



Withington News

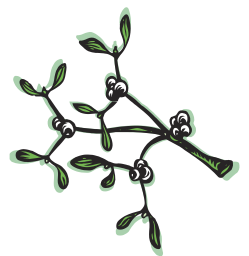
December, 2013 / January, 2014



*A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all
our readers.*



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Withington News

December 2013 / January 2014



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Dear Readers,

As I write the weather is cold, very wet and typical of November, with the threat of hard frosts to come. I have to say though that the weather to date has been very kind, its mildness saving us all money with our heating, invaluable in the present economic climate with the cost of fuel so high.

When I was a child, our little cottage had just the one source of heat and that was the open fire in the lounge which was allowed to go out at night and re-lit every morning after the grate had been given a thorough clean. The rest of the house had no heating. The bedrooms were ice cold and at night I would even sleep with the window slightly open, quite often waking up in the morning to find the window covered in the most beautiful, frosty patterns. We did however have hot water bottles. Our toilet was in next door's garden, so a night visit was almost out of the question unless extremely urgent.

Today many of us, perhaps most of us, are really pampered with our central heating, hot water, bathrooms, en-suites, showers etc. How things have changed, for the better of course – or is it?

So Christmas is now not that far away. How that little baby, born in a manger all those years ago changed our world for us. So let us once more celebrate his birth as we do each Christmas time, always remembering those who are not as lucky as we are, or who are perhaps experiencing their first Christmas after losing a loved one.

On behalf of the Withington News I wish you all you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The message in green on the cover is Merry Christmas in Welsh, so please forgive me.

Bryan Davies / Editor

News from Westhide

After, for the most part, good summer weather, a benign autumn resulted in a good cereal harvest and bumper crops of apples, pears, blackberries, cherries, nuts, plums and soft fruits; harvest hymns were sung with gusto and truly thankful hearts. After the service we tucked into home-made soups, fruit from our gardens, cakes from our kitchens and cider from our orchards!

We were sad to say goodbye to Carolyn and Eric Spiller. Carolyn had a very successful debut at H.Art in Westhide this year and we look forward to following her artistic career. They will both be missed and we wish them well in their new home – when they find one.

The Candlelit Carol service will be on December 22nd. at 6p.m. If you have a favourite poem or reading that you would like included, please let Judith or Sheila know. We will welcome any help decorating the church–just come whenever you can manage. With luck there will be some mulled wine and mince pies after the service.

As usual there will be a merry band of carol singers bringing festive cheer to all on Christmas Eve. We will start from the Kymin at 6.30p.m.

The Christmas Day service for the whole Benefice is at Westhide this year, so there should be a good festive turnout. It starts at 10 o'clock.

Merry Christmas to you all.

Sheila



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A Child's Christmas Carol

There was a little baby once
Born upon Christmas Day;
The oxen lowed His lullabye
As in His crib He lay:
His tree, it was a lonely tree
That stood upon a hill,
Its candles were the mighty stars
That shine upon us still;
His toys were flocks of little lambs,
He loved to see them play:
It is for Him we are so glad,
Now upon Christmas Day.

Christine Chaundler



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A Visit to the Holy Land

Some years ago while on holiday in Cyprus, my wife and I decided to visit the Holy Land. This meant a trip by sea to Port Said and from there a four hour coach ride under armed guard to Jerusalem. We stopped at the West Bank for a lunch before continuing with our journey. First of all we visited the fields where the shepherds, when watching their flock that night, were visited by an angel. Although the gospel does not localize the exact place where the shepherds were, local tradition has fixed the site in a field some two miles east of Bethlehem. Our next visit was the Church of the Nativity. The outside aspect of this resembles a mediaeval fortress. The facade is now encircled by the walls of three convents. A small, narrow doorway (deliberately so to prevent mounted soldiers from entering to destroy it) meant we had to stoop to enter the rectangular shaped cave. It is lit by 48 lamps and the spot where Christ was born is marked by a silver star ("We have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him... And lo, the star went before them till it came to the place where the child was.") with the Latin inscription, "Hic de Maria Virgin Jesus Christus Natus est" (Here Christ was born). The Holy Manger lies to the right, the cave ceiling blackened by the smoke of candles and lamps.

Later we followed the walk along the original pathway Jesus followed carrying the cross to Calvary – **THE VIA DOLOROSA (WAY OF SORROWS)**.

