

# NEWSLETTER



**The content deadline is 10am every Thursday**

Anything received after 10am will be included the following week, if appropriate. Thank you

# Weekly Newsletter contents:

- Rectors Ramble/alternative
- Monthly Services
- Prayers
- General articles, requests and photo's
- Rolling diary of events
- Posters and Event adverts
- Regulars: Babies, Tots, Toddlers and Teens
- Regulars: Adults

*Please remember to check out [St Mary's Website](#) which gives you everything you need to know and includes a [gallery](#) of all photo's*

## Christopher Hume says:

St Mary's is truly richly blessed with preaching resources. Of course we have the excellence of our Rector, Rev Paul Mundy and the experience and wisdom of Fr Martin Morgan our two ordained priests. Then we have the sure, steady and inspired sermons of our two Lay Readers, Geoff Clinton and Jeremy Burdett. More lately we have benefited from the sure footed, brilliantly researched and well delivered preaching of ALM Ian Reekie. And who could forget ALM Patsy Bailey's recent first sermon at St Mary's, (complete with totally unnecessary P plates!), a real tour-de-force. And last Sunday we were privileged to enjoy Mandy Stockwell's debut sermon at St Mary's which was very well received by a most appreciative congregation.

Of course, St Peter's enjoys these preaching resources too – Geoff Clinton preached on the Holy Ghost at St Peter's last Sunday while Mandy preached at St Mary's. I am assured by those present that Geoff delivered his usual quiet but memorable masterpiece of a sermon.

Mandy preached at our Pentecost service on the Holy Ghost to a smaller than usual congregation – Bank Holiday weekend. With Rector Paul away so no Rector's Ramble to lead the Newsletter; and noting the importance of Pentecost and the delivery of the Holy Ghost, here's Mandy's sermon which deserves a wider audience:-

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Many people feel comfortable talking about God the Father, and many delight in speaking about Jesus the Son. But when it comes to the Holy Spirit, there can often be a sense of uncertainty or hesitation. And yet, it is through the Holy Spirit that God is closest to us - dwelling not only among us, but within us.

The Holy Spirit is often described as the most mysterious person of the Holy Trinity. While God the Father and Jesus the Son are more easily imagined and more frequently spoken about, the Holy Spirit tends to work more quietly - intimately and inwardly - shaping our hearts, guiding our lives, and drawing us closer to God.

*Although* that quiet, inward picture of the Holy Spirit is not quite what we encounter in the reading from Acts 2:1–21 that we heard earlier!

Here, we witness one of the great turning points in human history: the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Up to this moment, the disciples had been on something of a journey themselves. But then they had watched everything seem to fall apart. Their leader - the one they believed to be the Messiah - had been mocked, beaten, and crucified. And with him, many of their hopes appeared to die as well.

How do you imagine they must have felt? Some had abandoned Jesus at the moment of his arrest and fled in fear. Were they thinking "we should have stayed, we should have been braver, we could have done more"

But then, three days later, God raised Jesus from the dead - and that must have turned everything upside down for them *again* - yet again nothing was as they had thought it was. Grief must have given way to astonishment and despair must have been replaced with hope. Surely they were asking what could possibly happen next?

**Acts 1:3** - After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

In Acts 1 verse 3, we are told that after his resurrection, Jesus "presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive." *Truly alive* - not simply a spirit or a vision, but physically resurrected.

He showed them his wounds, spoke with them, and even ate with them. The risen Christ stood before them in a way that left no doubt that death had been defeated.

Where we might have expected retaliation against those who abandoned Him, Jesus instead brought peace, forgiveness, restoration, and purpose. To His fearful disciples He said, "Peace be with you." To His discouraged followers He opened the Scriptures, and to Peter - the apostle who had denied Him three times - He offers not rejection, but restoration, and a renewed calling.

But then, after forty days back with them - teaching about the Kingdom of God and commissioning them to take the gospel to all nations - he is taken up into heaven and is gone *once again*, leaving them on their own for a second time. And again, it's worth pausing to consider how they must have felt. After witnessing the ascension, were they fearful? Were they confused, *again*? Perhaps they even felt a little angry or abandoned?

