

Compass

HOLIDAY DOUBLE ISSUE 2026

AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

YOUR GUIDE TO WORSHIP IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER



If you are
exhausted and
need a break,
come to me
and I will give
you rest.

*A translation of the
words of Jesus in
Matthew 11:28*

AUGUST SEPTEMBER

2	10.00 ^{am} Milwich <i>Praise Together</i> 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist
9	10.00 ^{am} Sandon <i>Praise Together</i> 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist
16	10.00 ^{am} Weston <i>Praise Together</i> 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist
23	10.00 ^{am} Salt <i>Praise Together</i>
30	10.00 ^{am} Gayton <i>Praise Together</i>

6	8.00 ^{am} Hixon 9.30 ^{am} Salt 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist 11.15 ^{am} Milwich 11.15 ^{am} Sandon 11.15 ^{am} Stowe 11.15 ^{am} Weston
13	10.00 ^{am} Hixon <i>Praise Together</i> 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist
20	9.30 ^{am} Burston 9.30 ^{am} Hixon <i>Sunday Breakfast</i> 9.30 ^{am} Hopton 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist 11.15 ^{am} Milwich 11.15 ^{am} Salt 9.30 ^{am} Weston
27	9.30 ^{am} Gayton 9.30 ^{am} Salt 9.30 ^{am} Weston <i>Sunday Breakfast</i> 10.30 ^{am} Weston Methodist 11.15 ^{am} Milwich 11.15 ^{am} Sandon 11.15 ^{am} Stowe

A letter from Viv



In September my youngest grandson starts school, and it will be the end of eleven years of Monday childcare for my grandsons. I have to admit that I will not miss having to get up at 7.00^{am} every Monday morning in term time, ready for the invasion at 7.30^{am}, or the feeling of utter exhaustion at 6.00^{pm} after pickup! During this period, I have always had at first one, then 2 young boys with me every Monday, finishing with the final one and now I will only see them after school. I was looking forward to this day but now I have a profound sense of loss for those happy times sharing the day with the boys. And those good at maths will realise that at the same time in September my eldest grandson starts secondary school. Again, it was sad to go to all his leaving events, and frightening when I abandoned him in the huge Weston Road school bus park for his taster day, looking very lost and small until he spotted a pal to walk in together with.

...with one ending comes another beginning...

So of course, with one ending comes another beginning – when one door closes, another opens. Life is divided into these chapters, with different gates closing and others opening, and I have recently been reflecting on the rather odd passage of scripture in John Chapter 10, where Jesus talks about being the Good Shepherd, an image I can get my head around. However, He also describes himself as THE GATE to the Sheepfold, which is a more difficult image.

*"I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved
and will come in and go out and find pasture...
I come that they may have life and have it abundantly"*

John 10:9-10.

This reminds me of the image, made famous by the brilliant painting 'Light of the World' by William Holman Hunt. The painting is based on words of Jesus found in Revelation 3:20:

"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me."

The painting (see next page) shows Jesus, holding a lamp, knocking at a dark, neglected and overgrown door. (continued)

A letter from Viv

(continued) Even through our greatest loss, when we can only see the door closing, Jesus is always there, knocking at that closed door, holding that light, ready to lead us through the door into his pastures, to new life, life in abundance.

...for our children - life in all its fullness ...

The words of Jesus recorded in John 10:10 are part of Weston St Andrew School's vision statement: *'By following God's path, our school is dedicated to opening up the world of possibilities for children to experience "life in all its fullness."*

I was privileged to be part of the school's recent SIAMS inspection (a sort of church OFSTED inspection) where I was thrilled to see the school did so well in, as did St.Peters school in Hixon recently, so I am confident that the children going there for the first time this year will be helped to flourish. My prayers are with all our young people starting new schools, colleges and Universities. Life should be seen as not a series of slammed doors, but like doorways opening to new opportunities to taste life in abundance, in all its fullness. So, embrace change and remember, Jesus is always at the other side guiding us with his Light of unconditional love, if only we unlock the door, push through the brambles the other side and let Him in!

