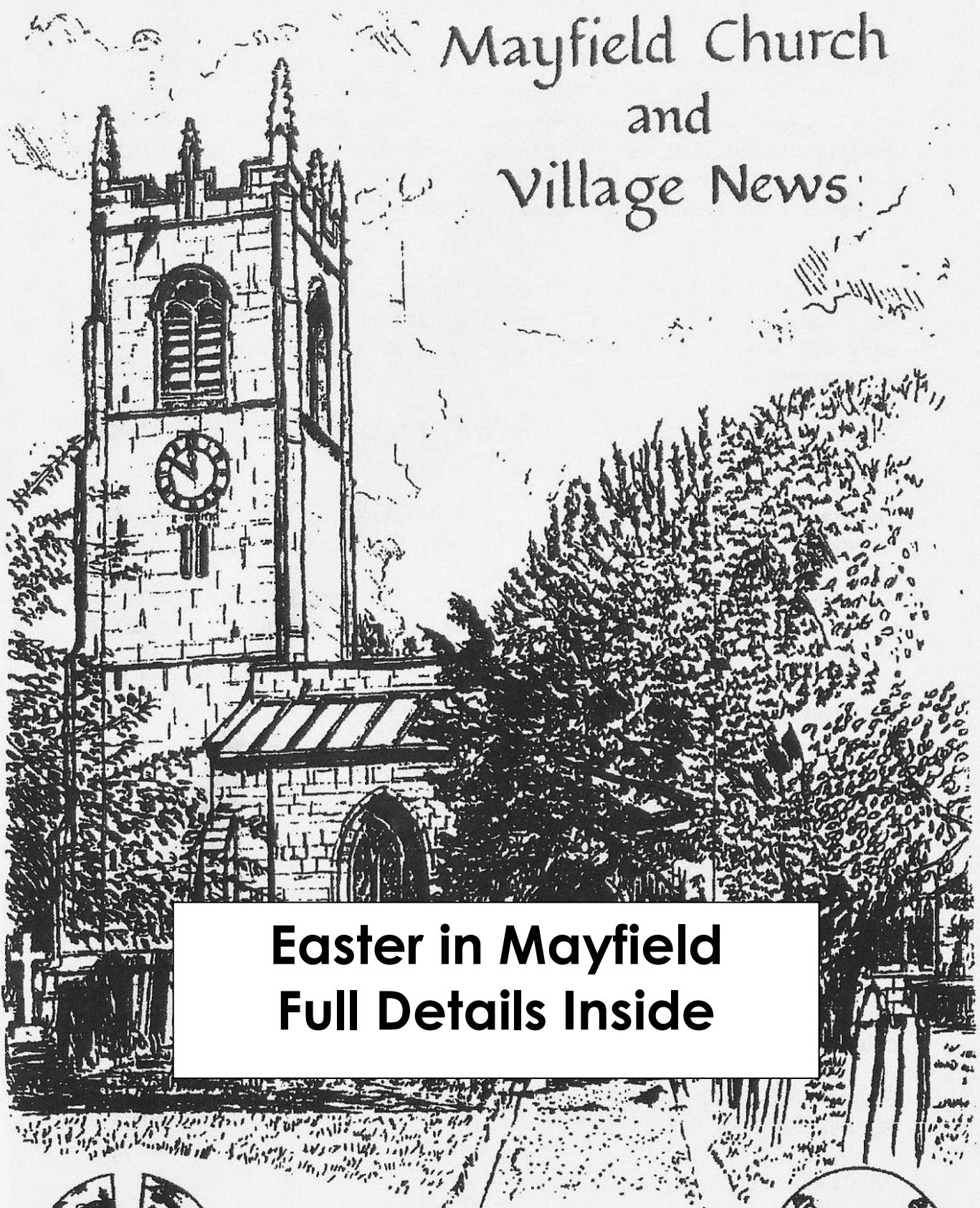
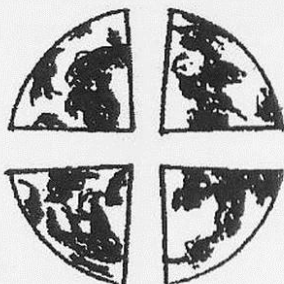


Mayfield Church and Village News

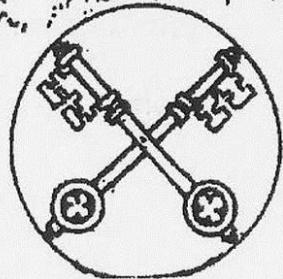


**Easter in Mayfield
Full Details Inside**



**March
2024**

80p



Freedom and Oppression

“Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves.” (1 Peter 2:16)

Violence has erupted in various parts of our world as a result of people feeling oppressed. We hear that Russia felt oppressed by NATO so they invaded Ukraine as an act of self-defence. Oppressed Palestinians killed hundreds of Israelis at a nearby music festival that was rubbing in their face the Palestinian lack of freedom.

I believe there is a false definition of freedom infecting our world at present which leads to a wrong sense of oppression for people. Cultures across the world are falling into the grip of systemic racism and addictions are taking hold, with debt and obesity, gambling, and alcoholism. Anything requiring long term faithfulness is in decline (marriage and traditional family life are examples). It seems that in upcoming world elections the extreme parties seem to be gaining ground.

If you take freedom to mean “the ability to do whatever you want” then you are following ideas of the 17th century philosophers. The Bible has a different view. “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.” (Galatians 5:1)

The first part looks similar to modern freedom, but it goes on to define freedom as removing burdens of slavery. Human beings have animal drives, but, unlike animals, we are not forced to follow every desire. We have a self determination which allows us to choose between our disordered appetites.

You won’t see a fox which after finding food pauses and considers if this is the right food. If you jump into the Lion enclosure at the zoo, we won’t hold the Lion accountable for the outcome !

At a restaurant you decide first which of the options are right for you today. But our freedom is very easy to abuse. “You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.” (Galatians 5:13)

The point is that our modern view of freedom can so easily be anti-love, as we seek our own selfish ends, while love in the Bible seeks the best outcome for others rather than ourselves. The Bible talks of two categories of desire, the flesh, and the spirit. The flesh is the shallow, animalistic drive for self-pleasure. The spirit is our higher drive for love and goodness.

But another thing to consider about freedom is it’s two types: freedom from something (removal of constraints on our choices) or freedom for (which is having the power to choose what is good). So to quote from the Disney film “Frozen” Elsa famously sings “No right, no wrong, no rules for me, I’m free, Let it go...” It encourages us to seek our freedom in ourselves, and we are educating our children into this view, one Disney film at a time. [continued next page]

A Warm Welcome to Sunday Services in March Inc Easter Week

Sunday 3rd March (3rd Sunday of Lent)

10.45am Church Family Communion. Revd. Brian Leathers
With support from Paul Flint, Charles Wimbush and Catherine Mellor

Sunday 10th March (Mothering Sunday)

10.45 Morning Prayer. Service led by Diana Houghton
With support from Arnie Rainbow, Ian McFarlane and Paul Flint

Sunday 17th March (5th Sunday of Lent)

10.45 Morning Prayer Revd. Brian Leathers
With support from Denise Roberts, Charles Wimbush and Phil Cook

Sunday 24th March (Palm Sunday)

10.45 Morning Prayer. Service led by Stephen Dunn
With support from Arnie Rainbow, Maggie Cook and Martin Balderson

Thursday 28th March (Maundy Thursday at Alton Church)

10.30am Holy Communion. Revd. Brian Leathers

Friday 29th March (Good Friday)

2pm An Hour at the Cross Vigil. Revd. Brian Leathers
With support from Stephen Dunn, Paul Flint and Phil Cook

Sunday 31st March (Easter Sunday)

10.45am Church Family Communion Service Revd. Joy Leathers
With support from Catherine Mellor, Doug Greenaway and Arnie Rainbow

Mayfield Lent Lunch

There will be a Lent Lunch at Mayfield Church Rooms at 12 noon on Wednesday 13th March. Please contact Carol Akers on 07716 433609 or Charles Wimbush on 01335 324083 to book your place.

[continued from previous page]

But the Bible would encourage self-control, which is the freedom to choose the right path, without giving in to compulsions.

You could see a large part of the human journey as the exodus from slavery to freedom, with Jesus as the new Moses. Jesus' offer is to deliver us from the prison of sin and self, to lead us to a new land, a new life.

"For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age." (Titus 2:11-12)

Brian Leathers



Alder Carr Farm

Church Mayfield

**Pedigree Tamworth Pork
Sausages and Bacon
& fresh farm produce
available at the farm gates
Every Saturday
10am to 1pm**

Located Church Lane Mayfield

**Check the board at the gates for
further info or
Contact Alex 07905030315**



**KEEP YOUR SEWAGE
SYSTEM WORKING**

SEPTIC TANKS SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS CESSPOOLS PUMP STATIONS INTERCEPTORS

The last thing you want is for your system to stop working - nasty smell and backed up sewage in your toilet. We help combat unexpected breakdowns.