**Matthew 28:19-20** – "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

We know from Matthew 28 verse 19 that Jesus had given them his "Great Commission," but how were they now supposed to carry it out without him? He had promised that he would be with them always, to the very end of the age" - and yet he had gone, *again*, from their sight.

**Acts 1:8** "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"

Prior to his ascension, Jesus had instructed his disciples to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the gift promised by his Father. He told them that while John had baptised with water, they would soon be baptised with the Holy Spirit, and they would be witnesses to all nations. So now, they were waiting in Jerusalem in obedience - not fully understanding what lay ahead but trusting Jesus enough to do what he had asked.

Pentecost, which falls fifty days after Passover, is also known as the Festival of Weeks, and was one of the major, annual, Jewish festivals of thanksgiving. At this time, Jerusalem would have been filled with Jewish people who had travelled from many different nations to celebrate the festival.

Luke tells us that suddenly a sound like the rushing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where the disciples were sitting. Then what seemed like tongues of fire separated and came to rest on each of them, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages.

When the visiting crowd in the city heard the commotion, they gathered in confusion and amazement, because each person heard the message spoken in their own native language. We may have read this account many times before, but have we ever truly paused to take in the scale and significance of what is happening here?

We are told that about 3,000 people came to faith that day - the first believers who had not walked with Jesus during his earthly ministry. Through the Holy Spirit, the disciples had spoken to people of many cultures and backgrounds, and the message of Christ began to spread to the ends of the earth.

**At that moment, everything had changed** - So, how does this story of Pentecost speak to the church (meaning all of us) today?

**The Spirit Empowers Ordinary People** - The disciples were not powerful or influential figures. They were fishermen, labourers — ordinary men and women. And yet, God chose to use them to change the world. The Holy Spirit continues to work in the same way today. We do not need to be famous, highly educated, or impressive for God to use us. The Spirit delights in working through willing hearts that are open to him.

Before Pentecost, Peter denies Jesus in fear. After Pentecost, that same Peter stands and boldly proclaims him. The Holy Spirit transforms fear into courage. Many of us recognise those same struggles today:

Fear of failure, fear of rejection, fear of speaking about our faith, fear about the future.

But the Holy Spirit strengthens us to witness faithfully, even in uncertain times, and gives us courage to speak and live for Christ.

**The Spirit builds community** - In a divided world, the Church is called to be a Spirit-filled community - a people who love one another across the barriers of race, class, age, and background. The Holy Spirit does not form isolated believers; he forms a people.

Think of a coal taken from a fire. On its own, it quickly grows cold. But when it is placed back among the burning coals, it is rekindled, glowing again with heat and light.

In the same way, when we try to live apart from the Spirit and disconnected from the fellowship of believers, our faith gradually loses its warmth and vitality. But together, in the life of the Spirit, we are kept alive and aflame. Pentecost reminds us that God never intended us to burn alone - the Spirit sets hearts alight together. The Christian life is not meant to be lived in our own strength, but in shared life as part of a greater whole. When the Church truly lives by the Spirit: The lonely find family, the hurting find healing, the weak find support and the forgotten find identity

**The Spirit Sends Us into Mission** - Pentecost propels the disciples outward, and the Spirit continues to move the Church beyond its comfort zones today. The gospel was never meant to be contained — it is meant to be shared. The Holy Spirit sends us into the everyday places of life: our homes, workplaces, schools, neighbourhoods, and even across nations, equipping us to bear witness to Jesus Christ wherever we are.

**How then do we live as people of the Spirit?**

**We Pray** - The disciples were gathered in prayer when the Spirit came and now prayer opens our hearts to God's presence and guidance.

**We Listen** - The Spirit speaks through Scripture, through worship, through wise counsel of other Christians, and through the quiet prompting of conscience. We must learn to listen well.

**We Use Our Gifts** - We all have gifts to offer. Some gifts are public and visible. Others are quiet and unseen. Hospitality, encouragement, compassion, teaching, generosity, prayer, and service - all are needed in the body of Christ. The question is not whether you have a gift. The question is whether you are willing to use it.

