TRINITY

Parish Magazine

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FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

June 2025

The Magazine of Holy Trinity Eccleshall & St. Chad's Slindon





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Please pass this information on to anyone in the ward who does not receive the parish magazine.

Copies of Trinity magazine have been bound over the years and are available to borrow. If you would like to see any of these please get in in touch with Churchwarden, Kate, on 01785 850948

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A letter from our Vicar, Revd Phillip Johnson

Dear Friends,

Now we are nearly halfway through 2025 and the days are long and the weather (slightly) warmer than previously, we can take some time to reflect on what we've done so far this year and what we might do with the remaining time. This action of reflection, contemplation and imagining is in reality something we spend most of our lives doing. Most of us tend to spend an enormous amount of time thinking about the past or worrying about the future – and therefore spending very little time in the present. A theologian named Jean-Pierre de Caussade coined the phrase "The Sacrament of the Present Moment" to express the idea that if we can focus on the present in our lives, it is there that we will find fulfilment and, more importantly, a deep connection to God.

I find it all to easy to ruminate on the past, what I could have/should have done in different situations. Similarly I can spend a lot of time thinking about the future, what might happen? How will I feel? What if? Etc etc. Ultimately none of these things really help. Scripture asks us "And who of you by worrying can add one hour to the length of your life?" And it's true. I've spent hours, days even, worrying about things that either have or haven't happened. The worrying didn't really do anything either way apart from making those moments unpleasant. So I pray that all of us may find some peace in the present moment and find enjoyment in the small but fleeting moments of life.

God Bless, Revd Phillip

With Trinity (15th June) in mind….

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence.

John Wesley

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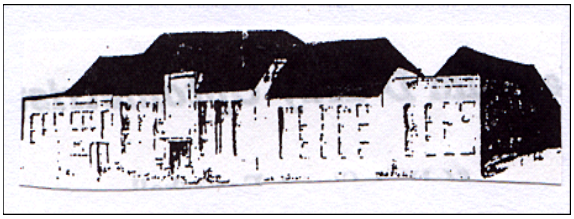
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Prayer for the Month



Help us and all people, dear Lord, to understand
the purpose and place of money in our life.
Keep before us the peril of loving it.
Help us to make it our servant, and never our master.
And let neither the lack of it, nor the possession of it,
in any degree loosen our grasp upon reality,
which is ours through love of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Dick Williams. (Prayers for Today's Church)

Do you remember the pop song of years ago – "Money is the root of all evil"? That title is a misquotation from words in one of St. Paul's letters to Timothy which we read in the New Testament: "The love of money is the root of all evil". This month's prayer is a commentary on those biblical words.

The key to its message is the line half way through: "Help us to make it our servant and never our master". If money is our master we shall be tempted to compromise our integrity in serving it. Money itself is morally neutral. Possessing it is neither good nor bad. What is at stake is our attitude to it. "Keep before us the peril of loving it" says the prayer; help us to avoid selling our soul to it. However important money and wealth are to us, they must never override other moral responsibilities. That seems to me is what the prayer is rightly teaching us.

It then goes on to warn of another potential danger. "And let neither the lack of [money}, nor the possession of it, in any degree loosen our grasp upon reality". Here is the rather disturbing suggestion that a wrong attitude to wealth can warp our perspective on life. It can give us a distorted view of true values. Anyone who considered the accumulation of wealth to be their supreme motivation in life could easily be led morally astray. In the words of our prayer It would be the equivalent of making money our master rather than our servant. It would also prevent us from being generous rather than selfish. The prayer is asking God to help us sort out our priorities and get our finances into a true Christian perspective.

Revd Stephen Cooke

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St Chad's News



There's something very special about a donkey. It does have ridiculously long ears, an extremely loud 'ee-aw' and the smallest hooves imaginable to support any weight other than its own. But it has been an important beast of burden for thousands of years and relied on to carry heavy loads and people in many parts of the world. And it was St Chad's responsibility to find a donkey to join in an important event at the start of Holy Week. This was Palm Sunday, the day that Jesus chose a donkey to ride into Jerusalem thronged by people rejoicing and waving palm branches which are a symbol of hope, peace and eternal life. Maybe this was His choice for convenience or maybe Jesus felt that a small donkey showed His humility.

Our interpretation of this day began in Eccleshall when members of Holy Trinity and St Chad's gathered at the Old Police Station car park to meet Tulip the donkey and her stablemate Trigger the Shetland pony, both owned by Sally Ann and Tony Ware. Revd Phillip Johnson gave a short prayer when we raised our palm crosses, the choir sang and we then began our journey to Holy Trinity following the donkey and pony through the town. During the service Tulip and Trigger stood patiently outside the church before returning to their horsebox at the car park.



In the evening we held a service at St Chad's conducted by Revd Phillip. As we arrived we were given palm crosses to represent the palm branches. Another evening service was held on Maundy Thursday again led by Revd Phillip who called it a Last Supper Mass. This day commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples when he tells what is about to happen to Him. This establishes the ceremony known as the Eucharist (Holy Communion). At the end of the service we stripped the altar to symbolise the stripping of Jesus's clothes before His crucifixion. A poignant silence was held by parishioners. On Sunday, Easter Day, everything changes. This is a day of joy, celebration

Continued on page 11

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Continued from page 9

and hope of new beginnings and eternal life. Jesus, a carpenter's son, gentle and loved by all his followers but so cruelly crucified, has risen from the dead. He then appears before Mary and some of his disciples.
The Easter Day service led by Revd Phillip was a wonderfully joyous occasion with organist Simon Fitzgerald playing uplifting hymns to a full congregation. Fragrant flower arrangements decorated the altar, pulpit, font and windows. As the service concluded Easter eggs were offered to everyone. They are traditionally eaten at this time as a symbol of hope and new beginnings.
Diary dates:

29th June	No service at St Chad's
Saturday 5th July	Strawberry Reception planned at Brockton Farm

Anthea Treanor

Matilda Ann's Christening

The christening finally happened on a sunny Sunday 4th May 2025. Matilda Ann Holloway was christened at St Chad's Slindon by Revd Phillip Johnson. Various family members had been poorly and we had a very expectant godmother. It was a miracle we all made it. The hymns we chose were poignant to us as they had been sung at various family weddings. Some family and godparents had travelled up from as far as Midsummer Norton and Bristol. Matilda Ann was truly blessed to have so many family, friends and St Chad's congregation surrounding her for this first milestone in her life.



