# St Mary's Parish Church Whitegate

## NEWS FOR AUGUST 2025





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### Our cover photo

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, during the joint Benefice service of Holy Communion, we celebrated St Peter's Day – at St Peter's Little Budworth. But that was not the only cause for celebration. On that day in 1985 the Reverend Canon Paul Dawson was ordained, so together with him and his whole family, we were celebrating his 40 years of ministry in the Church of England.

Paul and Fiona are pictured here with their daughters, sons in law and grandchildren who all joined members of St Peter's and St Mary's for the service, after which Paul was presented with cards and gifts from both parishes. The morning was brilliantly rounded off with cake and prosecco served in church, with everyone mingling to chat and toast Paul's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the Church and wish him a happy and fulfilling time in his 3-month sabbatical which started just two days later. Read on to see a message for us all, received from him the following day.

#### **THANK YOU**

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the generosity with which our parishes marked the 40th anniversary of my ordination. Your cards, gifts and words mean so much to me. I am very grateful for your friendship and support marking this milestone.

Yours, Paul

#### I A verse for AUGUST

Mark Ch 40: verse 40 l

### "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?"

We are privileged to live in a beautiful and peaceful area where, for most of us, I war has come no closer than our television screens for the last 80 years. Continued I peace has been the default setting for our future expectations but in recent I months things have changed - distant wars have solved little and seem to be I spreading and getting closer. How do we as Christians make sense of this situation?

Alison, a missionary working in Ukraine when the war started, and still there, writes: "Whenever I have prayed about what I should do I have always had peace about staying, with the assurance that God is not only in control but working things together for our good. My desire is to stay and fulfil my part of bringing God's will to pass here in Ukraine."

CMS-Africa and partners work to equip people in Eastern DRCongo and Northern South Sudan with skills to help them be more resilient to conflicts, promote peaceful coexistence, and disciple Christians in these challenging environments.

May their example help us to strengthen our faith now and in the future.

JRC I

**AUGUST Diary** 

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ji Diai y	Trinity 7			
	9.30 am 2.00 for 2.30 pm	Morning Prayer Movies in The Mews: Hampstead, starring Diane Keaton & Brendan Gleeson. Note change of film from advertised programme. See page 12.	St Mary's The Mews,		
5 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Bible Study at Commonside	L.B. Methodist Chapel		
6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 12.00 noon	Crafty Coffee Holy Communion (BCP)	The Mews St Mary's		
7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	First Thursday Café See page 12.	The Mews		
10 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Trinity 8 Holy Communion	St Mary's		
12 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Bible Study at Commonside	L.B. Methodist Chapel		
13 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am 10.00 am 12.00 noon	Men's Breakfast Crafty Coffee Holy Communion (BCP)	Tarporley G'dn Centre The Mews St Mary's		
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Trinity 9 Morning Prayer	St Mary's		
19 <sup>th</sup>	1.00 pm 2.00 pm	St Mary's Mothers' Union, "bring your own" picnic. All welcome. Bible Study at Commonside	Church Green – in The Mews if wet L.B. Methodist Chapel		
20 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 12.00 noon	Crafty Coffee Holy Communion (BCP)	The Mews St Mary's		
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.45 am meet for 10.00 am start	Whitegate Amblers walk See page 12 for details of route.	Frodsham Wood carpark WA6 6HE		
24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am 11.00 am	Trinity 10 Holy Communion St Peter's Service in the Pits, followed by Walk, Run, Cycle round the circuit. See page 10.	St Mary's Oulton Park		
26 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 pm	Bible Study at Commonside	L.B. Methodist Chapel		
27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 12.00 noon	Crafty Coffee Holy Communion (BCP)	The Mews St Mary's		
30 <sup>th</sup>	2.00 - 4.30 pm	Whitegate Village Show See page 12.	Recreation Room		
31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Trinity 11 United Benefice Holy Communion	St Peter's		
SEPT 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.00 pm	Bible Study at Commonside	L.B. Methodist Chapel		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am 12.00 noon	Crafty Coffee Holy Communion (BCP)	The Mews St Mary's		
4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	First Thursday Café	The Mews		
7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	St Mary's Patronal Festival United Benefice Holy Communion	St Mary's		

**N.B.** It isn't a mistake! There really are two United Benefice services on consecutive Sundays: on  $31^{\rm st}$  August at St Peter's as it's the fifth Sunday in the month, and on  $7^{\rm th}$  September at St Mary's for our Patronal Festival.

### A holiday letter from Jane Millinchip

I wonder when the last time was that you attended a service in a church other than St Mary's Whitegate, and where it was and why? Were you visiting friends or family and went to church with them? Or perhaps you were on holiday? In the UK or abroad?

As many of you know, I have family who live in far flung places, and I also love to travel, so I have had the opportunity to worship in lots of different circumstances. Some of churches are just round the corner in another part of Mid-Cheshire, and some are



thousands of miles away. Some are Church of England, but, at other times, they might be Presbyterian or Roman Catholic, for example, and they are not even always in English. They might be in Italian or French or German. As I write this letter, I am in fact in Spain on holiday, and we will be going to 8am Mass next week in the pilgrimage church of Santiago de Compostella. I will try anything.



