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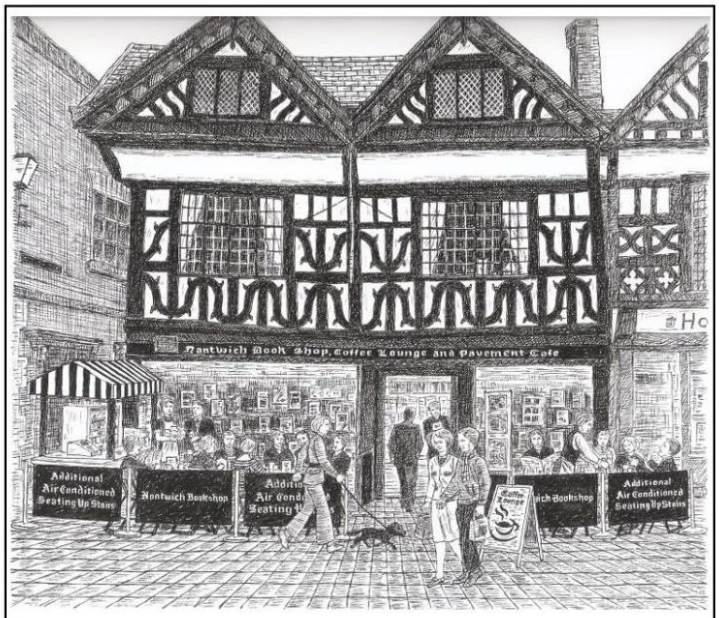
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Front cover: The Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) viewed from St. Mary's tower roof on Thursday, 10th October during bell ringing practice. Photo: Becky Williams, one of our ringers.



The week after the Northern Lights the bell ringers were treated to a spectacular view of the Harvest (or Hunter's) Moon (17th October) lighting up the town and the weathervane. Photos: Claire Jordan, one of our ringers.





From the Rector

One of the great changes in western thinking through recent centuries, and accelerating in our lifetimes, is its understanding of freedom. Come along to Morning Prayer and you'll hear these words from the Prayer Book *(1662)*, and rooted in St. Augustine *(4th century)* and Scripture *(1st century)*: "O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom …"

How can the service of another be the path to freedom? Nowadays freedom is our ability to choose. The less constraint, the more freedom. The fewer demands on your time, the more freedom. The longer you are able to be on holiday, the longer you are truly free.

Disastrously, large parts of the Church similarly changed their understanding of God's freedom. Instead of finding the essence of God's being in his unchangeable love, it came to be found in his deliberative and "sovereign" will – his choice whether or not to love.

I remember vividly a sermon from my childhood when the preacher looked me in the eye and declared, "God can do just what he likes with you". It stuck with me because it was so chilling. God's absolute power to choose. If he chooses to destroy certain people, or to condemn some to eternal torment, he is free to do so. And he is just to do so, for whatever God decides, it is just.

What had been lost was the deeper teaching of Scripture and of the Church Fathers that God is fundamentally love, goodness, beauty and truth. That is simply who God is. It's love all the way down. God is free because he is love. There is no prior decision to love, for nothing is prior to love.

And so with us. We become free, not by having more choices, but by making good choices. In fact, the more our actions are not so much felt as deliberate choices, but responses of love which simply flow from who we are, from our characters, the more we are free. Paradoxically, the less we sense we have a choice, the more we are free. Christ was supremely free when walking to the cross.

All this is worth bearing in mind as the assisted dying bill comes to its second reading in the House of Commons on 29th November. The "right to choose" argument is persuasive to so many only because of the modern understanding of freedom. What would be the way of "perfect freedom"?

Mark Hart

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All Souls' Day

If family history had a favourite holiday, it would have to be All Souls' Day, the thousand-year-old observance that falls every year on 2nd November, immediately after All Saints' Day on 1st November. Like All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day is for remembering people who have died. But while All Saints' Day is focused on Christian martyrs and saints, All Souls' Day is all about the members of your own family and family tree. It's a day for being with family, visiting cemeteries, sharing memories of loved ones, and honouring traditions.

Today, All Souls' Day is observed around the world by people of various faiths and cultural backgrounds. Some of the traditions are common to all people, no matter the language or country. But others are unique, and you won't find them anywhere else. As we commemorate those who have departed this life we ask that they will be given rest "where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing". And with these expressions of sadness and suffering we hear God's loving responses in the words of Jesus: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you … Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid".

There may be many things that trouble our hearts when we remember someone we love and still miss. Perhaps we remember things we did or said that we now deeply regret but can't say sorry for. There might be things left unsaid because we didn't know we would have so little time to say them. Placing someone into God's hands may not be easy. We might only be able to do it gradually over a period of time or we might only be able to say "I want to forgive but can't yet".

Our relationship with someone doesn't end when they die. We carry it with us and it can change, grow and heal. We are greatly blessed if, after someone we love dies, we have no regrets at all about our relationship with them except that it has been cut short. We can grieve for their loss but also feel deep gratitude that our lives have been enriched because they were part of it.

As we light candles and place them on the cross we might want to say something of what's in our hearts. We can say it quietly or just in our heads. We can address it to the one we remember or to God.

All Souls' Day is a day of remembrance, a day of prayer, and a day of unity. As we gather to honour our departed loved ones, we are reminded of the enduring connection that transcends life and death. May the prayers we offer on All Souls' Day bring comfort to the departed and solace to our own hearts. Amen.

Oluseye Adebiyi

Church News

"Seeds of Change"

We launched a NEW Eco Church Working group called "Seeds of Change" in October 2024 during the season of creation. With guest speaker Jill Elston, the Diocesan Environment Advisor, we began our discussion and plans by finding out about what was happening elsewhere in the diocese and to be inspired. This was our seminal meeting where the early seeds of change were planted. We would like to invite you to join our next working group where we will continue this early work to build our Eco Church here at St. Mary's. Join us and be uplifted. E-mail with expressions of interest *anna@neontetrafilms.com* and to find our more.

Anna Burton

An Amazing Mystery Solved

… is the title of this year's crib service. If you want to find out more, assist in any way, or are up for a small part (2 non-speaking parts still available) please get in touch with Susie. Rehearsals commence on **13th November**.

