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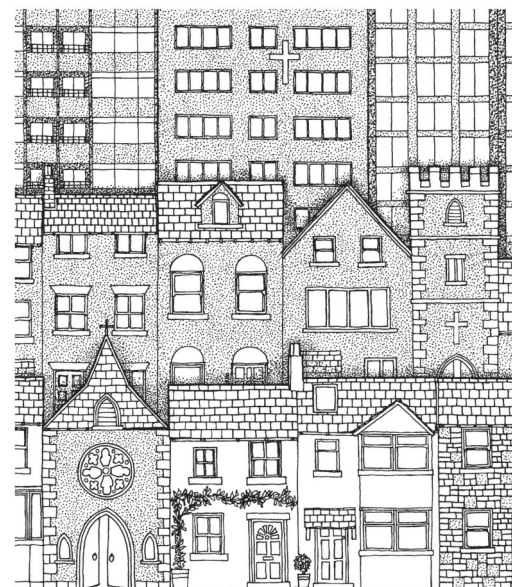


'Parish News'

The Parish magazine for Broughton Astley and Croft with Stoney Stanton



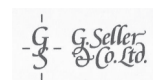
May
2025



Church in the community Matt 5:14-16, Acts 2:44-47, Phil 2:3-5

40p

Supplied and printed by



The Genuine Independent Funeral Directors & Memorial Masons

Parish Contacts		
Rector	Position vacant	
Assisting Clergy	Revd Vic Goodman	01455 285410
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Parish Administrator	Paul Lawrence	07534 820197 bacsschurches@gmail.com

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To subscribe to the Parish News please contact:		
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Croft	Hubert Lane	07787 910466
Stoney Stanton	Wendy Howe	07779 194730

For further information, see inside back cover or visit our website: http://www.stmaryandstmichaelschurches.co.uk Or follow us on Facebook: @bacsschurches		
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Around the Churches		
St Mary's, Broughton Astley		
Churchwardens	John Bass Colin Atkinson	01455 640381
DCC Secretary	Moirra Cooper	07951 134920
DCC Treasurer	Steve Windram	01455 272922
Tower Contact		
Tower Captain	Andy Kedie	01455 284777
Teddy Bear Bunch (Weds 10:30 Term time)	Heather Beadle	01455 284689

St Michael and All Angels, Croft		
Churchwardens	Claire Jordan Mike Wootton	01455 282495 01455 283699
DCC Secretary	Claire Wootton	07423 041399
DCC Treasurer	Lester Halling	01455 282189
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St Michael's, Stoney Stanton		
Churchwardens	Paul Lawrence Rachel Smith	07376 031522 01455 642335
DCC Secretary	Helen Gray	07929 643829
DCC Treasurer	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Ringling Master	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Tower Contact	Fiona	sstantontower@hotmail.com

Facilities Each of our three churches has a disabled access toilet and baby changing facility. Each Church also has a hearing loop system.

Services.....May

	<i>St Mary's Broughton Astley</i>	<i>St Michael's Stoney Stanton</i>	<i>St Michael & All Angel's Croft</i>
Sunday 4 May 3rd Sunday of Easter	10:00 am United Service at St Michal and All Angels Church, Croft		
Sunday 11 May 4th Sunday of Easter	9:45 am Holy Communion	9:30 am Messy Church	11:15 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 18 May 5th Sunday of Easter	9:45 am Messy Church	9:30 am Holy Communion with Baptism	11:15 am Holy Communion
Sunday 25 May 6th Sunday of Easter	9:45 am Holy Communion	9:30 am Morning Prayer	11:15 am Café Church
Sunday 1 June 7th Sunday of Easter	10:00 am United Service at St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley		

Weekday Services:
Broughton Astley: Wednesday 9:30 am Either a service of Holy Communion or Morning Prayer
Stoney Stanton: Thursday 9:30 am A service of Morning Prayer.

Details of services correct at time of going to print. However, please check weekly news sheet and Church noticeboards or visit the BACSS Facebook page regularly to check for any changes and updates.

(You don't need a Facebook login to see these pages).