We're trusted sewage specialists and undertake regular services to maintain and prolong the lifetime of your system.

Is your sewage system compliant?

As an owner of a sewage system you have a duty of care by law to ensure your system doesn't pollute the environment.

We've been installing and servicing septic tanks, sewage treatment plants and cesspools for over 25 years.



Accredited Installers
by Leading
Manufactures



Top Rated
Customer
Service



100% Compliant
Sewage
Solutions

**£20 OFF
YOUR FIRST
SERVICE**

CALL US & QUOTE: **DIRECTORY22**

environmental@cotterillcivils.co.uk

0121 461 4861

www.cotterillenvironmental.com

Bentley Treescapes and Garden Work

The Yew Tree
Church lane
Church Mayfield
Derbyshire DE62JR



Tel: **0774 676 5586**

Email: bentleytreescapes@gmail.com

Mayfield Welcomes the New 'Friday Club'

A New Club for Mayfield with a New Outlook and New Ideas

There is a new social club in Mayfield, available to everyone in the village who wishes to enjoy the company of others, go on outings, listen to interesting speakers, and take part in events throughout the year.

The new club called **The Friday Club** has come out of the existing Mayfield Senior Social Club who recognising that times change, realised that there was an opportunity to reinvent themselves and offer a greater range of activities and events to a wider audience, where age was not a requirement.

The new acting chair of the Friday Club Carol Akers has been talking to members about how the new club will run and what changes need to be done to make it available and attractive to a much wider age range of people within the village.

And as acting chair Carol was invited to a recent meeting of our Parish Council where the new club was successful in gaining a grant of £700 from the council to help promote



its work, gain members, and put on activities appealing to all,

'It's an exciting time for all of us', says Carol 'and next month we will be able to tell you all about the new club and what it's doing. For a small annual fee members will get a lot of activity a lot of fellowship and lots to do and of course there will always be a cup of tea and a biscuit available to all at every meeting.'

The club meets every second Friday in the month at the Memorial Hall from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Meetings this month are on Friday the 8th and Friday the 22nd of March, Everyone is welcome and Carol invites people to come and sample a taste of what is going on.

We wish The Friday Club all the success it deserves and look forward to reporting on its future events in this magazine.

The Editors

This Space is Free

You could be using this space to advertise your business or service across Mayfield and beyond

**For more information call Catherine on
07752 772715**



J C Harrison Planning & Admin Services

**Planning Applications & Advice
Admin and Secretarial Services**

Including:

Any typing; Diary Keeping and Appointment Making; Invoicing; Credit Control; Basic Book Keeping; Spreadsheets and much more...

07792 144155 jo@jcharrison.co.uk

Flowers for Special Occasions

**Funeral Tributes, Weddings
Bouquets and Arrangements**

**Contact Linda Torr
Telephone 01335 345551
Mobile 07757 844977**

**Email – flowersfso@btinternet.com
www.facebook.com/flowersfso**

“Linda did my wedding flowers and they were absolutely perfect! Cannot recommend her enough!”

HD Beauty
ASHBOURNE

**Nails Waxing Lashes & Tinting
Weleda Face & Body Treatments**

**CACI Face & Body
Tel 07825 468422
Above Kay & Co Hairstylists
Compton Ashbourne**


G. Wathall
& SON LTD

Family Owned Funeral Directors
ESTABLISHED OVER 145 YEARS

5 Union Street, Ashbourne. www.wathall.co.uk

01335 300205

24 hour help & guidance

Easter Lillies at Church Your Opportunity to Remember a Loved One this Easter



Lilies have long been associated with the festival of Easter and in Mayfield Easter Lilies are a very special tradition at the church for Easter Sunday. On this most special of Sundays, they are placed in the church in memory of loved ones who passed away.

Each year, families and individuals have an opportunity to have such a lily placed by donating a small sum of money to purchase a Lily to remember a loved one.

They are then displayed in the church on Easter Sunday, normally in the very centre of the church beneath the pulpit. They are the most beautiful of flowers and added a timeless and spiritual quality to Easter.

If you would like to remember someone special in your family or your life you may do so by purchasing a Lily to be displayed this Easter Sunday March 31st.

Each donation of a Lily cost just £3.00. If you wish to purchase such a Lily, please contact Carol Akers on 07716 433609 to arrange your donation by Monday 25th March at the latest.

The Lillies will then be placed in church on Easter Saturday March 30th ready to be on display on Easter Sunday.

Pancake Day Party

After a Covid gap of three years, our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party was back in the church rooms, offering delicious pancakes good company an opportunity to raise funds for church; and on Shrove Tuesday twenty four people enjoyed pancakes and a glass (or two) of wine in the church rooms.



Penny and Mary's, nonstop pancake making supplied deliciously fresh, straight from the pan; pancakes then to be covered in a whole range of toppings donated by Gill, including a jar of Nutella spread that was a particular favourite of young Charlotte (you can read about her time at the pancake party elsewhere in this magazine).

The pancakes proved so popular that the initial two pancakes were soon joined by an extra third pancake for many of the guests and any worries about waistlines were happily forgotten until the next day,





Our grateful thanks to all who helped organise the evening, to those who washed up and cleared the room afterwards and, of course, to all those who came and supported the event. Well over £100 was raised for Church funds in an evening of fellowship, fun and to once more say, extremely nice pancakes!



White Peak Nordic Walking.

If you're planning to get fit in, then I've got a variety of Nordic Walking classes to help you achieve your goals, no matter your age or fitness level. The walks are mostly 1 hour (three miles or less), with varied terrain that will help build your stamina. There are plenty of beautiful views too, which provide the perfect motivation to head outside and get active..



After lockdown we started group sessions again in small groups of 5 clients and 1 instructor. Clients have their own pair of Nordic Walking poles. We carry wipes and hand sanitising gel and ask clients to do the same. While walking we are social distancing with staying Poles Apart.

Power of Poles intro course. Find out how to use fitness walking poles to achieve the results YOU want. So, if you're keen to come out with us, you can be sure we will do our best to make it a safe and rewarding experience. If you have been enjoying your daily walk and are looking to learn about the Power of Poles, please give me a call.

For details contact: **White Peak Nordic Walking:** Janneke Gorzeman 07469895267.

Janneke@nwukwhitepeak.co.uk Or book now: www.nwukwhitepeak.co.uk

Mobile Library Service Dates for Feb, March & April 2024

The mobile library comes to Mayfield on Tuesday 13th & 27th Feb, 12th & 26th Mar. and 9th & 23rd April at the junction of Mayfield Avenue and The Crescent from 10.30 to 10.45 am

MAYFIELD VILLAGE WEBSITES

Mayfield's Church website

www.mayfieldparishchurch.org

Mayfield Memorial Hall

www.mayfieldmemorialhall.org.uk

Mayfield Heritage Group

www.mayfieldheritage.org.uk

_Mayfield Parish Council

www.mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk

MARNA. <https://marna.org.uk/>.

Mayfield Church Rooms

Available for hire for children's parties, adult learning classes. craft groups and local events.

Very reasonable rates

Phone Charlotte on

07772 360472



DUNCAN BULL Ceramic Tiling



KITCHENS * BATHROOMS * CONSERVATORIES * WALLS AND FLOORS

COMPETATIVE RATES



**Telephone
01335 345978**

**Mobile
07753 678384**

Gardening Notes from Joyce and Birthday Thanks

It's almost springtime - time to start planning what to grow in the garden.

Spring flowers are taking no notice of the cold wet weather. Primroses are in full bloom along with daffodils and crocuses.

I am going to clear a small area of my garden where a fence used to be. The fence was blown down by high winds in the recent storms that we have had and has been kindly removed and taken to the tip by my neighbour. Now that it has gone, I have decided to dig over the area where the fence was, put new compost in and then plant lots of new plants which will flower through most of the year.

The aim is to make a new pretty flower garden in memory of my late husband Wally Beeson. We both enjoyed gardening and made a good team with Wally doing the heavy jobs whilst I did the flowers and grew some salad and vegetables.

I, along with many other gardeners watch Monty Don and he grows lots of vegetables and inspires us other gardeners to do the same.

I hope all our gardens in Mayfield grow well this year and good luck to you all in your gardening ventures.

On another note, I would like to thank everyone who came to my house for a small birthday party. It was my birthday on the 21st of February - I was 77 and decided to ask my friends and neighbours to come and have a drink with me.

I had a wonderful Birthday and wish to thank all those who so very kindly gave me such lovely cards and presents. As you would expect, on such an occasion I miss Wally very much - we always went out for my birthday, but with the help of my family, friends and neighbours this year was fine and I really enjoyed it.

Life without him is not easy. As you may know, I bought my little dog Charlie to keep me company. He's a Jack Russell cross. He is lovely company and I love him - I take him on lots of walks, he is friends with everyone and he particularly likes to go down to the Mayfield Arms at the Memorial Hall on a Sunday afternoon where he meets his friend Layla, who is Jill and Andrews dog, They get on very well.