Vivienne



FRADSWELL



Milwich & Fradswell Toddlers Tuesday mornings 10.00^{am}-12^{noon}

Toddlers will meet during the holidays on **August 4th, August 18th.**

The new term begins on Tuesday 8th September

Contact *Jane Brookes* **07944 060138** for details.

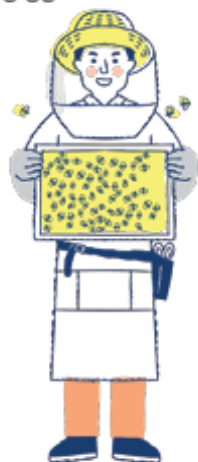
Dementia-friendly coffee morning *There will not be a coffee morning in August.* We meet again on Wednesday **2nd September 10.00^{am}-12^{noon}**

Hot drinks, yummy treats and lots of chat in a warm and supportive environment. All welcome. Please ring Laura on 07834 388140.

Whist Tuesday 4th August & 1st September 2.00^{pm}- 4.00^{pm} Please ring Christina Rushton on 07989 057467 for details.

Lunch Club *There is no lunch club in August.* We meet again on Wednesday **September 23rd.** A two-course freshly cooked lunch with tea or coffee. £6. **Booking is essential.** Please contact *Irene* on **07770780078.**

Get Waisted - This class continues throughout the summer, every Thursday 10.00^{am}-11.00^{am} Gentle exercise for mind and body. Lots of giggles too! Contact: Jan Griffin on 07891 140166



Bee Keeping Talk
with Jane & Martin Davis.

Our local beekeepers from Gayton are coming to Fradswell village hall on **Wednesday 9th September at 7.00^{pm}.** There will be delicious honey and also beeswax to purchase. Refreshments will be available.

Bee there!

WORSHIP on Sundays

AUGUST 30th

10.00^{am} **Praise Together**

SEPTEMBER 27th

9.30^{am} **Holy Communion**

Churchyard Lime Tree Regular readers will know that we again had a problem with our Lime tree after the branch falling on the lane in May. We have had a Tree surgeon to remove all the large overhanging branches over safety concerns. This work has cost over £1,000 leaving the church finances in a serious situation. Our wider Church team and the Diocese are aware of our current position. These are difficult times for small Rural Churches, to which hopefully solutions can be found

House of Bread Last year we collected several bags of food and other items for this Homeless Charity in Stafford, which was very gratefully received. We are proposing to do the same this year so a box will be in the Village Hall from the 1st September for any donations you can give which we will display in the church at our Harvest Festival on 27th September before presenting them to House of Bread. *Please help if you can.*

Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust Saturday 12th September 2026

As always, we will be opening the church on this day hoping to attract some of the counties riders and striders and even drivers, who every year visit the beautiful churches of Staffordshire. This is a sponsor event which raises money for Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust and if sponsor money collected on behalf of a particular church half of the money goes to that church. On the day the village hall will be open for toilet facilities, refreshments in the church and Church records and Village history information will be available. More details can be found at;

www.staffordshirehistoricchurchestrust.org

If you think you could walk, cycle or drive around the churches and can obtain sponsors that would be amazing, but otherwise please do come and visit on the day and discover the history of Gayton's 900-year-old church.



Gayton Village Hall Friday 18th September Pop into our friendly *Pop-Up Bar*, as we find ourselves heading into Autumn and looking forward to cosy evenings. Our selection of beers, wines and spirits will be available, plus good company. We look forward to seeing you there!

HIXON SUMMER OF CELEBRATIONS CONTINUES THIS MONTH!

On August 6th The now legendary talk on RAF Hixon by Malcom Garner.

(Free) **On August 8th/9th** History exhibition, focusing on the 100 years of the Hall's life and times. 10.00^{am} till 5.00^{pm} both days. *(Free)*

On August 9th The **BIG DAY** kicks off at 1.00^{pm}. There will be displays promoting the organisations and local businesses who have a connection with the Hall and the versatile **Penkhull Brass Band** will be entertaining us throughout the afternoon. *The main event of the celebration will be unveiling a commemorative stone.* This will be performed by

Jasset Ormsby Gore, now **Lord Harlech**. He is the *great grandson* of Capt. the Hon W. G. A. Ormsby Core MP, the person who laid the foundation stone on August 7th 1926!

