

parish magazine Bishop's Tachbrook



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Volunteering

To volunteer; is to contribute your goodness and works to humanity unselfishly, without seeking any rewards.

I'm writing this just after St Chad's Summer Fete and what a great day it was, the sun shone and people came out to support us in large numbers. I believe a good sum of money was raised for St Chad's, but although the money is important, for me, what was great about the day was the sense of community that was generated and the number of people who so unselfishly gave of their time without seeking any rewards.

It was only a couple of years ago I heard that the Church of England is the largest voluntary organisation in the UK. The church plays a massive part in peoples' lives: sick visiting, children's groups, charity work, the Mothers' Union: many things we take for granted until they're no longer there. All these groups run on the contributions of people. Even the Vicar is a volunteer, not an employee (I'm not paid a salary but a stipend) so it's immensely encouraging to find so much can happen in churches when people pull together. It's this which makes churches centres of their communities. I would like St Chad's to become a thriving, dynamic centre of our community here in Bishop's Tachbrook. By coming to the Fete, and it was a voluntary contribution to come and support it, vou have also supported the work of volunteers who are trying to make things better in this community.

I looked on the Church of England website* and was surprised to see the

Rev Elaine Scrivens

following facts:

More people do unpaid work for church organisations than any other organisation.

Churchgoers overall contribute **23.2 million** hours voluntary service each month in their local communities outside the church.

The Church of England has more than **16,000 churches**, serving every inch of the country and open to every local inhabitant.

People value their local church and **68% consider it an important part of their local community**. Those who consider churches important include 45% of people with no religion and 62% of adherents of other faiths. 70% believe it provides valuable social and community facilities and 57% believe it should be more actively involved in the local community.

So how can we be more involved, more active? From July 12th until the end of September, the church will be open for 2 hours (2-4pm) on a Friday and Saturday afternoon. Volunteers are manning it and if you would like somewhere quiet to sit or you'd like a chat and cup of tea or coffee then do call in.

Volunteers are also needed for a foodbank opening in Whitnash in St Margaret's Church Centre. I'm afraid until we have such a facility Whitnash will be the nearest place to go. If you could spare some time then please ring Elaine.

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Joys & Sorrows

Do you have any major life events to share? We'd love to hear of births, engagements, anniversaries and significant birthdays. Call Julie on 01926 420826 or email Julie_m_thomas@hotmail.com

Happy 100th Birthday

On 3rd July 2013 Ivy Gardner will be 100 years old. A party is planned to celebrate this occasion at the Sports and Social Club on Saturday 6th July 2013.

Between 3pm and 5pm it will be tea and cakes and photos. Music will be by Mac on keyboard and will be of a genteel nature unless Mac has a couple of pints and breaks into old ragtime!

Between 7.30 and 8pm we start again. This time the music is guitar/vocals by Chris Richards, he is new to the club so please give him a welcome. There will be a buffet during the evening.

No presents, but donations to Myton Hospice would be appreciated. There will be a collection at the party, cash or cheques (made payable to Myton Hospice) will be accepted.

We are hoping to show the village film made by the History Group sometime during the day. The family look forward to welcoming you on this special occasion so friends, neighbours and relatives you are welcome to join us at one or both events.

Graduation Many congratulations to Kate Clifford who will shortly be graduating with a BSc (Hons) 2:1 in Politics from Brunel University. Baptism William James Colegate We welcome him into the Christian Family. We said our farewells to Pauline Barrow Derek Marsh **Edith Parsons** Doris Terry We pray for their families in bereavement.

Cont from p3 In Learnington a new initiative has just been launched – Street Pastors. Again volunteers are needed to help. learningtonspa.streetpastors.org.uk has more details of the work and how to volunteer.

If you would like the church to be open at other times then please speak to Elaine or a member of the PCC. The more volunteers the easier it is.

As Winston Churchill once said - You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give. With love and prayers Elaine

* http://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/facts-stats.aspx



Call for our latest offers and further information on any of the above treatments

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Anne Allen

At our June meeting we were amazed at the skill shown by Ed Jones in flower arranging. From buckets of flowers we saw emerge three fantastic arrangements using masses of prepared foliage with carnations, gerbera, and lilies amongst many others. An odd bloom here, a tweak there, and I was left feeling totally inadequate, anything more than five flowers in a vase and I am lost. Ed managed to keep talking whilst arranging. We also learnt about goings on at the Chelsea Flower Show, which Ed had recently visited. He explained how your show garden has to be to your original spec, so if a plant isn't ready and you change it for another one, you will be marked down and it's no gold medal for you. If you ever look at competition flower arranging ... no oasis should be seen from any angle!! Ed has entered the Shrewsbury Flower Show previously so knew all about the stresses of competition work, arranging through the night to be ready for judging in the morning, just for starters. Yes, he ran over time but we were all so enthralled no-one minded.

I ran quickly through the business part of the meeting. Six of us had been on a county visit to the Morgan car factory in Malvern, but there were no free samples. Much to my disappointment, we only got a small piece of curved wood from a mudguard ... so if I go often enough maybe I will collect a whole car!! We are looking forward to a lunch with antique expert Charles Hanson, also one with Felix Francis the author, son of Dick Francis, also an evening with Joe Swift of Gardeners World fame. There is to be a bread making class, learning to knit a "shawlette", sounds intriguing, and a speaking competition. It looks like WI is going to have a very busy Autumn.

