	07725 882073
Church Flowers	Mary Williams	07779 157449
Pew Sheets	Church Office	07873 778135
Deputy Organist	Ellie Elsdon	07968 268116
Quartermaster	Arthur Yardy	01538 421498
Magazine Advertising	Janet Oakley	01538 360762

### ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, CHEDDLETON

<i>Leadership Team</i>	Peter Green	01538 360437
	Joan Lister	01538 361474
	Chris Aston	01782 550501
	Marion Aston	01782 550501
	David Hallen	01538 360900

#### *Other Contacts*

St Andrew's & The Gathering Church & Community

Engagement Leader: Richard Funnell

richard.funnell@smmethodist.org.uk / 07446173533

Safeguarding	Cathy Hallen	01538 360900
Church Notices	David Hallen	01538 360900
Property Steward	Keith Parker	01538 360009
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*Please let us have any alterations to contact details for any of the Churches as soon as you can.*

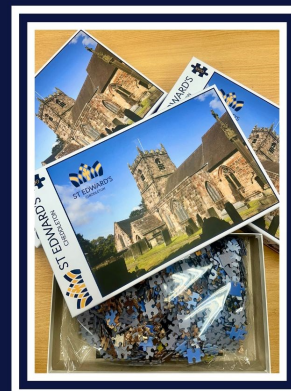
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## FOSECC and Open Garden 2026

The Friends of St. Edward's Church Cheddleton are running Open Gardens again this year. It will be on the weekend of the 20th and 21st of June.

Scarecrow Trail will run from the weekend before and include Open Garden weekend.

The organisers would love to have more gardens this year and more scarecrows. If you would like to take part, just say and we will willingly include you.



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St Andrew's Church Methodist Church Hall,  
Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton, Staffordshire, ST13 7HS  
is where we meet **on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month, apart from the January meeting which is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday.** The hours are 2pm – 4pm with free parking. Look forward to seeing you!

Stephanie Dulson, Moorlands Branch Secretary

\*Interested but not quite sure? Need more information?

Then contact: **stephanie.dulson@outlook.com**

or telephone Stephanie on 07777603776

### Christmas at Cheddleton WI

The December meeting of Cheddleton WI was the Christmas meal at the Lazy Trout at Meerbrook. Everyone enjoyed the meal, and the Secret Santa, and agreed that it was a very good venue. The transport worked very well.

Mal wished everyone a happy Christmas, and looked forward to the next year.

Members also enjoyed a Christmas Wreath making evening at Quirky Flowers at the beginning of December.

In January Mal welcomed a smaller than usual number of members to the meeting due to the inclement weather, saying 2025 had been an excellent year, and looking forward to another good one.

Birthday greetings were given to Fran and Doreen H, with Doreen being given a balloon and a personalised card with photos celebrating her time at the WI, as it was a special birthday.

The resolutions for the NFWI Annual Meeting in June were voted on; absent members votes to be collected on WhatsApp.

Julie mentioned the Group Meeting on May 15th which we are hosting; the venue will be the Rugby Club.

Details of a proposed holiday in Llandudno in July were given, and a suggestion of a meal at the Black Lion in March, and we are already thinking about the new programme, which will start in June; members were asked for ideas and suggestions.

We were pleased to welcome Neil Collingwood as this month's speaker. He gave us a most interesting presentation beautifully illustrated with slides on the lifecycles of dragonflies and damselflies and how to identify them, and answered members' questions. They are often seen quite a distance from water, so keep a look out, they are wonderful to watch!

The competition for a pendant was won by Mary W, and the evening closed with refreshments and a raffle.

We meet at 7.30pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month, at St. Andrew's on Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton, and a varied programme of speakers and activities is being planned for the forthcoming year. Visitors and new members can be sure of interest, fun and a friendly welcome.

Contact Mal on 01538 360774, or turn up at one of our meetings.



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*These are your Church Magazine Editorial Team:*

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*Agnes: 07982 699562 + Honorary Proofreader - Ros*

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## **Arthur's Thoughts**

**Greet and Smile.**

**We are all different, and as the French say ...**

**"Vive la difference"**

I can't help it, I just have to look at people and say something and smile. Nearly everyone looks up and acknowledges with a smile.

