

# St John's Church

*serving Stanborough, Lemsford, Cromer Hyde*

See page 9

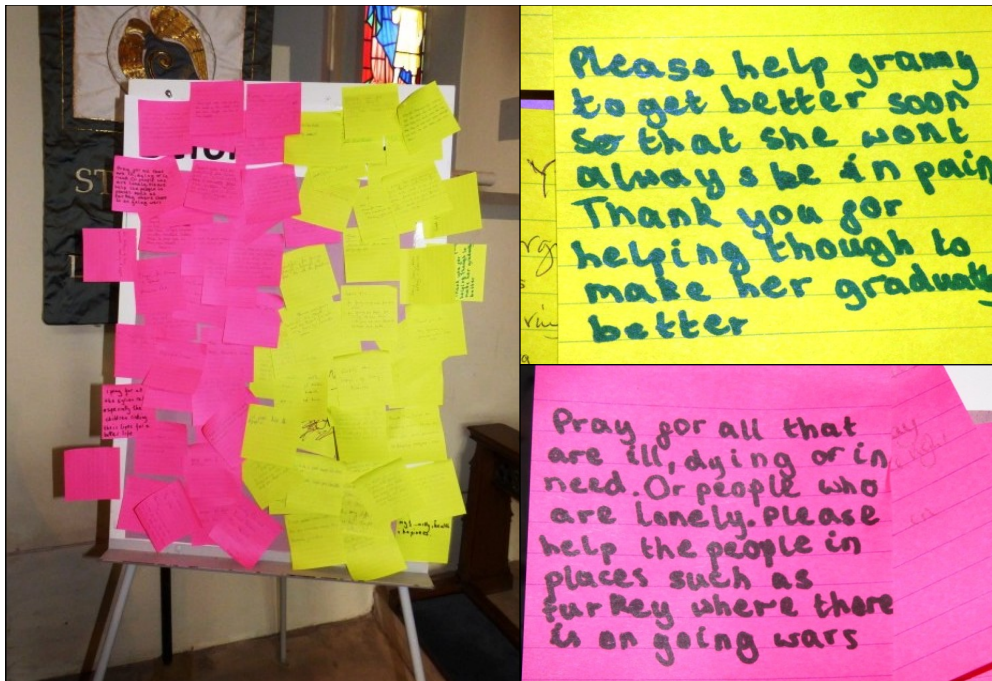


## Parish Magazine

August/September 2016    £1



*Top :The Lemsford Over 60s Group visited Ely on May 24th, and enjoyed the view from the Cathedral Lantern. Below: At a Service on 11th June we offered up our prayers and thanks.  
Pictures by June Copping*



## August 2016

### **Sunday 7th            Trinity 11**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Family Service

### **Tuesday 9th 2.30 pm    Friendship Tea**

### **Sunday 14th            Trinity 12**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

### **Sunday 21st            Trinity 13**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Morning Prayer led by Paul Seymour

### **Sunday 28th            Trinity 14**

8am BCP Holy Communion led by Sue Stilwell

11am Holy Communion led by Edward Cardale

*\*\*\* NO Morning Prayer 10 am Wednesdays in August \*\*\*\*\**

*The Vicar's day off is Friday each week*

### **Readings (preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)**

7th Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

14th Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

21st Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

28th Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

**Coffee after 11am Services.**

**Sunday 4th      Trinity 15**

8am    BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Family Service

**Sunday 11th      Trinity 16**

8am    BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

**Tuesday 13th 2.30 pm      Friendship Tea****Sunday 18th      Trinity 17**

8am    BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11am Morning Prayer led by Paul Seymour

**Sunday 25th      Trinity 18**

8am    BCP Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

11 am Holy Communion led by Paul Seymour

*\*\*\* Morning Prayer 10 am every Wednesday \*\*\*\*\***The Vicar's day off is Friday each week***Readings** (preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)

4th    Philemon 1-21    Luke 14:25-33

11th    1 Timothy 1:12-17    Luke 15:1-10

18th    1 Timothy 2:1-7    Luke 16:1-13

25th    1 Timothy 6:6-19    Luke 16:19-31

**Coffee after 11am Services. Sunday Club at 11am save Family Service**

Well things continue to move apace, and we now feel a lot more settled in and have got most things we actually need out of boxes. The loft space is now somewhat fuller of things we might need in the future or hadn't unpacked after the last move.