Here in the village we are hoping to visit Locke and England Auctioneer and Valuers, Spa Opera to see Carousel, hold the annual Pimms and Croquet evening, weather permitting, and possibly another puddings event, and carry on the craft and wine clubs. It's amazing how food and drink often raise their little heads when WI are about. I also gave my report from my visit to the AGM in Cardiff. The resolution about encouraging WI members ... and everybody else ... to use their high streets was passed by 5,266 for and 758 against, an overwhelming majority of 87.41%. The guest speakers had been William Shawcross, Griff Rhys-Jones, John Humphrys and Jonathon Willcocks. It was an excellent meeting.

Our speaker in July will be a cheese and wine tasting provided by Waitrose and in August David Clarke, a local photographer, will be telling us all about his work. In September we will be visited by the Air Ambulance, not literally I hope! All something to look forward to. If you feel you would like to come along to a meeting and meet us, we only charge a small visitor's fee, and would love to meet you.

Anne Allen 424135



Anne Kirby

History Group

Visit to Basildon Park

Our journey took us through the lovely rolling hills of Berkshire and pretty villages. At the Park we walked uphill through woodland, turned the bend in the path, and there it stood, Breathtaking Basildon, in a warm glow of Bath stone and satisfyingly splendid in its symmetry.

The house was built in 1776



in the Palladian style by Francis Sykes, who had acquired his wealth when working for the East India Company. The architect was John Carr of York, and the interior decoration was in the fashionable style of Adam. The result is an impressive Georgian house, enhanced by exquisite plasterwork and furnishings.

Several times in the next 300 years the house came close to demolition when the owners hit hard times. During WW2 it was requisitioned and housed soldiers of various nationalities and German prisoners of war. It was derelict in 1952 when Lady Iliffe saw it by chance, fell in love with its charm and was inspired, with her husband, to restore its early glory and fill it with 18th century furniture, artefacts and Italian paintings. They generously donated it to the National Trust 25 years later.

We were fortunate to have with us Bernard Pumfrey, former teacher of arts and crafts, who guided us through the house, pointing out the notable features and sharing with us his love and appreciation of the skill in design and craftsmanship evident in all the rooms.



The memorable features are the perfect symmetry of all the light airy rooms, the delicate Adam-style plasterwork on ceilings and walls, the cantilever stairway, the carved panels of the mahogany door panels and the gracefully crafted furniture and fittings. Modern facilities are provided by the art deco bathrooms and there's a surprise when entering a former bedroom, which was the first room occupied by the lliffe's (who moved in with only two deckchairs, according to the guide book!) The walls are now covered with studies by Graham Sutherland for his "Christ in Glory" tapestry in Coventry Cathedral. Lord Iliffe purchased the complete set of 165 watercolours and presented them to the Herbert Art Gallery in Coventry. Another Basildon bonus is the garden and views of the landscape. This is a house that beckons for return visits and provided us with a happy summer visit.

The village History Group has two further outings planned this summer - to the Cardell Collection in Southam and a guided visit St Mary's Church Warwick in August, and to National Trust House Coughton Court in September. Why not join us? Further information from Sheila Smith (07770 602661) or Anne Kirby (01926 336749)

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, 9th July 7.30pm in St Chad's Church

Audrey Duggan will tell us about Catherine Hutton, novelist, letter-writer and daughter of William, the first historian of Birmingham

Bishops Tachbrook Junior Youth Club

Monday 6.30-8pm in the School Hall During Term Time Only £1.50 per session and yearly membership of £2 payable in September.

For more information contact Anoushka on 311538 or anoushka76@hotmail.com or come along on a Monday. We desperately need more adult volunteers to come and help at our club, if you can spare a couple of hours on an odd Monday then please let me know.





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Tachbrook Tinies

Lisa O'Callaghan

Since writing the last article for Tachbrook Tinies lots of things have changed. Not only have I set up business from home as an Ofsted Registered Childminder, but I have passed the leadership of the Tinies over to Grace, one of our longest serving volunteers. Grace is a mum of four from Mallory Road who continues to run the busy toddler group and has also managed to secure a baby clinic once a month. If anyone is interested in the baby clinic, which is manned by qualified Health Visitors, it runs on the second Thursday of the month (during term time). The next clinics will be held on 11th July and 12th September.



Tachbrook Tinies continues to serve numerous members

of our community but sadly it is currently lacking in local volunteer helpers. If you feel you could assist and have a few spare hours a week please contact Grace on 07590 320563. Tachbrook Tinies runs on a Thursday from 9.30-11am (during term time) at Bishop's Tachbrook Sports & Social Club.

Tachbrook Tinies is a baby/toddler group that provides fun toys and activities for 0-5s and their parents/carers. **Feel free** to come and join in the fun and meet new people in your local community.









The Poetry of Vegetable Gardening

Keith Wellsted

Is your vegetable patch a chore or poetry in motion? Mine finds me lurching from bad weather despair to warm weather poetic ecstasy.

The poem below, found on the Poetic Expressions website, takes a different slant on the place of vegetables in life.