**We Walk in Unity** - The Spirit calls us away from jealousy, division, and pride.

A Spirit-filled church is not a church where everyone is the same. It is a church where people love one another deeply, despite differences.

So - where to now? - The continuing story of Pentecost is still being written. The same Spirit who descended with fire in Acts 2 is still at work today.

**The Holy Spirit still:**

- Empowers the weak
- Gives courage to the fearful
- Unites diverse people
- Calls the church into mission
- Reveals Jesus Christ to the world

To be led by the Holy Spirit is not simply about emotional highs or lows, or about dramatic or mystical signs. Rather, it is about a steady, deepening relationship with God - a willingness to listen, to be shaped, and to be sent. It is an invitation into something far greater than ourselves: it is an invitation to take our place in God's ongoing mission in the world.

- Today, will you accept that invitation?
- Will you welcome the Spirit?
- Will you journey with God, allowing him to shape you, use you, and send you?

**Amen**

## Services St Mary's – May 2026

<p><b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b> Trinity Sunday</p>	<p><b>8am BCP Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language</li> </ul> <p><b>10am Churches Together at St Peter's Chailey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns</li> </ul>
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## Service St Mary's – June 2026

<p><b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b> First Sunday After Trinity</p>	<p><b>8am BCP* Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language.</li> </ul> <p><b>10am Morning Worship &amp; Praise with Baptism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A mixed style of service, with both traditional and contemporary elements and includes a Baptism.</li> </ul> <p><b>5pm Evensong</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A Book of Common Prayer sung service with choir and hymns.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b></p>	<p><b>7.30pm Deanery Confirmation Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptized.</li> </ul> <p>Lead by Bishop Will Hazlewood</p>
<p><b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> Second Sunday After Trinity</p>	<p><b>8am BCP* Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language.</li> </ul> <p><b>10am Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A sung service with choir and hymns</li> </ul> <p><b>6pm Worship2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A reflective service with contemporary songs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> Third Sunday After Trinity</p>	<p><b>8am BCP* Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language.</li> </ul> <p><b>10am Father's Day All Age Worship with Baptism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A service for all with songs and worship and includes a Baptism.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b> Fourth Sunday after Trinity</p>	<p><b>8am BCP* Holy Communion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language.</li> </ul> <p><b>10am Worship &amp; Praise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A mixed style of service, with both traditional and contemporary elements.</li> </ul>

\*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR C LECTIONARY READINGS

PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.15 BARN CENTRE

## **Please remember those on our prayer list:**

Francis Bailey, Cole Louise Blackman, Bernice Blundy, Karina Brown, Gabi Brunner, Beryl Campion-Smith, Steve Carter, Jebby Dyson, Harri Gande, Morris Gee, John and Elizabeth Gould, Rubie Geer, Summer Kilgour, Juliette Lucas, Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann, Shirley Mansfield, Derek Marshall, George Morrison, Patricia Moss, Adrian, Andrea and Amber Parris, Gemma Peacock, June and Ron Perou, Christine Ripley, Rubie, Yvette Smith, Cheryl Stewart, Marcus Thrower, Felicity Veasey, Toni Warrilow, Sean Watson, Nasima Wright.

# **Our Prayer for Growth**

## **God of Mission**

**Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit  
To give vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen**





## Confirmation Service - Request

On Monday 8th June we have the Deanery Confirmation Service at 7.30pm with Bishop Will Hazlewood presiding, and all are welcome!.

There will be confirmation candidates from St Mary's as well as candidates with their Clergy, family and friends from other Parishes and there will be refreshments afterwards.

**If you are able to donate a cake or a quiche it would be very well received.**

Please let our Verger Rebecca know either:

- via email: [rebeccahume@hotmail.com](mailto:rebeccahume@hotmail.com)
- or by giving her a call/text on 07796332867

Thank you.

## Message from Patsy:



Thank you to everyone who so kindly made cakes, and everyone who came along to the Coffee Morning on Bank

Holiday Monday.

I am delighted to say that we raised a



whopping **£140**, all in aid of the Youth Work at St Mary's.

Here's some pictures from the day - it was very special!