I've always had dogs, my last dog before Charlie was a Jack Russell who lived to the grand old age of 19 called Rocky. He loved to come with Wally and me when we went out in our caravan. He had been brought up on my brother's farm, but he soon got used to living with me and Wally.

As I have rediscovered with Charlie, dogs can be wonderful company when you are on your own.

Joyce Beeson

Astounding Achievement to Restore Countryside

Over the last three years the Mayfield wildflower volunteers, working with **White Peak Farmers**, have made an amazing contribution to our farmland and countryside.

We have:

- restored nearly 50 hectares (120 acres) of habitat
- collected and sown 460 kg of wildflower seed
- created or restored 11 ponds
- enhanced 225 m of ditch
- planted 325 m of new hedges
- improved nearly 2 km of existing hedgerow



In the beginning we set up a thriving wildflower and tree nursery on a small piece of land in Middle Mayfield, belonging to farmer Graham Prince.

On a shoe-string budget, we rehomed two old greenhouses kindly donated to us. We begged plant pots from anyone who had any spare. Volunteers, and our tireless volunteer co-ordinator Alison Ash collected seed heads from flower-rich meadows, separated and sowed the seed, and started growing little plants.

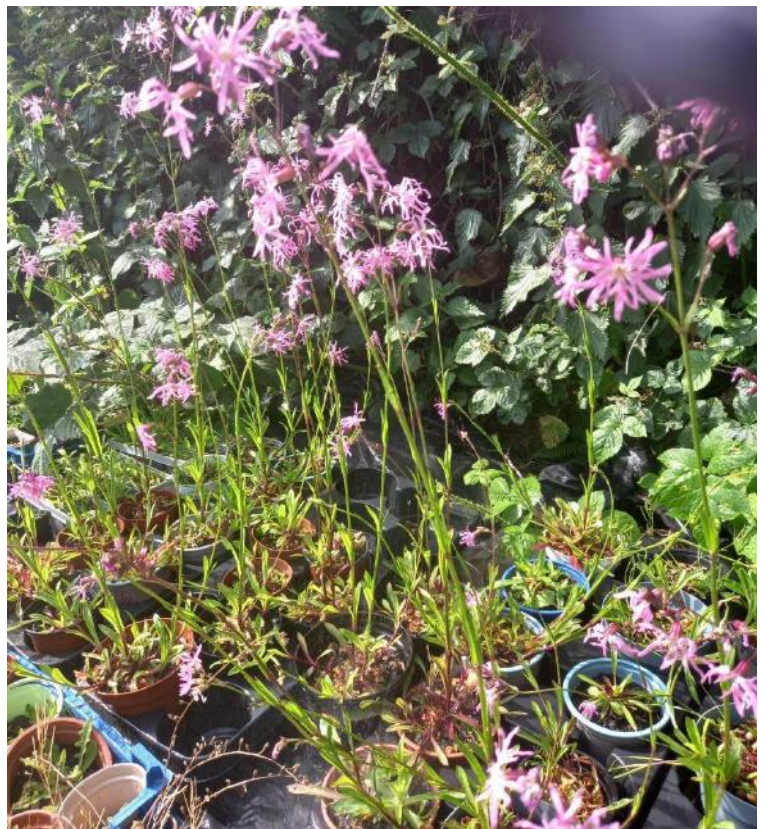
We had a brilliant germination rate which meant plenty of potting up. We set up a rota of local waterers throughout the sometimes extremely hot and dry summers. We worried that the plants would not survive. Incredibly, almost all pulled through



even those we had given up for dead. Tough plants wildflowers when they are not competing with a monoculture of rye grass.

White Peak farmers is a co-operative of local landowners and farmers working together to deliver a better environment. Our area has a wealth of wildlife and the different farms cover limestone-rich grassland, traditional species-rich hay meadows and pastures, ancient woodlands and wet grassland supporting lapwing, snipe and curlew.

The group is currently seeking more grant funding to carry on improving our farmland to increase the biodiversity. Thanks to the volunteers, a win for all of us.



To learn more, to volunteer or to join White Peak Farmers contact Ann Cantrel on info@whitepeakfarmers.org.uk

Shenton's Garage

Hanging Bridge, Mayfield Road
Ashbourne, Derbys DE6 2BN

MOT Testing - Tyres - Exhausts
Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance
Diagnostics - Laser alignment
Farm Contracting

Tel. 01335 300734

MAYFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Available for hire

**All types of functions
large or small**

For further information contact

Booking Secretary

Tel: 07766 702508

MAYFIELD & ELLASTONE COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

A voluntary arm of West Midlands Ambulance
Service providing a mobile emergency
medical service to Mayfield and district.

**IN THE EVENT OF COLLAPSE,
UNCONSCIOUSNESS OR CHEST PAIN
DON'T HESITATE
DIAL 999**

Seconds can be precious

We should be with you very quickly,
possibly a critical few minutes before the
ambulance and paramedic.

A. Slater & Sons Funeral Services

The old established family firm
serving Uttoxeter, Ashbourne
and all areas. On call 24hrs
Pre-paid funerals. Memorials erected

Offices and Chapels at
66a High Street Uttoxeter

Tel: 01889 564086

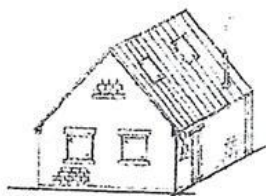
37-39 Compton, Ashbourne

Tel: 01335 345120

Email: aslaterandsons@btconnect.com

Web: <https://aslaterandsons.co.uk/>

Goldstraw Interiors



- ❖ Kitchens
- ❖ Bedrooms
- ❖ Studies
- ❖ Furniture

**The Workshop, Beancroft,
Stanton, Nr Ashbourne**

Tel: 01335 324648

**E: info@goldstraw-interiors.co.uk
www.goldstraw-interiors.co.uk**

MOBILE FOOT CARE SERVICE

Don't let hard to reach toe nails, corns, dry
and hard skin or cracked heels get you
down. Need one off or regular visits?

Your local, kind and friendly Foot Health
Practitioner is just a phone call away.

Call Jeannette on: **07484 682470**



Lent at Messy Church!

Messy Church met on Saturday 24th February. In the session we looked at Jesus in the wilderness.



After a chat about Lent, why we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and what people have given up or started for Lent we started our activities.

Firstly we made bread rolls so that we did not go hungry later on. We did not make them out of stones as the Devil suggested but out of dough – much easier.

We made a wilderness garden to show the bleakness of where Jesus wandered for 40 days. We all agreed that we would not want to be doing that.

We tried constructing towers from plastic cups. There were some very high towers and some with very interesting construction – unfortunately they all got blown down by a mischievous balloon full of air!

We decorated the stones we decided to not make bread from as well as writing prayers for the prayer tree. A jam packed session of activities!

During the celebration we told the story of Jesus being tempted by the Devil in the wilderness. We read the prayers we wrote and then rounded off with a rousing version of the hymn “Be Bold” accompanied by a guitar.

With it being lent, we finished the session with a more frugal meal than normal. We had the rolls we made earlier along with filled wraps followed by fruit. Although it was frugal menu everyone ate well!

We will be next be meeting on 23rd March 3.30-5.30pm in the Church Rooms. We will be celebrating Easter. Keep you eyes out for more details nearer the time.



Memorial Hall News - A Great Month for Mayfield.

Celebrate St Patricks Day and EASTER

March is going to be a great month at Mayfield Memorial Hall as we celebrate St Patricks Day and Easter in style with special events, a race around the village, chocolate bingo for all and free live music all bringing our community together this month,

We kick off with a **St Patricks Day Party** on Sunday 17th March.

Come to the bar from 2pm onwards and you will find Guinness and Caffery's beer, both products of the Emerald Isle **at a special price of £3 a pint saving you £1** on the normal bar price. And if you fancy a chaser with your tippie **Jamieson's Irish whiskey is just £2.50** a shot to help you celebrate the patron saint of Ireland in style!

And better still we have some special St Patrick's Day hats which will be FREE to the first customers who spend £10 or more at the bar..... but hurry stocks are very limited, and, in this case, the early bird will catch the free hat!!!

And now onto Easter for two more great events.....

First and this is for all the family to get us all set up for Easter, it's Easter Bingo, from **1st Mayfield Scouts, on Friday 22nd March**. And as its Easter there are some very special Easter themed prizes. In fact, a better name would be,

Scouts Chocolate Bingo.

Yes, that's right, it's bingo where every prize is chocolate, perfect for Easter. This is a special fund-raising evening for 1st Mayfield scouts and there will be teas and coffees available as well as the full Mayfield Arms Bar, for those of us old enough to have a drink or two.

Doors open on Friday the 22nd March at 6:00pm with eyes down at 6:30pm. Its a perfect Easter outing for all the family and all ages. Do come.

And then... on Easter Day 31st March its

Super Sunday at the Memorial Hall

This will be a very special Sunday indeed with starting with a race around the village, followed by a **FREE barbecue** (yes we did say Free), and a children's colouring competition with easter egg prizes and rounding off with live music.