For the garden of your daily living:

Plant 3 rows of peas:

- 1. Peace of mind
- 2. Peace of heart
- 3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

- 1. Squash gossip
- 2. Squash indifference
- 3. Squash grumbling
- 4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

- 1. Lettuce be faithful
- 2. Lettuce be kind
- 3. Lettuce be patient
- 4. Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without Turnips:

- 1. Turnip for meetings
- 2. Turnip for service
- 3. Turnip to help one another

To conclude our garden we must have Thyme:

- 1. Thyme for each other
- 2. Thyme for family
- 3. Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

Website of the month – www.poeticexpressions.co.uk

Poetic Expressions tries to illustrate that whatever predicament you find yourself in others have been there before and have found words to express thoughts on Grief, Life, Humour and Love.

What to do this month

Sow Carrots (quick maturing), Cabbage (Chinese/spring), Kohl Rabi, Pak-Choi, Pea, Summer Radish, Winter Radish, salads, turnip.

Grow Keep container plants and those with swelling pods/fruit evenly watered. Eat Annual Spinach, Beans (Broad/ Runner/French), Beetroot, Cabbage (summer), Carrot, Cauliflower, Courgette, Cucumber, Globe Artichoke, Kohl Rabi, Pea, Potato (early).

Compost If you don't want a slimy mess make sure those grass clippings are well mixed with brown materials.

Recycling tip of the month

Any plants that like a regular water supply, like tomatoes, cucumbers and courgettes, can have their own private supply. Cut the end off a large plastic bottle and put it top first in the soil (no lid!) near the base of the plant. Then fill the bottle with water. The water will be deep in the soil where the roots need it, and not evaporating off the surface. It's efficient, effective and makes manual watering quick and easy.

If you would like advice from a Master Gardener then please contact: suzwatt@gmail.com or 07711 498047 keithwellsted@btconnect.com or 0771 8196577

Go on, get out there and start growing.



Parish Council News

Sean Deely

Local Plan Consultation With 3700 homes planned for farmland south of Warwick and Leamington and 6 of the 20 search areas for Gypsy and Traveller sites within the parish boundary and others close by, it is vital that residents make themselves aware of the proposals and submit their views prior to the deadline. The next round of consultation on the New Local Plan has commenced. Known as the Revised Development Strategy it is now out for consultation until 29th July. Information on the Revised Development Strategy can be found on the WDC website. <u>www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan</u>

Comments can be submitted on line: newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk or in writing: Development Policy Manager, Development Services, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa CV32 5QH. Please also refer to the article on page 19 by District and Parish Councillor Richard Brookes.

Parish Marquee This new parish asset saw its first outing at the Church fete held this

year on the Village Green. A team of volunteers assembled at 8 am and under good instruction made relatively short work of unpacking the recently received consignment of boxes and erecting the new marquee: and taking it down that evening took only half the time. A big thank you to everyone who helped. The following week the marquee had its first outing outside the parish, to a community event at Wroxall.



The marquee was 90% funded by grants and a condition of the award was use of the marquee by groups across the district: another great way to build our contacts with nearby parishes and towns. Andrew Day led a team of local volunteers on the day.

Neighbourhood Plan A huge contribution by our primary school and the hundreds of residents that visited the stand at the church fete has kicked off our community consultation phase with a Big Bang. Following a talk at assembly by Keith Wellsted, 185 pupils shared their ideas on what they love about the parish (the Leopard appeared a few times!) and what could make the parish an even better place to live. Visitors to the stand gave their views on topics like new housing numbers and maintaining green space separation with the towns. This really is a tremendous start and the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group is so grateful to everyone for their input so far.

Developer Planning Applications Housing developers are exploiting the lateness of the New Local Plan and other technicalities by submitting planning applications for 2000 homes south of Harbury Lane and Gallows Hill, and on Woodside Farm across the road from Mallory Court. As of mid June, the PC had reviewed 3 of these and submitted its objections to all 3. At the time of writing this article, the Woodside Farm planning application had just been submitted too.

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St Chad's Pet Service

St Chad's Pet Service will take place at 4pm on July 7th on the Meadow. All are welcome to attend. Please come along and bring your pets for a blessing. Small or large, we would love to see them. The service will last about 30 minutes and all pets will be blessed, even creepy crawly ones! Afterwards refreshments will be served. Do come along, we look forward to seeing you, St Chad's PCC

Thank you Bishop's Tachbrook

Despite the all the doom and gloom in the news about the economy and despite the fact that our money doesn't seem to buy as much, the people of Bishop's Tachbrook dug deeply into their pockets. Thank you all so much for your donations to Christian Aid Week. You rose to Linda's challenge and broke the £1,000 mark.

Very special thanks are due to all the dedicated people who went out around the streets delivering envelopes and then returning to collect them. It is amazing just how long that can take and it's not much fun if you were caught in any of those downpours we had. All your hard work is very much appreciated and it culminated in a grand total of £1,033. Well done everyone. Ros Pratt

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Are you a dog or cat lover?

The Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Society (TARRS) are looking for foster carers. Our aim is to rescue and rehabilitate animals in the Warwickshire area – strays, animals with behaviour problems and those that can no longer be looked after by their owners – and we require fosterers to look after these animals.