The christening gown that Matilda wore was made out of her great grandmother's wedding dress that she wore in 1963. It was then worn by my mum in 1986 when she got married, before being made into a christening gown and worn by Matilda's cousin Ernie last year.

It was very special to be back at the church where I first attended at the age of 8 years old and where Tom and I got married nearly 2 years ago this May.

Philippa Holloway

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All about...Alex



We are very fortunate to have Alex Goldsmith working with us as a member of both the Ministry and the Marketing teams here in Eccleshall Parish. Alex introduces himself below.

I'm originally from Burton-On-Trent and studied for my degree in Mathematics & Music at Keele University; I never left this neck of the woods!

I've been playing the organ since I was 15 after being persuaded into it by my school Chaplain at the time. This was what really introduced me to 'serious church involvement'. When I was 16 I took up my own organ post at St. Modwen's Parish Church in Burton Market Square. During my time at St. Modwen's I first explored a call to ordained ministry. As I was only 19 and still studying I felt it was only right to go out and get life experience first!

Life experience saw me take up being a Director of Music in a variety of churches (in a wide array of traditions!), as well as teacher training to become a maths teacher. Just before my teacher training I was a very active recitalist performing in churches up and down the country including at the renowned Victoria Hall Organ Proms in Hanley.

Just after the covid lockdowns of 2020 I was formally exploring a call to ministry again but the timings didn't work out as Emma and I had just bought our first house. We got married in May 2022.

Following on from the chaos that life brings I find myself firmly in the discernment process now with the Lichfield diocese. I was previously Director of Music at St. Michael's, Stone, before coming to Holy Trinity to see what things were like away from the organ bench and conducting a choir.

I am a lay member of the Holy Trinity ministry team, assisting and preaching where I can as well as now being the Marketing Manager for the Parish.

I also work managing the parish office of St. Michael's, Lichfield and I am the current Director of Music of Moorland Voices, a chamber choir based in the Staffordshire Moorlands.

Alex Goldsmith

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Eccleshall Open Gardens
Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd June 2025
From 10am to 4pm



This year we have 11 wonderful gardens opening for Eccleshall Open Gardens weekend, including a superb garden in Pershall.

Please support by coming to spend a relaxing day admiring the gardens and perhaps seeking inspiration for your own garden!

Programmes will be available a week before the event from Spencer the Jeweller, High Street, Eccleshall or can be purchased outside Eccleshall Library in the High Street from 9.30am both days. Programmes cost only £5.00 per adult (children under 18 are free) and can be used over both days.

Refreshments, including tea, coffee and homemade cakes, will once again be served in the beautiful gardens of 'Ashcroft' (details in the programme).

Eccleshall Community Band's recorder ensemble group, ♫ Tooty Flooty ♫ will be playing during Open Gardens Weekend in Garden No. 5 (The Old Vicarage) at 2pm on Sunday 22nd June.

This event is one of the major fundraisers for the Ecclian Society who help to keep our town looking so attractive. For more information contact: eccleshallopengardens@gmail.com

Katharine House Hospice Support Group will be baking cakes and serving teas at Ashcroft, 1 Stafford Road, Eccleshall on Sunday 8th June 2pm - 5pm

when Gill Bertram will be opening her garden for the **National Garden Scheme. Admission £3.50** (Not £5 as printed in error in the May issue of TRINITY).

Proceeds from refreshments go to Katharine House Hospice.

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VE Day at Holy Trinity Church

On 8th May 2025, the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), the nation united to remember the end of the Second World War in Europe.



Twenty-six people attended the short service held at the War Memorial in Holy Trinity churchyard to commemorate the anniversary. Revd Phillip led the community in prayers for peace and the singing of the National Anthem.

Eccleshall Parish Council had donated an 80th Anniversary of VE Day flag which was flying from the top of the church tower.





The Holy Trinity tower bellringers rang twice during the day. Warren Griffiths writes: “We rang before the service at 11:00am and again in the evening at 6:30pm as suggested nationally. According to BellBoard there are 2280 associated performances recorded so far [May ‘25]. It's good to know that we aren't alone!”

(“The Ringing World” is a national bellringers’ weekly publication which provides BellBoard as an online platform for submitting and browsing ringing records.)


THE RINGING WORLD

North Staffordshire Association

On Thursday, 8 May 2025

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Warren J Griffiths
Louise Leese
Keith Winstanley
Ruth Winstanley
Rosemary E Wright

Rung for the morning VE Day service and in the evening for the national celebrations

Trinity Men's Fellowship - April Meeting
Walks and Lunch

For the April 2025 meeting we went to one of our favourite locations, Norbury Junction. This has all the advantages of a short drive to get there, the excellent Junction Inn for our food and drinks, superb area in which to find walks and finally John had arranged yet another sunny day for us. I had a lift to Norbury with Ray. It was my first experience of an electric car and I was most impressed, especially by the "bird's eye" view of the car and its surroundings on the driver's display when he was reversing! We parked in the Junction car park and met up with the other "long walkers". There were only eight of us on the long walk. Perhaps holiday time was starting and many were away.

We set off over the canal bridge and managed to get all eight to walk past the cafe without calling in!



Walking along a delightful country lane we came to the Birmingham University Institute of Forest Research where they have been experimenting for several years by pumping extra carbon dioxide around the trees in order to predict what might happen by 2050. As we went in front of the entrance we could see the huge tanks which held the Carbon Dioxide.



We then climbed quite a long bank through a wood until reaching the road leading to

Gnosall and it was quite busy causing us all to leap to the verges in order to let the cars and other vehicles get past. I was quite amazed at the politeness of the drivers who slowed right down and gave us a cheery wave. One polite lady driver actually stopped to let us walk by down the narrow lane.

Eventually we arrived at the canal. I had never been so far away from Norbury on the canal side. We approached the canal over a disused railway bridge. What remarkable engineering they had carried out to let the rail and canal cross.

Our route along the canal towpath enabled us to spot many wild flowers, celandine, stitchwort, bluebells, dandelions, primroses, to name but a few. This part of the canal is on a HUGE embankment, a real feat of engineering when you think it was all done with picks, shovels, wheelbarrows and carts. There were a few narrow boats out making their sedate way along the canal.