And why will I try anything? Well, because I find that sharing in worship with fellow believers, whatever the context, is such an uplifting experience. Yes, the music they sing, or the clothes they wear, and the building itself, may feel different, and even a bit alien to us, but we quickly realise that there is so much more that unites us than divides us. We all listen to readings from the same Bible. We all say the Lord's Prayer. We all share in Holy Communion. We all pray for the needs of the world. And we are all very pleased to welcome other Christians who have made the effort to come to our church. We have a shared faith as followers of Jesus Christ.

I have had so many memorable moments, in so many different churches, that it is difficult to single one out, but I might perhaps choose Dr Graham's Homes, a Christian boarding school for underprivileged Anglo-Indian children, high up in the Himalayas, where our younger son, Ben, went to work on his gap year, and where, in 2014, just after my ordination, I was privileged to be asked to preach at their Sunday morning assembly.

I preached on this verse, which I am sure most of you know, from the hymn 'The Day Thou Gavest':

As o'er each continent and island The dawn leads on another day The voice of prayer is never silent Nor die the strains of praise away. My message for those young people was that, at any moment, somewhere in the world, Christians like us will be meeting together to worship, or taking time out as individuals to pray. This can give us strength and encourage us.

And so I would like you to take away two messages from my letter to you this month.

- We are never far from fellow Christians wherever we find ourselves. Let us take time to meet them and get to know them.
- We are never alone as followers of Jesus Christ. Ours is a world-wide church. Let us rejoice in its unity in diversity.

In the words of another much loved, albeit more modern, hymn:

We are pilgrims on a journey And companions of the road We are here to help each other Walk the mile and bear the load.

Best wishes Jane





#### **NEWS FROM ST MARY'S**

### ☐ On holiday or travelling? Don't forget - photos needed

From Advent onwards there will a new exhibition on the gallery wall in The Mews. The title will be "The House of the Lord" and we are looking for photos of churches or cathedrals, inside or outside, in this country or across the globe. We hope that as many members of the local community as possible will be able to contribute.

Send your photo digitally as an attachment to Jane Millinchip by email: <a href="mailto:revdjanemillinchip@outlook.com">revdjanemillinchip@outlook.com</a>

Please ensure that the definition of the photos is high enough to allow them to be enlarged to A4. The deadline is the end of October.

### ☐ Mid Cheshire Foodbank

The foodbank is very short of the items below. Please help if you can, by adding some to your shopping list and bringing them down to our collection box in St Mary's:



Fruit cordial – Coffee – Toilet Rolls

Male Deodorant – Female Deodorant

#### □ Advance dates for September

Our Pastoral & Fellowship team have agreed the following dates for September. More details in next month's edition of the NEWS:

Thursday 4th September: First Thursday Café in The Mews

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September: Men's Breakfast at Tarporley Garden Centre

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September: Gentlemen's Dinner at The Plough

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September: Big Clean in church & churchyard, with lunch for the volunteers at midday in The Mews.

### □ BBQ & BANDS – Another roaring success!

300 people attended, with lots of families enjoying the relaxed afternoon with an excellent variety of music from local bands, including Paul Cronin and Mixology, Bryn Llewelyn, Lynn Behind the Beat, Keith Miller and Goosebumps. delicious barbecue and strawberries provided energy for dancing perhaps the Pimms and beer helped too.

There are simply too many volunteers to mention by name but a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the day in any way. From planning, through preparation & set up, to stall-holding, serving food, and performing on stage, then afterwards, in the



dismantling and clear-up, the number of people involved was enormous – and that's without counting all who came to enjoy the music and fun. Church Green and The Mews together make a perfect setting for this glorious and ever-growing event, one that Whitegate can be proud of. And £5000 was raised to support the upkeep and work of St Mary's Church.

The photos here and on the following pages capture the mood and the enjoyment.

















TOWNIE IN I HINE











### Station House Café, Whitegate celebrates 10 years

It doesn't seem possible – and yet the café is so well embedded in our village community that it always seems to have been there! With a BBQ and special cake, the team celebrated this 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in style on 19<sup>th</sup> July.



Thanks to the commitment and dedication of all the volunteers, and the everwidening scope of its activities, the Station House Café has gone from strength to strength. Thank you to everyone, and here's to the next ten years.

During the school summer holidays, there are two Summertime Crafts sessions at the Station Café for youngsters aged from 4 - 10, on Wednesday mornings, 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> August. To find out more and to book, go to: www.nature-makers.co.uk/cheshire-mid-chester

And something new, starting on 25<sup>th</sup> September at the Café, Bridget's Book Club. More details in next month's NEWS.

#### **Summer 2025 at Chester Cathedral**

Pete Waterman and the Railnuts are back, with Making Tracks 200, a model railway layout to celebrate 200 years since the first Intercity train carried passengers in Britain. Carrying models of trains from 1820's to present day, this year's track measures 72 feet and features Watford Junction and its amazing townscape.