We'd love to hear from you if:

You can commit to minimum 6 months' fostering

You'll not need to leave the dog or cat alone for more than 4 hours

You have a secure garden and either own the home or have landlord's permission to have dogs or cats at your home

You'd be willing to do some training or behavioural work (with TARRS' help) to prepare the dog or cat for rehoming e.g. house training, crate training, lead training.

We can be found at <u>www.TARRS.org.uk</u> or please email <u>tarrs_volunteer1@hotmail.co.uk</u> for more information on the role. The website can also be used to make donations; without them we will not be able to continue rescuing dogs and cats.

Thank you for reading this.





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Personal care, housekeeping, companionship or providing a break for an existing family member or care -giver.

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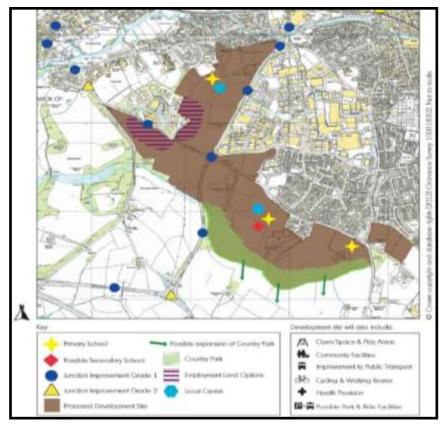


<u>New Local Plan - Revised Development Strategy – Consultation</u> <u>by Richard Brookes</u>

The New Local Plan is the proposal for how our wider area of Warwick District - the towns of Learnington Spa, Warwick, Kenilworth, Whitnash and the surrounding countryside - may develop until 2029. **This will control what can be built where.**

Warwick District Council has published a Revised Development Strategy for its New Local Plan. They have also prepared documents on 'Sites for Gypsies and Travellers' and 'Community Infrastructure Levy'. These documents are available on the WDC website http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan. The district council offices and the libraries hold a full paper copy if you wish to learn more but can't access the internet. The consultation process runs until Friday 29th July – only a month left!

It's important that you contribute to the consultation on all three documents. There is a lot of supporting information to digest too. They will have a significant impact for the parish, in a number of ways.



Revised Development Strategy

Continued on page 20

Having successfully held off 2,500 homes south of Harbury Lane back in 2009, the Revised Development Strategy looks, at first glance, to be a repeat. Back then, our consultation responses mentioned the absence of infrastructure and coalescence of settlements across the Tach Brook, between Bishop's Tachbrook and Warwick Gates. This time around, fewer houses are proposed (1500) and facilities include a new secondary school facility and a country park to fix the urban southern boundary once and for all. **Overall, the new local plan provides for 12,300 new homes 2011-29.** Completions, commitments and urban windfalls account for 5000 of this total. A further 1,000 homes are expected to be built in Leamington and Warwick on sites such as older, lessattractive industrial areas like Sydenham Industrial Estate. 1,000 homes will be built on the Green Belt in Kenilworth and Lillington. Around 1,000 homes are allocated for the larger villages (100-150 would be expected on the edge of Bishop's Tachbrook). The remaining balance (4,300 homes) have been allocated to the green fields (non-Green Belt) around Myton, Warwick Gates and Whitnash.

This need for new homes is partly driven by each of three factors – people are living longer, the area has strong economic performance and there is a desire to reduce the numbers of people commuting in to work. However, aiming for this level of growth, over 20% in 18 years, is beyond the household forecasts from central government (those government forecasts are still high – equivalent to 11200 by 2029).

Fewer sites are in the Green Belt this time (compared to the 2012 Preferred Options). Building in the Green Belt requires exceptional circumstances. An argument was put forward that building so many homes to the south, where we live, would burden the transport network beyond any mitigation possible. Unfortunately, studies show that this is not the case and with many junction and other alterations, the roads should cope. This means that exceptional circumstances don't appear to exist for building in the Green Belt to the north of Leamington.

More urban previously-developed (brownfield) sites are included this time. However, there are still opportunities that are being overlooked and that don't appear to be properly accounted for.

Gypsy and Traveller Sites The council is required to provide permanent sites for Gypsies and Travellers. Twenty sites have been put forward, six of these are in the parish of Bishop's Tachbrook. Four of them have a boundary with the M40, one shares a boundary with Europa Way and one is at the crossroads of the Fosse Way and Harbury Lane.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Bishop's Tachbrook parish is proposed to be in Zone B. Every house built in this parish would attract a minimum of £90 per square metre. The Parish Council would receive a minimum of 15% of this. If 100 homes are built in the parish, with an average $75m^2$ floor area, then this parish would benefit with at least £100,000 from CIL.

Please respond with your views! It is important for your area that you contribute. Petitions and template letters may not count so highly - but planning issues, thoughtfully expressed will have a great impact. If you prefer to write a letter rather than use the on -line consultation you can e-mail newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk, or write to the Development Policy Manager, WDC, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, L'ton Spa, CV32 5QH.

Flower Festival

St George's Church, Newbold Pacey

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st July 2013

Morning coffee served from 11am and afternoon cream teas served until 4pm.

All visitors welcome.

Entrance free.

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Sunbeam Disco

This disco has been set up solely to cater for people with learning difficulties and the physically disabled. Discos are held monthly at the Sports and Social Club. The club has ample parking, is all on one level and has disabled toilet facilities. Those who prefer some peace and quiet can relax in the pool/games room.