Teams 4U Christmas Shoebox Appeal

St. Mary's Church will be a collecting point for the boxes, which need a rubber band around to secure, along with a £3 donation, **1st-14th November**. If you have any spare shoeboxes, with lids, please bring to the Parish Office.

The Rev. Peter Bennett, formerly of St Mary's, will be inducted as Team Rector of All Saints, Salford on **Thursday, 14th November**, 7pm, at St. Thomas, Pendleton in a service led by the Bishop of Manchester. All welcome to attend - please RSVP to Peter *(revpeterbennett@gmail.com)*. You may be able to get a lift on a bus going from St. Andrew's.

Steward vacancy Friday afternoons 3-4pm

Thank you to Pat Stalker who has now retired from stewarding for this slot after many years. If you would like to take it over please ring the Parish Office on 01270 625268 or Penny Smith on 07929 989835.

Christmas Shopping?

Christmas Cards and Advent Calendars are now on sale in the Church Shop. 2025 Church Diaries will also be available soon, and a St. Mary's 2025 Calendar!

Slow God?

A delightful and familiar verse in the Bible says, "Be still and know that I am God" *(Psalm 46:10)* perhaps a command to cease to strive and experience God in stillness. This is the essence of Julian Meetings, but of course you don't need an actual meeting in which to slow down and spend time with God in prayer. As we pause for a moment of thought or rest, we are becoming prayerful, and God is very near. There may be a part of your day when this is natural; morning coffee, after lunch, a moment to slow down and rest.

If you'd like to explore finding God in restfulness choose a spot where you can unwind easily, perhaps at home, on a familiar walk or in a church. Allow yourself to do nothing for a few moments becoming aware of the present and reminding yourself that God is there with you. As you feel yourself relax be warmed by the knowledge of God's love and acceptance of you. You don't have "do" anything, just be "in the moment" for this too is prayer.

Sometimes rest is forced upon us; illness, disability, growing older may slow our pace of life. Maybe it's an interlude in life to enter the place of rest that God is giving to you. God loves us for what we are, not what we do. This could be a moment to turn thoughts into prayer and offer them to God. We don't even need to advise God what to do, simply hold our interests, people or concerns out to God and trust that his understanding is greater than ours.

If you'd like words which are not your own to guide your prayer you might like to look in St. Mary's for the leaflet "How Can I Pray?" written by the Rector and containing a selection of Bible passages as prayer with several themes such as "Praise and Blessing", "In Time of Need or Bereavement", "Seeking God" and "Prayers of Penitence".

For some the absence of words provides a different prayer experience, silent prayer. This is the focus of a Julian Meeting, waiting on God in the silence. This contemplative prayer has been part of Christianity from the beginning. Jesus spent whole nights alone in prayer. The Desert Fathers and our own Celtic hermits sought places to be alone with God. Here in Nantwich some people choose to gather together in contemplative prayer, which may sound contradictory as it's in silence, but does have a quality all of its own. We rest in God by focussing on our breathing, breathing slowly, aware of its rhythm. It can be helpful to choose words which are meaningful to you, deliberately slowing your breathing to

become relaxed and restful. Mine are "Come" for the inward breath and "Lord Jesus" for the outward. A passage from Christian writing, art, a reflection from Julian of Norwich or the Bible leads us into a thirty-minute silence in which we can "rest" in God.

Hospital Street Methodist Church host us for this each month, usually the third Thursday at 2.15pm in their small Chapel. We are currently a group of fifteen. During covid lockdowns we took to receiving the introduction to the Meeting by e-mail and this proved so popular that our Group grew from eight to the fifteen we have remained. About six of us hold our Julian Meeting face-to-face in the Chapel. As some cannot come to the venue we hold each other in prayer after the silence as we say the Grace. If contemplative prayer is new to you we are pleased to give advice and support.

Here's a prayer from the "How Can I Pray" leaflet with which to end, or indeed to begin. *My life is an instant, an hour that passes by;*
my life is a moment which I have no power to stay.
You know, O my God, that to love you here on earth,
I have only today. (St. Thérèse of Lisieux, 1873-97).

To find out more about the Julian Meetings please contact Sue Hutt *(hutt.sue30@gmail.com)* or the Parish Office and check when and where the Meeting is each month.



Congratulations to Rachael Rivers, formerly of St. Mary's, who was licensed as Reader in Chester Cathedral on Saturday, 12th October - pictured here following the service with Bishop Mark, and with Mike Turnbull, Rector of Wistaston, the parish where Rachael now serves.

Church Walk

It was a glorious, sunny, autumn day for the Church Walk on Saturday, 5th October. Members of St. Mary's met at Acton Church before setting off along the Shropshire Union Canal towpath. Walking together provided plenty of opportunity to chat to others along the way and take in the lovely local countryside.



At Hurleston Junction the group turned along the Llangollen Canal before stopping for a picnic lunch overlooking the reservoir. There was an abundance of bird life here and one of the group was expert at identifying species.



Continuing along the canal there were some fascinating conversations with narrow boat owners about life afloat. This section of canal is especially picturesque and the light on the water made for some great photos. At Swanley Lock we crossed the lock gates to a small island and gathered there for a short period of prayer and reflection with a nature theme.

Leaving the canal at Swanley the route then followed field footpaths back towards Dorfold Hall and Acton. Silage cutting was taking place in some fields and in others maize was being harvested and it was interesting to see the huge farm machinery in action.

The five-mile circular walk was thoroughly enjoyed by all the walkers. Do keep a look out for future walks which are advertised in the weekly news sheet.

Carole Tilt

Autumn - Prayer and Reflection for the Season

An Encounter Explore Day on the theme of Autumn took place in the church on Saturday, 26th October. This proved to be very popular and over 300 people attended and explored the unique prayer stations.



A beautiful autumn garden with a lawn, flowers in shades of red, orange and yellow, shrubs with tints of purple and red and some evergreens filled the centre of the church. Visitors delighted in spotting other details in the garden including the ivy covered logs, fungi, birds and a hedgehog nestled in the fallen leaves. They were encouraged to reflect on the themes of dormancy and potential and were given a daffodil bulb to take home and plant.

