

# CLENCHWARTON Your Village News



SEPTEMBER 2024



CMC (Clenchwarton Methodist Church)

## Arts & Crafts Fair

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September  
10am - 3pm

Display and Sale of paintings by local  
artists

Craft Stalls

Cake and Book Stalls  
Free children's Craft/Play Area

Light Lunches and Refreshments

Fundraiser for Clenchwarton Methodist Chapel

## FRONT COVER MAIN PHOTOS

TOP

The Strawberry Cream Tea which  
took place at St Margaret's Church  
on August 18th.

BOTTOM

The amazing bees nest built inside  
the lower wall of the church near  
the porch. The worker bees are very  
busy most of the day. Best not to  
get too close though.

ALL PHOTOS IN THIS EDITION BY JAN  
TAYLOR



ST MARGARET'S  
CHURCH INVITES  
YOU TO A

## SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE

SATURDAY  
5TH OCTOBER  
10am - 2pm

In the church

Free entry  
Refreshments available  
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01553773467



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## CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY  
23rd NOVEMBER

10am—2 pm

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CHURCH ROAD  
CLENCHWARTON

REFRESHMENTS  
FREE ENTRY

CONTACT DEBRA MCGOWAN 01553 773467  
TO BOOK A TABLE (£5)

## ***Welcome to your Magazine***

This is a monthly magazine and contains adverts from local businesses near you, village and church news and "what's on in the village" as well as articles from our parishioners and the community. We hope it is a valuable resource for newcomers to the village as well as our long-standing residents.

## **St Margaret's Church Clenchwarton Rector: Reverend Barbara Burton 01945 781228**

### **Churchwardens:**

Debra McGowan – 01553 773467  
[warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk](mailto:warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk)  
Andy Taylor – 07939 055031

### **Parish Safeguarding Officer:**

Jan Taylor – 07725 940453

Please contact Debra McGowan for Baptisms, Marriages, etc.

**St Margaret's Parish Church, Church Road, Clenchwarton,  
Kings Lynn, PE34 4EA**

<https://clenchwarton-church.org.uk>

### **Contact your magazine**

Editor: Grahame Sampson: 01553 769819  
[grahamesampson@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamesampson@btinternet.com)  
or drop off at 18 Margaretta Close, Clenchwarton.

All other enquiries and advertising enquires:  
Debra McGowan: 01553 773467  
[warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk](mailto:warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk)

The advertising and magazine subscriptions help keep the magazine in print and provides some funds towards church projects. If you can help with the magazine please let either Debra or Grahame know.

**We need your articles in by 14TH SEPTEMBER for the  
OCTOBER edition**

## CLENCHWARTON

### Your Village News

#### From the editors:

We are determined to make this magazine an inclusive voice for our entire community.

We welcome all contributions, however modest, on the understanding that we will not publish any offensive material, and may have to edit articles for reasons of space.

**The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors.**

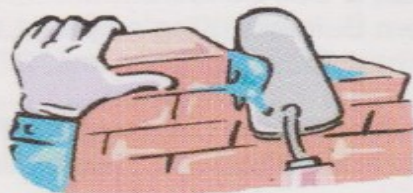
GS; DM; AJT; JT

## WELCOME TO THE SEPTEMBER EDITION OF YOUR VILLAGE NEWS.

Inside this magazine you will find details of craft sales, clothes sales, a fun race night, coffee mornings, a quiz, talks and much more. Don't forget to check out the events list on page 10. I would love to have any photos you have of the amazing aurora borealis that has been gracing our sky recently, for next months magazine. Sadly I missed that, and also the shooting stars.

Happy reading. JT

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## Puzzle Corner Answers

- 1 Greyfriars School
- 2 Enid Blyton
- 3 Wackford Squeers
- 4 Rugby
- 5 The High School
- 6 The Grammar School
- 7 Jennings and Darbishire
- 8 Greshams
- 9 Henry VI
- 10 Matilda



### Coffee Morning at St Margaret's Church

**Every Thursday between 10-12 noon**

Do come along for a drink and a friendly chat.  
Come and meet a wonderful group of Ladies and Gentlemen joining us every  
Thursday.

Please contact Debra (01553 773467) if you require transport to get to any  
coffee morning.

