



Newbold Parish Church

# The Evangelis



February 2024

80p



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*Items for the next edition to be with Rhoda or Sue*

*By 11 February*

*revrho2020@gmail.com sue.wheeler.stjohns@gmail.com*

# Public Worship

## **Sunday 10am Mass**

The use of the common cup has been restored, and communicants are free to decide if they wish to receive from this or not.

Please be assured that Communion is received in full with just the wafer (host). Please note that dipping the wafer in the chalice is not permitted.

Please do not attend if you feel unwell.

## **First Sundays 4pm Messy Church**

A time of worship based on craft activities, singing and stories, followed by food. Ideal for families.

## **Tuesday Morning prayer 10am**

A 30min service of prayer on Zoom continues each week gathering at 09.50 for a 10am start. All Welcome.

Contact church office for Link.

## **Wednesday 10am Mid-week Communion**

A service of mid-week Holy Communion

Now taking place in the Parish Room

## **Ash Wednesday Services – 14 February**

10am in the Parish Room and 7.30pm in Church

## From the vicar

### *Revd Rhoda*



February 2nd is the Feast of Candlemas, 40 days after Christmas. In the Christian calendar, it marks the end of the Christmas season, and then we turn towards Lent. The crib and the celebratory gold and white are packed away, and next week the colour will be green as we count down the Sundays before the beginning of Lent, which starts this year on February 14th.

Candlemas remembers the occasion when Mary and Joseph presented the baby Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem 40 days after his birth, as was the Jewish custom.

At the Temple, Mary and Joseph encountered two elderly people who had been waiting all their lives to meet the Messiah, Simeon and Anna.



Anna foresaw the redemption of God's people, while Simeon could see the great upheaval that would be caused by the Messiah's arrival, and the trouble that was in store for Jesus himself. He could see the grief that was heading Mary's way, too.

Over the years, Candlemas traditions have drawn on this idea of looking forward into the future. There are old rhymes about predicting whether winter has ended, based on whether it is cloudy or fair on Candlemas day, 2nd February.

For us, today, what are we looking towards? As a church, we turn from Christmas to look forward to the passion and Easter, when the light of Christ's love overcame the darkness of death forever.

In our prayers, we ask that Christ's light will be our guide and comfort on our faith journey. We ask that Christ's light will reveal

those things we need to change in our lives. We ask that we might be filled with Christ's light and be able to shine as a witness to God's love in our community.

The flower of Candlemas is the snowdrop, Candlemas bells, and they are already beginning to come out here in the churchyard. Snowdrops are one of my favourite flowers. They are incredibly resilient, not affected by frost or late snow; they are small and unassuming, until you look closely and appreciate their simple beauty.

They are a herald of spring and the hope of warmer days to come.

The story of Candlemas can be seen in that way too, two elderly faithful people in the temple recognise a baby brought in by a poor couple from the countryside. A baby who will change the world, a baby who is a revelatory light to the world.



And that image gives me hope for us here as a church community. Many of us may feel small, with the big dilemmas we are facing of renovating our building and finding ways to deal with our deficit, and yet, we can be like snowdrops, resilient, and heralding the light and hope of Jesus.

A prayer:

*Faithful and steadfast God, nourish us your children,  
and, through prayer and the Scriptures, give us our daily bread;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

Every blessing

*Rhoda* +

## Churchwarden's Corner

*From Richard Peet*



Welcome to the February edition of the Evangelist. When you have read the magazine do you pass it on to someone else? A copy each month is sent to Durham and the Isle of Wight and to other places. It would be good to increase our circulation this year.

Did you make any New Year resolutions and if so, are they still in place?

I am writing this article on the day of Epiphany, and it seems strange to think that the season of Lent begins during this month,

This month Wednesday 14th February is Valentine's Day, but also Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Liturgical Season of Lent.

It falls six and a half weeks before Easter, beginning the Lenten season of preparation, for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

I was looking at the dates Ash Wednesday can take place, and it can fall as early as 4<sup>th</sup> February and as late as 10<sup>th</sup> March.