Cate and I are finding that getting to know everyone in both parishes is a wonderful experience, there are so many lovely people. We feel so welcome and already at home in Hatfield, Spike is also enjoying finding new places to walk, chase his ball and sniff the air. Splodge our cat on the other hand whilst enjoying the field opposite the house has not enjoyed having a number of her teeth removed.

Since I last wrote the world around us seems to have undergone a seismic shift: -

First we had the Brexit debates “should we stay or should we go”, with all the anger and anxiety that produced.

Then the vote to leave Europe itself.

Then the police reporting significant rise in racist attacks and incidents.

Then the prime minister resigns and a new one is chosen.

Meantime the Labour party has turned on itself.

Making a joke that was doing the rounds on social media rather true; “we must hope that no aliens land and ask to be taken to our leader”.

Whilst we may all have strong feelings my only plea is that we all work together. In Galatians 5 and verses 22-23 we find these words: -

*“the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”*

I find myself praying these words daily, my deep hope is that the new government can find ways of moving us forward and offering justice for all.

*Continued overleaf*

## Vicar's Message continued

Turning from the lofty considerations above, its good to think of our own situation, where our relationships with our school are good and it's a great joy to see the whole school in the church each Wednesday. It is an amazing chance to share God's love with each child and adult in the school. I am helped greatly in this by John Barnard who leads every other school service, so a big thanks to John for his ongoing support!

You will by now have noticed that we have swapped the All Age service from the third to the first Sunday, the main reason for this is it far easier to remember the Sunday after pay day than one somewhere in the middle of the month.

The Sunday Holy Communion books are getting a little tatty and the number is now rather low, so in the next few weeks and months we will introduce some new ones. These I hope will give us a few new options whilst remaining absolutely true to our traditional worship. At the same time, we will introduce some new baptism booklets. These will include all the prayers and in particular the Lord's Prayer as I find that most families no longer know it.

To end on a rather more upbeat note, I hope everyone has a great summer break and we are blessed with some sunshine!  
God Bless you all. **Paul**

*Donald Turner wrote to Barbara Taylor following the Brocket Babies Memorial Service on 9<sup>th</sup> April: As a Brocket Baby it was a great privilege to attend the deeply moving Dedication service. An especially poignant moment came when I was handed the immaculately prepared lists naming the 62 known infant maternity deaths at Brocket Hall, recording the mere minutes, hours or days of their life on earth. It made painful reading. It fell to me to place those precious names upon the altar. I truly felt as though I held those 62 precarious infant lives in my hands for those few silent seconds – one of the most emotional moments of my own life. The church was adorned with the most beautiful floral displays and the service conducted with great sensitivity. All those people from St. John's church, Brocket Hall and the Local History Group who took part made the occasion perfect, a truly momentous event in Lemsford life.*

**Baptisms**

On 12th June, **Nancy Ormston** and **Arthur Quinn**; on 19th June **Mia Stevenson**. We welcome them to the Church Family.

**New Archdeacon**

The Revd Janet Mackenzie will be collated as Archdeacon of Hertford on Tuesday, at 7:30pm 6th September, at St Andrew and St George’s Church, Stevenage. All are welcome.  
*Ed: Collated is a CofE word meaning to be sworn in—she is not being sorted and filed*

**New Team Rector**

**Darren Collins** who has been appointed to succeed **Richard Pyke**, is being Licenced at St Eths on **Tuesday September 27th**.



Again, all are welcome.

**Barbara Taylor writes**

“The **Rev Ron Ingamells** (vicar of Lemsford 1979-2002) led his farewell service at Buckden Parish Church on 10<sup>th</sup> July before he moved to Norfolk. The moving and beautiful service had a typically celtic theme and involved many people, including

three other clergy. Those who worshipped at Lemsford in ‘Ron’s day’ will remember the poem ‘Be gentle when you touch bread’ which I always find helps to prepare me for Holy Communion in a deep and freeing way.

The previous evening the Fairhaven singers gave a concert in the packed Chapel of Queens College Cambridge. Ron had commissioned Ralph Woodward their musical director to compose a choral setting to a John Clare poem which Ralph entitled ‘Summer Happiness’.