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## St Margaret's Church Services during September

- Sun 1st      Communion Service led by Revd. Barbara Burton
- Sun 8th      Morning Prayer with hymns led by a churchwarden
- Sun 15th     **Harvest Festival** and Communion Service led by Revd. Barbara Burton. All fresh produce will be auctioned after the service with the proceeds going to the local food bank
- Sun 22nd     Morning Prayer with hymns led by a churchwarden
- Sun 29th     Service at Walpole St Peter. No service at St Margaret's.
- All Church Services start at 10.00am unless otherwise stated  
Everyone is welcome to our services no matter what their age.**

## Methodist Chapel Services in August



- Sunday 1st      Cafe Service
- Sunday 8th      No service at Clenchwarton. Service at Terrington St Clement Methodist Chapel
- Sunday 15th     Rev Jackie Goddard Holy Communion
- Sunday 22nd     Judith Semmens
- Sunday 29th     Worship Team

**All services begin at 10.30am  
Please join us at any of our services. All are welcome to attend.**

## EVENTS AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL IN SEPTEMBER

- Friday 6th**      Quiz night at 7pm
- Saturday 14th**    Autumn Arts and Craft Fair. 10am - 4pm
- Saturday 21st**    Talk at 2.30pm. Anne Guymer - details on page 11



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## **CLENCHWARTON ART GROUP**

Our group meets every other Tuesday morning between 10am and noon, at the Methodist Chapel. Why not ring Elspeth on 01553 775698 with a view to joining us?



## **FREE ORGAN RECITALS EVERY TUESDAY 12.30pm**

These take place in King's Lynn Minster. Light lunch available from 10.30pm in the Minster. The organ recitals start at 12.30pm and last approximately 45 minutes. All donations are for the upkeep of the organ. The organists come from far and wide and give of their services free of charge.

# DIARY OF EVENTS in CLENCHWARTON and surrounding area for SEPTEMBER



**EVERY THURSDAY 10am - 12 Noon**  
**COFFEE MORNING at St MARGARET'S CHURCH**  
**ALL WELCOME**

- Tues 3rd**                      Clenchwarton Art Group. 10am -12noon.  
The Methodist Chapel (Main Road)
- Fri 6th**                        Quiz night at the Methodist Chapel. 7pm.  
No charge and you will be placed in teams
- Sat 7th**                        Coffee & Craft. 3 - 5pm. Methodist Chapel
- Sat 14th**                        Walking Group. 10.30am starting at the  
village school
- Sat 14th**                        Autumn Art and Crafts Fair. 10am - 4pm  
The Methodist Chapel
- Tues 17th**                      Clenchwarton Art Group. 10am -12noon.  
The Methodist Chapel
- Sat 21st**                        Clenchwarton Talk. 2.30pm Speaker Anne  
Guymer - the story of Oxborough Hall.  
The Methodist Chapel Hall
- Sat 21st**                        Race Night St Margaret's. Church Doors  
open 6.30pm start 7pm £5 entry
- Thurs 26th**                      MacMillan Coffee Morning. 10 - 12noon  
in St Margaret's Church

**TO ALL GROUPS IN THE VILLAGE:**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR EVENT OR GROUP PUBLICISED  
HERE PLEASE SEND DETAILS TO GRAHAME SAMPSON**  
**grahamesampson@btinternet.com**  
**or drop off at 18 Margareta Close, Clenchwarton**



## **Walking Group**

**SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER**

**10.30am starting at the village school**

Please note we are returning this month to our former time of 10.30am on Saturday Morning again starting from the school. We would love more people to join us. It is free. It is sociable. The walks are not too strenuous. So why not come along? Anyone can join us and we would love to see you.

## **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

**St Margaret's Church**

**Thursday 26th September**

**10am - 12 noon**

Our coffee morning will be for MacMillan Cancer Support. All the money raised that morning will go to the charity.

## **Art & Crafts Fair**

**Saturday 14th September**

**10am – 4pm**

There are plenty of stalls promised. There will be free entry.  
Light lunches and refreshments available.

**All at the Chapel, Main Road, Clenchwarton.**

## **The Clenchwarton Talks**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**2.30pm Methodist Chapel Hall**

Our speaker is Anne Guymer whose talk is entitled "Medieval Rafters, Rats and Treasure!" - the story of the Oxborough Estate.

Entry is free. Refreshments are provided.

All donations are welcome.

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## From the Little Yellow Smart Car

Revd. Jackie Goddard

[j.goddard@methodist.org.uk](mailto:j.goddard@methodist.org.uk) (07881 952098)  
(Clenchwarton & Terrington St Clement Methodist Churches)



There is more information being circulated every day, than previous generations might encounter in a lifetime. We all know that information travels fast and there are so many ways for it to get to us. Whatever your preferred media, it can be hard to process all the news and opinions which are flying around. We tend to latch on to the bits which interest or affect us. If we use social media, the algorithms present us with what it thinks we want. If we receive news via our TVs, we tend to stick to our favourite channels and programmes. All of which means that it is easy for us to think that what we know is the most important knowledge and the truth about any subject; whereas the reality is we know just a fraction – and much of that is opinion, not truth.