We will be holding an activity day in the summer with plenty of things to do and a free BBQ. More details will be available nearer the time.

Thank You

A big thank you to Douglas, George and William of 1st Heathcote Scout Group, who have all worked hard recently delivering parish magazines around Warwick Gates.

Country Dancing Club 2nd Thursday of every month

8pm at Sports and Social Club Contact Julie Jaggard 314286 All welcome!

Team Leopard

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Team Leopard - that is Eddie Cousins and Luke Moss, general manager of The Leopard - both finished the Two Castles 10K run (walk!) on Sunday 9th June in acceptable finishing times!!

Both are supporting Myton Hospice, for which somewhere in the region of £1700 has been raised.

When all monies have been collected a presentation will be organised at The Leopard when a representative of the Myton Fundraising team will be invited to accept the final cheque. All are welcome on the night, especially the generous sponsors – date to be arranged. Watch this space!

St. Chads Church Fete

A very big "thank you" to all the generous people who helped in any way to make our church fete such a success - from your time so freely given to your various gifts and offerings. The weather, the Parish Council marguee, the Downhill Trials and the number of people attending and staying to enjoy the afternoon all made for a very successful event. The total raised was £4,500, which all goes towards the maintenance of our beautiful church. Thank you all once again for your time and generosity. There will be a review meeting of the fete on Tuesday 2nd July 7.30pm.at Andrew's home in Savages Close, and you are invited to come and give your thoughts about this year's fete and ideas for 2014. Desnee.

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Mothers' Union

Jenny Lister

Bye Buy Childhood update

At our June meeting Felicity Hawke spoke to us on the progress made since the Bailey Review on issues about the commercialisation of childhood. Our young mums were particularly interested in controls on the internet and classification on videos. Below is a summary to date.

The UK Government has published its long-awaited 'Stock-take' of the progress made on the Bailey Review recommendations. Twenty-three months after the publication of the Review, the stock-take brings up to date the action taken on the recommendations and sets out the Government's plan to see further action taken.

As part of the stock-take the Government has published its response to the last year's consultation on removing the exemptions to the Video Recordings Act. From 2014, sports, religious and music DVDs will carry the age ratings from the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) if they contain content that is unsuitable for younger children. The Government has also announced that the six main UK internet providers are to collaborate with the UK Council on Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) to develop an industrywide code of practice or mark of approval in recognition of the Bailey recommendations.

Mothers' Union welcomes the progress made and the Government's continuing commitment to fulfill their coalition promise to tackle the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood. However, Mothers' Union members and other parents are still reporting to us inappropriate content in pre-watershed programming, particularly soap operas, and we urge members to use our compliance surveys to record the impact of new regulations on TV watershed compliance; the responsible marketing of lads' mags; and the appropriateness of outdoor advertising. You can find the surveys on the Bye Buy Childhood website, <u>www.byebuychildhood.org</u>; and you can read the Government's statement here <u>tinyurl.com/owos8jp</u>

As we are planning to serve Cream Teas on Sat 22nd June at church, there will be no Branch meeting in July.



Worship at St Chad's

Sunday

10am Holy Communion (Sunday Club is held on 2^{nd} and 4^{th} Sundays of month)

First Sunday of the month

8am Holy Communion (BCP)10am Family Service

Wednesday

11:15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Are these times convenient for you? Would you like a mid-week communion service in the evening or an early morning service? Please let me know, the church is here to serve you and if you find that you cannot come to church on a Sunday but that a Tuesday evening would be great, then I am happy to provide what you need. Elaine

Linda Stevens

I keep seeing a tall plant with white flowers under all the hedges. It's what a friend of mine calls 'Jack-by-the-hedge', which always strikes me as a good name. Get a bit closer and the smell might make you feel its other common name, Garlic Mustard, might be better. It was used for seasoning food in the past as it does impart a garlicky, mustardy taste. If you crush the heart-shaped leaves vou will notice a definite garlic smell. Herbalists use it to cure gangrene, ulcers and sore throats. The tiny white four petalled flowers grow in clusters. Strangely, it is a member of the cabbage family, whereas all other garlic-tasting plants are members of the Onion family. It is the host plant for

the Orange tip butterfly that lays its eggs on the leaves. The caterpillars hatch out nicely positioned for their favourite food.

During the third week of May, as I was washing up and looking out of my kitchen window, I spotted the female blackbird, with a beakful of nesting material, perched on the shed roof. I watched to see where in the hedge she would go when there was a sudden flash and there, sitting on the trellis, was a Sparrow hawk! Luckily it missed Mrs Blackbird who seemed transfixed at first.

A few days later I noticed a group of birds pecking around on the drive of the house opposite. Most of them were Sparrows but what had caught my eye was a pair of Goldfinches, their bright splashes of red and yellow catching the sun. We have had goldfinches in the garden if I put out

Nature Page

nijjer seeds but it was a surprise to see them pecking around with the Sparrows.