The period from Ash Wednesday to Easter, is set aside as a time of reflection, repentance, and spiritual growth.

Lent is our time to reconnect to or grow closer to the Lord. We may make more time for prayer whenever and wherever we feel able.

What will you be doing during Lent this year?

We will be having a Lent course during this period – see page 10.

If you are able, please join us at our services on Ash Wednesday at 10.00 am in the Parish Room or at 7.30 pm in church.

May we take time to pray for our Parish and the community of Newbold.

May we take the opportunity to use and gifts and talents for Newbold Parish Church. You may have gifts and talents that you haven't used or realised yet.

There is wonderful work being done in our churchyard by the community payback team led by Mel.

We also continue to be encouraged by our Messy Church which takes place on the first Sunday of each month, at 4.00 pm in church, followed by refreshments and sandwiches in the Parish Room around 5.00 pm.

We had a wonderful carol service at both Elm Lodge and Ridgewood House, where the residents chose most of the carols. A big thank you to the four church members who attended both homes.

We will continue to visit the homes each month during the year.

Our work with the local schools will continue and grow in the coming months too.

Remember to pray for each other, encourage each other, support each other, love each other, and remember to say THANK YOU.



## **Monday Club - outing**

Monday 12 February

**Film - My Fair Lady**

Winding Wheel 1pm



See Richard Peet for further details

# Diocese of Derby monthly message

***February 2024***

***From The Ven. Nicky Fenton***



February begins with Candlemas, remembering the presentation of Jesus in the temple. Traditionally, church candles for the coming year are blessed, Christmas decorations left up after twelfth night taken down and candles lit in the windows of people's homes.

Midway between the winter and spring solstice, we long for the coming of the light, looking for signs of new life. Green shoots begin to emerge from the barren earth. Buds sprout on bare tree branches. Gradually beautiful landscapes of snow drops, crocuses and blossom form once more.

And just when we think Spring is finally coming, our Bible readings take us into the wilderness remembering Jesus's temptation in the desert. We will eat Shrove Tuesday pancakes before embarking on a Lenten season of self-discipline, denial, prayer and study aiming to deepen our relationship with God.

This year Ash Wednesday coincides with Valentine's Day when people across our diocese will think about love in all its different shapes and forms. Cards will be written, gifts exchanged, chocolates eaten, flowers bought, romantic surprises planned, commitments remembered, renewed and begun as people hope and dream and long for a fairy tale happy ever after.

And what can we as Christians offer to those we accompany on their journey through this spiritually significant month?

We have the light of Christ shining in the darkness and the promise that the darkness will never overcome it.

We have the gift of hope and new possibilities - life in all its fullness freely available to all who will receive it.

We have opportunities to wipe the slate clean, start afresh and know in the depths of our being what it is to be forgiven, accepted and loved by God.

We have communities of believers across the whole of the diocese. Fellow travellers who can strengthen our resolve to grow in discipline and self-denial and help us draw closer to God.

We have the best news and greatest gift to share with all who will receive it. The gift of God's friendship and covenantal love revealed in Jesus.

So, as we move through these Christian and secular celebrations, may we make the most of the opportunities they bring to deepen our relationship with God and make new Christians as we serve our local communities and journey together through winter into the newness of Spring.

The Ven. Nicky Fenton

Archdeacon of Derbyshire Peak and Dales



Transformed Lives | Growing Church | Building Community  
**THE KINGDOM OF GOD - GOOD NEWS FOR ALL**

Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

DEUTERONOMY 7:9

# The Lent Course 2024

**Fridays through Lent at 1pm for an hour**

followed by refreshments.

This year the course material is based on  
the new 2024 Christian Aid

**"Act on Poverty Course"**



## **23 February - Division**

We will discuss division and brokenness in our different contexts and how we can be part of God's redeeming work.

## **1 March - Generosity**

We explore poverty, both near to home and around the world, as a justice issue that demands action.