**All flowers photo's this week - courtesy of our Verger Rebecca.**



## May Camp

I was privileged to visit the St Mary's and St Peter's contingent at May Camp last Sunday. The camp as a whole went really well on a hot summer weekend. Rev Paul and Pam Mundy, Josh Stockwell and all our helpers worked hard and well to give our St Mary's and St Peter's contingent of some 35 young people a memorable experience. The worship sessions were inspired and well attended. This camp is an important landmark in the faith journey of these young people as can be seen in Rector Paul's Facebook postings.



Our contingent made a major contribution to all attending May Camp – Rector Paul and Josh Stockwell barbecued hot dogs for over 400 on the Friday night on the splendid new barbecue facility provided to us by a generous Diocesan grant.



We look forward to a May Camp Thanksgiving Service in St Mary's at the end of June, for everyone who went along as well as their families and friends..

**Christopher Hume**

# Message from Lisa Welton:



It's always gratifying to know where the joint efforts of many lead to when fundraising locally, especially when the weather in this case was hardly conducive to meandering around 10 acres of an early summer garden!



But what a result, which I wanted to share and say a huge thank you to those who came, brought friends, bought teas, baked cakes,

spread the word or simply gave me much appreciated encouragement. Security at the gates and ladies with aprons in the Tea Pavilion were nothing less than indispensable, and not for the first time.



The breakdown came in today: 290 visitors helped us raise **£6284.50**

(including kind sponsorship from Jackson Stops). Had it been warmer we might have sold more Pimms and got closer to £6.5k.

When friends, supporters, trustees, volunteers and first time visitors all come together for a wonderful cause raising critical funds for our Hospice it is genuinely motivating. Roll on 2028.... onwards and upwards.....

THANK YOU. Lisa xxxx



# Date for the diary!

## Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July

As mentioned at the APCM, Paul wishes us to have two Vision days for St Mary's this year, a summer and an autumn/winter one and so please make a date in your diary for the first one which is on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July**.

It will be 9am to 3pm with lunch provided and will be a really valuable day for us all, with everyone being able to contribute thoughts and views to help shape the vision and future for St Mary's.

**It is important that we know how many will be coming so we would really like a commitment to be able to plan to accommodate and of course cater for the day.**

Please email [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church) to confirm you can come (and if you are bringing a partner/friend to save two messages). There will be a sign up sheet for anyone who doesn't have email at the back of church a bit nearer the time, but hopefully if you are reading this as it's been sent to you, you are able to respond. Thank you.



# Newick Afternoon club



## Message from Paddy Cumberlege & Malcolm Smith

The Newick Afternoon Club July meeting will be a private visit to Bridge Farm Roman Settlement on Thursday 9th July. This will be in place of the usual talk at The Barn Centre. The tour will commence at 2.30pm and arrival at the site is requested by 2.15pm at the latest.

The excavations are run by The Culver Archaeological Project, more details may be found at <https://www.culverproject.co.uk/>

A donation of £10.00 per person is requested. This can be paid to either Paddy or Malcolm.

At this moment in time, we need to establish an idea of numbers. Please could you email Paddy's secretary, Karen at [karen@cumberlege.org](mailto:karen@cumberlege.org) with a copy to me at [malcolmatcuttings@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmatcuttings@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.

We would be grateful for your answers as soon as possible, and in any case by the end of this month.

We will aim to organise car-sharing, but this can be arranged in June.

# Events

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!**

### **Events coming to St Mary's - rolling list**

- 13th June - Vivace choir 4pm
- 19th June - Mens Supper
- 11th July - Bubbles and Broadway 7pm
- 19th July - Combined Churches Choral Evensong
- 10<sup>th</sup> October - Autumn Garden Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Tree Festival

Posters and information relating to the dates are either in the following pages, or will be added as the dates get closer.

New events will be added through the year too so

Keep coming back!.....

# Vivace! - In Concert

A small, Sussex based choir performing a wide range of music. Featuring a special appearance by St Mary's Youth Choir.