I was slightly embarrassed about a fortnight ago. I was about to leave church when someone said 'How is the bird doing?' 'What bird?' I queried. She laughed and said, 'You mean you've been in and out and not seen the nest?' Just inside the porch, nicely tucked into

> the apex of the roof was a Blackbird's nest! The female managed to fly in and out through the gate when it was closed and seemed quite content to be so close to the occasional visitors to her new home. We supplemented her diet with biscuit crumbs and dried meal worms although she was finding plenty of

worms in the graveyard. She perched on a gravestone with her beak full and waited for us to leave before she returned to her nest. She continued to sit on her eggs and nestlings when they hatched. They fledged at the end of May and the Vicar managed to take a photo of one baby (above) as it rested on the porch seat before braving the outside world.

Neighbours of ours have House Martins nesting in their eaves. The birds have been using the site for about five years. This year when they returned they found their nest needed some repairs and so they began collecting mud and putting things to rights. I've seen them swooping around on their scimitar shaped wings. The wonderful aerobatics are not for display but to catch as many flies as possible.

Steve's report

In mid-May I saw a pair of swifts mating high in a clear blue sky over our garden. Swifts are the most aerial of birds, only ever needing to land to nest. This is usually under the eves of a tall building. The rest of their lives are spent on the wing, feeding, mating and even sleeping. Late evening they fly so high you can hear them but can't see them anymore, apparently they cat nap while they are up there. Groups fly over the village, often screaming as they go, they used to be called 'screaming jacks'. One of the real sounds of summer. Swifts are built for speed and aerobics, the wings are long and tapered and the legs are tiny. They arrive after swallows and housemartins and are ready to leave for Africa sometime in August. It will be nine months until they need to stop flying again, just briefly to nest.

By 4am early June, the dawn chorus plays all around the village. Hundreds of birds of many species in full concert, proclaiming their territories. Each bird pausing for a moment to hear where its nearest rivals are. Early morning I usually put a lot of small pieces of wet bread out on the bird table. In no time at all, sparrows, starlings, jack-daws, my rook, a blackbird and a robin have taken it long before it can dry out. Fast food to start the day. Not sure if I've got the birds into this routine or they've got me into it! Do keep feeding the birds through the summer, the adults need to stay in the best condition possible. I remember watching a pair of bluetits, they would fly up into a sycamore tree to gather aphids for their young back in the nest box. Every once in a while they flew to the feeders, just to feed themselves. Best of both worlds!

John's Diary

18 May The cygnets are down from 5 to 2 - evidence that the fox feasted on them. Great crested Grebe sitting 3 eggs - should hatch in next week.

Tiger and blue trout cruising close in and lots of feeding activity in surface water. Most tadpoles left egg mass leaving gobbets of jelly behind.

A colony of Canada Geese forming - only 1 regular but now 2/32 adults and 3/4 immature juveniles from last year.

20 May Adult swans cornered Canada goose day old gosling and killed it this afternoon.

2 June The Grebes lost 1 egg in week then today I found remaining 2 on bank - one eaten and other punctured - looks like fox activity.

Tiny Great Crested Grebe just hatched today at lakes.

10 June Flag Iris in full bloom.

Grebes have a chick close and 2 extra eggs appeared in the old nest.

Coot sitting tight on nest so expect a brood soon.

Swans and cygnets, Canada geese and goslings thriving.

Help take nature's pulse by joining the big butterfly count. 20th July-11th August. www.bigbutterflycount.org



Num-			Age	Improve-	Best
ber	Name	Veh Cat	Cat	ment	Time
	Hugo				
1	O'Callaghan	Chainless Bike	JM	00:00:37	00:02:01
2	Eddie Talbot	Soapbox	VM	00:00:29	00:01:11
3	Roy Drew	Chainless Bike	VM	00:00:04	00:00:46
4	Rory Deely	Soapbox	JM	00:00:12	00:00:58
5	Logan Deely	Chainless Bike	JM	00:00:19	00:00:54
6	JJ Gabbitas	Chainless Bike	JM	n/a	00:01:24
7	Isabel Whitwood	Soapbox	JF	00:00:10	00:00:36
8	Jasmine Uddin	Soapbox	JF	00:00:24	00:01:03
9	Max Bennett	Chainless Bike	JM	n/a	00:01:59
10	Grace Brewster	Chainless Bike	JF	DNF	DNF
11	JJ Gabbitas	Soapbox	JM	n/a	00:02:03
12	Matt Gabbitas	Chainless Bike	JM	00:00:11	00:01:00
13	Logan Deely	Soapbox	JM	n/a	00:01:50
14	JJ Gabbitas	Chainless Bike	JM	n/a	00:01:16
15	Andrea Murphy	Soapbox	JF	DNF	DNF
16	Neil Murphy	Soapbox	VM	n/a	00:01:39

Results of Tachbrook Time Trials (Church Fete, 8th June 2013)

Conditions were dry for the second Tachbrook Time Trials. Isabel Whitwood had the fastest time of all the entrants, with 36 seconds to complete the course – showing the prowess of the Whitwood soapbox yet again. Rory Deely was second fastest soapbox, and the Uddin's soapbox/sidecar combo third fastest. With practice, Eddie Talbot's soapbox ('The Overtakers' from the Co-op Funeral Service) showed best improvement in soapbox times. Fastest chainless bike entrant was Roy Drew, with a battle between the Deely and Gabbitas boys for second place. Most improved in the category was one of our youngest entrants, Hugo O'Callaghan.