The pews were draped in brightly coloured cloths, each one containing an inspiring autumnal quote from the Bible or literature and these were accompanied by relevant artefacts. A globe, pumpkins, photos of topical issues and prayer cards promoted prayers for our often trouble world. The striking wooden tree in the chancel had cloth leaves for visitors to hold and then drop, symbolising letting go of burdens and placing trust in God. The ropes along the choir stalls were soon filled with colourful ribbons as each visitor tied one on to symbolise their personal prayer intentions.



The banqueting table laid out in the north transept encouraged harvest thanksgiving prayers and gratitude for our daily food and drink. The Remembrance display featured classic and contemporary war poems and was decorated with poppies and WW2 artefacts. Younger visitors liked planting acorns, making leaf rubbings and colouring in pictures based on the psalms.

Other prayer stations included "Birds on a wire" with spiritual reflections based on birds and the Bible passage Matthew 6:26, chance to light a candle, and a climate change wall hanging to encourage us all to consider our responsibility as stewards of God's earth. Lovely floral displays, seasonal music and the sunlight shining through the windows all created a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Many visitors commented on how inspiring they had found the prayer stations.

The following day the autumn garden became a centre piece for the Sunday services and at the 10.45am service the congregation were given daffodil bulbs after communion.



Look at the birds of the air, they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? (Matthew 6:26)

25 Years of Serving



A big thank you to Dorothy Relton who has retired from the altar servers' team after 25 years of attentive ministry to clergy and congregation, and constant encouragement of young servers. Dorothy will be missed by the team, and we thank her for her dedication, friendship and humour over the years.

Samaritans - an Overview



John talking with people after the breakfast.

The speaker at the St. Mary's Breakfast held on Saturday, 19th October was John Durrad, who has worked for many years for the Samaritans (Crewe Branch). Here is his summary of the talk.

Although Samaritans was set up by an Anglican Priest, Chad Varah, it is not a religious organisation. After having officiated at a funeral for a young girl who had taken her own life, Chad set up an organisation for people who had nowhere to go, with the aim "to befriend the suicidal and despairing". The Daily Mirror then coined the phrase "Telephone a Good Samaritan". Chad saw the benefit of listening without judgement and in confidence. Now we have over 200 branches, and 22,000 volunteers, and nearly 20,000 are listening volunteers.

There is no such thing as a typical volunteer or caller. They reflect all ages, beliefs, backgrounds, genders, and ethnicity. People join for a variety of reasons. They might want to give something back, to do something meaningful, or they may have had a difficult time themselves, lost someone to suicide, in prison, or have been victims of abuse. Like our volunteers there is no typical caller or theme. They may have issues with mental or physical health, loneliness, depression, sexuality and gender, they may have been abused, physically, emotionally or sexually. It doesn't matter who calls or why.

Samaritans' vision is **fewer people decide by suicide** and our core values include Listening, Confidentiality, Non-judgementality, Autonomy in Decisions, and Human Contact. We place a strong emphasis on safeguarding and don't offer advice, but will signpost if appropriate. We are available 24/7 and 365 days by phone, e-mail and instant messaging. We respond to a call every 10 seconds, to 400,000 e-mails every year and spend time in the communities working with other vulnerable communities.

Whilst we are not a religious organisation, I would like to think we share the qualities of the Samaritan in the story told in Luke 10: 25-37. In the parable of Good Samaritan, Jesus had a simple message: "Love your neighbour as yourself". When other people need our help the most, like the man on the road, is when our love for neighbour is truly tested. Jesus tells us to be like the Good Samaritan, helping others in times of need. Samaritans' number is 116 123.

John Durrad

The Rev. Raymond Ernest Reynolds
11th May 1929-1st October 2024



My father had an intellect that few possess. He averaged 98% in his school certificate across all subjects and would have had a distinguished record at University had he not needed to bring in a wage following the tragic early death of his father John Reynolds from TB in 1943. Dad got a job as a tea boy in the offices of an insurance company in Leeds. He worked his way up, taking insurance exams. However at this stage he got a calling to join the Church Army and went to their training centre in London. Once qualified he became Captain Reynolds and went on missions up and down the UK.

It was on a mission to Liverpool that he first met Mum when she was only 16. They began courting. Eventually Dad had the calling to become a priest and following a discussion with the Bishop he went to Chichester Theological College. One amusing thing is that once there he used to pack up his washing and post it to Mum to clean. Dad found lodgings with a great scholar of the day, Lowther-Clark, something he often talked about with pride. Once studies began he found himself amongst Oxbridge graduates which was a little daunting. However Dad excelled in New Testament Greek and substantially learned it in a year.

Mum and Dad were married at Liverpool Parish Church on New Year's Eve 1960. He was made a curate at St. Margaret of Antioch in Headingley, Leeds. It was there that I was born. It was high church Anglican, something which suited my dad. After that there was a second curacy in Beeston, Nottingham and finally his own first parish St. Michael and All Angels in Old Farnley, Leeds.

I remember those times affectionately as I was a server at the altar. He had a very fine tenor voice and would often sing harmonies to all the hymns each Sunday. He dabbled in composition and wrote a setting of the Lord's Prayer for his choir. He loved playing the piano, particularly simple pieces by Bach as well as hymns.

After that he took on three country parishes in Leicestershire: Fenny Drayton, Higham on the Hill and Witherley. Whilst there he decided that

he really ought to get a few university type qualifications so he registered for a Lambeth Diploma and wrote his thesis on the Character and Role of the Country Priest in English History. He was presented with his STh by Robert Runcie, then Archbishop of Canterbury.

Having had a taste for writing on a large scale he registered for an MPhil in the Theology Department of Nottingham University and wrote a thesis on the sociology of religion.

His next port of call was Sutton-in-the-Isle in Cambridgeshire with Mepal. (Mepal people are happy people). My mum got a job in the stained glass museum at Ely Cathedral. Finally he came to Nantwich following an advert in the Church Times by Richard Price (Rector) who was a friend from Leeds days. There he spent 2 years as a humble curate once again. He carried on parish ministry into his retirement until it was too much for him.

