



St. Edmund's Church

£1.00

News from the Parish

August 2025



www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

www.facebook.com/stedmundsallestree

St. Edmund's August 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, 3rd August 2025. Please leave your donations in St Edmund's Church or St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 5th.

FRONT COVER: The Voices Choir singing at their 30th anniversary celebration concert on 29 June in St Edmund's Church: see page 15.

BACK COVER: Details of All Age Services throughout the summer..

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. Full details can be found on the Church noticeboards and on our NEW website www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk

The Revd Rachael Writes

We're looking at Noah and the long wait in the ark in our next All Age services at St Matthew's and St Edmund's. It's a story that's easy to dismiss as one for the children, but it has a lot to say to us about our lives today, especially about waiting.

Andrew and I were left with a lot of sweet pea seeds after the January Flourish event at Walter Evans. They'd been soaked, and most were germinating, so we decided to pot them all and see what happened. There was a lot of waiting, but one by one, most of them grew.

Then it was a case of waiting for late spring when it would be warm enough to plant them out. The ground had to be prepared and a rather Heath Robinson frame of pruned branches built first, but when the day came, they were in. Then came the next season of waiting – for them to flower. Several weeks went by, and now I can't cut them fast enough for displaying in our house, they're so swift to flower!

While there was a lot of waiting involved, we knew what we were waiting for, we could see the progress being made and we knew the timescale within which we were working.

But Noah and his family had no idea what timescale was involved when the ark was closed and the rains came. That it rained for 40 days and nights is what we remember, but the story continues with it taking another 150 days before the water started to subside. And then several more weeks before the dove flew back with an olive branch, and in all that time there's no suggestion that God was keeping Noah informed about when to get ready for going out and starting civilisation again.

Waiting when we've no idea how long we'll be waiting for is hard, especially if we've no idea what to expect when the waiting is over. People across the world are waiting for wars to end, for the rains to come, for persecution to end, for authoritarian regimes to give way to democracy. Some of you reading this will be waiting in difficult circumstances too. That's so hard and so isolating. But without wishing to be trite, I encourage you to wait with Noah and take heart that the waiting will end; that God, who knows and loves you, holds you in the waiting and will bring you through, whatever happens.

Revd Rachael Brooks

Associate Minister, St Edmund's



Churchwardens' View

A Regular Update by Ann Miller and Paul Smith

Paul to Train as Licensed Minister

Paul writes; “When Kate and I started worshipping at St Edmund’s 35 years ago, there were five Lay Readers (now known as Licensed Lay Ministers or LLMs). It may have to do with the fact that Canon Arthur Redman, our vicar at the time, was the Warden of Readers for the whole Diocese! Anyway, now we have none, and over the last few months I have felt a strong call to find out more with a view to filling this gap, at least in part.

Now, after a Vocations evening, a discussion with Rachael, and interviews with both the Diocesan Director of Vocations and the Diocesan Director of Studies, I am signed up for a two-year Certificate in Theology of Mission and Ministry (CTMM) course. I am looking forward to starting this in early 2026. Successful completion does not guarantee appointment as an LLM, but that is the direction in which I am heading, and I have promised Rachael that I will pursue it as far as I can.

As the course is a blend of online learning, face-to-face sessions and practicals, it’s likely that you’ll see me taking a greater role both within worship and pastoral work as the course proceeds. My thanks to our PCC which has warmly supported this change of direction for me (and agreed to pay for the training), and also to those of you who have contacted me with positive feedback and offers of support. I’d ask everyone to bear me in mind in your thoughts and prayers. Ministers of whatever hue can only thrive with the backing of the people they serve: that means you, our congregation, parish magazine readers and all our other supporters.

It’s worth saying too that the Church now regards all service by its members as ministry. (I was so pleased yesterday when someone thanked me for the warm welcome she had received at our church, because of course welcomers don’t just give out hymn books and service sheets but help people feel they belong at St Ed’s, and that their presence in church is actively appreciated.)

So, if you are already one of our many ‘ministers’, thanks for all you do. If not, please do search your heart to see if there’s some new way in which you could contribute. Let’s face it, we’re never short of things that need doing!”

Celebrating our Range of Worship and Upcoming Events

Ann writes: “What a wonderfully wide range of services we have at St Ed’s! From All Age Worship with its informalities, Choral Services with our robed choir singing beautiful sacred music, some of it taking us back over the centuries, and then recently a lovely, quiet Said Matins. We’re all different, and all have our preferences. Some folk are more comfortable with one type of service, some with another, but whatever our

Churchwardens' View continued

preferences, at least one of our services is likely to reach out and speak to us. And maybe we can 'risk' opening our hearts and minds to some of the services we thought were 'not for us'...?.