"So they took Jesus to a place of the Skull – Golgotha." The church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is the most sacred place of Christianity, stands over Golgotha, the place of the crucifixion, and the tomb where the body of Jesus was laid.

CALVARY. There are two chapels at the top of Calvary. One is believed to be the site of the crucifixion where behind the altar stands a magnificent statue of Christ on the cross and belongs to the Greek Orthodox, the second is believed to be the site where Jesus was stripped of his garments and nailed to the cross. This belongs to the Roman Catholics.

THE TOMB in the garden where Christ was crucified was hewn out of the rock and holds a

marble slab which marks the place where the body of Jesus was laid. This we were allowed to enter where I stood for a while not quite believing that I was actually standing probably, in the very place where Christ was laid.

Following this visit we could see not too far away the Mount of Olives and at the foot of the mountain, the Garden of Gethsemane where Christ and his disciples were before he was crucified. It was a spot favoured by Jesus where he often went for His retreats and prayer. This is the Garden where Jesus, on His last night, underwent the most sorrowful hour of His passion, the hour in which He chose to suffer and die on the cross, the place where the disciples fled and left Him. Today the beautiful Church of Gethsemane stands on the site and the garden still holds Roman olive trees which botanists claim could well have been there during the time of Christ. If not they are without doubt the shoots of those under which Jesus prayed on the night of His agony. A colleague of mine (not a man who cried easily) once told me that when he visited the Garden and stood in the places where Jesus had been, he had to sit down where he wept briefly, uncontrollably. I think I know what he meant!

So far I have written, without passion, of the places I visited. To stand in the field where the shepherds watched over their flock that night and saw the angel who brought them the news of Christ's birth; to visit the manger where Christ was born, or to kneel before the cross at Calvary, were experiences which will stay with me for ever. All my life I have been taught and have taught others about the life of Christ. To many of us it is a natural part of our daily lives.

There were times during the visit when my thoughts would span the years to the days of my childhood experiences in that Welsh chapel so many years ago. Now I was living the dream which I never thought would become reality – to walk in the places where Christ walked and to see the garden where He suffered before His crucifixion; rare experiences in life, which are to be savoured whether you are a Christian or not! Hopefully, one day I shall return.

Ed.

ROBERT MARSH

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Saint Peter's Church, Withington – December Flower Rota

SUNDAYS

1st. Margaret Soutar

8th. & 15th. Marcia Hopkins

22nd. Christmas

29th. Laureen Wilmott



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St Peter's Church, Withington – Special Services & Fund Raising 2013

Everyone is welcome to these events – Please come!

Christingle Service.....Sunday 8th December
Carol Service.....Fri day 20th December

For extra information, phone Kevin/Ruth on 850074, Bob/ Gwen on 850840, Margaret on 850448



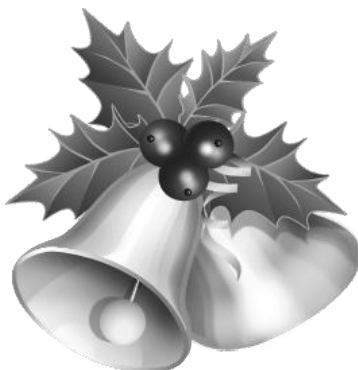
Thursday 5th December in the Village Hall, from 3.30 to 5.30.

Come and enjoy a fun afternoon on the theme of **St Nicholas**.
We welcome new children of up to top Primary age, with their adult accompanying them, and of course will hope to see our old friends back.

Christingle Service

Come and enjoy a wonderful and moving candlelit service ideal for children and always enjoyed by all.

on Sunday 8th December at 4:00pm



Carol Service

Friday 20th December 7pm

A joyful service of carols and readings followed by seasonal refreshments.

Please Come! We welcome everybody.

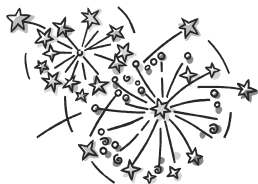
NEWS FROM WITHINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



The seasons are changing, the nights are drawing in, but the children at Withington Primary are still working hard and having fun!!

BONFIRE & FIREWORKS DISPLAY

A HUGE thankyou to everyone who attended our event, school pupils and parents, local residents it was great to see you all there.



The bonfire soon warmed us up and the firework display was amazing! Thank you to our fantastic PTA for organising this event.