The full list of activities on Super Sunday are.....

2.30pm A three-legged race around the village. Choose your partner and get set to literally leg it around Mayfield on a set course with 4 special stations for refreshment and recuperation on the way. **Entrance is free** and for the winners there is a prize of a £20 bar voucher to help celebrate. To enter just text or call Graham (Bush) Sowter on 07341 335479

4.30pm – 5pm A FREE BARBECUE. Yes that right there is a free barbecue courtesy of the Mayfield Arms but stocks are limited so its first come first served so be there early, in this case to catch the hot dog or burger before stocks run out

All afternoon a FREE children's colouring competition with prizes per age group of easter eggs and chocolate, because you can never have too much chocolate at

6pm We round off the day with a **FREE concert of live music** from local singer Shan Gough, a perfect way to round off a SUPER SUNDAY,.

Advanced Notice of Two April Events

One of Mayfield's most popular events is coming back this April with our
SPRING CAR BOOT SALE.

Its the chance for everyone in Mayfield to clear out the cupboards or the back of the garage and sell the things you don't want but other people would love to have... At the right price of course.

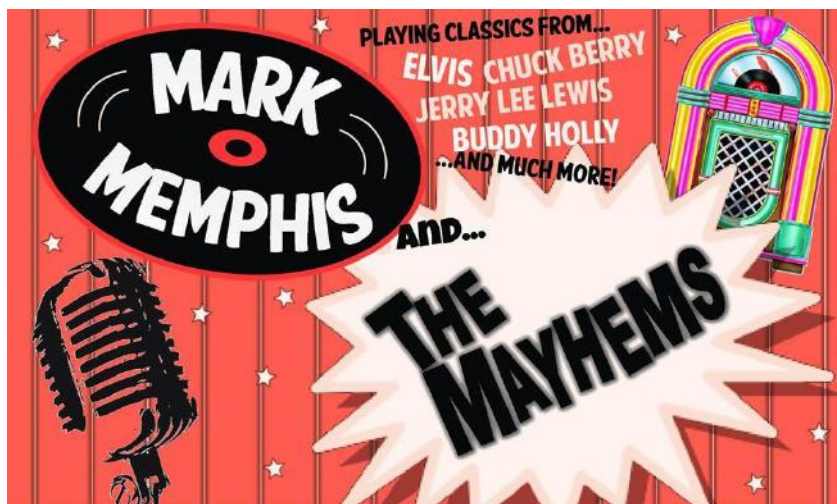
Our **SPRING CAR BOOT SALE** takes place on **Saturday the 7th of April** from 9am to 12 noon. There is always a strong demand for tables and at £5 per table it's very good value. **Contact Mandy now on 07766 702508** to book your table.

Saturday 20th April - A Rock'n'roll/ Rhythm and Blues Night

featuring Mark Memphis and The Mayhems - A new Rock'n'roll / Rhythm and Blues band doing all the greats, Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, Chuck Berry and many more.

It will be a great night of dancing and live music.

Doors open 7pm. Tickets are just £5 on the door. Put it in your diary now!



The Beauty of Mayfield – Our Very Own Lake!



It's rained a lot in the last few months, so much so that Mayfield suddenly has its very own lake, in the fields beyond the Terraces. These water meadows, as the name suggests, regular flood but nothing quite as large and spectacular as the lake that now regularly appears after heavy rain; looking beautiful as it is reflected in the bright winter skies.

A Gift to the Hall from a Much-Loved Mayfield Resident.

The Memorial Hall has recently received an extremely generous donation given to the Hall in memory of Lois Smith by her husband Pat Smith from funds raised at her funeral last year. The committee is both touched and very grateful that Lois and Pat chose to honour Mayfield Memorial Hall this way.

Lois was well known and well-loved in the Memorial Hall for the many events she attended and those she helped organise over many years. The committee will permanently remember Lois and her commitment to the hall via the creation of a glass plaque in Lois's name to be displayed within the hall.

Mayfield Memorial Hall

Forthcoming events

Mayfield Arms Sunday Openings. 2pm -7pm
3rd 10th 17th 24th & 31st March

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY March 2024

Monday 4th 11th 18th 25th -Line Dancing 7pm-9pm.

Tuesday 5th 12th 19^h 26th - Indoor Bowls 10.30am-12.30am

**Friday 1st 15th 29th March - NEW Mayfield Friday Club
2pm - 4pm Everyone is welcome including non members.**

Sunday 17th March St Patricks Day party 2pm onwards

**Friday 22nd March Scouts Chocolate Bingo. Doors open 6pm
Eyes down at 6.30pm Refreshments and Full bar available**

**Saturday 30th March Country Music Club with Live Music
Doors open 7pm, Artist on 8.30pm.**

**Easter Sunday 31st March Super Sunday at the Memorial Hall
2.30pm – 9pm. 3 legged race, Barbecue, competitions PLUS
Live music from Shan Gough 6pm**

Lou Lou's

11 St John Street, Ashbourne

Lingerie, Swimmwear,
Hosiery, Nightwear.

Professional and discreet
measuring service.

Tel: 01335 343439

*If you would like a Daily
Delivery of Fresh Milk, Eggs*

Please ring

**Keith Gregory,
Dairyman,
49 High Street,
Rocester, ST14 5JU**

**Tel. Rocester (01889) 590807
Mobile: 07970 701 335**

Mayfield Village Stores Ltd

Tel 01335 342983

Dal & Sid Sidhu

Off Licence - Newsagents
Tobacco - Cards - Sweets
Provisions

Fresh Bread & Veg Daily
Fresh Curries to Take Away
Every Thursday & Friday

H LEE & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Belle View Road, Ashbourne

**TIMBER MERCHANTS
JOINERS**

Timber cut and planed to order

Tel: 01335 342530/ 370166

MAYFIELD RECREATION GROUND PAVILION

Book now!

Ideal venue for children's parties
and a great meeting place for clubs
and groups.

To find out more

**Contact Andrew Reay-Robinson
on 07808 097003**

This Space is Free

**You could be using this
space to advertise your
business or service
across Mayfield and beyond**

For more information call

Catherine on

07752 772715

Half Term in Mayfield with Nanny & Pops by Charlotte

I came on Friday and I have been staying with my Nanny and Pops. On Saturday afternoon we went to see Migration at the Elite cinema. The film is a story about a family of ducks who want to follow their friends to Jamaica and on their way they have lots of adventures in New York.



On Sunday we went to church in the morning. Stephen was taking the service and he asked me to do some jobs. I gave out the hymn books, and I put the hymn numbers on the board.

Nanny read a lesson and at the end of her lesson I said the words 'This is the word of the Lord'. Stephen's talk was about hymns.

After the talk I took up the offerings to the communion table as we sang the last hymn

In the afternoon we went for a walk with Morse and Kim around the village.





On Monday we went to the Childrens Country house at Sudbury to visit the house and on Tuesday we returned and went to the mystery rooms.

We were taken to Lord Vernon's private rooms where we were asked to find someone who was a spy. We solved the mystery with the other people in the group and the spy's name was I am sorry but I cannot tell you.

We were sworn to secrecy, so other children can enjoy solving the mystery when they go. It was a fun thing to do and I really enjoyed it.

In the afternoon we went into Ashbourne to watch the Shrovetide ball been

thrown up. There were lots of people there and when the ball was thrown up there seemed to be hundreds of players. I don't think I would have liked to play it.





On Tuesday evening we went to a pancake party in the church rooms, which was very good.

You were allowed to have two pancakes but at the end they decided you could have one more pancake, which I was pleased about as the pancakes were very good.

With my pancake I had lots of Nutella spread - I think they bought it especially for me because no one else seemed to have any.

At the end of the evening they gave me the rest of the jar, which was very kind of them.

There were twenty-four people and all very friendly especially when I helped to clear up.

I went home on Wednesday and was pleased there was so much to do in Mayfield at half term.

I look forward to coming back to spend more time with Nanny and Pops.

Charlotte



Methodist Hymn Board Finds a New Home in Mayfield Church Rooms.



A beautiful hymn board that originally graced the Methodist Chapel in Gallowstree Lane, has found a new home in Mayfield Church Rooms.

The Hymn Board was dedicated to Eric Jones and following the closure of the Methodist Chapel, the family donated the Hymn board to the Mayfield Heritage Group, who now some 20 years later have given the hymn board to the church so that it may be displayed for parishioners and villagers to see,

The Inscription on the board reads.

“In memory of Eric Jones who died of polio in Bangalore on the 22nd September, 1945”. He was the brother of Harry Jones

The board (photo on opposite page) now hosts photos of Mayfield where the original hymn numbers would have been displayed. These photographs were taken on Mayfield walks during the two Covid lockdowns and are as follows.

Left hand column: Pond at Tom Moore’s Cottage, Rock House at Hanging Bridge Cottages, Curious cow in Foxholes Field, Pasture meadow Upper Mayfield adjacent to the Limestone Way, Highland cattle grazing at Tom Moore’s Cottage.

