

May 2024

St. Bartholomew's News

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.



Issue no. 79

Hello, and I hope this finds you well.

My goodness, May already, where is this year going?

Still plenty of rain around but the hope of warmer, dry weather to come. At least we can hopefully tidy up our gardens and the nights are getting lighter.

I've visited Lichfield Cathedral a couple of times recently to see the "Thread through creation", an exhibition in silk by needlework specialist Jacqui Robinson. It was recommended to me by Wendy who had seen the first exhibition this lady had done.

It was so interesting and really beautiful. I've attached some photographs at the end of this newsletter, but they will not do the exhibits justice.

If anyone is interested, I bought a programme and you're welcome to have a look at it, just ask me and I will bring in to church. Wendy has also put some photographs on the church website (under Photo of the Week page <https://www.stbartswednesbury.com/photo-of-the-week.html>, then scroll down to Tuesday 8th February 2022)).

It took the craft specialist 3 years to create this exhibition, (each piece of work is enormous and with the most intricate of stitching). My husband says it takes me that long to sew on one of his shirt buttons, so you can imagine my admiration for this lady.....

The exhibition finishes in Lichfield on 2nd June before moving on around the UK.

We continue to have services in church at 11 am and we have had different people taking the services and we thank all those who have visited and spent time with us. Please keep all those working for our church in your prayers as we continue our interregnum.

Take care, Alison

OPEN TABLE.

The hall is still temporarily closed and so still no monthly meal (Open Table) at the moment. Any updates will be printed in this newsletter and on the church website.

CRAFT GROUP.

Their next meeting will be Saturday 4th May 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm in Wednesbury library.

Some information from Sandwell Council –



Baaaaarilliant news, Woolly Weekend at Forge Mill Farm is back this Early May Bank Holiday weekend.

📅 Saturday 4 May, Sunday 5 May and Monday 6 May.

📍 Forge Mill Farm, Forge Lane, B71 3SZ

🐑 Sheep shearing 🐕 Sheep dog displays – NEW this year!

🧶 Woolly crafts and activities 🌀 Felting, spinning and weaving on show

📺 [Pre-booking is essential – visit TicketSource to get your tickets now.](#)

Team Blind Dave ride again!

🚲 This September, Sandwell Freeman Dave Heeley and his team will be taking on the Western Front Way, cycling 1,000km over 7 days, starting from the Swiss border and finishing on the beaches of Dunkirk, 80 years since the D-Day landings.

★ They're raising money for The Albion Foundation and all the great work they do.

Please visit the JustGiving fundraising webpage if you wish to donate.



Build your own scarecrow competition

🏆 Build your own scarecrow and enter our competition, to be in the chance to win some great prizes!

🎓 Schools, nurseries, community groups, and SEND groups are all welcome to enter.

♻️ Build your unique scarecrow with straw or recyclable materials. The theme is 'traditional scarecrow' but we welcome all creativity!

👥 Register your class or group for FREE by Friday 17 May.

🚗 Drop off your creations by Monday 20 - Thursday 23 May. And visit the Scarecrow Festival 2024 to see all your hard work, and vote for your favourite.

🏆 Winners get a FREE visit to Forge Mill Farm for the whole class and will be announced by the week commencing 3 June.

To register or for more info email: Learn_well@sandwell.gov.uk



Sandwell Children's Festival is back!

📅 Saturday 1 – Sunday 2 June at Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre
[BOOK EARLY BIRD TICKETS before 30 April for discounted prices.](#)

This year's theme is WILD-HOOD, where we will inspire young minds to roam free and imaginations to soar amongst the beauty of nature!

Join us to explore, discover and connect through the adventures of the great outdoors featuring:
Live theatre performances Woodland crafts, den building and other outdoor activities

😊 Entertainers and workshops, 'have a go' fun, games and competitions and so much more!!



[We have two community hubs in Blackheath and West Bromwich for when you need to speak to someone face-to-face.](#)

📌 If you need advice on an issue or query, help with accessing council services or you just need to speak to someone, the two hubs are at:

📍 Central Library, High Street, West Bromwich, B70 8DZ: Every Tuesday, 10am to 4.30pm

📍 Blackheath Library, High Street, Blackheath, B65 0EA: Every Wednesday, 10am to 4.30pm

💻 There's also access to computers and Wi-Fi, and you can get help to [sign up for a MySandwell account](#) if you want one.

Please pass on this information to anyone this might help.

Thanks to those who participate in this service doing readings, prayers, singing, musical arrangements, etc. Please contact Wendy if you feel you would like to take part in our services by doing one of the readings or saying the intercessional prayers.

Please keep in your prayers those suffering in the Middle East. Such atrocities, grief and desperation are hard to comprehend. Let us all pray for peace.

We also remember Ukraine and their continuing war, hatred and appalling loss.

Our prayers can be found on our website which include names of our sick and those who have died.

We have also had far too many incidents of violence and aggression here in the UK. So many horrific attacks with knives, swords and shootings. For those who have lost their lives unnecessarily, and those who have been injured, keep their families and loved ones in your prayers. It's hard to comprehend such grief and shock.

Please also pray for our church in this time of uncertainty and let us support one another.

Don't forget we continue to need donations for the food bank. Tinned or packet foods, personal products, there is a list at the back of church for items needed, or please see Joyce who volunteers there.

Our Contact details : **Tel: 0121 556 0378.** (leave a message)

<https://www.facebook.com/StBartsWednesbury/> or

<https://www.stbartswednesbury.com>

Photographs I took at Lichfield –