Dedicated to Ron’s wife **Janet** ‘in memory of her love of music’ the choir’s rich singing filled the chapel with its excellent acoustics: a truly memorable and poignant event.

**Mary de Soyres** and I were privileged to represent Lemsford on both days.”

**Edward Cardale**

Talking of past Vicars, Paul has asked Edward to officiate at the 11 am Service on Sunday 28th August.

**Bishop comes to the Sun Inn**

Read all about it on next page

**Parish Magazine** copy date for the next issue: **18th September**



**Welwyn Hatfield Deanery Day on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>  
With Bishop Richard of Bedford.**

No sign up or register, just come along to those things relevant and interesting to you – and encourage others to do the same.

We are using **Philippians 2:1-4** as a focus for our day, picking out five words from that passage:

- 11am *Encouragement*. Bishop Richard to visit St Mary's Primary School North Mymms (AL9 7NE)
- 12.30 *Sharing*. Lunch for Deanery Chapter at St Michael's Hatfield (AL10 0PS). All readers and clergy welcome. Lunch provided free of charge.
- 2.15pm *Consolation*. A meeting at Panshanger (AL7 2EJ) church for *anyone* lay or ordained involved in the ministry of consolation
- 4pm *Compassion*. Out & about in Welwyn Garden City with Bishop Richard. Meet outside Howard Centre
- 6pm A pint with the Bish. All welcome to the 'Sun Inn' Lemsford. AL8 7TN.
- From 7pm. *Joy*. St Mary's Welwyn (AL6 9LX). Come and join us for bring and share food. **Bishop Richard celebrating and preaching at the Eucharist at 8.30pm.** 'Come and sing' deanery choir – simply turn up at 8pm

- 

Further details from [rector@welwyn.org.uk](mailto:rector@welwyn.org.uk) 01438 714150



This year the sponsored "**Bike 'n Hike**" for the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust takes place on **Saturday 10th September**. This is the Silver Jubilee year for the Bike 'n Hike and so the charity is keen to ensure as much participation as possible from churches. Half of the money raised goes to the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust, and half comes back to St John's. If you are interested in taking part as either a cyclist or walker please contact Lucy or Kevin Earl on 01707 390497, or at [kevinearl670@btinternet.com](mailto:kevinearl670@btinternet.com) for more details and to collect a sponsor form. It is a fun day, and you really don't need to be super-fit to take part!

### **In Aid of Isabel Hospice**

#### **Sunday 25 September Bridges of London Walk**

8.30am – 5.30pm Battersea Park, London, SW11 4NJ, England

An 11 mile scenic walk over the 12 famous bridges of London.

Take part in our brand new *Bridges of London* walk starting at Battersea Park and finishing at Tower Bridge. We will organise coach travel from Sir Frederic Osborn School in Welwyn Garden City.

There will be time to stop for a leisurely lunch and take in the wonderful landmarks and sights making this the perfect event to take part in with family and friends. We are asking if participants can raise £50 in sponsorship funds so you can help us provide specialist end of life care to patients with life limiting illnesses.

Sign up at [www.isabelhospice.org.uk](http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk) or call 01707 382500.

**Event Sponsor** Thank you to **Ramblers Worldwide Holidays**

On Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 17 bellringers from Wheathampstead, Lemsford, Sandridge, Hatfield and Kimpton had a day out in London, visiting Church towers and Whitechapel Bell foundry.



We met outside St Magnus the Martyr tower which squeezed in 12 bells. Several of the group had never rung on 12 bells so this was an exciting opportunity.

After lunch, it was on to St James Garlickhythe. These modern bells had been first installed in a barge and a peal rung whilst it was floating down the Thames during the river pageant for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012. What a privilege to ring the 8 Jubilee bells – they were so easy to ring and sounded wonderful. The time went too quickly – everyone commented on how they wished there was more time to enjoy these lovely bells!

The third tower was St George-in-the-East. The Eight bells were also easy to ring and again we rang rounds and call changes as well as several methods so a variety to give everyone the chance to have a good amount of ringing across the span of abilities.

After a brisk walk to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry we enjoyed a guided tour of nearly 2 hours. It was fascinating, and we were lucky to see bells of all shapes and sizes, church bells, handbells, ships' bells etc in various stages of production and repair. In the shop, some of the ladies were tempted by the lovely bell earrings and bell-shaped cookie cutters, but the bathroom light pull replica of a rope complete with sally was just a bit too much!