Right-hand column: View of the Church Tower, Chickens along Gallowstree Lane, view towards Clifton across the Foxholes Field, Holmes Island on the River Dove, Sheep grazing at Tom Moore’s Cottage.

Photo Credits: Clare Greenwood; Methodist Chapel, Graham Moodie.

HYMNS

TUNES



IN MEMORY OF ERIC JONES
WHO DIED SEP. 21. 1946
BY BANGALORE 1951
AGED 19 YEARS.

Colour Me In!

HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY



It's A Disgrace

“The guys are out trying to fix the potholes but they’ve disappeared!
I’ve no idea when they are going to resurface!!”

It really isn't a joke! It's a disgrace!

It's not so bad for me in my very comfy Petsfit dog travel crate padded out with thick soft blankets but I do feel for the girls with all their current ailments and aches and pains. Sometimes, I have to put my paws over my ears – the language can be quite unacceptable!!

Ouch! Oh dear! Good grief! Dash it all! Gosh! Damn! Great Scot! Oh Lordy! These mild terms used to express discomfort and pain do pop out occasionally but, when Kim and Mal hit a pothole, their feelings are usually voiced rather more strongly!!

As recently as last December, Derbyshire was revealed by the RAC as the worst place in the country for potholes and now here we are in 2024 and the situation is not getting any better. I'm sure Staffordshire is just as bad! It's a disgrace!

Our wonderful British climate, especially over the winter when it is cold and wet, is tough on road surfaces and the increase in traffic and the trend to drive larger vehicles such as SUVs just add to the problem.



We have been driving locally a lot lately to both Burton and Derby hospitals and I can only describe these trips as “interesting”! We can't drive at the edge of the roads because the potholes seem even worse here and, if we drive more to the

middle, the vehicles coming from the other direction don't seem to like it! Horns beeping, Mal gesticulating, Kim with her eyes closed!!!

I have to admit that when we see another car coming towards us that suddenly swerves and looks as though it's going to hit us, I do hide under one of my thick soft blankets until it feels safe enough to come out!

Potholes are a bigger problem than speeding, road rage, congestion or drink and drug driving although, from what I've seen and heard, potholes appear to cause significant road rage in our car!

It's not so bad if driving conditions are reasonable but, if it's dark or wet, it's fairly impossible to avoid a pothole because you simply just can't see them. So then we're avoiding puddles as well and it's like being on a slalom course on Ski Sunday!! I'm just so pleased that I don't get car sick!

It's just as bad when I'm out for a walk on the country lanes and, if I'm not constantly watching where I'm putting my paws, it can be very hazardous and Kim and Mal still seem to experience road rage if they trip up!

Apparently, the Councils do risk assess potholes and response times for repairs depends on this assessment. I've had my calculator out and with an average planned pothole repair costing about £55 and the number of potholes in Derbyshire alone, the total bill would be close to £5million!!! And that's just Derbyshire!! It's a disgrace! It's no good offering my pocket money – it wouldn't make a dent in it!!!

So drive slowly, drive carefully, watch out for puddles, be patient, stay alert and keep your tyres inflated at the correct pressure. Hold that steering wheel tight, shout and swear if you like – the girls say it helps – and stay safe!!

And finally to finish on a lighter note;

“Why did the pothole go to the dentist?
It had a cavity that needed filling!”

Keep smiling!

Morse the Dog



HELIX
Dog Training

Unleash your best lives together

Professional Dog Trainer & Behaviourist

www.helixdogtraining.com

askhelix@helixdogtraining.com

Call or Text: 077088 12142

Ask Helix about:

- Rescue dogs
- Reactive dogs
- Puppies
- Old dogs
- Noisy dogs
- Anxious dogs
- Catch me if you can dogs
- Naughty but nice dogs
- Misunderstood dogs
- All dogs!

LOOPY-LOOP
SEWING STUDIO

Alteration & Repair

Do you want save money and keep
your favourite clothes for longer?

Do you need small tailoring
modifications
or clothes repaired?

Curtains shortening or new covers for
your sofa?

Or fix your beloved wool sweater?

**I CAN HELP YOU WITH ALL OF THESE
THINGS.**

I am a seamstress with many years of
experience.

I love sewing and recycling old clothes.
Feel free to contact me and ask about
prices and more information.

I will be happy to help :)
Eva Morszner

7 Holme Bank, Mayfield-Ashbourne

Phone: 07881947121



Compton

Ashbourne

Tel 01335 342250

Email kayandco@btinternet.com

Jill Studholme

Freelance Web Designer

&

**Digital Marketing
Consultant**

Creating responsive web sites
for mobile, tablets and desktop.

Email - jill@studholme.net

My Month - Spring Daffodils and the Affair of the Plastic Flowers.

Welcome to the month of March, a month which since living in Mayfield has become one of my favourites in the year; for it is the month where we see real signs of spring and say goodbye to winter. Leaves appear on trees, lambs gamble about in fields and the most important one for me are the bunches of daffodils that literally spring up around us, their bright flowers waving in the breeze, letting everyone know Spring has finally come. The bright yellows and oranges of this flower send out a joyful message encouraging us out into the countryside to view them and spread a little happiness in a month that can still be cold and wet.

As I walk the lanes of Mayfield and see these harbingers of spring, I'm reminded about that poem by some bloke called Bill Wordsworth that goes '*I wandered lonely as a cloud, That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees.*'

That poem, learnt at school had little meaning for me before moving to the country from the big city, but now I get it. However, the oddity is I grew up in the country in the Cotswolds where again fields and lanes had their fair share of daffodils. I do remember daffodils as a child but for a very different reason. In fact, it's fair to say my view of daffodils was very mixed and was something that did not necessarily fill me with pleasure.

So why was it all different for me growing up and why did I have such a downer on this little flower? Well, that links to a story of strong minded parents, who fell out over this little flower, leading to a family dispute in which me and my brother were very unwilling participants.

It started innocently enough at a fairly early age when our family moved from a flat in the town we were living in, to a brand new council house. This would have been very late 50s and along with the house, my parents also got a very small garden at the front and a fairly large garden behind. This was ideal for my father who was an avid vegetable grower and was positive for my mother who saw growing our own veg as a very good way of extending a limited household budget.

However, the front garden, was for display and show; to let your neighbours know you were proud house owners (even if you were only renting) and for displays of perfectly cut grass and borders of flowers to make your neighbours envious.

My mother had high expectations that my father would grow flowers of all sorts in the borders so that she could pick them for the many empty vases waiting in the house, and when those were full, to give away to relatives and friends.

Here she was to be deeply disappointed, for my father was at heart a veg gardener and so his front garden was of decidedly second interest, so that meant cutting the grass and putting in bedding plants that lasted all season and not going around planting flowers to be cut and put in vases.

Furthermore, our big back garden was his own personal vegetable plot to only be filled with plants he put there himself, which could always be picked or dug up to be eaten later. He had a plan for every square foot of that garden and that did not include flowers. If you couldn't eat it, he wouldn't grow it and of course that included daffodils, my mother's favourite flower, related I think to her Welsh ancestry on her father's side.

Mother's lack of home-grown flowers was made all the worse by the fact that the only flowering plant my father liked was geraniums. He carefully grew them in a small greenhouse and then sent them off to exhibitions and competitions, both local and national. Now some geraniums smell nice, a bit like a rose, but my father's geraniums were a variety that produced large amounts of flowers and frankly either had no smell or a slightly metallic unpleasant smell. He occasionally won a competition and would then offer mother some of these prize winning plants to be placed around the house but the odd scent and smell, which you could not say was a nice scent, put mother off and therefore the only flower my father loved was banned from inside the house. Feuds have started with less!!

Now you would think my parents would buy flowers to fill those many vases. Today we would simply go down to the supermarket, but in those far off days supermarkets did not exist and the florists in the town we lived in were by nature relatively expensive and beyond the budgets of a cash strapped young family.

It then got worse – my aunt, mother's younger sister moved into a house in the town with another big back garden, but in this one, our uncle grew flowers of all sorts, to the point where my aunt's house was so full of flowers, she would bring a bunch or two to my mother, because they had simply grown too many.

As a child I thought that was very nice of my aunt, totally missing the obvious sibling rivalry between sisters, with my aunt having one up on the elder sister who normally was the one in charge.

Our house with few or no flowers in it remained the norm for the next couple of years, but then in the early 1960s it all changed and mother got her flowers, her favourite daffodils, but not from a garden or a florist and she was delighted.

She was delighted because her much loved daffodils cost nothing and lasted forever, for these were plastic imitation flowers that never faded and never needed to be thrown away - my mother's dream.