<https://m.facebook.com/bacsschurches/posts/>

Dear Friends

May marks the ending of the Easter season and the beginning of what is affectionately known as 'ordinary time' in the Church calendar. That pivot happens at the feast of Pentecost on June 8th this year. Every Sunday is always a celebration of the resurrection, so it's hard to see what is ordinary about it. The events of the Christ's death and resurrection are the turning point of history. It is a world-shattering event that means life can never be the same again. The book of Acts tells us how the disciples' lives were turned upside down by it. In their grief at the loss of Jesus a number were considering returning to their previous occupations. Once they encountered the risen Lord, they decided to change the world instead!

However, it was not just historical events which changed things. It was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Christian faith has always been a supernatural one. In the struggles to fill rotas, find volunteers, maintain buildings and serve our communities we can easily forget this. If the Christian life was just a set of rules to obey, religious acts to observe and an institution to maintain, it would not have lasted very long.

Trusting in the Holy Spirit to empower and lead is less safe than seeking to control events ourselves. Periodically in the history of the Church the Holy Spirit has broken through in ways that have upended our conventional way of doing things. It happened in the Wesleyan revival of the 18th century, numerous mini revivals in the church and in the great outpouring in Azusa Street in Los Angeles in 1906 that gave birth to Pentecostalism which is now the third largest stream in the Church today.

In many ways it is hard to see how our current institutional predicament can be served by strategic thinking alone or just rearranging areas. I am praying for another (likely messy!) outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Diocese of Leicester. It may be that when you read this some outpouring may have come through the Minster process, although at the time of writing it has not been discerned.

In our parish we are seeing signs of growth, our ministry in schools through Open The Book and to young people with Messy Church see positive progress. Our United Services find people willing to come together to share worship.

Only the Holy Spirit can give us the courage we need for the evangelistic challenge. Only the Holy Spirit can turn the hearts of those currently indifferent to Christian things to help see their need for the Lord. So, 'Come Holy Spirit and kindle the hearts of your people with the fire of your love'. Today, we need that more than ever.

With Prayers for our mission here in our three churches.

Peter Yates



Pope Francis



Franco Origlia//Getty Images

As we go to print, we have learnt of the sad passing of Pope Francis.

Let us keep him, his family and all Catholics in our prayers at this time.



1st Stoney Stanton Scout Group

BEAVERS

Beaver Scouts

(Age 6 to 8 years)

Meet Wednesdays 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Cub Scouts

(Age 8 to 10½ years)

Meet Mondays 6.30pm to 8.00pm

cubs

SCOUTS

Scouts

(Age 10½ to 14 years)

Meet Tuesdays 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Interested in playing a part in delivering lifetime skills for young people ?
We have a whole host of options for adults, from actual team leadership
to flexible or occasional volunteering.

For more information on this or youth membership
please contact:-

Carl West (Group Lead Volunteer) on 07711 077606
gslstoneystanton@hotmail.com

For general enquiries contact
Stuart Wilson (Group Trustee Board Secretary) on 07929 479970
Group Headquarters The Old Chapel, Broughton Road, Stoney Stanton

Stoney Stanton Village Hall

Newly refurbished throughout,
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+ extra 5m with bifolds open
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- fully refurbished kitchen space
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Baptisms

Stoney Stanton

Paul Raymond Williams
Blaize Lee Williams

Funerals

Croft

Audrey Milbourne

Stoney Stanton

Anthony 'Tony' John Porter



Have you ever felt you would like someone to pray for you? Or maybe there is someone you know who needs prayers.

Help is at hand. The Prayer Chain is a group of people who regularly pray for people who are on the prayer chain list.

All requests are treated in confidence. It is up to you how much you want to tell the prayer chain about the request. It can simply be the first name of the person.

I would ask you to check that the person you are requesting is OK about being on the prayer chain.

Each request is prayed for, from the date of the request, for 1 month. If you want prayers to continue after that month you need to make another request.

Please contact Jackie March with your request on bacsprayerchain@gmail.com .

You don't have to be a member of the Church to use the Prayer chain.

2020 brought the first ever virtual RHS Chelsea, during the Covid pandemic.

It is not Britain's largest flower show, that is now the RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival.

One very wet year the show was nicknamed the 'The Chelsea Shower Flow.'



HOLIDAY

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The RHS Chelsea Flower Show – world's greatest flower show

20 – 24 May brings us the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The most prestigious gardening show in the world, it attracts about 168,000 visitors a year. Its cutting-edge garden designs have been called the 'haute couture' or 'World Cup' of gardening.