Don't miss these special events!

Hixon Memorial Hall

History Exhibition

Enjoy the delightful sound of the Penkhull Brass Band

Displays and stands from clubs and organisations from the village

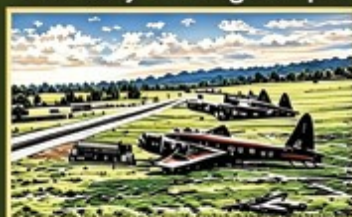
Saturday 9th August 1.00pm

Centenary Celebrations 1926-2026

Unveiling of a commemorative stone by The Rt Hon. The Lord Harlech at 2.00pm

Join us in celebrating a century of memories

THE STORY OF
RAF HIXON
Thursday 6th Aug 2.30pm



**No. 30 OPERATIONAL
TRAINING UNIT
1942-1945**

WORSHIP on Sundays in SEPTEMBER

6th 8.00^{am} Holy Communion

13th 10.00^{am} Praise Together

20th 9.30^{am} Sunday Breakfast (in the Guide Hall)

Please note there are no Sunday services at Hixon during August.



On Saturday 27th June **Louise Jones** was ordained Deacon at Lichfield Cathedral. This was the last ordination service to be led by Bishop Michael before he retires in September. Louise, a Hixon resident, was accepted three years ago as an ordinand and has since been studying at Queen's college Birmingham whilst doing parochial work in the parish of Berkswich. During her time there she has been mentored by Rev. Graham Adamson and the other clergy in the parish.

Rev Louise is now embarking on her new career as a curate at Baschurch and Weston Lullingfield with Hordley, in Shropshire. We wish her and Angie all the very best for the future. *The ordination service is available to view on the Lichfield diocese website.*



A Quiet Space -

open for you every Sunday

from 8.00am - throughout the day.

You are welcome to wander into St. Peter's Church building and use this space for your own reflection.

The amenity refuse vehicle will be on the Hixon Parish Council car park, opposite the Bank house, on Saturday 19th September between 10.00^{am} and 11.00^{am}.





*St. Wystan's Church
at Repton*

In July we were given an intriguingly titled talk on
The Saint and the Viking by *Dr. Charlotte Ball*.

This was the story about the village of Repton in south Derbyshire, which was at one time a major settlement of the Kingdom of Mercia. There was an Anglo Saxon abbey established there which had been used for the burial of a Mercian king. The crypt is still there today and was built in the eighth century, but was used as a mausoleum.

The saint in the title was *St. Wystan* (Wigstan) who was a Mercian prince who became king on the death of his father Wigmund. As he was still a young man, his mother Aelfflaed, became regent in his place. However his uncle and godfather Beorhtfrith wanting to take the throne wanted to marry Wystan's mother, but Wystan refused saying that they were too closely related. Beorhtfrith, visited him, supposedly in peace, but when they greeted each other he struck Wystan on the head with his dagger and his servant stabbed him with a sword killing him. This occurred in Wistow, Leicestershire in 849 AD.

It was said that there were miracles surrounding the young prince immediately afterwards. His body was taken to the abbey at Repton and placed in the crypt which became a site of pilgrimage.

Dr Ball told us about excavations at Repton in the 1970's & 80's which uncovered a D shaped enclosure abutting the church and the old Trent river. Two graves were excavated next to the church and the remains were obviously Viking, and both seem to have died violently. One grave clearly belonged to a warrior and contained a sword and a pendant of Thors hammer. There was very little accurate dating evidence at the time but subsequent carbon dating put both individuals into the right time frame.

Dr. Ball gave us much other interesting information about the impact of the Vikings in Anglo Saxon Mercia.

Please note that our
next meeting will be on **Tuesday September 8th**
at 8.00^{pm} in Hixon Memorial Hall with
Michael Morton speaking on **The story of coal mining**.