**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

**3.30pm to 5pm**

**St Mary's Church, Newick, BN8 4JZ**

**Tickets £10 (all on the door) includes tea/coffee/cake at 3.30pm with concert starting at 4pm. (kids go free)**

**Email: [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church)**

**Web: [stmarysnewicks.church](http://stmarysnewicks.church)**

**All profits will go towards the youth work at St Mary's, Newick**

**[www.vivacechoirsussex.org.uk](http://www.vivacechoirsussex.org.uk)**

# **Open Garden at Northfields; East Grinstead Road, North Chailey**

## **Supporting St. Peter's Church, Chailey**

Come and enjoy a relaxing summer afternoon exploring a beautiful one-acre garden designed with a changing climate in mind. Whether you are a gardening enthusiast or just looking for a peaceful spot for tea, there is something for everyone.

### **Event Details**

- **Date:** Saturday, 13th June
- **Time:** 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- **Location:** Northfields, North Chailey, **BN8 4JB**
- **Entry:** £5 (All proceeds to St. Peter's Church)
- **Parking:** Ample free parking available on-site



### **Garden Highlights**

- **Climate-Conscious Design:** See how the garden adapts to environmental changes.
- **Features:** Topiary balls, a serene maple-shaded area, and a specialized grass garden for hot spots.
- **Sustainability:** Visit the vegetable patch that provides nearly all the owners' needs.
- **Collections:** A stunning variety of Hosta Plants and much more.