Delivering Parish Magazines in Warwick Gates

Would you be able to offer, at most, an hour of your time once a month? We are looking to add to our excellent team of volunteers who distribute the Parish Magazine (free of charge!) to every Warwick Gates household that lies within the parish of Bishop's Tachbrook. We need:

- Substitutes: to cover an occasional absence for one or two months
- New deliverers: who would be willing to take on a round when one of the present team need to give up their round, say because they are moving away.

A typical round comprises 20 to 30 houses in one or two adjacent roads. As you would be delivering to every house in a road it is comparatively quick. The commitment would never exceed an hour per month. We are looking to build up a list of people that we can call on as the need arises. If you feel that you could help please get in touch. Barbara and Stephen Baldwin, Tel: 336822

Church Fete Raffle Prize Winners

PRIZE	DONATED BY	TICKET	WINNER
1st prize £100		3717	J Scrivens
Go-Kart vouchers	Mr Karting	2559	M Becket
£10 Sainsbury's voucher	Sainsbury's	0233	P Upstone
Compton Verney tickets	Compton Verney	2417	J Day
Free Range Christmas turkey	Tollgate Farm	1955	Mark
2 course meal for two	The Leopard	1987	Rudge
Belgian chocolates	Morrisons	3733	L Sheehan
Afternoon tea for two	Mallory Court Hotel	3307	M Fletcher
Spa Day for two	Menzies Welcombe Hotel	0934	H Fairweather
2 bottles of wine	Tachbrook Stores	1369	A Oaks
Afternoon tea hamper	Country Bumpkins	1956	J Dunbar
Hamper	Tony Hall	2177	Prior
Bottle of Wine Petillant		2954	J Alderman
Bottle of Barossa Semillon		1850	Harrison
Whisky Selection		2104	Stewart
Stable clock		3144	M Cox
Hanging basket kit		2109	M Pennin
Belgian chocolate bis	cuits	1754	T Guy
Ladies hankies		2138	C Berry
Lucky programme		70	S Byrd



BT Village Store

Mick Nagra

Hello to all. It's now been a year since we became the new owners of Bishop's Tachbrook Village Store. It's been a challenging one and I thought it would be a good idea to put an article in the Parish Magazine to highlight the changes and improvements made to the store.

Firstly, with assistance and support from neighbours, villagers and parish councillors, we were able to successfully retain the shutter to the front of the store,

ensuring the security of the premises. I would like to thank all who assisted in this victory.

Sunny and Sham (right), the regular faces at the store, have worked extremely hard to put a system in place of checking



informed about was the very high front step to the premises which the elderly were finding increasingly difficult to negotiate. Well, we have listened and finally obtained the landlord's permission to lower the step. This has now been completed and I hope is making entering the store a much easier prospect.

We are now in the process of re-branding the store to the "Shop Local" Facia with regular special offers running in store. To

support those offers posters and leaflets will be handed out regularly, so if you find one in your newspaper have a look and then put it through your neighbour's letterbox as they may not have one. Many thanks.

We haven't quite finished yet, once the

dairy products on a daily basis and removing goods from sale by their sell buy dates, and increasing the overall cleanliness within the store. This has resulted in the store now being awarded the **5 STAR FOOD HYGIENE** rating, the highest available by Warwick District Council, for their efforts and high standards. Our Certificate is proudly displayed on the front entrance door for all to see.

For your convenience, there is now a Pay Point Terminal for bill payments and TV Licence within the store as well as a Cash Machine.

From the very beginning one of the main issues we were repeatedly being

rebranding has been completed there are further plans to have a move around within the store making certain areas brighter and more easily accessible.

I hope everyone can see that we are trying very hard to return this village store, once on the brink of closure, back to what a village store should be to serve the community. I hope the residents of Bishop's Tachbrook continue to support their Village Store. You know what they say "Use it or lose it" and that would be a shame - help us to help you!

Finally thank you for your on-going and continued support.

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Praying for our Community in July

A group of us at St Chad's wanted to have some structured prayers for our village and so we've developed a prayer calendar, which we hope will give direction to our prayer and so we offer it to those who live in our parish and who pray.

This month we pray for:

Those who live in:

Kingsley Road Laertes Grove Launce Grove Lisle Gardens

Organisations:

The Parish Council The History Group Our local schools, staff, governors and pupils

Notable Dates

Tuesday 2nd Visitation of BVM Wednesday 3rd Thomas Friday 6th - Tuesday 9th General Synod Sunday 14th Sea Sunday Monday 22nd Mary Magdalene



July Rotas

Cleaning

- 6th Jenny & Peter Lister
- 13th Jo Shaw
- 20th Liz Sheehan
- 27th Fiona Meades & Jo Jordan

Assistant Stewards

- 7th Graham Leeke
- 14th Ros & John Pratt
- 21st Kevin Pantling
- 28th Debra Cokayne

Sidespersons

- 7th Mervyn & Desness Fletcher
- 14th Ray & Anne Allen
- 21st Anne Kelley & Vera Vale
- 28th Joan Alderman & Mac McGarrick

Coffee

- 7th Jean Coope & Mac McGarrick
- 14th Fiona Meades & Joan Alderman
- 21st Gill Yarwood & Rod Smith
- 28th Ros Pratt & Jane Everett



You may have noticed our two smart new church notice boards are now in place.