Here are 12 interesting facts about the Show:

The RHS Chelsea Flower Show is organised by the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Show began in 1913, with about 250 exhibitors in a large single tent. Today the Show covers more than 23 acres with more than 550 exhibitors and gardens, not to mention the Great Pavillion.

The Great Pavillion is HUGE – it covers 2.90 acres, with enough room to park 500 London buses.

The Show has been held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea in London every year since 1913, except for gaps during the two World Wars and Covid.

It takes just under three weeks to build a Show Garden, and five days to take it down.

In 1927 there was a campaign to get the RHS to ban foreign exhibits, to reduce competition. The RHS refused, saying 'horticulture knows nothing of nationality'.

The late Queen Elizabeth II attended RHS Chelsea more than 50 times.

It takes 14 judges and two moderators 25 hours to judge and assess all gardens at the show. It takes 50 judges and four moderators three hours to judge all the exhibits in the Great Pavilion.

Garden gnomes have always been banned, except in 2013, the show's centenary year. That year, well-known supporters, including Elton John, Dame Helen Mirren, Joanna Lumley, and Mary Berry – painted gnomes to sell for charity.

Parish Administrator

Denise Carrington has recently stepped down from the role of Parish Administrator. The PCC would like to extend their grateful thanks to Denise for managing the administration of the Parish over the past four years. For much of this time Denise has managed the Clergy Rotas and bookings, without the guidance and support of full-time clergy. We wish Denise well and thank her for all the hard work and commitment she has given to the role.



A collection was made and on Mothering Sunday, at the United Service at St Mary's, gifts were presented to Denise with the grateful thanks of the Parish.

The PCC will be carrying out a review of the role over the coming months with a view to making an appointment in July. In the meantime, Paul Lawrence will be managing Rotas and bookings and can be contacted on the existing phone or email

bacschurches@gmail.com

07534 820197

Easter in the Parish

Holy Week, was a busy time in the Parish. Following the Palm Sunday services in each Church, we had an opportunity on Monday to follow Jesus' journey by walking round St Mary's Church and meditating on the Stations of the Cross.

Wednesday saw St Michael's Church have their Messy Activity morning, with around 60 children plus adults joining in with the activities.

Maundy Thursday was a service of communion with foot washing, representing Jesus washing the disciples feet.

Friday morning was another children's activity morning, this time at St Mary's, when over 200 parents and children took part.

A two hour meditation took place at Croft Church at 1pm on Good Friday, reflecting on the Crucifixion.

Saturday morning saw the decorating of Churches with flowers, the first time they had been in Church since the start of Lent at the beginning of March.

Saturday evening the BACSS augmented choir and soloists sang John Stainer's "The Crucifixion". A chance for all to reflect on the events of the last week of Jesus' life on earth.



Easter Sunday saw us gather at St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton for a United service, when Paul and Blaize were welcomed into the Church by being baptised. To help us celebrate the risen Christ, refreshments were served after the service, including Joan's simnel cake, some hot cross buns, and of course, chocolate eggs!

Grateful thanks to all who helped in any way with the above services and events, and those who came and joined in.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

St Mary's Subscription Draw

April

First Prize	-	£40.00	-	No 15	-	Mrs M Pawley
Second Prize	-	£20.00	-	No 46	-	Mr R Sweeting
Third Prize	-	£10.00	-	No 56	-	Mrs K McMichael

Some numbers still available – an excellent way to support the church
and have some fun in these difficult times.
Contact Tom Cockerill on 01455 698949.

Happy 1700th Birthday, Nicene Creed!

This month, 1700 years ago, one of the most important meetings in the history of the Christian Church began in the Bithynian city of Nicaea. It began in May 325 and went on until the end of July 325.

The Council of Nicaea was convened by the Roman Emperor Constantine, and he had an urgent job for the Christian bishops to do. He wanted them to spell out as exactly as they could the core beliefs of the Christian Church, especially with regard to the person of Christ.

Constantine had good reason to do this: a man called Arius of Alexandria was spreading the idea that Jesus Christ was not divine, but instead was a created being. Such a belief, if accepted, would have changed the very heart of Christianity.

After three months of hard work, the bishops at Nicaea had prayerfully and carefully written down as exactly as they could the core beliefs of Christianity. It became known as the Nicene Creed, and it has been the bedrock of orthodox Christianity ever since.

