

St Mary's Acton
St David's Wettenhall &
St Oswald's Worleston
April 2023



**The Cross Country Parishes
of
Acton, Church Minshull,
Wettenhall & Worleston.**

Dear Friends

Alleluia! Christ is risen!



I am writing looking out on a beautiful, sunny, but chilly morning. Daffodils are beginning to flower in Acton churchyard, the sun has lifted my spirits and made me smile. Mornings like this make many of us feel more alive, more hopeful, more optimistic. It is somehow easier to feel that way when the sun shines. I must admit, it is not the way I felt yesterday on a damp, grey afternoon... yet the daffodils were still beginning to flower, and there were signs of hope when I looked for them.

Whether we like it or not, however emotionally stable we are, we have a tendency as human beings to experience changes of mood according to our surroundings. A bit of sunshine and many of us perk up. Our football team wins and the world looks bright even on a foggy winter night. We hear good news of family or friends and our day is brightened, but a grey day, a defeat for our football team or difficult news from family or friends and our optimism can so easily disappear.

The good news of Easter is that Jesus has defeated our greatest enemy, death itself. This is no sunshine to lift our spirits. The next piece of bad news will not overshadow the best news of all. Jesus' resurrection means that the light of God's love can never be extinguished again.

More than that, the resurrection light of God's love is so powerful, it can shine light into the darkest corners of the world and the deepest, most painful circumstances of human existence.

Whether Easter Day is bright and glorious, or grey and wet doesn't matter. The light of God's resurrection love will shine brightly on Easter Day and every other day and nothing can put it out.

Yours in the resurrection light of God's love,

Revd Anne

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Sunday Services

Acton

- 2nd Apr 11:00 am **United Confirmation**, 6:30pm Evensong
- 9th Apr 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Communion
- 16th Apr 10:00 am Messy Church
- 23rd Apr 8:00 am Communion, 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 30th Apr 11:00 am **United at Church Minshull**
- 7th May 11:00 am Communion, 6:30pm Evensong

Church Minshull

- 2nd Apr 11:00 am **United Confirmation at Acton**
- 9th Apr 11:00 am Communion
- 16th Apr 11:00 am Cafe Church
- 23rd Apr 11:00 am Messy Church
- 30th Apr 11:00 am **United Communion**
- 7th May 11:00 am Service of the Word

Worleston

- 2nd Apr 11:00 am **United Confirmation at Acton**
- 9th Apr 9:30 am Communion
- 16th Apr No Service
- 23rd Apr 9:30 am Morning Prayer
- 30th Apr 11:00 am **United at Church Minshull**
- 7th May No Service

Wettenhall

- 2nd Apr 11:00 am **United Confirmation at Acton**
- 9th Apr 11:00 am Communion
- 16th Apr 11:00 am All Age
- 23rd Apr 6:30 pm Communion
- 30th Apr 11:00 am **United at Church Minshull**
- 7th May 11:00 am Morning Prayer

St David's Church Wettenhall		
Sidespersons		Cleaning & Flowers *
2 nd Apr	United at Acton	Mrs H Moss
9 th Apr	Mrs M Drinkall	
16 th Apr	Brownies	Mrs E Carr & Mrs A Nicholas
23 rd Apr	Informal	
30 th Apr	United at Church Minshull	Mrs A Brooks
7 th May	Mr M Moss	
<i>Visit: www.wettenhallchurch.org.uk</i>		

* Lent began 22nd February. No flowers until Easter Day 9th April

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family & friends of **Mick Cadman**, known affectionately to many as '**Big Mick**'. Our thoughts & prayers are with Carol and all the family at this sad time.

Diary Dates

Parochial Church Council Meeting and the Annual Meeting open to all parishioners will take place on 17th April at 7.30pm in church.

Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, was on 21st February this year, and was marked in the All-Age Service at St. David's church by pancakes - what else? We started with a few questions and answers about Shrove Tuesday and its relationship with Lent, including the meaning of the Mardi Gras events. There was a discussion related to the giving up of something that we value for the period of Lent. However, Shrove Tuesday is celebrated with pancakes in many parts of the World and so Ann Nicholas rather bravely decided that pancakes should be made in church, to be enjoyed by everyone in recognition of the period of Lent. Wisely she also brought along pre-prepared pancakes to ensure that there were sufficient pancakes which were suitable for serving to all of us in church. Sarah Edwards started to make the first pancake, and, as we all know, the first one is always the most difficult to cook successfully. However, she carried on cooking more delicious pancakes and was joined by children showing off their pancake tossing skills. The pancakes were tossed many times, without once falling out of the pan. There was a short pancake race and then everyone settled down to pancakes with the usual toppings of sugar, lemon or Nutella. It all gave a new meaning to the term 'Messy Church'. **Pictures on page 6**

Coffee & Cake

The next meetings will be on Thursday 6th April & 4th May from 10-12 noon in Church.

Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



Darnhall Brownies

The Brownies designed their dream garden to go towards earning their gardeners badge. The Brownies will also be planting flowers & veggies at the village hall in the coming weeks.

At the beginning of March, the Brownies walked down to the Telescope in Darnhall, before returning to the village hall to enjoy hot chocolate.





St David's Patronal

St. David's Day is the 1st of March, celebrated this year on Sunday 5th March at St. David's Church, Wettenhall. It's a mystery why there should be a church dedicated to St. David in Cheshire, although we are not too far from the Welsh Border in Wettenhall. Whatever the reason for the naming of the church it is a welcome, uplifting, Patronal service in the period of Lent each year. The church was decorated with beautiful daffodils and primulas, a few leeks and dolls dressed in traditional Welsh costume. The overwhelming sense was of bright yellow and green, the colours of Spring. Alongside the Spring flowers, the black and yellow flag of St. David was flying in the churchyard and in the chancel. St. David is known for living the austere life of a monk, eating only bread and drinking water for much of his life. He was said to be accompanied by a dove on some of his travels. The thought that he left for us is that we should do the 'little things well', no matter how insignificant and ordinary they may seem. Together they can add up to a life of service and fulfilment, much more than the little things first appear.

St. David's church congregation don't always follow the dietary habits of their Saint. Hospitality is the lifeblood and gift of St. David's church in Wettenhall. The Patronal service was no exception, abundant refreshments including sausage rolls, sandwiches, cheese boards, cakes and wine or tea were available to mark this special day for everyone.



St Mary's Church, Acton Sidespersons

2 nd Apr	Ena Furber and Kath Edwards
9 th Apr	Sandra and Mike Houlston
16 th Apr	Tracey and Peter Foster
23 rd Apr	Sue and Charles Hull
30 th Apr	United at Church Minshull
7 th May	11:00 am Lesley and Peter Latronico, 6:30 pm Philip Percival
Visit: www.stmarysacton.org	

Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

The next walks are:

2nd April 2023

14th May 2023

4th June 2023

Tea at the Tower is open every Sunday from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

On the above dates there is a guided walk departing the church at 12:45 pm Nick organises circular walks varying between 3 to 5 miles, then returning to the church for a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and a slice of delicious cake.

The pace of the walks is relaxed, and the routes generally involve canal towpath and lane walking. The footpaths should be good (also hopefully dry?) and only a small number of stiles are negotiated. Stout outdoor shoes or walking shoes / boots are recommended.

All are welcome including dogs on leads

For further information please phone Nick Harley, Lead Walker, on 01270-620612 or 07710983125.



Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong with the St Christopher Chorale



Sunday 2 April 6.30 pm in Acton

We are delighted that the St Christopher Chorale, with their Musical Director, Philip Crookall, will be singing Choral Evensong at St Mary's Acton.

HOW DID WE COME TO THIS?

John and Jan became Christians as teenagers, and toddled along quite nicely, thank you ... John was on his deathbed at the age of 26 when he heard God's call to full time ministry. "Oh, okay then, if you insist" was his reluctant reply. Jan was at a missionary meeting when the call went out for people to volunteer for the work. Jan's inner voice knew she wasn't willing but was "willing to be willing". Neither of us knew we would get married, or the work God would call us to. But in a stop and start way we trusted that God knew best and would direct us in His way.

