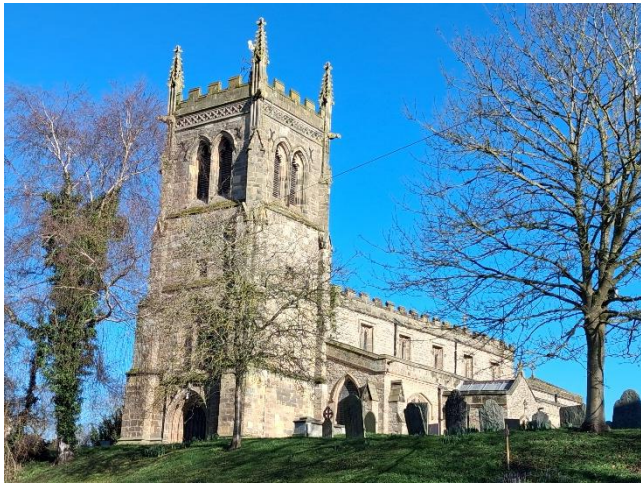


BARROW AND WOLDS GROUP



St. Mary's, Wymeswold



St. Andrew's, Prestwold



Holy Trinity, Barrow upon Soar

Magazine



St. Mary's, Walton on the Wolds

**JULY/AUGUST
2026**

50p



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If you have an item for the SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER magazine please submit it to Richard Hudson (editor) at 07776 086 448 or richardhudson847@btinternet.com by MONDAY 10th AUGUST.

Introduction to the July and August 2026 magazine

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the new Barrow and Wolds Group magazine.

Our circulation list continues to grow, mainly due to additional Wymeswold residents joining us during the past two months. If you enjoy reading the magazine please recommend it to anyone else to whom it might also appeal.

In terms of the Church calendar we are now in the period which is called 'Ordinary Time'. The church calendar begins on the first Sunday of Advent in late November or early December and following Advent we, of course, celebrate Christmas and Epiphany. There is then a short block of Ordinary Time until Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (18th February in 2026). Lent lasts for six weeks, taking us through to Easter and then we have fifty days, passing Ascension Day and ending at Pentecost (Whit Sunday). The Sunday following Pentecost is Trinity Sunday, celebrated in our group of church each year at Holy Trinity, Barrow – and this year with an excellent sermon from Rev. Clive within the service and a glass of Pimm's and other light refreshments to follow it. The second, much longer block of Ordinary Time follows Trinity Sunday with the Sundays often numbered as, for example, '5th after Trinity,' for July 5th. This continues right through to the start of Advent and the next church year.

It is perhaps hardly surprising that, after so many things to celebrate between December and May, there is a relative lull over the summer months. Although the churches continue with their regular Sunday service pattern there are just two that need a special mention during July and August – these are the Group services on August 16th for St. Mary's, Walton's Patronal Festival and, two weeks afterwards, another Group Holy Communion service at St. Andrew's, Prestwold, on the 30th, following our normal practice when a month has five Sundays.

After this quieter period, however, the months of September and October offer a plethora of mouth-watering (literally as well as figuratively in some cases) events. You will find details of these within these pages so that you can get them into your diaries before other events fill it up – you will, of course hear more about them in the next issue! I hope you have an enjoyable summer.

Richard Hudson

Services at Holy Trinity, Barrow

July 5th – 10.30am Morning Praise

6.00pm Holy Communion

July 6th (Mon.) – 9.30am Ecumenical Morning Prayer (at Baptist church)

July 12th – 10.30am Holy Communion

July 19th – 10.30am Holy Communion

6.00pm Healing service

July 26th - 10.30am Holy Communion

August 2nd – 10.30am Morning Praise

6.00pm Holy Communion

August 9th – 10.30am Holy Communion

August 16th - 10.30am St. Mary's, Walton PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Group Holy Communion

August 23rd – 10.30am Holy Communion

August 30th - 10.30am Group Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Prestwold

Wednesdays – 10am Morning Prayer (July 8th, 22nd, August 5th/19th)

Wednesdays – 10am BCP Holy Communion (July 1st, 15th, 29th,

August 12th, 26th)

Service at St. Mary's, Walton

August 16th at 10.30am St. Mary's, Walton PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Group Holy Communion

Services at St. Mary's, Wymeswold

July 5th – 11.00am Morning Prayer

July 12th – 6.00pm Holy Communion BCP

July 19th – 11.00am Morning Praise

July 26th – 11.00am Holy Communion

6.00pm Evensong

August 2nd – 11.00am Holy Communion

August 9th – 6.00pm Holy Communion BCP

August 16th - 10.30am St. Mary's, Walton PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Group Holy Communion

August 23rd – 11.00am Holy Communion

6.00pm Evensong BCP

August 30th - 10.30am Group Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Prestwold

Services at St. Andrew's, Prestwold

July 5th – 9.15am Holy Communion

July 12th – 9.15am Morning Praise

July 19th – 9.15am Holy Communion

July 26th - 9.15am Holy Communion BCP

August 2nd – 9.15am Holy Communion

August 9th – 9.15am Morning Praise

August 16th - 10.30am St. Mary's, Walton PATRONAL FESTIVAL

Group Holy Communion

August 23rd – 9.15am Holy Communion BCP

August 30th - 10.30am Group Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Prestwold

FUTURE EVENTS – you will find further details of some of these further into the magazine.

HARVEST PRAISE SERVICES –

Sunday 13th September at 9.15am at St. Andrew's, Prestwold

Sunday 20th September at 11.00am at St. Mary's Wymeswold

Sunday 27th September at 4.00pm at St. Mary's, Walton le Wolds

**Sunday 4th October at 10.30am at Holy Trinity, Barrow upon Soar
(with a Harvest Tea at 3.30pm in Trinity Rooms)**

Concert by Charnwood Orchestra at Holy Trinity, Barrow

- **Saturday October 3rd at 7.30pm**
- **Mozart: Symphony No.32,**
- **Sibelius: Pelléas et Mélisande and Romance in C for strings**
- **Schubert: Symphony No.4 'The Tragic'**

Trinity Festival of music arts and crafts – at Holy Trinity, Barrow

9th to 11th October (see poster – Trinity also includes a concert by young people and Sunday afternoon arts and crafts.