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BT Brownies

Caroline, Caron, Sally & Steph

Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies started this month off with our Ladybird Night, the girls spent an evening doing ladybird crafts and games including a quiz, finding numbered spots, painting figurines and making bookmarks.

We also held a Brownie Sponsored Obstacle course where the girls had to crawl under netting, put wellies on their feet which were filled with shaving foam, big pants over their uniform, a santa hat on their heads and walk through 3 sets of hoops collecting 3 different items and back again putting the items back in the hoops for the next Brownie. All the girls had loads of fun and laughed constantly! Thank you to all the Brownie parents and friends who sponsored them.

Individually the girls have already completed some of the following badges: Artist, Finding your Way, Home Skills, Cooking and Brownie Traditions.

The Brownies all worked very hard at the Church fete to sell as many programmes as possible to help raise money for our Church. We also ran our own stall where people had to guess the name of a Tiger Teddy! The Brownies definitely have many young sales ladies in the making as they managed to sell a lot of names and programmes and this year the weather was in our favour. The chosen name for the tiger was Elliot! The winner of Elliot is Kath Reason, congratulations Kath.

We would also like to welcome Daya, Grace E, Charlotte R, Bethany H, Niamh P and Cassie D who have all made their Brownie promises this month. We have also had 2 leaders make their promises, Caroline W who has made her Unit Helper promise and Abigail L who has made her Young Leader promise.





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Tuesday

2013 dates

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July	2, 23	November	5, 26
August	13	December	17

Stop Name	Arrive	Depart
St Chad's Close	11:05	11:30
Church Lees	11:35	11:50

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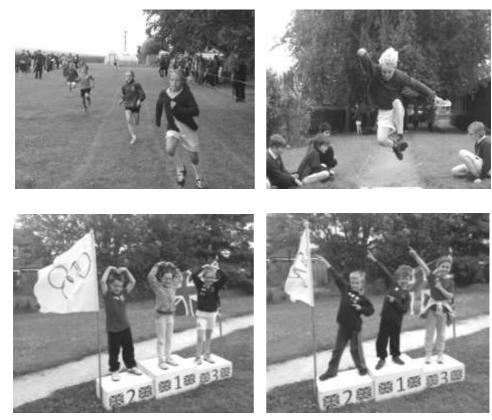
Andy Bretell

SPORTS DAY AT BT SCHOOL

Despite the unseasonably bad weather for June, Sports Day opened with a traditional flag carrying ceremony around the field and went ahead on only our second attempted date. Everyone took part in a wide variety of fun filled, challenging and competitive events. As well as throwing contests, obstacle races and even a shopping race, pupils had the option of competing in long jumps, 60m sprints and 200m races. The fastest in each year then took part in a relay race around the



whole track. Many thanks to Miss Blundell for her tireless efforts in organising it all and also to Onside Coaching for their professional assistance throughout.



'Make a Noise Tots' with Warwickshire Young Voices

Preschool aged children are invited to 'Make a Noise' with the Warwickshire Young Voices team in a series of jungle themed summer music workshops for 2 1/2 -4 year olds.

The workshops will provide a gentle introduction to musicality and the concepts of pitch, rhythm and pulse using Kodaly (Do Re Mi...) and Dalcroze (music and movement) techniques. The professional WYV musicians and singers make the 2 hour workshops non-stop fun with songs, music, dance, games, craft and sensory play.

Workshops will be held at The Graham Adams Centre, Southam 9.30-11.30am on Thursdays 25th July and 1st, 8th and 15th August. Book individual workshops for £12 or all four at the reduced price of £40. See www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org for more information or to book online. Alternatively phone Helen on 01926 614 150. Places are limited so book today!

Warwickshire Young Voices - Expanding by popular demand!

The Warwickshire Young Voices team are extremely proud to announce that we are having to expand to accommodate the ever growing demand for our sessions. Having started out as a small village community choir in 2008, we now draw 50 children aged 7-16 from across South Warwickshire on a weekly basis and have an ever growing waiting list.

From September 2013, we will be expanding our Community Choir for 7-16 year olds by providing an additional venue in Learnington. We are accepting pre-registration for these places now, for any child to join our fun community choir with no audition required.

Also new for September 2013 are musicianship classes for 3-7 year olds run by Musical Director, award winning composer and British Kodaly Academy member, David Iles. These classes will teach young performers to understand pitch, rhythm, pulse whilst learning to read and write their own music based on Kodaly principles. Classes will be available at The Graham Adams Centre in Southam at 9.45am for 3-5yrs and 10.30am for 5-7yrs. Places are limited so book early!

For more information about our activities, to register your interest or sign up to any of our sessions please visit our website at www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org or telephone 01926 614 150.

Music is a skill for life - Let's pass it on!

Church Officers

Vicar Rev Elaine Scrivens Tel: 426922

Church Wardens Andrew Day Tel: 889417 Linda Stevens Tel: 334812

Deputy Church Warden Rod Smith

Treasurer Vera Leeke Tel: 882675

Magazine Editor Catherine Keen Tel: 886980 catherine.keen@btinternet.com

Advertising Editor Pam Davies btachbrookmagad@live.co.uk

Magazine Distribution Barbara Baldwin Tel: 336822

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