## **8 March - Our Location**

We look how we discern what God is already doing in our community, our physical environment, community resources and local concerns and priorities.

## **5 March - Hopefulness**

We outline our hopes for the future and turn these hopes into a manifesto for action. We explore how nurturing hope can be part of our calling to love our neighbour.

## **22 March - Together we can make a difference**

We explore what we can do together to tackle poverty, both local and global, with ideas for practical action.



**Newbold Parish Church Pre-school**  
**The Eagle Club, St Johns Road, Newbold, Chesterfield,**  
**Derbyshire, S41 8QN**  
**Telephone – 01246 451141 / 07944595092**  
**Email – [newboldparishchurchpre-school@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:newboldparishchurchpre-school@hotmail.co.uk)**  
**Ofsted – 206826**  
**Charity Number - 1084204**



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**If you would like further information please contact the setting on 01246 451141 / 07944595092 to arrange an appointment or email us on [newboldparishchurchpre-school@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:newboldparishchurchpre-school@hotmail.co.uk) to request a welcome brochure.**

# Prayer for the Building Project.

*From Chris Barnes*



Hilary and I try to start every morning before breakfast with a prayer for the day ahead. We will usually read a Psalm selected from the C of E lectionary, and then a Bible passage from the annual Bible notes we use (“Fresh from the Word”). We then pray for various things as it feels right to do so; family, friends, the church, people we know who need prayer for illness etc., or world issues.

To be honest, on many mornings this becomes a little bit like praying by rote. On other mornings, either the Psalm, the Bible passage, or the commentary on the passage in our Bible notes really strikes us as relevant and inspiring. This happened to us on 3rd January this year.

Psalm 127 opened with “Unless the Lord build the house, those who build it labour in vain.” This was followed by Matthew 6 v33, “Strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you as well.” I had spent much of the previous day inviting various architects to an interview to tender for the design and build of our church and parish room refurbishment. These two verses struck both of us as so relevant: a reminder at the start of this major project of the importance of prayer and of putting God first in all things.

We have invited several architects for an interview on different days in January and February. We hope to appoint one well before Easter and begin the process of designing a scheme and specification which meets our needs and our budget, followed by applying for the necessary permissions and finally getting on with the building works. This will take several months, maybe a couple of years, before the works are completed. Appointing the right

architect is the critical first step in this project, which has the potential to transform the church.

So, a plea for all church members to pray that those of us tasked with overseeing this project on your behalf never forget that we are doing this not for our own benefit but for the glory of God. Please pray we get this important first step right and keep praying over the months and years until it is completed.



To **ADVERTISE** in  
The Evangelist  
January to December  
2023 will cost:

£35 for ¼ page  
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£110 for full page

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# Readings and Collects

## Sunday 4 February Second before Lent

Proverbs 8.1 22-31 Colossians 1.15-20 John 1.1-14

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

(or)

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Sunday 11 February Sunday next before Lent

2 Kings 2.1-12 2 Corinth 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(or)

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.



## **Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday**

Joel 2.1-2,12-17 2 Corinth 5.20b-6.10 Matt 6.1-6, 16-21

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(or)

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Sunday 18 February First Sunday of Lent**

Gen 9.8-17 1 Peter 3.18-22 Mark 1.9-15

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(or) Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.



## Sunday 25 February Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 17.1-7,15,16 Romans 4.13-25 Mark 8.31-38

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

(or) Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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## From the Registers



### Funerals

5 January James Andrew Gilthorpe aged 90

Churchyard [burial or interment of ashes]

5 January James Andrew Gilthorpe

*May he rest in peace and rise in glory*

# DIARY February 2024

Sunday 4 February **Second before Lent** 10am Mass  
Messy Church 4pm

Sunday 11 February **Sunday next before Lent** 10am Mass

Wed 14 February **Ash Wednesday** 10am and 7.30pm Mass

Sunday 18 February **First Sunday of Lent** 10am Mass

Sunday 25 February **Second Sunday of Lent** 10am Mass

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Every Tuesday 9.50am **Morning Prayer** via Zoom

