

Misterton

Village Magazine



June 2025



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Note from the editors

You may be wondering where in Misterton this month's front cover photo was taken. The answer is on page 16 where you can read the first instalment of John McComb's 50th birthday motorbike adventure around the world!

We have a bit of a bumper issue this month, with news about various village goings on, including the village hall 50th anniversary celebrations on Saturday 19th July. Put the date in your diary now!

Jacquie Lyus and Sarah Watt

Deadline for entries for the July magazine is Monday 16th June.

Submissions for inclusion in the magazine please to mistertonmagazine@gmail.com or through the letter box at Chestnut Lodge, Broughtons Drive.

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mistertonmagazine@gmail.com

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Misterton Village Magazine is now also online!

<https://mistertonparishcouncil.org.uk/village-information/village-magazine/>



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News from the Parish Council and Recreation Field Trust



Dear residents

The Annual Village Meeting held at the end of April provided the opportunity for residents to learn about local societies and organisations and also the chance to speak directly to County Councillor Heather Shearer (Lead Member for Children, Families and Education, Emma Grovesnor (Interim Headteacher of Misterton Learning Centre) and Richard Kennedy (Manager of the Care Home in Unity Lane). The general feeling was that after a tricky start the Learning Centre was beginning to settle down and the parking situation along Middle Street and Silver Street was generally improving. Richard Kennedy acknowledged that the problems in the home in Unity Lane are ongoing and continue to need careful monitoring and, on occasion, reporting to the police. If residents are concerned about a particular incident at the home Richard is happy for residents to contact him directly (richard.kennedy@homesandhorizons.org).

We have also just held the Parish Council Annual General Meeting for 2024/25 at which a report of the year was given and the finances reviewed. The end-of-year figures showed that income exceeded the amount expected and expenditure had very slightly exceeded the planned budget. Total holdings were down due to reserves being used to repaint the MUGA, install the bird's nest swing in the children's play area and the refurbishment and re-siting of the cemetery gates. The full accounts will be on the parish council website from the middle of June.

Unfortunately, dog waste is once again becoming a problem throughout the village. A resident has reported that around the back of Packers Way it has increased significantly. The council agreed that new signs reminding people to pick up should be put up in this area and also on all the entrances to the Recreation Ground. Please pick up your dog's waste wherever you are in the village and beyond and either take it home or use one of the bins provided.

Some of you will be aware of the recent accident that happened at the entrance to the station. The parish council are aware of how difficult visibility can be at this junction due to parked cars and have requested double yellow lines on Station Road for approximately 75m on either side of this junction. Somerset Council have approved this request, and we are waiting for them to be installed but do not yet have a date.

And finally, we have received a number of reports of overgrown footpaths. Somerset Council inform us that cutting will start around May 26th. Information about the number of cuts each path will have during the year (one, two or three) can be found on the Somerset Council Website Explore Somerset (<https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map>).

Graham White
Chairman

WELCOME INFORMATION LEAFLET for newcomers to the village - a useful leaflet telling you all you need to know about Misterton is available on our website at Misterton Parish Council; alternatively, if you would like a copy via email or a hard copy, please contact the parish clerk at mistertonpc@gmail.com. *Village businesses who advertise in this leaflet should forward any amendments to the parish clerk.*

Misterton Resilience Team contact details

If you would like our assistance please call:

Phil Clifton and Sally Gray 01460 73815 or 07775 841204 philclifton@hotmail.com

Pete and Jackson Marshall 01460 73507 or 07909 967319 / 07980 768125

Bob Taylor 01460 271658 or 07931 657312

Bruce Martins 07770 744531

In an emergency the first line of support should be via the Emergency Services on 999.



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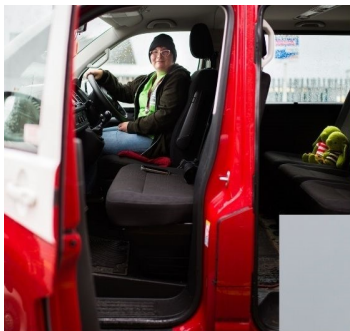
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Village hall art show

As part of the Misterton Village Hall 50th anniversary celebrations on Saturday 19th July there is to be a display of village art. For fun, awards will be given in each category according to age. Exhibitors are invited to display up to three items for each category. We have an independent judge. All art works will be exhibited safely in the back room of the village hall. It will be safeguarded throughout the day and otherwise under lock and key until either collected or delivered back to the owner.

