



St. Edmund's Church

£1.00

News from the Parish

September 2025

Rach and Sarah



**ST EDMUND'S AND ST MATTHEW'S
NEW WEBSITE IS LIVE**

0:03 / 1:22

www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

www.facebook.com/stedmundsallestree

St. Edmund's September 2025

While COVID has diminished in terms of its impact on us as a nation, we recognise that there will be some people who have still to be careful because they are vulnerable. If you feel you need to wear a mask, we encourage you to do so. We also gently request that if you are unwell, especially if you have COVID, you stay away to avoid infecting anyone who might be vulnerable.

For communion, normal practice has resumed regarding going to and from the rail. Please follow any directions given by the day's welcomers. At the rail you will be given three options regarding bread and wine. You may either indicate - by nodding your head - that you wish the wafer to be intincted for you by the person carrying the special intincting chalice, or you may accept the wafer only and then drink from the chalice brought after by the server. Or you may choose to just have the wafer.

There are halved grapes available for children at the rail so they join in this special feast, they will be given a prayer of blessing as normal. And if you do not feel communion is appropriate for you we encourage you to come to the rail, leaving your hands by your sides, so that we may pray a prayer of blessing over you.

Please stay for coffee or tea in the Church Hall after the service, it's a great opportunity to get to know new friends and to catch up with old ones.

FOOD BANK - The first Sunday of the month, 7th September 2025. Please leave your donations in St Edmund's Church or St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 9th.

FRONT COVER: Our vicars Revd Sarah Watson and Revd Rachael Brooks have created a video introduction on the new website : see page 23 for more details.

BACK COVER: The Bishop of Derby paid a visit to St Edmund's Luncheon Club: see pages 20 and 21

Would you like to support St Edmund's by sponsoring the colour cover in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an event? If you are interested please contact one of the editorial team or a Churchwarden. The cost is £35.00.

Open All Year: St Ed's and St Matt's are open regularly throughout the spring and summer months. Do pop in for some peace and space, and invite others to do the same. If you are there and people come in, please make them welcome.

Safeguarding Initiative

We have a strong Safeguarding Initiative here at St Edmund's Church. Full details can be found on the Church noticeboards and on our NEW website www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

The Revd Rachael Writes



September and the beginning of a new school year beckons. The Darley Park concert weekend is the last hurrah of summer as we look forward, perhaps to a new class or a new start in a new school or university. And for those of us for whom school is a distant memory, there is something about September too, inculcated in us perhaps from our own school-days as well as our children's and grandchildren's, that helps us see it as another point in the year when we can begin again.

It's an expensive time for families already feeling the pinch. New uniform, lunch boxes to fill. Those of us who raised children back in the days when one wage was enough to pay the bills and provide treats may find it hard to grasp the relentlessness of making the budget balance month on month for families with school-aged children. A sudden growth spurt can mean our careful plans are thrown off-kilter by the need for a new pair of shoes or school blazer mid-term instead of at the end of the year.

And even if families get lucky on that front, it can be heart-breaking to have to say no to trips, or after-school activities because the kitty won't stretch that far. In 2022, one million children in the UK were living in destitution. According to the multi-denominational Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT), this year, 4.3 million children are living in poverty. In this country. This is a shocking statistic.

On September 28th at St Matthew's and October 5th at St Edmund's we'll be reflecting on the story of Joseph who God positioned in a key role just before famine in Egypt and the surrounding countries. Joseph used the gifts God had given him to see the region through three years of famine by initiating the collection and storage of food in the good years, so that it could be distributed during the famine. God cares for all who live in want, wherever they are in the world.

The Government has an unenviable task in seeking to invest wisely and prioritise spending in an increasingly unstable world. The JPIT is urging the financing of scrapping the two-child cap on benefits from a fair levy on the stratospheric profits made by betting companies. We could get behind that, by raising it with our MP. Clearly poverty on this scale needs a societal response to reverse it, but we too can play our part locally. As we look towards Harvest and giving God thanks for all he has given us, we do so not just in words but in action using what he's given us wisely so that everyone has enough.

Revd Rachael Brooks
Associate Minister, St Edmund's

Churchwardens' View

A Regular Update by Ann Miller and Paul Smith

Up on the Roof on a Warm Summer's Afternoon

Paul writes: As churchwardens, we carry special responsibility for our two church buildings, and one of our biggest concerns is the apparently simple one of keeping the wet on the outside and the dry on the inside! Guidance to wardens is full of dire warnings of the dangers of letting your gutters, downpipes and gullies block up. This can allow leaks into the building that can permanently and expensively damage what is, in the case of our church, a Grade 2* listed building.

Our most regular worry is our two flat roofs – above the vestry and the sacristy. Both have recently been resealed, with various cracks and bumps filled in. But in each case, there is only one point at which rain can drain from the roof, so we regularly check that this is not blocked. At the same time, we remove any leaves and twigs from the roof itself as build-up can quickly lead to blockage.

Recently, Geoff Bailey and I took on the more demanding task of checking and clearing the two main valley gutters which run East/West above the lines between the nave and the north and south aisles respectively. These broad lead-lined channels collect water from much of the total roof area, as well as the run off from the smaller but higher tower roof. Our architects' 2024 Quinquennial report noted that the south-gutter contained the remains of a dead bird, creating a "damn" (yes, of course they meant "dam") that could prevent the free flow of rain water to the downpipes at the east end. To avoid damnation, action was clearly needed.



