

# The Darley Abbey Parish Magazine



May 2020

£1



## DARLEY ABBEY DURING THE SHUTDOWN



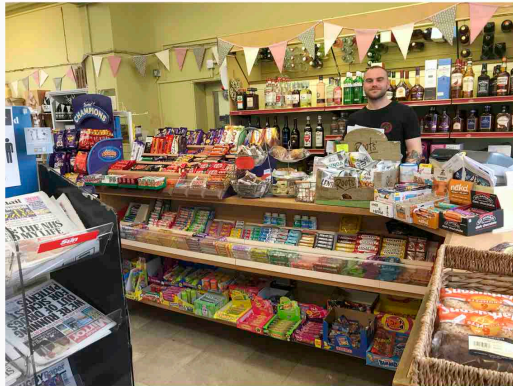
Walter Evans School is open for the children of key workers. They are averaging 20 children per day and keeping them active and happy in these uncertain times. We send our congratulations to the staff, who are working a shift pattern to keep the school open during the Easter holidays. There is an article by Head David Brown on page 33.



The church clock has had to be stopped, as rewinding is not possible during the church's shutdown.

James works in Sarah's shop, supplying essential goods to the village....

.... and Julie prepares her hairdresser's salon for better days to come!



**Cover picture:** An Easter candle is normally blessed and lit on Easter Day and then used throughout the year for special occasions, such as baptisms. The church building was closed this Easter, but a parishioner took this photograph from their garden. The Vicar says that a happy candle is the Easter Light!

## VICAR'S LETTER

"May you live in interesting times" is supposed to be a Chinese curse (though Wikipedia tells me it has no known Chinese source). Well, we certainly are. We started Lent with four Ash Wednesday services, we talked to the youngsters from school about the temptations Jesus faced and the things we find difficult, how we use Lent as a time to prepare for Easter.



None of us realised that by the time we got to Palm Sunday our churches would be locked, indeed I don't think any of us thought our churches would ever be locked for Easter. We are where we are, and who knows how many more weeks we have of this. Those of us who worship regularly are working out how we pray and worship through this time of closure - if you are struggling, be assured you are not alone. I hope that the links I put on the website are helping, my daily Facebook post is being widely read, and I am aware that lots of you are supporting each other. When all this is over, we will start worshipping together again - normality will be needed, but worship is dynamic, we mustn't fossilise the church where we were in March 2020.

For many people, life events are on hold. I've warned all 12 wedding couples who have booked before the end of July in both churches that they will probably have to move - we will have 12 weddings to fit in over the next few months. Some baptisms have been postponed too, so we'll have those to deal with (perhaps we'll have extra baptisms in a year or so from all those mummies and daddies who have been locked in together!). Some families will need us to hold Memorial Services for people they have loved and lost. We will have to hold the celebrations that we have come through, with the grief of those who haven't. We must preach the Gospel of Hope. Christians are good at doing that, but there is an emotional (and practical) cost to it all.

Society will need support. It will start close to home, our families are tired, they'll need us. Our neighbours, our work colleagues, our schools, our local business, our key workers, our politicians - the list goes on and on. Christians are good at supporting, but there is an emotional (and practical) cost to it all.

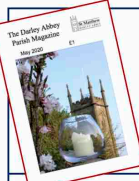
Society will need challenging. How we got here, how we have coped, how we have not coped, how we need to change to be a better Society. Christians are charged to build the Kingdom of God, which is the most challenging demand God makes on us all.

These things will need doing, and they need doing now. We can pray and worship while everything is closed. We love and support through life events, with a card, a phone call, prayer and hope. We support with love and chat and help with money and a listening ear, prayer and hope. We build the Kingdom of God, in all sorts of ways, because that's what Christians do.

While we do this work, keep hopeful and keep safe.

Peter

## Notices



**Parish Magazine on the internet.** This issue will be available on the church website. At present, we are unable to have it printed and delivered as usual, but on request we may be able to provide a few printed copies.

**Parish Magazine deliverers required (when normal service resumes)!** Could you deliver just a few magazines (up to 12) each month, usually close to where you live? Please contact Annèle or one of the editors.



**Annual Meetings.** These normally take place in April. They must now be held by 31<sup>st</sup> October, and so we can arrange them when all this is over. In the meantime, churchwardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod members continue in post. The financial statement (as approved by the PCC) and other legal reports have been submitted as required.



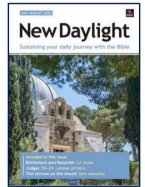
**Safeguarding—Past Cases Review 2.** The Diocese of Derby is currently involved in a Past Cases Review, going back through the safeguarding cases that have involved clergy or church officers over the last decade. The Vicar has worked with Melonie Hambly (Parish Safeguarding Officer at St Matthew's), has had a conversation with Chris Dyer, and has returned his review paperwork to the Bishop. If anyone in our community has anything they would like to talk about, please do contact the Vicar or Melonie. Alternatively you can phone the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 01332 388678 or the dedicated national hotline run by the NSPCC on 0800 802020.



Easter Greetings from St Edmund's Allestree and St Matthew's Darley Abbey

**Easter Cards.** The Vicar says: 'Caroline and I sent out 287 Easter cards for St Matthew's and 320 for St Edmund's. We had already done a lot of preparatory work with the stewardship campaigns and GDPR, and have now added magazine subscribers too. The magazine lists do not always say whether I should address the card to Mr Smith, Mrs Smith, Miss Smith, Mr & Mrs Smith, or The Smith Family. So, many apologies if we got it wrong. Please drop us an email—[steds.stmatts@outlook.com](mailto:steds.stmatts@outlook.com)—or give me a ring (01332 551404). I can assure you that we hold data properly, carefully, only use it as we should, and don't share it with others. Do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.'