It was quite a long walk back to the Junction Inn but it was all along the flat towpath. We went into the pub where the early birds were already seated. We long walkers joined them followed by the short walkers. It was an excellent meal in superb surroundings and the staff were great. One of the waitresses took the photo below which meant I made an appearance for once.

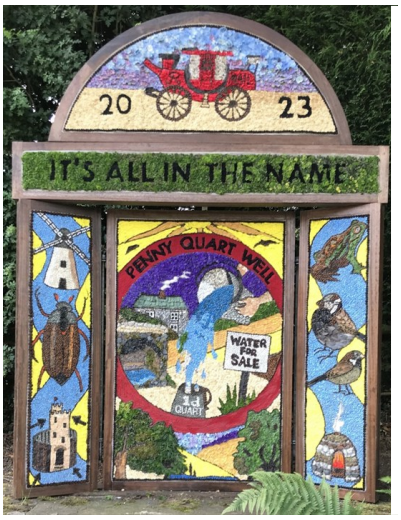


Lots more photos especially of the meal and Ray's ENORMOUS pie! Just key https://img.gg/ZZ095ZW into your browser or use the QR code.

Thanks to John for organising the meal and leading the short walk and to Ray for leading the long walk.

Your Junior Correspondent (David S)

Croxton Well Dressing Festival – Saturday 14th June



This year's festival is linked to the 80th anniversary of V.E. Day. There will be four decorated wells. Boughey's Well on the main road through Croxton will be the largest with a display based on Winston Churchill and his contribution to achieving peace. Other displays have local connections – the 'Swynnerton Roses' celebrating the workers at Swynnerton Munitions factory and the Women's Land Army, many of whom worked on local farms whilst male farm workers had been called-up to serve in the wartime forces. The final design will be a dove to represent peace.





Free car-parking will be available in the middle of Croxton with stalls set out in the Millennium wood featuring many local societies and groups. There will be a formal opening and blessing of the well and then a Concert will take place in the Church in the afternoon. Refreshments will be available from the Millennium Wood and Croxton church.

The timetable of events is as follows:

9.30am - Millennium Wood stalls open to the public

11.30am - official opening and blessing of the well

2pm - concert in the church with tea and cake

The well dressings will be left up for viewing for a week after the festival. A big thanks to Eccleshall Parish Council and The Community Foundation for Staffordshire and Shropshire for grants and to Fletcher's Garden Centre for their kind donation.

Find out more on our website https://croxtonwelldressing.weebly.com/ or by contacting us on email CroxtonWells@gmail.com.

Stafford Sinfonia Summer Concert

at Holy Trinity Church Eccleshall
Sunday 15th June 3.00pm

Music Director - Jack Lovell-Huckle
Violin soloist - Simon Coombs

- **Rossini** Overture to *The Turk in Italy*
- **Mozart** "Turkish" Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major, K. 219
- **Haydn** Symphony No.100 in G major, Hob.I:100 "Military"
- **Mozart** Turkish March (arr Choe)

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Saturday 21st - 27th June

9 - 5pm An unmissable 6 day Arts Exhibition - Holy Trinity

Monday 23rd June

7pm Guest Speaker - the celebrated artist John Myatt - Holy Trinity - Ticketed

Tuesday 24th June

7.30pm Argentine Tango, Master class with Alex Podestra - Parish Rooms

Wednesday 25th June

7pm Watch and enjoy Band Practice - Holy Trinity
6 - 8pm Art based quiz - The Little George

Thursday 26th June

7pm Master Class in painting with Victoria Heath - Holy Trinity
From 7pm Pizza & Jazz with Dean Masser and Andy Holme @ The Little George

Friday 27th June

7.30pm Newport & District Choir - Holy Trinity - Ticketed
6pm Master Class in painting by Caroline Deighton - Parish Rooms

Saturday 28th June

1 - 3pm Eccleshall Poetry Group - Holy Trinity
2.30pm onwards Caricaturist - The Little George
4-6pm Car Park Karaoke - The Little George
5.30pm The Stafford Players/ a play based on Rossetti - Holy Trinity
6-8pm Dan Walsh/Banjo - The Little George
7.30pm The Lack of Commitments - Holy Trinity - Ticketed

What are you going to put in your diary during Eccleshall Arts Festival Week?!



What a super week we have in store with the inaugural Eccleshall Arts Festival! This page highlights just a small selection of events - see previous page for information of many others. It would be lovely to have some write-ups from people who go along to any of the great selection of events that have been organised - to go in the September issue of TRINITY! Please get in touch if you would like to write a short piece or send us some photos! (parishmah.eccleshall@gmail.com) Thanks to Sarah, our Arts and Faith Co-ordinator, for all the hard work involved in getting this together!





Continued on page 23

Profusion in June

June is a great month for spending time close to nature in your local churchyard or cemetery. The second week of June sees three initiatives; Love Your Burial Ground Week with Churches Count on Nature and National Cemeteries Week all taking place in celebration of these special places and the fantastic volunteers who care for them.

You may be able to attend an event as part of one of these, take a look on the Caring for Gods Acre map of events (on the website referenced below this piece) to see what is happening near you but if not, please go to a churchyard, chapel yard or cemetery on your own, with your family or friends and see what you can see.

Wildflowers may be present in profusion if there is a meadow area. Look out for oxeye daisy, lady's bedstraw, vetches, cat's ear, hawkbit amongst others. Is there a patch of medium length grass, where shorter-stemmed plants can flower without the mower cutting them off? If so search for bird's eye speedwell, self-heal, red clover, buttercups and medics. Burial grounds can be rich in species as they contain a mosaic of habitats with large trees, areas of shaded woodland, stonework as well as grassland of varying lengths. The butterflies to be found can be a mix of species usually found in woodland, grassland and scrub. In June you may find a rich array. Look out for comma, red admiral, small copper and common blue which favour shorter vegetation such as grasses and nettles for laying their eggs, all plants found in meadows or in the dappled shade of a woodland or large tree canopy. You may catch a glimpse of a yellow brimstone which lays its eggs on buckthorn, a woodland shrub.

June is also a good time to sit quietly and watch birds busily feeding young, darting in and out of nests. Again burial grounds can be rich in birds which may also use neighbouring gardens. The church itself can host house martins under the eaves, swallows in the porch or lychgate and perhaps swifts, nesting invisibly in the eaves or in boxes behind tower louvres. A visit in the early evening may be rewarded with the sound of screaming swifts circling around the church building.