I write this as the country holds its breath waiting to see whether there will be more riots and demonstrations. We see how one opinion, or one piece of misinformation circulated, can turn common sense into chaos.

When we tell someone our story, or listen to someone else's, or share information, we need to slow down the speed at which it travels away from us. When we have something important to say, or protest about, slowing everything down allows us to see the bigger picture and understand different points of view.

When I say that God loves you, I hope that you can receive it slowly, savouring it, and letting it bless your day. God loves you.

Every blessing

Revd Jackie Goddard

(For more information: [www.methodist.org.uk/faith/a-methodist-way-of-life/](http://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/a-methodist-way-of-life/))

# Pastoral Letter

*Reverend Barbara Burton writes.....*



I am the Vice-Chair of Governors in two primary schools, and I have (unsurprisingly!) spent quite a bit of time with young children. Something that has really struck me is how uncomplicated they are. I don't know about you, but there are lots of days in the week where life just seems to be really complicated.... and even when it's not, we try our best to make things more difficult. We seem to have this ability to make all sorts of things more complicated than they need to be. Young children do not complicate things - that comes as we get older. They don't try to impress others but spend their time enjoying life.

I have also noticed that the young ones with whom I am privileged to spend time all seem to share certain traits. They are extremely forgiving. They don't harbour resentments or hold grudges. They argue over the same toy one minute but are best friends the next and they don't waste time sulking over something that didn't work out. They are very focused on their activities.

Multi-tasking seems to be the new way of living, but a really easy way for the rest of us to simplify life could be to do what children do - practice doing one thing at a time and really be 'in the moment' giving that other person or action our whole attention.

Something else young children do when things are difficult is ask their parent or carer for help. We could simplify our lives by trusting God. He loves us and hears our prayers. If we want something, we should ask him for it. If it's right he'll give it to us, and if it's not, just know that he has something better in mind. Living simply and creating joy in their lives is something young children do instinctively. Perhaps we should try it?

# NEWS FROM ST MARGARET'S



## LOOKING BACK

Thank you to all those who have helped us make parts of the churchyard presentable again. However - the work doesn't stop there. We have to continue cutting and strimming to keep it looking that way. It's much easier now that a lot of the long grass is down to a reasonable length.

In August we had a Strawberry Cream Afternoon Tea in the churchyard by the Memorial Garden. Once again the weather was very kind to us and the sun shone, which encouraged about 50 people to join us, and there was a lovely atmosphere. Thanks to everyone's generosity we made over £200.

We are immensely proud that Debra McGowan has accepted the nomination for the Etheldreda Medal Award. See page 33 for more details.

## LOOKING FORWARD

There are details of the Second Hand Clothes Sale and the 'Race Night Like no Other' elsewhere in the magazine. Page 21 and 35.

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION. December 1st - April 30th**

By popular request we are running this competition again, widening the area for photographs to include Clenchwarton and Kings Lynn, which will provide plenty of scope for all photographers out there! The photos submitted last year were all of a very high standard so I look forward to seeing them all this year.

The competition starts on December 1st and runs until April 30th by which time all photos must have been submitted. Two independent judges will judge the photos.

There are three age categories: under 11, 12 – 17, and 18 and upwards. Photos can be taken on phones or cameras and must be printed out before submission (10" X 8"). **The full set of rules are on the reverse of the entry forms which will be in church by the end of November.** There will be prizes for the winner in each category.

So – get your thinking caps on. Where is the best place to get 'that' photo, how will the light affect my subject, what is behind my subject(!) etc? Happy Snapping!



# **ST MARGARET'S CHURCH**

## **EVENTS FOR 2024**

**15th September**     **HARVEST FESTIVAL** - see list of services on page 8 for full details

**21st September**     **RACE NIGHT - 'A race like no other'** in church. 7pm (doors open 6.30pm).  
See page 35 for full details

**5th October**     **SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE**  
10am - 2pm. If you would like a stall please contact Debra on 01553 773467

### **SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER - REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE**

**23rd November**     **WINTER CRAFT FAIR**  
In church 10am - 2pm. If you would like to book a stall, or know someone else who might, please contact Debra

**1st December - 30th April** **PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**  
**FULL DETAILS ON PAGE 16**

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR TO BOOK A TABLE AT THE  
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# LEARN TO SAVE A LIFE

**FREE EVENT**

**Saturday August 10th, 2pm**  
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expert-led, hands-on learning for  
essential life-saving skills.