We have regular opportunities too, of course, to worship with our friends in our other three churches; it's stimulating to get to know each other better. Our most recent Joint Service was at the end of June when we were welcomed to St Nick's. Coming up next on 31st August we join our friends at St Paul's in Quarndon for a Joint Holy Communion service at 10.00am.

Summer, whether sizzling or soaking, brings holidays to mind. Holiday at Home is coming up very soon on 5th - 7th August at Broadway Baptist Church. Do pick up a leaflet at the back of church to book for the trip on the 8th to the Great British Car Museum, followed by afternoon tea.

Looking a bit further ahead, we've scarecrows, harvest festival, a book sale and more - life is never dull!"

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*

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*

The Big Book Sale is Back... Action Stations

After a long gap, I have been persuaded to hold another big book sale. It will take place on Saturday 11th October at 11am until 1pm. My first instinct is to send out a desperate plea for help as I, and an increasing number of us, are unable to do a lot in the way of lifting boxes of books. We will need help to move the boxes into the hall on the Friday evening before. The book shed is now in a convenient place right next to the church hall. We will also need help unpacking the books from 9am on the day and packing up those left over after the sale. Do you have a younger member of your family who would be glad to demonstrate their strength? Helpers get first choice of the huge collection of books!

I will leave the red box at the back of church for your donations. At the end of last year, I received a bequest of a large collection of very good quality non-fiction books. We already had a lot of non-fiction in the book shed so I need to boost our fiction collection. Therefore I am asking, if you have books to donate, please would you be kind enough to restrict them to fiction only?

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


Diane Bakhda Tel 01332 831897

St Edmund's Choir enjoy a social evening

The choir took a break from singing and enjoyed an excellent meal together at the Hanging Gate at Shottle. We've done a lot of singing recently and it was good to meet together socially for a relaxing evening. The choir will be taking a well earned break during August. Sung services will resume in September when we shall be learning new repertoire alongside familiar music.

Elizabeth Jack





From the Registers

BAPTISMS at St Edmund's

1st June - baptism of Nora Josephine Ratcliff

8th June - baptism of Florence Elizabeth Redgate-Malewski

22nd June - baptism of Diya Louise Sarkar

BURIAL OF ASHES at St Edmund's

There have been no Burial of Ashes since 14th May.

A reminder to those of you who have your magazine delivered... Paying for your Parish Magazine

First of all, many thanks to those of you who have already paid the yearly sub. The magazine 'year' runs from the 1st July to 30th June in any one year. The cost of the magazine remains at £1 per copy and there are 11 issues, but **if you have the magazine delivered and pay in advance it is £10 per year.** If the magazine is posted to you, you will need to add another £10 for postage and packing.

These are the options for paying your subscriptions:-

1. Bank Transfer to PCC of St Edmund's Allestree.
Sort code 40-52-40 Account No.00032364

This is the Treasurer's preferred option because our bank charges us to process cheques. It is important that a payment is marked with the word "Magazine" and your name.

2. Cheque payable to PCC of St Edmund's Allestree and sent to Mr C Jack, 12 Regency Close, Littleover, Derby DE23 1TR. Again, a note showing your name and address is very helpful in confirming identity.
3. You can put cash into one of the brown envelopes which can be found at the back of the Church, but be sure to write your name and address on the envelope and mark it Parish Magazine money.

Regarding nos 2 and 3, if it is easier for you to put it through my door at 101 Laburnum Crescent, please do so.

Thank you to all of you in anticipation of your response.

Chris W

Dates for your Diary August 2025

Wednesday 30th July

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Revd Phyllis Bainbridge

Saturday 2nd August

9.30am - St Edmund's - Groundforce

Sunday 3rd August - *Trinity 7 (Proper 13)*

Food Bank Sunday - *Please leave any donations in St Edmund's Church or in St Matthew's Fellowship Room by Tuesday 5th August. Thank you.*

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

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

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

Tuesday 5th August

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

7.30pm - Chris & David Halfpenny's house - 22 Questions (see page 21 for details)

Wednesday 6th August

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

Saturday 9th August

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

Sunday 10th August - *Trinity 8 (Proper 14)*

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion & the baptism of Sophia Cook led by Revd Rachael Brooks

10.00am - St Matthew's - Morning Prayer, led by Melonie Hambly

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Evening Prayer, led by Revd Rachael Brooks

Monday 11th August

2.00pm - St Edmund's Choir Vestry - Bookworms: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce

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

Wednesday 13th August

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Lee Martin

Sunday 17th August - *Trinity 9 (Proper 15)*

10.00am - St Edmund's - Morning Prayer, led by John Rice

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

6.00pm - St Matthew's - Evensong - led by Clive Lemmon

Tuesday 19th August

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

Dates for your Diary August 2025 continued

Wednesday 20th August

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

Thursday 21st August

10.45am - Holy Communion at Stanley House

11.15am - Holy Communion at Abbeydale

Friday 22nd August

2.30pm - St Matthew's - Wedding of Thomas Measham and Joanna Perry

Saturday 23rd August

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

Sunday 24th August - Trinity 10 (Proper 16)

10.00am - St Edmund's - Holy Communion, led by Adrian Thorp

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

6.00pm - St Edmund's - Evening Prayer, led by Clive Lemmon

Wednesday 27th August

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

Saturday 30th August

9.30am - St Matthew's - Churchyard Working Party

Sunday 31st August

10.00am - Joint Holy Communion service at St Paul's, Quarndon.

There will be no services at St Edmund's or St Matthew's

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.

Introducing Revd Phylis Bainbridge



I have been asked to introduce myself as a new member of the clergy team. Chris and I, with our two sons, first moved to Derbyshire in 1994. Chris works in the NHS. I was a Chemistry and Biology teacher. We worshipped in Duffield where I later became a Reader.

I sensed God calling me towards Ordination. After much prayer, arguing with God, discussion with friends and family, placements and a Theology degree, I was ordained in Derby Cathedral in 2011, with curacies in Littleover and Mickleover. Having conflict resolution and accounting qualifications, I worked for the next three years in different dioceses as an interim / trouble-shooter minister. However,

I missed parish life, ministering longer term with congregations and communities especially with baptisms and thanksgivings, weddings and funerals. I applied for and was appointed to a 3-parish Benefice in Lichfield Diocese in 2019. It was a busy post, often over 60 hours a week.

We realised this was not sustainable, so I retired, and we moved back to Allestree in January 2025. Following a relaxing 6-month sabbatical, I now have been granted a PTO (permission to officiate) license in Derby. I am also a qualified Pastoral Supervisor, helping people (in secular or “church” jobs) reflect on their work. I have been invited by the Diocese to offer pastoral supervision to new incumbents and curates.

My hobbies include reading, films, cooking and baking, and going on holiday or days away in our campervan.

I am excited to begin a new phase of my ministry locally. I look forward to getting to know you in our congregations, sharing the good news of God’s love and helping God’s Kingdom to grow in our communities.

Revd Phyllis Bainbridge

St Edmund's website updated & with new address

Our joint website with St Matthew's has recently been updated and it's worth taking a look. The layout is modern and clear to read and follow. The most important thing is that the web address is new! To access the website go to <https://www.stedmundsallestreeandstmatthewsdarleyabbey.co.uk>

Sunday services at St Edmund's in August



Sunday 3rd	10 am All Age Service
Sunday 10th	10 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 17th	10 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 24th	10 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 31st	10 am Joint at St Paul's

Join us for Holy Communion



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

All welcome

Sunday services at St Matthew's in August



Sunday 3	10 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evensong
Sunday 10	10 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 17	10 am Holy Communion 6 pm Evensong
Sunday 24	10 am All Age Worship
Sunday 31	10 am Joint at St Paul's

4 CHURCH SERVICE

31st August, we will be hosting
the congregations from our
sister churches;

St Ed's, St Matt's & St Nick's

We look forward to joining
with you in worship and
prayer.

**31.8.25 @ 10AM
ST PAUL'S CHURCH,
QUARNDON**

Book Review

“MY LAST DUCHESS” by Daisy Goodwin

**Pub Softback 2010 by Headline Review
(Hachette)**

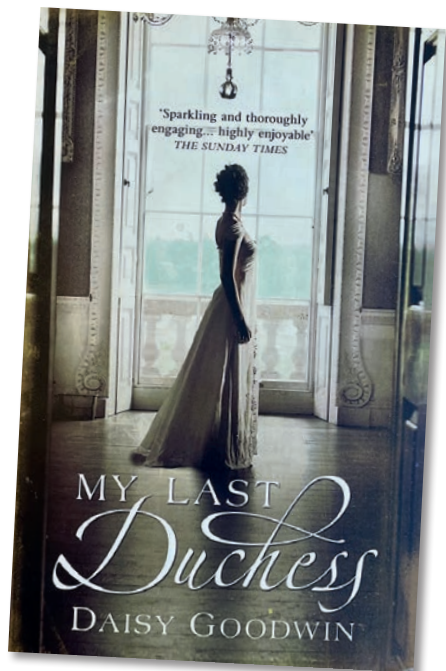
ISBN 978 - 0 - 7553 - 4808 - 4

When it comes to rich American heiresses marrying into sometimes impoverished British aristocratic families, Daisy Goodwin didn't get there first. By the time she was researching her TV series “Victoria”, Julian Fellowes’ “Downton Abbey” was already gaining viewers by the day. “Victoria” can only have piqued her interest in this socially-disruptive topic.

