



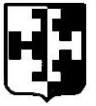
THE BENEFICE of BAGNALL, ENDON & HORTON

Encounter, Encourage, Enable ... Committed to Sharing God's Love

www.endonstlukes.org.uk

Rev Debbie Lovatt 07359 893424

Email: ReverendDebbieLovatt@gmail.com



Endon, St Luke's Newsletter July 2026

ST LUKE'S CHURCH DIARY: JULY 2026		
ESL = Endon St Luke's EMC= Endon Methodist Church HC = Holy Communion		
W	1	9.15am Midweek HC at EMC
Th	2	
F	3	
Sa	4	8.30am – 10.00am Prayer Breakfast 31 Hillswood Drive
Su	5	9.15am Holy Communion 11.00am Connections 2.30pm Jazz & Afternoon Tea in village hall
M	6	2.30pm Rock Cottage
Tu	7	10.30 – 12.00 Coffee & Chat chapter house
W	8	9.15am Midweek HC at ESL
Th	9	
F	10	
Sa	11	
Su	12	9.15am Holy Communion 11.00am Connections
M	13	
T	14	
W	15	9.15am Midweek HC at EMC 11.00am Hillswood Lodge 7.00pm PCC mtg
Th	16	
F	17	
Sa	18	
Su	19	9.15am Holy Communion 11.00am Connections
M	20	
Tu	21	10.30 – 12.00 Coffee & Chat chapter house
W	22	9.15am Midweek HC at ESL
Th	23	
F	24	
Sa	25	9.00am – 5.00pm LEEK SHOW Churches Together Tent
Su	26	9.15am Holy Communion 11.00am Connections
M	27	
Tu	28	
W	29	9.15am Midweek HC at EMC
Th	30	
F	31	

ALMOST A YEAR!

Reverend Debbie writes...

The end of July will mark my first year as Vicar of the Benefice of Bagnall with Endon and Horton. It seems to have come round very quickly!

It has been a full year – a year of discovery, with many joys and much to learn, alongside the most obvious of sadnesses: losing my lovely dad in October.

The war in the Middle East has also held my attention as so many people and places have been threatened and impacted. Places that once were home, people who once were neighbours, and friends both still in the region and those who have since relocated have all come more closely back into focus.

My husband, Haluk, had his flights rescheduled so many times that he ran out of holiday so was unable to leave Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) to visit. All being well, he should be with us over the summer.

Milestones in people's lives and faith journeys take their place among the joys of this year: baptisms, confirmations, weddings, decisions to serve the church, shared accounts of God at work in people's lives, prayers answered in the ways we had hoped, and recovery from illness and operations – all fill my heart to bursting with joy.

Funerals hold a special place too and, whilst not bringing joy – how could they? – they so often reveal great love and tenderness from all concerned. To share in those moments leading up to and culminating in a funeral is a profound privilege and an important part of our life together.

This role was always going to be a busy one and, as I reflect on my first year and prayerfully attend to God's voice for direction for the year – and years – to come, my hope is that we will continue to flourish, and that our churches – both buildings and people – will continue to play their part in the communities in which they are set.

Thank you for your welcome, kindness, and companionship over this first year. I look forward with hope to all that lies ahead.

NEWS FROM ST CHAD'S....

Muriel Buckle's daughter Esther gave this tribute to her very dear Mum in St Chad's newsletter last month. We send congratulations from St Luke's to Muriel and we're sure she had a wonderful day!



I am sure you would all like to join me in wishing Muriel a very, very happy 90th birthday on June 10th.

Her contribution in time, energy and expertise to our church has been immeasurable.

Her connection with St Chad's began at the tender age of four, when she used to accompany her paternal Grandma, putting flowers on her Grandad's grave.

After her marriage to Roy, they moved to Stoney Villa Farm, Bagnall in 1971 and so she was reconnected with St Chad's once again.

In 2005 she became church warden until she retired on her 80th birthday in 2016.

You will still find her watering the flowers, polishing the brasses, making cups of tea and generally looking after us all.





NATURE SURVEY IN THE CHURCHYARD

After church on Sunday June 14th Joe recruited a group of volunteers to go round the churchyard to see how many wild creatures they could spot and record findings.

Apparently, along with the church mouse, we have swifts, rabbits, squirrels and many insects along with all the plants. Well done, everyone.