The exhibits are grouped as follows:

- a. Pictures - to include any medium (e.g. drawing, painting, collage & photography)
- b. Craft - to include models of any medium, pottery, sculpture, woodwork, metalwork, needlework, sewing & knitting
- c. Floral display - any choice of flower arrangement

The categories have been further subdivided into age ranges: Over 21 years, Under 21 years, Under 12 years.

Pictures are preferred mounted or framed, except for the under 12s where unmounted is acceptable.

If you would like to submit some of your artwork, please complete the form below and email a copy to Sue Kennedy at sue-kennedy@outlook.com. If more than one family member would like to enter, please complete a form for each person. If you have already registered your interest with us, there is no need to submit this form.

Name	
Email	
Telephone	
Category(s) entering	Pictures / Craft / Floral (please delete as appropriate)
Age range	Over 21 / Under 21 / Under 12 (please delete as appropriate)

Raffle/tombola prizes appeal

If anyone has raffle prizes or tombola items for the village hall 50th anniversary party, can they leave them at Diane Bradly's house, Knowle House, or Margaret Darch's house, Brook House (behind Mallabones). If you have items and need them collected, please call Diane on 01460 76761. Thank you very much.

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At our last meeting on May 6th, we held our AGM and all present officers were re-elected for the coming year. Many ideas for workshops were mooted, along with discussions for new ideas - and we have plenty. The evening ended with a cheese and wine spread, and a chance to chat and socialise - so much so, that we completely forgot to have the quiz that had been planned!

The May coffee morning was this time at Jan's on Newbery Lane, and time to have a look around the garden in glorious sunshine and enjoy coffee, cake and chat! We made a collection for ARK. Our informal coffee mornings are held monthly, alternating between Jan's on Newbery Lane, and Mallabones. All are welcome to join us for our coffee mornings. The June event will be at Mallabones on 19th June 10:30am-12pm.



We held a Lebanese cookery demonstration on May 15th at the Hoskins Hall in North Perrott for our members, and hosted members from adjoining WIs. Some of the ladies were invited to help prepare the ingredients and

afterwards we were able to taste the delicious food prepared, along with a simple buffet lunch of sandwiches (thank you Sue's Cafe, they were amazing), fruit salad, and a glass of wine. Ladies left thanking us for another good job done.



Our ladies have continued to be busy, preparing and making items for our craft stall at the Village Hall Anniversary Party on the 19th July. We have so enjoyed our days painting, gluing, sewing and creating for this event. We held our final session on 29th May when we spent time wrapping and pricing items. We hope that you will be impressed by our efforts! Lovely gifts, and so much more. Please come and support us at the party.

And another reminder that we will also be manning the kitchen on the day of the party, offering home bakes, teas and coffees and light lunches throughout the event. We are asking villagers to bake scones (sweet and savoury), traybakes, whole cakes to be cut up or sold individually, and jams and chutneys. All proceeds from the kitchen go to the ongoing refurbishment of the village hall, which Misterton WI is very glad to support.

We have several outings planned for the summer and a garden party in August.

Our next meeting is on June 3rd, when we will welcome Kate Lynch who will be giving a charcoal drawing demonstration. Kate is a very popular speaker on the circuit, and we welcome lady visitors. But please let us know if you are coming so we can prepare extra chairs!

So ladies give us a try! For any further information please contact Judy on 01460 78931 or Jan on 01460 77599 or jancd136@hotmail.com.

The committee



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Local teenager Lincoln Scrase and his two friends both from surrounding villages have signed up for the Prostate Cancer UK golf challenge. The challenge is to play 72 holes in a day. They are trying to raise as much money as possible for prostate cancer research.

Lincoln's grandad was diagnosed with prostate cancer about a year ago and over the last 12 months he has had treatment including 20 sessions of radiotherapy plus injections which he will continue to have every three months for the next four years.