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Clenchwarton Community Foundation Trust

## FOOD BANK BOX IN CHURCH

St Margaret's Church has a box, near the font, for donations to the food bank in Kings Lynn. They currently urgently need: Strong carrier bags (to take food home in); Tinned Meat; Puddings; Tinned Fruit; Coffee; Tinned Fish; Pasta Sauce; Deodorant; Washing Powder. If you feel you can donate any of the above items, please leave them in the marked box.

The Food bank staff and recipients are always extremely grateful. There is a thank you card on the notice board in the porch. Thank you.

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## **CPR and Defibrillator Training - a great success**

On Saturday 10th August 2024, the Clenchwarton Community Foundation Trust hosted a highly successful CPR and defibrillator training event with 23 participants. The session, delivered in partnership with the West Norfolk Community First Responders, focused on providing attendees with crucial life-saving skills.

Participants were trained on how to respond effectively to individuals in need of assistance, perform CPR and deploy a defibrillator correctly. The training also included essential guidance on how to call for emergency help, ensuring that each participant left with the confidence to manage cardiac emergencies.

Rob Lucas of the Clenchwarton Community Foundation Trust said, "We are delighted with the turnout and the level of engagement from our community. This training is an essential part of our mission to create a safer, more resilient environment for everyone."

For more information about future training sessions and community events, contact

Caroline Coates, Clenchwarton Community Foundation Trust

Email: [clenchwartoncft@gmail.com](mailto:clenchwartoncft@gmail.com); Phone: 07585 381602

## *The History of Norfolk part 4*

With no parish council report in this month's magazine - they are on a Summer break - I feel there will be space for two history items as I continue the history of Norfolk where we have reached the period between 2500 and 2000BC.

It was around this time that flint mining first began at Grimes Graves. It actually continued to about 1600BC. North of Thetford, these are open to the public. Visitors descend by a ladder and are able to see the range of tunnels dug by the miners. There are hundreds of mine shafts but they interconnect with each other so the miners would have an escape route in the event of a collapse. There are still antler and bone picks on the floor of the tunnels where they have been left by the miners. It is possible that the flint was exported great distances around Britain; indeed it is believed the majority of the flint was not used locally.

There are a number of Round Barrows and also Bowl Barrows on Harpley

Common which date from around 2350BC but were in use for some considerable period. Eight barrows still survive in relatively good condition and there are at least another ten in the near vicinity. Within them have been found bones and pieces of Beaker pottery. Some of the barrows are adjacent to Peddars Way and can be viewed from it.

The largest site of barrows in Norfolk occurs at Salthouse Heath where the barrows were being built over a period of about two thousand years which is an incredible time span. A further collection of barrows can be seen at West Rudham. Some of these barrows were built in an earlier period but they were still in use right up to the Iron Age in other words they had only just fallen out of use when the Romans invaded.

Outside Norfolk the major build around 2500BC was the stone circle at Stonehenge. This involved the bringing in of stones from North Wales and the latest research indicates that the main stone came from Northern Scotland. These stones were presumably moved by sea. Most travel was by water as travel by land was very difficult as any pathways were few in number and often impassable. Elsewhere in the world the Sumerian and Egyptian Civilisations were at their zenith.

Next month we will look at an exciting development in Norfolk around 2000BC. I will keep you guessing for a month before I reveal what it is. GS

## SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE in St Margaret's Church

SATURDAY 5th OCTOBER 10am - 2pm

Time to go through those winter clothes from last year and decide what you really don't need/don't want, and what about your summer clothes? Make room in your wardrobe for some new winter clothes by selling what you don't want. **NO JUMBLE PLEASE**. Clothes rails not provided. Tables at this event are £5.



Tel Debra McGowan on 01553  
773467 to book a table.



# *The History of Clenchwarton*

## **The Village Public Houses**

A while ago in 2021 I wrote about the seven pubs in Clenchwarton but I now have a little bit more information about two of them. These are the Shetland Pony and the Prince of Wales.

The Shetland Pony was opposite Banklands and obtained its name because the first owner of Banklands, Thomas Hoseason, was born at Lerwick on the Shetlands and called his house Shetland House. The pub was built around 1540 so it could not have been a pub at the start. It was probably a farmhouse and was not converted until at least 1814 because it was not until then that Hoseason came to the village. The pub was on his land and he probably named it. Some while before its demise it reverted to being a dwelling house. It was demolished around 1900. An archaeological field walk in 1986 found the exact site of the Shetland Pony and a few shards of pottery which probably came from just one pot. It is likely that a pot was deliberately placed underneath the doorway to the property. It was customary to place a broken pot underneath the doorway to a property in the sixteenth century whilst the property was being built to ward off the devil. This practice continued well into the seventeenth century.

Apparently, in the nineteenth century and possibly before, the Shetland Pony was always referred to as the Shanks.