This is a five-year innovative community-led project which began in 2024 and is all about supporting communities in the Moorlands with improving and monitoring habitat health. Over time this project will highlight how much boosted biodiversity benefits both people and the planet.

More information from www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/nature-your-neighbourhood

LEEK AND DISTRICT SHOW

This year the Leek and District Show will take place on Saturday 25 July. Once again our local churches will be providing a Church Tent. We offer a place to relax with free refreshments and activities for children and adults. We have information about our local churches and free



literature including Life Magazines to take away.



One of the craft projects this year is making Bug Hotels - please will you save small size water/plain drinks bottles and bring them to church. There will be a collecting box at the back.

We have a core team of people who provide and run the activities and/or chat to people who come along to the tent.

However, we do rely on the help of people who will volunteer for an hour or two so that our core team can take breaks from time to time and enjoy other areas of the Show.

There will be a sign-up list at the back of church with the areas we would appreciate help and the times. Please consider coming to support this work as we reach out into our communities. It's a good opportunity to have an interesting and relaxing day out while helping to spread the good news of the gospel.

If you would like more information, please speak to Rev Patricia or Rev Debbie.

ENDON FRIENDSHIP CLUB COACH TRIP

An outing to Llandudno has been arranged for Thursday, 6th August. Coach pick-ups are from The Black Horse at 9.00am, The Plough at 9.05am and the Village Hall at 9.10am and leaving Llandudno at 5.30pm. The cost is £21.50 for members and £22.50 for visitors. Please contact Eileen if you would like to book a place on **01782 760446**.

PASTORAL TEAM EVENTS...



THIS MONTH OUR COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT MORNINGS will be from 10.30 to 12.00 on Tuesdays July 7th and 21st.

Thank you to all who work hard to make these events happen. If you missed the last one, make sure you come along to our next one. If you need a lift there is bound to be someone who can help to get you there! Bring a friend or two!

HILLSWOOD LODGE & ROCK COTTAGE CARE HOMES:

Our next visit to Rock Cottage will be on Mon July 6th at 2.30pm and to Hillswood Lodge on Wed July 15th at 11.00am. Volunteers are welcome to help boost the singing. There is room for 6 or 7 of us. Please inform Shirley or Rev Patricia if you are able to come.

HOME and CARE HOME VISITS: Pastoral team members regularly visit folk who are no longer able to attend church. Contact Shirley if you know of anyone who would like a visit.

CANDLE DEDICATIONS:

There has been a decline in the number of candle dedications. Shirley has quite a number of spaces left for this year. Please contact her as soon as possible if you would like to dedicate a candle.



Shirley Brindley writes....

Thank you so much St Luke's for the flowers and gift token I received following my recent stay in hospital. It was very kind of you all and much appreciated.



Chris Wilson

At St Luke's we were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Chris in April.

He and his wife Sue have been longstanding members of our congregation. For many years when St Luke's had a worship band Chris played the lead guitar. He will be

greatly missed by his family whom he loved dearly and his many friends. The huge attendance at his celebration of life on May 19th was a fitting tribute to someone who was much loved, much respected and had touched many lives. We thank God for Chris and our hearts go out to Sue, Robert, Helen and all the grandchildren.

Sue wishes to thank folk at St Luke's for all the support she has received.



Thank you St Luke's for your May donation of 16kg of food.

A late edition of the newsletter this month as I have just come back from holidayI am under strict instructions to take my full holiday allowance so

my presence seems a little erratic at the moment!

Here is the latest news from the Foodbank, starting with the figures, with comparison to last year:

Total vouchers fulfilled	=	80 (88)
No. of Adults fed	=	101 (126)
No. of Children fed	=	53 (70)
Total no. fed	=	154 (196)

So, a much quieter month than May 2025, which perhaps is indicative of the minimal increase in the level of benefits, or the minimal drop in the level of inflation, but more likely just a random anomaly, as there really isn't anything substantive on offer which is making life easier for our clients.

The very good news to bring you this month is that we have been successful in our bidding for a further grant from Trussell to cover 50% of the costs of our Citizens Advice service for another 12 months. This grant has been awarded to the consortium consisting of the three Foodbanks – Leek, Cheadle and Newcastle. Each Foodbank will now need to cover the remaining 50% of their own costs but we are working closely together to try to secure further funding to help alleviate this.