Getting to these valleys requires forethought, two reasonably fit people and at least four ladders. The first ladder is placed so as to allow us up onto the vestry roof, and is secured by a rope to an eye-bolt (a strong steel eye bolted into the masonry). Three further ladders are then lifted up. One is used to take us up the short section of pitched roof to the north side of the tower; this is again secured to an eyebolt. We can then access the

Continued on page 5

Churchwardens' View continued



northern valley. The remaining two ladders are used to get up to the ridge of the nave roof and down the other side into the south valley. Ribs in the gutters give the ladders a firm footing and tying is not required, although getting over the ridge needs some agility. Safety has to be the prime concern: all moves have to be made slowly and thoughtfully, and the “3 points of contact” rule observed whenever one is on a ladder.

We were pleased to find both valleys were pretty clear. Some debris was quickly removed, put in a bucket, and carefully lowered (more rope needed) down to the ground for safe disposal. As to the dead bird, we were delighted to find that Nature’s own wonderful recycling had already taken care of it, leaving not a trace.

Our Journey of Life

Ann writes: Journeys! This time of year seems to highlight them. Many of us have been making journeys over the summer; perhaps to go on holiday, to visit family or friends, or for days out.

'Holiday at Home', organised and hosted by Broadway Church, Derby, was held over 3 days in August and explored "The Great British Car Journey", travelling down memory lane. Journeys going back into our memories, and sharing them with others, can take us delving into rich stores of experiences and stories.

For many of us, as summer ends, are journeying homewards after the holiday season to continue our journey of life based at home. Children are travelling into the new school year; students are starting, or continuing, their journeys of study over the bridge from school life to working life; and for many of us our journey as we go into autumn will be to pursue our work life, interests and activities.

Continued on page 6

Churchwardens' View continued

Wherever your journey takes you, we hope you can make the most of it - even if it involves several ladders, ropes, eye-bolts and gutters. At St Ed's we're embarking on the journey into one of the busiest times in the church year. There's lots to do and enjoy on the journey from now to Christmas. Fasten your seat belts!

Our All Age Worship theme for 7 September at 10.00am is 'Journeying with God'. Don't miss it!

IMPORTANT: Paul will stand down as a churchwarden at the 2026 Annual Meeting after four years in-post. Please pray with us that someone suitable will feel called to take on this vital and fulfilling role. **If anyone would like to find out more about what it involves, please feel free to speak to either of us on a no-obligation basis.** Wardens are PCC members and church trustees *ex-officio* (= by virtue of their role). Their main functions are to support the clergy's ministry, represent the church members, and to be responsible for the church's buildings and property.

*Ann & Paul
Churchwardens*

St Edmund's Groundforce

St Edmund's Groundforce is a friendly group of volunteers who keep the churchyard and hall grounds in good order, **The next session is on Saturday 6th September.** If you would like to know more please contact Steve Burton on 07914 884197.



Community Pop-in Café

Coffee

Tea

Toast

Fellowship Room, St Matthew's Church, Darley Abbey

Friday 19th September '25 from 8.30am to 10.30am

All welcome - Share time with friends

From the Registers



BAPTISMS
at St Edmund's

10th August
Baptism of
Sofia Francesca Cook,
pictured here with
her family, in the arms
of her mum

BURIAL OF ASHES at St Edmund's

13th July - Burial of ashes of Brian Trowbridge

16th July - Burial of ashes of Ramon (Ray) Ramsey Dallas

Remember to Save Your Stamps for Charity

The Derby Oxfam shop are very grateful for them - AND the stamps are covered by gift aid so the charity gets tax back. The stamps are sorted and sold in the shop so do keep your donations coming!

Please cut stamps leaving a centimetre edge all round and place them in the box at the back of church. *Elizabeth Jack*

Dates for your Diary September 2025

Monday 1st

7.30pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Handbells

Tuesday 2nd

12 noon - St Edmund's Church Hall - Luncheon Club

2.00pm - St Matthew's Fellowship Room - FOSM Holy Communion & AGM

Wednesday 3rd

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

Saturday 6th

9.30am - St Edmund's - Groundforce

Sunday 7th September - *Trinity 12 (Proper 18)*

Food Bank Sunday - Please leave any donations in St Edmund's Church or in St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 9th September. Thank you.

10.00am - St Edmund's – All Age Worship & Backpack Blessing, led by Revd Rachael Brooks & the AAW Team

10.00am - St Matthew's – Holy Communion, led by John Rice

6.00pm – St Matthew's - Choral Evensong, led by Melonie Hambly

Monday 8th

2.00pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Bookworms: 'To Kill a Mockingbird'
by Harper Lee

7.30pm - Ascension Prayer Group at Catherine McAuley House Community Room

Tuesday 9th - 7.30pm - Zoom - St Edmund's Standing Committee Meeting

Wednesday 10th - 10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

Thursday 11th

10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Saturday 13th

9.30-12 noon - St Matthew's carpark - Refills on the Road

Sunday 14th - (*Trinity 13 - Proper 19*)

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

10.00am - St Matthew's - Morning Prayer, led by Clive Lemmon

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Choral Evensong, led by the Choir