Pastoral Letter for July and August

Dear Friends,

As we enter the summer months of July and August, many of us look forward to a change of pace. Schools break up for the holidays, families take vacations, gardens flourish, and we hopefully find opportunities to enjoy God's creation in all its beauty.

Summer offers us a valuable reminder that rest is not a luxury but a gift from God. In our busy lives, it is easy to become consumed by responsibilities and commitments. Yet throughout Scripture, we see the importance of taking time to pause, reflect, and renew ourselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

The Psalmist writes, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). These words encourage us to make space for God amid the busyness of life. Whether you are travelling, spending time with family and friends, or simply enjoying the longer days at home, I encourage you to keep Christ at the centre of your summer.

Our church life continues throughout the holiday season. While some activities take a break, our worship, fellowship, and care for one another remain important. Summer can be a wonderful time to welcome visitors, reconnect with those we have not seen for a while, and strengthen the bonds of our church family.

As we look around us at the abundance of the season, may we be reminded of God's faithfulness and generosity. Every flower in bloom, every harvest gathered, and every sunny day speaks of the Creator's goodness. Even when life brings challenges, we can trust in the Lord who walks beside us through every season.

Let us also remember in our prayers those who may find the summer months difficult—the lonely, the bereaved, those who are unwell, and those facing hardship. May we be attentive to opportunities to offer kindness, encouragement, and practical support.

I that these summer months will bring refreshment, joy, and a renewed awareness of God's presence in your lives. May His peace fill your hearts, and may His blessings be with you and your loved ones.

With every good wish and God's blessing,
Rev'd Clive

A Swift Family at Holy Trinity



This remarkable image captures a family of Common Swifts (*Apus apus*) inside one of our specially designed swift nesting boxes mounted high up on the tower at Holy Trinity. The chicks are thought to be around two to three weeks old. Young swifts hatch naked and blind but quickly develop their distinctive dark down before their dark flight feathers begin to emerge. At this stage they spend most of their time resting, growing and waiting for their parents to return with food.

Swift family life is extraordinary. Both parents share the duties of feeding and caring for their young, catching thousands of flying insects each day while on the wing. Unlike many birds, swifts rarely land except when nesting. They eat, drink, sleep and even mate while flying.

The chicks will remain in the nest for approximately five to eight weeks after hatching. If these youngsters continue to develop normally, they are likely to make their first flight sometime in July. Their departure is one of nature's most dramatic moments: once a young swift leaves the nest, it may not land again for two or more years.

Swifts are among Britain's longest-lived birds for their size. While many face significant challenges during migration, individuals can live for 10 years or more, and some have been recorded living for more than 20 years.

Shortly after fledging, these young birds will begin an incredible journey. By late summer they will leave the United Kingdom and migrate thousands of miles

to spend the winter in sub-Saharan Africa. They may travel as far as the Congo Basin, Mozambique or Tanzania before returning north the following spring.

Across the UK, churches play an increasingly important role in helping swifts. Many church towers and belfries provide ideal nesting locations, and conservation groups are working with parishes to install swift nesting boxes in church towers. These structures offer safe breeding sites and help compensate for the loss of traditional nesting places in older buildings.

Holy Trinity has been fortunate to attract nesting swifts so soon after the boxes were installed and is now helping to support a new generation of these remarkable birds. For now, this swift family remains focused on a simpler task: raising two healthy chicks. In just a few weeks' time, these youngsters will leave the nest and begin a life spent almost entirely in the air, embarking on one of the most extraordinary migrations in the natural world.

Don't forget to look at <https://www.youtube.com/@holytrinitybarrow>

Jez Bowman

Report from St Andrews Church, Prestwold – from Adena Hecks

Half a year gone and we at St. Andrew's are still as busy as ever; and the emphasis for us has changed – we are well into the “Wedding Season” now - a wonderful time, where our energies change from holding wild flower walks, teas, cakes, plant sales etc. to making preparations for two people make a commitment to each other and to God to love, cherish and adore each other in the presence of family and friends. Whenever you hear the church bells ringing, that could well be another couple having a wonderful, memorable day.

I must however, thank all the people who have supported us at the various functions up to now – the village organisers of the fayres, the villagers who have supported our functions, those who have attended our open days at the church, the bell ringers and organists who come to our open days and all those who help us make these days such a success. It is very much appreciated and it helps keep the church open (not to mention adding to our fundraising for the repair of the Tower!)

Another interesting happening – at the beginning of June, one of the “Skipworth” family, Chrystal, whose ancestors lived at Prestwold Hall prior to the Civil War and had fled to America, visited the church looking for any information on Henry Skipworth, Kt. 1st Baronet. Apparently, there is confusion as at this

time, the middle of the 17th Century, there were two Henrys' (father and son) and it is believed that the information on the various websites doesn't marry up. We showed them the beautiful tomb at the front of the church of ancestors prior to "Henry" where the name was mentioned as being a son but otherwise, we were unable to help. Anyway, she took photographs of the tomb and the various Coats of Arms and asked us to let her know if we found anything on the whereabouts of Henry's grave and the date he died.

It is most unlikely but if anyone has historical records on Henry Skipworth, KT & 1st Baronet, please could you let Collette at the Church office know and she will pass it on. On Second thoughts, an even better idea is if you visit us on a Sunday when the church service which starts at 9.30 a.m. and finishes at 10.30 a.m. is held, after which we all gather for coffee and a chat, sounds to be an even better idea. We would love to meet you.

What of the following months?

Because of the number of weddings we are having and the fact that July and August are traditionally holiday months, we haven't arranged any events other than our **Monthly teas at Burton-on-the-Wolds Pavilion from 2.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. on the 14th July, 11th August and 8th September**. Hopefully the weather will be much better so that we can put the chairs and tables outside again. As always, everyone is most welcome - No age restraint!

The dates for the October to December teas will be in the September reports and also advertised in the various usual places.

Being later in the year is Harvest Time, we are discussing opening the church and holding an **Autumn Wildflower Walk during Late September/Early October** when the Cyclamens are out and the Leaves on the trees are turning, and of course, our normal extras of tea/coffee, cakes, bellringers, organist and singsong. No dates have been set yet but we will let you know as soon as the date is finalised.