It really is excellent news that we can continue to provide this vital lifeline for our clients for at least another year. We are still awaiting clarification from Staffordshire County Council regarding the exact model they propose to deliver for the Crisis and Resilience Fund, the objectives and key principles of which are described as follows – “The primary objective of The Fund is to both provide a safety net for those on low incomes who encounter a financial shock and to invest in building local financial resilience to enable individuals and communities to better deal with crises in the long-term, reducing crisis need.”

The deadline for submission and approval of plans is 1st July, so I should be able to give you full details in next month's newsletter. It is interesting to look at what other areas already have in place to appreciate how this sadly may be another example of a postcode lottery. For example, one local council is offering a standard £50.00 to anyone who is in “crisis”, whereas another council adopts the following approach:

“Support is short-term and focused on your immediate needs following a crisis. The type of help offered will depend on your individual circumstances.”

Immediate essentials:

- Food
- Toiletries and personal hygiene items
- Sanitary products
- Baby items such as nappies

Essential household items:

- Beds and bedding
- Essential furniture
- White goods such as a fridge, cooker or washing machine
- Kitchen starter packs

Energy and fuel:

- Fuel support
- Energy top ups

Essential travel:

- To get to work
- To get to education or training
- To get to essential health appointments

I really do hope that Staffordshire will be more in line with the latter.....watch this space.

We received a wonderful donation of 139kg of food, carefully chosen from our shopping list, courtesy of Love Leek Card CIC. If you haven't heard of this, please have a look, a lot of information is on their Facebook page – “the cards themselves are £12 per year and you can either purchase a physical card or an e-card that is stored on your phone. This will give you discount at all the businesses that will be announced. The card will then give back to the

community whether that be supporting foodbanks, sponsoring sporting teams or community initiatives.” So many local businesses are signed up to the scheme, and everyone benefits.

Our Foodbank is very honoured to be part of the Churches Together network in Leek and I would like to use this forum to highlight the fact that there is a great need for someone to step up to take over from Reverend Nigel Irons when he steps down – see the following message from Nigel, and the attached flyer regarding the post –

“As you will probably be aware I will be stepping down as Moderator of CTLD at our AGM next April due to the fact that I am planning to retire at the end of July 2027. Traditionally the Vice Moderator would take over the role when the Moderator steps down but no one has taken on the role of Vice Moderator for the last 10 years, and no one stepped forward to express an interest in doing so at our last AGM on 15th April.

It is therefore important that we seek out a Vice Moderator who can work with me for the remainder of this year and then take over the role of Moderator in April 2027. This does not have to be a member of the clergy, my predecessor was a lay person. To help and encourage anyone who may be interested in doing this role I attach a breakdown of my working hours as Moderator (which includes travelling time to and from the events) so that the level of commitment required is clear. My total annual working hours in this role are 30 which is an equivalent average weekly commitment of 35 minutes (though of course some weeks involve multiple hours and many weeks involve none at all). I’ve also drawn up a breakdown of working hours for the Vice Moderator to complete the picture – 21 hours.

Whoever takes on the role will be ably and effectively supported by our Secretary Anthony Mathewson who does a fantastic job drawing up all the Agendas for the Enabling Group and Forum Meetings and producing the Minutes of those meetings.”

Please, if anyone is at all interested in this role, do get in touch with Nigel, thank you.

Longlife semi-skimmed milk

Fruit squash

Tinned carrots/corn/peas

Instant mash (single/family) Noodle snacks

Tinned custard

Rice – 500gm/microwave pouches

Tomato ketchup

Tinned soup

Dog and cat food – wet and dry

Tinned rice pudding Coffee-100/200gm

Longlife sponge puddings Pasta

Tinned meat Tinned fruit

Pasta n sauce / instant noodles

Chocolate – single bars and multipacks

Tinned potatoes

PLEASE NO BAKED BEANS OR TINNED TOMATOES, THANK YOU

Household cleaning products:

Washing up liquid

Multi surface cleaner (no bleach)

Cleaning cloths/sponges

Laundry liquid/capsules/powder

And please, if you have any good quality carrier bags to spare they would be very gratefully received.