Every Wednesday 10am **Mid-week Communion** in Parish Room

Saturday 3 February **Community Coffee Morning**-see p19

Monday 5 February **Monday Club** 1-3pm Parish Room

Wednesday 7 February **Women's Group** 7pm Parish Room  
see p24

Saturday 11 February **Churchyard Tidy up** 10pm-12pm

Monday 12 February **Monday Club** Film see p7

Saturday 17 February **Men's Group** 10.30am Parish Room

Monday 19 February **Monday Club** 1-3pm Parish Room  
**Stations of the Cross** 2pm in Church

Friday 23 February **Lent Course** 1pm Parish Room  
see p10

Monday 26 February **Monday Club** 1-3pm Parish Room  
**Stations of the Cross** 2pm in Church



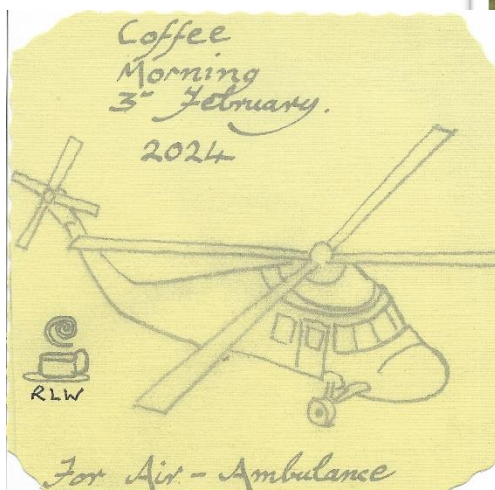
Derbyshire · Leicestershire · Rutland  
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# Community Coffee Morning

## **Saturday 3rd February** *10am to 12 noon in the Parish Room* **In aid of the Air Ambulance**

All money raised at the coffee morning will be donated to the Air Ambulance Service. David and Annette Priestley have personal experience of their lifesaving work when, three years ago, they saved the lives of their daughter-in-law and unborn granddaughter. The local Air Ambulance relies on donations to carry out its important work in the Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire areas.

David and Annette had hoped to be hosting this event, but Ann and Roger have kindly stepped in to cover on their behalf.



# Easter Wreath or Table Decoration Workshop

**Saturday 16th March  
12.15pm to 3.30pm  
in the Parish Room**

You will be shown how to make an Easter wreath and table decoration then have a go at making one of them to take home and enjoy over Easter.

Cost £15 which includes drinks and materials to make your design.

All proceeds will go to Church funds.

For more information and to book a place contact Julie on 01246 557059



# Fundraising - updated dates for your diary

January 29th	Quiz night with pizza £8-for Church funds	Ann and Stuart Adams
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Community coffee morning-for the Air Ambulance	Annette and David
March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Community coffee morning- for Church funds	Rodger, Richard and Chris
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Easter wreath or table decoration-for Church funds £15	Julie Franks
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Sunday. You are invited to wear something yellow and contribute into the yellow jug for Church funds.	Evelyn
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Community coffee morning-for Church funds	Gwen and Bev
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Earth Day, series of talks with pie and peas	Rev'd Rhoda
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Community coffee morning-Churchyard funds	Samantha Walker and Rev'd Rhoda
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost Sunday. You are invited to wear something red and contribute to the Church funds	
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Community coffee morning-for the flower fund	Flower ladies
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Church Fete at the Eagle Club	
August 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Community coffee morning-for Church funds	Women's group
August 18 <sup>th</sup>	Patronal festival-social event to be announced	
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	Community coffee morning-for Church funds	Choir
September	Race Night	Richard and Christian
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	Community coffee morning-for Church funds	Men's Group
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Patchwork Christmas decoration workshop-Church funds	Christine Wieloch
November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Community coffee morning	Chris and Hilary
November 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Bazaar in Church	
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. You are invited to wear something purple and contribute to the Church funds	Richard
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Community coffee morning	
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas wreath making workshop-for the Church flower fund £15	Julie

The first draw of the new **100 club** takes place this month. There is still time to see Lesley and Evelyn to take part and have a chance to win a prize.