In **November/December** we will be organising our Christmas Fayre and again, we will advertise the dates as soon as we have finalised the booking.

Have a really good Summer. **Very best wishes. Adena**

FUTURE EVENTS -

AFTERNOON TEAS at Burton-on-the-Wolds Pavilion –

from 2.30 to 4.00pm

on 14th July, 11th August and 8th September

Visit to the Philippines

In May this year Rev'd Clive spent two weeks in Manila, Philippines with The Streetlight Trust, our chosen charity for Churches Together in Barrow to support in 2025-2026.

He tells us some of the story of his visit here...

Late on the evening of Monday 27th April I boarded an Air China plane from Heathrow, bound for just over two weeks in Manila in the Philippines (with a stopover in Beijing) with five other people from across the UK. It would be early hours of Wednesday morning before we would arrive, and I couldn't help but wonder what God would have in store for me on this trip. Little did I know just what an amazing experience awaited me.

I knew something of the work of Streetlight and the organisation they support in Manila, and I'd been reading up on the Philippines. Manila is the capital city, on Luzon, the largest island of the 7,641 islands that make up the archipelago of the Philippines. Manila is home to over 14 million people and at least 50% of these are children, it is the most densely populated city in the world.



**Photo - The Streetlight Trust Team & Kanlungan Staff
enjoying a night out together**

The Streetlight Trust is a UK charity that works to support, both financially, prayerfully and practically, the work of Kanlungan sa Er-Ma Ministries. That name translates as 'Sanctuary in Ermita and Malate' (two districts of Manila). Inspired by Matthew 19:14, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the*

kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Kanlungan supports some of the poorest and most vulnerable children of the area through a range of projects and centres. In Jesus' name they offer hope and a future to "Christ's lost little ones".



Photo – ‘Benitez,’ the home of Kanlungan

The first place we visited was Residential Care and Training Centre One, more simply known as ‘Benitez’. This is where the offices and administration are housed, but more importantly is the first home that those children who need to come into residential care will come to. It is a place of sanctuary for children

who have been living in the most challenging circumstances and have so often suffered from the effects of abuse, violence, addiction, or family breakdown, not



just the impact of poverty. There were six children’ living there at the time, though usually there are many more, but because of government bureaucracy and corruption, they hadn’t been able to take any new children in just recently. We also met Sol Balbero, the director of Kanlungan, who is also known as the ‘Mother Theresa of the Philippines’. Sol is a truly inspiring

Photo – the children currently at Benitez

person, who created Kanlungan in 1988 to serve the neediest children in Jesus’ name, seeking to love her neighbour and care for the most vulnerable in her community.

Despite all that these children have experienced, their joy and hope was infectious, and Benitez is a truly happy place. I would quickly discover that everything in the Philippines starts with singing and dancing, and it wasn’t long before we were singing a whole range of worship songs, dancing around and doing the actions; ‘Be Strong and Courageous’, ‘My Lighthouse’, ‘Be Happy’, and of course, ‘Jesus is my Superhero’ among many others. The other thing that always features in a visit to the Philippines is food, and after the singing and dancing it was time to eat. Adobo (a spiced meat stew), lovely fresh fish, fried chicken, and of course lots of sticky rice. Then there is the fruit, the freshest, most flavourful, mango, coconut, pineapple, watermelon, guava, papaya, and more. Happy and full, feeling inspired by these wonderful children we spent the

rest of the day playing games, chatting, playing guitars, and even trying to learn some words of Tagalog (very badly).

Photo – The Open Day Centre



Next day we were off to visit the Open Day Centre. This is the place where children first come into contact with Kanlungan, with over 400 children currently visiting the centre. Wilma, the centre manager, and his team provide food and drink, washing and bathing facilities, clothing, medical and dental visits, some basic education, support and counselling, and much

more to all these children daily. And yes, there was much more singing and dancing, and great food. These children live on the streets, often sleeping in the trikes that their parents drive to earn a living, or in makeshift homes in the street gutters. The children work from an early age, washing windscreens at junctions, collecting bottles for recycling, selling trinkets or dancing for tourists. The Open Day Centre provides a haven, where their needs can be met, they can be safe and they can simply be children for a while. It was such a joy to meet these children, they were full of questions, keen to share their stories with us and hear all about England.

Photo – Street Education Programme – time for food



The other side of the Open Day Centre is the Street Education Programme, and we were soon in the heart of the city, for the first of several visits to one of the busiest and most chaotic road junctions I have ever seen. Before long we were surrounded by a crowd of children that live and work on these streets. An active Christian faith is the norm in the Philippines, rather than the

minority it is here, so the children all know the worship songs and before long we were singing and dancing on the streets, despite the 40+ degree heat. Then it was time for Bible study, acting out the story of Jonah, and thinking about our



Photo – Roadside classroom

faithfulness to follow God's call in our lives and witness to his love for us. The Street programme also provides a meal for all the children at the end, - rice cooked in condensed milk and coco, topped with little coconut cakes, it's very sweet and sticky, but also highly nutritious packed with calories and goodness, (honestly, it's nicer than it sounds).

The next couple of days were spent visiting the Level Two Residential Centres. The boy's home, 'Dorcas Farm Development Centre' is about an hour to the south of Manila in the Batangas district of Luzon Island. This is a lush, verdant, mountainous area, and we made a quick stop on route at Lake Taal, a lake in a



volcano crater with another volcano in the middle of the lake. The Philippines is a truly beautiful place! Dorcas Farm is home to eighteen boys of all ages, all have come from street communities, and lived in situations that meant they needed to come into long term residential care. Many have experienced abuse, lived with violence, and experienced addiction to "rugby" a solvent that is sniffed to produce a euphoric escape from reality. They gain life skills, working on the farm, growing coffee as a commercial crop, and growing a wide range of fruit and vegetables to feed the home,

Photo – Boys' Home – on the farm

well as keeping chickens, (and a host of dogs and cats). I was amazed to see jackfruit growing, and chilli plants the size of small trees. The boys attend local schools, and despite starting life with no education they are all doing well winning school prizes and gaining qualifications. The house mother, Glenda, looks after them and they work together cooking, cleaning and taking care of the younger boys. Oh, and playing basketball whenever they can!