Looking back, our work with young people has brought us great joy. In our parish began a flourishing 15 Plus group that met in the Vicarage lounge every Sunday evening. After some time, when most of the group became 18, off 10 of them went to university. For many years John had longed to start a summer holiday club and when our 10 were at Uni they met other Christians who were willing to come and stay with families in our villages and run a weeklong holiday club. 20 plus leaders and many younger helpers ran clubs every Summer for 10 years and they all gained experience, knowledge and commitment and had such amazing fun.

Many romances blossomed, our own daughter met her future husband after Jan had dressed him as Lazarus for a drama, complete with bandages from head to toe and numerous safety pins! The words "trust me, I'm a Vicar's wife" has gone down in family history. John's job was 'gofer' or errand boy, his most embarrassing moment was when he was sent for the brightest lipstick, blusher and eye shadow he could find at the local chemist for use in the drama!

Church families provided bountiful lunches in their own homes and gardens for the team after each morning session, there was a revision of the morning, a Bible study and arrangements made for the evening social activity - rounders, cricket, a video or a visit to the cinema. An evening meal at a restaurant on the Friday was always a hit. Except when John (as the only responsible-looking adult) was presented with the entire bill for 30 plus people!

The young "helpers" became leaders and now they are all over the world living the Christian life and influencing others for the Lord. We have 1 Bishop and 3 other



clergy as well as clergy wives, teachers, doctors and industrialists from our group who came to faith due to the holiday clubs.

What have we learned? As the Bible says "God says My grace is sufficient for you. My strength is made perfect in weakness". When God calls, He equips us and provides for us. There were disappointments, but knowing He is there for us whatever happens is more than enough.

John and Janet Malbon

Where are Janet and John?

Baptism and the font at St Mary's

What is Baptism?

A child's Baptism is the beginning of their journey into the Christian Faith and their entry into the Church Family. It was the tradition to bring new babies for Baptism, but now young babies, toddlers, older children or even adults are baptised. Jesus was an adult, when he was baptised by John the Baptist, in the River Jordan.

Baptisms, or Christenings as we also call them, are lovely family occasions. Godparents are chosen who, along with the parents, make promises to guide the child as they grow up in their family and the Church Family where they learn about Jesus and about God's Love for us. When the promises are being made the priest makes the sign of the cross on the forehead using olive oil blessed by the Bishop in the Cathedral on Maundy Thursday. The actual Baptism takes place around the font. This is filled with water which is blessed by the priest. Water is poured onto the head with words from the service being said.

At the end of the service a lighted candle is given to the family. This can be lit on the anniversary of the occasion or on the child's birthday. This is a reminder of the service, and most importantly, to remind us that Jesus is the Light of The World that shines through all our lives. The font which holds the water is a very important item in the Church. They are usually rather large structures. These may vary in size,



shape and the material from which they are made, very often this is stone. Years ago the baby was actually put into the font, hence the large size. The Acton font is thought to be of Norman origin but another thought is that it could be pre-Norman Conquest. It was found on a local farm being used as a pig trough. It then moved to Dorfold Hall where it came into use for flower decoration before being returned to the Church for its proper function in 1897. It also has a beautifully carved lid which was presented to the Church by Alice Tollemache. Anyone requiring to book a Baptism should contact the Vicar (see page 35 for details)





enjoy an evening being entertained by the

ACTON 

OPERATIC SOCIETY

Spring
Evening Concert

Saturday 13th May @ 7.30PM

Tickets - £10

Tickets are available from **Stephan Davies (01270 624135)** and **Joyce Percival (01270 624158)**
 Alternatively, why not collect yours with tea and cake at our famous **Tea at the Tower** event **every Sunday**

Congratulations to Philip Percival

Congratulations to Philip Percival
 Philip Percival was present at the Cheshire Agricultural Society AGM on 1 March to receive the Capesthorpe Millennium Cup. The prize is awarded for “exceptional endeavour in promoting the interests of agriculture or countryside related activities in Cheshire”.
 The antique silver tankard was presented to the Cheshire Agricultural Society by Sir William and Lady Bromley Davenport. Recipients of the prize are selected each year by a small committee, which includes a member of the Bromley Davenport family.
 Congratulations, Philip, on receiving this prestigious award.