The Nicene Creed is unique in that it is the only Christian statement of faith that is accepted as authoritative by the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and major Protestant Churches.

It runs:

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through Him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

BACSS
Augmented
choir singing
"The
Crucifixion"



The cross placed against the Nave Altar on Easter Sunday was made by the children making hand prints around the cross and the Easter Garden at St Michael's was planted up by the children.



Craft activities taking place at St Mary's

2025 EVENTS AT ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH – CROFT

Friday 16th May
Quiz Night and Supper

Thursday 24th July
Craft and Cake - bring your own picnic

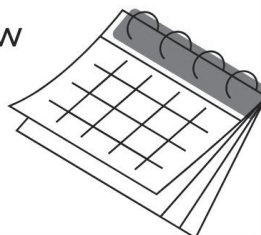
Saturday 13th September
Meet the Brewer with Guided Beer Tasting

Saturday 4th October
Dinner Dance
(Wycliffe Rooms Lutterworth)

Saturday 15th November - Angel Festival

December events to follow

**POP THE DATES
IN YOUR DIARY**



Amelia's also a leader in her community, sharing her knowledge with other households, so that one day, no family will worry about their children going without food.

To find out more about projects like this, visit caid.org.uk
To get involved with Christian Aid Week, visit caweek.org



Amelia and Congcoop partner staff member Donald. Amelia shows him her plant nursery which is suffering due to the heat wave.



Amelia has a beautiful home; a house that is not overlooked and plenty of land.

Photos by A.Sheppey/Christian Aid

Christian Aid

This year's Christian Aid Week (11-17 May) is focusing on Christian Aid's work in Guatemala, Central America, where the climate crisis is causing the seasons to intensify and shift erratically. As a result, farming communities have to battle devastating floods and intense heatwaves. Water sources are drying up and vital crops are failing, plunging farming families into hunger and poverty.

Amelia is a resourceful and determined 24-year-old farmer, and a mother of two, from the Alta Verapaz region. She said the situation is very worrying: 'In the past three years, we've been experiencing high heat and a lack of rain. One of the biggest issues is the lack of water ... my plantations have been dying ... and there is no food for my family.'



Amelia, cooling off in the river with her son Lazaro, 8, and daughter Yakelin, 4.

Despite the challenges families like Amelia's are facing, the unstoppable power of hope drives people to look for ways to push back.

With training from Christian Aid's partner, Congcoop, Amelia's gaining the skills and knowledge to cultivate native seeds that are better suited to the changing climate. She's planning planting schedules that will deliver multiple harvests throughout the year, making her own organic fertiliser, and constructing rainwater collection systems.

QUIZ NIGHT

WITH HOT DOGS, CAKE & RAFFLE

Friday 16th May 7pm	St Michael & All Angel's Church, Croft
	£8 Adults / £5 Children Teams of 4 or 5

Hot dogs and cakes provided.
Bring your own nibbles and drinks

Thinking about Prayer:

The 'Serenity Prayer'.

Quite some years ago now, there was a very lively Bible Group which used to meet once a month, in a member's house in Stoney Stanton.

When the discussion for the day was complete, the meeting would take on a very different but equally valuable discussion over coffee and biscuits, as the ladies involved reminisced about their, by then, long lives. Two of them had served in the Land Army in WW2, others had endured bombing, they had direct experience of the sort of warfare we can only see on our screens today. Their lives had been well lived in the light of their Christian faith.

But one of the group had memories like none of the others, and with her wicked sense of humour, she would often provide the highlight of the meeting. Her memories were not of wartime, but of a more recent past, when she was teaching, and, uniquely, as a clergy wife during the 1960's.

Kathleen Cadle was a much loved member of the congregation at St. Michael's. Her husband had been Rector years earlier, and when he retired, rather than move too far away, they bought a house at Elmesthorpe, meaning that Kathleen could stay in the church where she had been so happy, singing in the choir and earlier than that, running the Sunday School. Brought up a Methodist, on her husband's appointment as Rector, she had to be swiftly confirmed into the Church of England in the Bishop's Chapel in Leicester, with she used to tell us with great glee, a lacy tray-cloth on her head, instead of the customary veil.