Her dream came about because of what became known as the 'washing powder wars' between Lever Brothers, manufacturer of Persil and Procter & Gamble who had Tide and Fairy. To gain market share against its rivals, Persil launched a massive promotional campaign giving away free plastic daffodils. Literally millions of plastic daffodils were made in the far east and then given away one with each pack bought. They reckoned that housewives would like to get something free and would come back to buy more boxes of Persil in order to get a bunch of flowers to

display..... and they were right; it was a huge success with housewives; and right at the front of the queue was, of course, my mother.

The plastic daffodils were too large to go inside the Persil boxes, so they were sent separately to the shopkeepers whose job was to hand them out at the till when you bought your Persil. Mother was a Persil user and quickly worked out that you got one daffodil per box and so instead of buying the giant economy size, she downsized to buy two or three smaller boxes to get 3 daffodils instead of just one. The fact the boxes cost slightly more than the large pack didn't even worry her, the daffodils were worth it.

So far so good, father is less than impressed, but mother is delighted with her single vase of three daffodils which she proudly displays in any room in the house she is in. However, she quickly realises that she's got enough Persil to last many a wash and she really wants more daffodils so she can have a bunch in every room.

And so, she asks her neighbours if they want their plastic flowers they've also acquired and finds a small minority actually don't like them and that gets her another four or five blooms that fill yet another vase. Now she's on a roll and gets even more creative in how to increase her stock until, like Wordsworth, she has a host of golden daffodils...and that involved me and my brother in genuinely embarrassing moments.

My brother and I had just started do shopping for other ladies on the council estate, who were either elderly and house bound or young mothers with babies, both of whom found walking to the shops some distance away a problem.

In those days it was the neighbourly thing to do and most children on the estate did a bit of shopping for somebody else and was rewarded with a tip to add to their pocket money. So far so good, my brother and I didn't mind doing it and we got some money. However, mother had realised the shopping may well contain washing powder and so we were instructed to ask for the plastic flower at the counter when paying for the shopping and then, most embarrassingly, ask as we delivered the shopping if the lady wanted the daffodil and if not, could we give it to our mother.

At least one lady a week happily handed over the free gift, but most did not, and one old lady complained to mother that her cheeky boys had tried to take something that was hers. Words were said, mother defended her sons and we stopped shopping for that lady with great levels of embarrassment all around.

Still, at that point mother proudly had a few vases of daffodils and then her sister brought her a load more, as she had been collecting them but have no need of them as her husband gave her real flowers. I think mother totally ignored the dig from her sister at her own husband's inability to produce flowers and happily took them to fill another vase or three.

Father had little input into this proliferation of plastic in the house and any negative comments he gave fell on deaf ears or if mother felt annoyed enough, he was told she would happily throw them away when he gave her real ones from her own garden.

If it had stopped with just the daffodils it would have been alright, but the next stage was yet more plastic flowers appearing as giveaways in shops, as every other soap powder manufacturer and grocery supplier in general had seen how successful the Persil flower campaign had been. Suddenly Tide, Omo and every other washing powder, along with floor cleaners and god knows what else was offering all types of flowers, including roses and tulips. My mother's loyalty to Persil disappeared overnight and by canny purchasing, chatting up shopkeepers and persuading neighbours on the estate, mother gained quite a large collection of plastic roses and tulips to match her daffodils.

And that's when my father made a fatal mistake. Mother was doing her usual crowing about how good these plastic flowers were, how much money they were saving by not going to a florist and how they brightened up the room no end; with the implied dig that father's own produce from his relatively large garden was making no contribution at all. Father saw a chance to get one back and said it was all alright for daffodils and tulips which he agreed from a distance could look like they were real but the key thing with roses was the smell and these roses smelt of nothing until you've got up close when the smell of plastic overpowered you instead of that beautiful smell you associate with real roses.

I seem to think this comment came one Saturday lunchtime when mother had probably come back from a shopping expedition with two or three more roses and father was due to pop out to the local pub to 'see a man about a dog', (which made no sense to us boys, as we already had a dog and did not need another).

As father left the house after making his cutting comment, in pursuit of the dog we did not need, mother merely smiled and said we will see about that. As she tidied away the lunch things and set us boys to doing the washing up, she told us she was popping out to see a friend and we could look after ourselves for an hour or two. This was a bit of a mystery, as mother never left the house on Saturday afternoon after a morning shopping expedition, but we went with the flow.

She came back two hours later with a very big broad smile on her face and said 'no rose scent, we'll see about that'. She then gathered all of the plastic roses, brought them into the kitchen and then opened up her handbag where she had some small vials of some colourless liquid. She opened one of these little vials smelt it and then placed it under our noses. Now what does that smell of? We have no idea, she answered for us, 'roses, that smells of roses' and then she gently began to put drops of the liquid into the petals of each plastic rose flower.

It turned out she's gone to see a friend of hers who was the Avon lady of the area and persuaded her to let have some small samples of perfume the lady had, to give out to prospective new customers. My mother was indeed a persuasive person, who was a good customer of the Avon lady, so the agent relented and produced five or six vials of various perfumes.

We boys went out to play, to come back late Saturday afternoon to find my father watching Grandstand on TV after his discussion with a man about a dog and my mother beaming ear to ear, rearranging all her plastic flowers in the dining room living room and kitchen.

The air was full of a distinct smell of perfume, which it is fair to say as an adult I recognise as a cheap perfume, but perfume it was and mother was glowing, father was silent. Not only had she perfumed her roses, but every other flower she had, Daffodils included, and every room now smelt of some sort of perfume smell!

Her joy in creating the perfect flowers lasted approximately a week for that's how long it took the perfume to react with the plastic and give off fairly lethal smells!

It was a gradual thing, each day we came back from school there was a strange smell about the house and eventually a week or so later even mother understood that this was not good news. Father, I think recognised maybe he had gone too far and he was still quietly silent about it, until mother raised the issue itself saying she thought her flowers had gone off and as gently as he could he did say to her he thought the perfume and plastic did not mix. Two or three days later it became evident as the roses began to have black spots on the plastic and exactly the same happened with the daffodils and tulips.

She held on for a day or two and then we came back from school to find her busy spring cleaning the house for now apparent reason. Windows were open there was a smell of furniture polish, floor polish and every other sort of polish and noticeable by their absence where any plastic flowers - the vases were empty.

She never acquired more plastic flowers and to his belated credit father agreed he could grow some other flowers in the greenhouse apart from geraniums to put into mothers houses when needed. Outside the house the big promotion on plastic flowers as giveaways disappeared as quickly as mothers badly scented flowers did and the affair of the plastic flowers was quickly forgotten.

The lasting effect on an 8-year-old was that daffodils in particular and cut flowers in general were not good and caused punch ups in the household and clearly stayed with me until seeing them in their natural environment.

May you have many bunches of daffodils, real ones, this year and should any of yours be plastic or artificial just make sure you avoid spraying them in cheap perfume.

Until next time Stephen Dunn

The Social History of Mayfield

In a series of articles for our magazine Mayfield historian Pat Smith will write about various parts of Mayfield in terms of its social history. In this article Pat writes about the Terrace and the mill, from work he did as part of Mayfield Heritage Group exhibitions during the early 1990's.

The Terrace, Mayfield, East Staffordshire

Recorded below are details of the Mill and The Terrace, Mayfield, as presented at the Mayfield Heritage Group exhibitions during the early 1990's.

The houses in The Terrace are constructed of local sandstone. They were built by the mill owners, the Simpson Brothers, to provide accommodation for their employees. The earliest mentioned date is 1851. Originally there were 40 houses, now 39, No.1 The Terrace being used to accommodate the company offices.

The present state of the houses bears testimony to the original solid build and the first class materials used. Gas, from the mill gas plant, provided lighting to all the properties. All had a large wooden butt to store rain water, this (soft water) was piped into the kitchens and was used for washing and personal hygiene. Drinking water was drawn from wells by communal hand pumps. All the dwellings had a large coal fired copper in the kitchen. Monday was washday, festoons of washing would adorn every area of The Terrace. There was a special 'drying area' at the East end of South View (now the site of an electricity transformer).

The Terrace properties No's 2, 3 and 4 have no access from the rear, this meant that everything, including coal, had to be transported in through the front door. The stairs were very steep and narrow making it almost impossible to maneuver furniture upstairs. The solution to this was for one of the upper sash windows to be removed allowing larger 'upstairs' furniture to be hauled up with ropes and manhandled in through the bedroom window.

The first two houses of the centre row of six provided premises for the Co-op and until late in the 20th Century the address was The Co-op Row. The Co-op moved to a new purpose built store on Conygree Lane (c) 1925.

A single track line ran from Clifton LMS railway station to the mill. Horse drawn trucks provided transport for goods both to and from the mill. The line branched at the Terrace, one branch serving the main yard of the mill and the second one supplying coal to the boiler house and gas plant. The bridges over the rivers Henmore and Dove and the one over the mill race were built to full railway specification. The road to Clifton is still known as The Line and is the only official way for vehicles into and out of The Terrace. The lines were removed and scrapped (early 1940's) for the war effort.