There are also several 'farm boys' living around the farm, these are young men who have been resident children in the home, but due to various learning difficulties aren't capable of making an independent life. So, they have a home on the farm for as long as they need it, helping with the farm work, building their own lives and small homes, but still having the support of the home and staff where needed. Putting into action what it is to love our neighbour by continuing to care for the vulnerable in their community.

Photo – Young men returning for a reunion



For me one of the most significant moments on this trip was meeting some of the young men who had previously been resident at the boy's home. There were 8 of them, now in their late 20s or early 30s who had come back for a reunion visit. Despite a difficult start in life, Kanlungan had helped them turn their lives around. They came with their wives and children

and told us of their careers in the police, in the hotel trade, as builders, or one running his own coffee shop. One of these young men was a personal trainer and body builder who had just come runner up in the Mr Philippines competition! I found it so inspiring to see how their lives had changed, how the cycle of poverty, abuse and addiction was being broken, and their families had a much better future. Above all what struck me was how these young men spoke so freely about their faith, how it was the love of Jesus that changed their lives and motivates them to help others in the same situation.

Girls' Home – the Mural



The girl's home is in the suburbs of Manilla, a bright pink three storey building with a wonderful roof courtyard and space for 24 resident girls. Again, there was much singing and dancing, stories to be told and food to be shared. One of the girls was keen to show me the mural they had recently painted on the bedroom wall, - birds perching in a tree, with the words "Look at the birds, they don't worry because God loves them." This was a



place full of joy and happiness with a real family atmosphere, and this mural spoke of how their lives had been changed by coming to live in a place where the love of God and neighbour was put into practice. Several of the staff had previously been resident girls, and once again we heard stories of lives transformed by the love of God.

Photo – Singing, dancing and playing games

Jesus said *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples.”* (John 13:34-35) In Benitez and the Open Day Centre, and in both the boy’s and girl’s homes I was seeing Jesus’ command to love others being brought to life. Inspired by their Christian faith, rooted in prayer, worship, and bible study, and reflecting the love of Jesus, the staff were filled with love and compassion for the children in their care, and in turn the children’s lives were being transformed by the love they received.

Photo – Smokey Mountain



Perhaps one of the hardest experiences was to visit some of the communities where the street children and their families live. It’s hard not to feel a little out of place as a western visitor among some of the poorest communities, but wherever we went we were made to feel welcome, with the genuine warmth and happiness that characterises the Philippine people. “Smokey Mountain” is a giant rubbish dump in Manila, and is home to over 15,000 people, with only enough day care for 100 children, and a very small primary school.

These families make a living by scavenging the dump for anything they can recycle or sell, small children spend all day collecting bottles for recycling, and they make their homes right there among the rubbish from whatever they can find. They will tell you that Smokey Mountain is the last place anyone wants to live, and once you are there you become trapped in a cycle of poverty and survival that is almost impossible to break free from. Sadly, Smokey Mountain has been bought by a Japanese company who are looking to develop the land

and move these families on. The question remains, where they will go and how they will earn a living when that happens?

Photo – Living among the tombs in Manila Cemetery



Nearby is the 130-acre Manilla Cemetery, home to 6,000 people who live among the tombs, many earning a meagre living by caring for the tombs on behalf of the families. Then there are the shanty areas in the city. We visited a complex warren of more than 200 homes squeezed in between two large buildings along the bank of a creek that acted

as an open sewer. Tiny rooms with whole extended families living in them, all living cheek by jowl. But for me, the most difficult part of all this is knowing that just a short distance away are gleaming tower blocks of luxury apartments, malls full of designer stores and fine dining restaurants – this is the side of Manilla they show in the tourist guides. Jesus was always concerned for compassion and justice, and I found myself asking how the world can be so divided between those who have and those who have not.

Photo – Living on the streets



***Photo – Collecting bottles for recycling -
home to a whole family***

Photo - Mama's Home

It wasn't just visits to the various projects and communities; we went to church too! The "Cathedral of Praise" is a giant evangelical church complex, there were

several hundred in the choir, and about 50-100 dancers, so you can imagine the size of the congregation that filled the two-level auditorium. There were video stories of answered prayer, blessings received, 800 new believers coming to faith that week and 75 baptisms, plus testimonies and a sermon, and yes of course there was lots of singing and dancing! Perhaps more familiar was Ellingwood UCCP Church, the Philippine equivalent of the Methodist church and home to the day centre. The church building looks like an English church and the liturgy and hymns were very similar to ours, reflecting the colonial and missionary history of the Philippines.



After all these experiences (and many, many more) it was almost time to go home, but not before one last and very special day. Each year during their visit The Streetlight Trust puts on the 'Mini Olympics'. All the children from the various projects and centres come together for a fun fuelled day of crazy games and races. Think volleyball with balloons and nets or

basketball played with water balloons instead of balls. Inevitably, there was a singing and dancing competition, and the biggest barbecue I've ever seen! But by far the most popular was the opportunity to go swimming in the pool in the afternoon. Very few of the children have ever seen a swimming pool, let alone actually gone swimming. (Manila Bay is a massive port and badly polluted, unlike the tropical beaches of the smaller islands). It was an exhausting experience (especially as the temperature was in the mid 40s) but it was such an immense joy to see everyone having so much fun and living their best life. It reminded me that Jesus said *"I have come that you may have life, and life in all its fullness"* (John 10:10). The ministry of Streetlight Trust and Kanlungan was certainly bringing the life for these children that Jesus intends for us all.

I was told that a Streetlight Trust visit to the Philippines can be life changing, and I think that is true. I'm still processing all that we experienced and did (there's so much more I haven't included here) but I know that these are experiences that will stay with me for a long, long time. People keep asking if I will go back again; I don't know the answer to that, but I do know that I left a piece of my heart in Manila, so watch this space, I might just be off on a long flight across the world again one day.