CHRISTINGLE



The children of Withington will be joining residents for the Christingle service at the church. It will be held on Sunday 8th December at 4pm. Please come along this is a magical service.



ICE SKATING

On Wednesday November 27th, an ice skating rink is coming to Withington.

If you fancy having a go or just getting into the festive mood with a hot chocolate, please come along.

HALLOWEEN DISCO



Another hugely successful event, run by our PTA at the village hall. The children had lots of fun dressing up and getting up close and personal with the creatures from *Roaming Reptiles*.

SNOW WHITE

KS1 are off to see the pantomime Snow White at Malvern theatre this term, I am sure they will have lots of fun and get into the festive spirit.

Please excuse the MESS—
the children are busy making MEMORIES

glazy moo

Christmas Pottery Event

Why not come along to our Christmas Event and get in the Christmas Spirit by creating that perfect Christmas Gift. Either book a personalised slot by contacting Glazy Moo on Facebook or pop along and let your little ones design and paint their own creations. Mince pies for everyone.



The little ornaments above can be hand painted by your child and hung on your Christmas tree or you can personalise a bauble, plate, or mug with your child's footprint or handprint.

Saturday 7th December— 10:00am—2:00pm
The Cosy Cabin, just behind Withington Primary School.

Please contact on Facebook—Glazy Moo



ICE SKATING RINK



Withington and Aylestone PTA's have
organised the arrival of an ice skating
rink on;

**Wednesday November 27th
at Withington Primary School.**

Come along and enjoy the fun, have a go OR just get into
the festive mood with a hot chocolate!

Ice skating will start at
3 - 6pm Primary age children and their families
6-9pm Secondary children and adults

£5 per person for an hour of skating

Slots are limited, so why not ring the school and pre book
your slot on 01432 850289





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A message of thanks from the Editor

to all who have taken an active part in any way in producing and / or delivering the Withington News during 2013.

Thanks also to "allpay Ltd" for their constant support in printing the magazine each month. Without them we could not continue.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all and I look forward to a successful 2014.

Bryan Davies / Editor



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Withington Group Neighbourhood Plan.

Your Village, Your Plan, Your Future

At the November Parish Council meeting an update was given as to the status of the

Withington Group Neighbourhood plan. The small steering group have been working on the plan to develop the plan and arrangements are been made to have community events in the new year in Withington, Preston Wynne and Westhide.

At these events you will have the opportunity to get an update on the Community Led plan and what you would like to see in the Neighbourhood plan. In all we are planning six events and you are invited to any to give your views on Withington, Preston Wynne and Westhide or just attend the local one in your parish.

These events will be on the

Friday 17th January from 19:00 to 22:00 at Preston Wynne Village Hall

Saturday 17th January from 10:00 to 16:00 at Preston Wynne Village Hall

Friday 24th January from 19:00 to 20:00 at Withington Village Hall

Saturday 25th January from 10:00 to 16:00 at Withington Village Hall

Friday 31st January from 19:00 to 22:00 at Westhide Church

Saturday 1st February from 10:00 to 16:00 at Westhide Church

We are currently awaiting news of our application for funds to create the questionnaires, cover the costs of printing and other items that need to be done to get your views of what you want our parish to look like in the next 10 to 15 years.

People have asked, but we have just done this for the Community Led Plan. Well that was done in 2010, it runs out in 2015 and we have a choice.

1. Do nothing
2. Leave it to the Local plan as created by the County Council
3. Create a Neighbourhood plan that will build on the Community Led plan and also gives us the ability to
 - a. Decide where development should happen in the neighbourhood
 - b. Decide what type of development should happen in the neighbourhood
 - c. And many other areas such as renewable projects.

To recap overall our short term objectives are

- To engage with parishioners of all ages to ensure the plan is shared with the whole community. *So please come to one of the open events mentioned above to give your views on the future of your village.*
- To ensure all future developments are in keeping with the plan you want to see for your parish. *It is your village, your plan, your future have your say now by getting involved with the team developing the plan for the plan, supporting one of the events by giving your views to what you want your village to look like over the next 10 to 15 years.*

Should you want to get further involved, please contact one of the following people.