It could be said that the Terrace is on an island. The River Dove flows past the East and South sides whilst water from the river, diverted to provide water power, flows under the mill buildings, joining the main river on the West side. Water is no longer used as a power force but the old water turbine is still in situ.

The turbine was last used to drive a large dynamo providing enough electricity to charge a large bank of batteries. The batteries supplied power for the emergency lighting throughout the mill. Over the winter months the river would be in flood. The original planners for The Terrace must have realised this, The Terrace never flooded, though at times the water level in the mill race was just a foot or so below the rear of the houses.

During the late 19th century and the early part of the 20th century weekend general markets were held in The Terrace. Butchers, greengrocers and general merchants offered their goods for sale. Little is known about the markets but it is known that two residents supplied a service from their homes, these were Mrs. Kate Burton's Chip Shop and Mrs Polly Morton selling homemade ice cream, treacle toffee and mushy peas.

The Mill

The mill and The Terrace were built together and have 'lived' in harmony over many years. The Terrace has seen very few structural changes. However, the mill has changed dramatically and has gone from once being the mainstay of employment for hundreds of local people for over a hundred years to the present day single storey establishment employing less than one hundred people.

During the 1950's the two main multi storey mill buildings were found to be unstable and unsafe. This was attributed to machinery being replaced by less heavy ones resulting in the wooden floor beams relaxing and pushing the walls outwards. The two main buildings were consequently demolished during the 1960's. One of the saddest sights was seeing the majestic mill chimney being taken down brick by brick. Every day saw one of the village landmarks reducing in height until finally there was nothing left.

The present day modern single storey H. J. Building was built to replace the demolished factory and now houses some of the most up to date textile machinery in the world. The building is named in honour of the late Mr. Hugo Johnson, former Chief Executive Officer of Wm. Tatton & son.

Pat Smith

Next Month

My own memories of The Terrace as a boy including the Terrace's local swimming and bathing facilities, used by the whole of Mayfield!

Mayfield Contributes to the Ashbourne Food Bank!



Thank-you to all who contribute to the Mayfield Foodbank box. Ashbourne Foodbank is run and managed by Ashbourne Elim Church and a group of volunteers. Over the past year Ashbourne Foodbank has given out over 100,000 meals to families and individuals in need in our local area. This was only made possible by the generosity of local people and businesses.

If you would like to contribute to the Foodbank there is a donation box in Mayfield **outside the Vicarage front door on the right** which is emptied weekly.

Generally, the best items are ones with a long shelf life such as UHT (Long Life) milk, tinned meals or tins of fruit and vegetables, pasta rice etc. While most of the products are food related other essentials such as nappies and personal hygiene products are also gratefully received.

If you require support from the food bank, please call on 01335 661237 or email foodbank@ashbourneelim.church

Interesting fact – the Elim in the churches' name relates to an oasis in the Bible that the people of Israel discovered as they wandered through the desert, it is said to have provided shade and refreshment to all who encountered it.



We publish below an article from Jonathan Hill, Lichfield Diocese's Director of Finance who talks about an alternative understanding of 'giving up for Lent'

Giving Up

We so easily misrepresent Lent as a miserable time of depriving ourselves – of giving up sweet treats or alcohol, other nice things and even joy.

But it is really about reflecting Jesus time in the desert in contemplation and resisting temptation, preparing himself for the years of his public ministry that were about to start.

It is a great time for us to each reflect on our own ministries – we all have them, to family, friends and communities around us: some are very public as clergy and lay ministers, others very quiet through supporting neighbours or words of encouragement or praying for others.

It is often said that the last part of a person to be converted when they come to faith is their wallet, yet tales of generosity and advice on using whatever little wealth we have are the most common topics in the Bible.

Some preachers vehemently call for each of us to give exactly ten percent of our income to support the local or global church; a number that comes from the Old Testament: others simply urge considered generosity, following the instruction of St Paul to the Corinthians – “The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7).

The Church of England recommends giving 5% to the local parish and 5% to other Christian mission. What we each actually give is up to us, unknown to the vicar or PCC or anyone else.

What we do know is that our churches, despite the challenges of a secularising nation and reduced voluntary activity across the country, remain key to many communities providing practical and spiritual services.

Many people who rarely enter the church value the presence of our buildings at various points in life. And keeping them open relies on the tithes of the faithful and the generosity of visitors.

There is good news here – the average regular giver in the Church of England contributes about £15 each week. In Lichfield Diocese the figure is £11.15, not terrible in a diocese with significant pockets of deprivation and amazingly 7% up on pre-pandemic, pre-cost-of-living-crisis levels.

And to those who remain faithful givers, both diocese and parishes are very grateful. However, the number of regular givers has fallen, meaning budgets in parishes generally are squeezed.

I find it hard to process the numbers and detailed spreadsheets without a cup of coffee in my hand, and enjoy buying from a well-known retailer on my way to work. But after a few scribbles on the back of a coffee cup, I realised that if I gave up one cup per week and gave it's cost to my parish and every other giver did the same, we'd solve the cash-flow issues in our parishes at a stroke.

I have resolved to do that with a direct debit through the Giving Direct scheme which sends funds directly to your chosen parish.

So my challenge to you this lent is to review your generosity – to your parish church and elsewhere, and do as I have.

Jonathan Hill.

The diocese offers different ways to help people give to their parishes: through Giving Direct standing orders which ensure parish receives both the gift AND recouped Gift Aid within 14 days; or through the dioceses. Within Mayfield you can give by contacting our churchwardens Charles Wimbush and Maggie Gook, whose telephone numbers are on the back page of the magazine. The editors.

Easter Traditions

Every holiday has its own cherished traditions that are lovingly passed down from generation to generation. At Easter, these traditions often include egg decorating, easter egg hunts and the giving of easter eggs and chocolate bunnies, local church services, family gatherings, parades, and the placing of flowers in the church and in particular Easter Lilies.

Here we look at two of those traditions, Easter eggs and Easter Lilies

Easter Eggs.

If you mentioned the words Easter eggs to virtually anybody today, they will automatically think about the chocolate eggs we buy in supermarkets and shops that are given to absolutely every member of the family no matter what age they are. This is relatively unusual in that most gifts of chocolate tend to have a child as their recipient. Chocolate Easter eggs are different in that they are for everyone, no matter what age.

However, the tradition of eggs at Easter goes far back beyond the first ever chocolate egg. Most origins associate eggs as a symbol of re-birth and new life that in pre-Christian times was associated with spring, but it is more likely connected to the fact that during Easter the consumption of eggs, a popular and highly nutritious meal, resumed after the strict Lenten fast. Eggs were thus a mainstay of Easter meals and became a prized Easter gift for children. And this is probably the real reason why eggs came to be associated with Easter. Eggs were painted as children's gifts and hid for small hands to find.

Chocolate eggs are a relatively new idea with Cadbury's making their first egg in 1875. In fact, no chocolate eggs could be made without Cadbury's process for making chocolate, a process that makes large quantities of cocoa butter available and this was the secret of making moulded chocolates including chocolate eggs.

Interestingly in medieval times it was believed that eggs laid on Good Friday, if kept for a hundred years, would have their yolks turn to diamond. If Good Friday eggs were cooked at Easter, they would promote the fertility of the trees and crops and protect against sudden deaths. And, if you would find two yolks in an Easter egg, you were going to be rich soon. That belief lives on in that a double yolk egg is still considered lucky if you're the one who eats it!

Easter Lillies

The beautiful trumpet-shaped blossoms of Lillies have come to symbolize purity, hope, and life -- the spiritual essence of Easter -- and all the promises of Spring.

History is filled with stories and images that speak of the beauty and majesty of the elegant white flowers. One of the most famous Biblical references is in the Sermon on the Mount, when Christ said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

The Ancient Greeks tell us that the lily sprang from the milk of Hera, the Queen of Heaven and the goddess of Motherhood. Roman mythology credits lilies to Juno, the queen of the gods. The story goes that while Juno was nursing her son Hercules, her excess milk fell from the sky. Although part of it remained above the earth (creating the Milky Way), the remainder fell to the earth, creating lilies.

Lilies are said to have been found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony. Tradition has it that the beautiful white blooms sprung up where drops of Christ's sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow and deep distress. This is why at Easter time, Churches feature Lillies to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus and hope of life everlasting. Often as in Mayfield, they are placed to commemorate loved ones who have passed on.

The pure white lily has long been associated with the Virgin Mary, too. In early paintings, the Angel Gabriel is pictured extending a branch of pure white lilies to the Virgin Mary, announcing that she is to be the mother of the Christ Child.

Also tradition has it that when Eve left the Garden of Eden she shed real tears of repentance, and from those remorseful tears sprung up lilies to show that true repentance is the beginning of spiritual beauty.

As a symbol of purity and grace the white lily is a fitting reminder of the greater meaning of Easter. Whether given as a gift or enjoyed in your own home, the Easter Lily serves as a beautiful reminder that Easter is a time for rejoicing and celebrating.

S.D.

Carols Recipes for March

This month I am asking for help regards recipes.

