

# St John's Church

*serving Stanborough, Lemsford, Cromer*

*Thank you Sue!*



## Parish Magazine

June/July 2015

£1



Clockwise: Baptisms on Easter Day; Barbara Taylor; Carole Payne; Confirmation with the Bishop of Bedford; Patricia Brough, Tim Armstrong Taylor. Details on News page .

**7th June - Trinity 1**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Led by Rev'd Julia Boothby

11am BCP Morning Prayer - Led by Ian Douglas, with Jane Jerrard

**14th June - Trinity 2**

8am BCP Holy Communion (Reserved sacrament) - Led by John Barnard

11am Parish Communion - Led by Rev'd Martin King

**21st June - Trinity 3**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Led by Rev'd Richard Pyke

11am All-age/Family Service - led by Jo Brooks and Mary Douglas

**28th June - Trinity 4**

8am BCP Morning Prayer - Led by John Marks

11am Parish Communion - Led by Rev'd Josh Young

*\*\*\* Morning Prayer 10 am every Wednesday \*\*\*\*\**

**Readings** *(preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)*

**7th** Psalm 130 Genesis 3: 8-15 Mark 3: 20 -35

**14th** 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, 14-17 Mark 4: 26 -34

**21st** 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13 Mark 4: 35-41

**28th** 2 Corinthians 8: 7-15 Mark 5: 21 - 43

**Sunday 5th July - Trinity 5**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Led by Rev'd Martin King

11am BCP Morning Prayer - Led by Jean Stokes and Jackie Spry

**Sunday 12th July - Trinity 6**

8am BCP Holy Communion - Led by Rev'd Josh Young

11am Parish Communion - Led by Rev'd Josh Young

**Sunday 19th July - Trinity 7**

8am BCP Holy Communion (Reserved sacrament) - Led by John Barnard

11am All age/Family Service - Led by John Barnard

**Sunday 26th July - Trinity 8**

8am BCP Morning Prayer - led by John Marks

11am Parish Communion - Led by Rev'd Ron Ingamells

*\*\*\* Morning Prayer 10 am every Wednesday \*\*\*\*\****Readings** (preacher reads the gospel at Parish Communion)**5th** Psalm 123 Ezekiel 2: 1-5 Mark 6: 1-13**12th** Ephesians 1: 3-14 Mark 6: 14-29**19th** Ephesians 2: 11-22 Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56**26th** Ephesians 3: 14-21 John 6: 1-21

Dear Friends,

I am writing this letter to you on Ascension Day, which is the day we remember Jesus ascending into heaven, having made a number of earthly appearances after the resurrection. You can see the event of the Ascension depicted in the fifth stained glass window behind the altar in church, as what appears to be Jesus' robed foot, disappears into heaven leaving a group of amazed people gazing upwards watching Jesus taking off!



We can't be quite sure of the exact details of the Jesus' ascension - but what we do know is that this event prepares the way for the Holy Spirit to come at Pentecost... although we can no longer see Jesus, we do know that God is always present and his glory is all around us for there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God. It is for each of us to recognise the glimpses of God working in and through ourselves and others - in other words, recognising all that is good in the midst of brokenness.

I shall be leaving St Johns Church on the 31st May, although my departure will not involve any physical taking off towards heaven, it will involve saying farewell to all of you! With my curacy completed, I am now moving onto new pastures to take on my next role. I shall continue to be part of the Bishops Hatfield Clergy Team, supporting my team colleagues in their work, but will also soon be working alongside the Methodist Minister Nina Johnson on the De Havilland Project. This is a Methodist/Anglican initiative serving people connected with the Project living in Salisbury Village in Hatfield. The work will involve the further development of 'Journey Light' which is a fresh expression of church intended for people who wish to explore faith informally and beyond the confines of established church.

It's all exciting, but also an entirely new area of work for me, so please continue to pray for me as I move on.

*Continued overleaf*

## Curate's message continued

**T**hank you for all the support you have given to me in the time I have been your Assistant Curate - I have been blessed by this ministry and the love you have shown to me. I leave with you this prayer, which I feel captures the essence of the final message I wish to convey to you all,

*Loving God,  
help us to be alive to the promptings of your Spirit,  
to recognise Christ in those we encounter  
and to be disciples of your kingdom.  
Help us to share your healing touch,  
your words of encouragement,  
your smile of friendship,  
your helping hand. Amen.*

God bless you..

**Sue Stilwell** Assistant Curate

### Filling our Vacancy

Several people expressed an interest in the joint post with St Michael's, but no candidates put themselves forward before the closing date in May. This is of course very disappointing but the Archdeacon, who is responsible for finding applicants, has written to us:

*"I want to assure you the search is continuing and we will be successful in the fullness of time as we always are."*

**Geoffrey Hollis** PCC Chairman

### Singing Lessons



### Piano/Keyboard

**I have vacancies for pupils  
of all ages and abilities.  
Tim Armstrong-Taylor GGSM AGSM**

**email:tim@operaontherun.com  
phone:07796 268 565  
Lessons in WGC**

### Music Theory

**Weddings**

On 18th April **Verity Piner** and **James Williams**—many congratulations!

**Funeral**

On 13th April **Stella Ingram**.

**Baptisms**

On 5th April **Kiran Dave, Tom Garratt, Samantha Kirshaw** and **Emily Palmer**; on 12th April **Isabella Rayment**, on 19th April **William and Jonny Palmer**; on 10th May **Bonnie Ormston**.

Well done indeed.