Please let us know what you see and hear, be it plant, insect or bird. You can record species using a smart phone and the iNaturalist or iRecord app, by email or by post. Visit the website to find out how to make a recording.

Harriet Carty, Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor,
harriet@cfga.org.uk, www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

Making Memories

Recently I walked with a friend to the stepping stones at Dovedale. He suddenly stopped in his tracks and said “I just remember the last time I walked across these steps. It was 65 years ago. I was 11 years old.”

A few weeks before, I was talking to a seasoned headteacher whose face lit up when I mentioned the same place. He shared vivid memories of a childhood stay at Dovedale House with while at primary school. Why do I mention these memories?

Most teachers, administrators, school governors and youth workers appreciate an immense privilege to help develop hope and aspiration among young people. If it works as we plan, young people in our context are happy and they move on with life-long positive memories.Dovedale House was birthed in 1967 with that same vision, that it can be a Christian place where positive life-long memories are created for young people. Everyone remembers the excitement of a first school trip, the coach journey, sharing a room with friends, getting out into amazing countryside, climbing hills, walking by rivers. All these are at Dovedale House.

Hills, rivers and the great outdoors, feature so much in the Gospel accounts of Jesus’s ministry. It was there that people became followers of Jesus and also where people grew in their discipleship journey, where they learned about a vibrant faith being one where reaching out and serving others was pioneered.

We read that Jesus taught the Christian faith while sitting, standing or walking on hills, He was transfigured, arrested and subsequently crucified on a hill. Jesus was Himself baptised in a river and many people followed His example. The majority of recorded miracles took place in the great outdoors. The common feature of all these stories is that God revealed himself and this created memories that have lasted forever.

Dovedale House provides a fabulous 50-bed setting where you bring children and youths to enhance the hard work that you currently do, to give hope and to raise aspirations for a great life. It is a breath-taking place where we can help young people make lifelong positive memories. In order to fulfil our dream and yours to accomplish this, we need your help.

If you have links to any school or youth work, please can you introduce the Dovedale House opportunity in your places of education and amongst your

Continued on page 27



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Eccleshall Community Cinema

Showing monthly on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the Function Room at The Royal Oak, Eccleshall

19th June ***All of Us Strangers***

17th July ***Wicked*** (Showing "outside" in The Coach House at the Royal Oak) **Your annual excuse to dress up for the movies and come in your favorite Wicked/Wizard of Oz outfit! - optional)**

21st August A Real Pain

Tickets (still only £5.00) are available from The Royal Oak, Eccleshall Library and James du Pavey. We look forward to seeing you.

"Why not learn more about YOUR Community Cinema by following our monthly podcast (free) at https://shows.acast.com/eccp. Eccleshall Community Cinema - bringing the community together - one film at a time.

Continued from page 25

peers. At present there is even an offer of a bursary to ensure that no one misses out on making positive life-long memories.

The Revd Jeremy Oakley 'retired to the countryside' from work as a vicar in Wolverhampton and with his wife, Julie, soon found himself offering to take on the role of interim warden of Dovedale House.

Read more about Dovedale House at lichfield.anglican.org/Dovedale or contact Jeremy by email - dovedalewarden@lichfield.anglican.org

Holy Day - 8th June - Pentecost



Fire of Pentecost

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

We all get tired and battle weary sometimes. The disciples of Jesus had just been through a three-year long roller coaster adventure with Jesus that had culminated in His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven.

The range of emotions would have been hugely taxing in the days leading up to Pentecost, as they remembered Jesus weeping in the garden of Gethsemane, betrayed by Judas, brutally beaten and crucified and then dead and buried. Then there had been the shock and awe of finding out that He was alive again! But then He had left them again to return to His Father. By the time the day of Pentecost arrived the disciples would indeed have welcomed some fresh spiritual fire!

Today many of us have felt emotionally drained with the uncertainties caused by Covid 19, the worry of prices rising at an alarming rate and now the pain and uncertainty of what will happen in the war in Ukraine and elsewhere in the world.

So what better day to pray for fresh spiritual fire for each of us? As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church, let us thank God that He will never leave us or forsake us.

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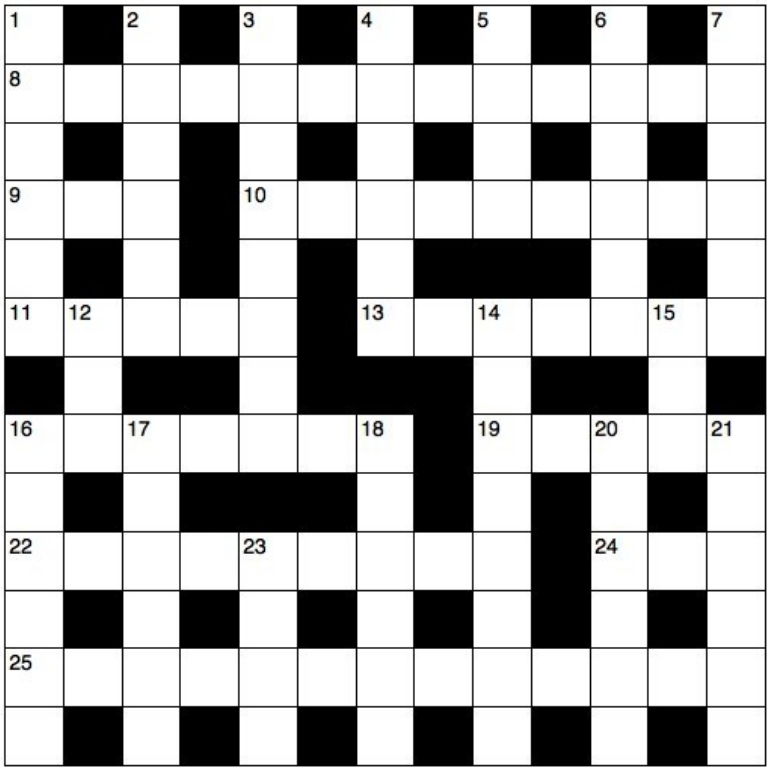
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Crossword



Across

8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
9 In favour of (3)
10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
22 Holy Communion (9)
24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