You may have noticed that I never give any curry or chili type recipes. The fact is I don't care for curry or chili dishes, but I do know from family and friends they do. I never give recipes if I have not tried them, so that is the problem.

So if any one who reads this can help me with their favorite recipe then please do and I am sure I can trust their recommendations, if they wish to remain anonymous that is fine.

I also try to keep costs down and if there is chance the dishes will freeze that helps especially if you are catering for one. I am also an avid "yellow sticker" fan and cannot resist a bargain. So when I see some mushrooms greatly reduced then this recipe below is a go to dish.

My number is 07716433609 if you want to message me by Whatsapp or call me.

PS It does not have to be curry or chili recipes any contribution gratefully received.
Carol Akers

Mushroom & Leek Soup

Serves 4 - 6

1 tbsp sunflower oil
A knob of butter
350g sliced mushrooms
3 leeks sliced
2 large potatoes peeled and cut into small cubes
750 ml of chicken or veg or veg stock
4 tbsp of double pouring cream
1 tbsp chopped tarragon
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method.

1 Heat the oil and butter in a saucepan, add mushrooms and leeks fry for 3 minutes. Cover with lid for 1 minute, then fry for 1 minute more.

2 Add potatoes and stock. Cover the pan and simmer gently very low heat until potatoes are tender.

3 Blend until smooth. Season, and then add cream and tarragon to serve.

Optional

This dish freezes well.

Mac'n'Cheese

Serves 4 - 6

200gms macaroni
50g butter
50g flour
900ml hot milk
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
75g Parmesan cheese, grated
76g Cheddar cheese, grated
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

- 1 Cook the pasta using packet instructions in boiling salted water. Drain and set aside.
- 2 Melt the butter in a saucepan, add flour and whisk over heat for 30 seconds to make a roux. Whisk in the warm milk, a little at a time to make smooth sauce. Continue to whisk until the sauce is boiling and thickened, Remove the pan from the heat and add the mustard, seasoning and three quarters of the cheese.
3. Preheat the grill to high. Add pasta to the hot sauce and pour everything into a large ovenproof dish. Sprinkle the remaining cheese. Grill for about 5 – 10 mins till top is golden brown.

Mayfield Book Club

The book we were discussing was *The Lamplighter* by Emma Stonex. I am pleased to say that the group started the New Year off by all enjoying the book so enthusiastically.

The book is inspired by the true story of the mystery of three lighthouse keepers, who disappeared in 1910.

In the book it starts in the 1970s when three keepers also mysteriously disappear with no conclusion, a journalist twenty years later starts to look into what had happened, the author cleverly let each widow of the three men give their stories and we also hear the stories of the three men. It certainly gives background to the character but still there is the mystery. With the twists and turns the book is well worth the read. One or two members like a proper ending but were happy that we still had a little mystery at the end.

I for one think we should all keep a little mystery in our life.

Carol Akers

PEAK WASTE RECYCLING LTD

SKIP HIRE & RECYCLING SERVICES



1 TON SKIP BAGS
5 TON SKIPS
8 TON SKIPS
10 TON SKIPS



100%
OF ALL WASTE
IS RECYCLED

Call 01335 342276 or book
online at
www.peakwaste.co.uk



RELIABLE DELIVERY AND COLLECTION

Please quote reference
no: MPM2024

01335 342276

www.peakwaste.co.uk

The Mayfield Recreational Association (MRA)

Lotto for February 2024

...and the winner is No. 103 who

wins £100!

If you would like 12 chances a year to win £100 please join the Lotto and help support the MRA

It costs just £25 to join the Lotto for a year, and you have twelve chances to win around £100. Please consider joining – without you and others like you, the MRA would struggle to keep going.

- When you join you are allotted a number for the year (or two numbers if you pay £50).
- The Lotto draw is held every month.
- If, for example, 100 people join the Lotto, each paying £25 for a year, then each month the winning number will amount to half the total subs for that month, i.e. half of $100 \times £25$ divided by 12 = £104. In other words, the winner gets half and the real winner, the MRA, gets the other half – a very good local cause.

To pay online or to set up a standing order, please use: sort code: 30 90 25, account no: 00198474, account name: Mayfield Recreational Association. Please let the MRA know that you have joined and your address – email treasurer@mramayfield.org.uk.

To send a cheque make it payable to Mayfield Recreational Association and send to: Andrew Reay-Robinson, The Cliff, Leek Road, Upper Mayfield, DE6 2HR.

Thank you!



About the MRA

The Mayfield Recreational Association is a registered charity, number 700004. It provides sporting and social amenities to the people and clubs of Mayfield.

**For more information see our website
mramayfield.org.uk**



J.K. ARBORICULTURE

www.jameskayarb.co.uk • 07565 560955

ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN, INCLUDING:

FELLING

PRUNING

DISMANTLING

REDUCTIONS

DEAD WOOD REMOVAL

STUMP REMOVAL

STORM DAMAGE

POLLARDING

HEDGE TRIMMING & HEDGE REDUCTIONS

FULLY INSURED

CALL 07565 560955 OR 01335 360408

JIM@JAMESKAYARB.CO.UK

REFLECTIONS.

While saying, "Happy New Year", it really hasn't been "happy"! as following on from the loss of friends in late 2023, in January and February of this year I had a number of friends pass away.

Some locally from my friends in Ashbourne, Allan Wright and David Franklin, and another, who's passing hit me hard, Barbara Goodison from my home town of Stockport, who passed away in late January, almost a month short of her 95th birthday!

Barbara was the last of the, what I call "older elders" of my home church, St John's Methodist. Barbara was the Girl Guide "Captain", and, along with her brother, David, who was the Scout Master were, with "others", very instrumental in my and others care and upbringing in my childhood and teens.

This "Reflections" article would stretch the whole of your Parish Magazine if I mentioned, in full, Barbara's and the "others" of what they were to me, and how they helped me along in life, not only in church life, but socially, physically, mentally and spiritually too!

I add here, that it was not only for me that Barbara and the "others" were so good for, but for a whole generation in the 50's, 60's and early 70's of Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Guides and Sunday School members too!

Many will gather at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Chapel on Tuesday 13th February to pay their respects to Barbara, and while St John's church is, "physically" no more, the "church" in the form of Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides plus members be there as a church and as a fellowship, and therefore, Barbara's "memorial" will be there too.

To paraphrase the words on Christopher Wrens tomb in St Paul's in London, for Barbara on Tuesday. *"Reader, if you seek her monument, look around!"* God Bless!

Tom P.

Articles for the April 2024 Issue of the Magazine.

We always welcome articles for the magazine, both from Mayfield itself and the surrounding villages. To ensure your article is published in our next issue,

April 2024

It must be submitted by **Friday 22nd March** at the latest.

Articles and information submitted beyond that date may not be published.

You can submit articles by email to our editors. Stephen Dunn Email: s.w.dunn@btconnect.com Tel. 342188 or Joyce Beeson Tel. 346959 and contact us to deliver them by hand.

MAYFIELD CHURCH (St. John the Baptist)

Web Site www.mayfieldparishchurch.org

Vicar of Weaver Benefice	Rev. Brian Leathers	(Tel: 01538 702469)
Assistant Minister for Mayfield	In Interregnum Vicarage answerphone	(Tel: 300022)
Churchwardens:	Mr Charles Wimbush	(Tel: 324083)
	Mrs Maggie Cook	(Tel: 345691)
Deputy Church warden	Mr Philip Cook	
PCC Secretary	Amy Hawksworth	
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Catherine Mellor	
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Catherine Mellor	
Organist	Mrs Janet Knox	(Tel: 346487)
Verger:	Mr Doug Greenway	(Tel: 344932)
Magazine Editor	Mr Stephen Dunn	(Tel: 342188)
Magazine Editor/Distribution	Mrs Joyce Beeson	(Tel: 346959)
Church Room Bookings and Key Holder	Mrs Charlotte Heathcote	(07772 360472)
Bell Captain	(Vacant)	

MESSY CHURCH

Details of Messy Church are available from Hilary Dowson (01335 324350)
and Mrs Catherine Mellor (07752 772715)

ECUMENICAL CONTACTS

Ashbourne Methodist Minister: Rev. Nicola Briggs
16, Booth Drive Ashbourne (Tel: 01335 702174.)

SUNDAY SERVICES

All Morning Services at 10.45am.
1st Sunday: Church Family Communion
2nd Sunday: Church Family Worship
3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer
4th Sunday: Morning Prayer
(5th Sunday: See magazine for details)

For Baptisms and Marriages please contact Rev. Brian Leathers (Tel: 01538 702469)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ashbourne Medical Practises.
Clifton Road 216885. The Surgery, Clifton Rd 300588
St Oswald's Hospital 230000. Ashbourne Community Transport 300670
Police emergency 999 . Police non emergency 101
Gas emergency service 0800 111 999 . Electricity emergency service 0800 056 8090
Ryecroft Middle School 01889 590394. Thomas Alleyne High School 01889 561820

Cover design by Philip Barritt