Bell Ringers Guild Meeting

On Saturday 25 February, Acton Church hosted the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers South Cheshire Branch meeting. Members congregated in Acton tower for an open ringing session from 15:00 onwards with about 40 members of the Branch attending.

Some experienced members of the branch took charge and gave all ringers an opportunity to join in, whatever their skill level. Bunbury, Wrenbury, Wybunbury, Barthomley, Nantwich, Warmingham, Congleton, Wistaston and of course Acton were among the towers represented.

Open Ringing was followed by a church service, taken by Rev Anne Lawson, during which the bell ringers' hymn was sung.

After the service, Acton did what Acton does well and provided an excellent tea for all the participants. During the tea a brief meeting was held, at which a number of new ringers were elected to the Guild, including Acton's two newest ringers, John and Vicky Batchelor.

The event also provided an opportunity for several members from different towers, who no longer ring for a variety of reasons, to meet with friends and fellow ringers from across the region.

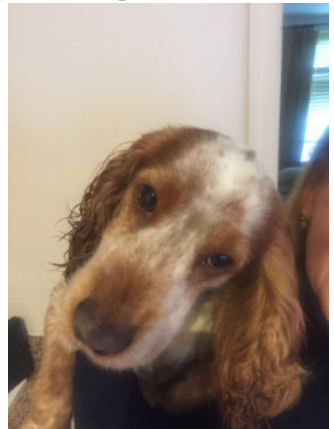


All you need is love

God is a giver of light and love and as we approach the lighter evenings I am aware of the love that is shown towards me every day from none other than my adorable Cocker Spaniel, Harvey. As most of us are aware, studies have shown that when we interact with an animal our cortisol (a stress related hormone) decreases and our blood pressure lowers. Spending time with animals can also reduce loneliness and be a real boost to our mood. God brought animals into the world for our pleasure. We can certainly learn a lot from them in that a relationship with an animal can be one of the most rewarding and reciprocally loving relationships that a human being can ever experience. When we go out walking together, Harvey teaches me to be patient, to stop, take in my surroundings and not to get caught up with the pressures of the day ahead, as I wait for him while he sniffs the ground and the air, maybe looks up overhead at a bird that catches his attention or is captivated by a bee hovering from flower to flower.

He is a happy little dog, with his little smiley face greeting me in the mornings, he brings a sense of happiness and calmness into the day. Harvey has an insatiable appetite for showing love and being loved. He is my little pal. Pets never judge us, unlike humans. We can be our authentic selves at all times.

Maybe God had a plan when he created animals, knowing just how much they can teach us, not only about them but also I believe, on a deeper level, about ourselves. Let us all give thanks for our pets and all animals that teach us about loving one another - which, when all things are considered is all that really matters.



Tina Rule and 



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Cross Country Pages

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Aaron Peers Jodie Basford
 Braden Tomlinson Henry Yarwood
 James Major Megan Alexander

United Confirmation

2nd April - Palm Sunday
11am at Acton Church
With the Rt Revd Sam Corley
Bishop of Stockport
Please support those who are
taking this important step on
their Christian Journey

Maundy Thursday

Supper & United Service
 St. David's, Wettenhall will host the
 Maundy United Service & Supper on
 April 6th beginning at 6.30pm.
 This will be a carvery with salads &
 desserts. To help with catering numbers,
 there are sign up sheets at the back of
 each church.
Everyone is very welcome.