After all the excitement, most of us then piled into the Hung Drawn and Quartered pub on Tower Hill for a good pint of beer and a pie and lovely views of the sun going down over The Tower of London.

It was a long day, but very successful and enjoyable and one we shall remember for a long time to come.

*Ed: There is a lot of interesting material about St John's Bells, and Whitechapel, on the Lemsford Local History Group's website.*

Those of you who have wandered around the church grounds this spring will have noticed a change in the way we are maintaining the grounds. We have done this to encourage the flora and fauna and bring a little more colour to the church grounds.



We are cutting the lawn to the front of the church and the Garden of Remembrance as normal and keeping it short. Whilst for the rear lawn we have limited the amount of short grass to a swathe alongside the footpath and creating paths of short grass between each of the rows of grave.

The rest of the lawn is being left to grow and has already shown some lovely displays of wild flowers, which should now encourage more insects and birds back into the grounds. Addition wildflower seeds have also been sown in the grass alongside the hedge line with the primary school, which may not blossom this year, but should hopefully mature ready for next year.

Adding to the more formal front of church area the flower beds and bushes are being given some healthy trims and TLC.

Hopefully everyone will enjoy this change, but any comments you have will be most welcome.

*Ed: See the photo on the front cover to appreciate Paul's work; and page 15 for an alternative view of the British way with lawns.*

### PLEASE ADOPT A BENCH

In our church grounds we have 5 benches which need an annual face lift with wood preservative. If we provide the wood preservative are you able to provide the brushes and man or woman power to adopt a bench? The work needs to be completed by the end of September. Contact Jackie on 01438715868 or [jackie.brian2012@btinternet.com](mailto:jackie.brian2012@btinternet.com).

We are just approaching the last week of term as I write this report for the Parish Magazine and yet there is still so much happening! We have had such a busy and successful summer term at St John's with the action continuing right to the end!



Our Class 4 pupils had a very enjoyable PGL residential trip to Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire and challenged themselves on their outdoor activity skills for the week. Much fun was had and the centre remarked on how fantastically well-behaved they were.

Classes 1 & 2 had a wonderful day out at Whipsnade Zoo, made possible by so many willing parents able to help out on the day. They had great weather and were all thoroughly exhausted when they returned to school the next day but still managed to produce some lovely follow-up work!

We celebrated the Queen's official 90th birthday with a school street party for parents and children and were blessed with a beautifully sunny afternoon. We had a lovely birthday cake



and sang Happy Birthday (again!) to our Queen.

Sports Day was, as usual, an exciting and hard fought contest between the houses – Brocket, Cowper, Melbourne and Palmerston – with the winning team being Cowper this year. Well done to them! We always start the afternoon with gentler (but still competitive) activities, with all the children in small house teams working together, followed by the traditional flat races afterwards.

We managed to complete the afternoon despite a little rain at the beginning and would like to say a big thank you to the Young Sport Leaders from Stanborough who came and did a fantastic job of helping us out with the event, not least spotting the winners as they sped past the tape!

**O**n Friday 24th June St John's put on a superb Art Show, turning the school hall into a gallery and displaying art from every child in the school, beautifully mounted by a team of LSA members. Class 4 children acted as curators and hosts, ensuring all guests were offered drinks and nibbles, and parents and children were able to view all the exhibits and the work in the children's sketch books which led to their final piece. Some of our children offered to play their instruments, providing beautiful background music to the event. A wonderful evening celebrating the Arts!

Just to add to that super experience, the junior children are in the final throes of preparing for the school production of the 'Lion King'. They have been making and painting scenery and costumes and have worked hard at their parts, their singing and dancing, ready to perform early in the last week of term. We are putting on a special performance this year for elderly residents from Quantum Care homes, and staff representatives from that organisation have been in to St John's to help our older children learn a little more about dementia and how that may affect their elderly friends and relatives. We hope very much to keep this special relationship developing to the mutual benefit of all.

**F**inally we will be saying a very fond farewell to our Year 6 children –all of whom are well prepared and ready to move on to secondary school.....I feel a very close attachment to this group as they started in Reception as I started as Head nearly 7 years ago. It has been delightful watching them grow and flourish, and I know they will continue to do so as they move confidently through their new schools. Good luck to them all!

