

The Magazine

Of St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral

Growing and thriving with God in our community

September & October 2013



IN THIS ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE...

How one Text Changed a Women's Life

School Sports Day

TBY's Strawberry Tea Afternoon

Website: www.burtonchurch.org.uk

From our Vicar

Rev. Cathy Helm

Benjamin Franklin is reported to have said *'that there are only two certainties in life - death and taxes'*. This is often used by insurance companies hoping you'll take out a will with them or used by governments to squeeze every last drop of revenue possible. However, Franklin's words highlight the condition common to us all, at some point in life, we will all die. The Victorians had a distinctly morbid fascination with death and people used to have their ornate coffins at the end of their beds for future use, ready and waiting! Within our culture, death has become more hidden away, not talked about and pushed into the background. Even though we see increasingly graphic images of death and grief from countries we see on the media, perhaps we still try to keep it all at arm's length. I would suggest that neither view is particularly healthy, a fascination with death or pretending it will never happen. Both extremes give rise to fear and disorientation when someone loved does die.

Some time ago, I read the inspiring story of Dame Cicely Saunders who began the modern hospice movement in 1967 and has enabled thousands to die in the way that they choose, with dignity, care and love. She started with the premise that 'every person deserves as good death' and devoted her career as a doctor to her patients.

She qualified as a doctor in 1957 at 39 years of age. It was in reading a familiar verse from psalm 37 *'Commit your ways to the lord; trust also in Him and He will bring it to pass.'* That she felt called to publish the paper that gave birth to the modern hospice movement. As she saw it, dying people need the comfort and strength of the church, but the church needs the community of the dying as well to bring into focus eternity issues, to teach us to listen and to provide a way of serving Christ by serving others in His name.

Her vision was that *'God shares the journey more deeply than we ever can, with all the solidarity of his sacrificial and forgiving love and the strength of his powerlessness, a God who does not prevent the hard things that happen in this free and dangerous world but who instead shares them with us all.'*

The Psalm most well known is surely Psalm 23 with the wonderful line *'even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me, my rod and staff they comfort me.....'*

As Christians we have a hope to share, a firm hope for death that is not the end but a new beginning.

A wonderful story, again of a medic's view on life and death, I believe helps to give a slightly clearer view.

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was leaving the room after paying a visit and said 'Dr, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side.'

Very quietly the doctor said 'I don't know.'

'You don't know? But you're a Christian doctor, how can you not know what is on the other side?'

The doctor was holding the handle of the door, on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining and as he opened the door a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness, turning to he patient the doctor said,

'Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing expect that his master was here and when the door opened he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my master is there and that is enough. And when the door opens, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness.'

Cathy

(quotes from 'Angel to the dying' Christianity today 1990)



A prayer for Harvest

Dear God

At harvest time we thank you for the changes
in the seasons
Which bring the beautiful colours of the world.
When the golden, brown, green and yellow
crispy
Leaves that fall of that grow on the trees.
We thank you for the dazzling sun which shines
Down from the azure sky and the smell of the
fresh Autumn air.
Thank you for the clean rain that helps nourish
the crops.
We thank you for the special time of year.

Amen (anon)

How one text changed a woman's life

A text message from the vicar on behalf of the whole church was the start of a faith journey for Jane Goddard which turned her life around. The text simply said that everyone was praying.

The prayers were for the whole family (who had recently been victims of identity theft) but especially for Jane and Steve's young son Christopher who was seriously ill in hospital. To make matters worse Steve had contracted pneumonia during this stressful period.

"At the time, I wasn't a particularly religious person," said Jane. "Steve and I both believed in God, though he wasn't a big presence in our lives. In my job as a carer, I had regularly accompanied one particular client to church every Sunday - a young man with learning difficulties. Although, I really enjoyed going to St James Church in East Cowes, I was mainly there because it was my job."

The text actually came from the vicar of St James, the Rev Jonathan Hall.