Afternoon Tea

Darnhall Village Hall
 are holding an afternoon tea on Sunday 2nd
 April at 2.00pm. Booking in advance is
 required for catering purposes.
 The cost is £12.50 per person.
 Please contact Marjorie on 07773260516

Ladies Lunch

Wednesday 19th April
Farmers Arms, Ravensmoor
12:30 pm - Cost: £12.50
For further details contact:
Isobel (624521), Ann (528273)
or Joyce (624158)

Mobile Library

Apr	Apr	May	Tuesdays	
4 th	25 th	16 th	Arr	Dep
Badger Church	Minshull		10:20	10:45
Home Farm Park	South		11:10	11:20
Lea Green				
Home Farm Park	North		11:30	11:50
Lea Green				
Wettenhall Church			12:05	12:20
Station Rd	Calveley		13:35	13:55
Tollemache Arms				
Alraham			14:05	14:30
Apr	May	Jun	Thursdays	
20 th	11 th	1 st	Arr	Dep
Pinfold Craft Centre			11:00	11:25
Poole				
Worleston Station			11:35	11:45
Aston Juxta Mondrum				
Worleston Village Hall			11:50	12:10
Apr	Apr	May	Thursdays	
6 th	27 th	18 th	Arr	Dep
Farmers Arms			10:00	10:15
Ravensmoor				
Goodwill Hall	Faddiley		10:30	10:50
Greenfields Farm				
Gradeley Green			11:05	11:20

The Coronation of King Charles III

*You are invited to St. David's Church for a
 Royal Celebration.*

*Following the 11am morning service on the 7th May there will be
 a Community Lunch commencing shortly after 12noon.*

Everyone is very welcome to attend



Acton - Worleston Amalgamation

Public Consultation on the Proposed Merger of the Parishes of Acton and Worleston

Following the Public Meetings in Worleston in March 2019 and May 2022, many of you will be aware of the plan to unite Acton and Worleston parishes into the Parish of Acton with Worleston.

A consultation of 'interested' parties (Patrons, schools and various Diocesan Office holders and committees) has now been completed and no objections have been received.

The next stage of the process is a **Public Consultation**, in which anyone who wishes to make comment has opportunity to do so. The timing of the Public Consultation is in the hands of the Church Commissioners, but we understand that it is likely to take place shortly, and may have begun by now.

You are warmly invited to participate in the Public Consultation. Please look out for details of how you can be involved, on noticeboards around Worleston Parish, the church noticeboards in Acton, Church Minshull and Wettenhall and on:

www.worlestonchurch.org.uk or www.stmarysacton.org

There will also be a public meeting in Worleston Church during the Public Consultation period. Again, please look out for details of the timing of this.

Forest Church - 18th February



After a moving prayer by Stephan Davies, the Forest Church Group set off to walk from Acton Church to the Hurlleston Locks; the weather was great for Mid February and our purpose was to generate ideas to compose a psalm. During the walk there were readings from Penni, Ann, Stephan and Sue. A heightened

awareness of our surroundings was achieved by exploring our five senses namely, sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch (at various stops along the canal).

On the return journey the sun shone and camaraderie blossomed. Back at Church we enjoyed a delightful light lunch together after which Stephan recorded our feelings/ impressions of the outing on a flip chart. The emerging themes will be used to compose a psalm for use during one of the services at St. Mary's.

What I remember most is the happy chatter and sense of purpose both during the walk and over lunch. "Of such stuff dreams are made". Please watch out for details of our next Forest Church outing which will be in the next magazine.

Photo of the group at Hurlleston locks



Sue Hull

Easter Services 2023

The background of the page features a rustic wooden plank texture. On the left side, there are several yellow tulips with green leaves. At the bottom, there are four colorful Easter eggs: one yellow, one pink, one green, and one light blue.

Palm Sunday 2nd April

11:00 am United Confirmation at Acton
6:30 pm Evensong at Acton

Good Friday 7th April

9:45 am Worleston
10:30 am Church Minshull
11:15 am Wettenhall
12:00 pm Acton
2:00 pm An hour at The Cross at Acton

Holy Saturday 8th April

11:00 am Churchyard Vigil at Acton

Easter Sunday 9th April

8:00 am Communion at Acton
9:30 am Communion at Worleston
11:00 am Communion at Acton
11:00 am Communion at Church Minshull
11:00 am Communion at Wettenhall

Modern Martyrs; Martin Luther King jr.