The Prince of Wales was on the Main Road near the Victory (now the Nelson). When I wrote about it in 2021 I could not discover where it exactly was. It was evidently the same side of the road as the Victory and its owners were often the owners of Porch Farm which made me consider it may well have been close to the farm which is between the Victory and the Chapel. However, I now know it was not there, but was adjoining a blacksmiths the other side of the Victory towards Wildfields Road. It may well have been on land belonging to Porch Farm as the farmland stretched some distance in the past. On many occasions pubs are linked to blacksmiths as at the Wheelwrights in the village, but as regards the Prince of Wales, the two businesses do not appear to be linked. The Prince of Wales was still operating as a pub in 1906, but it was in that year that it was closed by the authorities in order for certain improvement works to be carried out. There is no evidence that the pub ever reopened and it is likely it was demolished around about that date.

GS



# Labyrinth Day 23<sup>rd</sup> September

at (CMC) Clenchwarton Methodist Church  
Prayers, Workshops, Guided labyrinth and Open  
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For more information and full programme

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## *August's Borough Councillor report by Councillor Steven Bearshaw*

### **Station Road -**

My previous attempts to stop a resident being flooded on Station Road saw the dropped kerb raised slightly. Unfortunately, this didn't quite do the trick due to traffic splashing the puddles over the resident's hedge coupled with the slope on the pavement, which can't be raised further as future residents wouldn't be able to access the drive in low slung cars. Cllr Kemp and I met with Highways and residents from Station Road and I'm now happy to report that we have agreement for an additional drain (my preferred option from the start, but considerably more costly than raising the dropped kerb) The new drain will, unusually, be connected to the next drain on the same side to prevent the additional plumbing being placed under the road to the main drain system on the opposite side, as this will prevent the inevitable bump in the road as it settles. I'll endeavour to notify residents on my facebook page (Cllr Steven Bearshaw, Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk.) when the work is to be carried out as the road may need to be closed for safety. I'm also dealing with a similar, albeit somewhat more complicated issue in Tilney All Saints. (Clenchwarton Ward is made up of Clenchwarton and Tilney All Saints/High End).

Speeding continues to be an issue for the Ward. Earlier this year we commissioned a traffic survey. I'm sure many of you will recall the van and cameras scattered around and monitoring different parts of the village. Ironically whilst the survey was in progress the volume of traffic and speed significantly reduced.

Speed humps aren't the answer due to the village being built on a peat layer. This peat factor means that traffic hitting the humps bounces the peat and subsequently cracks the surrounding properties. This is further exacerbated when the speeding vehicle is heavily laden. My preferred solution is traffic calming chicanes, but these can't be implemented on Station road at present as updated policy means they need to be on a lit road. Sadly a motorcyclist died earlier in the year through hitting a chicane on an unlit road.

As an interim measure, the speed camera van came out to the village and by the time you read this I will have had a face-to-face meeting to understand what is possible, and the van should be a regular feature. Tilney All Saints regularly download their SAM 2 data, and this information is invaluable in understanding the worst days and times for speeding.

The grain store on Station Road has applied for a Discharge of conditions and in doing so, highlighted the noise that the wall mounted fans and grain dryer would produce. This equates to heavy traffic and louder than a food blender. The planners were reminded of its proximity to the village and the reason condition 3 was included when granting permission.



*Condition 3*

*3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 6, Classes A or B of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (or any order revoking and re[1]enacting that Order with or without modification), no fans, vents or any other mechanical plant for the purpose of drying, ventilation or extraction shall be allowed to be installed on the building hereby permitted without the granting of specific planning permission.*

Cllr Steve Bearshaw  
Clenchwarton Ward  
07395 369748

## The Magpie Centre

### Home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association

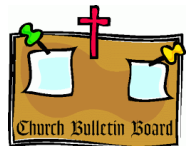


An aspect of the centre's work which is gaining momentum is for home-schooled children, many of whom are on the autistic spectrum, to take up riding. The benefits are not only physical but include increased confidence and enhanced communication skills. If you wish to explore this option, please call the Magpie Centre office on 01553 810202 to request an application form. Once this has been completed and returned, the participant will have an assessment, which lasts about half an hour and is free of charge. If all goes well, the participant will be slotted into a class (maximum 4 riders) of riders of similar ability for regular lessons.

Our Chairwoman, Bernadette Ford, is standing down for personal reasons at the end of September and we are seeking to appoint her successor. Knowledge of horses and/or of people living with disability, although desirable is not essential. More important is the ability to lead a team including staff, volunteers and the board of trustees. This role might suit a newly retired person with management experience. For more details and an informal chat, please call the Centre on 01553 810202.