**New Daylight Bible Reading Notes.** Val McFarlane has been unable to order the Bible reading notes for May-August but, hopefully, things will be back to normal in time to order the third set for 2020 (September-December). Please phone Val if you have any questions.



**Holy Week Talks by the Revd John Bell of the Iona Community.** John Bell was due to preach this Holy Week at Derby Cathedral (see page 31 of April's Parish Magazine). He has kindly sent his talks and they can be read on the cathedral website. There is an Introduction. Then for Monday to Wednesday there are three talks on 'The Consequences of Being Human' (*Touched by Pain, Troubled by Religion, and Treasured by Women*). There is a talk for Maundy Thursday, and for Good Friday there are 'Five Last Words from the Crowd' (*Crucify him!, Hail, King of the Jews!, The sound of weeping, Come down!, and Let God rescue him*). If you are unable to access these talks please let the editors know.

**Darley Abbey Day.** This is being rescheduled for 2021, probably on a Saturday in May, with the same ('Spin a Tale') programme of events and venues.



**Constella OperaBallet**  
Fusing the power of opera and ballet

**Community Action**

**Derby Covid Community Support.** The Vicar says: 'This is a network of community, church and statutory organisations that has been formed to provide support to our communities in Derby. For more information, for help, or to volunteer, please phone 01332 640000 or email [covidsupport@communityactionderby.org.uk](mailto:covidsupport@communityactionderby.org.uk). There is also a Darley Abbey network in place—contact [darleyabbeyvolunteernetwork@gmail.com](mailto:darleyabbeyvolunteernetwork@gmail.com).'

**Ascension Prayer Group**—This normally meets on the second Monday of each month, but it is unable to meet at present. When it is back in action, if you would like the group to offer special prayers, prayer cards are available in the pews and they can be left in the box on the tract table at St Matthew's.



## FoSM—Friends of St Matthew’s

### *As FoSM are not meeting at present, Carol looks back at the FoSM annual trips, some more memorable than others*

When David and Diana Mowbray left for Lincoln in 2003 we had to pick up the threads, and in the manner of the Second World War CARRY ON.



Our first trip was made easy as Diana organised a trip to Lincoln with tea in the cathedral and a visit to their new home, Blackbird Cottage. I seem to recall that all of our trips have benefited from good weather and so it was on that day, as we were able to sit out in the garden.

The following year in 2006 we visited another well known cathedral, Lichfield, another wonderful building and the city around just as interesting as Lincoln.

In 2007 and 2008 we visited Buxton, Bakewell and Tissington and I am afraid my memory is not serving me well on these visits. Perhaps someone can enlighten me.

In 2009 we went to Southwell. It was a blistering, hot day and fortunately we had lunch booked in the cathedral. The surrounding area is very pretty with quaint streets and interesting shops but I am afraid it was a bit too hot to wander far.

The following year we went to Melton Mowbray and saw a demonstration of the famous pork pie making. There was a lovely market and many of us were drawn to visit the church. Melton Mowbray pork pies really are the best (after Birds). I remember we had them at our Third-Thursdays Lunch in October.



In 2011 we went to Chester, another beautiful cathedral, lots to explore and some took a trip on the river.

In 2012, a longer trip to Stratford-upon-Avon. I seem to remember the weather was not so good. We went around Shakespeare's house, which was so interesting, and then eventually ended up having tea with Maria and Ann. I have never laughed so much—they should have been on the stage.

The following year we went to Geoff Hamilton’s garden, called Barnsdale. He was a garden presenter on TV, a lovely character, who died early from a heart attack. The garden is split into rooms, which was fascinating. We had lunch there and then we had a choice to visit Rutland Water for the birds or Oakham for the shops. Not being a shopper I opted for the birds and was fortunate to be told I had just seen a hobby—a bird of prey. I wouldn't have known but was told by more knowledgeable people than me.

In 2014 we went to Nantwich, another interesting town with a beautiful church (the ‘Cathedral of South Cheshire’), which had some wonderful collages on display. After lunch we went on to Jodrell Bank with its amazing telescope.



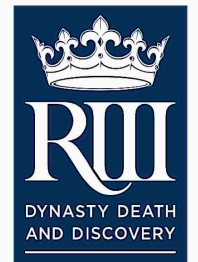
The following year was the most memorable year. We visited Salford Quays, such an interesting place with The Lowry, the war museum and much more.



Everyone went in different directions and we were due back to the coach by 1.30pm as we were going on to Ordsall Hall, a Tudor mansion nearby. It had never happened to me before, but the head count revealed one missing! Said person was last seen having lunch at the war museum! I sent the coach on to the hall for cream tea and then spent the next two hours scouring Salford Quays, ending up in the security hub at the museum where we spotted him. To cut a long story short, he had gone out of the wrong door and got completely lost. Fortunately I had given him a leaflet for our next stop and he got in a taxi and arrived in time for the cream tea. Unfortunately I missed out on that but our brilliant bus driver had returned for us, so it all ended happily. On future trips I had him tied to me on a piece of string (not really!).

Our last four trips have been to Leicester (Richard III—wonderful), Trentham Gardens (I've been back three times since), Renishaw Hall (fascinating, the story of the Sitwells and one of my favourite artists John Piper) and finally last year to Welbeck and nearby Cresswell Crags.

I have planned this year. The coach is booked, the deposit is paid on the venue—but who knows? Watch this space!