Sue Patmore - email: susanpatmore1950@btinternet.com or 851710,

Jonathan Beech – Withington email: jonathandbeech@hotmail.co.uk or 07425 158191

Helen Jones – Preston Wynne email: helenjones007@yahoo.co.uk or 820322

Ralph Barber – Westhide email: ralph.barber@btinternet.com or 853086

Your Village, Your Plan, Your Future

Withington Village Hall

www.withingtonvillagehall.org

Chairman: Kevin Hewison. 850074. Secretary: Steve Caine. 851857. Booking Secretary: Kathy Fields. 851001



Youth Club: Adult & Parent volunteer helpers desperately wanted NOW.

Due to the lack of Adult volunteer helpers we now can only meet every fortnight.

If you can help please get in touch.

Call Steve on 851857 or Gemma on 850936

Every 2nd Friday. 6.30-7.30pm for ages 8-10rs. 6.30-8.00 for ages 11-17rs.

December 6th & 20th January 10th & 24th

210 Club: Latest Draws:

November: £20 #70 David Baillie. £10 #71 Marcia Hopkins.
£10 #131 Mr/Mrs Whittear. £10 #122 Margaret Soutar

Monday:

10 -12am - Widemarsh Childrens Centre

5.30 - 7.30pm – Brownies

7.00 - 10pm – Gateway Bridge Club (Alternate Mondays)

Tuesday:

6.30 – 8.30pm – Dog/Puppy Training

Wednesday:

6.30-9.30pm – Slimming World

7.30 – 9.30pm (every 3rd Wednesday in month) – Gardening Club

Thursday:

10.00 -11.30am – Little Notes Music Club

7.30 – 9.30pm – Village Hall Whist Drive (1st Thursday in the month)

7.30 – 10pm - British Legion Whist Drive (2nd Thursday in the month)

7.00 – 10pm – Church Hall Whist Drive (Last Thursday every other month)

7.00- 9.00pm – Lugg Valley Archery Club

Friday:

6.30 - 8pm – Youth Club (Now Every Fortnight)

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE



'From Darkness to Light'

Sunday 1st December

4 pm

Dormington Church

Come along and join in singing the lovely
Advent Carols

(Not to be confused with Christmas Carols)

Advent Study Group

'Expecting Christ'

A four session study

Tuesdays from 26th November

7.30 pm

The Vicarage

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find out rest in thee.*

(Charles Wesley 1707—1788)

Everyone welcome to all or some of the sessions

Advent & Christmas in Bartestree Cross

St Peter, Dormington

Sunday 15 th	3.30 pm	Carols and Christingle
Christmas Eve	10.00 pm	Christmas Communion

St Peter, Lugwardine

Friday 6 th	2.00 pm	Christingle (with Lugwardine Primary Academy)
Sunday 22 nd	4.00 pm	Carol Service
Christmas Eve	5.00 pm	Crib Service
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass

St Bartholomew, Westhide

Sunday 22 nd	6.30 pm	Carol Service
Christmas Day	10.00 am	Christmas Communion

St John the Baptist, Weston Beggard

Sunday 15 th	6.00 pm	Carols and Christingle
Christmas Eve	7.00 pm	Christmas Communion

St Peter, Withington

Sunday 8 th	3.00 pm	Christingle
Friday 20 th	7.00 pm	Carol Service
Christmas Eve	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass



Dear Friends

I can't believe that Christmas is nearly upon us. I have been more organised than usual and as I write this in the middle of November my Christmas shopping is almost done, the turkey

ordered and my cards bought (but not written).

December 1st is Advent Sunday, the day when the church begins to prepare for Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* which means coming. In Advent we refrain from decorating our churches with flowers and the colour we have on the altar is purple or blue so that when our churches are decorated with the golds and whites of Christmas it is a true sign of light coming in to a dark world.

We shall begin the Advent season with a special candlelit service at 4 pm at Dormington Church when the first candle on our Advent wreath will be lit and we will sing many of the lovely Advent Carols (not to be confused with Christmas Carols).

We mark this countdown to Christmas in other ways too, perhaps with an Advent Calendar or an Advent candle. We also make time to think about what Christ's birth means to us and to the world. This year there is an opportunity to do that together at my house at 7.30 pm on four Tuesday evenings from 26th November. Each session stands alone so you are welcome to come to some or all of them.

There are lots of opportunities over the Christmas period to join with us in celebrating, with familiar words and carols, our Lord's birth; please see the schedule of services elsewhere in the magazine if you want to know more.