Our heroine is Cora Cash, who will inherit the huge sums made by her father Winthrop Cash running flourmills; she is smart but ill-informed, brash and of strong opinions, but capable of loyalty and affection. As with many such young women of the 1890s, she has a highly dominant Mamma, who is determined to see her go up in the world. She also leaves the USA already armed with an American love-interest called Teddy; his family, the Van Der Leydens, have been much less fortunate in recent years, but are proud that their origins “go back to the Mayflower”. As we know, this history cannot rival a British Baron granted his title by - for example - a descendant of William the Conqueror, though in the USA, even now it does command respect. But in this story, sadly Teddy gets nowhere with Cora.

Cora is bewildered by the manners she meets while staying in Dorset with the Maltravers family, who have just lost the Duke of Wareham. She meets the son, Ivo, as she is regaining consciousness after a riding accident, when he is all attention and kindness and she full of critical barbs about “lack of bathrooms” and similar luxuries. In short, she marries Ivo, and most of the book is about her life after that. Mamma is still an encumbrance, and the same is the case for her US friend Charlotte too; both stay often at the Warehams’ ancient Lulworth pile.

Much of the interest in this book is in the settings, social circles and period detail. We see Mrs Cash Snr buying hummingbirds so that she can release them at a key time during her lavish New York ball; they are hand-decorated in gold for more



Continued on page 13

Book Review continued

visual effect in candlelight, and kept cooped up in dozens for such a moment. (This would be unconscionable nowadays, in terms of both animal cruelty and untold extravagance.) We see how no expense is spared by Cora once in England, either; one instance being that she gets her portrait painted by one Mr Louvain, and exhibits the picture at her own equally expensive party, resulting in mutterings about her assumed “dalliance” with the artist, because of her decidedly risqué pose. Ivo’s mother, Duchess Fanny, is more restrained: with characteristic lack of show, she “glides across the red floor, her fur trim ... rich against the faded carpet”.

With Ivo away, Cora, pregnant and largely alone, comes to doubt his fidelity to her. (It also becomes clear that “friend” Charlotte had planted the idea of the infamous portrait out of spite over her jealousy of Cora’s good fortune.) Ivo returns from military service abroad to find he has a son and heir, and explains his history to Cora more fully than ever before, removing any remaining shred of doubt about his affection.

Also worth a mention here is Cora’s maid of Caribbean extraction, Bertha, who has travelled to England with her. Bertha’s romantic arc partly mirrors Cora’s, and in the process, as might be expected, provides a much less affluent counterpoint to the easy life of her mistress.

Would I recommend this book ? Perhaps first and foremost, it is most beautifully researched – no period detail is incorrect, even down to use of the 1890s American-coined word “conniption”, which I hadn’t come across before. The characters are pretty believable, and the storyline certainly works, sort-of, if a little ponderously. The Bertha sub-plot is cleverly used as a way of pointing up the huge social differences (and differences in societal expectations) between the servant and upper classes. I certainly enjoyed the read.



The real question is whether you can last a whole 500 pages. But then, if you’re keen on “Downton Abbey”, even excluding the feature films, that’s not much by comparison, at over 50 episodes ...

Kate Smith
Mid-April 2025

Bookworms Meeting: 11th August '25

Bookworms meet in St Edmund's choir vestry once a month on a Monday afternoon at 2.00pm. At our next meeting on Monday 11th August, we will be discussing "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" by Rachel Joyce.

The Bookworms New Reading List

The next list of books has been suggested as usual by the regular members of the group and runs from September 2025 to June 2026, is as follows:

8th September	Harper Lee – To Kill a Mockingbird
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.

Happy Birthday to Gill Flatman

For those who may not know Gill, she is a great friend and supporter of St Edmund's, often helping at events and fund-raisers. She is seen here celebrating a big birthday with a meal with her husband Richard and friends.



Voices and Echoes in Song - Concert celebrating the 30th anniversary of Voices Choir.

This wonderful occasion was celebrated in the afternoon of the 29th June at St Edmund's. We were promised an hour of beautiful choral music and indeed it was exactly that. The conducting was shared by Dan Miller, Ann Miller and Lucy Waring, piano accompaniment by Tom Corfield.