Lincoln says his grandad didn't have any symptoms, so he didn't know he had a problem until he had a PSA test. The consultant who treated him told him that the problem had been caught early so the treatment should be successful. His consultant encouraged all men over 50 to get PSA tested.

As a consequence of the diagnosis Lincoln and his friends have taken up the golf challenge. Lincoln says hopefully the money raised will go towards funding more research. At the same time, he urges men over 50 to get tested.

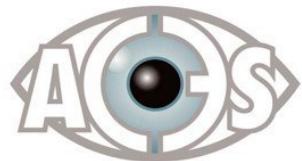
If readers would like to make a donation however small, it will help. Donations can be made via Just Giving (www.biggolfrace.prostatecanceruk.org/fundraising/hope-for-the-fairway) or Prostate Cancer UK Big Golf Race (www.biggolfrace.prostatecanceruk.org).



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Turning 50 on two wheels

Back in 2008 we had a conversation that went along the lines of...

John – I'm thinking what to do for my 50th birthday, I thought I might ride my motorbike to Sydney?

Jane – Aah well, that's not what I'd budgeted for!

Initially this was just going to be John's adventure but seeing the bike and the kit all come together Jane wondered if there might still be a little bit of space on the back for her too (definite FOMO) and John thought it could work.

We would head west and fly both us and the bike to New York then travel coast to coast across the US riding through the states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico and into



At the Heathrow shipping agent for crating. Next stop NYC!

Colorado to visit family. The first challenge that presented itself on the east side of the US was the stifling heat. It was late July but the intense humidity and temperatures were in the high 40°Cs so our riding started at 6am and ended by 11am each day.



The open road early in the morning

The long roads and wide open spaces of the US would give us plenty of riding miles and camping opportunities to get used to the bike and being together 24/7. After we

left our family in Colorado we travelled through Utah, Nevada (staying in Las Vegas, as you do!) and into California where we had to arrange for the bike to be shipped out of LA to Australia. It took ten weeks to cross east to west coast covering roughly 6,144 miles.



Jim Morrison who gave us some great advice about getting a sheepskin seat cover to help with the heat and our bums!



The Louisiana swamps



New Orleans



The canyonlands

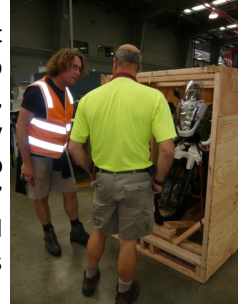
Shipping into Australia was going to be a little tense because the bike had to be free of ALL organic matter to pass their strict environmental laws. So, we made ourselves very unpopular at the local car cleaning station!



Cleaning the bike before shipping

Us and the bike flew into Brisbane, Australia on 1st October 2010. At the environmental inspection area of the airport, we opened up the motorcycle crate with John the inspector (below right) and he said this motorcycle looks brand new! We had made it into Australia!

John was a nice man who told us that there was a heavy storm coming into Brisbane that day so if we wanted to, we could stay with him and his family and let the storm pass. However, we decided to push on to Toowoomba to stay with some friends. But John was right and 'storm' was a bit of an understatement, we had never seen so much water fall from the sky in such a short period of time. We continued of course, as only Brits can and eventually arrived at Toowoomba like drowned rats.



Our typical camp set up that we used for over three months.

We left our friends and travelled north to Cape Tribulation visiting Port Douglas, Carnarvon Gorge, Mareeba Wetlands and the Daintree Rain Forest. It was amazing how the climate changed, getting more humid and wet. Camping was easy as the Australians are well set up for this.

Whilst at Cape Tribulation we took a boat trip to the Great Barrier Reef where we snorkelled to see wildlife including giant clams, parrotfish, turtles, stingrays, eagle rays, white coral, redfin coral, grouper, cleaner fish, sunfish, clownfish, sea cucumbers, and many many other small reef fish. AMAZING.



Snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef



Celebrating John's 50th birthday on a boat in the Sydney Harbour after a tour under the famous bridge

The weather was starting to turn worse in the north and the roads were becoming very muddy, so we decided to go south to Sydney to stay with Jane's relatives and celebrate John's 50th birthday.

Around the second week of November 2010, we had to decide whether to ship home now or continue west and see how far we get. So, we left Sydney and rode west around the coast via the Barossa Valley wine region and Adelaide to start the long journey further west across the Nullarbor Plain.