## A SMALL AMBITION AND A GREAT HOPE

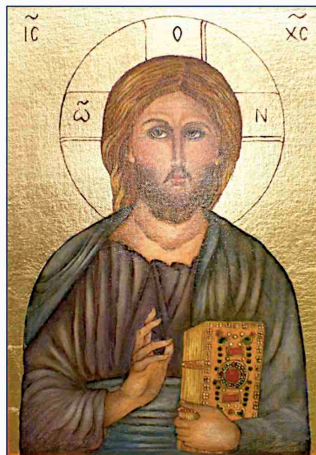
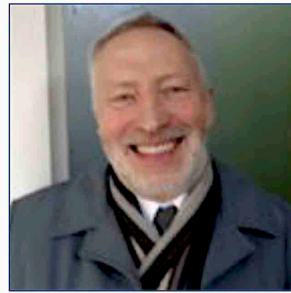
***One of our Readers at St Matthew's suggests that the present crisis may help us to see into the heart of God***

My first sermon was preached at S. James's, New Barnet on 22 May 1979, and there have been 930 more since then, so my 'small ambition' is to get over 1,000 before I am done!

Early in my preaching career I read an article in *The Reader* magazine suggesting that sermons were pastoral care. That didn't seem right on first reading, but I have come to think it is true—the best preaching, even if it comes with an uncomfortable challenge to change, is always balm to the soul. It needs to strengthen the link between life as it is lived and the divine. I cannot pretend that many (if any) of my 900+ sermons have lived up to that objective, but it remains the thought lying buried beneath the drifts of words.

What, then, to say, in this current plague-time? In Britain now (and I am writing this at the beginning of Passiontide, a week into 'lockdown') there are certainly many signs of unlooked-for altruism and self-sacrifice to encourage, but we have also seen signs of selfishness and nastiness to give us pause before rushing to optimistic platitudes.

Our Lent study course this year has been considering the opening chapter of the book of Genesis, seeing God's intentions in and for his creation. It has not made



*This icon is in Clive's stewardship. It was painted in 2008 and it represents Christ Pantocrator, or Christ, Ruler of All. The 'IC' and 'XC' are the first and last letters, in Greek, of Jesus Christ. The 'OVN' stand, in Greek, for 'He who is', more often translated into English as 'I am who I am'. Christ's left hand holds the New Testament and his right is raised in blessing.*

*Icons are not meant to be likenesses, but rather windows into the heart of what they represent. In the case of Christ Pantocrator this reveals an all-seeing but merciful Godhead in loving control of destiny.*

for easy study, as it has revealed, what we all know, deep down, to be the case, that we cannot simply carry on the way we have been doing without doing violence to those intentions. In earlier plague times some have seen the frightful situation to be a judgement from God on their wicked ways of living. I don't think that, but I do believe that such crises as pandemics have a way of exposing weaknesses in systems of human organisation that can be kept covered up when things go merrily, and I am sure that is what is happening to us today. What is revealed in Britain, or in Italy, or in China may well be different, but all is exposed as the crisis rolls on.

In the story of our Lord's passion we see a growing wave of horror building up as powerful human self-interest is pitted against a seemingly frail object that has had the temerity to expose their mean, tawdry ways, revealing them for what they truly are. This culminates in the crucifixion. On one hand one of Jesus' fellow victims clings to the myth that the violent, arrogant ways of the powerful are what life is really about; on the other hand the other fellow victim sees that the truth lies elsewhere. Then Jesus dies, and we think that the first felon must have been right—but then comes Easter and the resurrection, and we see it was the second who had seen into the heart of God. So my 'great hope' is that this very testing present time will be the precursor of a great Easter, when we learn, probably by slow degrees, to have confidence in the goodness of God's creation and of each other so that, when this is all over, we will be enabled to build a kinder society than that which we have known, one in which our fragile planet, and all God's creation on it, is better respected, one in which there is a genuine opportunity for human flourishing.

*Clive Lemmon*

*Three Readers, Geoff. Fletcher, Ted Connah and Clive Lemmon, at the door of S. James's, New Barnet during the church's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in June 1986, the year before Clive moved to Derby.*



## JESUS CALMS THE STORM

**Another of our Readers at St Matthew's says that it's all right to be afraid. But listen out for the voice of Jesus that calms the storm.**

I am writing this towards the end of March. At this point we know that case numbers and mortality from COVID-19 are ramping up; but we also know that the worst is yet to come. In many ways we are in the calm before the storm. I don't know how it will be when you read this: we may be in the midst of full-on storm.



*That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side.' Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, don't you care if we drown?'*

*He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.*

*He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?'*



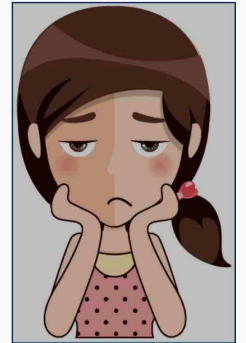
*Mark 4:35-40 (New International Version)*

The problem with the calm before the storm is that it is not especially calm. When you know something bad is coming and there is not much you can do to stop it arriving, you don't feel calm. There is currently an eerie sense of anticipation and of dread. Lockdown has meant that the streets are quiet and life is subdued.

