

February 2024

St. Bartholomew's News

Church Hill, Wednesbury. WS10 9DG.

Issue no. 76

Hello, and I hope this finds you well.

Already into the second month of the year

and already the days are a little longer and daffodils and spring bulbs are poking through. The weather has been very mixed with strong winds, and so much rain a couple of weeks ago. We've escaped the snow (so far) but it's still rather early and I suppose there is still time to experience the white stuff!

It's been an eventful couple of weeks within our church family to say the least. As you may already know, the use of the activities in the church hall will be paused as from 11th February as the current caretaker is stepping down. Unfortunately it will not be available to the groups that currently use it until a new caretaker/manager is appointed. Not all of you have access to the internet and church website, but this is updated with information when we know it.

We are grateful to Joyce for currently leading our Sunday services, and our PCC. Please keep them in your prayers as we continue our interregnum.

Take care, Alison



There have been lots of inaccurate stories going round, and below is the current information from the website editor.

There have been a lot of negative posts on Facebook recently as well as an article in the Express & Star. Until the Archdeacon and Rural Dean have advised us further, we cannot give you a definite answer about the future of our church. It is **definitely open** and, we hope, will remain open for the foreseeable future.

However, as from Sunday 4th February, we will have just the one service of communion with hymns at 11 am.

A post has been put on both the website and Facebook page to give you current information about the church and the hall. For an update on the situation at the moment, please read the Important Notice at the top of the Weekly Notices on our website (<https://www.stbartswednesbury.com/weekly-notices.html>) When possible, it will be updated, as appropriate.

The best ways to keep in touch and for updates, are by Facebook or the website.

- 1 Please check Facebook posts regularly. To receive notifications, go on to the page and click 'Like'. If you don't get notifications, just check the page occasionally. <https://www.facebook.com/StBartsWednesbury>
- 2 You can, also, get up-to-date information about services on our website's Services page as well as the Weekly Notices for other information. <https://www.stbartswednesbury.com/services.html>
- 3 Alternatively, you can check service times on the church's page of the 'A Church Near You' website. Type **Wednesbury** in the search bar and select **Wednesbury UK** then scroll down to access St Bartholomew's page. <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>

So sadly I cannot update you on any events in January as there wasn't an Open table or Craft Club meeting. The next Craft Club meeting will be Saturday 3rd February. There will NOT be an Open table in February unfortunately due to the impending closure of the hall.

I hope I can update you with these groups meeting again at some point in the future.

Following a meeting our PCC have had this week with the Archdeacon and Rural Dean, as from this **Sunday 4th February**, there will only be **ONE SERVICE at 11.00 am** each Sunday and this will continue until we are advised otherwise.

Some information from Sandwell Council which may be of interest/help to you:



think
Sandwell

Jobs and apprenticeships

think
Sandwell

06 Feb'24
2.00-5.30pm

CAREERS IN SANDWELL

local jobs, apprenticeships, and career opportunities

Chamber, Sandwell Council House, Freeth St, Oldbury, B69 3DE

Looking for jobs, apprenticeships or training?

All ages are welcome to come along to the next Careers in Sandwell event on Tuesday 6 February.

Drop in between 2.00 and 5.30pm to meet advisors from Think Sandwell Employment and Skills, employers with live job and apprenticeship vacancies plus services who can support you to find work and training.

We're celebrating National Apprenticeship Week - you can meet current Sandwell apprentices and learn about their journeys and you can get an apprenticeship with Sandwell council, a Sandwell school or with local employers.

You can [book a time slot via Eventbrite](#) or drop in - we look forward to seeing you!



email enquiries_recruitment@sandwell.gov.uk

16-24 year olds! Accelerate into Employment!

16-24 year olds who are not in education, employment or training can get support to find work with the Accelerate project.

You'll build your confidence and gain experience of team work, problem solving and working with others at an activity day, then work 1-2-1 with an employment and skills advisor towards your goals.

For more information

Can't make it to Careers in Sandwell?

Employment and Skills advisors are available at locations throughout Sandwell. [Visit the council's employment events webpage for more information.](#)

Thanks to those who participate in the 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.

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](tel:01215560378). (leave a message)

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

<https://www.stbartswednesbury.com>

OPEN IN TIPTON, WEDNESBURY, WEST BROMWICH

Correct as of 12th December 2023



A Place of Welcome offers your neighbourhood a place where everyone can go for a friendly conversation and free refreshments, if and when they need it

South Staffordshire Water Community Hub, Union Street, Wednesbury, WS10 7HD - Mondays 09:00 – 10:00 and 14:00 - 15:00

Community Transport, West Bromwich Bus Station 0 Stand D, St Michael Street, West Bromwich, B70 7AB - Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00 - 12:00

Crafternoon, Wednesbury Sons of Rest Community Centre, Foley Street, Wednesbury, West Midlands, WS10 9HG - Mondays 12:30 - 15:30

Stone Cross Library, Beverley Road, West Bromwich, B71 2LH - Mondays 14:30 - 16:30

Hill Top Methodist Church, Wesley Community Centre, New Street, Hill Top, West Bromwich, B71 2EJ - Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:30

Hill Top Community Centre, Hill Top, West Bromwich B70 0RZ - Tuesdays 10:00 - 12:00 (includes an optional wellbeing walk)

St Mark's Parish Church, Ocker Hill Road, Tipton, DY4 0UT - Tuesdays 11:00 - 13:00

Great Bridge Community Forum, Farley Park Lodge, Whitehall Road, West Bromwich, B70 0HF - Tuesdays 12:00 - 14:00

St Mary Magdalene Church, Beaconview Road, Charlemont Farm, West Bromwich, B71 3PJ - Wednesdays 10:00 - 12:00

The Good Shepherd with St John, 4 Bromford Lane, West Bromwich, B70 7HP Wednesdays and Fridays 10:30 - 12:00

St Andrew's Church, 18 Dudley Street, West Bromwich, B70 9LR - Wednesdays 10:30 - 12:00



**A place where everyone can feel safe to
connect, belong and contribute!**



SUPPORTED BY :



Strengthening Communities Enabler
Carrie Blount
07377 918101
carrie.blount@lichfield.anglican.org

I've added below a different quiz for this edition. I hope you find this of interest.

Who am I?

1. An actor, I was born in Fife in 1965. I was the first choice to play Wolverine in the X-Men films and starred in Deep Impact and Ever After. I appeared as Ian Hainsworth in TV's Desperate Housewives and Arthur Miller in My Week with Marilyn.
2. A singer, I was born in Georgia in 1974. I grew up in France and began singing in my teens. I am noted for my vocal similarity to Billie Holiday and my albums include Careless Love and Half the Perfect World.
3. A comedian and actress, I was born in Clapham in 1957. I worked as a psychiatric nurse then became a stand-up comedian as part of the alternative comedy movement. I won a Best TV Comedy Actress BAFTA award for my performance in Getting On. I present the spin-off show The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice.
4. An author, I was born in Dublin in 1919. My novels include The Sandcastle, The Good Apprentice and the Booker prize winning The Sea, The Sea. I have been portrayed on film by Kate Winslett and Judi Dench.
5. A singer, I was born in Bangor in 1976. I attended Dundee University and was once a member of the Scottish supergroup The Reindeer Section. I am the frontman of the rock band Snow Patrol.
6. An actress and TV presenter, I was born in Kent in 1955. I have appeared in the TV shows The Sweeney, and Doctor Who, and I presented Blue Peter for four years. I appeared on the TV talent contest Just the Two of Us in 2007, and my daughter was a Strictly Come Dancing participant in 2013.

Answers next month.....