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The Churches of Lilleshall and Muxton











Wrekin Creative Textiles Group at St John's Church

We meet 7.45pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month (except December)

24th April 2024
Travels with Textiles

For details contact wrekinsecretary@gmail.com



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PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Last month I visited South Africa as part of a small group visiting our link diocese, the Diocese of Matlosane. Being a link diocese means that we are twinned with them; enjoying an on-going relationship to enable mutual flourishing by the sharing of good practice, ideas, sharing of resources, and partnering to develop mission & ministry across the worldwide Church. Each diocese arranges visits to the other to experience something of local church life as well as enjoying local cultural things.

Although our trip was short we managed to fit quite a bit in. Bishop Steve Diseko (Diocesan Bishop of Matlosane) met us at the airport and drove us from place to place. It was a real joy and blessing to see the landscape of South Africa and we even managed to go on a safari where we saw lots of animals including an elephant that walked right past our truck - what an awesome sight that was. We also visited different churches: Rob Trautmann (a local lay minister) showed us around St Mary's Church in Potchefstroom, and I assisted Bishop Sarah (our Area Bishop of Shrewsbury) who took a communion service in the Cathedral, in Ikageng (part of Klerksdorp) - it was a very warm evening and worship was joyful and spirited with dancing and drums.

We also had chance to meet with clergy across the diocese and hear about what life is like for them and their parishes – they too are facing similar challenges and issues following the Covid pandemic (financial problems and declining church attendance) but there is also a growth in pastoral encounters and missional projects supporting those most in need (e.g. Widow support group, children's crèche's etc.).

Whilst there was much to celebrate and give thanks for on this trip, we also saw things that were difficult to see such as the Potchefstroom Concentration Camp Memorial and Cemetery (erected in memory of the 1141 men women and children who died in a one of the British Concentration Camp's during the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902) and the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg.

It was hard to be reminded of the reality and brutality of humanity and given the things that are happening at the moment, I found myself wondering if there is any hope for a better future. In a time of great uncertainty as we seek security and assurance, it is easy to get caught up by the false promises of extreme groups and powerful people, to try and solve our problems. I think this quote speaks to the heart of the matter ... "The line between good and evil runs not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either — but right through every human heart." (Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn)

But as I travelled between these living reminders of a troubled past, I was doing so with the hope for a better future, something that underpins the story of Easter. We have just celebrated Easter, another historical event where people acting out of fear and anxiety release a murderer and condemn an innocent man - whose only crime was to preach about the Kingdom of God, one that is founded on love, tolerance, and freedom. We need to be open to hear Jesus's message today because in the midst of trouble, we can find the only real hope that is found in knowing Jesus and a future that is transformed and shaped by love, not hatred. The key message of Easter is hope - faith in the future, and a new beginning. Jesus says "I have come that they [you] may have life, and have it to the full".

As we move into the season of Spring with new life and growth, I wonder what new possibilities there are for us to embrace the hope we can have in Jesus. If you are curious about what this might mean, why not come along to one of our church activities or services and see for yourself.

3

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS', LILLESHALL SERVICES IN APRIL

_		9.30am Time unless otherwise stated	
	4 April	12noon Worship, Lunch & Music	
	7 April	Holy Communion + Baptism	
	14 Apr	9.30am Annual Parochial Church Meeting 6.30pm Holy Communion (BCP)	
	21 Apr	Holy Communion	
	28 Apr	9.30am Morning Worship 6.30pm Holy Communion (CW)	



ST MICHAEL'S would like to **thank** the Gallery Singers for a wonderful performance at the beginning of March and to thank them for donating £500 from over half of the ticket sales.

St John's, Muxton - Services in APRIL

11.00am

(unless otherwise indicated)

7 Apr	Morning Worship
14 Apr	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
21 Apr	Morning Worship
28 Apr	Holy Communion

Our services are also livestreamed over YouTube...St John's Muxton https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB6N81vubkdzSYD7rCPFw5Q





St John's Lunchclub

...meets in April on...

Friday 5th at 12noon

at a cost of £5 (2courses)

Telford Crisis Support

Telford Crisis Support

Suite 1c Radford House Stafford Park 7 Telford

TF3 3BQ

Tel: 01952 586646

E: <u>admin@telfordcrisissupport.org.uk</u>
W: <u>www.telfordcrisissupport.org.uk</u>

Stafford Park hub is open between 10am - 4pm Mon to Fri. See their website for a list of food and non food items needed.