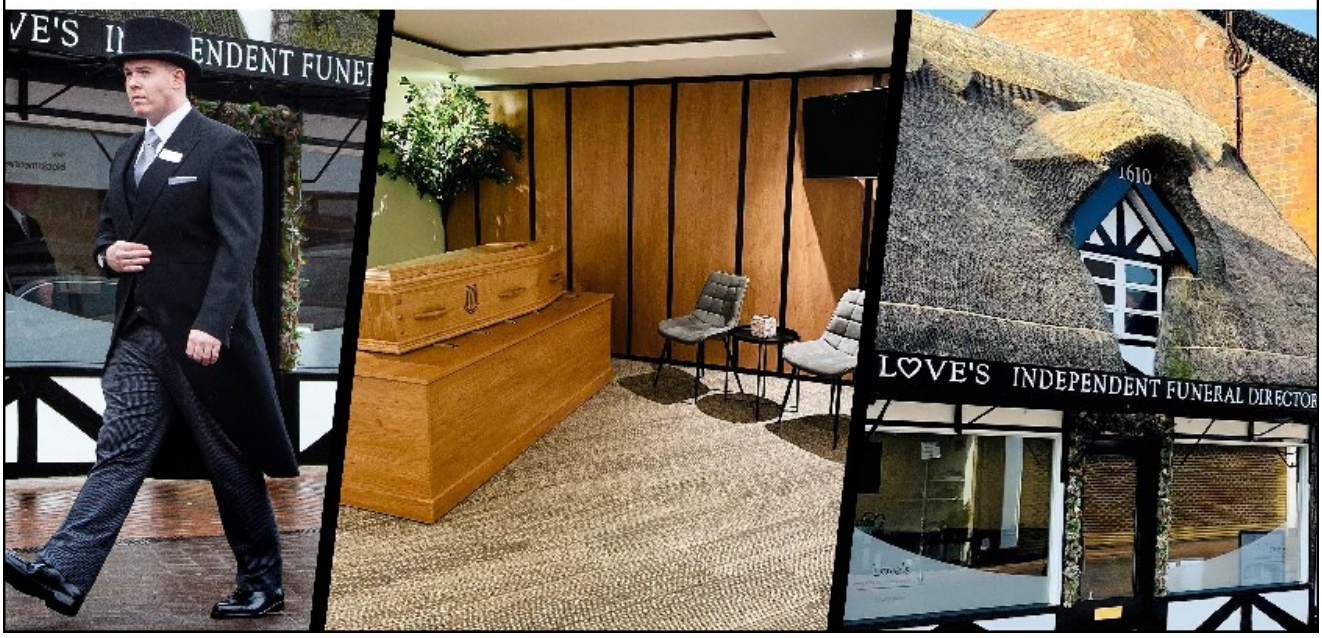
Down

1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
12 Ate (anag.) (3)
14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Answers on page 38

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The Latest Buzz

These last few weeks we have had some great weather which the bees are loving. Keith has been busy in our apiary. The warmth has encouraged the queen bees to lay earlier in the season than in recent years so the hives have increased in size. In the wild it's a natural action for bees to swarm to expand the number of bee colonies.

Swarming happens when the bees develop some of their eggs into queen cells. These cells are fed with royal jelly and become very large by comparison with regular cells. On the first nice day after the queen cells are sealed about half the hive fly off with the old queen - this is a swarm. If you hear the bees swarming it sounds very loud, like a small helicopter has landed. It can look quite alarming too as there are such a lot of bees all flying together. In fact the bees have a great big feed before they swarm so it's like they have just had Christmas lunch and just want to settle down somewhere.

In the hive the new queens grow inside their cells - (don't read on if you're squeamish). Some days later the first new queen emerges from her cell and the first thing she does is sting all the other queens to death. Yuk. Survival of the fittest.

Keith has already been called out to move swarms of bees that have landed somewhere they are not wanted. The first swarm he collected was on a fence in a garden in Eccleshall. It took an hour and half to collect the swarm and settle it into a new, warm, clean box in the garden. We had a cup of tea and felt good. Then NATURE had a hand in things and within the hour the swarm had flown off. Hmmmm. Our box was not good enough!

This warm spring has not only meant the swarming season has started early but also means the bees have been storing honey which we will harvest much earlier than last year.

2025 Eccleshall Honey will be available by the time you are reading this. There are many reasons for Eccleshall being a great place to live - if you live in London and shop in Harrods honey has just gone on sale at £1,250 for a 200g gift set!!! It's a limit release - no kidding. For the 3rd year running the price of Eccleshall Honey remains £6.50 for a 1 pound jar. The £1,250 honey is advertised as having the power to heal and nourish. We

Continued on page 33

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Please contact the practice on **01785 850199** for more information

Opening hours
Monday - 8.30am-7.45pm
Tuesday –Friday- 8.30am-5.45pm

Continued from page 31



all know that without the phenomenal price tag.

The picture shows five hives in our garden. They are different heights dependent on how big the colony is and how much honey they have stored. Look out for the distinctive Eccleshall Honey eagle which will be with the Soar of Eagles displayed at Holy Trinty Church during Eccleshall Arts week.

Eccleshall Bees



Save the date - Eccleshall Community Amateur Dramatics



Step into the glittering world of Tony King's disco nightclub, 1979—where the music is loud, the outfits are outrageous and the drama is deadly. With live singing, dazzling performances and a killer mystery to solve, this is no ordinary night out. Put your detective skills to the test and you could win a prize!

Performances:

Friday 4th & Saturday 5th July 2025 at 7PM

Eccleshall Community Centre, 1938 Shaw's Lane, ST21 6AU

Tickets: £35 (includes a hot buffet and dessert!)

Book now at www.trybooking.com

Please bring your own drinks—platform boots and flares encouraged! Come and support Eccleshall's homegrown talent and enjoy an unforgettable night of disco, drama, and delicious food. It's time to strut your stuff and solve the mystery—don't miss it!


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Children's Page



Mouse Makes

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HOLY • SPIRIT • TONGUES • RESTED
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EGYPT • LIBYA • CYRENE
ROME • CRETANS
ARABIANS • GOD

READ **Acts 2:1- 41**

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	A	C	U	J	C	L	A	S	I	A	T	I	S	
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H	A	J	E	M	P	P	H	Y	L	F	O	N	L	
S	M	E	S	O	P	O	T	A	M	I	A	S	E	
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	G	Y	N	O	T	O	N	G	U	E	S			
		M	E	D	E	S	Y	P	A	R				
				E	S	S	H	M						

It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them. The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

*How many people **heard, believed** and were **baptised** that day?*

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

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THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

4th May 2025 Noa Cotton
Baptised at Holy Trinity

Matilda Holloway
Baptised at St Chad's

We welcome Noa & Matilda to the family of the church

Holy Communion at Home

Do you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion at home?