Many, many people are anxious and afraid. People are afraid of different things: some of being ill; some of their loved ones being ill; some of being alone; some

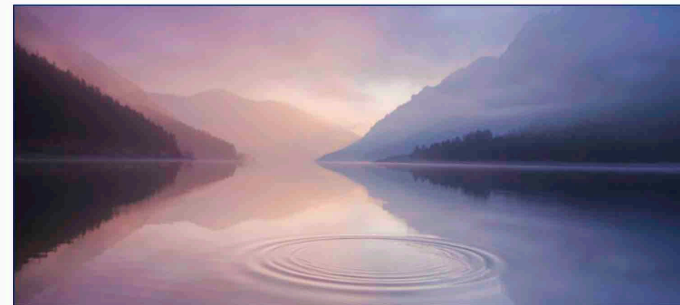
about their jobs and livelihood; some about the changes lockdown has brought. For many the anxiety is more nameless, a fear that something much more awful but as yet undefinable may occur. Some people just want the worst to come, the storm to break, so that we can get on with it—the anticipation possibly being worse than the event. If you are reading this at the height of the storm you may (or may not) disagree with this sentiment.

We do not live in a society where anxiety is generally acknowledged as being OK. Yet we are currently in a time where things are very frightening. If you are not frightened then you clearly have not grasped the gravity of the situation in which we find ourselves.



In a standard IQ test for children, there is a question, 'What does the word "Brave" mean?' Younger children answer that it means not being scared. Older children understand that "Brave" means facing something that makes you scared.

In this well known passage from Mark's gospel, the disciples are rightly afraid. They are in a violent storm, and it looks pretty likely that the boat is going to sink and that they will all drown. Jesus is, rather unhelpfully, asleep. The disciples understand the seriousness of their situation and are quite right to be very afraid. However, instead of bailing the water out, pulling on oars or sails or doing whatever else you are supposed to do in this situation, they seem to be running around in a panic and generally blaming Jesus. Jesus rebukes them, not



for their fear of the storm, but because their fear has made them lose faith in Him.

We are currently in a storm of biblical proportions. It is all right to be afraid.

Really, truly it is. Acknowledge your fears but listen out for the voice of Jesus that calms the storm. Let this voice calm the storm within you. Being brave means facing the thing that makes you scared; and still being scared whilst you are facing it. Allow our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to stand with you as you face the breaking storm.

*Melanie Hambly*



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# Headlines

by Julie

LADIES' & MEN'S HAIR  
LATE NIGHT OPENING WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY  
Appointment Service

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For details and bookings, contact the Parish Administrator  
on 01332 552031 or email [steds.stmatts@outlook.com](mailto:steds.stmatts@outlook.com)

## Normal Sunday service patterns

### St Matthew's



Sunday	8am	10am	11.15/11.30am	6.15pm
1 <sup>st</sup> of month	–	Choral Communion & Kids' Church	–	Evensong
2 <sup>nd</sup> of month	Holy Communion	All-Age Worship	11.15am Holy Communion	Evensong
3 <sup>rd</sup> of month	–	Choral Communion	11.30am Baptism †	Choral Evensong
4 <sup>th</sup> of month	Holy Communion	Service of the Word	–	Evensong
5 <sup>th</sup> of month	Holy Communion *	Joint Choral Communion	–	–

### St Edmund's



Sunday	8am	11.15/11.30am	6.30pm
1 <sup>st</sup> of month	Holy Communion	11.15am Choral Communion	Evensong
2 <sup>nd</sup> of month	–	Holy Communion	Evensong
3 <sup>rd</sup> of month	Holy Communion	Service of the Word & JACK ‡	11.15am Choral Mattins
4 <sup>th</sup> of month	–	Holy Communion	11.30am Baptism †
5 <sup>th</sup> of month	Holy Communion *	Joint Choral Communion *	–

The service pattern shown here is currently suspended

† Baptisms may also take place within the 10am service or at other times

\* On a fifth Sunday, the 10am service alternates between St Matthew's and St Edmund's, and the 8am service is at the church that has no 10am service

‡ Jesus and Cool Kids

# St Matthew's Church Contacts

Vicar	<b>The Reverend Peter Barham</b> The Vicarage, King's Croft, Allestree DE22 2FN revpeterbarham@btinternet.com 01332 551404 or 07879 474712 (Non-urgent calls between 9am and 7pm, please. Please leave a message if you get the answering machine. Peter's day off is usually Friday.)
Parish Administrator	<b>Caroline Audley</b> Parish Office 01332 552031 (Please leave a message) ♦ steds.stmatts@outlook.com Office hours: Not currently applicable
Readers	<p style="color: red; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-15deg);">This information is not available in the website edition of the magazine</p>
Churchwardens	
PCC Secretary	
PCC Treasurer	
Assistant Treasurer	
Weekly Envelopes	
Parish Safeguarding Officer	
Pastoral Care	
Organist & Choirmaster	
Assistant Organist	
Kids' Church	
Friends of St Matthew's	
Bible notes	
Derby City Mission	
Rotas	
Verger	
Fellowship Room	
Enquiries & Bookings	
Church School	
Headteacher	
Parish Magazine	Advertising Distribution  Editors

# St Matthew's Church

**Darley Abbey Drive, Darley Abbey. DE22 1EF**

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Visit [stedsandstmatts.co.uk](http://stedsandstmatts.co.uk)
- **Twitter**  
Follow @stedsstmatts
- **Ascension Prayer Group**  
Meets on the second Monday of each month, usually at 8pm. If you would like the group to offer special prayers, prayer cards are available in the pews and can be left in the box on the tract table.
- **Friends of St Matthew's**  
Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Fellowship Room. Craft morning is on the second Tuesday of each month at 10am. Contact Carol Girling or Barbara Coe.
- **Choir**  
Sings at all 10am services, Choral Evensongs and other special services. Practices are on Fridays at 6.30pm and before services. Contact John Gratton.
- **Kids' Church**  
Meets on the first Sunday of every month during the 10am service. All kids welcome! Contact Rachel Trybula-Bryan.