Are you in need of another adult's company and conversation? Is your child in need of another child's company and conversation? If so, come along to St John's Tiny Tots, St John's Church in Muxton.

We meet Tuesday mornings 10am during term time and we extend a warm welcome to all children under school age and their parents or carers. Cost is from £3 per family with up to 2 children (a small extra charge for additional children).

Youth Café at St John's Church, Muxton

Calling all young people in Yrs 7-13.... come and join us EVERY Friday (term time only)

New time of.... 4.30pm - 6.30pm

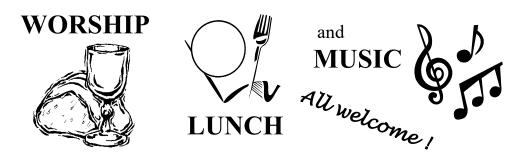
Games Consoles, tuck shop, pool/snooker, table football and more....







Calling all walkers! We meet at St John's 10am on Wednesdays for a gentle, local walk of around an hour. All are welcome. Please contact 670033 for further information.



St Michael's Church, Lilleshall at 12noon

At St Michael's Church, Lilleshall there is a service of Holy Communion at noon followed by a lunch and a short recital on the first Thursday of each month and weekly during Lent.

Our Worship Lunch and Music in April continues on

4th - Christine Hollies (Soprano)

There is no cost for lunch, but a donation is invited.



The Knit & Natter group meet at St John's Church on Tuesdays 2pm-4pm. We not only do our crafts, including quilting, felting, knitting, crochet etc plus our special quality of 'chatting'. We have made scarves, hats/gloves,

premature baby clothes for PRH. Blankets for Dementia

patients and care home residents.

You are welcome to join us

Call for more info 07948 094272 or you can
leave a message at the church office 01952 670033.

St John's Summer Fayre & Dog Festival

2pm—5pm on 6th July 2024 St John's Church, Muxton

Food Live Entertainment
TealCoffeelCakes

Children's Activities

Dog Show and
Pet Stalls

Pet Stalls

For details on booking a stall, please contact: admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk
For Dog Show details—see separate poster



Forget Me Not Films

Come and join us usually on the 3rd Thursday of each month to watch a classic film and enjoy tea and cake.

All welcome!

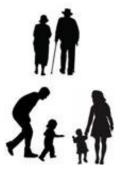
Where? St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton When From 9.15am to 12noon (film starts at 9.30am) Cost? Free!

For more information contact Jo Lefroy on 01952 604281

Next Film: Annie get your gun! On Thursday 18th April



Join us 4 a Cuppa!







on Friday 19th April 11am-1pm



Tea/Coffee and Cake

at St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton







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CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

Wild Daffodils

At this time of year, the yellow trumpets of daffodils brighten up even the dullest spring day. Most of what we see are planted garden varieties, but a real treat is to find wild daffodils (Narcissus pseudonarcissus).



Once widespread, the wild daffodil is now much rarer, having mysteriously declined during the 19th century. It now has a disjointed distribution, for instance it is found mainly in south Devon, pockets of the Black Mountains in Wales, stretches of the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border country, the Sussex Weald, Farndale in Yorkshire and the Lake District. Elsewhere, even in suitable habitat, it only occurs in small patches miles apart. For example, in churchyards.

The wild daffodil's status as a popular flower was particularly celebrated around Newent, Dymock and Ledbury on the Gloucestershire-Herefordshire border which acquired the nickname of 'The Golden Triangle.' In the 1930s the Great Western Railway ran 'Daffodil Specials', from London for weekend tourists to walk amongst the 'golden tides' and to buy fresh bunches at garden gates. Farmers and orchard owners used to have them as a cash-crop, harvested on a 'Pick Your Own' basis. At the end of April, the meadows went back to their function of growing hay or fruit.

A 1930's guide to a village in the Golden Triangle wrote: They are picked by the local women and children and were sold to an agent, who sends them to South Wales, where they find a ready sale for Mothering Sunday and also for Palm Sunday, for many places the old (Welsh) custom of 'flowering the graves' on that day still persists. The daffodils are also sent to northern industrial towns. Info from Flora Britannica by Richard Mabey

How to spot a wild daffodil - The wild daffodil is smaller than horticultural varieties, with paler petals and a deeper yellow trumpet-like tube. The leaves are grey/green, flattened and around 15mm wide. It is relatively short (30-35cm) and forms clumps which carpet the ground. A top tip is that unless there are several hundreds of them looking particularly small and washed out, they probably aren't wild!

Please help us to map the churchyards containing wild daffodils by taking a photo on the iNaturalist app and posting it on our Beautiful Burial Grounds project.