BURTON ON THE WOLDS GARDENING CLUB

Burton on the Wolds Gardening Club offers monthly meetings in Burton Village Hall during the colder months, with club trips out to local gardens during the warmer months. We welcome members from all the local villages as well as from further afield.

June's visits were to a number of gardens in the NGS scheme as well as to Wightwick Manor (near Wolverhampton) and David Austen Roses. At the time of writing, there are still places on our coach trip to **RHS Harlow Carr, near Harrogate, on September 11th**. Cost £28.50.

Other events on our 2026 calendar:

Thursday 15th October, 7.30pm: A talk on *Burton Allotments* in the Village Hall, led by Angela Engert, with volunteers from the allotments.

Thursday 19th November, 7.30pm: Jeff Bates will talk in the Village Hall on *Organic Gardening*

Thursday 10th December: Club Quiz & Social at the Village Hall

Club membership costs £15/year including all meetings, or you can pay per session at £4/session. For further details about the club or any events mentioned here, or to go onto our mailing list for up-to-date club news and events, contact Jackie Edwards at j66edwards@gmail.com; to book a place on one of our trips, Rosemary Adams on adamsrosemary089@gmail.com

Evening meetings are held in **Burton Village Hall** at 7.30pm on Thursdays.
ALL WELCOME!

Jackie Edwards

100 YEARS AGO

From the East Akeley Deanery Magazine

July and August 1926

St. Andrew's, Prestwold-cum-Hoton and Burton – Vicar: Rev. J. B. J. Bevan

The Churchpeople of Hoton are delighted to know that the much-needed renovation of St. Leonard's Church has at last been taken in hand. I should imagine that there were few churches in England so utterly unsuited for their sacred purpose as the church at Hoton. Everything in it, from end to end, is as inconvenient, ugly and ill-designed as it could possibly be – the wrong shape, the wrong size, the wrong proportion, the wrong position (everything stands in

the way of everything else, worm-eaten, moth-eaten and incurably dirty – the whole church is a mass of inconveniences and discomforts. *The vicar then continues at length, providing numerous examples of its problems – editor.*

.....Thanks to the generosity of Sir Edward Packe, the above defects will soon be no more. (*St. Leonard's Church was closed in 1989 – editor*)

The teachers and scholars of the Burton Sunday Schools held their annual outing on Wednesday August 18th. In spite of the heavy rain that fell during the morning, the party had a fine afternoon for their visit to Bradgate Park. The children were accompanied by many of their parents and friends, and the arrangements, which were in the hands of Mrs. Oswin, were carried through without a hitch.

Holy Trinity, Barrow on Soar - Vicar: The Rev. J. D. Thomas M.A.

Sunday School – The festival arranged for July 4th drew large congregations together. The weather was glorious and it was most pleasing to see the Church so full on such a beautiful afternoon. The sight of the mass of flowers brought by the children was a charming one and the Vicar gave an address on the text: “I am the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valleys.” The flowers and fruit and eggs presented were kindly taken immediately after the service to the Loughborough Hospital by Mr. Ernest Lewin. The eggs, when counted, numbered 367.

The Sunday School treat was held on the Saturday following the festival. The weather was fairly favourable, and teachers and scholars were very fortunate. Mr. Squires once again very kindly lent one of his motor lorries to convey the infants round the town for the procession and we were lucky to get Mr. Cecil West to drive it. After tea we repaired to one of Mr. Massey's fields for sports and dancing to the accompaniment of the Silver Prize Band.

The Grammar School – After a period of 26 years as Headmaster, Mr. Fernsby is retiring at the end of the summer term. Mr. and Mrs. Fernsby have been closely associated with our church in various ways, and we shall be sorry to lose them and their family from our midst. The new Headmaster will be Mr. C.F.A. Keeble, B.A., hopes to be in residence by September 9th. It is a happy coincidence that Mr. Keeble graduated at the same college in Cambridge as the Vicar, St. John's, Cambridge. Mr. Keeble is very keen on vocal and instrumental music. We would extend to him and Mrs. Keeble and their two little boys a hearty welcome.

Choir – Some members of our choir went to Yarmouth on Saturday August 28th with Mr. Paxton, who was in charge. The excursion train by which they went was

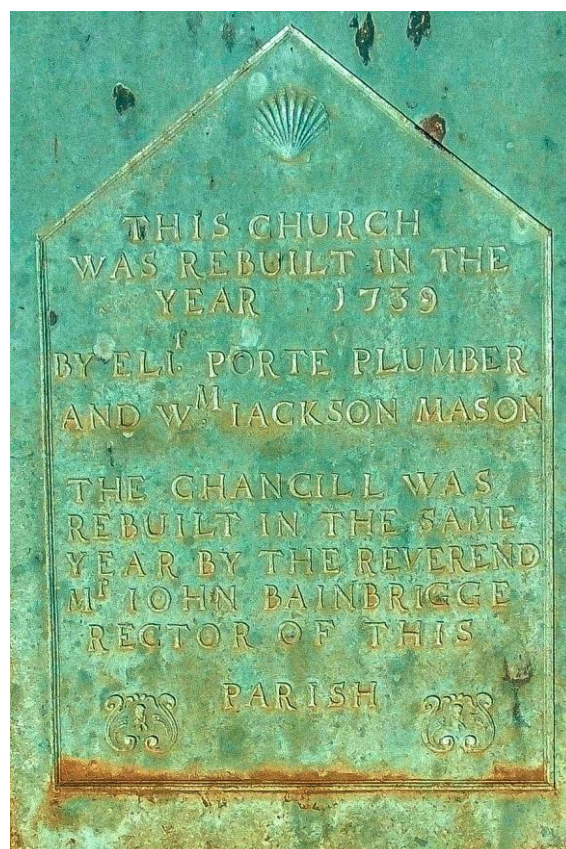
timed to leave Barrow at 6am and to return at 12.35am on Sunday morning but it didn't arrive until 2.30am.

St. Mary's, Wymeswold – Vicar: Rev. Claude Bouchier M.A., Hon. C.F.