Tuesday 16th

12 noon - St Edmund's Church Hall - Luncheon Club

7.30pm - St Edmund's Conference Room - PCC Meeting

Wednesday 17th

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Geoffrey Marshall

Dates for your Diary September 2025 continued

Thursday 18th

10.00am - Allestree Park (near the main carpark) - Nature Tots

Friday 19th

8.30am to 10.30 am - St Matthew's Fellowship Room - Community Café

Saturday 20th

6.00pm to 8.30pm - Darley Abbey Village Hall - St Matthew's Harvest Supper

Sunday 21st - (*Trinity 14 - Proper 20, St Matthew's Day*)

10.00am - St Edmund's - Morning Prayer, led by Ben Martin

10.00am - St Matthew's - Holy Communion, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

6.00pm - St Matthew's - Joint Choral Evensong, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

Wednesday 24th

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

Thursday 25th 10.00am - St Edmund's Church Hall - Baby & Toddler Group

Saturday 27th

9.30-12 noon - St Matthew's carpark - Refills on the Road

9.30am - St Matthew's - Churchyard Working Party

12 noon - St Edmund's - Wedding Blessing of Lucy Howe and Jordan Clarke

Sunday 28th - (*Trinity 15 - Proper 21*)

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by John Rice

10.00am - St Matthew's - All Age Worship, led by Revd Rachael Brooks
& the AAW team

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Choral Evensong, led by Clive Lemmon

Tuesday 30th

12 noon - St Edmund's Church Hall - Luncheon Club

Do Tell Us of Future Events or Celebrations

PLEASE CONTACT the Parish Administrator, Caroline Audley, with details of future events for them to be included in the Diary Dates:- email: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com or telephone her on 552031 - **NOTE, new office hours & Closed on Tuesdays.**

Office opening hours:-

Monday & Wednesday

9.30am - 3.00pm

Tuesday

Closed

Thursday

11.30am - 3.00pm
(after Baby & Toddler
Group)

Friday

9.30am - 1.00pm

If out of hours please leave a message; the answer phone is checked daily.

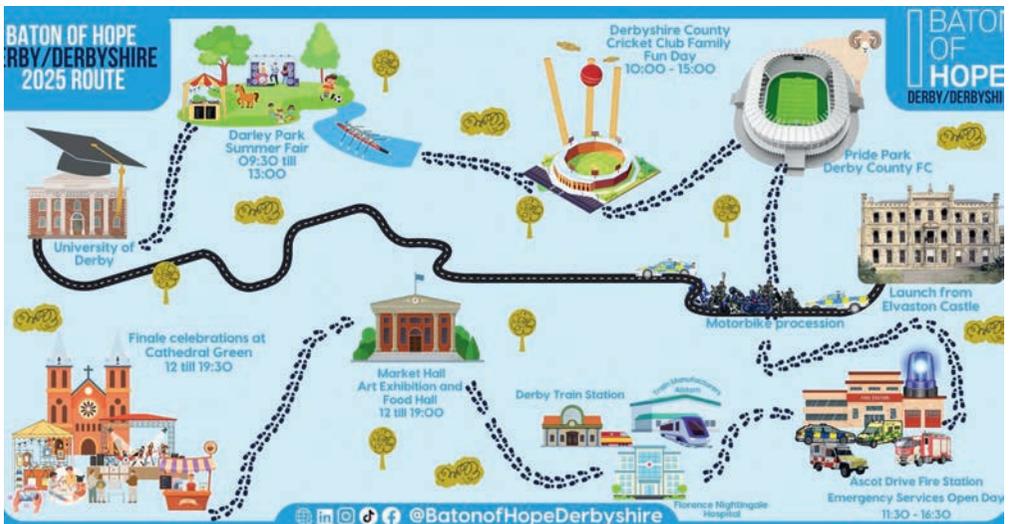
Baton of Hope - Darley Park Family Summer Fete

13th September

The Baton of Hope is the UK's biggest suicide prevention initiative and it was set up by two grieving fathers, Mike McCarthy and Steve Phillip, whose sons took their own lives.

They came up with the idea of a baton which would be carried, like an Olympic torch, by people who had lost loved ones to suicide. Designed and handcrafted by Thomas Lyte the baton represents the charities core values, and the community's responsibility to support those who are struggling with their mental health and considering taking their own life.

To continue to raise awareness, the baton has embarked on another tour of the UK - the first was in 2023 - and Derby is the eighth stop of 20. The map below shows you all the events organised in Derby on 13 September and the one closest to us here in Allestree is the Darley Park Family Summer Fete. The day's events have been organised by Claire Goring, who herself experienced the loss of her father by suicide when she was young. She took part in the 2023 event in Birmingham and decided to bring a similar day here to Derby. A day to have fun, but also to learn and understand more about mental health.