The cost is £12 per number, per year, which will be entered into a monthly draw. The money will be split equally between prizes and church funds each month. If we sell 100 numbers, the prizes will be; **£30** First prize, **£15** Second prize and **£5** Third prize.

You can have more than one number- each costs just £12 for the year. You could also invite family and friends to join!

If you would like to take this opportunity to win, please see Evelyn or Lesley to sign up.

Please make direct electronic payments to

Newbold PCC Income Account,

Sort Code: 40-17-15      Account No: 61331795 using the **reference "100 Club"**

Cheques are payable to 'Newbold PCC Income Account'.

You can also pay by cash if you prefer. Both cheques and cash need to be clearly identified as for the 100 Club.

This is a great way to raise vital funds for our Church, whilst also having a chance to win.

**Please don't forget to pass your magazine on to members of the community who may be interested in the activities we do in Church. Invite friends and family to join in any of the activities.**

If you are interested in helping with any of the activities, please speak to Julie.

*Est*

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## **Women's Group**

### ***From Wendy Drake, Committee Member***

The Group met for the first time this year, on Wednesday 3 January 2024, when Jim Dickinson, a former Curate at St John's, gave us an interesting talk on 'Maps from 1579'. He started by giving us a history of map-making and mentioned that in 1558, during the reign of Elizabeth 1, there were few maps available since few people moved around. These maps were mainly produced for country estate owners, so basically agricultural in nature, with no lines from A to B but simply depicting local landmarks.

The 'Father of English Maps' was Christopher Saxton (c.1540 – c.1610) who began his survey in 1574 producing county maps of England and Wales culminating in his 1st Atlas of 1579. This atlas contained 35 maps, each bearing the arms of Elizabeth 1st, and included a map of Derbyshire which can now fetch around £4000. Maps of major towns and cities became available, and a Chester map appeared in 1581. Later, in 1627, John Speed, who was born in Farndon, Cheshire, produced atlases of England, Scotland and Wales which were brighter in colour and included a main town map and other sites within the counties.

Another name mentioned was John Ogilvy, who in 1675 produced a huge lavish volume of road maps and descriptions of towns which was the first road atlas of any country.

Jim had with him reproductions of mainly Derbyshire maps which we were all encouraged to look at and appreciate.

Speaking personally, I would be lost without a map, and I know I have mentioned before in a previous article that our A – Z of Derbyshire is very well thumb-marked since moving to Chesterfield. Our reliance on the Satnav has become a little suspect when we arrive ok at a particular place but on the

return journey 'she, Tilly' seems to delight in bringing us home by very circuitous routes!

Our next Group meeting is on **Wednesday 7th February**, at 7pm when the visiting speaker is Robyn Riggins from WORTH, an organisation helping women after they have suffered abuse.

Do come along and join us. If needing any more information you can speak to Trish, Marilyn J., or myself.

---

## Diocese Vision Prayer for 2027



Our Diocese celebrates its centenary in 2027 and as part of the preparation for this they are encouraging us all to pray this prayer:

*Gracious God, in your mercy and for your glory,  
renew us, reshape us, revive us –with generous faith,  
courageous hope and life-giving love –  
that, in transformed lives through growing church  
and building community, we may see your Kingdom come  
and be good news for all. Amen*

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I am not saying it's windy, but my wheelie bin is on a Speed Awareness course this Tuesday!