Toiletries:

Shampoo and conditioner

Toothpaste and toothbrushes

Razors and shaving foam

Toilet rolls

Soap

Deodorant (male and female)

Nappies

VEN TERRY BLOOR IS RETIRING *Bishop Matthew writes...*

You may be aware that Terry Bloor is retiring as Associate Archdeacon and Interim Minister in the Stafford Episcopal Area on 20th August. Terry’s thoughtful, committed and supportive ministry has been much appreciated by clergy and parishes alike. Terry will not be lost to us, and he will take up ministry in new ways, but it is appropriate we mark his retirement from this role with a collection to thank him for all he has given to the Area and wider Diocese. If you would like to contribute to a leaving gift, then you can send a donation to: **Account Name: LDBF Sort code 309504 Account Number 00030004**



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad



TAKING A LOOK AT HOVERFLIES

Why not take time out on a sunny, calm July day and sit down in your local churchyard, chapel yard or cemetery next to a flowering plant such as hogweed, yarrow or knapweed? After a while you may notice that there is a wealth of variety amongst the various bee-like insects who are visiting the flowers. Whilst bees meander from flower to flower at a fairly constant speed, you'll also spot another group of insects, similarly banded in yellow and black, which dart quickly and then hover, staying quite still, like a miniature hummingbird. These are hoverflies and there are an amazing 280 different species in the UK, found in a wide range of habitats.

Hoverflies often look quite like bees or wasps, with stripy, sometimes furry bodies. They do not sting however but this mimicry discourages predators as the yellow and black stripes spell danger! Look closely and you'll see two large eyes and a single pair of wings, characteristics of flies (bees and wasps have two pairs of wings). The hoverfly beats these wings up and down several hundred times per second to stay stationary.

Hoverflies are a true friend to the gardener, the adults are important pollinators and nearly half of our hoverfly larvae feed on aphids and other plant sap-suckers. Others eat fungi, yeasts, micro-organism and general detritus found in the soil, in deadwood and in stagnant water. They are key decomposers and recyclers. Many gardeners encourage hoverflies by planting suitable flowers for them. Open flowers such as alyssums, yarrows, daisies and marjoram will all provide a good source of nectar. Many of the wildflowers found in churchyards are great for hoverflies too, do you have cow parsley, chervil or wild carrot (or any of the umbel family), how about daisies, yarrow, dandelions and hawkweeds? Hoverflies have mouthparts that dab at the flowers rather like a sponge so choose flat, open flowers.

Hoverflies are an example of an insect group which is often overlooked, easily passed off as a bee until you look more closely. They are an important part of our ecosystem however and, like butterflies, are sensitive indicators of environmental change. As well letting some grassland grow long so the wildflowers can bloom, how about planting suitable flowers if you have beds or planters? Creating a deadwood pile in a shady spot is great for hoverflies as well as so many other species and leaving some leaf litter and woody debris under tree canopies supports pupae or, in some cases, overwintering adults, ready to emerge in the spring.

So have a look for hoverflies this summer and, if you are patient, photograph them hovering and feeding. This can help to identify what you have seen.

All the best, Harriet

Harriet Carty, *Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor*, harriet@cfga.org.uk,

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials.

Use the discount code diomem22

LICHFIELD BRITISH ANGLICAN CURSILLO GROUP

Invite you to their Annual ULTREYA meeting.

Shallowford House on **Saturday 15th August 2026** from 2.00pm to 4.30pm.

We would be delighted if you could come.

RSVP: contactlichfieldcursillo@gmail.com

Shirley shares...



MAGAZINE ARTICLE SERIES –

This is the eighth in a series of articles where we are sharing some words and questions to try to avoid when talking to a person with dementia. This material is based on and taken from an Alzheimer's Society blog, <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/blog/language-dementia-what-not-to-say>

What not to say to somebody with dementia...

Don't say....

I'll just help you use your little spoon there, love.

Do....

Use an ordinary tone of voice and use the person's name, rather than "love" or "dear".

Why? Avoid "elderspeak", generally speaking to the person like a child: it can be patronising for the person with dementia.

The Alzheimer's Society blog explains...

"Try not to talk down to the person: 'I'll just help you use your little spoon there, love?' 'Elderspeak' - which can involve talking in a high-pitched voice, using words like 'love' or 'deary', and generally speaking to the person like they are a child - should be avoided. This can be patronising and infantilising for a person with dementia.

Try this instead:

Always remember the person behind the dementia. It's fine if the person needs you to speak slower than usual, but try to keep your tone of voice the same as with anyone else. Some people may like being called 'love' or 'dear', but unless you know the person it is usually best to use their name instead. This helps keep their dignity intact."

For a conversation about dementia or memory loss, or for more information about dementia and dementia-friendly church, you are welcome to contact [include local church contact details here].