Voices began life in 1995 as 'Voices, the City of Derby Girls Choir', founded by Ann Miller and her husband Colin Miller, then the name was shortened to just 'Voices'. A junior branch developed – Singability, then Derby Youth Choir and then, in 2003, Derby City Singers. Their base was the Voicebox Arts Centre, established in 2001, and this was a centre of vocal excellence in the Midlands. The choirs perform regularly in European venues. Derby City Singers and Voices, joining together as Choir Alchemy, will be singing in Normandy in August.

The programme was varied, beginning, appropriately, with Ruth Watson Henderson's 'Come Ye Makers of Song', and ranging through Renaissance and Baroque with Palestrina and Constanini, traditional folk with Michael Neaum's arrangement of 'The Water of Tyne' and the Eriskay Love Lilt, English poems set to music such as Gerard Manley Hopkins' 'Pied Beauty'. There were modern favourites like 'I Got Rhythm', 'Close to You' and 'Autumn Leaves', and very modern items like John Lennon's 'Imagine', and Sting's 'Fields of Gold' – this beautifully sung by Lucy Waring as a solo. There was a most interesting modern setting of the Kyrie and Agnus Dei from Canadian composer Nancy Telfer's *Missa Brevis*. These are just some of the items included – there were many more, all of them lovely to listen to. My personal view is that Ann's understanding of choral music is so profound that her choice of music for these concerts never fails to convey a depth of meaning in the combination of words and music, which can only influence us for our good.

Finally, there were presentations to Ann to mark her wonderful achievement – flowers and a gift of a paper weight.

Here is a note from Ann Miller on behalf of Voices Echoes:

"The choir would like to thank St Ed's for hosting our 29th June concert. It was lovely for us to sing to a packed church as we did at our very first concert here in July 1995. Generous donations from the audience totalled £440. We sent £220 to each of Save the Children and Nordoff and Robbins Music Therapy Charity. Thank you for your support over the years".

And there was an encore – Bill Withers' 'Lean on Me'.

Chris Willis

Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (1)

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:

THE DERBY AND EREWASH CANALS

The Derby Canal ran for 14½ miles from Swarkestone via Derby to Sandiacre, thus creating a 'triangular' circuit with the Trent & Mersey and Erewash Canals. Apart from the central (Derby) section there is decent walking on most of its length; although the canal itself has largely been filled in, some sections are slowly being reconstituted. The walk below covers the eastern section between Breaston and Sandiacre, continues up the Erewash Canal and returns via Stanton-by-Dale and Risley, along parts of the Derby Nomad and Midshires Ways with good views over the Trent Valley, a round trip of 8½ miles.

The Derby Canal arose from a meeting at the Bell Inn in 1791; an Act was passed three years later, then construction began under canal engineer Benjamin Outram, and it was opened to traffic in 1796. A 3-mile arm to Little Eaton connected with the Denby and Kilburn Collieries' gangway. Traffic peaked in the 1830's with 200,000 tons of cargo, mostly coal but also stone and cement, with even a passenger boat into Derby on market day. Nothing remains of the iron aqueduct and wooden footbridge where boats crossed the Derwent at river level. The inevitable decline led to closure to commerce just after WW2 and final abandonment in 1964. The Derby & Sandiacre Canal Society are hoping to restore the full canal with an ambitious boat lift scheme over the Derwent in Pride Park.

The Erewash Canal was completed in 1777 under canal engineer John Varley to link towns in the growing industrial valley of the R. Erewash. It is 12 miles long with 14 locks, running from Langley Mill (where it formerly linked with both Cromford and Nottingham



Erewash Canal & Sandiacre Church



Stanton-by-Dale

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Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (1)



Springfield Lace Mill



Sandiacre Lock & cottage

Canals) to Long Eaton, where it joins the Trent & Mersey. Commercial traffic ceased in 1952 and it was subsequently upgraded to Cruising Waterway Standard in 1983, with an excellent towpath for walking or cycling. At Sandiacre, lace, bricks, furniture and (later) railway were important industries and the town's central moorings area was once a busy commercial wharf. Both this and the imposing Springfield Mill, a listed building converted to apartments, are passed on the walk. The attractive village of Stanton-by-Dale* gave its name to the famous ironworks in the valley below, founded in 1789, producing cast iron pipes, tunnel linings, etc. Sadly, it became part of the French firm St. Gobain in 1985 and downgraded to a distribution centre in 2007.