St Matthew
DARLEY ABBEY

ST EDMUND'S



Sunday services at St Edmund's in September



Sunday 7th 10.00am All Age Service
Sunday 14th

10.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 21st

10.00am Morning Prayer
6.00pm Joint Choral Evensong
at St Matthew's

Sunday 28th

10.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Choral Evensong



St Matthew
DARLEY ABBEY

ST EDMUND'S



Join us for Holy Communion



**Every Wednesday in
September
St Edmund's, 10am**

All welcome



St Matthew
DARLEY ABBEY

ST MATTHEW'S



Sunday services at St Matthew's in September



Sunday 7th

10.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th 10.00am Morning Prayer

Sunday 21st

10.00am Holy Communion
6.00pm Joint Choral Evensong

Sunday 28th 10.00am All Age Worship

Harvest & St Matthew's Day Supper



St Matthew
DARLEY ABBEY

**Saturday 20th September 2025
6.00-8.30pm
Darley Abbey Village Hall**

- 🍷 The Chaddesden Ukulele Players
- 🍷 Ploughman's Supper & Dessert
- 🍷 Bring your own Bottle
- 🎵 Bingo & Raffle
- 🎵 Harvest Songs



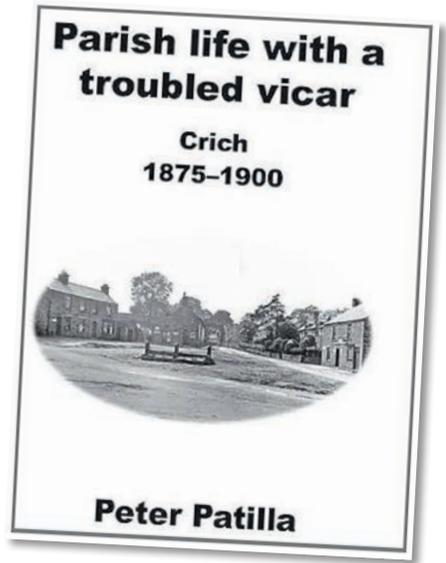
**Tickets £10 (children £5)
Please book with
Diane 07968 237457**

Book Review

“PARISH LIFE WITH A TROUBLED VICAR: CRICH 1875-1900” by Peter Patilla

Pub Softback 2009 by Crich Area Community News (Now Crich Standard)

ISBN 978 - 0 - 9562271 - 0 - 2



What a surname. The Revd William Acraman was a man of varied talents, but a more acrimonious – or at least more controversial and disliked – Vicar you could not hope to find. This account of his difficult 25 years’ incumbency in Crich is by a gifted and diligent amateur historian; this was one of his first major retirement projects, along with his Editorship for some years of “Crich Area Community News”, after a career in education.

When this book was published, I read it with great interest. Then I think I may have lent it to someone who never returned it, since I cannot find that copy now. Until very recently, I had thought it was sold out (it sold fast and to acclaim, though was not re-issued). I then discovered by chance that a small remaining stock, probably originally held by the Tramway Museum gift shop, is now in the hands of the Glebe Community Centre. I snapped one up on the spot.

Returning to our story, it really is rooted in education, this being a period of great change – Parochial (Church of England) Schools were no longer the only option, and one major factor is the rise of the schools run by Nonconformists. Another is the advent, and gradual implementation, of the 1870 Education Act, and a third is the resulting, sometimes cut-throat, competition for pupils. Other social factors include the number of pubs (at least 12 in a Parish of fewer than 1200 adult souls) and, alongside that, the emergence of the Temperance Movement.

But this is just to paint in the background. The book starts with Acraman’s arrival, a single man in his late 40s, plus two unmarried sisters who lived with him. We see village events: shows, Florence Nightingale’s early influence, a Measles epidemic, a landslip, an escaped cow, etc. But it’s not long before we find chapter-headings such as “Troubles Galore”, “Vicar and Curate In Conflict”, “Bishop [is] Asked to Sack the Vicar”, “Rowdy Vestry Meeting” and “Clergy Punch-Up” – and so the accounts go on, just within the first 7-8 years.

Continued on page 13

Book Review continued

An attempt by the Crich Curate to sack the headteacher of the Parochial School causes an “Indignation Meeting” by residents in 1897; it is not successful, but goes to trial in Derby, and Acraman does not come out of that smelling of roses at all. Acraman’s popularity, never a constant, reaches a new low when hundreds of Parishioners burn an effigy of him outside the Vicarage – a major event, given the publicity Crich matters were beginning to get regionally and even nationally.

But the actions which sealed this Vicar’s final imprisonment and de-frocking surrounded his alleged molestation of a 13-year-old girl in his house in June 1899. The case was so shocking to Victorian sensibilities, as we see from publications such as the Derbyshire Times and the then Derby Mercury, that whatever the actual facts of the case, his reputation was by then irrecoverable.

I found this book a well-written read, as enjoyable as such subjects can be, and hard to put down. Patilla tackles his subject with both care and flair, as well as huge research, and the “village characters” and historic photos are fascinating. The only major criticism I have, if that is what it is, is that the author relies so heavily on contemporary Press materials to tell the story; but a historian has to draw on what resources are available. I will gladly lend my copy – if you promise to give it back!

By the way – there is a quirky but satisfying end to the tale, for someone who (like me) has worked at the Tramway Museum. After his release from jail, Acraman sets himself up in a new guise, living on the South coast; he is knocked down, eventually fatally, by a Hastings tram in 1917. Of course the actual Museum didn’t arrive in Crich until the late 1950s, but perhaps today’s readers can enjoy this final ironic Postscript with a little extra relish.

Kate Smith

Late February 2025

Allestree Scarecrow Festival 6th & 7th Sept.

The Scarecrow Festival has grown to be one of Allestree’s best annual events. Many residents create amazing and imaginative scarecrows and thousands



of visitors from Allestree and further

afield walk the Scarecrow Trail to see them.