WHAT'S ON AT HIXON MEMORIAL HALL

Slimming World

079186 77783

Core and Curves

Karen Corbett 07989 704478

Tai Chi

Dave Llewellyn

Cafe

Karen Appleton 01889 270 751

Yoga

Victoria Barton 07375 610889

History Society

Tim Moss 07813 531146

Village Hall Committee

Mark Farrington 01889 270151

Parish Council

Catherine Gill 01889 272679

Slow Flow Yoga

Victoria Barton 07375 610889

Full Body Fit

Emma Cowell

Pilates

Victoria Barton 07375 610889

Circuits

Mark Farrington 07814453326

Luncheon Club

Jane Garner 01889 270151

Sound Bath

(just monthly)

Lisa Smith 07814453326

Tango Tea Dance

(monthly on Second Sunday)

Monday 9.30^{am} - 11.30^{am}

alisonfreeman@taftwharffarm.co.uk

Monday 6.30^{pm} - 7.30^{pm}

kmbailey1973@gmail.com

Monday 8.00^{pm} - 9.00^{pm}

eccleshall.taichi@gmail.com

Tuesday 10.00^{am} - 12^{noon}

hixonmemorialhall@gmail.com

Tuesday 6.00^{pm} - 7.00^{pm}

lifeinmotion@outlook.com

1st Tuesday 8.00^{pm} - 10.00^{pm}

mosstimothy90@gmail.com

2nd Tuesday 8.00^{pm}

hixonmemorialhall@gmail.com

3rd Tuesday 7.00^{pm} - 9.30^{pm}

www.hixon.gov.uk

Wednesday 9.30^{am} - 10.30^{am}

lifeinmotion@outlook.com

Wednesday 6.30^{pm} - 7.15^{pm}

emmacowell98@hotmail.com

Thursday 6.00^{pm} - 7.00^{pm}

lifeinmotion@outlook.com

Thursday 7.30^{pm} - 8.30^{pm}

hixonmemorialhall@gmail.com

Alt. Fridays 12^{noon} - 3.00^{pm}

Sunday 6.00^{pm} - 8.00^{pm}

sacredsoulechoes@gmail.com

Sunday 3.00^{pm} - 7.00^{pm}

danceargentinetango058@gmail.com

HIRE CHARGES

£13.00 per hour. Friday Evening **£55** (£60 deposit)
Saturday evenings **£110** (£80 deposit) (5pm till Midnight)

For bookings please contact Karen Appleton at
hixonmemorialhall@gmail.com

The amenity refuse vehicle will be on Hixon Parish Council car park
on Saturday September 19th from 10.00^{am} - 11.00^{am}

WORSHIP on Sundays in SEPTEMBER
20th 9.30^{am} Holy Communion

*Please note there are
 no Sunday services at
 HOPTON during August.*

Don't miss the Summer Fayre

at Hopton Village Hall

Saturday August 1st

Homemade cakes & Jam.

Cream Teas £4.50. All the fun

of the summer village fete.

*Proceeds towards Salt & Hopton
 Churches.*

Coffee Morning

All welcome for tea/coffee &
 biscuits at Hopton Village Hall on

Tuesday

August 25th & September 29th

10.30^{am}-12^{noon}. Only £2.50! Also a

bookstall and lots of chatter! For
 information contact Jan Bennett:

01785 242446

Hopton Village Hall can be

booked through the Hopton & Coton Parish Council website.

The cost is just £10 per hour.

Wood Turners Interested in the craft of wood turning? Want to improve
 or share your skills? Come along on the second Monday of the month in
 Hopton Village Hall: 7.30^{pm}-10.00^{pm}

Hopton & District Garden Guild July was our AGM with reports from
 Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary summarizing the previous year's
 activities. Light refreshments were provided and all committee members
 were re-elected. On **Saturday August 22nd** we have our *Summer Buffet*
 at Hopton village hall, all are welcome please contact us for tickets.

September 1st will see the start of our membership year and our speaker
 will be *Gill Sykes* with a talk entitled '**Two famous ladies**'. *(continued)*



(continued) Membership of the guild renews in September and is only £15 per year. We are always we are pleased to encourage visitors (£2.50 each per night) to our monthly meetings, where you will be made very welcome. We meet at 7:30^{pm} on the first Tuesday of the month in Hopton village hall. For information please contact *Jill Buss* on **01785 259808** or look out for our yellow monthly newsletter on local village notice boards.