**Mandy Evans**

The Group's first meeting of the 2016/17 season will be announced on our website in the next few weeks.



With school holidays upon us, why not make the most of the longer days of summer with a walk and a picnic around Lemsford? The Treasure Hunt which we produced in 2015 is still available on our website -

[www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk/TH2015.html](http://www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk/TH2015.html). It takes the form of a quiz and a map based on the parish of Lemsford.

If you want to walk around the parish and have lunch in a **local inn or pub** here are a few historical details which you might find of interest.

**The Sun Inn** First mentioned in 1717, when disorderly customers led to Ann Gilbert and her son John being forbidden to use the house as an ale-house as they were not licensed to do so. From about the mid-1700s The "Rising Sun" as it was known, was a hostelry and for some time also the village butchers shop. From about 1780 to 1850 it was the family home of the Clark and then the Allen families (By 1855 it had been acquired by the Hatfield brewery and the landlord was John Males who was also the village wheelwright.

In 1882 Thomas Halsey was the publican and lived there with his wife Hannah and three children, together with Noah Wallis, a farm labourer and his wife Emily (nee Halsey) with their two children. They kept cows in the adjoining field and milk could be purchased at the back door of the pub from Emily. The pub was sold in 1920. In the 1970s, after the Office of Fair Trading decreed that "no one brewery should have a monopoly of trade in any one area", Benskins which had a monopoly in the Hatfield area were obliged to release 'The Sun' to Ind Coope.

**The Long Arm & The Short Arm** This building was originally a cottage and blacksmith's shop and dates from 1734. The name 'The Long Arm and The Short Arm' could refer to different lengths of the two roads leading out of the village either side of the pub up to the Great North Road. In 1853 the buildings were described in an auction catalogue as 'a brick built and tiled beer house, baker and grocers shop, bake house and premises'.

It is thought that 'the unobtrusive little beer house' was first licensed as a public house in 1875 by Elizabeth Lattimore of Wheathampstead. McMullen's Brewery, the present owners acquired the property before 1900. A new public house was built and opened in 1929. 1937/38 saw the end of James 'Will' Smith's occupancy and Percy, his younger brother, took over and was helped by his wife Lilian (nee Hatton), their son, Lew and his wife also lived in the pub and in 1942 their son Brian was born there.

**The Crooked Chimney (Chequers)** The building started life as Hornbeam Hall farmhouse and through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was owned by the Bassil family at Cromer Hyde. It is thought to have become a pub in 1756 whilst still being used as a farmhouse. Circa 1780 it was owned by the Searancke family of brewers (who had been brewing in Hertfordshire since the sixteenth century) and became known as the 'Chequers'. From 1815 it was taken over by the Hatfield Brewery. In 1882 Thomas Palmer was the publican. In 1920 Hatfield Brewery's ninety eight pubs were sold to Benskins Watford Brewery.

It was a popular venue for the de Havilland pilots from Hatfield during the late 1930s through to the 1960s Geoffrey de Havilland junior and John (cat's-eyes) Cunningham met up there after parachuting into fields nearby following bailing out from a Moth Minor aircraft which refused to recover from a spinning test. Photographs of many of the pilots adorned the walls of a large room to the left of the main entrance to the pub. This room became the first dining room when restaurant facilities were introduced.

The Vintage Inns (Mitchells & Butlers Leisure Retail Limited) took over the pub and run it as a highly successful pub and restaurant to the present day.

**The Waggoners** at Ayot Green gained its licence when the larger Angel Pub only 100 yards away was demolished in 1850. The first licensee is believed to have been Joseph Howard, followed in 1851 by James Aldridge. In 1881 it was owned by J.W. Kent, brewers in St Albans. By the 1950s the volume and speed of the traffic using the Great North Road made it too dangerous to use the front door of the pub, entry was therefore by a rear door, which also provided easy access for those customers coming straight off the golf course (truly the nineteenth hole). With the opening to the motorway in 1973 'The Waggoner's' was by-passed and isolated on a short length of the great North Road which became a cul-de-sac.