Geoff Dingle, Retired Lay Reader, has administered Communion to people in their homes for a number of years and would be glad to hear from anyone who might benefit from this service.

If you would like to find out more you should contact Michelle, our Parish Office Manager, on 01785 305028 (Mon - Fri 9am-1pm) or email office@eccleshall.church

Prayer Support

Do you know of someone who is in need of prayer? There is a small group of people who pray for needs in the Parish. If you would like a prayer for yourself, a loved one or someone you know but are not sure who to turn to, please ring Kate Griffiths on 01785 850948 and we will ensure that you or they are prayed for.

The Stafford and Stone Health Visiting Team holds a **Wellbaby Drop-in Clinic** in the Parish Room on Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 10.30am. During the baby clinic families can discuss any health issues and have their children weighed and measured.

We look forward to seeing you. For further questions please feel free to phone the 0-19 Families Health and Wellbeing Hub on 08081780611.

Where appropriate, services that are held after the date that Trinity magazine has gone to print will be shown on the Parish Registers page in the following issue.

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Crossword Answers

ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

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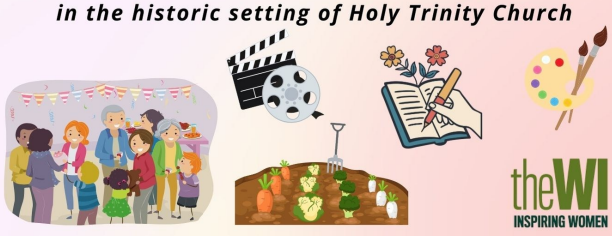
Monday June 16th 2025
Holy Trinity Church
Drop in between 6.30-8pm

Parish residents are warmly invited to our Community Showcase.

Local community groups and sports clubs will be hosting stands to give you a taste of what activities are available in the parish. Your parish councillors will also be available for a chat.

Eccleshall Showcase - connecting you with your community

Refreshments available - come for a cuppa and cake in the historic setting of Holy Trinity Church



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Forthcoming Events

JUNE 2025

Mondays 5.30 - 6.30pm
Living Faith course continues in the Parish Room.

Tuesdays (term-time) 10 - 11.30am
Trinity Tots in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 40

Tuesday 3rd 5.30 - 6.30pm
Final week of ***Bible Study on Nehemiah*** in Holy Trinity Church - p. 9

Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th
Tooty Flooty (7-8pm) ***and Eccleshall Community Band*** (8-9pm) rehearse in Holy Trinity Church

Thursday 5th 2 - 4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'Poems for a Rainy Day'**

Sunday 8th 2 - 5pm
NGS Open Garden at Ashcroft, Stafford Road, Eccleshall with cakes and teas - p. 20

Wednesdays 11th & 25th 10 -12
Trinity Coffee and Cake in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 19

Thursday 12th 7.30pm
Eccleshall WI in Holy Trinity Parish Room "Curious Discoveries on the Staffordshire Map" with Shaun Farrelly

Sunday 15th 3pm
Stafford Sinfonia Summer Concert at Holy Trinity Church Eccleshall - p. 20

Monday 16th Drop in 6.30 - 8pm
Community Showcase for Eccleshall Parish in Holy Trinity Church - p. 38

Thursday 19th 2 -4pm
Eccleshall Poetry Group in Eccleshall Methodist Hall **'Children'**

Thursday 19th 7.30pm
Eccleshall Community Cinema film "All of Us Strangers" showing at The Royal Oak - p. 26

Saturday 21st + Sunday 22nd 10am - 4pm
Eccleshall Open Gardens - Tickets £5 from outside Eccleshall Library on both days - p. 15

Saturday 21st - Saturday 28th
Eccleshall Arts Festival - p. 20

Friday 27th 10am
TMF Walk in the Eccleshall area followed by lunch at The Royal Oak, Eccleshall

JULY 2025

Tuesdays (term-time) 10 - 11.30am
Trinity Tots in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 40

Wednesdays 2nd, 9th & 16th
Tooty Flooty (7-8pm) ***and Eccleshall Community Band*** (8-9pm) rehearse in Holy Trinity Church

Friday 4th and Saturday 5th 7.00pm
Eccleshall Community Amateur Dramatics in Eccleshall Community Centre presents Murder on The Dancefloor p. 33

Saturday 5th 4pm
Stone Choral Society concert "Sounds of the Sea" in Holy Trinity Church - p. 40

Sunday 6th July 5.30pm
Adbaston Community Concert Society 'Much ado about Jazz' with Chris Gumbley and Al Gurr in Adbaston Church - p. 40

Wednesdays 9th & 23rd 10 -12
Trinity Coffee and Cake in Holy Trinity Parish Room - p. 21

Thursday 10th 7.30pm
Eccleshall WI in Holy Trinity Parish Room "In the Wake of Captain Cook" with Keith Winstanley

Thursday 17th 7.30pm
Eccleshall Community Cinema film "Wicked" showing at The Royal Oak - p. 26

Friday 25th 11am
TMF Short walk with partners. Trentham Park Golf Club

Contact details for events can be found on pages 42 and 43.

If you would like to give notice of forthcoming events for July and August 2025 please let us know by 7th June 2025 at the latest (details on page 43).



Adbaston Community Concert Society

Sunday 6th July

'Much ado about Jazz'. Chris Gumbley and Al Gurr

Sunday 7th September

Keyboard Trust. Julia Contaldo

Sunday 2nd November

London Handel Players. Harpsichord, Period instruments.

All concerts are held at the Church of St Michael and all Angels, Adbaston, ST200QE at 5.30pm.

Tickets are £10 in advance (recommended) via Pam Trafford 01785 280373 or on the door.

There is nearby free parking and, during the concert interval, light refreshments are served for which we ask for a donation.

www.adbastonccs.org.uk





Notes from Trinity Magazine Team

Thank you to all our contributors, deliverers and readers . We do appreciate everyone's help and support! Have you got any community news or information that you would like to share in this magazine? Do get in touch if you would like to find out about getting things to us.

Please send articles or forthcoming events for the July/August 2025 issue of TRINITY by 7th June to Hazel Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

If you know of anyone who might like to subscribe to TRINITY please let us know.

Ed.