Hopton Knit & Natter meet every Monday (except Bank Holidays) between 2.00^{pm} & 4.00^{pm} at Hopton Village Hall. The cost of a session is £3 to include tea & cake. You may like to just join us for a natter & tea. Everyone will be made very welcome. For more information please contact *Jan* on **01785 255313** or just pop along and join us.



Friends of Salt & Hopton Churches

Lottery Result

Winning Tickets for August 26 are –

- Ticket No 62 – £50
- Ticket No 58 – £40
- Ticket No 38 – £30

To join our Lottery, please email saltandhoptonchurches@gmail.com

Registered with Stafford Borough Council



WORSHIP on Sundays

AUGUST	2 nd	10.00 ^{am}	Praise Together
SEPTEMBER	6 th	11.15 ^{am}	Holy Communion
	20 th	11.15 ^{am}	Holy Communion
	27 th	11.15 ^{am}	Holy Communion

Volunteer Needed

Do you have a spare 2/3 hours every other month? Our Church is ready to welcome another volunteer who could attend our bi-monthly church meetings and take minutes. We are a friendly bunch but could really benefit from someone within our local community to take notes and type our minutes. In return you may be lucky to get a brew and biscuit - or something better on special occasions! Please contact Tessa or Gordon on 01889 505493, or feel free to approach any of the PCC members for further information.

What's on at Milwich Village Hall For bookings see our Facebook page – MILWICH VILLAGE HALL – or contact Chris Walters on 07799 837206

Warm Welcome Group Meets each month on the second Wednesday, from 10.00^{am} – 1.00^{pm}. The next meetings are on **Wednesday August 12th** and **September 9th**. For more details, please contact Elaine 07702 865011.

Breakfast Club The monthly breakfast club at Milwich Village Hall is serving cooked breakfast, pastries and drinks on **Saturday September 26th** from 8.30^{am} - 11.30^{am} Everyone is welcome. *(NB. No club in August)*

Yin Yoga is on holiday and returns on **Monday September 7th** then every Monday from 7.00^{pm} - 8.00^{pm} Contact Anita 07948 351789

Quiz Night at the Green Man starts at 8.00^{pm} on **Tuesdays August 11th and September 15th**. It's a fun night with refreshments, £3pp, 4 in a team. *All proceeds to Marie Curie.* New teams welcomed.

Milwich with Fradswell Parish Council meet on **Wednesday August 19th** in *Fradswell Village Hall* & **Wednesday September 16th** in *Milwich Village Hall*.

Milwich and District Produce Guild

We meet on **August 27th** for a talk on 'Hostas' by *Robert Barlow*. He and his wife Margaret are the holders of the Plant Heritage National Collection. He will have a selection of plants for sale.

On **September 24th** *Irene Phillips* will speak on **The History of the Broad Eye Windmill** in Stafford.

All meetings take place in the Milwich Village Hall, ST18 0EG at 8.00pm.
Visitors welcome £2.50
Contact Ruth 07495 185579

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
MILWICH

HARVEST SUPPER

Tuesday September 29th
at 7.00pm

**Celebrate the harvest
with friends
food
and our
fun packed auction.**

Steak & Ale Pie

or

**Cheese & Onion Pie
with seasonal veg.**

Dessert

Tea/Coffee
BYO drinks

£20 per person
Please call Elaine
01889 505414
**to reserve
your place**

MILWICH
VILLAGE HALL

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

HOME
MADE

8:30 → **11:30**



**FULL ENGLISH
PASTRIES
AND SO MUCH
MORE**

**SATURDAY 26TH
MORNING SEPT**

WORSHIP on Sundays

AUGUST 23rd10.00^{am} **Praise Together**SEPTEMBER 6th9.30^{am} Holy Communion20th11.15^{am} Holy Communion27th9.30^{am} Morning Praise**Ride & Stride 2026 September 12th**

This event offers an opportunity for people to ride their cycle or walk to a

wide variety of Staffordshire churches. The participant obtains sponsorship from friends, family and neighbours and work colleagues. Half of the money raised goes to the church they are riding or striding for and the other half goes to Staffordshire Historic Churches who disburse the money to local churches in the form of grants for restoration work. **Salt, Hopton, and other churches in Mid Trent Team, will be participating.**

At Salt and Hopton both churches will open for the day offering refreshments to the riders and visitors. In Salt there will also be displays of art work and historic information about the buildings.