Bishop's Garden Party – Ten children and one teacher, the number invited from this Parish, went to a Children's Garden Party, given by our Bishop at 'Brookfield,' Leicester, the house which has been given to serve as the residence of the Bishop of Leicester, when the Peterborough diocese has been divided and the See of Leicester has been created or rather, re-created next year. Owing to a puncture we arrived rather late, too late to take part in the procession into the grounds, but when it had come in we took up our allotted places and took part in a short service and listened to a address by the Bishop. Around 1000 children then had tea in a huge marquee. We then wandered about the beautiful grounds for a time and then watched a conjuror perform the usual tricks (producing something out of nothing, and so on). That over, a prpcession was formed and we went through the downstairs rooms of the house and then home after a very enjoyable afternoon.

Mothers' Union – On Thursday July 15th, 29 members had an outing to Southwell. We started from the village at 10 o'clock by charabanc and reached Southwell after a very pretty drive at 11.30. the Vicar got permission from the Bishop of Southwell for us to walk round the Palace Gardens and we all attended a very impressive service at 4.15 in the Cathedral. The Verger took us up the tower and from there we had a very impressive view of the country round. The journey home was through Newark, where we spent half an hour. Then we had a nice, but rather cold drive home, arriving at 9.15.

There were, again, no reports from **Rev. Bird of St. Mary's Church, Walton on the Wolds** but I can promise that the church will feature in the next issue. For a bit of earlier Walton history here is an inscription from the roof of St. Mary's in which you may be interested. *Richard Hudson*



Hello from Wymeswold – news and events from Elizabeth Critchley

Faure Requiem

On Sunday, 26 April over 100 people attended a wonderful performance of Faure's lovely "Requiem" in St Mary's Church. The concert was given by The Wolds Choir accompanied by David Bristow on the organ and Kath Eastwood-Paramore on the violin, all conducted by Richard Thomas. £829 was raised for the Wymeswold Church Fund Appeal (WCFA). We send thanks to all the singers, musicians, and the WCFA.

For those of you who missed it, worry not. The Wolds Choir are performing the Faure Requiem again, with a chamber orchestra, as part of the Barrow Trinity Festival, on Saturday, 10 October. This will be half a concert, along with Autumn from Vivaldi's Four Seasons, and Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik.

Forthcoming Events

St Mary's Wymeswold

Wednesday 8 July, 7pm. There will be a tour and talk entitled 'Archaeology and Nature in a Country Churchyard - Wymeswold', by Richard Ellison and Liz Tingle. They are going to look first at St Mary's churchyard, then move up to the Rempstone Road cemetery, to talk about the archaeology, monuments and wildlife of country burial grounds. The event will finish no later than 8.45pm, at the Rempstone Road cemetery.

Saturday 12 September 10am to 4.30 pm. It is Heritage Open Day and the Wymeswold Textile Art Group will be putting on an exhibition at St Mary's Church called 'Lace. Anonymous, Technical, Textile Decorative Art - Surviving the Centuries'. Group members have been collecting lace and they will display some of their collection.

At **2pm**, Lorraine Ellison will give a talk in the church to accompany the exhibition, entitled 'Lace Stories. It will be amazing, so please come along.

Open Church Saturdays

We are opening the church on the second Saturday afternoon (2 – 4pm) of each month over the summer, for people to visit, drop in, sit in for quiet time - whatever, really.

The Saturdays are: 11 July, 8 August, 12 September and 10 October

Wymeswold Methodist Church

Coffee Mornings (monthly on Saturday)

4 July and 1 August 10.30am – 11.30am

Warm Welcome (fortnightly on Tuesday)

7, 14, 21 and 28 July, 4, 11, 18 and 25 August 1.30 – 3pm

Garden Party

Sunday, 19 July 2.00pm - 4.00pm at 48 Hoton Rd (fundraiser)

Save the Date

Saturday, 24 and Sunday 25 October Arts & Crafts Exhibition at Chapel

More details to follow!

Wolds Historical Organisation

21 July “The Slums of Leicester”

15 September “Ice Age Journey”

7.45pm Wymeswold Memorial Hall, Clay Street Free for members, £3 for non-members

Other events

Pop In Café and Fix I.T. Clinic

Fridays 10am – 12 noon Fortnightly

3 July, 17 July (Hosted by St Mary’s Wymeswold Bell Ringers), back on 4 September in the Memorial Hall, Clay Street, Wymeswold

Wymeswold Farmers' Market

11am - 3pm, Burton Lane Playing Field, Burton Lane, Wymeswold (in aid of Wymeswold Preschool)

The Great Rempstone Steam and Country Show

11 and 12 July 10am – 5pm, Turnpike Farm, Wymeswold

Holy Trinity, Barrow

Community Café – The Café will be open throughout the summer except for July 11th and 18th – Saturdays 10 to 12 in Trinity Rooms. All welcome.

Little Angels – The Thursday morning event for children up to school age will be closed after July 9th and will reopen on August 27th. More details about LA in the next magazine but if you or someone you know might be interested in this for your/their children and would like further information phone Vicky Bowman on 07734 217329.

Rev. Clive is not the only member of our clergy team who has been travelling far afield. This from the Rev. Bob Edge:

I spent four weeks in India with my son, Jack, and my great friend, Walter. Walter's partner, Robyn, joined us for the first part of the trip. We covered about two thousand miles, plus eight thousand miles there and back.



I was very excited about the trip. I was aware that my preconceptions of India were rather romantic. Jack and I flew into Delhi and it was like diving in at the deep end. The city is enormous. Road traffic is outrageous: traffic lights, pavements and one-way systems seem to be optional. Everybody leans on their horn, but it seems to be about saying, "Look out, I'm here," rather than the "GETOUTOFTHEWAYHOWDAREYOU" that we get in the UK. It appears that there are more auto-rickshaws than people.

Congestion is severe and the situation is complicated by the presence of cows, held sacred in Hindu and Jain faiths. It takes a long time to get anywhere by road, so the metro is a blessing.

We headed west to Rajasthan.

It was very hot. We visited Jodhpur and Jaisalmer, their ancient forts standing as testimony to the rich and complex history and traditions of the land. Rajasthan is a place where the beard is given proper respect and I felt quite at home there. We went on a camel "safari" and slept out in the desert under the stars. I don't know what I was expecting, but I was



intrigued and comforted to see familiar constellations, and a tiny bit disappointed that light pollution was a thing, even in the Thar Desert.