"I know you shouldn't bargain with God but there and then I made a vow to him that if Christopher recovered, I would worship him with all my heart and soul in future. I also

pledged to devote myself to making life better for others - to use my skills and talents to help as many people as I could."

When Christopher was discharged from hospital several weeks later Jane immediately signed up for an Alpha course and her faith began to mature. Within a matter of months a new business idea took off and Community Spirited was launched in August 2007 - an organisation that offers caring services to enhance quality of life for vulnerable and lonely people.

Three years on, Christopher is now healthy and thriving. And so is Community Spirited.

Spurred by her Christian faith and promise to God, Jane is determined to run Community Spirited so that she can make a living for her family, pay her staff well, and ensure that all clients are shown genuine respect, love and caring.



Harvest Gifts

This year we have decided to support again two local charities, Save the Family and 'The Wirral Food bank'.

In past years we have been receiving a few donations and would like to increase the donations of non-perishable foods to support the work of both of these charities.

For those unable to come to the Harvest service on the 6th October there will be a plastic box in the porch for the weekend to collect additional donations

Items which are asked for are:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Tinned Tomatoes</i> | <i>Tinned fish</i> |
| <i>Tinned sponge puddings</i> | <i>Tinned fruit</i> |
| <i>Tea bags</i> | <i>Coffee</i> |
| <i>Tinned soup</i> | <i>Breakfast cereal</i> |
| <i>Pasta sauce</i> | <i>Biscuits</i> |
| <i>Sugar</i> | <i>Tinned vegetables</i> |
| <i>Tinned meat</i> | <i>Pasta/noodles/rice</i> |
| <i>Instant mash potatoes</i> | <i>Orange juice [cartons]</i> |
| <i>Milk [UHT/powdered]</i> | <i>Tinned rice pudding</i> |

We still continue to support the Charles Thompson Mission both financially and also through the gifts we receive at the Crib service on Christmas Eve.

Prayers for the current financial situation

Dear God,
You know me. Don't you? I'm not just a person on a bus or a train.
I'm not just another face on CCTV; or just another login name.
I'm me, and I have stuff going on.
Love life issues; bills to pay. Egos at work to deal with; an overflowing inbox.
So please, give me strength. Guide me to focus on what's really important. And help me make the most of every moment of this new day in this new month.
Thank you.
Amen

Holy Communion Soup & Sandwich

- Monday September 2nd 11.30am
- Monday October 7th 11.30am

An informal Holy Communion service for all who find it hard to get up to the church building, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch in the Atelier Coffee shop at Burton Manor.

If you're interested in coming please contact:

- Vicar: 353 0453**
- Basil Keys: 336 4933**
- Jen Williams: 328 1006**

Wirral South Deanery Banner

A service of dedication of the banner was held at St. Oswald's Church, Backford on Friday 19th July, which included the Deanery Eucharist. Bishop Peter presided and gave an address. The banner project began in 2009 following a request from the then Rural Dean, Revd. Gordon Welch, for a project to bring together the 13 churches of the Deanery. From the outset the inspiration which carried this forward came from Dr Elly

McBeath from All Saints Thornton Hough. She introduced Norma Heron, a skilled textiled artist. Elly herself is a skilled needle woman and meetings were held at her home monthly and there was a great feeling of friendship and enthusiasm. The completed banner is 7 ft x 5 ft, and is bordered by 9 inch squares of tapestry wool on canvas, one for each parish, with a map of the deanery in the centre showing the name of each



May 2013 Shirley Reade and Wendy Hussey

church. Volunteers were requested to produce a 9 inch square representing their parish. Ours was designed and stitched by Wendy Hussey and Shirley Reade. The Burton parish was represented by including the unique one hand church clock, the anchor and bags of gold relating to St. Nicholas and the woodland environment. Photos can be seen displayed on the notice board in the church porch.