May I wish you all a very happy and blessed Christmas

Jane

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

Molly Elizabeth McLean at St Bartholomew's, Westhide on 4th August

Ellis Daniel O'Leary at St Peter's, Withington on 4th August

Archie Zak Thomas Lock at St Peter's, Withington on 18th August

Isla Rose Morgan at St Peter's, Withington on 26th October

Harry Stanley Bradbury at St Peter's, Withington on 17th November

Congratulations to all the families

Weddings

Michael Hewison and Fleur Corich at St Peter's, Withington on 27th July

Ashley Stephens and Holly Williams at St Peter's, Withington on 10th August

Alexander Trueman and Hannah Pollock at St Peter's, Withington on 31st August

Congratulations to all the happy couples.

Funerals

Doris Agnes Laura Disney at Hereford Crematorium on 16th August

Dorothy Alice Williams at St Peter's, Withington on 27th September

Our thoughts and prayers are with all their families.



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michael cole fcca • deborah stevens • tony cole

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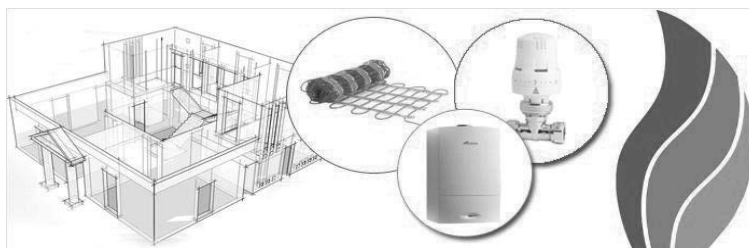
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Preston Wynne News

We know, we know, how can they be writing about next year already?....., well we can and we are! As always the first Christmas decorations to appear in the shops seem amazingly early but now as we write around the middle of November and realise how few weeks there are actually left before THE DAY they seem quite acceptable. We have a few treats up our sleeves to brighten the darker days so read on.....

December Services

Dec. 8th at 3.pm Family Service

11 a.m CAROL SERVICE Venue T.B.A. depending on the weather, but there will be mince pies and mulled wine, wherever!

January Services

Jan 12th No service

26th 9.30 a.m H.C.

BURNS NIGHT SUPPER 25th Jan 7.15 for 7.30

Adults £10 Children £2

This event is always very popular so please reserve your places by phoning Tricia on 820650. If you've not been to our Burns Night Supper before then you are in for a real treat, the haggis is piped in of course and a wee bit o' Rabbie Burns before an excellent supper (beef is an alternative if you're not keen on haggis) neeps and tatties etc. then entertainment afterwards. Fab! Proceeds towards Church funds.

Hall News

December Christmas Prize Bingo 17th December eyes down 8.pm

January Prize Bingo 21st Jan eyes down 8 pm

CHRISTMAS LUNCH Dec 1st 12.15 for 12.30

Adults £10 Children £4

Father Christmas does need to know how many children will be there so please book early by phoning Tricia on 820650. Thank you.

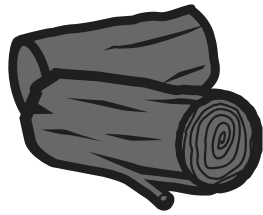
It just remains for us to wish you all the very best for 2014 and a very happy Christmas!

Love Hilary and Tricia

BARTESTREE CROSS GROUP OF PARISHES
SERVICE ROTA—December 2013/January 2014

	Dormington	Lugwardine	Westhide	Weston Beggard	Withington
Sunday 1 st December	4.00 pm Advent Carols	9.30 am Holy Communion		11.00 am Holy Communion	9.30 am Morning Prayer
Friday 6 th December		2 pm Christingle with Lugwardine Primary Academy			
Sunday 8 th		9.30 am Family Service	11.00 Family Communion		4.00 pm Christingle
Sunday 15 th	3.30 pm Carol Service with Christingle	9.30 am Holy Communion		6.00 pm Carols with Christingle	9.30 am Family Service
Friday 20 th					7.00 pm Carol Service
Sunday 22 nd		4.00 pm Carol Service	6.30 pm Carol Service		9.30 am Holy Communion
Christmas Eve	10.00 pm Christmas Communion	5.00 pm Crib Service 11.30 pm Midnight Mass		7.00 Christmas Communion	11.30 pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day			10.00 am Christmas Communion		
Sunday 29 th				10.00 am United Service	
Sunday 5 th January	6.00 pm Evensong	9.30 am Holy Communion		11.00 am Holy Communion	9.30 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 12 th		9.30 am Family Service	11.00 Family Communion		8.30 Holy Communion
Sunday 19 th	11.00 am Holy Communion	9.30 am Holy Communion		3.30 pm Evensong	9.30 am Family Service
Sunday 26 th		9.30 am Morning Prayer	4.30 pm Evensong		9.30 am Holy Communion
Sunday 2 nd February	6.00 pm Evensong	9.30 am Holy Communion		11.00 am Holy Communion	9.30 am Morning Prayer

Midweek Communion Wednesdays 10.00. During December it will be in the warm at the Vicarage and then at 10 St Peter's Close, Lugwardine during January. All welcome.