Robyn had to leave, so we headed back to Delhi and then to Agra. The Taj Mahal was closed, because it was Friday. This turned out to be one of the best days of the trip. We sat beside the Yamuna River and watched the pelicans and painted storks. A cow came down to the riverside and ate some of the food left out for them with a little family of macaque monkeys. Later on we had some food at Sheroes Hangout, a café run by acid attack survivor women. The women have experienced terrible trauma. Their response is humbling and inspiring.

We went up to Himachal Pradesh, to Shimla and McLeod Ganj. Against all odds, I made it up to Triund in the Dhauladhar Mountains, nearly ten thousand feet above sea level. The air was pretty thin and it was hard work. The views of snow-capped mountains were a sharp contrast with the Thar Desert.



Our last stop was Amritsar. At the Golden Temple, I queued for hours to stand in the presence of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, the most sacred scripture of Sikhism. It was baking hot and the queue was tightly packed. I spoke to people who had come from across India for this once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage. It was an enormous privilege to share it with them.

I was often confronted by poverty, rubbish and pollution. These things are real, but they are not the whole truth of the India I saw. Across the north of India, in mandirs, mosques, Buddhist, Jain and Sikh places of worship, I was met with welcome, devotion and generosity. The strongest impression I brought home was one of contrast: hardship and beauty, poverty and hospitality, chaos and holiness, all woven together.

Completing ART "Learning the Ropes"

Back in 2023, I joined a cohort of learners embarking on the challenging process of learning to handle a bell, with the aim of becoming a useful church bell ringer. At Holy Trinity, we teach using a scheme called ART — nothing to do with paints and canvas, but a syllabus developed by the Association of Ringing Teachers to take a complete beginner through to competent ringer. The learning is divided into five stages, each introducing new aspects of ringing, from safe handling through to the completion of six quarter peals.

I finished the final level of the scheme just over a year ago. Those who complete it are invited to a day of tailored ringing designed to challenge and develop them further — so at the end of April I headed to Birmingham to take part in the ART Learning the Ropes masterclass.

I was placed in a group led by Simon Linford, a respected name in bellringing circles. Over the course of the day, my group spent around five hours on the end of bell ropes, ringing at St Paul's in the Jewellery Quarter, Birmingham Cathedral, and St Martin's in the Bullring. The challenges came thick and fast: Cambridge Royal, my first touches of spliced Surprise Major (Cambridge, Yorkshire, Superlative, and Bristol), Littleport Little Maximus, Stedman Caters, and more. I finished the day covering on the mighty 39cwt tenor — bell 16 — at St Martin's, which at just shy of two tons is the heaviest full circle bell I have rung to date.

The evening gave time to unwind over dinner and meet fellow ringers from across the UK, all at a similar point in their ringing journey. Comparing notes was invaluable. Many, like me, are now accredited bellringing teachers, taking responsibility for nurturing the next generation of ringers into a hobby rich in cultural heritage.

The masterclass capped an already exciting week. Just a few days earlier, I had rung inside for the first time in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major — my third peal. I have since added a fourth, ringing Lincolnshire Surprise Major at Holy Trinity at the start of May.

The April peal was more than an exercise in ringing: it was the first peal on the newly refurbished bells and new ropes at Oaks in Charnwood, rung in memory of Richard Brown, the tower's former captain. I had the privilege of knowing Richard in the early days of my ringing — a highly accomplished ringer with a deep passion for encouraging and developing others, which is undoubtedly what he will be most remembered for. His ashes were interred in the churchyard earlier that same day, so the pressure to score the peal was rather keenly felt. Thankfully it was a solid performance, well conducted by Sally Brown (Richard's widow), completing in a sprightly two hours and forty minutes. It was a privilege to be asked and I'm glad I rang at my best. Much of my progress has been down to Sally's expert teaching and her consistent encouragement to keep seeking new challenges.

We are always looking for new learners to join the friendly group of bell ringers at Barrow. If you'd like to come on the same journey of learning and wonderful experiences, please do get in touch — we'd love to welcome you. We meet on Monday evenings at 6:30pm.

Jez Bowman



Holy Trinity Church, Barrow upon Soar

SAVE THE DATE

Trinity Festival 9-11th October 2026

Sat 10th October 7.30pm concert

features

Trinity Festival Chamber Group

Faure's Requiem
with The Wolds Choir
conducted by Richard Thomas

Vivaldi's "Autumn" from Four Seasons
with soloist Clare Bhabra

Mozart Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

Tickets £10 and £5

www.barrowtrinityfestival.com



Barrow and Wolds Group
✦ HOLY TRINITY ✦ ST. MARY ✦ ST. ANDREW ✦ ST. MARY

**This will be the 6th annual
TRINITY FESTIVAL
of music, arts and crafts.**

**The festival was the idea of Kath
Eastwood-Paramore who continues to
organise the event.**

**Besides the Saturday evening concert
advertised on the poster you can enjoy
a concert featuring young performers on
Friday evening and, on Sunday afternoon,
an afternoon of arts and crafts to view
and buy to a background of live music.**

Trinity Rooms

"A Space Full of Possibility"

@Holy Trinity Church, Barrow-Upon-Soar

Trinity Rooms are a beautiful extension to our church and are built incorporating the church's north wall, opened in 2012. This facility is modern, airy, bright, peaceful and overlooks the church grounds.

We have had 70% of our bookings with a long-standing hirer, a dance school who built up their business over years and have now secured their own premises - we wish them well. They wrote:

"We truly appreciate your support and understanding and it has been a pleasure to be part of Holy Trinity over the years".

A super opportunity has arisen for new hirers to join us whilst spaces are available.

Are you looking for the perfect venue to grow your business, your classes, host memorable events, or launch something new? The Trinity Rooms offer a welcoming, versatile space at the heart of the community - ideal for both regular bookings and one-off occasions.

Our rooms are perfectly suited for: Dance, Yoga, Fitness classes, Workshops, Group sessions, Meetings, Pop-up shops, Creative ventures, Birthday and Anniversary celebrations. Facilities include shared access to a well-equipped kitchen, clean and modern WCs, and baby changing facilities - making the space practical as well as inviting. Wi-Fi is available and there is full disabled access.