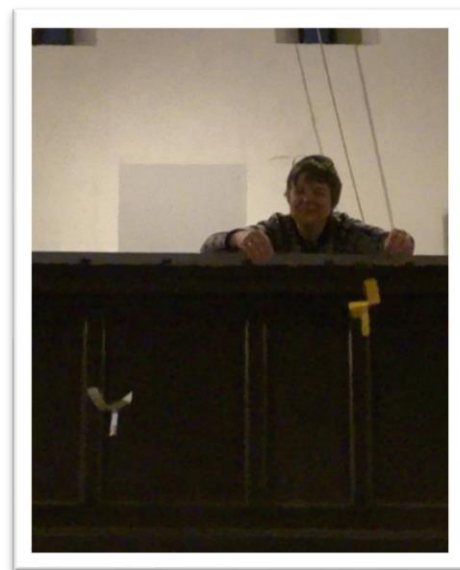
Shared on social media during the recent storms!

# Helicopters fly inside St. John's!

*From Chris Barnes*



Rhoda achieved the remarkable feat of flying helicopters inside St. John's church building during the Messy Church meeting on January 7th. In one of the craft activities, she had worked with the children (and a couple of the dads) to make paper helicopters similar to those produced by sycamore trees. She then flung these from the balcony to see how they spiralled gently to the floor.



She helped the kids experiment to work out which design worked best – and some definitely worked better than others.

This was one of several craft activities based around the theme of the blessings God showers upon us. Other crafts were blessing stones to pass blessings on to other people, a calendar of blessings, a shower of blessings poster, chalking the door to recognise God's blessings at the start of a new year and a handprint blessings tree. The scale of God's love for each of us really came to the fore during the service.

We were blessed in the service by being joined by two new families as well as most of the regulars, plus the blessing of a good tea afterwards. A good time was had by all.

The next **Messy Church** will be at 4.00pm on 4th February. If you have primary school age children, please do come and join us. All are welcome.



## The Eagle Club Littlemoor, Newbold



the coalfields  
regeneration trust

**£17.00 per hour**

Contact Angela  
01246 206025

**Number of rooms to hire with kitchen facilities, ideal for parties and social events.**

Disabled access and toilet.

**We offer a number of different activities:**

East Midlands Jiu Jitsu  
Association  
British Martial Arts Academy  
Parent and Toddler Group  
Theatre Group  
Jumble Sales  
Pre-school

# The Walking Group

## *From Evelyn Lowe*

For our first walk of the New Year, we began our walk from Pleasley Pit. Pleasley in the 7th century was part of the Kingdom of Mercia and part of the Royal Hunting Forest of Sherwood. It derives its name from the Old English and probably means 'Pleasa's Clearing'. It belonged to the family of Sevio de Pleasley who died in 1203 and recorded in historical documents as Plesele.

Pleasley Pit was sunk in 1871 and mining operations ceased in 1983. The building has one of the few remaining working winding engines and due to the hard work of volunteers has been developed and



maintained as a mining heritage site and gained an award in 2011. There is now a Café, Visitor Centre and a Museum run by volunteers.

Our 5-mile walk would take us onto the Teversal Trail, towards Hardwick Hall and onto the Rowthorne Trail. We set off with dull, overcast weather, but thankfully no rain. Minutes later Steve realised that he had left his jacket at church and with no hat or gloves either, he experienced a rather nippy afternoon's walk. It must be mentioned though, that he never complained.

We passed a pond on our left where there were plenty of Canada geese but only one swan. We also noticed a black, water bird with a sharp beak which none of us could identify. We turned left onto the Teversal Trail, firstly walking through a wide deep cutting and then onto a steep embankment which led us to a road through a sparsely populated area where one cottage was named Norwood Lodge, another Norwood Barn and the third, The Old Granary.

We guessed this was probably an area called Norwood, but for the sake of authenticity we asked a young dog-walker and were proved right.