### From Lafgaff: **MORE ACTUAL CHURCH BULLETIN ANOUNCEMENTS**

- Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Nelson's sermons
- Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person(s) you want remembered
- The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment



## *Getting to know.....Debra McGowan*



Debra will be a familiar face to the many people who walk through the churchyard as she is often to be found working in the memorial garden.

Debra was born in Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire in 1961, the second of three girls. Her Mum stayed at home to look after them whilst her Dad worked first as a painter and decorator, then as a Drayman for Benskins Brewery in Watford. Debra did not enjoy school, and as a teenager would often be found with her friend walking her neighbour's dog. Leaving school at 16, Debra started work at Debenhams on the shop floor, then in the stock room.

She then decided to go to Israel to work on a Kibbutz in the Golan Heights. Sadly, Debra contracted malaria and typhoid whilst out there, but fortunately had a return air ticket so was sent home immediately. The UK Doctor who diagnosed her illness said if she hadn't come home she would have died, as there was no treatment being given at the Kibbutz.

After a short while spent recovering, Debra went travelling in Canada. Whilst there her purse and all her money were stolen, but the kindness of a stranger enabled her to get a train to her friend in America. From this moment Debra has never been able to ignore people in need of help.

After several jobs, she trained as a bus driver in Watford. She obtained her PSV license and could often be found driving coaches up to London, or Luton, and all the local routes around the villages. Debra loved her time 'On the Buses' and it was during this time that she met her husband Ian (also a bus driver). They were married in All Saints Church, Kings Langley in 1989 on Cup Final day – none of the choir turned up!

They bought a house in Kings Langley, in Hertfordshire, but because of very high interest rates on mortgages (16%) they had to rent it out and move in with her parents (who lived in the same road) for a while. As interest rates reduced, they were able to move back into their own home and lived there for several years. However, they finally decided to move to a more affordable area, eventually settling in Clenchwarton where they have lived for 25 years. When they bought their lovely cottage in Black Horse Road it was in a bad state of repair, but with family help they made good all the problems within about 6 months. They only had a small front garden, so later purchased the adjoining field, and turned this into the beautiful garden that many people were able to visit as part of the Church's Open Gardens Day in 2023.

When Debra and Ian first moved up here, she initially worked in the Pork factory in Kings Lynn (the worst job she ever had!). Then eventually for the Royal Mail as a van driver, often doing the run to Peterborough. Debra remained in this job for about 10 years until early retirement because of ill health.

Debra's connection with the church was really through her mother's parents, who were devout Catholics. However, Debra was not christened as a baby because her mother was a Catholic and her father was C of E. They could not agree into which denomination Debra should be christened. When Debra discovered this in her late teens, she was so upset that it was arranged for her to be baptised in her grandparents' church. Debra started going to Kings Langley church, and when she moved to Clenchwarton she started attending this church. In 2019 she was elected Churchwarden (the most senior lay office in the church), working alongside the other Churchwarden.

Debra said she likes being a Churchwarden and always tries to do her best, but finds some of the procedures a little perplexing, such as having to obtain a faculty (permission) – a very long-winded process - to do almost anything to the building. She, with the help of the Parochial Church Council, set in motion the application and fund raising for a toilet and kitchen.

During the Covid 19 pandemic lockdown Debra found it very distressing that the church building had to be locked. She loved the inside of the church but felt that the outside was very plain. Because the weather was so good she decided to plant flowers around the church wall and create a large flower bed at the edge of the memorial garden. These are now very established and look lovely in the spring and summer and provide a beautiful back drop for wedding photos! Over the years the memorial garden has always been cut by volunteers, but eventually this stopped so Debra took on this task.

In 2017 Debra was asked by Father Andrew if she was interested in bell ringing and offered to teach her the basics. She enjoyed this so much she went to ring at Terrington church to learn with a team there. Thanks to Debra we are now blessed by visits from local bell ringers every month and from September they will be ringing here every other Tuesday.

By 2021 Debra had come to realise that there were a lot of potentially isolated people in the village and proposed starting a coffee morning on a weekly basis at church. This has grown from attendance of about 6 regulars to between 20 – 30. She has often collected people to enable them to attend the coffee morning. Some of the regulars now help from time to time. As a result of the coffee mornings, the church has become the village Warm Hub.