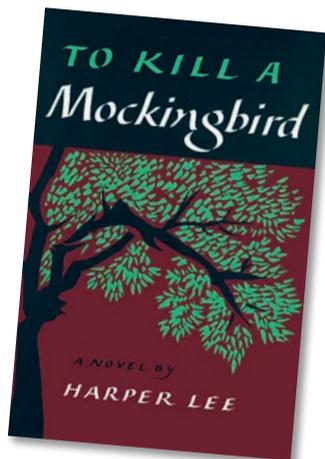
Plus there are lots of really cool stalls at Scarecrow HQ (The Red Cow) and you can enjoy refreshments there too.

Bookworms Meeting is on 8th September

Bookworms meet in St Edmund's choir vestry once a month on a Monday afternoon at 2.00pm. Our next meeting is on Monday 8th September and we will be discussing "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee.

The following months reading list is as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 13th October | Alison Weir – Innocent Traitor |
| 10th November | Stef Penney - The Tenderness of Wolves |
| 8th December | Frederick Forsyth – The Day of the Jackal |
| 12th January | Victoria Hislop – The Island |
| 9th February | Maggie O 'Farrell - Hamnet |
| 9th March | Kristin Hannah – The Women |
| 13th April | Alexander McCall Smith - 44 Scotland Street |
| 11th May | Laurie Lee – Cider with Rosie |
| 8th June | John Wyndham – The Day of the Triffids |



For further details please ring or text Cyra Buxton on 07719 776501 or email her on cyrabuxton@gmail.com.

Allestree Flower Group - 16th September 2025

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 16th September where we will be holding a Workshop with the theme of "Titania's Shoe".

Time: 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

Venue: at The Evergreen Hall, Cornhill, Allestree, DE22 2FT

Members FOC; Guests £5.00

For further details telephone 07968 237457



Allestree W.I. Meeting - 16th September 2025

After the August break, Allestree W.I. will meet on Tuesday 16th September 2025, 2.00pm at Woodlands Church, Blenheim Drive, Allestree, DE22 2GP.

The Talk is 'My First Year as a Magistrate' by Mrs. Janet Moore. The Competition is 'A Holiday Souvenir'.

Visitors welcome, £5.00pp. Enquiries to Mavis on 01332 556012.

The Big Book Sale being held on 11th October

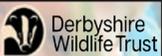
Diane has been persuaded to hold another big book sale which will take place on Saturday 11th October at 11am until 1pm. REMEMBER THAT HELPERS ARE NEEDED both the day before and on the day due to an increasing number of the regular helpers being unable to do a lot in the way of lifting boxes of books. So help will be needed to move the books boxes into St Edmund's Church Hall on the evening of Friday 10th October. The book shed is now in a convenient place right next to the Church Hall. Then help will be needed in unpacking the books from 9.00am on Book Sale day, Saturday 11th October.... and when it is finished, willing helpers will be needed with the packing up any left over books.

Would you or any younger members of your family be happy to demonstrate strength and kindness? Helpers get first choice of the huge collection of books!

Donated books can be put in the red box at the back of St Edmund's church and, as mentioned in the August magazine, can these donated books be fiction only. There will be plenty of non-fiction at the sale but the fiction collection needs a boost.

Those of you who have been to the Big Book Sales in the past know they are jolly, social events with refreshments available, so put 11th October in your diary.

Diane Bakhda Tel 01332 831897 if you would like to help



St Edmund's Baby & Toddler Group
in partnership with
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust
is launching
NATURE TOTS

A pre-school playgroup with a difference, connecting children with nature; encouraging them to learn, play and have fun outdoors

Thursday 18th September, 10-11.30 am
Allestree Park

Park in the main carpark, DE22 2EU, walk towards the hall, Matt from DWT will direct you.
Please wear suitable clothing and footwear as we are outside. £2 suggested donation per child.

Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (2)

The walks in the Panoramic Series were completed in the July magazine. This new Canal Towpaths series is covering more of the Rambler's Walks:

PEAK FOREST CANAL AND BUXWORTH BASIN

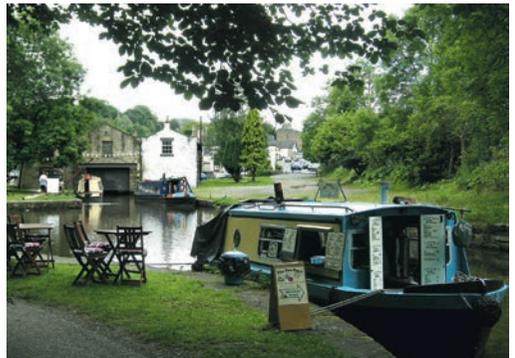
Situated in the north-western corner of Derbyshire, the Peak Forest Canal, together with the High Peak Railway, formed an important link in cross-country communication and facilitated much industrial development in the early 19thc. A suggested walk of about 4 miles in the area samples the restored towpaths, wharves and part of the River Goyt; this can easily be extended further along the Peak Forest Canal or, alternatively, its associated Tramway.