*The start of the 'Nullarbor Treeless Plain'.
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The Seven Sisters

Continuing west via Esperance to Perth, camping as we went, we decided that Perth would be a good location to fly us and the bike into Southeast Asia. The shipping process was much the same as we have previously experienced, so we flew into Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and rode north.

20th Dec 2010. Day 151, 14,236 miles to date. We arrive in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

We met up with friends in Kuala Lumpur and did some sightseeing around the region on the motorcycle then continued to ride north to the Cameron Highlands. On the way we took a Christmas day hike to see the very rare and smelly Rafflesia flower.



Jane with the very smelly flower

We arrived on the border with Thailand on the 31st of December and spent new year's eve in Hat Yai in time for the celebrations which at times seemed a little lawless and slightly out of control.

We hadn't planned to spend too much time in Thailand this time as we were going to be touring Southeast Asia and returning to Thailand. However, we needed to service the bike and get new tyres as well as arrange visas for India ahead of time. We travelled north to Chiang Mai to meet up with some other motorcycle travellers, on the way, visiting Sukhothai the ancient Thai capital and Wat Mahatathat historic park as well as a number of other historic sites and attractions.

28th Jan 2011. Day 189, 17,272 miles. We crossed the border into Laos, the most bombed country in the world and continued north to Xieng Kok finding a place to stay on the banks of the Mekong River. There were animals everywhere including massive spiders in the bedroom. Not surprising really as we were in the jungle in a mud hut. The roads were pretty hard going in this part of Southeast Asia as it was relatively untouched. However, the Chinese were exploiting the natural minerals and promised to build a new road. Next stops were Luang Prabang and Vientiane which were touristy but interesting. So, we made plans to travel further east to the Vietnam border to visit areas where the Pathet Laos had headquarters during the Vietnam War.



Leaving the customs office at KL airport straight into the KL traffic. Welcome to southeast Asia



Horizons Unlimited meeting in Chiang Mai



Difficult history

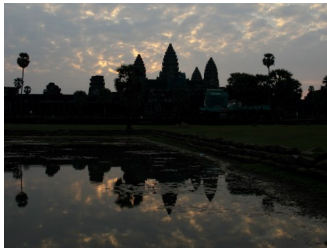
Day 216 we rode into Cambodia across the border at Stung Treng. A country with another very unpleasant history although the countryside is really untouched apart from areas that were affected by the Vietnam and civil wars. We visited many sites including the famous Angkor Wat, Killing Fields, Bamboo Railway and cities like Phnom Penh where a traditional way of life goes on alongside modernisation.



The Laos people are very friendly



A typical vehicle ferry across the Mekong river



Angkor Wat



The Killing Fields



Cambodia today

26th Mar 2011. 246 days on the road, 20,644 miles.

Today we travel back into Thailand to have a much-needed rest and decide if we are going to call it a day and go home or continue our journey west.

To be continued: do we stay, or do we go?

John McComb and Jane Cavell

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Misterton village hall



Residents will be pleased to hear that our refurbished kitchen is now fully functional. We would encourage all of users to make use of the new space, which includes a cooker, fridge, sinks and ample food preparation space on stainless steel worktops. Thank you all for your patience whilst this work was completed and we have included a couple of photos of the new kitchen below for those not able to see it straight away in person. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council, Misterton WI and National Lottery Community Fund as without their generosity, the project would not have been possible.



Remember, the refurbishment of the toilet facilities and main hall floor renovation are next on our list and the work is planned to start in late July/early August. The hall will need to be closed for a period whilst this work is carried out and our secretary will be in touch with the regular users to let them know timings of the closure in due course. As it coincides with the start of the summer break, we hope that disruption can be kept to a minimum.

The Village Hall's 50th Anniversary Party is almost upon us. Please do two things for us; first, put the date in your diaries - the afternoon of Saturday 19th July 2025 and second, keep everything crossed for good weather! You should start to see posters around the village advertising the event, which has been very generously sponsored by Misterton Garage. Updates on the detailed timings for the day will be provided on social media and will also be available in the July edition of this magazine. Raffle tickets sales are going well; by the time you read this, they will be available at various locations in the village. If you would like to purchase any more, please contact Diane Bradly, who will be happy to provide.

