

OAK HILL GROUP OF PARISHES

(Alderton, Gt. Washbourne,
Dumbleton & Wormington)

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AUGUST 2024



Alderton - All things bright and beautiful, all
creatures great and small.

Dear Friends

Our Foreword this month is written by a dear friend Anne Hand who lives in Winchcombe. Many of you will know Anne is the wife of Revd Michael Hand, who occasionally leads Services amongst our churches. Anne and Michael run a monthly prayer group, please do not hesitate to contact me if you re interested in going along.

'I'm sure that many of you are being asked the same, or a very similar, question as I have been asked regularly this summer. 'How's your garden?' Well, how is your garden? Not with 'silver bells and cockle shells', I'm sure. Ours looks exactly what it is, a garden which has seen (and felt) an awful lot of rain and, occasionally, some rather hot sunshine. Everything has excelled in growth and some things, especially the roses and plants which are growing in the wrong place (dare I call them weeds?) have flowered wonderfully. I mention this simply because recently I have, along with others, been looking at creation and how we can work to repair the damage we have done to the planet.

We have learnt a great deal. Did you know that trees communicate with each other especially when under threat? Did you know that orangutans know which bushes have leaves which, when chewed up and applied like a poultice, have healing powers? Or that looking at a bowl full of sugar gives you some idea of the number of stars there are? No, neither did I until a few weeks ago. What a mighty God we serve.

So, it's with these kind of thoughts in my mind that I come to create our prayer sheet for this month. Not surprisingly I'm suggesting prayers for our environment and those actively drawing our intention to how we can do 'just one thing' to make a difference. And because the whole idea of repairing the damage done can seem beyond our help, we pray too for the individual businesses, because our community, like all others, is made up of individual people all created and loved by a gracious, merciful heavenly father. Who, having seen that all was very good, rested.

May we find rest, relaxation and restoration through what are left of the long days of daylight and as we enjoy the beauty of the place we are privileged to call home.

A prayer as we continue our journey through the summer season:

Come freshly to us, O God; Sweep us off our feet and dance through our days.

Surprise us with your rhythms: Dare us to try new steps, explore new patterns and new partnerships. Release us from old routines; to swing in abandoned joy and fearful adventure. And in the intervals, Rest us in your still centre. Amen'

May the gift of God's Holy Spirit fill your hearts, homes and your families with love and peace, and with the schools, colleges and universities now broken up, I wish you all happy holidays! Julia x

OAK HILL SCHOOL UPDATE

Dear Oak Hill residents and church members, on the 1st July we were delighted to welcome our sixth school into the trust – Oak Hill C of E Primary School. It is my privilege to write to you to introduce Primary QuEST. My name is Stephen Dean and I oversee this trust. We are a primary focused trust supporting schools across Gloucestershire. Our vision is to deliver sustainable, outstanding educational learning opportunities for all within the Trust.

I have been working with the staff and pupils at the school for about 18 months now and it has been fantastic to see the school move across to the one site an Alderton and to bring all the pupils and staff on to one site. I have also seen first-hand the dedication and hard work of the governors and staff. The Primary QuEST vision is: Flourishing together through LIFE and we are excited about partnering with Oak Hill C of E Primary School to see pupils and staff flourish with us.

My thanks to the governing body team who have led the school during a period of change. A special thank you to Mrs Carol Kettle who has decided to retire at this juncture as the school begins a new chapter within Primary QuEST. Carol has been involved in school life at Oak Hill for so many years and we want to thank her for all of her valuable contributions.

Oak Hill will continue to be a community focused school and if you would like to support the school in anyway please do contact Ms Jade Attwood, head teacher. Have a good summer and we are looking forward to a new academic year together in September.

ALDERTON

ANIMAL BLESSING SERVICE: we had a lovely relaxed informal service at Church with a focus of the bond between humans and our pets. We listened to the prayer of St Francis with his patronage of animals and the environment, his song Make me a Channel of your Peace and a great poem about a dog named Dog by God! A lovely attendance with 10 dogs, 1 tortoise and a rabbit - all pets well behaved as were the humans – thank you for bringing them along.