Our congregation have raised sponsorship in the past, but many are now of a certain age where they can no longer participate in the event! If there are any local cyclists or walkers who would like to support the churches and the events by being sponsored, Hopton and Salt would love to hear from you. To obtain more details, please contact Janet Stubbs on: saltandhoptonchurches@gmail.com

Salt & Hopton Churches: Easyfundraising In order to maintain our lovely buildings, we need extra income and every little helps! You can support us and sign up at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/salthoptonchurches/

House of Bread There will be no HOB collections from Salt during July & August. Collections will recommence on Wednesday **September 2nd**.

Salt & Enson Parish Council The next meeting (open to the public) will be Wednesday **September 2nd**, Salt Village Hall. saltandensonparishcouncil.co.uk
Parish Clerk: **Nikola Evans** clerk@saltandensonparishcouncil.co.uk



Salt Village Hall is available for hire.

For bookings please contact

Julie Lawson, *Booking Secretary*, **07480995883** or
Sam Reeves, **07896613046**.

Salt & District Friendship Club

Wednesday **August 5th & 19th** and **September 2nd, 16th & 30th** from
2.30^{pm}- 4.00^{pm} in Salt Village Hall for bingo, a cup of tea and a chat.
New members are always welcome.

Salt Christian Fellowship Interdenominational group

Tuesdays 7.30^{pm}-9.30^{pm} for worship songs, bible study & prayers
All are welcome. Contact: Paul Stubbs on 07899916092 or email:
pauljstubbs@aol.com or Jane Mitchell on 01889 508284

The Community Cafe at Salt Village Hall will return in the autumn.

Two Dates for your Diary

The Harvest Lunch at Salt Village Hall will take place on
Saturday October 10th. *Proceeds to Salt & Hopton Churches*

The Community Refuse Vehicle will arrive on
October 24th at the Holly Bush car park

SANDON & BURSTON

WORSHIP on Sundays

AUGUST 9th

10.00^{am} **Praise Together**

SEPTEMBER 6th

11.15^{am} **Holy Communion**

27th

11.15^{am} **BCP Matins**



A Heartfelt Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came and supported the return of the *Burston Tea Party* on July 12th.

Whether you were cheering on the duck race, enjoying the gardens, music, refreshments, cakes or having a go on the raffle, tombola and games - it was so lovely to see so many people enjoying the sunshine together around the pool. Finally, thank you to everyone who gave their time and space, donated prizes, baked delicious cakes, ran stalls, entertained and helped behind the scenes. We couldn't have done it without so many generous volunteers.

We're delighted to say that, together, we raised an amazing **£1056.27** which will be split between our chosen causes: *Oak Tree Farm Rural Project* and *The Sandon & Burston War Memorial Fund*

It was such a joy to see the village come together and we hope everyone left with happy memories of a truly wonderful afternoon. Once again, thank you for making this year's Burston Tea Party a resounding success!

Are you Free on the Fourth?

Sunday October 4th Sandon Village History Walk – 2 miles. Tea and Cake in church to follow. 2.00^{pm} start from All Saints' Church car park.
£5 donation to *Time for Tea Fund*.

We need to
spend time
with God
in prayer
learning
to think
the way
he thinks



Barbara's
WORDS OF WISDOM

All Saints Heritage Project update

We are nearly there! Our beautifully conserved memorial, tombs and wall paintings are being much admired by our visitors. Our clean stained glass windows look magnificent and in the glorious sunshine, they are casting colourful shadows over the church. The Royal Coat of Arms will not be back until around August 10th. It has proved to be very complex work to bring the painting back to life and to extend the frame to accommodate the full picture, after the conservators found one side and top folded around the back. For now our guests have to be satisfied with just a photograph.