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WITHINGTON VILLAGE HALL



Thursday 5th December

3.30—5.30

Seasonal Fun, Crafts, Celebration Time and Food

Everyone is invited

adults, children, carers, grandparents.

Messy Team Co-ordinators

Margaret Soutar - 01432 850448

Ruth Hewison - 01432 850074

Preb Jane Davies - 01432 850244

Withington Garden Club



December will see us celebrating the season for our Christmas meal at The Starting Gate - hopefully to have as good a time as last year.

January 15th - we start the New Year with a talk on Salvias by Leila Jackson. Leila runs the T3 nursery in Stoke Prior. The nursery stocks a good range of perennials but they also specialise in Salvias and Abutilons.

See you at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors pay only £2 so please come and join us.

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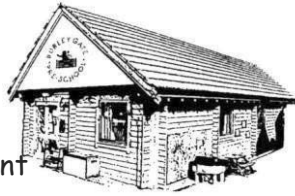
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Monday—Friday

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or Steve: 851857 / 07837 984377



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Life is Beauty – Admire it! Life is a challenge – Meet it!

Life is a duty – Complete it! Life is a game – Play it!

Life is costly – Care for it! Life is a wealth – Keep it!

Life is love – Enjoy it! Life is a mystery – Know it!

Life is a promise – Fulfil it! Life is sorrow – Overcome it!

Life is a song – Sing it! Life is a struggle – Accept it!

Life is a tragedy – Confront it! Life is an adventure – Dare it!

Life is luck – Make it Life is precious – Do not destroy it

Mother Teresa

PREDICTION

“Carriages without horses shall go
And accidents will fill the world with woe.
Around the world thoughts will fly,
In the twinkling of an eye”

Mother Shipton, born Norfolk, 1485

St Peter's Church Withington Winners of the Prize Draw 2013

1st Mr B Grocock; **2nd** Mr P Farr; **3rd** Mrs Llewellyn; **4th** Mrs J Brown;
5th Ms B Sharp; **6th** Mr Garthdown.

Thank you to everyone who sold or bought tickets or both! We raised £718.55 much needed funds for St Peter's Church. For those sharp eyed amongst you who might wonder at the 55p, some people emptied out their pockets of small change and gave it as a donation!

.....

Community Food Bank St Peter's Church collection point

More thanks to Withington School and all those who contributed an amazing amount of food and essential items to the Food bank during Harvest festival. We took two car boot loads to Aubrey Street Hereford where it was gratefully received on behalf of Churches of Hereford social aid charity. All 'cookable' items were taken to St Martin's Church Hereford to be used to provide hot meals. Please keep food and essential items coming. The Church is open from 10 to 3 every day and the collection box is to the left of the main door. A poster detailing just how your donations are used is pinned to the nearby notice board.

Marcia Hopkins 850933

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Andy Warhol

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THE ELIZABETH BYWORTH CHARITY

The trustees of the above charity will meet again on the 4th. **December**. Young persons (under the age of 25 yrs.), students and school children who live in Withington, Westhide, Whitestone, Nunnington, or Eau Withington, or whose parents reside in these areas, are invited to apply for grants for educational purposes such as courses, books, equipment, uniforms etc.

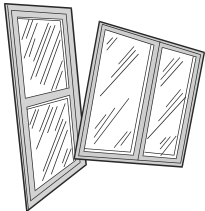
Those who wish to apply for grants for educational visits, please ensure that the visit takes place AFTER the above DATE.

All applications to be made in writing to the clerk, Bryan Davies, at Swn y Gwynt, Duke Street, Withington, Hereford. HR1 3QD

Please ensure that your application contains your

Date of birth and your telephone number.

If in doubt, ring the clerk on 01432 850672



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Multiple Sclerosis Society

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