The Route From Breaston church go N along Risley Lane as far as the Navigation Inn, turn R through a car park and follow the footpath along the old canal route. This bears NE, with a brief deviation R & L under

the M1 road bridge, then back to the signposted and renovated 'towpath'. Beyond another bridge (blocked off in 2021 so cross the road to rejoin 'towpath') it heads to the canal junction with restoration work in progress (see display panel) at the site of the former locks. Cross the lock bridge to the far side of the Erewash Canal and turn N, following the wide towpath for about a mile, passing Sandiacre's old lace mill, then alongside the river (county boundary) and railway. Cross the next canal footbridge and follow the path half-L across a road as if towards Sandiacre Church, but turn R along the foot of Stoney Clouds escarpment (with a Nature Reserve worth exploring). Pass behind Cloudside Farm and along to an access bridge under the M1; turn L and follow a permissive path rising across Erewash Valley Golf Course to a road elbow. Keep straight on to Stanton centre and bear L on Dale Abbey Road. Just past the inn

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Some Good Walks Revisited: Canal Towpaths (1)

THE DERBY AND EREWASH CANALS continued

take a footpath L alongside fields, then R & L over a minor road named 'No Man's Lane', continuing ahead to Risley Lodge Farm (the old Trig Point behind a hedge marks the highest point on the walk (435ft) with a good panorama over the Trent valley). Turn L down the drive towards Risley, then L & R at the village, following Breaston Lane under the A52 to a path half-R across a football pitch and on to Cottage Farm. Bear L of the farm and along the drive towards Beaston, crossing the Derby Canal path en route.



Derby & Erewash Canal junction

The Rambler

* Hyphens are used on OS maps but not on signs in the village.



ST EDMUND'S



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

OPEN HOUSE COFFEE AT ST. EDMUND'S

Join us for coffee -
everyone welcome.
We'd love to see you!

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

Rita's Recipe: Banana Nut Loaf

Makes 2lb loaf or 2 x 1lb Oven 180deg C/Gas mark 4

Ingredients:

8ozs/225g plain flour	3tsps baking powder	1tsp salt
1/4 tsp ground nutmeg	4 ozs /110g butter	5 ozs /150g soft light brown sugar
2 eggs	3 well ripened bananas	2 ozs /50g chopped walnuts

Method

Line 2lb loaf tin with baking parchment. Beat butter with sugar until light and fluffy, add eggs and beat. Mash bananas and add to mixture. Add flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg, stir until blended. Fold in walnuts. Pour into the prepared tin and bake for 1 hour. Leave to cool for 10mins, then turn out.

This is the fourth of my Banana Recipes; I enjoy bananas as a fruit but I find that they regularly become over ripe. Cooking with them ensures no waste - enjoy.

Rita Wrigley



Darley Abbey Scout Hall Saturday Social on 16th August

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 16th August 2025, 1.30-3.30pm., and join in the fun! This month we will be trying seated and visualised yoga. 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. Socials to the end of the year: 20th September; 18th October; 15th November; 20th December.



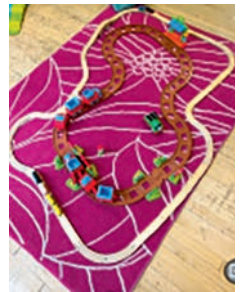
Archie's Work Experience Week

My name is Archie Garner; I am a year 10 student at the Ecclesbourne school. I spent a week working with the benefice of St Edmund's and St Matthew's as I wanted to learn more about the roles and responsibilities of a vicar, and honestly, I was amazed by the variety of things they get up to - even over a short time span. Within just five days I took part in many engaging and enlightening activities, ranging from playing with toddlers at St Nick's to repairing the floors of the beautiful St Edmund's church.

To begin with, I spent most of my first day just taking in the breathtaking architecture of both St Matthew's (even with the endless scaffolding) and St Edmund's, and getting to grips with the activities over the week to come. I also learnt from Reverend Rachael about the many unseen duties of being a vicar, such as issues with burial grounds and being a governor for the local C of E primary school.



One of the many activities I wasn't expecting was working with two different toddler play groups over the week, which was a pleasant surprise. After building my brilliant train track (as you can see here on the right) I was somewhat of a hit amongst the kids and at times had 6 or 7 of them surrounding me... but can you blame them after seeing this masterpiece?



Later on in the day, I joined the friends of St Matthew's for a very different experience than when I was with the toddlers. I had cream tea with all of the interesting and lovely people in the group and thoroughly enjoyed their company.