But Kath was a woman of profound faith, and she had a favourite prayer, which, she told us, kept her going through the vagaries of parish life.

Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

April Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

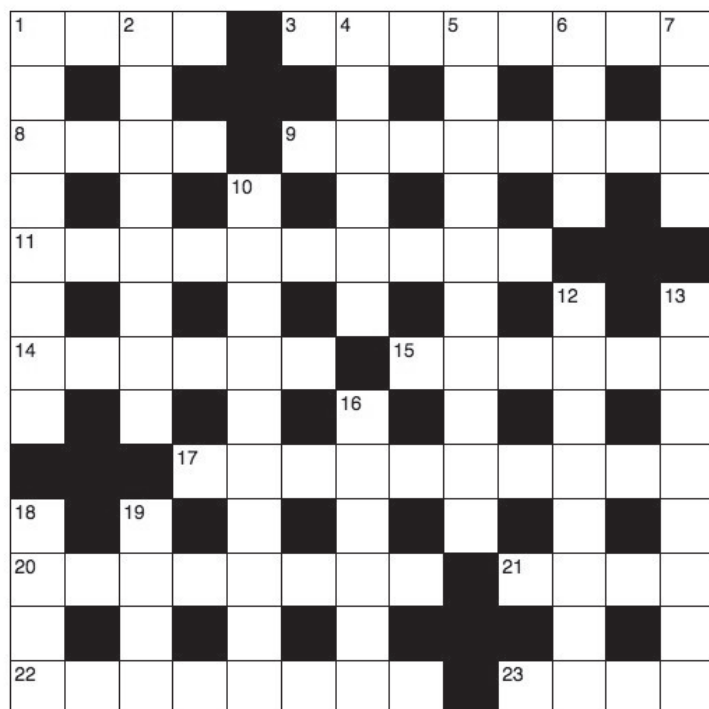
St Michael's Stoney Stanton 100 Club Draw

April

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------|---|-------|---|------------------|
| First Prize | - | £25.00 | - | No 46 | - | Margaret Hunt |
| Second Prize | - | £15.00 | - | No 27 | - | Elizabeth Vernon |
| Third Prize | - | £10.00 | - | No 36 | - | Eddie Bestwirk |

There are numbers available for this draw.
Please contact Julie on 07738 764245

Crossword - May



Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

It was:

*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference.*

This famous and popular prayer, was written by Reinhold Niebuhr, an American Lutheran theologian. A Yale-educated critic of liberalism, he belonged to the Protestant evangelical wing of Christianity and was a great ethicist and pacifist. He died in 1971.

His prayer, however lives on. It has become known as the 'serenity prayer' and is used extensively in groups dealing with addiction, and alcoholism.

But for me, it will always be associated with a very wise and amusing friend who was married to our former Rector!



What's in a name?

Alexander /Alexandra

Fashions come and fashions go, and as far as names are concerned this is an interesting one. If we look back a few years, we will most of us met older men who were known as Alex, and in Victorian times, the female version of the name would often appear as Alix.

Nowadays we all know about 'Alexa', I am sure. But interestingly many people take the latter part of the name rather than the first half. So we have Zander, which is fast becoming a popular male name, and Sandra, of course has been a well loved name for girls for quite a long time.

Alexander is a name of great antiquity and of distinguished origin. In the female form its earliest mention is in the ancient early Mycenaea form of Greek, Linear-B, which was in existence from 16th - 12th centuries BC. Since those times it has been the given name of monarchs, Czars, Popes and countless writers, musicians and people of note, which is hardly surprising when you look at the meaning of the word. 'Defender of men', 'Protector of mankind' are but two of its derivations. In the New Testament alone it crops up four times. And we cannot leave the subject without mention of the 4th century BC King of Macedonia, Alexander the Great, who as an undefeated empire builder is still regarded as an unrivalled military commander. It would be interesting to know what heights this distinguished name may attain in future!



The story behind the hymn: 'Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord'

Not many university students are able to write Christian songs which become worldwide hits, but Don Emry Fishel managed it with his Alleluia No. 1. Nearly 50 years on, it is loved and sung by millions of Christians worldwide.

Fishel wrote it in 1971, while he was a student at the University of Michigan and also music leader of a Roman Catholic charismatic community based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. These were the days of folk songs and guitars, and Alleluia No. 1 fitted the prevailing mood perfectly. Written in E Major, it is ideal for guitar accompaniment.