Each church will have custody of the banner for 3 months. Backford was the first name drawn out of the ballot. Burton is about half way down the list, so it will be quite a while, but we will let you know when it is due. It was a wonderful service, and Burton was represented by Wendy and Shirley, and a number of members of the congregation. A quote from Elly; "You have heard of the calendar girls, we are the banner girls."



19th July 2013 at St. Oswald's Backford for the banner blessing
L-R Norma Heron, Jan Harper, Elly McBeath, Lesley Cobb, Shirley Reade, Joan Norman, Wendy Hussey, Marion Baker, Audrey Roscoe

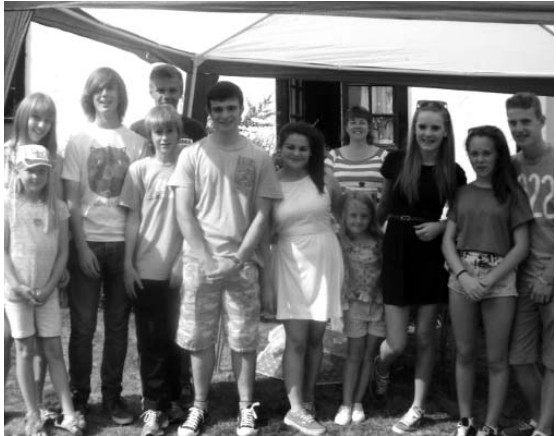
Strawberry Tea - Burton Vicarage Gardens

On a day of glorious sunshine, the vicarage garden was the perfect setting for a Strawberry tea held on the 14th July by The Burton Youth Group.

On entering the garden, we were greeted by smiling, friendly faces and escorted to tables set with fine bone china and lovely tablecloths. Our tea was poured from beautifully decorated china teapots generously loaned from her collection by Wendy Hussy, along with all the crockery, tablecloths and traditional tiered cake stands. We were expertly served delicious homemade food with great enthusiasm, courtesy and friendliness by TBY, whose parents and grandparents had all contributed to the provision of strawberry and cream scones, meringues, and the endless supply of delightfully made cupcakes of various colours and designs.

TBY are to be congratulated in raising a fantastic £330.75 for the Mango Tree Support Programme. Grateful thanks to them; Cathy, Steve and family; and to Wendy Hussey for their time and generosity: a wonderful afternoon was had by all.

Betty Adlard



Autumn Tints and Harvest Festivals

There was the usual panic in August prior to the horticultural show in Thornton Hough. The sweet peas which form the main part of the show were not good. However, nine spikes of Rory K managed to gain first prize and a joint cup. In conversation with other sweet pea growers it has not been a good season for exhibition blooms. The Dahlias were not too bad and gained a second prize. Some minor placings were also gained with veggies.

The Hydrangeas have not been very good this year but the blue Scabious have been wonderful. The seed mix "butterfly mix" was a bitter disappointment with hardly any variety in the plants. The Lavender hedge has been wonderful and a haven for bees. Bunches have been gathered, dried and made into Lavender-filled bags. Of course it has been a good year for weeds so the gardens need a good overhaul. The Twisted Hazel, Keria and Ribes are overgrown and will be trimmed up and after weeding a covering of bark will be spread over this border. The Larkspur has also been lovely and their flowers are now in the flower press for use later in the year.

There are masses of blue, great and long tailed tits, robins, greater spotted woodpeckers, goldfinches but not so many blackbirds to date. A not so welcome visitor was a sparrow-hawk perched on top of the roof.

Flori Bunda

September/October 2013

Service of Family Remembrance and Thanksgiving

On Saturday November 2nd at 4pm, the day after All Saints Day, we will be holding our annual service of Family Remembrance and Thanksgiving. Please note the change of day.

It is a quiet and reflective service for all who have recently lost loved ones and also for those who still like to take time to remember those who have died some years ago. There is an opportunity to light a candle and for names to be read out for those who wish to.