Some of the activities shown on this page are not currently running



### Subscribe to the Parish Magazine!

If you like the Darley Abbey Parish Magazine and would like to subscribe, please contact Annè (see opposite). It is delivered by our army of volunteers, who will also collect the subscription – £10 per year (11 issues).

### United Benefice – St Matthew's & St Edmund's

We are part of the United Benefice of Allestree St Edmund and Darley Abbey St Matthew. This means that the two parishes share our vicar, Peter. You are welcome to services and activities at both St Matthew's and St Edmund's.

**Normal Sunday service patterns ..... page 17**

## JULIE'S BOOK REVIEW

**Julie Barham has been reading the book that she had chosen for the Bookworms meeting in April**

*Mr Rosenblum's List* by Natasha Solomons is about a family who escape 1930s Germany for England. Jack is determined to become as typically English as possible, and takes a leaflet given to him on the subject as the basis of his list. His wife is not so convinced; she yearns for her family who have died in the persecution of Jews. Jack continues to build up his English persona; as his business flourishes and rationing ceases, he equips himself with a very English suit and everything else he deems to be essential to the typical Englishman. Only one item remains, to join a golf club. In this thing he seems doomed to fail. No club will accept a Jew as a member, even if other, less prosperous men are welcomed. It is at this point he decides on his campaign to buy a piece of Dorset and build his own course.



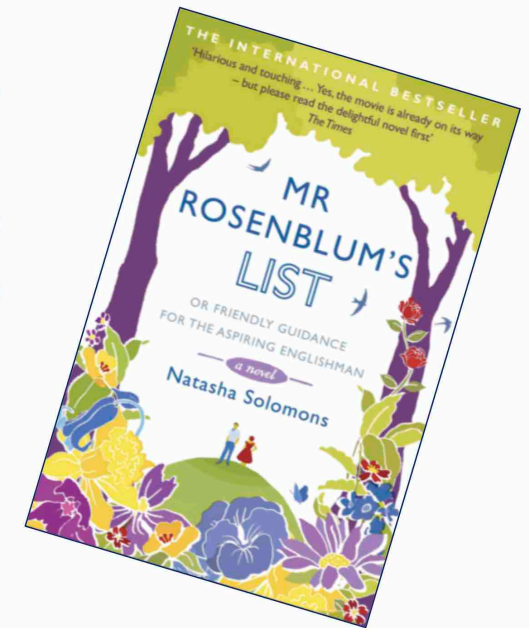
Natasha Solomons was born in 1980 and lives in Dorset

The book then really shifts up a gear, and becomes a funny, moving and involving account of rural life in all its variety and downright madness. Mythical beasts, an assortment of birds and creatures, none stranger than the humans, variously hinder and help Jack's project with their country lore and more modern machinery. The seasons become important and the land almost becomes another character in the novel. Jack battles the class divisions that seem more pronounced in the country; as his money dwindles the hope of the course opening in time seems to be failing.

The other members of the family—Jack's wife, Sadie, and their daughter, Elizabeth—cannot divert Jack from his plans. Elizabeth goes to Cambridge and returns only on her terms. Sadie, however, feels the departure from London keenly. She begins to tend the garden but becomes more obsessed with her

memories. She finds relative peace through her cooking of an immense memory cake which she shares, and begins to find her place in the country.

This is a novel of impossible dreams, memories and identity. The portrait of rural life is very effectively drawn, with great humour. Sadie's memories are so real that this book could be depressing, but this is such an emotionally rewarding novel that is really enjoyable. The ending represents hope and justice; this is a positive book which I greatly enjoyed reading once the action moved to the countryside. It is a bit of slow starter, but worth persevering through the first third of the tale to enjoy this unusual, but satisfying book.



If we had been discussing the book in Bookworms, we would have perhaps asked some questions for discussion. If you would like to join in, why not jot your answers down and email them to me at [julieebarham@gmail.com](mailto:julieebarham@gmail.com)?

1. Can you comment in a couple of sentences on what you thought about this book? Did you enjoy it?
2. Jack tries throughout the book to become properly English. Does such a thing exist? Does he succeed?
3. Sadie wants to hold onto the past. How does she try to do this? Does she succeed?
4. Does Solomons manage to combine humour and the darker element of this book?
5. Do the characters in the novel 'work' for you? How about the plot?
6. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why?



## George Henry Winfield

### **George lived in Darley Abbey and took part in the D-Day Landings**

March's Parish Magazine mentioned the sad passing and funeral at St Matthew's of George Winfield, seventy years after he took part in one of the most crucial events in our country's history.

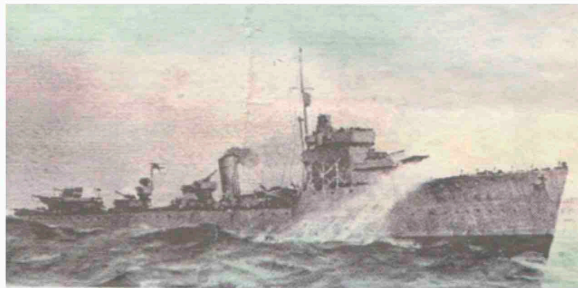


Clive, the manager of the Paper Mill in Darley Abbey, remembers his father's account of his experiences as one of the gun crew on board the Royal Navy destroyer HMS Vidette, which escorted and protected US landing craft at Omaha Beach on the coast of Normandy. At the age of 18, he watched as hundreds of US landing craft made their brave assault on the beach and had to witness many American soldiers lose their lives.