Many of the people represented by the Modern Martyrs statues at Westminster Abbey are largely unknown outside their own country or continent. However, Martin Luther King jr. is known across the World for his nonviolent campaigns against racial segregation in the USA in the 1950/60's. He was born in 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia, to a pastor in the Baptist church and his wife. They were a black middle class family with a College education, but still subject to the strict segregation laws of the Southern States, limiting their use of public schools, transport, parks and restaurants. Even as a child he could not socialise with white children.

In 1944 King went to work on a farm in Connecticut, his first experience of life in the racially integrated North of the USA. It was a revelation, and he first went to Moorhouse College, moving on to Crozier Theological Seminary [Pennsylvania] for a Bachelor of Divinity. Despite virtually all the students being from white families, he was elected the President of the student body in recognition of his intellect and oratory. At Boston University he met his wife Corretta Scott and they moved to Alabama when he became the Pastor of Montgomery Baptist Church, bringing up their four children in Montgomery.

In 1955 Rosa Parks, a black woman, refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus in Montgomery. She was arrested and charged with breaking racial segregation laws. King lead local activists to boycott the buses, and despite death threats the transport system was desegregated a year later. He formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference as a platform for National segregation reform. King was arrested and jailed several times for his

activism. In 1960 he supported a protest at a segregated college lunch counter in Atlanta and imprisoned. It was only the intervention of John F. Kennedy that led to his release. This may have swung the election of JFK only 8 days later. On August 28 1963 King gave his most famous speech 'I have a dream' on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial following the March On Washington by 200,000 people. In 1964 the Civil Rights Act ended racial segregation in publicly owned facilities and the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded at the end of that year.

Over the next four years King continued his activism, including against the Vietnam War and in support of all poor peoples in the USA. He was becoming isolated from some black supporters, who preferred the more radical approach of others such as Malcom X. Despite the years of weary campaigning he attended an event in Memphis on April 4th 1968 and spoke from a hotel balcony. There he was a target for James Earl Ray, who shot him and Martin Luther King jr died later in hospital.

It took until 1986 for Martin Luther King Day to be introduced in the USA - the third Monday of January, a Happy Birthday for this martyr.



Heather Pope

Acton School

Acton CE Primary School

The children of Acton CE Primary Academy, have had some wonderful opportunities to work closely with St Mary's church over the last few weeks.

On Sunday the 6th March some of our wonderful Year 6 pupils took part in Songs of Praise, which was based around the theme of love. The children discussed what Love means to them and Miss Cross chose her favourite hymn, "Amazing Love". As part of the Discipleship Pilgrimage, the children have been finding out about the importance of God's message and how his disciples joined Jesus on his mission to share the good news. The children visited various stations located around the church.

Back in school we have been celebrating World Book day with all the children and staff dressed as crayons based on the book "The Day The Crayon's Quit". We were visited by local author Rebecca King who shared her first published book, "Ember Shadows" and signed copies for the children. We also had a series of virtual author visits including a virtual escape room to complete and a chance to have a chat with Alesha Dixon on-line.



Calveley School

The Eco Council had a fantastic meeting this month, discussing all of the things they would like to add to the school grounds. The key focus was how to make it even more friendly for wildlife visitors. The council suggested adding a series of mini ponds, a tree for each class and lots of lovely smelling flowers that can be enjoyed during outdoor lessons and play times. Eco Club got straight to work in the garden planting peas and edible flowers. They also received litter pickers from the 'Pick-Fit' scheme that is run by Cheshire East, these have been well used by some of the children already who collected some rubbish from around the edge of the field as well as collecting and relocating the fallen leaves. Soon, outdoor resources will be available for children to take part in flower and leaf identification during play times. The Eco Council and Eco Club are really excited to get their classes involved in caring for the plants and watching them grow.

