NEWS FROM THE PEWS

St John's – Focused on Christ, united in faith, serving our community and a place of worship where all are welcome

Church Services in July

6th July:

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am All-Age Service (CW) 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)

13th July:

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Morning Worship (CW)

20th July:

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Morning Worship (CW)

27th July:

9.00am Matins (BCP)

10.30am Holy Communion (CW)

BCP - Book of Common Prayer

CW - Common Worship (Modern Language)

Contacts

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Safeguarding Issues:

Phil Weston 01829 752272 Margaret Papworth 01829 759086 safeguarding@ashtonhayes.church

Contact Us

Website: www.ashtonhayes.church Fbook: facebook.com/stjohnashton Email: contact@ashtonhayes.church

Congratulations

Congratulations to Bram Evans (of Dunns Lane), who was baptised at St. John's on Sunday 15th June.

In Memory

The funeral of the late Roger Gibson (once of Brookside) took place at St. John's on Wednesday 18th June. Our condolences to all his friends and family, especially his widow Maire.

View from the Vicarage

Like many of us, I eagerly await the re-opening of The Golden Lion pub at some point in the near future. We've all followed with great interest as the building has been lovingly restored over the past year. The purchase and refurbishment of the building for our community represents a tremendous achievement, and huge thanks are due to everyone who has donated time and money to help 'Save the Golden Lion'. There's no doubt that the pub will be a great community asset and social hub for years to come. I look forward to my first drink in the bar!



It's ironic that in the Bible the refrain isn't 'Save the Golden Lion' but rather 'The Golden Lion Saves!' This is because Jesus is compared to an all-conquering lion in the New Testament. Fans of C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia books will know that the character 'Aslan', a great lion, is also based on Jesus Christ.

Rather than requiring renewal and restoration, like our village pub did, Jesus offers both of those things to each one of us. By his death and resurrection Jesus, the "Lion of Judah" (Rev 5:5) has defeated the devil, shouldered our sin and promises life in God's everlasting kingdom to all who follow him. Interestingly, Jesus said that his first act with his followers in the world to come will be to share a drink with them: "I will never again drink wine until the day I drink it with you in my Father's Kingdom" (Matt 26:29). That's a prospect even more tantalising than my first pint in our new pub!

God bless Phil Weston

News

Christian Aid — Thank you to everyone who generously contributed to this year's Christian Aid Week. Including Gift Aid, almost £870 was raised.

Gift Day 2025 — Thank you too to all who supported St John's own fundraising appeal last month. A

figure of £5,500 was raised, for which we are very grateful. However, if you missed the event and would still like to make a donation, please contact Keith Morley on 07818 635121.

Churchyard Tidy-up — Our thanks to the everyone in the team who turned out in June to help to tidy our churchyard ready for the Summer.

Strawberry Cream Tea

(and Raffle)

In aid of St John's Church

Sunday, 13th July from 2.30pm at 'Orchard Croft', Duck Lane

Tickets £10 each

Available from Hilary Clegg (01829 290190) and Margaret Papworth (01829 759086).

Music for a Summer's Evening

Our Annual Summer Concert with music to suit all tastes

In church on
Friday, 18th July at 7.30pm
Tickets £10 each

Available from

Yvonne Dowen (01829 751174) or the Community Shop.

Light refreshments are included in the ticket price and all proceeds will be donated to help support church funds

Pause for Thought

by Alan Dowen



"By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work." Genesis 2:2

Genesis 2:2 might be the most important piece of work-life balance advice ever written. Think about it: if the Creator of the universe thought he should take a break, maybe we should too. Yet somehow we've convinced ourselves that constant busyness equals success. We wear exhaustion like a trophy and feel guilty about taking weekends off or relaxing in the evenings. But the biblical concept of rest isn't about being lazy it's about rhythm. Just like our hearts need to rest between beats to keep pumping, so, we need regular breaks to keep functioning well. God's idea of the Sabbath wasn't meant as a punishment; it is a gift — a built-in pause button for life.

Modern science backs this up completely. People who take regular holidays return more creative, focused, and productive. Our brains literally need downtime to process information and solve problems. Those "aha!" or "Eureka!" moments" usually come when we're relaxed, not when we're grinding through our fifteenth hour of work in a single day, and even small breaks make a difference. A proper lunch break, an evening without screens, or a weekend away (or without shops!) can reset our entire perspective. Our bodies repair themselves during rest, and our minds get space to breathe.

That ancient wisdom still holds true: rest isn't optional, it's essential. If it was good enough for God, it's definitely good enough for us. So during the coming summer months, take that vacation, enjoy that Sunday afternoon nap, and remember that rest is part of the design, not a design flaw.



Our next Messy Church will be held in church on Sunday, 20th July at

4pm. At that event, there will be food, singing, Bible stories,

and other fun activities.

Open to children of all ages Why not come along and

10am - 5pm until 8pm.

accompanied by an adult. join in?

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St John's Café



Join us on Thursday, 17th July, between 2.30 and 4.30pm for our All-Age Café. Everyone is welcome to join us for a free cup of tea, coffee or glass of squash and a slice of cake

whilst you have a chance to meet up. with and have a chat (or play!) with friends.

Opening Hours Monday - Saturday Late night Thursday



Tel: 07842 890141

Cross Lanes Farm. Broomheath Lane, Tarvin, Cheshire CH3 8HE

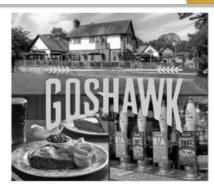


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