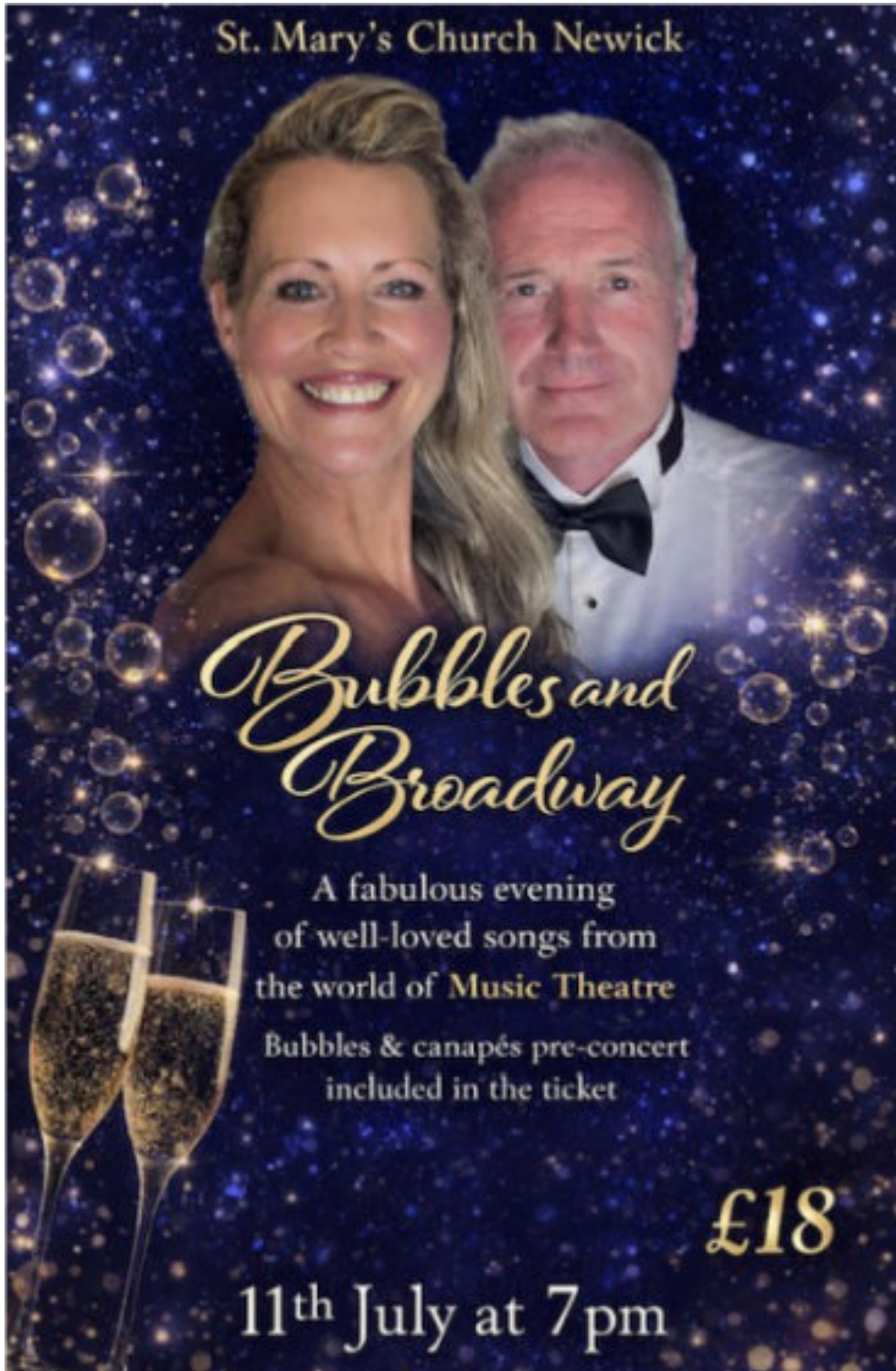
### **Tea & Relaxation**

Not a "walker"? No problem. Grab a seat in the dappled shade of the **large blue Cedar** and treat yourself to:

- Delicious homemade cakes
- Freshly brewed tea
- A perfect view of the summer sun



St. Mary's Church Newick

A promotional poster for a music theatre event. At the top, a man and a woman are smiling. The woman has blonde hair and is wearing a strapless dress. The man is wearing a white tuxedo with a black bow tie. The background is a dark blue night sky filled with stars and glowing bubbles. In the bottom left corner, two champagne flutes filled with bubbly liquid are shown. The text is centered and reads: 'Bubbles and Broadway' in a large, elegant script font. Below it, in a smaller sans-serif font, is 'A fabulous evening of well-loved songs from the world of Music Theatre'. Underneath that, it says 'Bubbles & canapés pre-concert included in the ticket'. The price '£18' is written in a large, bold, gold-colored font. At the bottom, the date and time '11th July at 7pm' are written in a white serif font.

*Bubbles and Broadway*

A fabulous evening  
of well-loved songs from  
the world of Music Theatre

Bubbles & canapés pre-concert  
included in the ticket

**£18**

11<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm

**Cash or card on the night at the door or - scan this QR code to get tickets and pay in advance.**



# REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

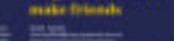
## Babies, Tots, Toddlers and Teens



**Children's Choir:** 1st Sunday of each month 10am - 11am  
Barn Centre

Email: [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church)

Web: [stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir](http://stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir)



**RSCM Voice for Life Sessions** - every third Thursday of the Month - 4pm - 5pm in the Barn Centre. £5. Email: [churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church) to register.

**NYC & NCT:** Fun clubs for the young people of the village. Barn Centre.



Wednesday evenings during term-time. More information: [HERE](#)

Email: [youth.newick@gmail.com](mailto:youth.newick@gmail.com)



**Owlets Babies 'n Tots Group:** Chat, refreshments and songs for Mums, Dads,



Grandparents, Carers and their Babies and Tots. Mondays 9.15-10.30am (term time only) in St Mary's Church. Feel free to contact Pam Mundy for more information [childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church)

**Owls:** Crafts, Bible Story, Fun LEGO and Refreshments - usually third Sundays 9.55am - 11am, Feel free to contact Pam Mundy for more information [childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church](mailto:childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church)

Check the Owls Poster on Website, in Newsletters and up in the Church Porch for dates.



# REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

## Adults:

### Afternoon Club:

Usually second Thursday of the month. 2.30pm in the Barn Centre.  
For detail contact Paddy Cumberledge on 01825 722154 or  
Malcolm Smith on 01825 722705

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### Citizens Advice:

Now at the Community Centre - details can be found in the Porch  
of St Mary's or at the Community Centre.

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### Lunch Club:

Second Monday of the month in the Barn Centre 12.30pm.  
To book your place call 01825 722186

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### Mens Meeting:

Monday mornings 7.30am - 8.30am in the Barn Centre

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### Prayer Group:

1st and 3rd Monday 2pm Barn Centre  
(unless otherwise notified)

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### Prayers for Church Services:

Sundays 9.30-9.45am Barn Centre