It was something George found hard to talk about as he explained that the beach should have been bombed in advance, to provide craters as refuges for infantrymen to shelter in. That didn't happen and many were slaughtered on the beach, in the landing crafts and in the water before they even got ashore.

George (photographed above, on the left of his shipmates) enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1943 at the age of 17 and, after completing his training, he joined HMS Vidette, which was then being used as a long-range escort destroyer. He took part in the crucial battles to protect convoys in the North Atlantic, during which his ship sank 4 German U-boats.



*continued opposite*



At the end of the war, George was transferred to the heavy cruiser HMS Devonshire and went out to Australia. He was then posted to Hong Kong, where he served on the sloop HMS Hind, which was carrying out anti-pirate patrols between Hong Kong and Shanghai. He left the navy in 1948 and, the following year, married Frances, who was his wife for 65 years.



Thank you Clive, for making this information on your brave father available to us.

\*\*\*\*\*

The poem below was written by Roy Wooldridge MC\*, of Allestree, who served in the North Africa Campaign, was captured by the Germans whilst spying on the Normandy beaches before D-Day and spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of war. He later became the Head of Derby College.

### **No Second Chance**

*Tis only once we pass this way  
There is no second chance  
So it behoves us all to say  
We'll do our best with what we've got  
To give and not to count the cost  
For chances missed are chances lost  
And it behoves us too to make with  
those we love  
As many golden moments in a day as  
there are hours  
These are the flowers that never die  
That will forever bloom  
In memories for our tomorrow  
And serve to lift the gloom of parting's  
sorrow  
Ideals beyond achievement, you may  
say  
For we are weak but in our weakness  
We can only do our best to love and  
cherish come what may  
'Tis only once we pass this way.*

Roy Wooldridge

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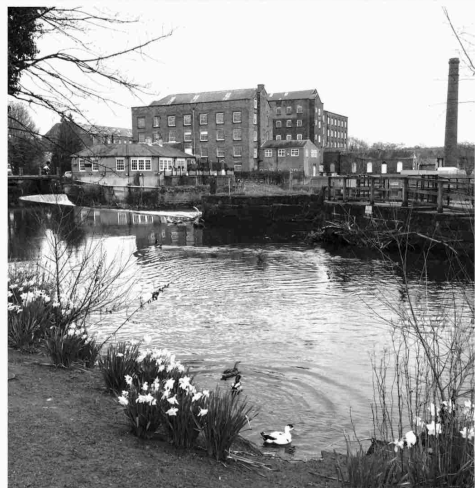
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## FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

### *International Nurses Day on 12<sup>th</sup> May is Florence's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday*

Named after the city where she was born, Florence was a bright student and she excelled in languages and mathematics.

From 1850 to 1851 she learned basic nursing skills, the importance of observing patients and the benefit of a proper hospital organization.

In 1853, Florence led a group of volunteer nurses to Scutari to care for soldiers wounded in the Crimean War. She found the hospital in a deplorable state but with great perseverance she managed to improve the care, gaining the nickname 'The Lady with the Lamp' from a report in *The Times*:



*She is a 'ministering angel' without any exaggeration in these hospitals, and as her slender form glides quietly along each corridor, every poor fellow's face softens with gratitude at the sight of her. When all the medical officers have retired for the night and silence and darkness have settled down upon those miles of prostrate sick, she may be observed alone, with a little lamp in her hand, making her solitary rounds.*

Florence's lasting contribution has been in founding the modern nursing profession. In 1860 she established the first secular nursing school in the world, the *Nightingale School for Nurses*, at St Thomas' Hospital in London. Graduates of the school used to be called 'Nightingales', and there are at least two Nightingales in Darley Abbey! In the 1990s it merged with King's College.

She also encouraged many social reforms, she was a prodigious writer (on medical knowledge, on religion and on mysticism), and she was a pioneer in the use of statistics and the graphical presentation of data.



But she is chiefly remembered for her example of compassion, commitment to patient care and thoughtful hospital administration. In 2020, the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, she would surely have been proud of the huge new NHS Nightingale Hospitals, and the care being shown by everyone in today's crisis.

## 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

### *As we celebrate in the midst of the coronavirus Dame Vera Lynn says, 'Keep smiling and keep singing'*



On VE Day, 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945, there was much relief across the western world as the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany's armed forces brought World War Two in Europe to an end. In London crowds massed in Trafalgar Square, along the Mall and in front of Buckingham Palace,



waiting for the King and Queen to appear on the balcony with the Prime Minister, Winston Churchill. Princess Elizabeth and her sister Princess Margaret were allowed to wander incognito among the crowds.

Americans celebrated with President Truman on his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday in New York's Times Square and in many other cities, although they were still in mourning for President Roosevelt, who had died in April.

Churchill said, 'We may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing'. The war in Japan continued. The final end of WW2 came later in 1945 with VJ Day on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Sadly this was not before the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima on 6<sup>th</sup> August and Nagasaki on 9<sup>th</sup> August. In Japan 15<sup>th</sup> August is officially known as 'the day for mourning of war dead and praying for peace'.

St Matthew's was planning to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day with afternoon tea in the Fellowship Room followed by a concert in the church. Whilst sipping our tea we might have heard Vera Lynn, famous for boosting the morale of troops, singing *The White Cliffs of Dover* and *There'll always be an England*.

Dame Vera celebrated her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday in March with a new video. 'Music is so good for the soul', she says, 'and during these hard times we must all help each other to find moments of joy.'