Dad had a fantastic sense of humour. He was totally reliable. He was kind hearted. As an intellect I lived in his shadow but as he got older he took more and more interest in the achievements of his family. He had stamina. He faced old age with courage.

He was essentially a sportsman. A fine snooker player, but always felt billiards the better game. He played an exhibition match with Ray Reardon and took a frame off him in a best of three. He was very competent at analysing a football match and basically anything with sporting content he would watch on TV.

His favourite record was Songs of the Sea sung by Richard Dawson the Australian baritone. The Admiral's Broom and Santa Barbara were favourites.

I remember the joy of watching late night TV with my dad. We would howl with laughter at re-runs of the Phil Silvers Show and Father Ted. He would do wonderful impressions of the things he found most funny. "DDDRRRRRRINK!"

The Sunday before he died I had an interaction with him at lunchtime. He was very weak and spoke only occasionally and quietly. I reassured him in his faith and told him all the good times I remembered and told him how much I loved him. "Thank you" he said. Then he gave me his blessing laying his feeble old hand on my head.

Good night Dad, God bless. ~ May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.

Martin Reynolds

Forthcoming Events

All Saints' and All Souls'

On **Sunday, 3rd November** we will celebrate **All Saints' Day** in the morning. In the evening there will be a short **Tree of Light service** in the well at 5.30pm (memorial baubles obtained from the Civic Hall) and an **All Souls' service** in church at 6pm when candles may be lit. Please add names of loved ones to the sheets at the back of church, to be read in the service.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is **10th November**. There will be 8am, 9.30am and 6pm services as normal, but no 10.45am service. The Remembrance Service will commence at 10.55am on the Square, following a parade from the Civic Hall.

Curry & Quiz Night

Nantwich Foodbank are running a Curry & Quiz Night at Crewe Vagrants on **Wednesday, 13th November**. £12.50 per ticket. Doors open 6.30pm for 7pm quiz. (veggie/vegan/gf options on request).

November Breakfast

This is probably your first 2024 opportunity to get those vocal cords going and sing some carols. We are delighted that Alison Phillips, Director of Music, will talk to us about Christmas music and lead us to sing carols after our usual delicious buffet breakfast. It is on **Saturday, 16th November** at 8.30am at Nantwich Football Club. Sign up sheet is at the back of Church or phone the office, by midday, **Wednesday,13th November**. Cancellation after booking should be in emergency only because we have to pay for no-shows.

Christmas Pudding Stir-up

Saturday, 16th November in the Parish Hall. Come and mix your Christmas Pudding with us (take home to cook). No previous experience needed. Accompanied children welcome. Choose 1 of 3 sessions: 10.00-11.30am, 12.00-1.00pm and 1.30-2.30pm . £7.50 per pudding. Please book and pay in advance by Sunday, 9th November to Caryl Boxhall *(07535 924491 or cjboxhall@gmail.com)* or via the Parish Office. For more info, please chat to Caryl or Phil Boxhall or Susie Phillips.

Advent Sunday, 1st December

In addition to the normal 8.00am Holy Communion and 9.30am All Age Communion, the following special services will take place on Advent Sunday:

10.45am A Service of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion with Bishop Julie. Come along and support all the candidates as they make this step of faith and commitment.

4.00pm Christingle Service - Candles, candy, and oranges. Atmospheric, and great for children.

6.00pm Advent Carol Service - Candlelit procession, candlelit church, darkness to light, beautiful hymns and choral music.



christians against poverty CAP

CAP Money Coaching Course – provides guidance on setting and maintaining a household budget. The next 3 session course will run on Mondays 4th, 11th & 18th November from 10am to 12.30pm.The venue is St. Mary's Parish Hall, Nantwich. Should you be interested in attending or require further information please e-mail *capmoneynantwich@gmail.com*

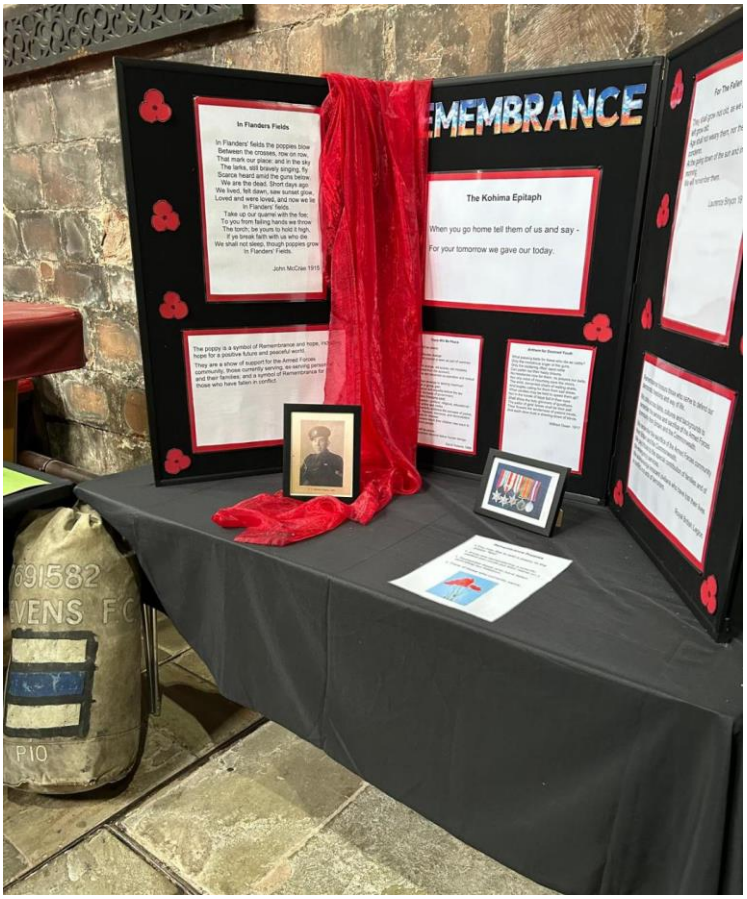
For more Forthcoming Events see the **Special Services & Events Calendar** on p. 33.