Diary of Events

September 2013

Church Services

- 1st 14th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Worship
6:30 pm Evensong
- 4th 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 8th 15th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 11th 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 15th 16th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Communion
- 18th 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 22nd 17th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship
- 25th 10:15 am Holy Communion
- 29th 18th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship

Mothers Union Programme

18th 2.00 pm The Philpots - "The Vatican"

House Groups:

Christian Living:

7:30 pm Wednesdays in term time starting again on 18th September.

(Contact Dee Foster 0151 336 2336)

Study Group:

8:00 pm Wednesday 11th & 25th at Danes Court (0151 336 5446)

From the Registers:

Baptisms:

4th August Oliver Henry Moore
Kirra Louise Mary Smith

Funerals:

12th July Mary Elizabeth Matthews
19th July Doris Kathleen Costain

Diary of Events

October 2013

Mothers Union Programme

16th 2.00 pm

Members Afternoon - Craft Groups

30th 2.00 pm

Deanery Eucharist at Burton Parish Church

House Groups:

Christian Living:

7:30 pm Wednesdays in term time

(Contact Dee Foster 0151 336 2336)

Study Group:

8:00 pm Wednesday 9th & 23rd at Danes Court

(0151 336 5446)

Church Services

2nd 10:15 am Holy Communion

6th 19th Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Harvest & Parade
6:30 pm Evensong

9th 10:15 am Holy Communion

13th 20th Sunday after Trinity
8.45 am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship

16th 10:15 am Holy Communion

20th 21st Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Communion

23rd 10:15 am Holy Communion

27th Last Sunday after Trinity
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Morning Worship

30th 10:15 am Holy Communion

First Week of November 2013

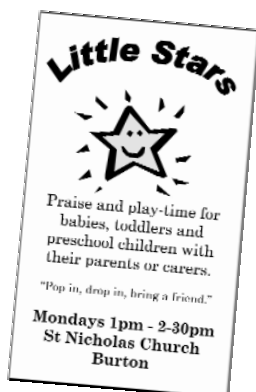
2nd Saturday 3.00pm Service of
Thanksgiving & Remembrance

3rd 4th Sunday before Advent
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Family Worship
6:30 pm Evensong

6th 10:15 am Holy Communion

10th 3rd Sunday before Advent
8:45 am Holy Communion
10:00 am Remembrance & Parade

**All Stars (Primary age
children 5-11 Years)
meet every 2nd, 4th &
5th Sunday during
10:00 am Service.**





Mothers' Union

A pleasant Saturday in late June saw Ruth and myself drive to the St John's Centre, Hartford for the Diocesan Council and AGM.

The address was given by the Rt. Hon. Fiona Bruce M.P. for Congleton, who explained how she became an M.P. She qualified as a lawyer and set up a law firm with Christian Principles in Stockton Heath. She then decided to become a politician and chose the Conservative Party as she felt it was the party who strongly supported family life. She won the seat in Congleton in 2009 and made a link with the Christian M.P.s in Parliament. The main campaign/policies she has been involved with are a) Financial Education (compulsory in schools from Sept. 2014) b) Job centres banned from advertising jobs in the sex industry. c) Arranging support for a debate on Euthanasia. d) Working on a government programme in Care for the Family, strengthening marriage and parenting skills and e) International Work - looking at what the government is spending abroad.

Fiona Bruce is truly a worthy example of why there should be more women M.P.s representing us in Parliament, and the ovation she received proved just that.

On 4 July, Ruth and I went to the Bromborough M.U. Tea Party, which included the local organiser from the "metal Box" Charity. He explained how the scheme, providing Rescue packages for Emergency Disasters, worked. Large watertight boxes containing

all necessary essentials were put together, each one worth several hundred pounds. There were certain areas, around the world, chosen for storage, and where disasters were most likely to take place.