Don't forget, Diane is always on the lookout for more raffle and/or tombola prizes for the event as well and very happy to take delivery of any donations at Knowle House, ahead of the event. Additionally, the WI is keen to hear from residents who can provide any homemade cakes (large or small), tray bakes, scones (plain, fruit and savoury) as well as chutneys, jams and preserves to help stock their extensive cold food stall. All donations will be greatly received, so if you would like to provide any baked goods/preserves, please bring them to the village hall on the day of the party.



Crewkerne Probus Club

Probus Clubs provide regular gatherings for those retired or semi-retired business or professional people who, in retirement, appreciate and value opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances and with similar interests.

Crewkerne Probus Club organises meetings for lunch on the last Wednesday of each month. These are held at the **Windwhistle Golf Club** at 12:15pm for 1:00pm. The two-course meal currently costs £15 per head and is followed by an after lunch speaker on an interesting topic.

Each year special events are held to which our partners, as well as other guests, are invited – a ladies lunch in May, an autumn supper, a Christmas lunch and a summer outing.

If you are a retired professional or business man living in the Crewkerne area, why not consider joining us? Contact David Bryant on 01460 74422

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Misterton Gardeners Association

Our meeting this month is on Friday 27th June at 7:30pm in the village hall. We have a local speaker Brian Hesketh from Drimpton. His illustrated talk is 'Gardening in the Goldilocks Period'. I have no idea what this is all about - does he mean now, or can it be about gardening just before World War I when many big houses employed live-in gardeners? I do like surprises. If you do also, then come and join us.

The flower of the month competition continues so please bring a favourite one from your garden.

June is the month when Misterton gardens are at their very best. Frosts are over and the long sunny days provides a great opportunity for plants to grow, weeds included! Enjoy your garden but there are a few things still to do. Plant out your tomatoes, beans and courgettes and give them plenty of liquid feed. Trim back your wisteria if you have one (they all have been so delightful this spring). Continue planting summer bedding in pots and borders and water them regularly to help them establish. If you have a greenhouse do remember that plants inside can scorch badly in hot weather so keep the windows and doors open and use some fleece to maximise shading.

Everything has been so early this year. Our roses in particular have responded well to the warm dry weather. We always look out for the first rose to bloom and this year it occurred on VE Day May 8th. I took the attached photo of it a couple of days later. Not sure of its name but its perfume was wonderful especially in early morning.

John Dyke
01460 77233



Flower Show Day Saturday 16th August

Schedules will be included in the July magazine.

Please read the rules carefully. Flower arrangements must be measured; some lovely arrangements had to be disqualified last year because the size was wrong. Overall means from base of container to the very tip of the arrangement. At no point must it measure more. If a cake is to be 8" then it should not be 7" or 9". Vegetables as stated.

All items must be removed at 3pm. Any fruit, flowers baking or vegetables remaining after this time will be auctioned.

Apologies if the rules seem a little harsh but it really does make for fair judging. All proceeds will be donated to the village hall. If you are in any doubt then please ring one of the following numbers, they will be only too happy to help.

Diane 01460 76761, Margaret 01460 72040, Cheryl and Mike 01460 75025, Christine 01460 76824, Pam 01460 929915.

Chocolate raspberry pavlova

You just cannot beat a pavlova, in particular this dark beauty. The crisp and chewy chocolate meringue base, rich in cocoa and beaded nuggets of chopped plain chocolate, the whiteness of the cream and the matt, glowering crimson raspberries on top are a killer combination.

Yields: 8-10 slices

Ingredients

For the chocolate meringue base:

6 large egg whites
300g caster sugar
3 tbsp cocoa powder (sieved)
1 tsp balsamic vinegar (or red wine vinegar)
50g dark chocolate (finely chopped)

For the topping:

500 ml double cream
500g raspberries
3 tbsp dark chocolate (coarsely grated)

Method

Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/gas mark 4/350°F and line a baking tray with baking parchment.