The **Peak Forest Canal** runs from Whaley Bridge via New Mills and Marple to the Ashton Canal in Greater Manchester, a total length of about 14 miles. At Marple (in Cheshire) it is joined by the Macclesfield Canal, descends a flight of 16 locks and crosses the R. Goyt on a three-arched viaduct. Constructed from 1794-1805, the canal was aimed at improving the transport of manufactured goods and raw materials, particularly limestone from the vast quarries at Dove Holes, destined for the burgeoning industry of the north-west or burned in local kilns for quicklime (at Buxworth alone there were 19 limekilns). The journey to Manchester took 10 hours traversing 34 locks. At Whaley Bridge, a link was provided via the High Peak Railway to the Cromford and Erewash Canals, thus creating an important trade route through Derbyshire to the East Midlands. The Chief Engineer Benjamin Outram was responsible also for several other national canals. Closure came in the early 1960's, followed by restoration in 1974.

Buxworth Basin, about a mile from the Whaley Bridge branch, is the country's largest inland port for a narrow canal system. It became the primary loading depot when it was realised that to



Buxworth Basin



Whaley Bridge Wharf

Continued on page 17

Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (2)



Peak Forest Canal



Chinley Churn from Buxworth

continue the canal towards Dove Holes (the original aim) would have required the construction of 12 more locks and a special supply reservoir. So a connecting railway was built instead, known as the **Peak Forest Tramway**. It was 6 miles long and operated on a gravity system; closed in the 1920's, only parts of the trackbed now survive, turned into a paved footpath. The Basin (originally named Bugsworth) is the country's only surviving canal/tramway interchange and is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument, with information plaques and a scale model display. With its multiple wharves, it must have been a real hive of activity – at its peak, say 175 years ago, more than 1500 tons of limestone were transferred by 70-80 boats per week.

Whaley Bridge lies at an important crossing of the R. Goyt on the old Roman route from Buxton to Manchester. Formerly a collection of villages split between Derbyshire and Cheshire, it was united in 1936 as a Derbyshire Urban District Council, but with its parish under the Diocese

of Chester. The annual 'walking the bounds' ceremony around the perimeter covers about 20 miles. Nearby Toddbrook Reservoir was built to supply water to the Peak Forest Canal, while above the town lies **Roosdyche**, a ½mile-long geological feature thought to be of glacial origin with a superimposed Iron Age site of banked ditches (unfortunately it lies on private land!)

The Route starts from the wharf at Whaley Bridge (free parking). Follow the towpath to the Peak Forest Canal junction, cross the footbridge (note the old tunnel where barge horses used to 'cross under') and turn R towards Buxworth Basin. Just past the Navigation Inn the Tramway path continues ahead, but instead turn R up a stepped path, over the A6 footbridge, past the local cricket ground and turn R.

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Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (2)

PEAK FOREST CANAL AND BUXWORTH BASIN continued

When the road bends, turn sharp L up a steep drive, through (or over) an old gate, follow a cart track L of a small quarry and alongside a wall (good view of 1480ft Chinley Churn behind). Cross a stile and follow the tarmac drive L for 1/3 mile; just before Horwich Lodge take a stony footpath R, past an abandoned cricket ground and, reaching a line of trees marking the southern end of Roosdyche, cross a wall stile L. The path passes the new cricket ground and winds down to houses; turn R at the road, then L over the railway and cross the main road into Elnor Lane. Turn R on Shallcross Mill Road (where the old C&HP line crossed), L at the A5004 crossroads, then R alongside the river, leading to the Memorial Park below Toddbrook Dam. Turn R into town and back to the wharf.



The Rambler

Toddbrook Reservoir, Whaley Bridge


St Matthew
DARLEY ABBEY

ST EDMUND'S


THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



We collect for the Hope Centre on the **first Sunday of **every** month. Donations can be left in St Edmund's Church. Thank you**

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Join us for coffee -
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We serve coffee and biscuits
on Sunday mornings between
11.00am and 11.45am in St
Edmund's Church Hall and
on Wednesday mornings
there's coffee inside the
Church at 10.45am.

Please come and join us

Allestree History Group - 3rd & 17th September

The Autumn/Winter Programme 2025 resumes on the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 7.00pm in the Choir Vestry at St Nicholas' Church, Allestree Lane, Allestree, Derby DE22 2DS.

Wednesday, 3rd September: The return of Pat Hall with her talk on "Life is still Funny", a nostalgic observational comedy.

Wednesday, 17th September: A talk by Vanessa Tissington on " The fascinating History of the Shipping Forecast".

New members and visitors are welcome, with visitor's entry fee being £5.00 per person. If you would like to know more about the Allestree History Group you can telephone Sylvia on 01332 556441 or visit www.allestreelocalhistorygroup.org.uk

St Edmund's Luncheon Club Transport Service Ends

The attendees of the Luncheon Club are having to make alternative transport arrangements as the Mini-bus service, using a council vehicle especially adapted to accommodate wheelchair users, has taken its final run. Several months ago the Derby City Council mini-bus service stopped due to financial cuts and the Luncheon Club paid for Erewash Council's mini-bus service. That has now become too expensive and the last run was on 19th August. We hope that all of the current attendees will be able to arrange suitable taxis or lifts with friends so nobody will miss out on a cooked lunch and meeting friends old and new. Roll on winning the Lottery!