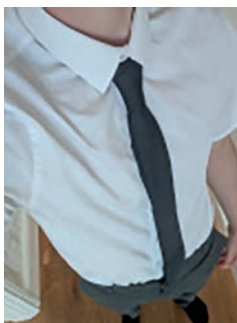
On Wednesday morning, I got to witness and take part in one of the more traditional duties of a Vicar – Holy Communion (which took place at St Edmund's). I was very lucky to get the opportunity to do a bible reading as part of the service (I even got to use a microphone) and I felt very welcomed throughout. Afterwards I was taken into the sacristy to help clear away after the service and some vestments caught my eye... and I was allowed to try them on. Pretty dapper if you ask me.



The next day I was treated to a trip down memory lane as I helped Revd Rachael lead an assembly in Walter Evans (my primary school). It looked more or less the same except everything seemed a lot smaller which was a very nostalgic feeling. The students were well behaved and engaging in the assembly and the worship crew were very helpful.



I even got the chance to do some hands-on work at St Edmund's with Paul Smith, the church warden. We started by fixing some of the broken tiles on the floor, which is a lot harder than it sounds, it took us 45 minutes to do only a few tiles! After that I was one of the lucky few people to be invited up the spiral staircase into the bell tower – which actually felt like something out of a film. The massive key needed to get in, plus the old English architecture, made the whole journey up the staircase make me feel like some sort of medieval king. Once we reached the top, we put the clock back on track and got the timing absolutely perfect to the second. After climbing up 2 sets of stairs and 3 ladders, the view of Allestree and the surrounding areas was amazing. After that, I was honoured to receive a prayer from Paul.



On the final day of work experience I spent the morning helping polish the brass at St Edmund's and then I was invited to help with a funeral and burial which I was honoured to accept - quickly changing into smart shirt, tie and trousers. The service had a lot of singing and was brought together by a loving eulogy.

After the funeral finished, I was brought up the St Matthew's spire and had a (partially blocked by scaffolding) view of the whole of Derby.

In conclusion, my week with the church was an eye-opening experience and taught me a lot about the many roles and responsibilities (both seen and unseen) of a vicar and I was glad to meet many of the kind people involved in keeping the church running.

Archie Garner

Come to 22 Questions on Tuesday, 5th August

A lovely informal opportunity to chat with others about faith. Chris (Dyer) and David host '22 Questions' - a play on the game '20 Questions' (and the fact they live at No 22). The evening starts with coffee and biscuits and then a natter about a broad question with no plan about where we'll end up. From 7.30 until 9.00pm at 22 Phildock Wood Road, DE22 4PH (on Langley Country Park off Radbourne Lane). Everyone welcome.

Derby Libraries Need Volunteers... in Libraries

From helping someone find the perfect read to bringing stories to life, supporting someone to use a computer to delivering activities for families, helping someone find trusted information to hosting groups to bring people together. Libraries are at the heart of their communities. They play a vital role connecting people, combatting loneliness, supporting people's health and wellbeing and creating a safe and inspiring space for all.

We are looking for volunteers across Derby Libraries. Every day is different, and you can make a vital difference. Can you give a warm welcome, support someone in a new space, guide someone through using a computer, help people find the right book, share the magic of stories with families and children, host groups, share your ideas, bring your enthusiasm? If you are a library supporter we want to hear from you.

What skills do I need?

Basic computer skills - you may be helping someone with email, showing someone how to use a computer and the internet, and placing holds on books using the library catalogue

Interpersonal skills - you will be communicating and supporting a diverse range of library members, including families, and volunteering as part of a team supported by library staff

Enthusiasm - you will share a love of books, and enthusiasm for everything a library has to offer, you will encourage people to join the library, help them make the most of their membership, signpost people to activities, and promote national initiatives such as the annual Summer Reading Challenge

Basic literacy and maths skills - you will put library book stock in order, help people explore the library book shelves, handle cash and use the library till

Organisation skills - you may be unlocking and locking up of the library building and setting/un-setting the intruder alarm

Where can I volunteer?

We are looking for volunteers across all the local Derby Libraries:

- Allenton Library
- Allestree Library
- Alvaston Library
- Blagreaves Library
- Chellaston Library
- Derwent Library
- Mackworth Library
- Mickleover Library
- Normanton Library
- The Phillip Whitehead Memorial Library, Chaddesden Park
- Riverside Library
- Sinfyn Library
- Spondon Library
- Springwood Library
- Library Hub at Derby Racecourse Football Hub
- Derby Local Studies and Family History Library

... and at the Repair Café, Mickleover Library

We are looking for volunteers for our popular Repair Cafe at Mickleover Library. We want people who can repair small household items, fix bikes, complete admin tasks, host the refreshment table.

How much time do I need to commit?