In the last few weeks of the summer term we have welcomed 170 school children. They have spent one session outside with *Staffordshire Wildlife Trust* learning about the environment and bug hunting, and one session inside following a *History Trail*. More school visits to follow. We have re-opened on Sunday afternoons for people to drop in and our usual drop-ins on Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings continue. The church will also be open from 1.00^{pm} till 4.00^{pm} on the day of the **Sandon Fete, August 15th** and again for **Ride & Stride on September 12th**.

Some groups have already visited to see the conserved artefacts, others are waiting to see the Royal Coat of Arms back on its newly painted wall.

Anyone wishing to arrange a group visit should book through our website or ring Elizabeth on 07534 915068.

The *Butterfly and Moth trail* is proving popular with families and will remain until September 20th. Our **August 1st Time Travellers Event** will offer fun for all the family (*see website, social media or July COMPASS for details*). The next events after that will be a concert by *Stafford Military Wives* on **September 12th** and then *Heritage Open Day* on **September 20th** - a special day with lots of attractions for adults and children alike.

FROM THE ALL SAINTS PARISH REGISTER

<i>Funeral</i>	12-05-2026	Pamela Margaret Kittle (Pam)
<i>Wedding</i>	26-05-2026	Charles Shaw & Georgia Rawlins



Get Involved

Sandon Parish Room – Can You Help? The Sandon Parish Room is at the heart of our community, providing a valuable space for local events, activities, and gatherings. It is a welcoming, versatile venue and is available to hire for meetings, celebrations, clubs, workshops, and community events. To help ensure its future, we are currently looking for two new Trustees to join our friendly committee. As a Trustee, you will help oversee the management and development of the Parish Room, ensuring it continues to serve the village for years to come. No specific experience required-just a willingness to get involved & support our community.

We are also exploring the possibility of holding an *Autumn Wreath Making Workshop* later this year and would love to hear from anyone interested in attending, helping to organise, or leading the event.

For further details or to register your interest in our Autumn Wreath Workshop, please contact **Ema Washington** emaw03@gmail.com

Support Our Village Post Office We remind residents that our local Post Office service relies on community support to remain viable. The Post Office operates at the Parish Room every Tuesday from 10.00^{am} to 12.00^{noon}. By using this service for your postal, banking and bill payment needs, you can help ensure that we do not lose this valuable village facility. Whether you are interested in becoming a Trustee, hiring the Parish Room for an event, supporting community activities, or simply learning more about what we do, we would LOVE to hear from you!

TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP KEEP THE SANDON PARISH ROOM AND OUR LOCAL POST OFFICE THRIVING AT THE HEART OF VILLAGE LIFE.

Sandon and Burston Parish Council I am so very pleased to announce that Staffordshire County Council has made public the start date for the works to replace the River Trent Bridge in Burston. In fact, by the time this goes to print the works should be well underway! The project will start on site on Monday July 13th and will culminate approximately 6 weeks later when the bridge is craned into place. The Parish Council has been pressing for action since the initial damage was done in October 2023 and we are all so pleased that the efforts made by the Parish Council, our County Councillor Andrew Mynors, and Sir Gavin Williamson are now to be rewarded and at last *Two Saints Way* will once again be open to all, as will access to the canal towpath. Any further updates will be posted on the Parish Council website. *Hugo Wildblood, Chair, Sandon & Burston Parish Council.*

All Saints Harvest Supper Friday October 2nd

Food and friendship at Sandon Parish Room starts promptly at **7.00^{pm}**

This years meal includes a talk about *Rita Baines* - a Staffordshire pilot who flew in the Air Transport Auxiliary during world War II.