'I am reminded of World War Two, when our country faced the darkest of times and yet, despite our struggles, pulled together for the common good and we faced the common threat together as a country, and as a community of countries that joined as one right across the world.'

**NIC BARNARD  
A PERSONAL FAREWELL**

I feel very privileged to have worked with Nic on the bicentenary programme for St Matthew's in 2019. He worked so hard to produce a year of events to bring the whole village together to enjoy and celebrate our church's 200th birthday. We met frequently when he and Diane opened their home to the small group that helped us to come up with ideas and we had 'sofa meetings' with Ann and Diane at the Broadway pub to discuss how to turn the ideas into real events. We had a wonderful year and an exhibition of photographs is planned in the Fellowship Room when services return to St Matthew's, which will be dedicated to Nic's memory.



Nic was a much-valued member of the PCC for many years, where his skills as a Financial Advisor were most helpful to the church. He and Diane ran their successful business in Darley Abbey Mills and always gave generously of their time to raise money for church events and for Darley Abbey Day.

He was also a much-loved member of the informal group at St Matthew's who enjoy sharing a whisky at 'shed parties' at each other's homes. We will raise a glass to you each time in future, Nic!



Nic died from motor neurone disease on 5th April, only 6 months after learning he had the disease. He continued stoically trying to live a normal life to the very end and I never saw him complain or feel sorry for himself. He was determined to live to see his daughter Olivia, a St Matthew's Head Chorister, marry her fiancé Kierran on 20th March and to celebrate afterwards at the reception at the West Mill, in the most difficult circumstances imaginable. Two weeks later, we lost him.

You will be very sadly missed, Nic, but joyfully remembered, mostly, of course, by your family but also by your circle of friends in which I count myself lucky to be included. Au revoir, mon ami, and save me a place on that sofa up there for our next meeting.

John Worthy



*From the Registers*

We are sad to record the passing of **Esther Reid** and we send our sincere condolences to her friends and family.

We congratulate **Olivia Barnard and Kierran Tunstall** who were married at St Matthew's (above).

**A Message from Rosemary Rowland**

"I am grateful to my many friends for the cards and messages I have received after the death of my son, Mark. My family are also being a great support." Our thoughts are with you, Rosemary.

*If you would like to book a wedding or arrange for banns to be read, please leave a message on the office phone 552031 with your name and phone number and Caroline Audley, our Church Administrator, will contact you. Alternatively, please contact her on [steds.stmatts@outlook.com](mailto:steds.stmatts@outlook.com).*



**Darley Abbey Women's Institute**

meetings are suspended for the foreseeable future due to the Coronavirus situation.

More information from Pat Mills, tel. 737143

**DARLEY ABBEY HISTORICAL GROUP**

There are no meetings for the foreseeable future, but the DAHG website <http://darleyabbeyhistoricalgroup.wordpress.com> is up to date with all our news. There will be another newsletter in due course and we're always available via our email address [darleyabbeyhistoricalgroup@gmail.com](mailto:darleyabbeyhistoricalgroup@gmail.com).





We find ourselves in the strangest of times. Following advice from the Chief Medical Officer and the Scout Association, we have postponed all forthcoming events. We were really looking forward to the Open Day in April for former members of the Scout Group and this will most definitely be rearranged when the pandemic is over. So, as we can no longer meet in person, I would be very pleased to hear about your memories of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Derby by e-mail at [63rdderbyscoutshall@gmail.com](mailto:63rdderbyscoutshall@gmail.com).

The current crisis has hit our fund-raising hard after a promising start, most recently with the Christmas Concert at St Matthew's, Burns' Night Malt Whisky Tasting, Fashion Show and Curry 'n' Quiz Night. In 2019/2020 we raised around £8,000 (including donations). So we will really miss our Field Day in June, which is usually our most successful event of the year.



Left: Curry 'n' Quiz Night Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Scout Hall

So, we have a necessary pause in fund-raising... we are unable to hold events for the foreseeable future and, as has been confirmed by a friend who is a professional fund-raiser, now is not a good time to be writing to local and national companies, nor to local philanthropists for their support. We will use this time

constructively: some of it

will be spent catching up - our web-site is due an update - and some of it doing research into funding opportunities, so we are well-prepared for life after coronavirus.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in helping us with research or supporting us in other ways please get in touch with Sue at the above e-mail address or by phone/ text on 07564 099977.

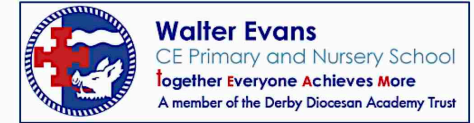
Once it is safe to do so we have a busy programme of events planned and look forward to seeing you there.

From everyone at the 63<sup>rd</sup> to our friends and neighbours, keep well and stay safe

Sue Tyrer

## Walter Evans School

### A very odd experience, but the children have lots of optimism!



As everyone adapts to the current period of social distancing, 'lockdown' or self-isolation, our school has closed to children, all but those of parents who are critical workers. It certainly is a very odd experience—staff working in two



separate 'shift patterns', small numbers of children, empty classrooms and corridors so eerily quiet and devoid of the daily hustle, bustle and energy children (and staff) bring.

At the moment, this 'life' has been replaced by children and staff learning and working in very different ways: remote working, online 'workbooks', and staff creating online video for pupils to stay 'connected' have

become the new norm. Back in school, children are being creative and making the most of our great outdoors whilst also trying to maintain social distancing—not so easy to explain, let alone consistently maintain, with 3, 4 and 5 year olds!