Mr Fishel became a freelance flutist, flute instructor and composer. He was publications editor for the Word of God and Servant Music for a number of years and then worked in computers for 25 years. In 2008 he moved to Nashville and returned to music, teaching the flute.

Alleluia No 1 was Fishel's first song, written "rather quickly, in about an hour." It had four verses to begin with, but a fifth verse (which became the third verse) was added later, as he prepared for baptism. As Fishel explained, he wanted the line 'We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live forever' "to be the centre of the song."

Alleluia No. 1 was first published in the UK in Sound of Living Waters, in 1974.

ELECTORAL ROLL

A new Church Electoral Roll is being prepared. Every person who wishes to have their name entered on the new Roll, whether it is entered on the present Roll or not, is requested to apply for enrolment not later than 4 May 2025.

Application forms for enrolment can be obtained from the Churchwardens or from the Electoral Roll Officer:

Tom Cockerill, 9 Osprey Close, Broughton Astley, Leicester LE9 6RS.

Clubs, activities & events in May

W.I. Meetings etc.....

Where at.....	Date and Time	Speaker	Competition
Broughton Astley Village Hall	Tuesday 13 May 7:30 pm	"Resolutions"	A Garden on a plate.
Stoney Stanton St Michael's Church	Wednesday 14 May 7:30 pm	"Resolutions"	
Ladies Fellowship Group St Mary's Church Broughton Astley	Wednesday 14 May 2pm Contact Denise 285410 or Wendy 272050 for more information	"Accord" singing group	

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Stanley Opera

For four nights in early April, Stanley Opera performed "Orpheus in the Underworld". The music was that of Jacques Offenbach, but the script was updated and re-written by Nick Bacon and Adam Lawrence, of Stanley Opera. The action moved from Thebes to Mount Olympus and finally Hades! The story is too complicated to explain briefly here, but was very entertaining, with some interesting characters!



At the last minute, due to illness, there was a change in the cast, and Sebastian Carrington was asked to play Calliope, Orpheus' mother!

They looked splendid and played the part really well!

As always with Stanley Opera, the singing was wonderful.

Following the success of previous tours with "HMS Pinafore in 2023 and "The Mikado" in 2024, in September and October 2025, Stanley will be on the road again, this time with "The Pirates of Penzance" again by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Please look out for posters detailing the venues and times.

Thank you again to Stanley Opera for a very enjoyable evening out at the theatre!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2025

Our APCM is on Wednesday 28th May 7pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Croft.

All Welcome

Archbishop of York leads fifth anniversary of National Online Service

The Church of England's National Online Service has recently marked its fifth anniversary, with a special service led by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell.

Since its launch during the first COVID lockdown, the service has become a key lifeline for many worshippers, especially those unable to attend church buildings due to illness, remote living, or other circumstances.

During the past five years the online service has reached millions, providing a spiritual gathering for individuals who are housebound, in care homes, working irregular shifts, in prisons or living in areas with limited access to local churches. Last year alone, the service saw over 21 million views.

Archbishop Stephen praised the service's ability to connect people across the country. "Whether you have been joining us weekly or occasionally, you are very welcome," he said. "These services have connected us as a Christian community and as an online community."

St David's Church becomes a Gold Eco Church

St David's Church in Loughor has become the 75th Gold Eco Church in England and Wales. The award was given by the Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK, and reflects St David's commitment to put creation care at the heart of its mission.

While there are more than 8,000 registered churches with Eco Church, St David's is only the third gold award in Wales to date, and the first in the diocese.

St David's has adapted its worship to regularly include messages and hymns about creation care, and has changed from printed worship sheets to TV screens. Regular community litter picks and recycling points for harder-to-recycle items have been established for a number of years involving the wider community, and its solar panels and associated battery storage, LED lighting, water saving, and toilet and bin twinning have been described as "great examples to demonstrate to others".