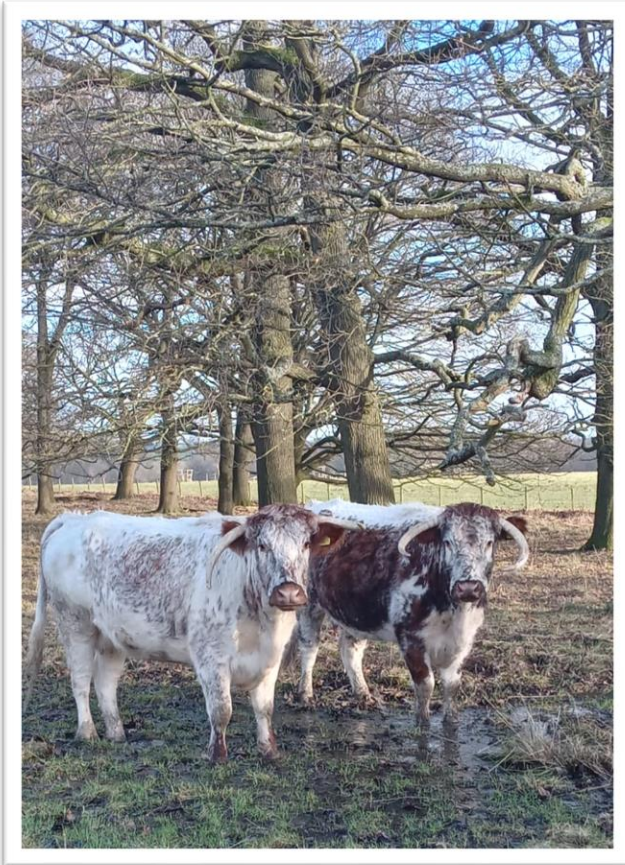
Over to our right, we heard the sound of a 12 bore shot gun being discharged which was repeated as we reached a pair of red, wrought iron gates where we turned right and into Lady Spencer's Wood.

A line of steep steps led us onto the long walk up to Hardwick Hall where many families with their dogs were making the most of the last day of the Christmas holidays.

Hardwick Old Hall loomed with unseeing eyes above us to our left with the 'new' hall on our right. We continued down the estate road with signs of waterlogged fields around us and blue tits flitting from tree to tree. At the end of the road a small herd of long horned cows\* stood near a cattle grid, one of which didn't seem to enjoy Steve's sweet whisperings and backed away nervously.

We soon joined the Rowthorne trail, another old railway track which took us back to a junction of paths where we re-joined the Teversal Trail, passing the pond once again.

This turned out to be an easy walk with no stiles and no mud so many thanks to our leader, Bob.



\*The Longhorn is a British breed of beef cattle with long curving horns, which originated in the counties of Westmorland, Lancashire and Yorkshire, later spreading to the East Midlands and Ireland.

Their colours vary but are always 'finched' – with a heavy line of white along the spine, tail and underside of the belly.

*Photo courtesy of Colin Hand*

If anyone wishes to join us, our next walk will be on Sunday 4th February when we will meet at the church gates at 12pm with a packed lunch and suitable walking gear. You will be made very welcome.

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## **Sad Church Family News**

We are sorry to announce that **Edna Ravey**, sister of Ann Hartley, died in November.

Edna and her husband Ken used to worship with us, until they moved to Scotland some time ago, and will be known to many of you. Ken wanted the congregation here to know of her passing.

We remember Ken and the family in our prayers and all who will miss her.

# **Bird watching in the churchyard.**

## ***From Christine Wieloch***

### **Review of 2023**

The bird watches in the church yard have continued throughout 2023. Sometimes not all of us are able to go and if that person is me John very kindly does the report for the magazine. Sometimes the weather is bad on the first Saturday in the month when we normally go, then the birdwatch is deferred until the following week. This last month because of bad weather on the first and second Saturdays the birdwatch took place on the third Saturday of the month. The good news is that a birdwatch has taken place each month this year.

There are some birds we see almost every month – ‘the old faithful’s. This year these have been blackbirds, blue tits, crows, collared doves, house sparrow, jackdaw, long tailed tit, magpie, robin and woodpigeon. All of these are woodland birds attracted to the church yard because of the tree cover and the conditions it provides.