St Edmund's Luncheon Club - Special Guest

The usual Lunch was prepared and served on Tuesday 19th August but there was a new face amongst the regular diners. When Revd Rachael arrived she did not enter the Church Hall straight away... and when she did, she brought the Bishop of Derby, The Right Reverend Libby Lane, with her. The Bishop kindly introduced herself to all and said Grace.



The St Edmund's Vicars have a tradition that when they come for a Luncheon Club lunch, they eat each course at a different table, and the Bishop followed Revd Rachael's lead and so was able to meet and chat with many more people than if she had stayed at one table. Some photos were taken by another guest, the Magazine Artworker - who thanks Anne and the other volunteers for a delicious 3-course lunch - and the pictures can be seen here and on the back cover.





Recipe: Apple & Plum Crumble

This year fruit is ripening very early, plums are ready now, and some apples are close behind. This recipe makes a tasty dessert and good use of those fruits.

Serves 6.

Ingredients:

6 large plums
3 Apples (about 500g weight) - Bramley*
50g light brown soft sugar or caster sugar
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
Lemon zest from 1 lemon, finely grated
Water x 5 tablespoons

For the pastry:- 175 g plain flour
125g chilled butter, cut into cubes
50g rolled oats
75g demerara sugar

Method:

Preheat oven (Electric 200°, Fan180°, Gas Mark 6).

Halve and stone the plums and peel and core the apples. Roughly chop both and put into a large pan. Add the sugar, cinnamon, lemon zest and 5 tablespoons of water.

Cover and heat gently for 5 minutes or so, until the apples have become soft. Empty

fruit into a shallow, ovenproof serving dish and put to

one side. Next, make the crumble topping: sieve the

flour into a bowl and rub in the butter with your fingers until the mixture looks like large crumbs. Mix in the oats

and demerara sugar, then scatter the mix over the fruit.

Bake for 25-30min - until the crumble is golden. Serve

immediately with vanilla ice cream, custard or cream.

Anon

*You could use Granny Smith or Cox apples.

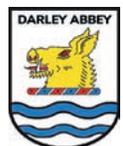


Darley Abbey Scout Hall Saturday Social on 20th Sept.

At a loose end? Fancy a natter over a cuppa with biscuits? Like to play some games or browse our papers and magazines?

Then come along to Darley Abbey Scout Hall (DE22 1DT) on 20th September 2025, 1.30-3.30pm., and join in the fun! All are welcome. There is a small car park and the Hall is fully accessible to wheelchair and mobile scooter users.

We hold our Saturday Socials every third Saturday of the month, free of charge thanks to the Co-op and its customers. Future Saturday Socials to the end of the year are: 18th October, 15th November and 20th December.



Events Committee Asks for Feedback

We have had a very useful meeting following on from the success of the Jane Austen afternoon and there are several exciting events in the pipeline.

We are asking for people's views on this year's Harvest Meal; ie, whether to continue with the event on a Saturday evening or to have a Sunday lunch? Should people bring their own food or have food provided? Your opinion matters to us and there is a sheet at the back of Church for you to fill in and express your views.

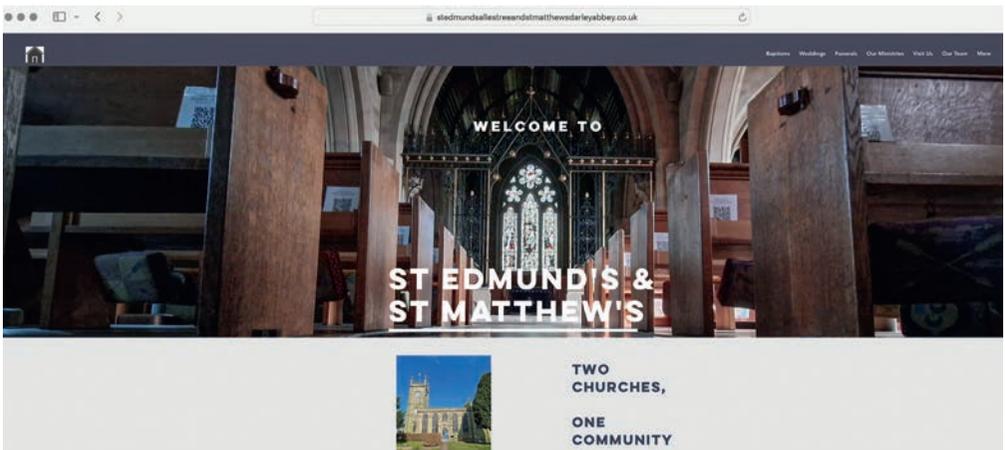
Thank you, *Elizabeth Jack*

St Edmund's New Website & Address

As mentioned last month, St Edmund's website has changed in a big way. It has been updated to give it a more modern look and make it easier to find what you want. We wanted the website to reflect our character as churches and to make young families feel welcome and at home, recognising that our website is often people's first port of call if they are perhaps new to the area and looking for information. In addition, it is on a new platform which means it is more straightforward for Caroline in the St Edmund's Admin Office to update.

All the hard work of creating a new design has been carried out by Revd Rachael's husband Andrew, and many thanks for all the hard work he has put in to provide new information and a whole new look!

Our Vicars, Revd Sarah Watson and Revd Rachael Brooks have been busy too and have put together a video introducing our church, in tandem with St Matthew's. A screen shot of them is on this magazines front cover and you can watch it at <https://www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk>



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September 2025

Bishop Malcolm writes...