Thank you so much for the donations of tubs for planting. This is really appreciated and they will be well used.

Children have also enjoyed inter-school cross country, rugby and football events this month and Oak Class popped into Nantwich town centre for a Geography field trip. This included using maps and surveys and even interviewing members of the public.

The children have also been busy indoors and have been thrilled to welcome two authors to school - Fay Evans and Rebecca King. The authors delivered incredible workshops based on their latest books and did question and answer sessions on creative writing and the 'day in the life' of an author.



Worleston School

After having a well-deserved break, St Oswald's have hit the ground running. We have really enjoyed delving into our reading this half term and had a great time celebrating World Book Day. We put on our pyjamas, grabbed our teddies and brought our favourite books to share together. We joined in with national activities linked to books and spent time reading with other children across the school. The children were so excited to use their book voucher towards a new book and delve into another story.




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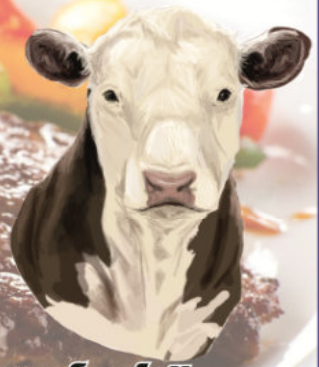
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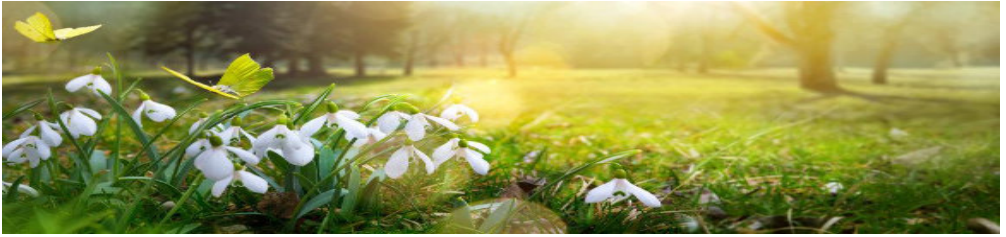
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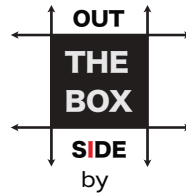


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Recipe

Slow-Cooked Beef Short Ribs

Ingredients

- Olive oil, for frying.
- 6 thick-cut meaty beef short ribs.
- 1 large head of garlic, cut in half horizontally.
- 1 heaped tbsp tomato purée.
- 1 x 750ml bottle red wine.
- 1 litre beef stock.
- 150g pancetta lardons.
- 250g small chestnut mushrooms, trimmed and halved.
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper.
- Chopped flat leaf parsley, to garnish.

Method

- Preheat the oven to 170°C/Gas 3.
- Heat a deep-sided roasting tray on the hob and add a glug of olive oil. Season the short ribs thoroughly, then fry for 10–15 minutes to brown really well on all sides.
- Add the halved garlic head, cut side down, pushing it to the bottom of the pan. Add the tomato purée and heat for a minute or two to cook it out. Pour in the wine to deglaze the pan, scraping up the bits at the bottom. Bring to the boil and cook for 10–15 minutes until the liquid is reduced by half, then add stock to nearly cover the ribs (you'll need less stock if your roasting tray isn't very large). Bring to the boil again, basting the ribs with the juices.
- Cover the roasting tray with foil and cook in the preheated oven for 3–4 hours, basting now and then until the meat is tender and falling away from the bone.
- About 10 minutes before the short ribs are ready to come out, fry the pancetta for 2–3 minutes until crisp and golden. Add the mushrooms and cook for 4–5 minutes until tender. Drain off any excess fat.
- When the short ribs are ready, remove from the oven and transfer to a serving dish. Squeeze the garlic cloves out of their skins and pass through a sieve. Spoon off any excess fat from the beef cooking liquid, then strain it through the sieve and mix with the garlic. (If the sauce is too thin, reduce the cooking liquid by heating for 10–15 minutes more after straining.)
- Serve the short ribs topped with the hot pancetta and mushrooms and the sauce poured around. Garnish with chopped flat leaf parsley.