All the best, Harriet

<u>Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor</u>, <u>harriet@cfga.org.uk</u>,

<u>www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk</u> - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**

CALLING ALL LADIES!! RENEW YOUR MIND, Saturday April 13th 11am-3pm



Booking is essential to ensure a place. Please contact St John's office on 01952 670033 or email admin@stjohnsmuxton.org.uk
There is no charge for the event but there will be opportunity to make a donation on the day.

Following the success of our recent Ladies Day we have been asked to repeat the experience, allowing us to relax, explore and listen to music in the company of old and new friends - and of course enjoy a delicious lunch! There will also be options to take part in workshops and craft activities, as well as a Pilates demonstration.

Mindfulness and its effect on our wellbeing is a hot topic these days so we are planning to explore it in a new way, which is why we are calling the event **RENEW YOUR MIND.** Ellie Cheetham Wilkinson, Curate of All Saints Church, Wellington, is coming along to share her story with us. Our hope is that the day will refresh and open new doors for us as individuals and as a community.





6th July 2024 – St John's Church, Muxton.

2pm Registration and Payment for 3pm Start.

Enter your Fur Bables and help to raise money for the

Lilleshall Bell Restoration



£3.00 per category or 4 categories for £10:00 Entry Forms available on the day

Important: We welcome well behaved dogs. Owners of badly behaved dogs will be politely requested to leave the venue. St John's Insurance does not cover dog bites or any other injury caused by the dogs, it is the owners responsibility. Entry at owners risk. Young Handlers must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



Are you hard of hearing?....



Come along and join us at the

Telford and Wrekin Hard of Hearing Group

at

Donnington Methodist Church

Last Wednesday of the month 10.30am-12noon

Just turn up or for more information contact Kath on 07986 490027
(TEXT only)

'Save the Date' Activity Days 2024

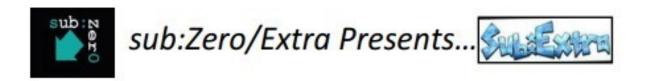


For young people from Reception to Year 6

Join us this summer for games, crafts and lots of fun at St John's Church, Saltwells Drive, Muxton

Tuesday 23rd to Thursday 25th July 2024

Further details and booking form coming soon www.stjohnsmuxton.org.uk



THE GREAT YOUTH BAKE-OFF!

Friday 12 April 2024 4:30pm – 6:00pm at St John's Church

Here is a chance to show your skills!

This is a community event for
young people Years 7-13

4:30pm-5:00pm – Entries will be received 5:00pm-5:45pm – Judge tasting 5:45pm-6:00pm – Award Ceremony

Prizes for different award categories including Rev's favourite!!

Please bring fully baked items ready to be tasted our Judges and include the name of the item and ingredients.

Matthew 5:14-17 - You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

What's on at St John's Church & Community Centre 01952 670033					
Monday	Slimming Wo	orld - 2 x sessions			
Tuesday	Tiny Tots - 10am Term Time only	Knit & Natter 2-4pm	Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers Term Time Only		
Wednesday	Aerobics over '50s' 11am	In Stitches 3rd Wednesday 2-4pm	Community Choir 5.30-6.30pm weekly		
	Muxton Ladies 1st Wednesday 7.45pm	'A Novel Idea' Book club 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm	Wrekin Textile Group 4th Wednesday 7.30pm		
Thursday	Forget me Not Film (Monthly) - from 9.15am	Various housegroups throughout the day	Beacon - 7.30pm (Mid Week Church)		
Friday	Lunchclub -12noon (over 50's) 1st Friday of most months	Join us 4 a Cuppa! Monthly 11am-1pm (usually 3rd Friday)	Youth Café Sub:Zero 4.30-6.30pm Yr 7-13 Term time on a Friday		
Saturday	Tuition 9am-10.30am	Available for Hire			
Sunday	Church Services	Limited Availability for Parties/Functions			

What's on at St Michael's Church, Lilleshall 01952 670033					
Tuesday	Bell ringing - Weekly 7pm				
Wednesday	The Coffee Lounge 9.30am-4.30pm	Bell ringing for beginners Weekly 7pm	Choir Practice Weekly 7pm		
Thursday	Worship, Lunch & Music 1st Thursday of most months at 12noon and Weekly during Lent				
Sunday		Church Services			



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LILLESHALL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Tuesday 16th April

Competition: Memorabilia from Home front



The Women's Land Army By Emma Spenser

Meetings are held in Lilleshall Memorial Hall At 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month