Making Tracks 200 is there from 24<sup>th</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> August, Monday – Saturday, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Also from 24<sup>th</sup> July, every Thursday evening at 6.45 pm there is a special evening series of organ recitals, each week featuring a different organist. But then on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August, four of them will perform in the Battle of the Organs. On that evening, all proceeds will go towards repairing and maintaining the cathedral's magnificent instrument.

To find out more about these and the whole range of services, tours and other events taking place at the Cathedral, simply look at their website, <a href="mailto:chestercathedral.com">chestercathedral.com</a>

### Whitegate Village Show

The WI will be hosting the show on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August, at the Recreation Room. Entries are invited for a huge range of classes. See the poster on page 12 and get your schedule from the Church Porch or from whitegatewi.weebly.com



Service in The Pits 11.00 am – 12.00 noon followed by

### WALK, RUN, CYCLE

around

### OULTON PARK RACING CIRCUIT

One Day Only!

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August



12.30 - 3.30 pm



£10 for adults, £5 for Under 12s

Sponsorship forms also available

Light refreshments available + BBQ + Ice Cream

This promises to be a great day for all the family!

SORRY, MSV DO NOT ALLOW DOGS INSIDE THE GROUNDS

For more details (and sponsorship forms) contact
Steve 01829 760377/07810 893456 or Anne 01829 760592/07973 139304



By kind permission of MSV, In aid of St Peter's Church, Little Budworth

### **Contacts**

N. B. Our vicar, the Reverend Canon Paul Dawson, is now on sabbatical leave until 30.09.25. During this time please contact our curate, the Reverend Margaret Byrne. See contact details below.

Vicar		Churchwardens				
Rev Canon Paul Dawson		Anne Blayney	07815 713012			
The Vicarage, Cinder Hil	l, Whitegate CW8	Sandra Paskin	01606 882031			
2BH		PCC Secretary				
		Roger Wilkes	01606 75738			
Curates		Church Flowers				
Rev Margaret Byrne	07368 375970	Pam Davies	01606 557833			
revmargaret1@hotma	il.com	Children's Worker				
Rev Dr John Stopford	01606 558802	Teresa Finney	01606 889311			
Rev Jane Millinchip	07981 981293	,				
Safeguarding Officer		Mothers' Union				
Anne Blayney	07815 713012	Eileen Lees	01606 786895			
safeguardingwhitegate@	outlook.com					
Mews Lettings		"News" coordinator				
Andrew Millinchip		Christine Ball	01606 593260			
amillinchip@gmail.com		chrisball2022@outlook.com				
Musical Director		Pastoral & Fellowship Committee				
Andrew Millinchip	07821 810772	Alan Newton	01829 760239			
Treasurers		Social & Fundraising Group				
Gary Chadwick	07590 999169	John Blayney	07964 844642			
Sarah Campbell Woodwa	ard 01829 760438					
treasurerwhitegatepcc@	outlook.com					

Please note that in this online edition of the NEWS, many contacts prefer us only to show their phone number. If you need to e-mail them, please call them first to ask for the address.

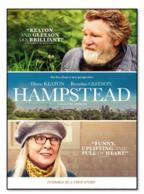
Sept	tember N	IEWS: (	Comm	nents and	d contributio	ns for the	e next	edition	of
the	Monthly	NEWS	are	always	welcome.	Please	send	copy	to
chris	ball2022@	<u>@outlool</u>	k.com	<u>า</u> by 15 <sup>th</sup>	August.				

#### **Movies in The Mews**

Church Green, Whitegate Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025

Refreshments from 2.00 p.m. film starts at 2.30 p.m. prompt.





### HAMPSTEAD (2017)

"funny, uplifting and full of heart"

"A feel-good movie about an odd couple"

Based on true events, the film is directed by Joel Hopkins and stars Diane Keaton, Brendan Gleeson, Lesley Manville and Jason Hopkins.

An American widow finds unexpected love with a man living wild on Hampstead Heath when they take on the developers who want to destroy his home.

Sub-titled for the hard of hearing. Suggested donation £5.00 per person

Book by signing up on the board in church, or contact Chris Ball: 01606 593260 mob: 07786 132938 chrisball2015@gmail.com



### FIRST THURSDAY CAFÉ

The Mews Church Green Whitegate CW8 2AY

Thursday 7th August

Come to The Mews, catch up with old friends & meet new ones. Chat over tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes.











(Everyone is welcome to enter - entries to be brought between 9 – 11 am)

Photography

at

The Recreation Room (CW8 2BL)

Afternoon Teas, Raffle & Cake Stall





 $P_{roduc_e}$ 

Organised by Whitegate Women's Institute Registered charity 1021683
Enquiries: tel. Alison 07719184747
Email: whitegatewi@outlook.com
Schedules from St Mary's Church porch or the Station House Cafe

or online at www.whitegatewi.weebly.com