What not to say to somebody with dementia

For a conversation about dementia or memory loss, or for more information about dementia and dementia-friendly church, you are welcome to contact Shirley Brindley or Rev Patricia Robinson.

ART CLUB:

Please contact Sue Forrester for further information.

FLOWER CLUB:

The Flower Club will be taking a break until September. Please contact Sue Forrester for further information.

WELL DRESSING TOTAL:

Sheila H reports that the total cash donations from the Well Dressing weekend amounted to **£1603.81**.

ST LUKE'S NEW PCC:

Rev Debbie (chair),
Emma Ashworth (warden)
Steve Dale (treasurer)
Ros Benson (sec)
Sue Forrester
Sylvia Bradshaw
Shirley Brindley
Deb Podmore
Joe Porter
John Moss
Jean Brough
Sophie Brough
Rev Patricia is a non-voting attendee.



CANDLE DEDICATIONS for JULY

For £2.50 you can keep the Candle of Hope or the Sanctuary Light burning for a week with a dedication. Thank you to all who have supported the candle dedications this year. Contact Shirley on 01782 504089 if you would like a particular date. Also contact Shirley if you would like to have your loved one's name written in the Book of Remembrance.

July	CANDLE OF HOPE	SANCTUARY LIGHT
5 th	The candle is kept burning by Marilyn Plant	Shirley Brindley in loving memory of Silka
12 th	Ann Boulton in loving memory of Nicola (13 th)	The candle is kept burning by Alan Williamson
19 th	Ann Boulton in loving memory of Les on the anniversary of his death (24 th)	Maureen Foster to celebrate the birthdays of granddaughters Charlotte and Sophie
26 th	Anon in memory of Elaine Morrey	Sheila and Stan to celebrate their wedding anniversary (31 st)



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS to

David Morris (13th), Janet Bowyer (16th), Joshua Harrison, Ann Boulton (20th), Rob Barlow (27th), Lyn Pickering (29th)

Special birthday greetings and congratulations to **Muriel Buckle** from St Chad's who reached the amazing milestone of 90 years young on June 10th!

If you would like your own or a family birthday included here contact Ros 01782 504137



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, LEEK

presents...

"*Saints in the Summer*" bringing top-quality musical acts to the Staffordshire Moorlands and encouraging music-making at a local level, bringing life and joy to our town by offering a wonderful grade-I listed building as a space for community and the arts. We're thrilled to be offering audiences a rich selection of musical acts:

Thursday, 23 July, 7.30pm: REVIVAL – one of the UK's leading **ABBA tributes**

Friday, 24 July, 7.30pm: DENISE LEIGH - a night at the opera with the local star of **Britain's Got Talent** fame

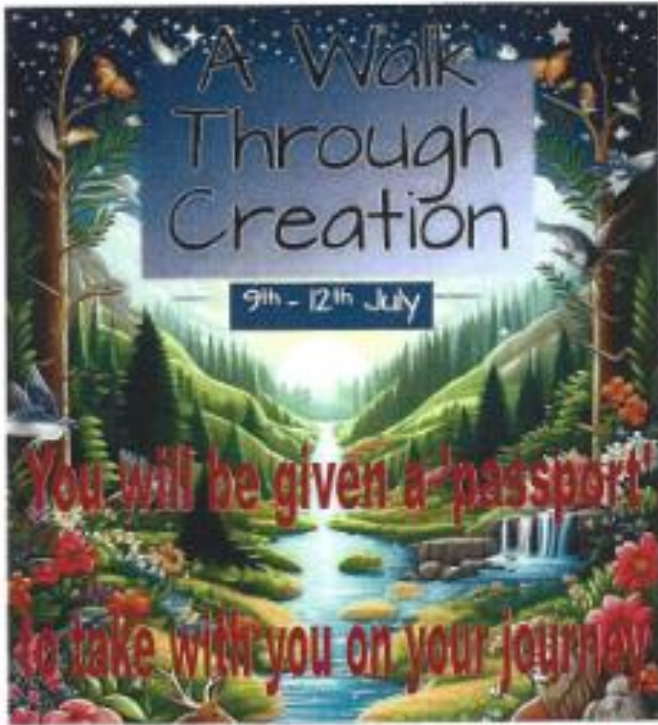
Saturday, 25 July, 5pm: CHORAL DELIGHTS – a **musical journey through the seasons** with Omnium Ensemble, including a **workshop**

Sunday, 26 July, 3pm: BRASS BAND BONANZA - an afternoon of classic tunes with the **Band of the West Midlands Fire Services**, followed by a community celebration.