At our July meeting, we welcomed our speaker, Mt Steve Binns from Liverpool University. Steve is well known on Merseyside for his wealth of knowledge on numerous subjects, but as the centenary of the sinking of the Titanic was only last year, we were intrigued to hear how events unfolded, from our local experts. Steve did not disappoint us. His research uncovered events previously unheard of. He seemed to know the history of every passenger who sailed in the Titanic. Sadly the last of the survivors have died as recently as last year.

At Backford Church on 19 July, a few of us attended a service to dedicate the new Deanery Banner. This will be visiting all the churches involved in the making of it. Our thanks for the design work for our area go to Wendy Hussey and Shirley Reade - see separate article with photos from Wendy Hussey.

We regret having to cancel our Annual Outing on 21 August due to lack of support. We hope to replace this with some form of entertainment later in the year. Meanwhile we look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on 18 September.

Josie Isaacs

The Many Sided Word

How many worked this out? The solutions are given against the clues below.

The answer to this puzzle is composed of 6 letters which, by rearrangement, form 6 totally different words.

Solutions:

Were worn by priests of high estate,	MITRES
The letters change and then we state	
That clockwork functions we achieve,	TIMERS
Then change again and you'll perceive	
That now a fighter I've become;	SMITER
Another change, (we're not yet done),	
Some penalties I mitigate;	REMIT'S
Then one more change, and, happier fate,	
I speak of good deeds one has done;	MERIT'S
For titles proud in vain you'll scan	
I'm just an ordinary man.	MISTER



Harvest Ceilidh



Featuring Matthew Compton

Friday October 4th 7-10.30pm Gladstone Village Hall

Meal provided [bring a tin or packet for Harvest collection]

Tickets : £10pp byo wine/drinks

Contact: Chris Turner 07792399536 or Cathy Helm 353 0453

Parables

During our Family Worship we have been following the Parables of Jesus.

How much do you know about them?

Write T for true or F for false in the square to the right of each question on the chess board.

1. In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, it was the priest who helped the injured man.		2. When the prodigal son returned, his father asked for his ring back.		3. The kingdom of heaven is described as hidden treasure.	
	4. The ten virgins did not take enough oil.		5. The foolish man built his house on a rock.		
6. When a fig tree starts producing leaves, you know that winter is near.		7. A man gave his three servants five, ten and fifteen talents.		8. In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus says, 'He who has feet, let him walk.'	
	9. The Old Testament prophesied that Jesus would talk in parables.		10. The best thing to do with a lit lamp is to hide it under the bed.		
11. Jesus spoke about a broad and a narrow path.		12. Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.		13. In the Parable of the Lost Coin, Jesus said that the angels rejoice over a sinner who repents.	
	14. Jesus told parables about a lost son, coin, sheep and dog.		15. When telling parables, Jesus often used the things he saw around him.		

Sports Day

May 2013 saw the very successful Sports Day at Bishop Wilson. We all enjoyed taking part in the different races and this year we represented different countries. This is a picture of children representing Greece.



The best thing about our Sports Day was the obstacle race as we had to put on a big cardboard tube and run!!



Here are our overall winners from both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2:

From left to right:

Emma Ashcroft, Olivia Hunt, Jade Weaver, Rhys Mitchell, Conor McEvoy, Tom Gill and Tom Weaver.



Youth Church

We have a range of activities for our younger members of our church so no matter what age your children are there is a club for them.

Little Stars - This is our pre-school parent and toddler group which provides friendship and fellowship for families with children from 'Bump' to starting school. This is an informal play session with an introduction to bible stories, prayer and activities during 'Special Time'. Little Stars meet on a Monday afternoon from 1pm in church where Sue Church leads their session.

All Stars - this is a Sunday school style club for children of primary school age which meets in Church during the non all age morning worship services.

TBY - (The Burton Youth) is a youth club for young people of high school age. We meet at the vicarage each Sunday evening from 7pm except on the first Sunday each month and holiday time. TBY is scheduled to start again on 8th September. We are looking forward to welcoming our new year 7s to the group.