A restaurant was added to 'The Waggoners' in addition to bar food. It again became a family managed pub in 1999. The present owners Aude and Laurent Brydniak took over and have given it a reputation for fine wines, real ale and French fusion food with influences from all over the world.

*If you have enjoyed this information and would like to know more about these pubs and the five which no longer exist, you can find it all in our booklet 'Lemsford Pubs, Past & Present' priced £2.50 and available by emailing [info@lemsfordhistory.co.uk](mailto:info@lemsfordhistory.co.uk). It contains lots of images, some of which are reproduced inside the back cover of this issue.*

*John Taylor, distinguished Bishop of St Albans from 1980 to 1995, died on June 1<sup>st</sup>.*

He was born in May 1929, educated at Watford Grammar School, and won a scholarship to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he took a First in Classics and a First in Theology. He joined the RAF in 1952 and won the Sword of Honour as the top officer cadet.



When his National Service ended he was awarded a research fellowship at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

He prepared for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, spent two years as a curate in South London then became vicar of Henham and Elsenham in Essex. In 1964, however, his academic gifts were required at Oak Hill, where he became senior tutor for the Old Testament, and eventually vice principal.

He returned to parish life in Essex in 1972 as Vicar of All Saints, Woodford Wells, and was also diocesan director of ordinands at a time when, as a consequence of the Billy Graham crusades, the number of evangelical ordination candidates was increasing sharply.

In 1975 he was appointed Archdeacon of West Ham. His warm, friendly manner, and his capacity for working with people whose outlook differed from his own, proved to be of the greatest value.

After elevation to Bishop of St Albans in 1980 he demonstrated outstanding pastoral commitment. He knew the names not only of the parish clergy but also their wives and children. Anyone in trouble could be certain of compassion and care, and vicarage families became accustomed to calls by the Bishop's wife Linda, a former probation officer who shared closely in her husband's work.

Although Taylor worked exceedingly hard and rarely took a day off, he enjoyed music and ornithology and wrote a number of useful books: *A Christian's Guide to the Old Testament* (1966); *Evangelism among Children and Young People* (1967); *Tyndale Commentary on Ezekiel* (1969) and *Preaching through the Prophets* (1983).

He Chaired several bodies, including the Bible Society and the Church's Ministry among Jewish People. After his retirement from St Albans in 1995, Taylor lived for many years in Cambridge. He was appointed KCVO in 1997.



**Creator God**

**who breathed this world into being,  
who is discernible within the harmony of nature,  
the perfection of a butterfly's wing,  
the grandeur of a mountain range,  
the soaring eagle and humming bird,  
thank you for this world which you have created.**

**Thank you for summer sun,  
which reminds us that your creative breath  
is still alive and active.**

**Thank you for the warmth of your love,  
sustaining this world, your garden.**

*Fairmilehead Parish Church, Edinburgh*

*And  
finally .....*



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<b>Electoral Roll Secretary</b>	Mr Andy Garratt	322731
<b>Deputy Churchwardens</b>	Mr John & Mrs Olive Benson Mrs Eileen Martindale Mrs Jean Mitchinson Mr Brian Spry	325663 01438 716162 329023 01438 715868
<b>Choir Leader</b>	Mrs Carole Payne	329697
<b>Church Cleaning Organiser</b>	Mrs. Eileen Martindale	01438 716162
<b>Flower Arranging Organiser</b>	Mrs. Sara Poole	320358
<b>Garden of Remembrance &amp; Records</b>	Miss Barbara Taylor	329553
<b>PCC Chairman &amp; Magazine Editor</b>	Mr. Geoffrey Hollis g.hollis2@ntlworld.com	265617
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<b>Transport Co-ordinator</b>	Barbara Taylor	329553
<b>Youth Co-ordinator</b>	Mrs Jo Brooks	256702

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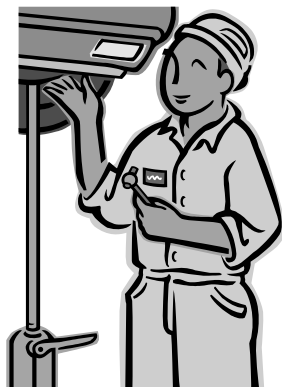
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Local Pubs  
discussed on page 12,  
from top:  
The Sun,  
The Waggoners,  
The Chequers,  
The Long and Short Arm





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