Beat the egg whites until satiny peaks form, and then beat in the sugar a spoonful at a time until the meringue is stiff and shiny. Sprinkle over the cocoa and vinegar, and the chopped chocolate. Then gently fold everything until the cocoa is thoroughly mixed in. Mound on to a baking sheet in a fat circle approximately 23cm/9 inches in diameter, smoothing the sides and top. Place in the oven, then immediately turn the temperature down to 150°C/130°C fan/gas mark 2/300°F and cook for about one to one and a quarter hours. When it's ready it should look crisp around the edges and on the sides and be dry on top, but when you prod the centre you should feel the promise of squidginess beneath your fingers. Turn off the oven and open the door slightly, and let the chocolate meringue disc cool completely.

When you're ready to serve, invert on to a big, flat-bottomed plate. Whisk the cream till thick but still soft and pile it on top of the meringue, then scatter over the raspberries. Coarsely grate the chocolate so that you get curls rather than rubble, as you don't want the raspberries' luscious colour and form to be obscured, and sprinkle haphazardly over the top, letting some fall, as it will, on the plate's rim.

Make ahead/store

The meringue base can be made one day ahead. Store in airtight container in a cool, dry place (meringue will not keep well in humid or wet weather). Refrigerate leftovers, loosely covered with cling film, for up to one day. The meringue will soften as it stands.



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Misterton Tennis Club

The coaching sessions at Misterton Tennis Club with Level 2 Coach Henry Park are going well, with eight regular attendees and a waiting list. We are therefore looking to lay on further sessions for improvers and also sessions aimed at beginners and those returning to the game after a break.



Tennis coaching group with Henry Park (centre)

Open to members and non-members - if you'd like to get involved, please do get in touch with us: events@mistertontennis.co.uk. Website: www.mistertontennis.co.uk.

Catherine Carins
Chair

North Perrott church and cricket club fete

Sunday 6th July 12pm to 4pm at the North Perrott Cricket Ground. Fun for all the family!

Dog show, children's activities, bouncy castle, beat the goalie, skittles, tombola and various stalls, BBQ, teas/cakes, ice creams, licenced bar, raffle 1st prize £100, ukulele band and the Haselbury School Dancers.

Enquiries to Georgina 01460 72883 or Joanna 01460 76457.

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Dates for your diary

June 2025

WI meeting	Tuesday 3rd June	7pm	The Globe
Parish council meeting	Tuesday 10th June	6:30pm	Village hall back room
Coffee morning	Thursday 19th June	10:30am	Mallabones
Gardeners club	Friday 27th June	7:30pm	Village hall
Village hall 50th anniversary party	Saturday 19th July	Afternoon	Village hall/recreation ground
Flower show	Saturday 16th August	tba	Village hall

Church services June 2025

Crewkerne Benefice					Merriott Benefice	
Rector: Rev CJ Davis 07707 719137 cj@stbartscrewkerne.org						
Date	Misterton	Wayford	Hewish	St Bart's	North Perrott	Haselbury
Sun 1st		9:30am HC	9:30am HC	11am HC	9am HC CW	10:30am HC CW
Sun 8th	11am HC			8am HC 11am Morning service		10:30am HC BCP
Sun 15th		9:30am HC	11am HC	8am HC 11am Morning service	9am HC BCP	10:30am Family service
Sun 22nd	9:30am HC			11am All Age service 6pm HC		10:30am HC CW
Sun 29th	8am Benefice Service at St. Bart's			11am HC Morning Service	10am Benefice service St Nicholas, Dinnington	
CJ = Rev CJ Davis		BK = Very Rev Bob Key		DN = Rev David Newman		HC = Holy Communion

	Flowers	Brass	Cleaning
Sunday 8th June	Mrs M Field	-	Mrs M Albert
Sunday 22nd June	Mrs C Newman	-	-

Letter

At Whitsun or White Sunday, known originally as Pentecost, we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit. The name probably comes from the white garments worn by those baptized on this day in the early church. Sri Lankan Christians still do something similar, emerging from rivers clothed in white after baptism - a poignant symbol of the great swap which the Spirit applied to believers. Christ took our sins on the Cross and gave us His righteousness instead. God accepts Christians as being just like Jesus! May the Holy Spirit help us delight in that miracle this White Sunday. Warm regards and prayers,

CJ Davis

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