ALDERTON FLOWER FESTIVAL, GIFT DAY AND SUMMER FAIR: we had a very successful afternoon for this, and it was brilliant to see so many people enjoying themselves. The Flower Festival theme was the Olympics, and the Church was filled with excellent arrangements which represented different countries that take part, with a medal podium and the Olympic flame. Included in the displays were sports equipment including a decorated bicycle and the Para-Olympics were there with a wheelchair decorated with flowers. We had excellent children's Olympic games, face painting and a variety of craft stalls, alongside music from the Hand Bell Ringers. Then up in the Hall were an amazing selection of cakes made by generous bakers which many people enjoyed in an attractively decorated setting.

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the event and the final figure (which will go towards the Church's maintenance) will be given in the next newsletter.



GREAT WASHBOURNE

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Great Washbourne Summer Event. We are delighted to announce that £1355.90 was raised to go towards the upkeep of the church. **THANK YOU** to all those that helped in any way to make the evening such a successful one. It was lovely to see so many there.

DUMBLETON

The Pimm's, Platters and Pudding evening on the 6th July was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended and the sun shone this year too! **HUGE THANKS** to everyone who supplied food, Raffle and Auction prizes. The help given by Village Hall volunteers in transporting tables and chairs to the venue was especially helpful, **THANKS** so much. The total raised for church funds was £1296.88p. A wonderful result.

The next **FAMILY SERVICE ON AUGUST 18th at 10.30am** will be a "CELEBRATION of SUMMER" in Song, Readings and Poems. We would like to include any of your **personal favourite HYMNS or perhaps one that you would care to nominate in memory of a loved one**. Please forward your chosen hymn to Gail Braham (07521 750087) or Jenny Maher (01386 881474). We look forward to welcoming you to this relaxed service, so please come and join us.

HATS, BAGS, BLING, SCARVES & TIES STALL!! We will be running this stall at the Annual Cricket Club Fete on Bank Holiday **Monday August 26th**. Please come and find us and support your Church funds. If you have any contributions for the stall, please contact Gail Braham (07521 750087) who will be delighted to accept them. **AND THEN - ON SATURDAY AUGUST 31st** is our **ANNUAL CHURCH GIFT DAY** with **TEAS ON THE GREEN 3-5pm**.

Please come and enjoy some Delicious Cake with copious cups of Tea/Coffee at this very sociable and happy village afternoon, hopefully in brilliant sunshine on the Green by the church. (In church if wet).

This is a most important Church Fundraising Event and a separate letter explaining how you can support THE GIFT DAY will be delivered to you during August. We look forward to welcoming you.

WORMINGTON

WVS EVENTS

SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST: WINE TASTING with complimentary cheeses. Please contact secretary@wormington.org. **WEDNESDAY 21ST AUGUST "Board and Card games"** children welcome to join in. 2.30pm-4.30pm

SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2024

Lectionary Year B

4th August T10 [Proper 13] Green	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE HC Trad	10.30am DUMBLETON HC CW	Exodus 16.2-4; 9-15 Ephesians 4.1-16 John 6.24-35
11th Aug T11 [Proper 14] Green	9.00am WORMINGTON HC CW	10.30am ALDERTON HC CW	Kings 19.4-8 Ephesians 4.25-5.2 John 6.35, 41-51
18th August T12 [Proper 15] Green	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE HC CW	10.30am DUMBLETON FAMILY SERVICE	Proverbs 9.1-6 Ephesians 5.15-20 John 6.51-58
25th August T13 [Proper 16] Green	6.00pm WORMINGTON Choral Evensong	10.30am ALDERTON HC CW	Joshua 24.1-2a, 14-18 Ephesians 6.10-20 John 6.56-69
1st Sept T14 [Proper 17] Green	9.00am GT WASHBOURNE HC Trad	10.30am DUMBLETON HC CW	Deuteronomy 4.1-2,6-9 James 1.17-end Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

CHURCHWARDENS

ALDERTON

Mr. M. Newman, 18 Courtiers Drive, Bishops Cleeve 01242 675028
Mrs S Reid, 4 Culls Meadow, Toddington 01242 621265

GREAT WASHBOURNE

Mrs J. Kent, Washbourne House, Gt. Washbourne 07711 623 017
Mrs Jane Harrington, Orchard View, Great Washbourne 07766 483130

DUMBLETON (PCC Secretary and Wedding Secretary)

Mrs T. Steggles, Bracklin, Main St. Dumbleton 01386 882049

WORMINGTON

Mr J. Evetts, Middle Hill Farm, Saintbury, Worcs. 07799035873
Mrs A. Piercy, Dairymead, Wormington 01386 584416