The Sound of Silence

I think we are all familiar with the two-minute silence for Remembrance Day, which we will observe this month. There are also many other minute silences that have occurred to remember people affected by disasters. There have also been over the past seven years a number of occasions when a 72-second silence has been held to remember each of the victims of the Grenfell fire.

A 72-second-silence was held on BBC Radio 4's Today programme on the morning of 4th September this year, as the findings of Sir Martin Moore-Bick's report on the fire was published. During each day of the Notting Hill Carnival in August since 2017, the loud music coming from the sound systems is briefly turned off and people are encouraged to respect a 72-second silence - one for each of the lives lost. At many points along the west London parade route, Grenfell Tower is clearly visible.

My yoga teacher extols the virtues of silent retreat – she went for ten whole days. Not only are you silent, but you are supposed to be meditating all the time that you are not sleeping. She admits it's hard not to let your mind wander from meditation some of the time!



Remembrance display at Encounter Explore: Autumn

I know I couldn't remain silent for ten days but I managed it for 72 seconds. Somehow that division into seconds, knowing that it represented the number of Grenfell deaths kept me focused on really thinking about those people. If you extrapolate the number of deaths from war just in the 20th century then on Remembrance Sunday, we would be thinking about well over 1 million people per second. It will be many, many more going back from the 20th century and adding in all the conflict-related deaths of this century. I will be thinking about this on Remembrance Sunday.

Annie Coombs

News in Pictures



Harvest 2024

Thank you to Glenys Ellis and the team of flower arrangers whose beautiful decorations were enjoyed when we celebrated Harvest Festival on Sunday, 13th October, and when the flowers remained in church in the weeks following. Thank you to all who donated food (collected for MyCWA - Cheshire Without Abuse) and to all who worked to make the Harvest Lunch so enjoyable.







It was a sell out for the Words & Music Festival concert held in St. Mary's this year, on Wednesday, 16th October. The supporting act, Demi Marriner (pictured) was followed by Newton Faulkner whose debut album "Hand Built by Robots" was certified double platinum, and included the song "Dream Catch Me" which reached no. 7 in the UK singles charts in 2007.



The first Candlelight Concerts (Adele and Beatles) in April attracted modest but enthusiastic audiences. Word got around and on 19th October it was a sell out for the return of the Egerton Strings performing Queen and Abba songs, the church lit throughout by 400 candles. The evening raised £2,400 for St Mary's - thank you to all who helped with stewarding and refreshments. The next Candlelight Concert, on 30th November, will have a Christmas theme (see p. 26) - don't miss it!



A Civic Service was held on Sunday, 20th October led by the Rector. Present, and shown here, were the Mayor of Nantwich, Cllr. Stuart Bostock and his consort, Kath Bostock; the Deputy Mayor Nantwich, Cllr. Mary Slinn; Mayors of neighbouring towns and their consorts, and the Town Crier, Devlin Hobson. All present, including also other members of the town council and representatives from town organisations, and regular members of the congregation, enjoyed the singing of Matins by the Choir.



The Riders Branch of the Royal British Legion visited Nantwich on Saturday, 26th October as part of their ride around the county to mark the launch of the Poppy Appeal. The Rector led a short Act of Remembrance and wreaths were laid at the cenotaph by the Riders Branch and by the Mayor of Nantwich.



The Airmans' Memorial Service was held at Bridgemere on Sunday, 27th October, the day before the 80th anniversary of the crash of a Wellington bomber nearby on Prince Hill during a storm. Six of the crew (RAF Volunteer Reserve) were killed, and one survived.

The service was led by the Rector, and wreaths were laid by local mayors and parish councils, the Royal British Legion, and the Air Cadets of Nantwich, and of Crewe.





Some autumnal "Sewcial" creations: Crocheted pumpkin and felt decorations, including a worm for a bigger garden play project.
Next "Sewcial" is on ***Wednesday, 13th November****, 8.15-9.45pm. Contact Susie for further information.*



Dazzling display of over 50 Christmas trees

Supported by Nantwich Christmas Tree Farm

An enchanting display of individually decorated Christmas trees. Created by local businesses and individuals.

Thursday 21st November - Ticket Only Launch Night
Friday 22nd November - 10am - 8pm
Saturday 23rd November - 9.30am - 3pm
Sunday 24th November - 1pm - 5pm

www.slhospice.co.uk/treefestival

Anna Richardson: Love, Loss & Dementia

Broadcast on Channel 4 on 2nd October, and still available online, this programme was designed to raise awareness of dementia and its impact on people struggling with the condition, and on their families. It was presented by Anna Richardson, daughter of The Rev. Jim Richardson, Rector of Nantwich 1975-82.

The programme opens with Anna receiving a call while on holiday to say her father, who has vascular dementia, had suffered a fall. We hear moving stories of other people with dementia, and we see how relationships are affected. Anna and Jim still enjoy teasing each other.



The film crew spent a day in Nantwich with Anna & Jim earlier in the summer, though only a small part of the footage was included. In the photo (taken from the film) we see Jim pointing to the Jubilee curtain which was created during his incumbency.

Caring for Carers

I had a young twelve-year-old boy in my class at school when I was teaching in a local comprehensive school. He was late every morning and looked as if he had just jumped out of bed. I asked about him from other staff. "Oh he is a carer for his mother who is blind. He has to see to everything at home before he comes to school every day." There are hundreds of young people all over the country who are unpaid carers for parents with health problems. Who is caring for the carers?

When we meet people who are caring for another person we tend to ask only how the patient is and not how the carer is. Some people are looking after a family member or friend at home year in year out. Their whole lives have to revolve around the person they are caring for. Often they have little help and cannot afford to pay for help. Some have given up their job to care. We are not just talking about older people only; carers can be of any age as can their patients. If you watch the programmes with stories of different children's lives on TV around "Children in Need" you will notice two outstanding things. One is the problems so many families have and the other is the outstanding charity work done by so many people, alone or in groups, who provide lifelines for others.