Enjoy

St Oswald's Church, Worleston

Sidespersons		Coffee	
2 nd Apr	United at Acton		
9 th Apr	Mike Alexander	Kath Alexander	
23 rd Apr	Marilyn Booth	Mrs S Parker	
Flowers *		Cleaning	
9 th Apr	Mrs M Booth	Apr	Alison Stokes
23 rd Apr	Mrs S Adams	May	Mrs J Alexander and Mrs Basford
<i>Visit: www.worlestonchurch.org.uk</i>			

* Lent began 22nd February. No flowers until Easter Day 9th April

From the Register

Baptism

On Sunday 12th March.

Beatrice Katie Webb was baptised at St Oswald's.

She is the infant daughter of Alice and Marc Webb.

We welcome Beatrice (Bee) into the Christian family at Worleston



Help Wanted

Does anyone out there fancy a little job helping to produce this magazine?

It involves finding and collecting information about rotas, baptisms, the school etc and sending them, by email, to the editor.

Then part of a morning is spent proof reading all the contributions.

Please let one of the Wardens know if you are interested. Thanks.

Magazines

Sue Irwin has kindly volunteered to sort the magazines and then take them to the people who deliver them to you. We are very grateful for this help.

Many thanks to Sue!

Coffee & Cake

Saturday 1st April from 10-12 noon in Church.

Come along and enjoy Coffee, Cake and Chat.

Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as little or as long as they wish.



Worleston WI

Worleston have had a variety of speakers this year with Steve Cornes telling us about 'The Barthomley Incident' in the English Civil War. A few members of Barthomley WI also attended to hear what Steve had to say.

Steve explained a lot of background information on the Civil War in Cheshire and how the Royalists sent for reinforcements from Ireland to help with their battle against the Parliamentarians. The men landed and marched to Chester where they caused mayhem and the Mayor of Chester offered the soldiers new uniforms of 'green coats' if they left.

This name of 'green coats' stuck and most of the soldiers in Cheshire it seemed wore green as their jacket colour, as no official uniform was given to soldiers of either side and the only way to tell on the battle field who was fighting for whom were by the 'favours' or colours worn on the trousers. The Royalists tended to wear red or blue, as in Steve's costume and the Parliamentarians orange or yellow.

The soldiers from Ireland were marching across Cheshire looking for food, fodder and shelter. They came into Barthomley and the village folk hid in the church for sanctuary. Steve explained what happened next from the Royalists and Parliamentarians points of view. Both accounts differed but a shot was fired from the tower killing one of the soldiers. A fire being set at the bottom of the tower of the church and the village folk came out and asked for mercy. They were all killed.

At a later trial of the commanding officer, he was found guilty of murder, as he should have taken into custody for trial the person who had shot the soldier, so did not abide by the law and was duly hanged.

A gruesome tale but very informative tale of civil war. We hope to ask Steve back again to recount the history of The Battle of Nantwich, where The Royalists were defeated.

March brought a very different talk with our President, Marilyn Booth, gave us a talk with pictures of her trip to Cambodia. Marilyn and her husband, David, had been on a tour of Cambodia visiting a number of ancient temples. She showed many pictures of the wonderful carvings on the temple buildings, one of which was originally the capital of Cambodia but was evacuated many years ago due to the lack of fresh water. The trip also visited the present capital, Phnom Penh where they were encouraged to try the local delicacies including deep fried large spiders. Suffice it to say they did not. March is the end of our calendar year for meetings and we have a competition each month. The person

with the most points at the end of the calendar year is presented with a cup. This year the cup was won by Annita Grunner, and Marilyn presented this to her at the end of the meeting.

April will have a returning speaker Brian Cullen, who will talk about RADIO 1 - The Early Years 1967-1980.



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