Youth Alpha - (watch this space as the name of this group is likely to change soon) This is our group for the older young people from year 11 onward. They meet at the same time as TBY but in Willaston with John and Edwina Morris Best and Ruth Abbott who also supports the group.

If you are interested in working with our young people or have a young person who would like to join in one of our activities, please don't hesitate to contact me and I would love to tell you more about what we are planning.

Amanda Ankers (0151 336 3998)

Ben Nevis Challenge

14th September 2013 - For Breast Cancer Care

Breast Cancer Care is there for anyone affected by breast cancer.



They bring people together, provide information and support, and campaign for improved standards of care.

I would love it if you could help me raise as much money as possible for this fantastic and much needed charity.

I will be climbing Ben Nevis to help raise awareness and funds for Breast Cancer Care and your support is hugely appreciated. Please take drop by my "Just Giving" site and take a look at the work that Breast Cancer Care are doing.

Please dig deep and thank you in anticipation of your support.

www.justgiving.com/Amanda-Ankers

Please note that every penny donated goes directly to Breast Cancer Care as I have covered the cost of the challenge myself.

Thank you for your support

Amanda Ankers



Olley & Olivia
Of Brimstage Hall

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Burton & Puddington Sports Club

To sample the various activities available, please contact:

Cricket: Chris Scudamore – 336 6419
Tennis: Cath Rogers – 353 0577
Junior Tennis: Cheryl Elliott – 336 5613
Junior Football: Mike Carlyle – 336 6158
Walking: John & Gill Nuttall on 336 7178
Snooker: Pat King – 336 3268
Bowls: Ken Unsworth – 336 2050
Art: Ruth Langley – 353 8354
Sports & Social Club Membership:
Guy Tilby – 07826 417 047

New members most welcome
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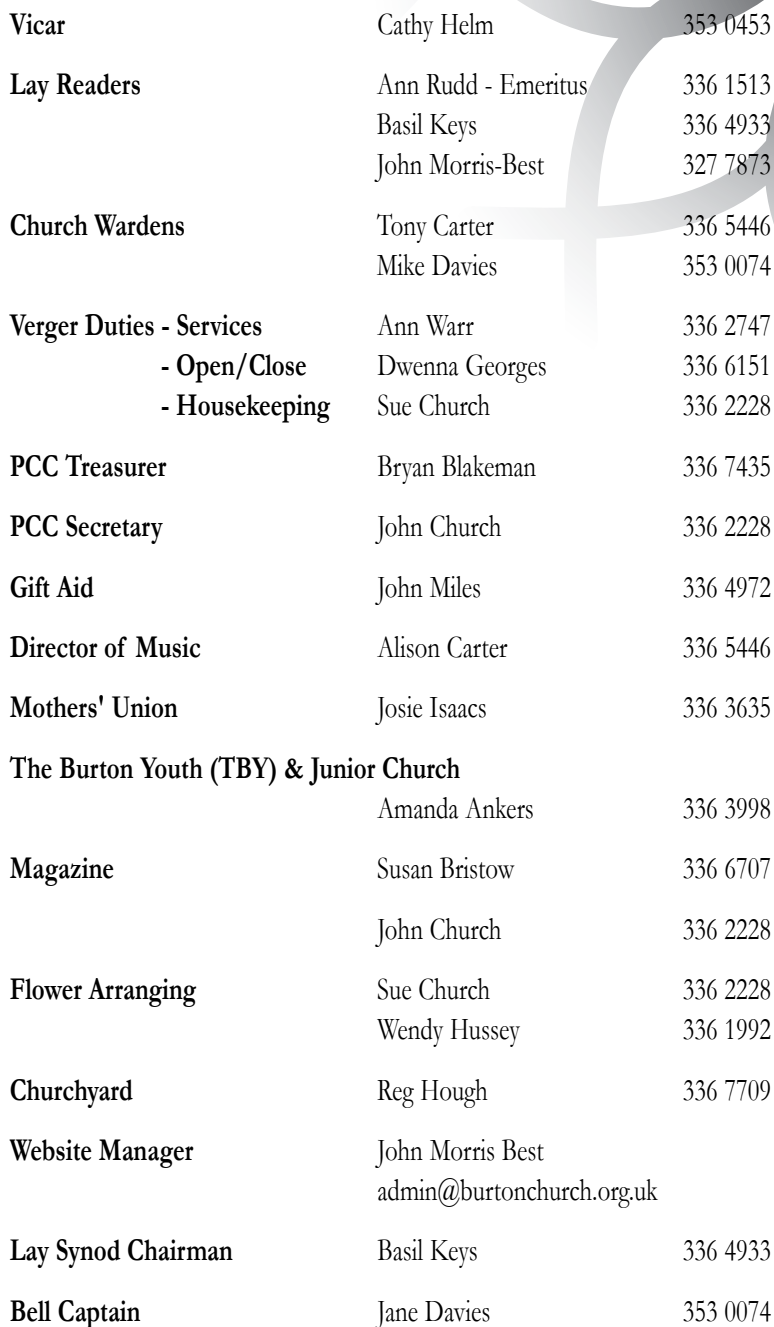