Coffee Mornings

St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley

Saturday 3 May

10 am— 12 noon

Community Market and Coffee Morning

St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton

Saturday 10 May

10 am - 12 noon

Coffee Morning

EFFFI (Elmesthorpe Friends Food and Flower Initiative)

Raising money for St Mary's Church and other local charities

Coffee Morning

Elmesthorpe Village Hall

10:00—11:30

Saturday 31 May

**Plants and Flowers
Garden Flower Display and Plant Sale**

All Welcome

Stoney Stanton Methodist Chapel

Coffee Morning

Thursday 29 May

10:00 am—11:30 am

Come and Join Us

Saturday Lunches

FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
FROM 12:00 - 13:30

Join us at St Michael and All Angels Church,
Croft for a two course lunch with tea/coffee

MARCH
APRIL

£5 per person
payable in cash on the day

MAY
JUNE

First come, first served
Bring a friend and enjoy our beautiful church
and sociable atmosphere

Enderby Windband at St Mary's Broughton Astley



🎵 Saturday 10th May at 7pm

🎵 Come and enjoy a concert
featuring a variety of music,
including: big band, jazz, folk,
classical, musical & film music

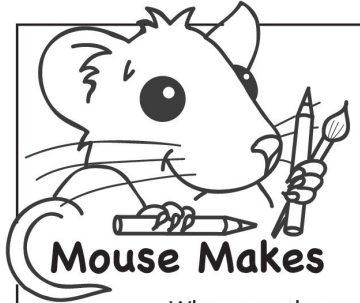
🎵 **Entry £10 per person** - includes a
glass of wine/fruit juice & nibbles.

Tickets **in advance** from Heather (01455
284689) or Moira (07951 134920), **or**
available on the door. Raffle in interval



Under
18's
free!





Mouse Makes

MIRACLES OF PETER

At which temple gate
did the crippled man lay?

Acts 3:1-10

Who were the man and wife
who lied to God?

and


Acts 5:1-11

How long had Aeneas
been paralysed for?
----- years
Acts 9:32-35

People carried the sick into
the streets so that when Peter
came by at least his

might fall on them.
Acts 5:12-16

Where had Tabitha's body been laid?
in the -----
Acts 9:36-42




"And the word
of God
continued to
increase,
and the number
of the disciples
multiplied
greatly."
Acts 6:7

E	L	P	R	A	I	S	I	N	G	M	H
B	E	A	U	T	I	F	U	L	M	I	T
S	A	R	W	S	A	P	P	H	I	R	A
A	P	A	C	R	I	P	P	L	E	A	B
N	I	L	W	O	N	D	E	R	S	C	I
A	N	Y	P	W	D	I	R	A	I	L	T
N	G	S	R	A	A	E	R	L	C	E	H
I	H	E	A	L	E	D	O	I	K	S	A
A	K	D	Y	K	N	F	O	V	I	L	L
S	Y	P	E	T	E	R	M	E	D	E	B
L	I	E	D	L	A	M	E	I	G	H	T
G	S	I	G	N	S	S	H	A	D	O	W

PETER • SIGNS • WONDERS • MIRACLES • HEALED
CRIPPLE • LAME • WALK • LEAPING • PRAISING • LIED • DIED • SICK
AENEAS • PARALISED • TABITHA • ILL • PRAYED • ALIVE

After Jesus
ascended into
heaven, the
Holy Spirit
came upon
the Apostles
and Peter was
able to perform
many miracles
in Jesus' name.
**See the book
of ACTS**



Find the words from the questions too!

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Deaf Awareness Week – 5 to 11 May

Deafness is more common than you might think.

According to the Royal National Institute for Deaf people (RNID), one in three adults in the UK are in some way deaf. That means that more than 18 million adults in the UK have some degree of hearing loss or tinnitus.

And it gets worse. Over half the population aged 55 have hearing loss. 80% of people over the age of 70 have hearing loss. An estimated 1.2 million adults in the UK cannot even hear most conversational speech without hearing aids.

How does this work out in local churches? Statistically, it means that in every congregation of 100 members, there will be 14 people with hearing difficulties.

As this month brings Deaf Awareness Week, why not ask the people with hearing loss in our church how they can be helped to hear better in church. This might include:

Installing a loop system, or making sure the one already installed is still working well.

That there is clear visual access to the pulpit and lectern, so that people can lip-read. (Move the flowers and candles?)

Make sure that the speakers do not walk away from the microphones while speaking.

Use some printed and visual media as well as just audio in church communications.

The following website may be useful in learning more:

RNID	www.rnid.org.uk
Deaf church	www.deafchurch.co.uk
Signs of God	www.signsofgod.org.uk