I searched the internet about quotes about smiling and how to greet someone you don't necessarily know.

One comment reminded me of an incident I experienced. I was cooking a whole pig at a friend's pub in Suffolk one bank holiday weekend. The pub had a campsite and a small group of foreign farm workers were camped out there. When I had finished serving, I took a few spare rolls and meat to them.

They thanked me and as I walked away a young lass chased after me with a small glass of their homemade tippie.

She told me something which I still find quite sad. I quote "We love your country, because people smile. They don't smile in our country." There are some countries that you do not engage with other people unless you know them because of suspicion or whatever. Ours is not one of them.

It is only a small bit of effort to smile and say "hello".

I don't think "I know" that the smile back is worth it.



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Painful moments, trust God.

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Anon



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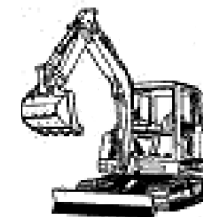
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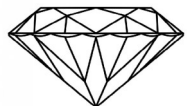


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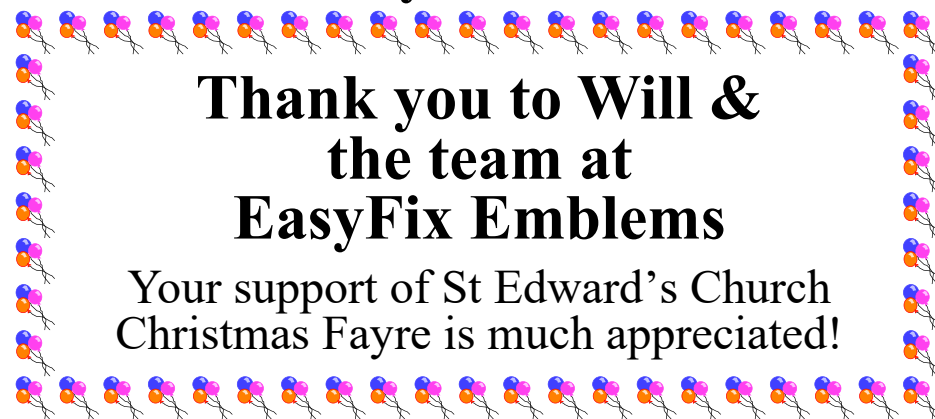


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Hello, my name is Pippa Waddell and I am 14 years old. I am trying to raise enough money to be able to go on an international Girlguiding camp in Europe (in summer 2027). I am doing a sponsored scoot with my Grandad and so far we have done 20 out of our 100 mile goal. I would be grateful if you could donate to our course or support us in our village events. I will also be donating some of the money to Birmingham Children's Hospital since they had saved my life twice due to a heart condition called cardio myopathy.

Thank you to those who bought my home made hot chocolate at the church's Fayre and school events.

We have a JustGiving account set up for the sponsored scoot under the heading Bill and Pips excellent Adventure.

Upcoming events include

SOS fashion show Friday 1st May

Quiz night with pie and pea supper Autumn 2026

*Good Luck!*  
😊 Pip!



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## **What not to say to somebody with dementia**

An extract from:  
<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/blog/language-dementia-what-not-to-say>



Words can be helpful and uplifting, but also hurtful and frustrating depending on the situation. Here, we look at some words and questions to try to avoid when talking to a person with dementia.

For a person living with dementia, being able to use language and communicate clearly can become more difficult over time. While the person living with the condition may have difficulties finding the right word, the words that other people use are important too. The type of difficulties a person will face as dementia progresses will be different for each individual, and the type and stage of the person's dementia will also be a factor.

But good communication is key for all our relationships, and can make a difference to our quality of life. Rather than correcting or challenging someone with dementia, considering using these techniques to support your conversations:

8. Try not to talk down to the person: 'I'll just help you use your little spoon there, love?'

'Elderspeak' - which can involve talking in a high-pitched voice, using words like 'love' or 'deary', and generally speaking to the person like they are a child - should be avoided. This can be patronising and infantilising for a person with dementia.

*Try this instead:*

Always remember the person behind the dementia. It's fine if the person needs you to speak slower than usual, but try to keep your tone of voice the same as with anyone else.