Whilst we have missed lots of opportunities the time of year usually affords and have postponed planned activities, trips, services at St Matthew's, meetings (and yes, testing has been cancelled too), amongst so much change and difference there is lots of optimism—something children have in abundance.

In the pictures are some of the arts and crafts children in school have created and real 'green shoots' for the future—the tree at the front of school has blossomed during the closure period and is simply stunning.

The tree typifies some of the daily experience we take for granted and now dearly miss, along with our school community, the routine and social interaction school brings, and especially our children and families.



Please enjoy the pictures, and stay safe—a time of hope has never been more relevant.

From all at Walter Evans CE Primary and Nursery School,

David Brown, Headteacher

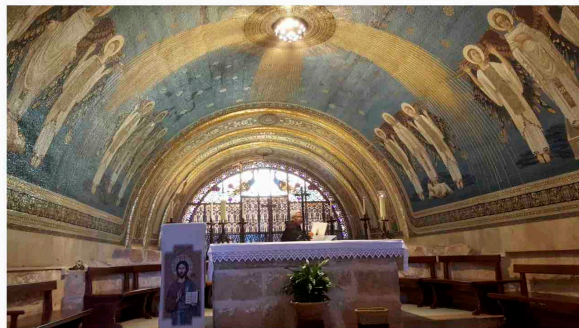
## Our Pilgrimage to the Holy Land by Shanti and Trevor Snelling

Last November Trevor and I had the opportunity to join our friends on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The tour was led by Father Kevin, the Priest Administrator of The Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham, so most of the 70 pilgrims were Anglo Catholic in denomination. There were 10 priests in all within our pilgrim group, who all participated in the masses, making for a very crowded altar during the celebration of the Eucharist!

We landed in Tel Aviv Ben Gurion Airport and had to run the gauntlet of Israeli immigration before we were allowed through! It was not however till we saw all the signs in Hebrew and paid for our first coffee in shekels that we definitely felt we were in Biblical territory!

The itinerary was organised to follow the life and ministry of Jesus and was a very devotional experience in spite of all the sightseeing and fun we had. We spent the first 3 nights at a Benedictine Pilgrim guesthouse right on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. It was wonderful, waking to see many fellow pilgrims sitting outside enjoying sunrise by the sea, reading their bibles and in prayer.

We began our tour very early, driving to Mount Tabor to visit the church on the summit built to commemorate the



Transfiguration of Jesus. We were extremely fortunate to be able to celebrate mass within the main church rather than one of its annexes and this made the experience unforgettable. The church was decorated with exquisite gold and blue mosaics on the walls, ceiling and altar.

We then travelled on to Nazareth and walked through a quaint street bazaar to visit the Synagogue Church. This was built at the site of the original Roman period synagogue, where Jesus learned and later preached as a young man as mentioned in Luke 4:15-16. We then went to the magnificent Basilica of the Annunciation. This stands at the site that was



believed to be the house of Mary and where she was visited by the Angel Gabriel. The courtyards and walls in the church were embellished by beautiful and colourful mosaics and sculptures of Jesus and Mary sent by the many Christian communities from around the world. Every piece of art reflected the national characteristics and culture of the country that contributed it. We enjoyed the lovely mosaic contribution by Walsingham Shrine and the Japanese Jesus in kimono! Our final stop was Cana Church, site of the wedding where Jesus turned water into wine. In the basement of the church there were huge stone water jars similar to the ones Jesus would have used to perform his first miracle. Before we left, all the married couples in our group renewed their marriage vows in the little church courtyard.

Trevor and I found it quite a moving experience.

The next day started with the Eucharist on the Mount of Beatitudes where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount. We then proceeded to Capernaum where Jesus lived as he carried out his ministry and hometown of several apostles. We saw the ruins of Peter's house and explored the excavated Synagogue, in which the basalt walls of the original Synagogue where Jesus taught were visible underneath. Our next stop was Tabgha, to visit the Church of the Multiplication, the site where Jesus fed the 5000. This church had its original Byzantine mosaic flooring with 2 fish on either side of a basket of loaves in front of the altar. Very near to this church and right on the sea shore was the Church of the Primacy of St Peter where Jesus restored Peter and recommissioned him as the head of his apostles. The church also contained the flat limestone rock where Jesus prepared breakfast for his apostles after his resurrection. Before we left Tabgha we enjoyed paddling in the clear warm waters of the Sea of Galilee. The day was topped off by sailing on the sea itself in a modern replica of a first century fishing boat. We returned to shore on the 'Jesus Boat' singing 'How Great Thou Art' at the top of our voices.



Our Pilgrimage story continues next month.

## DARLEY AND NUTWOOD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE



In these days of lockdown and fine weather, more people are taking their daily exercise by exploring their local neighbourhood, whilst keeping their distance from other walkers. The Nature Reserve is a beautiful environment on our doorstep, especially as Spring arrives. The website [www.darleyandnutwood.org.uk](http://www.darleyandnutwood.org.uk) carries a list of 'what to see' each month.

A wide variety of plant and animal life can be seen in the reserve, which is owned by the City Council and carefully managed by a group comprising local residents, two naturalists working for the City Council, another working for the Derbyshire

Wildlife Trust and a number of 'Friends,' who maintain an interest and assist with projects. Dr Keith Dodd is the chairman.



For 6 weeks in 2019 a herd of 5 Highland Cattle, 3 Belted Galloways and 6 calves grazed in the reserve. Several species new to the reserve have been recorded during the past year, including otters, little egrets, brown argus, stinking iris and several insects. In a survey in January this year, on a cold, misty morning, 26 species of birds were recorded.