Recently I attended a seminar on carers run by University College London University. It was mainly a story of a lady caring for her young husband who was suffering from a debilitating and terminal brain tumour. She explained how she could only keep going if she cared for herself too and had the breaks she needed in order to keep going. This is a very important message for all carers. Hence the title of this article. Social care in this country is grossly underfunded and under-staffed. Official carers have only a few minutes to look after each patient. They haven't any time to chat and find out how everyone is. The old days of a regular Home Help or District Nurse who knew each person and had time to check on welfare seem to have gone. Now you often get someone different every day, if you need someone every day. Or even if you need someone you may not be able to find someone. Often people struggle on giving care in an unpaid and unrecognised role. They are saving the country millions of pounds but without breaks or care for themselves their health often suffers and they may even die before their patient.

This is where our role as Christian carers for everyone comes in. We need to be aware of what is going on and to find out if help and support are needed. Sometimes a few words will brighten the day. Or a helping hand or some advice is needed. We need to care but not be trapped into over commitment which will exhaust us. We must care for the carers and for ourselves as well as for those who are being cared for.

Look out for carers, be aware that carers themselves need care.

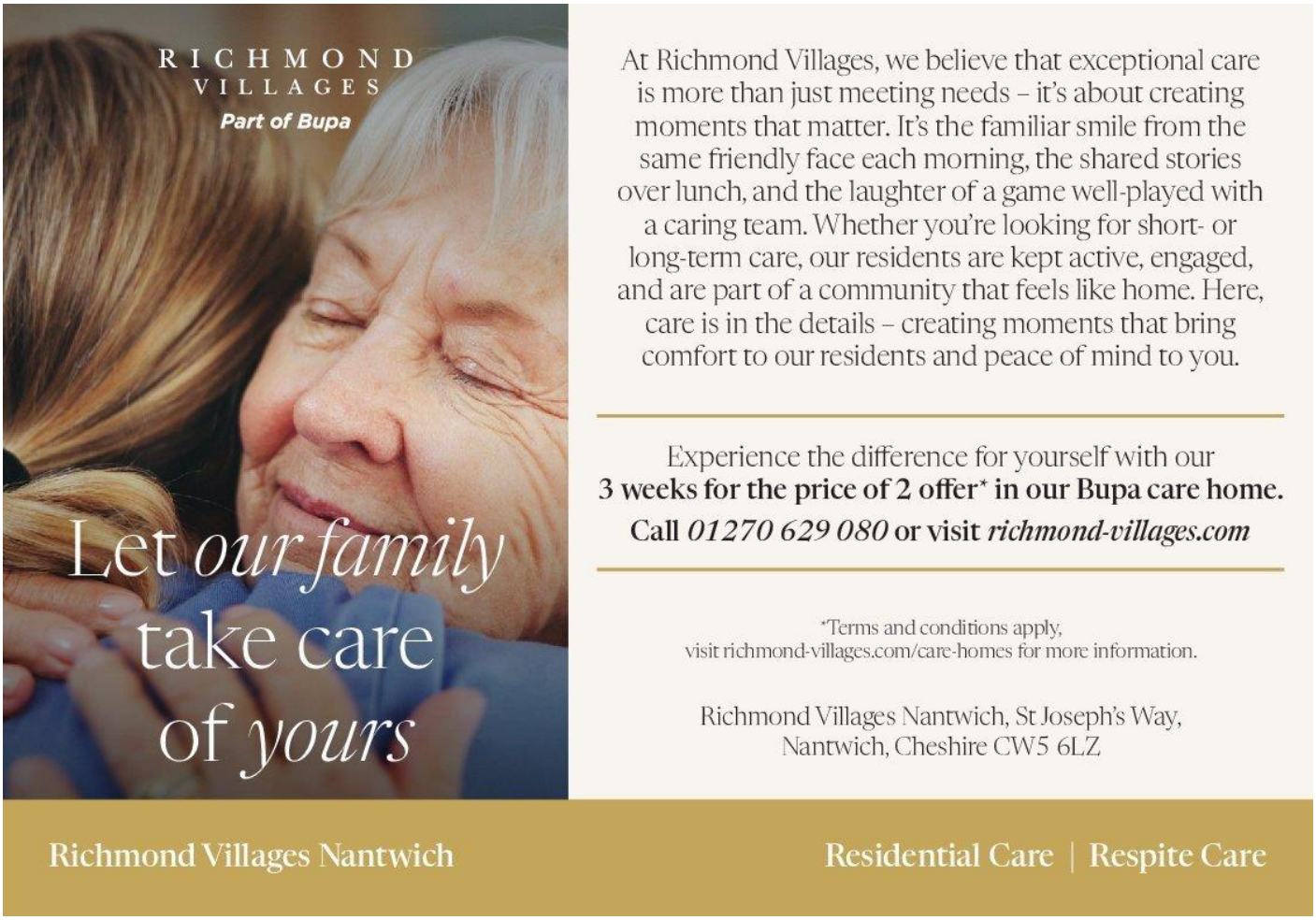
Dot Roxby

Churches Together in Nantwich - News & Information

Nine **"pilgrims"** from churches in Nantwich joined the congregation at St. Anne's on 13th October for their 9.30am Mass. The pilgrims were welcomed by Fr. Michael and Deacon John Penny. If you would like to be a future pilgrim e-mail *canondavid12@uwclub.net* and he will add you to the contact list or simply look out for the next Pilgrims' Visit which will be early in the New Year.

The **November Churches Together Meeting** will be an open meeting for anyone from our churches who would like to worship with us, learn about the current activities of CTiN and help us think about the future. This is our invitation to you to join us on **Wednesday, 13th November** at 7.30pm at Nantwich Methodist Church, Hospital Street.

A reminder of the **Gospel Concert** on **Saturday, 23rd November** at 7.30pm at Nantwich Methodist Church with the Jake Leg Jug Band (*www.thejakelegjugband.com/gigs-2*). Tickets £10. Contact Nantwich Methodist Church (*www.nantwichmethodist.co.uk*)




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Weekly Services & Groups

The church is open for all our usual regular services, and open to visitors Monday-Saturday, 9.30am-4pm. The 9.30am and 10.45am Sunday services continue to be live-streamed on YouTube most weeks.

Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	All Age Worship (Communion 1st Sunday)
	10.45am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evensong
	7.00pm	Encounter (1st & 3rd Sundays)
Tuesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Mums & Tots in the Parish Hall
	3.45pm	SING!@St.Mary's in the Parish Hall
Wednesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	11.00am	Holy Communion
Thursday	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Little Fish Toddler Group in church
	7.00pm	Bellringing practice in the Tower
Friday	8.30am	Morning Prayer
	10am-1pm	Place of Welcome in the Parish Hall
	7.00pm	Choir Practice in church
	7.30pm	FNL
Saturday	8.30am	Morning Prayer

Readings for November

3rd November *(All Saints' Day)*	Revelation 21: 1-6a Matthew 5: 1-12
10th November *(3rd Sunday before Advent)*	Hebrews 9: 24-28 Mark 1: 14-20
17th November *(2nd Sunday before Advent)*	Hebrews 10: 11-14, 19-25 Mark 13: 1-8
24th November *(Christ the King)*	Revelation 1: 4b-8 John 18: 33-38a







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John Gough

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Saturday 7th December at 3pm

Donations for the church
Refreshments

From the Registers: September2024

Holy Baptism

We welcome you into the Lord's family

8th	Ophelia Burley
8th	Esmé Tomlinson
8th	Giovanna O'Donnell
22nd	Amelia Upchurch
22nd	Nancy Cooper
22nd	Penny Cooper
22nd	Alby Yoxall
22nd	Leo Sandham
29th	Sophie Clark

Holy Matrimony

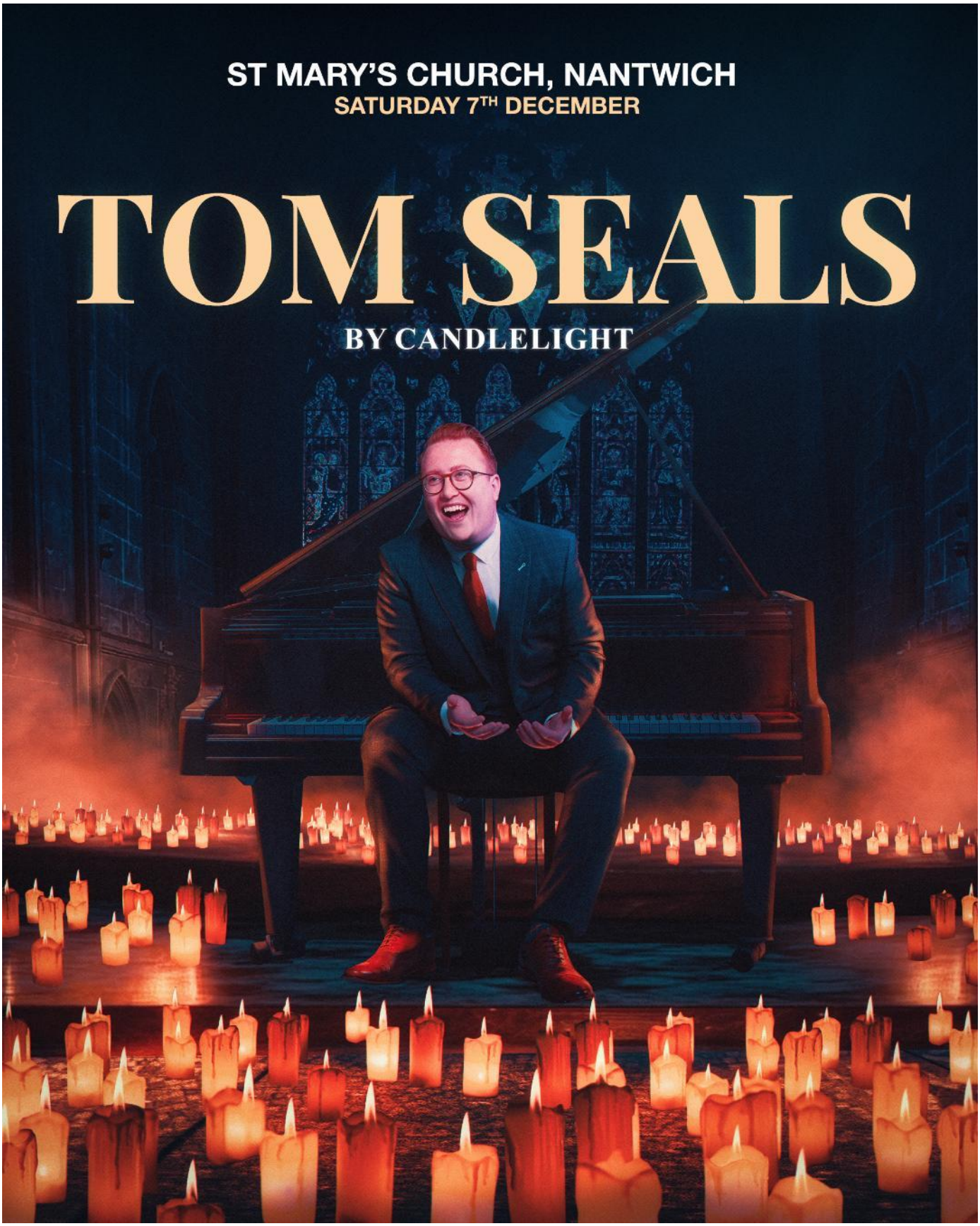
Bless these thy servants

14th	Guy Roberts & Melissa Barber
14th	Jonathan Yeats & Sanjana Mathew
16th	Daniel Johnson & Rhiannon Griffiths
21st	David Conroy & Abigail Vaughan

Funerals

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

5th	Patricia Jones (76)
9th	Margaret Lamb (94)
16th	David Greatorex (77)
26th	David Booth (62)
27th	Faith Cartlidge (83)



7.30pm, Saturday, 7th December. Doors open 7pm
Tickets: https://www.tomseals.co.uk/nantwich.html



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Special Services & Events Calendar November-December 2024