Church Service Rotas for June

Date	1st June The Seventh Sunday after Easter	8th June Pentecost	15th June Trinity Sunday	22nd June The First Sunday After Trinity	29th June The Second Sunday after Trinity
Holy Trinity 10am	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**	**Sung Eucharist**	**11am Sung Eucharist * Welcome to James Butter**
Sides-people	**A Dale J Dale**	**N Reynolds C Reynolds**	**L Veck-Jones T Jones**	**P Smith G Ralls**	**J Beswick E Sohnrey**
Eucharistic Officer	**G Dingle**	**A Braithwaite**	**G Dingle**	**A Braithwaite**	**G Dingle**
Prayers	**B Braithwaite**	**Jonathan Jones**	**J Norton**	**A Goldsmith**	**E Sohnrey**
Reading 1	**Acts 16: 16-34** M Firth	**Acts 2: 1-21** H Bradshaw	**Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31** I Edge	**1 Kings 19: 1-4 (5-7) 8-15a** B Braithwaite	**Ezekiel 3: 22-27** N Reynolds
Reading 2	**Revelation 22: 12-14, 16, 17, 20, 21** V Firth	**Romans 8: 14-17** J Bradshaw	**Romans 5: 1-5** H Edge	**Galatians 3: 23-29** Jonathan Jones	**Acts 12: 1-11** C Reynolds
St Chad's 11.30am	**Said Eucharist**	**Said Eucharist**	**Said Eucharist**	**Said Eucharist**	**No Service**
Readings	**As 10am** Sue Bramall	**As 10am** Sue Marsh	**As 10am** Helen Bonsall	**As 10am** Geoff Dingle	-

Other services, events and activities

Mondays ~ 5.30 - 6.30pm ~ Living Faith course - one year introduction to the Christian Faith - continues in the Parish Room

Wednesday 4th June ~ 11am ~ BCP Said Eucharist - in Holy Trinity

Sunday 15th June ~ 3pm ~ Stafford Sinfonia Concert in Holy Trinity See p. 21

Saturday 21st to Saturday 28th June – Arts Festival week See pp. 22 + 23

** James Butter has been a lay reader for many years at Broughton Church whilst working in dairy supply industry. His wife Louise comes from Slindon. James will be joining us as curate from the end of June.*

Videos of 10am services held at Holy Trinity Church can usually be seen from shortly after the end of the service (at around 11.15am) on the Facebook page of Holy Trinity Parish Church, Eccleshall and will be uploaded to YouTube early the following week.

Town Contacts

GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Adbaston Community Concert Society:
01785 850967 www.adbastonccs.org.uk
Art Group: Ann 01785 748061 and Joy 01785 851885
British Red Cross Society: 258155
Ecc. Allotments Association: Adam Pike
Eccleshallaa@gmail.com
Ecc. Bridge Club: Margaret Atkins 01782 796201
Eccleshall Community Band: Hazel Bradshaw 851259
Ecc. Community Centre Bookings:
Libby Dale 850124
Ecc. Community Cinema: Keith Winstanley 859908
Ecc. Cricket Club: Andy Buttery 284242
Ecc. & Dist. 41 Club: Martin Ratcliffe 07831 277398
Ecc. Festival: Vacant
Ecc. Historical Society: Lester Stuart 850826
Ecc. Library Book Group: Ros Taylor 01785 859068
Ecc. Poetry Group: Thelma Whitfield 01785 760017
Ecc. Show Society: Mary Cartmail 07702 240511
Ecc. Singers: Chris Howe 01785 282785
choweharrier@live.co.uk
Ecc. Trefoil Guild: Nicci Holdcroft
npholdcroft@aol.com
Ecc. Trust: Sharon Lynch 851046
Ecc. Voluntary Car Scheme Peter Jones 01785 851381 / 07815419166 peterwjones@btinternet.com www.eccleshallvoluntarycarscheme.org.uk
Ecc. W.I.: Joan Davies 851412
Ecc. Young Farmers: Jessica Bradley 07794362260
Ecclian Society: Brian Freeman 851590
Indoor Bowls Club: Joe Yeomans 851255
Katharine House Hospice-Eccleshall Support Group: Helen Deane 850071
Methodist Church Room Bookings:
Anne Ainsworth 850722
National Women's Register: Mary Busby 850854
Neighbourhood Watch: John Baldry 850004
The Over 60s Club: Jenny Oldbury 01785 850490
Rotary Club of Eccleshall Mercia: John Ogbourne, Secretary 07796 273885 john@ogbourne.co.uk
Royal British Legion (Eccleshall Branch):
Clive Blakeway 01952 550205
North Staffs Riding for the Disabled:
Jane Banks northstaffsrda@gmail.com or 07428376437
Staffordshire Marquetry Group:
Quentin Smith 850614
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust:
David Lovatt 01782 680250
Tennis Club: Mark Embrey 851265

ECCLESHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Ros Taylor 01785 859068
email: ros.taylor@eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk
Clerk to Parish Council: Mrs. Stacey Worden
16 Newport Road, Great Bridgeford ST18 9PR
01785 282296 eccleshallpc@gmail.com

RECYCLING CENTRES

Closed Christmas Day Boxing Day & New Year's Day
Open Bank Holidays 9am-5pm
St. Alban's Rd, Stafford
Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Mon Tues Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Mon Tues Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun
Stone Recycling Centre
Open: Winter : 9am-4.30pm Wed Thurs Fri Sat & Sun
Summer: 9-6 Wed Thurs Fri 9-5 Sat and Sun

ECCLESHALL LIBRARY 0300 111 8000

Sun/Mon Closed Tues 9am-5pm Wed 9am-1pm
Thurs 9am-5pm Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-1pm

YOUNG PEOPLE & CHILDREN

Bishop Lonsdale C. of E. Academy:
Principal: Mrs Claire Jones 01785 336512

1st Eccleshall SCOUTS
Beavers: Monday 6pm to 7pm
Cubs: Wednesday 6.30-8 pm
Explorers: Thursday 7.30-9.30pm
Scouts: Friday 7.30-9.30 pm
Contact: e-mail firsteccleshallscouts@outlook.com

GUIDES
Unfortunately there are currently no Guides, Brownies or Rainbows units running in Eccleshall. For information about local units you can visit www.girlguidi.org.uk

HEALTH

G P Practice
The Crown Surgery, High Street, Eccleshall
Telephone 01785 850226 for appointments
www.crownsurgery.org.uk
Hospital Visiting Times.
County Hospital Stafford 257731 3-8 pm
Royal Stoke University Hospital
01782 715444 2-4 pm, 7-8 pm
First Responders: Jay Eames 07834 919194 www.eccleshallcfrs.org.uk
Requests for **Hospital Radio** Stafford : 223456
Pharmacist (High St. Eccleshall) 850057
Shires Veterinary Practice 01785 907185

HELP NEEDED!