We realise that people have various commitments but what we do ask is that you commit to either a morning or an afternoon per week (approx. 3 and a half hours)

Develop your CV, show off your skills, meet people, support your community, make a difference. Full training will be given, you will be well supported and will be joining a friendly and welcoming volunteer team supported by library staff. Contact libraries@derby.gov.uk so we can send you more information. We look forward to meeting you.

Allestree History Group: New Programme from Sept'25

The group meets at 7.00pm twice a month (1st and 3rd Wednesdays) in the Choir Vestry at St Nicholas' Church, Allestree Lane, Allestree, Derby DE22 2DS. New members and visitors are welcome, with visitor's entry fee being £5.00 per person.

Our Autum/Winter Programme 2025 starts on 3rd September with the return of Pat Hall, with her talk on "Life is still Funny" a nostalgic observational comedy. Then on 17th September a talk by Vanessa Tissington on "The fascinating History of the Shipping Forecast". The two October meetings are 1st October a talk by Chris Stone on "John Flamsteed" and 15th October a talk by Maggie Slingsby on "The History of the Toilet - A bit flushed".

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

Some local Clubs are shut during August

Both the Allestree Flower Group and the Allestree W.I. will be hosting their usual meetings in September - details in next month's magazine.

St Matthew's Community Café will not be open in August as the team take a well-earned break. Next open on Friday 19th September.

The Repair Café is on an extended summer break

Due to repairs at the West End Community Centre, the volunteer-run Derby Repair Cafe will not be open during August. They will return on Saturday 6th September to the West End Community Centre, Mackworth Road, DE22 3BL, and will be open on the first Saturday of every month after that.

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August 2025

Archdeacon Nicky writes...

One of the habits deeply ingrained into me in teaching was looking back and reflecting on progress. Also, the importance of resting after extended periods of busyness to replenish, renew your energy and be ready to start again. That rhythm established by God in creation – working, reviewing, resting, repeat.

August can usually have a slightly slower pace and different rhythm. Opportunities to reflect, rest and plan next steps. God's gift to us. Letting go the tyranny of the to-do-list. Choosing to prioritise things that often don't make it onto the list. Perhaps that might be meeting up with friends, cleaning out the garage, reading that book sitting on the shelf, trying a new hobby, joining a summer club, visiting tourist attractions you've never yet made it to...

Jesus paid careful attention to the things he did and the people he spent time with. He ensured he had space away to rest and pray. At times he chose to leave work undone and move on to something new.

As church meetings slow down, schools close and holiday season sets in, I encourage you to see this month as gift. The opportunity to slow down and do things differently. Is there something you've not been able to find time to do that would be life-giving for you or others?

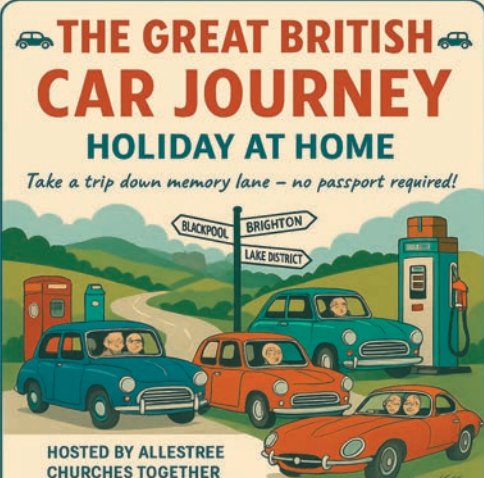


How might you carve out time and space to enable you to do it during August?

Our vision of the kingdom of God, which is good news for all, centres around God's life-giving love for us. I pray that these summer weeks will be God's gift to you and will feel life-giving and refreshing. A gift that will furnish you with stories and memories of joy and hope you can share with others and look back on during the busyness of general life. A month that will fill your heart with joy and gladness and enable your spirit to soar and sing as you rise up on wings like the eagle. An experience of God's goodness and gift to you.

The Venerable Nicky Fenton

Archdeacon of Derbyshire Peak and Dales





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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
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PCC Correspondence Sec:	<i>Vacancy</i>	
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Flower Group:	Rosemary Yates	552742
	Pam Highman	551636
	Michèle Aspinall	07773 784009
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CIC:	Becky Radford	07934 380561
	admin@stedmundspreschool.org for enquiries	
Rainbows, Brownies & Guides:	Alwyn Young	07740 201963

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>.

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ALL AGE SERVICES

10am

Sunday 27th July

@ St Matthew's

Sunday 3rd August

@ St Edmund's

Sunday 24th August

@ St Matthew's

Sunday 7th September

@ St Edmund's



2.30pm

Sunday 17th August

@ Darley Park.

**(Big gazebo near
play area).**