'When through the woods and forest glades I wander....



September, October – what a glorious time for trees! - transient, dancing, swaying in the equinoctial gales, their leaves a kaleidoscope of changing colours, some fading, some ever deeper red or gold, eventually and inevitably floating to and fro down to the ground.

Even now I like to kick through piles of leaves in the garden or on the footpath. Each leaf is a unique work of art telling its tale of life and growth and beauty and decay, finding its way to mulch down for the winter, ready to energise future springs.

I love that verse from Revelation 22:2 reminding us of 'the tree of life' whose leaves 'were for the healing of the nations.' In Jesus we know the faithfulness of God, and find hope in every season of the year.

This month Bishop Libby's Harvest Appeal focuses on 'Trees for Peace – Burundi'. We are working along with the diocese of Bujumbura, helping them plant trees, as we did in 2023, but this time with a fresh emphasis on peacebuilding among people living on the hills around their city.

The work we helped with in 2023 has been very effective in stabilising the slopes against mudslide risk, and has enabled self help groups amongst women and young people. Setting up businesses to grow and sell and plant seedlings has been transformative for those involved – but the church has identified further potential benefits that can spring from this working together in partnership: peacebuilding and community cohesion.

These hills are home to families divided by ethnic and political loyalties. In living memory and more recently in times of elections these divisions have been exploited by groups eager to stir up conflict, and prone to exciting violence. By bringing people together across the divides to grow seedlings, to form self help groups, and to plant young saplings, the church is learning how to help break down barriers and build strong and resilient relationships for the future.

In this new project, which the Diocese of Bujumbura have named 'Integrated Environmental Restoration and Community Peacebuilding' alongside the tree planting there will be a range of activities including 'intergenerational dialogue groups', 'Memory and Hope trauma sharing workshops' and two new 'Youth Peace Brigades'.

The focus is on helping local people of all ages work together come to terms with their divided past and look to an economically productive future – this makes young and old less likely to be drawn into political or ethnic conflict, as with an income and something worth working for there is more to lose.

I thank God for the vision of the Diocese of Bujumbura in supporting parish ministry in these hills in such a down to earth and transformative way. It is a privilege for us to be involved. Following Jesus brings people together for good.

There are pictures of these slopes torn apart by ravines created by climate change induced flooding and mudslides, physically dividing communities, literally tearing the landscape apart. Worse still are the human divisions caused by traumas from previous conflict, exacerbated by extreme poverty. This integrated programme will bring healing for past hurts and unite both land and people in hope for a better, more peaceful future.

Please give generously this Harvest time in response to Bishop Libby's appeal, <https://givealittle.co/c/593nFI0UNqgytlhirdcgxE>, and if you are able, ask others to join you in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Burundi.

Why not plant a tree where you live, to express this solidarity, and send a photo to communications@derby.anglican.org to be shared on our website and with our partners in Burundi?

+ Malcolm Repton

Rt Revd Malcolm Macnaughton
Bishop of Repton

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St. Edmund's Parish

Church Website: www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

For all enquiries regarding weddings, baptisms, funerals and parish events contact the Parish Administrator, Caroline Audley: email: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com / telephone 552031.

Office opening hours:- Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9.30am – 3.00pm
Thursday: 11.30am – 3.00pm The office is closed on Tuesday

If out of hours please leave a message; the answer phone is checked daily.

In an emergency, please contact one of the churchwardens.

Directory

Associate Minister:	Revd Rachael Brooks: rev.rachaelbrooks@gmail.com	07305 140573
Churchwardens:	Paul Smith	07792 569758
	Ann Miller	07831 506978
Parish Administrator:	Caroline Audley: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com	552031
Readers:	<i>Vacancies</i>	
Choir:	Elizabeth Jack	07779 255412
Treasurer/Gift Aid Sec.:	Chris Jack, 12 Regency Close, Littleover	07805 027515
PCC Correspondence Sec:	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Electoral Roll:	Matt Cooper	07572 110185
Flower Group:	Rosemary Yates	552742
	Pam Highman	551636
	Michèle Aspinall	07773 784009
Luncheon Club:	Anne Madge	07971 680377
Baby and Toddler Group:	Caroline Audley: Steds.stmatts@outlook.com	552031
Parish Safeguarding Links	Madeleine Fullerton	554762
	Louise Whittaker	556455
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Hall Bookings:	Caroline Audley - Steds.stmatts@outlook.com	552031
Handbells:	Gill Flatman	557028
St Edmund's Preschool		
CIC:	Becky Radford admin@stedmundspreschool.org for enquiries	07934 380561
Rainbows, Brownies & Guides:	Alwyn Young	07740 201963
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St. Edmund's Parish Magazine Editorial Team: Chris Willis, Claire Pegg and Fiona Fraser.

Please EMAIL magazine articles and photos to both fiona.fraser@burnsgraphics.co.uk and Chris Willis at c.willis246@btinternet.com

Magazine Distribution: Chris Willis 558136

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Our Parish magazines are available as printed copies in Church and as a PDF on the website:-
<https://www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk>.

St Edmund's Luncheon Club

A special guest at lunch, 19th August

The Bishop of Derby, The Right Reverend Libby Lane, came for lunch with Revd Rachael. Full article and more photos inside on pages 20 and 21.