MUXTON LADIES' CLUB

Wednesday 3rd April



By Jenny Lack

Meetings are held at St John's Muxton at **7.45 pm** on the first Wednesday of the month

ROTAS FOR APRIL

ST MICHAEL'S

	Sidespersons		Coffee	
	9.30am	6.30pm	9.30am	
7 Apr 14 Apr	John & Diane	Jean M	Dave & Sue	
21 Apr 28 Apr	Cedric Harry & Katrina	Fran	Dave & June	

	Brass Cleaning	Holy Dusters	Flowers
3 Apr			
14 Apr		Janette & Sue	June
28 Apr		Geoff & Sue	Naomi
Apr	June		

ST JOHN'S

	Sidesperson	Coffee	Communion
7 Apr	Mel	Julie H & Mel	
14 Apr	Geoff & Mary	Jo & Di	Gill & Jo
21 Apr	Simon & Lesley	Simon & Lesley	
28 Apr	Terry & Jan	Terry & Jan	Moira & Jan

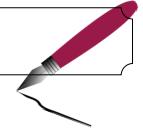
Flowers

7 Apr Susan G 21 Apr Heather

Church Office Hours

Monday 9am - 3pm Tuesday 8.30am - 12noon Friday 9am - 3pm 01952 670033

FROM THE REGISTERS



WEDDING

23 Mar Service at St Michael & All Angels' Church, Lilleshall Stephen Anthony COOPER and Eleanor Louise MANDERS of Church Road, Lilleshall

We congratulate Steve & Ellie as they begin married life! We pray that they will experience the presence of Christ holding them together in love and faithfulness now and in the future.

FUNERALS

9 Mar at Telford Crematorium
Ian Malcolm CRANE (81) of Greengage Way, Muxton

In their sadness, may those who have lost loved ones know the peace of Christ upholding them at this time. We extend our sympathy and prayers to those who have recently been bereaved.







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TABLATURE







WHO'S WHO

Vicar: Curate:	Matthew Lefroy Vikki Day	25 Church Road	604281 764568
Ordained Local Minister:	Jane Evans	Collett Way	291340
Readers:	David Pierce	Burlington Farm	850231
	Robyn Evans	Collett Way	291340
	Heiko Capper	The Stables	677780
	Paula Capper	The Stables	677780
	Jon Rawson	Woodspring Grove	605400
Evangelism Minister:	Jan Stackhouse	Muxton Lane	604775
Church Administrator:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
Baptism Coordinator:	C/0	St John's Office	670033
Office e-mail address: Web Site address:		min@stjohnsmuxto vww.stjohnsmuxto	_

ST MICHAEL'S, LILLESHALL

Churchwarden:	Frances Taylor	Gower Close	604718
Assistant Wardens:	John Morris and Dav	vid Lawrence	
PCC Secretary:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Treasurer:	Cedric Ayres	Willmoor Lane	606053
Gift Aid:	Stuart & Chris Ruthe	erford Pine View	604330
Pastoral Coordinator:	Angie Vann		606008
Organist:	Ann Jones	07866	5 142096
Bell Ringing Leader:	Matthew Lawrence		228795
Web Site address	www.s	stmichaelslilleshall	.org.uk
Office e-mail address	admin@	stmichaelslilleshall	l.org.uk

ST JOHN'S, MUXTON

Churchwarden:	Andrew Hambler	Coniston Drive	200351
	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Secretary:	Lesley Trotman	St John's Office	670033
PCC Treasurer:	Simon Hartridge	Wellington Road	670033
Gift Aid:	Please ring Church Office		
Pastoral Coordinator:	Julie Shelley	Roe Deer Drive	07974 625977
Music Leader:	Nigel West	Muxton Lane	606804

CHURCH & VILLAGE HALLS

The James Memorial Hall, Lilleshall:

Manager (Hall Hire):Chris Bird 01952 929852 or 07776156575Caretaker:Paul Davies 01952 273480 or 07896488958

St John's Church, Muxton: Administrator & Building Manager 670033

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LILLESHALL RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY

(Registered Charity No. 216246)

The Lilleshall Relief in Need Charity is able to give small grants to people who live in the ecclesiastical parishes of Lilleshall, Muxton and Donnington who are encountering financial difficulties. It usually makes modest one-off payments to help with specific expenses or arrears. Applicants need to complete an application form which includes details of income & expenditure. All information is treated with the strictest of confidence. If you think Relief in Need can help you please contact St John's Church Office 670033.

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