We are especially keen to support long-term hires and would love to partner with instructors, organisers, and small businesses looking for a regular home.

Special Offer: Reduced rates are available for new businesses during their first term - a great opportunity to get started and build your community.

To find out more or arrange a viewing, contact:

Collette  01509 416520  enquiries@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

RIDE & STRIDE DAY – 12th September

Ride and Stride is a fundraising event organised by the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust; there are similar events in many other counties across the country. Last year's Leicestershire event raised more than £40,000 and since 1964 a sum of £1.2 million. It is run by volunteers and has the Bishop of Leicester as President and representatives of the Methodist and Baptist churches as Vice-Presidents.

All money raised is donated as grants to churches and chapels that need money to help with repairs or improvements; churches within our Group have benefitted from these in the past.

How is the money raised? Of course, the trust is happy to receive financial donations at any time but on Ride and Stride Day itself, some 300 churches and chapels agree to open up to receive visitors. People can, therefore, view churches that are not often open or can gain sponsorship from friends, relatives or church congregations to walk, cycle or ride (on, for example, a horse), visiting as many churches as they wish. Some of you will remember that last year I set off on foot from Barrow to visit the churches at Walton, Prestwold and Wymeswold and then on to Quorn, Mountsorrel and Sileby. In this way members of the churches of our Group raised over £400 for the Historic Churches Trust.

If you would like to raise some money from sponsorship this year please contact the Ride and Stride organiser in your own church or me, Richard Hudson, and I will let you have a sponsorship form. This charity does wonderful work and is well worth supporting. Do be brave and positive and join many other supporters on R & S Day!

Greenbelt Festival: Have you heard of it? It's a festival of faith, arts and justice which has been held for over 50 years. There are talks, music, comedy. With lots of events going on at the same time it's often difficult to choose between them. **This year's Greenbelt is between August 27th & 30th at Boughton House near Kettering.** For Rev. Clive and myself it's always a highlight. Why not give it a try? Day tickets available. Talk to us for more information. *Richard Hudson*

HOLY TRINITY FLOODLIGHT SPONSORS FOR JULY & AUGUST

DATE	SPONSOR	DEDICATION
July 5th	Lilian Middleton	For Les's birthday
July 12 th	Annette Hall	In memory of George
August 2 nd	Ken & Elaine	Celebrating family birthdays and anniversaries
August 16 th	Pam Hallam	In memory of Chris
August 23 rd	Mary, Jane and Kate	Kevon – loved and remembered Every day
August 30 th	Jean Cooke	In memory of Michael

If you would like to dedicate the floodlights to a loved one please get in touch. My contact details are: David Laughton, Tel. (mob) 07913 953005, or DaveL1000@yahoo.co.uk

Mobility Scooter: Some time ago Annette Hall asked through the Barrow/Walton magazine if there was anyone who needed a mobility scooter. That one was claimed but now her neighbour has one which belonged to her late husband. If interested, please contact Annette on 01509 413331.

News from St. Mary's, Walton

Two very successful coffee mornings were held during May raising funds for Christian Aid also church funds. Also in May, St Mary's was host to the annual group Ascension Day service.

By the time you receive this issue we will have held our annual cream tea followed by Songs of Praise service. This year, all the hymns have been chosen by villagers. *(As I've just returned from this final event to put the final touches to the magazine before Collette prints it tomorrow, I can say with confidence that the scones and strawberries with clotted cream, Pimm's, shortbreads and other home-made products were all excellent and there was a good attendance of Walton residents for all that and for the hymns. Editor)*

Project 5000 – Holy Trinity, Barrow is committed to supporting Project 5000 in Loughborough throughout the year so please continue to donate cartons of UHT milk, small boxes of cereals, cup a soups, pot noodles, cans of soup, fruit and tinned meals. Beverley Lott transports donations weekly and will collect goods from you if that helps. Please phone v01509 412876 or the church office

EXHIBITION – if you receive your magazine early enough and are interested in textiles you may like to take a trip to the Framework Knitters Museum, Chapel Street, Ruddington, Nottingham, NG11 6HE.

The exhibition is entitled ‘Wymeswold Threads – Ten Years and Still Stitching’ and features work by the Wymeswold Textile Art Group headed by Lorraine Ellison.

For opening times you could phone the museum at 0115 984 6914.

Michael Sholl – a life well-lived

Many Barrow residents were saddened to hear of the death of Michael Sholl towards the end of March, shortly after his 89th birthday. He had been battling cancer for several years. He and Rosemary settled in Barrow soon after their marriage, living first on Church Street and then on Welland Road. Shortly after their arrival in 1964 they joined Holy Trinity Church and have remained committed to it ever since. For many years Michael was a member of the finance committee and was an enthusiastic member of the Men’s Group as well as regularly mowing the graveyard grass and ensuring that the church gutters were kept free of leaves.

Michael was born and grew up in Manchester. He was a Cub, then a Scout and eventually ran a highly successful Venture Scout Group which embarked on expeditions to, amongst other destinations, Scotland and the Pyrenees. His love of the outdoor life at that young age was to stay with him for the remainder of his life – and Rosemary and their son and daughter actively and enthusiastically enjoyed it too. Michael was also an excellent swimmer and won many trophies during his two years of National Service in the Navy, much of it spent in the Mediterranean. He was regularly selected to represent the Navy against the other services.

Rosemary spent her early life and came to England with two friends for a course which formed part of their physiotherapy training. They decided to go to a dance in Cheshire and it was there that she met Michael. As you might expect from how things turned out, they got on well with each other but for quite some time she really didn’t like the idea of moving to England. After over sixty years over here I know she feels that she eventually made the right decision!

Michael was a popular figure and the church was well-filled for the service of Thanksgiving for his life. He was someone who everyone clearly liked. Rosemary has asked me to express her thanks for all the letters and cards she has received over these past weeks. *Richard Hudson*

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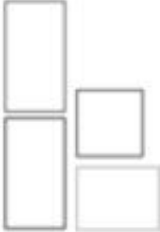
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