Tickets £12.50 available from Rose 07876 540491 or Steve 07972 838140

News from the Bell Tower



It's been a busy month for the Sandon ringers. We have rung for services, had two weddings and of course practiced each Monday evening. As part of the Heritage Lottery project, we have had a new window in the bell tower making it safe and as a bonus we now have a beautiful clear view of the fields towards the A51. We have also been busy learning to splice ropes. The tail ends of the ropes have worn quite badly on some of the ropes and so I felt that we should replace them. This entails cutting the ropes below the sally (the woolly striped part which we hold) and joining on a new piece of rope. This is done by splicing, (see photo below). A small group of ringers met on a Saturday morning and spent over two hours learning to splice, with the occasional coffee and

biscuit. They worked very hard and even went home with pieces of rope to practice their new found skills. Very soon we will splice new tail ends on to the actual bell ropes. **Well done team!**

Rose Pemberton



Sandon village fete of yesteryear



SANDON
in the past



Sandon WI Where do the months go? It's time to tell you about the WI's meetings in August and September. Well here goes. At our meeting on **August 19th** we will be making wreaths so if you would like to do something practical you are more than welcome to join us. There is a sales table too so you can pick up some bargains. On **September 16th** we will be learning more about the BIG BANG and climate change. The weather is certainly changing; we now experience wetter winters and red hot summers.

So, if you are new to the area or would just like to meet new people in an inclusive, relaxed and friendly atmosphere, please do come and visit us at any of our meetings.

We meet on the third Wednesday each month in Sandon Parish Rooms, Lichfield Road at 7.30 pm. Contact: Judy Goodson, *President* 01785 613966 or sandonwisecretary@gmail.com



Help keep the tradition alive!

Join us for the

2026 SANDON FETE

on **August 15th**

The site is opposite the

Dog & Doublet.

There will be many new attractions as well as the good old favourites including the ever popular vintage transport show & trade stands.

Hope to see you there.

Simon Shelley

Heritage Open Day

Free for all the Family

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Sunday 20th September 2026

10:00^{am} - 16:00^{pm} (no need to book)

At All Saints' Church Sandon ST18 0DB

Join us for the following activities:

- Come and see the newly conserved historic features including stained glass windows, wall paintings and Coat of Arms
- Drop in history tours of the church and graveyard (last tour at 15:15)
- Visit our bell tower to chime an ancient bell
- Family craft activities: church bell collage and calligraphy writing
Have a go at our Butterfly and Moth Trail
- Learn more about the biodiversity of the grounds
- An exhibition about Sandon's history and oral history display
- Lunchtime organ recital - 12.45 - 1.30
- Refreshments including lots of cake



For further details see
www.sandonallsaints.com



@allsaintssandon



heritage open days

Stowe-by-Chartley WI Over 40 members and guests attended the regular monthly meeting at Stowe W.I. on Tuesday July 14th. During the formal part of the meeting forthcoming trips and events for the ladies were spoken about, including the Open Meeting next month and Stowe Village fete where the ladies will be serving the Tea and Cakes.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

President Kath then introduced *Analiza Jones* who spoke about

The Making of Handwoven Bags from The Philippines.

Analiza left The Philippines over 15 years ago. She told us there are 7600 islands in the Philippines with only 2000 that are inhabited. She spoke about how various plants fibres are used to make bags. Analiza showed a PowerPoint presentation which included some short videos about the harvesting, dyeing and weaving using these fibres. She did this in such an enjoyable way, with so many interesting facts during the talk. Some of the ladies bought bags and purses which had been made by people in the Philippines. Linda C gave the vote of thanks.

Our next event is the **Open Meeting** at 7.30pm on Tuesday August 11th.

Members and guests will be entertained by *Jack Dent - ID Magic*.



**Stowe By Chartley
Village Fete**

Sunday 30th August 2026

Commencing 1:00pm on the Parish Playing Field

BIG RAFFLE WITH 15 PRIZES

1st Prize £125

Raffle Tickets £2 each

Support your local fete

**Bowling, punch & judy, coconut shy, brass band,
Tombola, hook a duck, hot food & cold drinks, licensed bar,
Name the teddy, vintage tractors + much more . . .**

Tea Garden with cakes & scones hosted by Stowe W.I

**Free entrance and one free ice cream
for all children under 13**

Adult entry only £1

**Contact: Shane Phillips (07913-967279) or
Jeremy Bramall (07956-410061)**