Tickets are now available through our online box

office: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/allsaintsleek/>

Thurs. 9th to Sat. 11th July churches open from 11am until 4pm



You are invited to visit 7 local churches

See panel below

each reflecting on a different day of creation

4pm Sunday 12th

All welcome at St Philip's Church to celebrate the gift of rest (Day 7) & complete the pilgrimage



See wwwchurches.com

Day 1: Light - St John's, Wetley Rocks

Day 2: Sky and water (the firmament) – Werrington Methodist Church

Day 3: Dry land, seas, and plant life – St Mary's, Bucknall

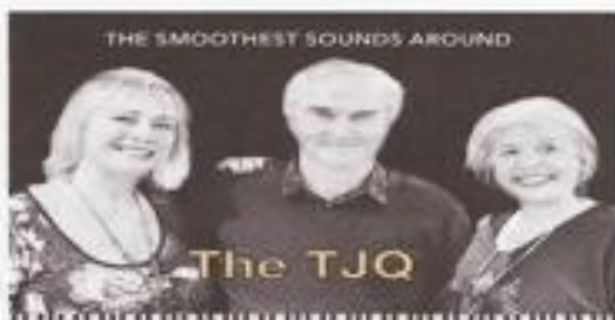
Day 4: Sun, moon, and stars and seasons – St Chad's, Bagnall

Day 5: Birds and sea creatures - St Andrews Methodist Church, Cheddleton

Day 6: Land animals and humans - St Edwards Church, Cheddleton

Day 7: God rested - St Philip's Church, Werrington

You do not have to visit the churches in any particular order, but wherever you go first you will be given a passport - then at each church you will have a prayer for their day of creation which will be pasted into the passport until you have them all.



Jazz &

Afternoon Tea

Sunday July 5th 2.30pm

£15 per person

Booking in advance please.

Kate Walker: 07921 253749

Liz Bagguley: 07889 556270

Yvonne Wilton: Raffle

Rev Debbie Lovatt, vicar	07359 893424
Emma Ashworth, St Luke's warden	07861 730806
Rev Philip Robinson (minister w Permission to Officiate)	07983 863372
Rev Patricia Robinson (organist, also minister w PtO)	07854 418488
Sue Forrester, Flower Club / Foundation gov / Safeguarding Officer / St Luke's Facebook / Art Club	07854 043187
Deb Podmore, Connections / school chaplain	07508 959637
Sheila Simpson, St Luke's Electoral Roll Officer	01782 502006
Shirley Brindley, candle dedications / pastoral team leader	01782 504089
Steve Dale, St Luke's treasurer	07894 098011
Sheila Hurst, St Luke's Gift Aid Sec / MU rep	01782 503622
Ros Benson, newsletter / St Luke's website / PCC Secretary	01782 504137
Kath Howell, St Chad's warden / worship leader	01782 304616
Rev Caryl Siegertsz, St Chad's Asst Minister	07973 513128
Claire Houston-Brown, St Chad's warden / Safeguarding Officer	07779 667470
Julia Podmore, treasurer	07980 802121
Pat Saul, St Chad's PCC secretary	07973 863930
Peter Millard, St Chad's buildings / warden's team	01782 505338
Sheila Tipper, St Chad's news contact	01782 534647
St Michael's Horton: Main contact Rev Debbie Lovatt,	07359 893424

The newsletter is available on-line as a PDF attachment and on the church website.
Paper copies are available for those without internet access.

Please submit notices for our next newsletter to Ros Benson by **Tuesday, July 21st 2026**
either by e-mail jandrbenson@btinternet.com or phone 01782 504137.

Two musical events in July...

- Mitchell Arts Centre, Hanley presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" on Wednesday, **1st July**. Tickets £17.50 from the theatre.
- Kenya Choral Connections Choir from All Saints' Cathedral, Nairobi will be singing at St Michael's Church, Market Place, Macclesfield on Tuesday, **21st July** at 7.00pm. Tickets £15 (£12 under 18s) from 01625 433187 or email: andy.donaldson@mdmt.org.uk

PAINTING
Interior & Exterior
30 years' experience
Locally based
Quality Work
Good rates
Call Tony for friendly, helpful advice
07507 205492