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Our Church



Vicar	Cathy Helm	353 0453
Lay Readers	Ann Rudd - Emeritus	336 1513
	Basil Keys	336 4933
	John Morris-Best	327 7873
Church Wardens	Tony Carter	336 5446
	Mike Davies	353 0074
Verger Duties - Services	Ann Warr	336 2747
- Open/Close	Dwenna Georges	336 6151
- Housekeeping	Sue Church	336 2228
PCC Treasurer	Bryan Blakeman	336 7435
PCC Secretary	John Church	336 2228
Gift Aid	John Miles	336 4972
Director of Music	Alison Carter	336 5446
Mothers' Union	Josie Isaacs	336 3635
The Burton Youth (TBY) & Junior Church		
	Amanda Ankers	336 3998
Magazine	Susan Bristow	336 6707
	John Church	336 2228
Flower Arranging	Sue Church	336 2228
	Wendy Hussey	336 1992
Churchyard	Reg Hough	336 7709
Website Manager	John Morris Best admin@burtonchurch.org.uk	
Lay Synod Chairman	Basil Keys	336 4933
Bell Captain	Jane Davies	353 0074

The Magazine

Of St Nicholas' Church, Burton-in-Wirral

Growing and thriving with God in our community

Community Events

The Burton Society

Meets at 8pm in the Gladstone Village Hall, everyone welcome.

Thursday 3rd October - a talk about the latest developments at the RSPB Estuary Site at Burton Mere.

Thursday 7th November - Bill Sergeant is coming to tell us about Liverpool Heroes as far back as the First World War.

Thursday 5th December - our Christmas meeting will be in the atmosphere of an Old Time Music Hall when Phyllis Oliver entertains us as we sip wine and eat mince pies.

Burton and Puddington Sports & Social Club

Further details call Sec. Allan Trimble 336 3639

Gladstone Village Hall

With regret the Horticultural Show has been cancelled for 2013.

Manor Gatehouse Club

A club for the retired or partially retired welcomes new members. A general meeting with a speaker is held each month and additionally there are groups for varied interests including history, music, painting, rambling, literature, natural history, travel etc. The general meetings are held at 2.30pm at The Gladstone Hall on the first Thursday of each month. <http://www.manorgatehouse.info>

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions for the next issue will be Wednesday 16 October, please email your contributions to john_sue44@hotmail.co.uk

YOUR EVENT OR SOCIETY

If you have any events you would like included in the Community Noticeboard email: john_sue44@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.burtonchurch.org.uk