Some people may like being called 'love' or 'dear', but unless you know the person it is usually best to use their name instead. This helps keep their dignity intact.

*Last 8/8*

We have a selection of informative and free literature around Dementia and various aspects of dementia for people living with dementia and their carers. Do ask in church for them, or ring / email the Church Office.

Also, two books by Wendy Mitchell '*What I wish people knew about Dementia*' and '*Somebody I used to know*'



are available for borrowing from  
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## **St Edward's Church, Cheddleton Guide Books**

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Thank you.

## **Cheddleton and Leek Chess Club**

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*The Chess Club meets every Friday evening at 7.30pm.*

*The Club caters for all ages and abilities. If you would like to have a game of chess, or just want to find out more please come along on any Friday, or contact*

*Robert Milner at 01782 550112*

*David Hallen at hallens19@btinternet.com*

## **School Dates 2026**

Please check your child's school's website, diary or newsletters for term dates, news and updates.

Half Term: Mon 16 Feb to Fri 20 Feb

Term Ends: Fri 27 March

Holiday: Mon 30 March to Fri 10 April

Source: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/termdates.aspx>



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## Tower Talk



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Arthur the Bearded One.

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## **St Edward's CE Academy Cheddleton**

### **Community Newsletter January 2026**

It was definitely a wintry start to 2026 as we arrived back at school from the Christmas holidays! Despite the challenging conditions, we were able to keep school open thanks to Mr Machin's hard work in clearing the site and making it as safe as possible.

Speaking of challenging conditions, in our school worship this half term we are learning about the stories of Daniel from the Old Testament and reflecting on how his actions stood out in the challenging times in which he lived. In our world today, we want to inspire resilience in our children, to be confident in who they are and what they stand for, just like Daniel, and to be positive role models in our school community, even when it might be difficult. Our shared Bible quote across the school taken from Daniel 12:3 is: *"Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the sky. Those who teach others to live right will shine like stars forever and ever."*

The start of a new year is traditionally a time of new beginnings – a time to look back and be grateful, and a time to look forwards in anticipation. Let us now look back on the end of the last term, being grateful for all the wonderful Christmas events and activities that enabled us to live out our school vision:

*Learning and caring together... " they will flourish in the courts of our God." (Psalm 92:13)*

Our school choir (Songbirds) performed at Staffordshire University's Carol Service and at the annual City Songbirds Christmas Concert, where they formed a massed choir with children from Stoke schools. The children involved were a credit to St Edward's, not only for their excellent performances, but also in their behaviour and attitudes during both events. Singing also featured at our school Christmas Fayre where the community joined together to sing carols around our outdoor Christmas tree.

More wonderful singing was to be heard during our EYFS nativity performances of 'Knock, Knock, The Nativity'! The children truly flourished in their performance and confident delivery of their speaking lines, making us all very proud.

As a whole school, we had the fantastic experience of a trip to the

New Vic Theatre to watch their performance of 'The Little Mermaid'. It was a delight to see the children's faces filled with so much awe and wonder as they took in all the lights, costumes, special effects and the artistry of the performers.



Marion, Reverend Julie and the team from St Andrew's Methodist Church led two excellent events to deepen the children's understanding of the Christmas story and support their spiritual development.

Our Reception children engaged with a nativity themed Godly Play session where they reflected on who they thought was the most important character in the story and used fuzzy felts to create nativity scenes. Our Year 2 children visited St Andrew's Methodist Church to engage in a Hope Journey Christmas Event. The children interacted with different characters from the story, asking and answering questions and completing a variety of craft activities along the way.

Finally, we had the pleasure of joining forces with St Edward's Church and St Andrew's Church to bring the community together for the Living Nativity on Christmas Eve. We gathered in the school hall at 3pm to make Christingles and meet a very special donkey. We then travelled to Bethlehem, singing carols and meeting some important people along the way. It was lovely to see the light from the Christingles shining out in the darkness of the church as we sang 'Away in a Manger.' It was also lovely to see the children spotting the angels they had decorated in school hanging proudly on the Christmas tree! What a wonderful way to bring the Cheddleton community together in celebrating the story of Christmas!



As we begin our journey into 2026, may we all find a way to *"shine like stars"* (Daniel 12:3).