Some birds have been seen just once. There are a few reasons for this, they may be a very shy or rarish species and we were lucky to see them just the once to they were there all the time but just weren’t spotted. Also, as in the case of the redwing it is a winter visitor and we can’t expect to see it in the warmer months. It is important to remember that just because a bird is not seen regularly doesn’t necessarily mean it isn’t there. Birds in this category include chiff chaff, redwing, song thrush, sparrow hawk, starling, tree creeper and pheasant.

As for the rest of the birds we mostly see them on a regular basis but just not every month. The bird list for the church yard now stands at 52 birds in all – these have been spotted inside the church yard, flying over or on land adjacent to the churchyard. As you can imagine there are some birds we have only seen once in the whole time we have been birdwatching, but they have been seen. This year there are 17 species on the list we have not seen this year but next year could be entirely different.

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## **Churchyard Bird Watch – January**

***From John Drake***

We started off slightly later than planned as I overslept. The advantage being that the sun was coming out to brighten up a misty, murky cold and miserable morning.

The churchyard was busy with lots of birds flying around - mainly Blue tits - if it had been the Big Garden Birdwatch then we could have counted them all!!!.

I think the highlight of the day was that we spotted Coal Tit and Chaffinch - birds that we have not seen for a long time. Another bird that we don't see very often is the Sparrowhawk - but we had a fleeting glimpse of one passing overhead.

In all we saw a total of 22 species beating last January's total by 1. We may have seen Redwing but only a momentary sighting that was not convincing enough to record. (we did see one last January).

We saw; Blackbird, BH Gull, Blue Tit, Carrion Crow, Chaffinch, Cold Tit, Collared Dove, Dunnock, Ferral Pigeon,

Goldfinch, Great Tit, Herring Gull, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Nuthatch, Robin, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Wood Pigeon, Wren.

The next birdwatch is scheduled for **Saturday 3 February**.

Also this month, The Great Grey Shrike was seen on Leash Fen near Shillito Wood at the beginning of January and recently a large gathering of Waxwings drew crowds at Hassop Station.



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“The early morning hour should be dedicated to praise: do not the birds set us the example?” *Charles Spurgeon*

“Praise is the beauty of a Christian. What wings are to a bird, what fruit is to the tree, what the rose is to the thorn, that is praise to a child of God.” *Charles Spurgeon*

## GIVING

We are hugely grateful to those of you who already give regularly or who give what they can when they can, we could not function without your support, thank you.

If you are not currently giving to the church, you can support the work of Newbold Parish Church financially in all sorts of ways:

**Standing order** - This is the best way for us to keep track of our finances. Regular giving allows us to budget and plan. If you don't give this way, and would like to, please contact us and we can send you a form.

**Cheques** - can be made payable to:  
'Newbold PCC income account'

These can be put in the collection plate on a Sunday or addressed to:

The Treasurer, Newbold Parish Church, St John's Rd,  
Chesterfield S41 8PE

**The Direct electronic bank transfer** details are:

'Newbold PCC income account'

HSBC Bank plc

Sort Code: 40-17-15

Account No: 61331795 (please mark it 'donation')

And this **QR code** will take you to our giving page online.



**Gift Aid** – If you pay income tax do consider giving via the “Gift Aid” scheme. We can claim back, from the government, an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It will not cost you any extra. You will need to make a Gift Aid declaration for us to claim, so do let us know if you would like a form to join this scheme.

Finally, if you are struggling financially, do feel free to lower your giving. We don't want anyone to feel pressure to give.

**St John the Evangelist Church**, on St John's Road, is the Church of England Parish Church of Newbold with Dunston, in the North East Derbyshire Deanery, Archdeaconry of Chesterfield, Diocese of Derby and the Province of Canterbury.

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Men's Group	Chris Burrows	07843 780880
Monday Club	Margaret Beasley	01246 589845
Parish Room (hire)	Evelyn Lowe	07791735204

For **Baptisms**, please contact our Church Administrator, Sue;  
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For **Weddings**, please contact our vicar, Rev Rhoda;  
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