November	3rd	Tree of Light Ceremony, 5.30pm
	3rd	All Souls' Remembrance Service, 6.00pm
	10th	Remembrance Service on the Square, 10.55am
	16th	St. Mary's Breakfast at Nantwich Football Club
	16th	Christmas Pudding Stir-up, 10am, 12pm, 1.30pm
	17th	Encounter Supper, 7.15pm, Parish Hall
	21st	Christmas Tree Festival Weekend (4 days)
	21st	Michael Bublé tribute Concert
	22nd	Christmas Tree Fest. Refreshments, Parish Hall, 2-4pm
	22nd	Nantwich Christmas Lights Switch-On
	23rd	Christmas Fair, 10am-2pm, Church/Hall/Grounds
	23rd	Christmas Cinema (Home Alone), 4.30pm
	23rd	Christmas Cinema (Miracle on 34th Street), 8pm
	24th	Sir Edmund Wright Service, 10.45am
	27th	Light & Sound Bath, 7.15pm
	30th	Candlelight Concert (Christmas Songs)
December	1st	Baptism, Confirmation & Holy Communion, 10.45am
	1st	Christingle Service, 4pm
	1st	Advent Carol Service, 6pm
	7th	Concordia Concert, 3pm
	7th	Tom Seals in Concert, 7.30pm
	9th	Love Music Trust Concert, time TBC
	11th	Pear Tree KS2 Christmas Concert, 6pm
	13th	Primary Carols, 10.30am
	14th	Bell Ringers' Service, 4.30pm
	15th	All Age Nativity with the Donkeys, 9.30am followed by Messy Christmas
	15th	Nantwich Singers Concert, 3pm
	16th	Malbank School Carol Concert, 7pm
	18th	Oxley's Charity Carol Service in Church, 7pm
	21st	Nantwich Choral Society Carol Concert, 6.30pm
	22nd	Nine Lessons and Carols, 6pm
Christmas Eve		2pm, 3.30pm, 5pm Crib Services 11.30pm Midnight Mass
Christmas Day		8am Holy Communion 10am All Age Communion

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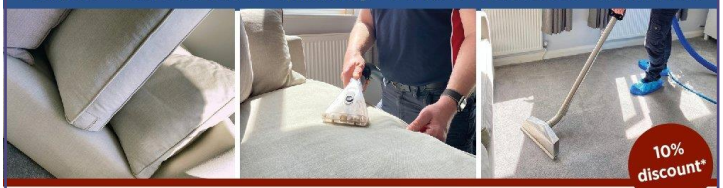
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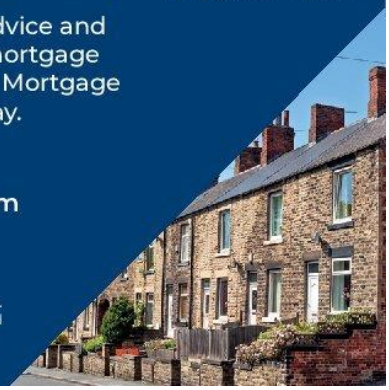
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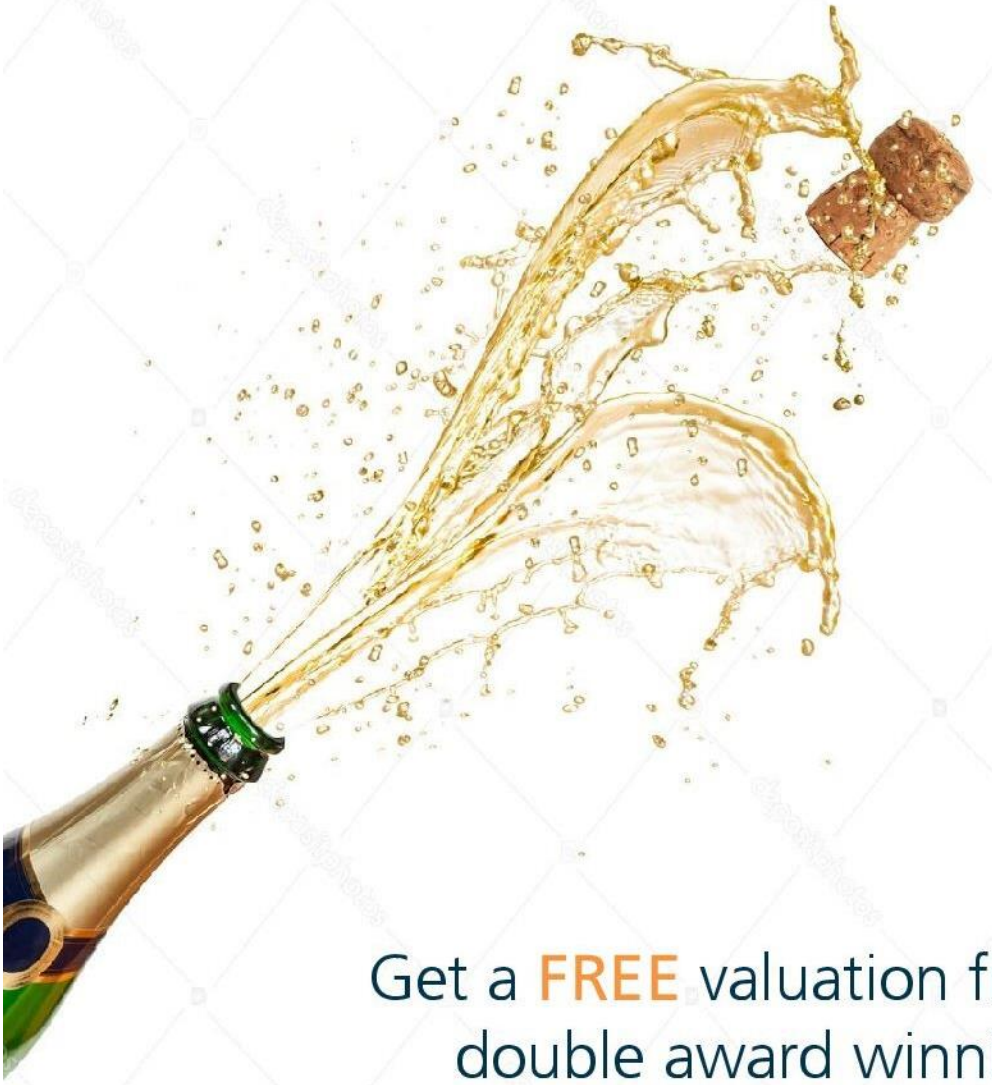
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	The Rectory, Nantwich CW5 5RQ	
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