Medical Emergency (seriously ill/injured/life-saving)/ Police Emergency/Fire: 999
Urgent medical advice or treatment: 111
Police: Non Emergency Number **101**
Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111
Samaritans: 24-hours: **Free Call Number** 116123
or email jo@samaritans.org
Citizens Advice Bureau: 258673 or 814806
Relate (Marriage Guidance) : 242779
Bereavement and Loss Support Service :
01782 263455 & 01785 211734
NSPCC (24-hour line): 0800 800 500
GAS emergency number: 0800 111 999
ELECTRICITY emergency number: 0800 328 1111
WATER emergency number: 0800 783 4444
British Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950
Staffordshire Bus Line Information: 223344
Eccleshall Website www.eccleshallguide.org
Parish Council Website
www.eccleshallparishcouncil.co.uk

TRINITY Magazine Free Delivery

If you know of anyone who would like **TRINITY** magazine **delivered to their home** in the **Eccleshall/Slindon/Copmere Area,** please contact **Charles Taylor, on 01782 658832 Mobile 07484 890439**

Church Contacts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

VICAR
Revd Phillip Johnson
01785 848604
vicar@eccleshall.church

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER
Michelle Hardy
01785 305028
office@eccleshall.church
(Normally works Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm)

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
Emily Howard
admin@ecclshall.church

ASSISTANT PRIEST
Revd Stephen Habgood
stephen.habgood@btopenworld.com

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTER
Cassie Jennings
nextgen@eccleshall.church

ARTS AND FAITH COORDINATOR
Sarah Cartwright
arts@eccleshall.church

MARKETING MANAGER
Alex Goldsmith
marketing@eccleshall.church

CHURCHWARDENS

Kate Griffiths	The Malthouse, 82 High Street, 850948
Jonathan Jones	1 Kerry Lane 851237
Tony Jones	Rumford Redoubt, Newport Road 850186
John Treanor	Lower House, Sugnall Parva 851378
Lay Chairmen	John Treanor 851378 Jonathan Jones 851237

Deanery Synod Representatives
Hazel Bradshaw, Kate Griffiths, Jonathan Jones
Other Elected Church Council Members
(S represents Slindon)
John Bradshaw, Sue Bramall (S), Isobel Edge, Linda Jones, John Leather (S), Susan Marsh, David Milner (S), Judith Norton, Chris Reynolds, Nancy Reynolds, Vivien Rowley, Jenny Turnock

Parish Website: www.ecclshallparish.com
Facebook Page : Parish of Eccleshall

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER
Steve Enock 01785 851873

ST. CHAD'S, SLINDON
Churchwarden: John Treanor 851378
Treasurer: John Leather 850888
Secretary: Sue Marsh
Health & Safety Coordinator: John Treanor

CHURCH GROUPS

Bible Study: Revd Phillip 01785 848604
Parish Prayer Group: Judith Norton 859390
Tower Bells: Rosemary Wright
07961 485232 Rosemaryew@gmail.com
Trinity Men's Fellowship: John Turnock
01785 302541 Johnturnock12@gmail.com

OTHER CHURCH PERSONNEL
Parish Room Bookings (Parish Office Manager):
Michelle Hardy
01785 305028
office@eccleshall.church
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:
Vivien Rowley 07795086544
Electoral Roll Officer: Kate Griffiths 850948
Flower Guild Rota: Kate Griffiths 850948
Sidesmen's Rota: Emily admin@eccleshall.church
Health & Safety Coordinator: Kate Griffiths 850948

ECCLESHALL METHODIST CHURCH
Superintendent Minister: Rev. David Bintliff 01785 615218
Minister: Rev David Middleton
Circuit Office: Mrs. Leigh Reade 01785 229973
Lettings: Mrs. Anne Ainsworth 01785 850722

SACRED HEART CHURCH
Fr. Gerry Doyle 01785 813951

ECCLESHALL CHURCHES TOGETHER
Dorothy Kirkham 01785 851778

THE TRINITY MAGAZINE TEAM
Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com
PLEASE SEND articles photographs and forthcoming events for the magazine, by the 7th of the month, to:
Magazine Team Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com
(or Hazel on 01785 851259)

Editor	Hazel Bradshaw 01785 851259
Slindon Contact	Anthea Treanor 01785 851378 antheatreanor@gmail.com
Advertising Sales & Accounts and Administrative support	Emily Howard admin@eccleshall.church
Distribution	Thomas Knowles 01785 859414 Mobile 07831 847683 Charles Taylor 01782 658832 Mobile 07484 890439 Hazel Bradshaw 01785 851259
Treasurer (Subscriptions)	Sue Marsh 01785 859092

For general enquiries including Funerals, Weddings, Baptisms, Churchyards at both Holy Trinity and St Chad's Slindon please contact the Parish Office Phone: 01785 305028 Emaill: office@eccleshall.church

If any of our advertisers would like to have an editorial article in the magazine, do get in touch with Hazel and Emily at parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

Please send articles or forthcoming events for the July/August 2025 issue of Trinity magazine to Hazel by 7th June 2025 at the latest. Email: parishmag.eccleshall@gmail.com

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June Services
at Holy Trinity, Eccleshall & St. Chad's, Slindon

1st June, Seventh Sunday after Easter
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

4th June, Wednesday Service
11.00 - 11.30am Holy Trinity - Holy Communion

8th June, Pentecost
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

15th June, Trinity Sunday
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

22nd June, First Sunday after Trinity
10am - 11am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist
11.30am - 12.30pm St Chad's - Said Eucharist

29th June, Second Sunday after Trinity
11am - 12am Holy Trinity - Sung Eucharist - Welcome to James Butter
No service at St Chad's

(See page 41 for Sunday service rotas)



If you would like to receive a copy of our News and Information Sheet (usually fortnightly) and weekly Readings and Intercessions sheets via email, please contact our Parish Administration Manager, Emily Howard, at admin@eccleshall.church