*Continued on page 33*



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# Puzzle Page

**This month schools restart from the summer holidays. So this month's questions are all about schools, though many of the schools are fictitious.**

**1 Which school did Billy Bunter go to?**

- a) Greyfriars School. b) Blackfriars School. c) Linbury Court Preparatory School d) Dotheboys Academy

**2 Who wrote about the school Malory Towers?**

- a) Josephine Pullein-Thompson b) Christine Pullein-Thompson c) Enid Blyton d) Jacqueline Wilson

**3 Who was the Headmaster at Dotheboys Academy?**

- a) Ebenezer Scrooge b) Wackford Squeers c) Sir Mulberry Hawk d) Uriah Heep

**4 Thomas Arnold was famous as the Headmaster of which school? a) Eton b) Harrow c) Charterhouse d) Rugby**

**5 Which Lynn school was originally in King Street?**

- a) The Technical College b) The Grammar School c) The High School d) The Ferry Academy

**6 Which Lynn school was originally in St James Street near St Margaret's Church?**

- a) The Technical College b) The Grammar School c) The High School d) The Hanseatic College

**7 Who attended Linbury Court Preparatory School**

- a) Billy Bunter b) Nicholas Nickleby c) Horatio Nelson d) Jennings and Darbyshire.

**8 Which school was founded by the financier of Edward VI, Mary and Elizabeth I who also founded the Royal Exchange in London**

- a) Eton b) Harrow c) Greshams d) Uppingham

**9 Eton College was founded by?**

- a) Henry V b) Henry VI c) Henry VII d) Henry VIII

**10 Who does Jennifer Honey teach?**

- a) Matilda b) Basil Bee c) Rupert the Bear d) Christopher Robin

Good Luck

*Answers on page 5*



*Getting to know.... Debra McGowan*      *continued from page 27*

The Head Teacher of our primary school occasionally asks Debra to attend school assembly and talk about a particular church related subject – harvest festival being the most popular, and she organises and leads the Christingle service in December. Debra also cleans the church on a regular basis, and a few years ago became involved in this magazine, organizing the distribution and controlling the advertising.

She has also been instrumental in fundraising for our church by means of the craft fair and other events.

Earlier this year Debra was successfully nominated for The Etheldreda Medal Award. This is awarded by the Bishop of Ely for persons whose service to community is both generous and outstanding. She will be presented with her medal at a special service in Ely Cathedral in October (more on this below). Debra said she was very surprised and felt very humbled by the nomination, feeling that she can only do what she does because of the support from others in the church, and that this is her time. Others in the past have done just as much in her opinion, but in Debra's own words: "I can never ignore anyone who needs help".

JT

## **The Church of England (Diocese of Ely)**

### **The Etheldreda Medal Award**

Etheldreda (Aethelthryth, Ediltrudis, Audrey - d.679), was a queen, foundress and abbess of Ely and has a significant part in the history of the Diocese of Ely.

Every other year, the Bishop of Ely awards The Etheldreda Medal to people across the Diocese whose service to the community (which might be as 'local' as their extended family, but could be as extensive as a national or international concern) is both 'generous' and 'outstanding'. The Bishop has stated that "For many people this will be about the duration and persistence of their good works, for others it may relate to a short but extraordinary act of kindness or course of conduct".

The service for this years presentation is on 26th October 2024 at 5.30pm at Ely Cathedral. This is a service that anyone can attend and I am sure Debra would love to see some of her many friends there to see her receive the award.



## *NATURE WATCH by Debra McGowan*

Our relationship with animals is an incredible one, if we are open to it. Not only do they bring us great love and joy as pets, but also they have worked alongside us since the beginning of time, and even today in modern conflicts they are with us. They are the hidden victims of war during human conflict; animals have been used as messengers, for detection, scouting and rescue, as beasts of burden and on the front line. They have been used as companionship in the trenches and continue to be subjected to warfare experiments in laboratories.

In 2004, a London monument was dedicated to the gallantry of animals in war. The script at its base reads: 'To all animals that served and died alongside British and Allied forces in wars and campaigns throughout time. They had no choice.'

One programme that had an effect on me was 'Rescue Dog to Super Dog'. In the programme two of the UK's leading dog trainers helped to find a companion for people with various disabilities. The dog trainers Jo-Rosie Haffenden and Nando Brown scoured the kennels of the Dogs Trust and Battersea Cats and Dogs home looking for suitable strays. They found a Boxer called Poppy to help Emily with a sleep disorder. A black Labrador called Parker helped Alan with his Tourette's, which sometimes left him hospitalised. Twelve year old Dom, who has muscular dystrophy, was paired with a beautiful Dalmatian called Daisy; whilst Enola, also 12, was matched with a toy poodle called Teddy. Paula, who has a faulty immune system and lives alone, was matched with a Staffie called Stanley. Ellie, who has cerebral palsy was matched with a rescue puppy called Zamba. There were many more episodes, but what was so amazing about the programme was that the trainers were able to help the dogs overcome their own problems as well as totally changing the lives of those that the dogs were matched with. What the programme also shows you, is that with patience and know how, any animal can be trained and even a wild animal can learn to trust.

In parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, people cooperate with a bird, the Greater Honeyguide, to find wild bees' nests. Once the nests are found the humans take the honey and leave the beeswax for these wax-eating birds. In Brazil and Myanmar, fishermen cooperate with local species of dolphin to increase the total catch for both species. Historically some American Indians would work with wolves to catch bison. There are many other examples of communities that work with animals and nature instead of against it.

My husband and I have a relationship with a hedgehog in our garden. She has been coming out very early in the evening, and knowing that under normal circumstances seeing a hedgehog out during the day is a sign that something is wrong, we have been closely monitoring her behaviour and health. After doing some more research we have learned that it is not uncommon for a mother hedgehog to leave her young during the daylight hours for a quick feed, before returning to them. She has now got into

the habit of coming for a feed at around 7pm. If she is in the garden I can call her over and she will literally feed from my hand. One evening when I was away my husband was outside; he came back indoors to find her in the kitchen helping herself to the cat food. She was content to stay after she had finished her meal, so he had to pick her up and place her outside. Having said that, please be aware that hedgehogs out during daylight hours is normally a sign that something is wrong. So if in any doubt please take it to the RSPCA at East Winch or contact any other animal rescue centre for advice. Thank you.

## **RACE NIGHT – ‘A RACE LIKE NO OTHER’.**

**21<sup>st</sup> September - 7pm**

**(doors open 6.30pm)**



So you think you know what a race night is like! Well - this one is different. No TV screen or films of races to watch. What we will have is two cardboard dogs – yes that’s right, and a pair of fluffy dice.

The ‘race track’ will be down the middle of the church, the race master will roll the die for one dog and move it accordingly, up the ‘track’, then do the same for the second dog, and so on until one of them reaches the end of the ‘track’. Naturally there will be several races in each half. All bets will be placed before the ‘race’ begins, and at the end the winnings are given out, the odds having been carefully worked out, with some of the money being kept for the church – this is after all a fundraising event. Expect there to be lots of laughter and shouts of encouragement for your dog.

Entry tickets (on the door) are £5 per person and bets will be 50p each. Tea and coffee will be available but if you would prefer wine or beer please bring your own. Don’t forget to bring lots of cash. Enjoy!

Contact Julian on 07584 048063 for further details.

*From Ray Thornalley*

Grateful thanks to Paul Woods for supplying the labour for the church driveway and car park.

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### Psychic Supper November 2nd

The next Psychic Supper is in the Memorial Hall on November 2nd 2024. Tickets are £20 each and can be booked on 07738 914248. You get a 15 minute readership reading and a jacket potato with a selection of fillings. There is a raffle at the end. Also, there is a new venture called Experience the Existential which is a spiritual evening starting July 25th at 7.30pm at St Clements High School, the hall in the school grounds where a medium gives messages to the room. It's £4 entry with a free raffle ticket. It will run every other Thursday for the rest of the year.



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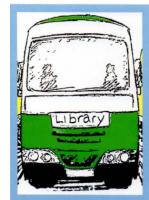
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CLENCHWARTON	ROOKERY CLOSE	10:20	10:35	PE34 4EH
CLENCHWARTON	RECTORY DRIVE	10:40	10:50	PE34 4ED
CLENCHWARTON	ST ANNES CRESCENT	10:55	11:10	PE34 4AX
CLENCHWARTON	LINFORD ESTATE [1]	11:15	11:30	PE34 4AY
CLENCHWARTON	HALL ROAD nr Juntion Robin Kerkham Way	11:35	11:50	PE34 4AS
CLENCHWARTON	BLACK HORSE ROAD	13:00	13:20	PE34 4AB
CLENCHWARTON	WILDFIELDS CLOSE	13:25	13:45	PE34 4AE
CLENCHWARTON	36 STATION ROAD	13:50	14:10	PE34 4DG
WEST LYNN	ST PETERS ROAD [1]	14:25	14:45	PE34 3LG
WEST LYNN	ST PETERS CLOSE/CEDAR WAY	14:50	15:10	PE34 3JX
WEST LYNN	19 FERRY ROAD	15:15	15:40	PE34 3NB
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13th December 2024



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It is also the chance to have a sneak peek at buildings not normally open to the public, including a very popular World War II Air Raid Shelter underneath Tuesday Market Place. There is also a veteran bus arranged each year, free for everyone to use on the day. So, if you feel that some places are a bit far to get to on foot, simply hop on the bus.

The full-colour printed programme for 2024's day of events will be made available for collection from the Tourist Information Centre opposite the Minster.



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LITTLE BY LITTLE THE CHURCHYARD IS BEGINNING TO LOOK CARED FOR AGAIN



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