**Confirmations**

At St Mary's North Mymms, on 10th May, **Tom Garrett, Emily Palmer**, and **Karl Puranik**. *See their picture inside front cover.*

**Revd Sue Stilwell**

Completed her duty with us as Assistant Curate at the end of May. We owe her a great deal. A Thank You Party is on 31st May after the 11am Service. Look on the website for details of something special to be presented to her.

**Jane Jerrard**

Our CMS Partner from Pakistan visits us on June 7th and will be talking about her work during the 11 am Service. Afterwards there will be a lunch in the Annexe with her. If you would like to attend please let Mary Douglas know.

**Fete**

Well done to all concerned for raising around £14,000. As importantly everyone had a good time. This was a great co-operative effort between the School and the Church—may it long continue.

**Choir medals**

Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April. **Carole Payne** – 30 years in the choir; **Karl & Jay Puranik** and **Poppy & Florrie Humphries** – Junior medals (two years); **Eddie Spencer** – 5 years adult medal; **Tim Armstrong Taylor**—gift in appreciation of his work with the choir; Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May. Certificate marking ten years in the choir to **Patricia Brough; John Blanch** special medal to mark his support over many years.

**Barbara Taylor**

was presented at the AGM with a gift to mark her 80th Birthday and tremendous work for the Church.

**New Bishop of Hertford at St Michael's**

The Revd Canon **Dr Michael Beasley** is preaching at St Michael's Birchwood to celebrate their 60th Anniversary on 12th July at 9.30 am.

**Parish Magazine** copy date for the next issue: **26th July**.

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015**  
**7.45pm (doors and bar 7pm)**  
**Kimpton Memorial Hall, Kimpton, Herts**  
**Tickets £12.10 (inc booking fee)**  
**Email [tim@operaontherun.com](mailto:tim@operaontherun.com)**

Set to the music of Mozart, an original English libretto (written by Tim Armstrong-Taylor) with dialogue and direction by Ian Bloomfield. "We've taken excerpts of Mozart's 4 most loved operas and written a wonderful comic story of love and misunderstanding." It is a wonderful evening's entertainment for all. The show has had over 50 performances and delighted audiences up and down the country, touring all over England with a three week run in the West End at the Jermyn Street Theatre.

‘...bursting with thoroughly witty lyrics, intelligent humour, filled with lust (and) an occasional lament...thoroughly modern fun and an evening of delight.’ **Reviewsgate**  
 ‘...something rather lovely and very entertaining. The music of Mozart and a deliciously lively libretto...’ **Extra! Extra!**

The show is suitable for everyone.  
 Proceeds from the bar go to the Kimpton School Association.

**Brian Smith, who was born in the Long Arm & Short Arm Lemsford Village in the early 1940' s, has started a Jazz club in the village Hall.**

**Monthly Jazz on a Sunday in the Village Hall**

**Time: 13-00 to 16-00**

**7 June The Frog Island Jazz Band**

**5 July The Fenny Stompers**

*Details and dates through to November on the village website*



**D**espite rain either side of the day, Lemsford Village Fete had another roaring, sunny success! Backed by months of excellent organisation from the Fete Committee, who met monthly throughout the year, the parents of St John's children, members of the St John's congregation and stalwarts of the Lemsford community came together to make it a wonderful and successful day. The sun shone, the visitors came and much fun was had by all. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this great community event.



The school calendar seems to gallop away at this point of the year with so much happening!

Class 4 represented St John's in the WGC schools' Dance Festival, held at The Hawthorn Theatre, Campus West. They created their own dance routine to a track from the film 'Grease' (along with some valuable choreographic help from Mrs Davies) and put on an excellent performance on the night.

**A** few weeks ago, some children from St John's spent the morning with our local Traffic Police to help with an initiative to slow traffic down along Brocket Road. The pupils were invited to use the speed monitor to measure how fast drivers were travelling and many cars were stopped for driving above the speed limit of 30 mph! This initiative did not hand out fines in this instance but the children handed out posters that Class 4 had designed, to push the message home to drivers regarding the importance of keeping to the speed limit. This was an important educational experience for all involved.

Our Easter Service was combined with our termly communion service and we would like to thank Rev Sue Stillwell and John Barnard for all that they have done for us in leading the school's Wednesday morning worship at St John's church. We have now said goodbye to Sue from school as she has led her final school service and all wish her well for her new venture in Hatfield.

Best wishes to all,

**Mandy Evans**     Headteacher

*Amanda was Licensed on 12th May as a Team Minister in Hatfield at St John's Hilltop. She writes:*

I have been working at St John's, Harpenden as an assistant curate for over 3 years but lived in East Barnet prior to that for about 17 years. I moved to Hertford in 1976 from Spalding in Lincolnshire to begin my teaching degree. I was married in 1979 and my husband John and I eventually bought our first house in Garston. We had 3 children in the 80's and now have two grandchildren. They all live in Hertfordshire too. So I am very familiar with this county. I am also familiar with Hatfield.



When I was a student in the summer of 1977 I worked as a waitress at the Hawker Siddley Senior Staff restaurant. I stayed with friends who were Hatfield Polytechnic students in those old flats which were opposite. They were demolished to make way for new housing development and eventually the underpass and the Galleria.

My husband is a qualified psychotherapist and before I trained for ordination I was teacher. I have taught every age from 6-16 at some point in my teaching career. However the call to priesthood came and I started training with the Eastern region Ministerial College in 2008. I was ordained deacon in 2011 and priest in 2012.

I wasn't always an Anglican. I attended the United Reformed Church until I was about 16. At College I experienced a significant encounter with the Love of God and rediscovered my faith which had lapsed:

*My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.*

**F**ollowing that I attended independent Christian fellowships for many years but in 1994 as part of my Christian journey I was confirmed in the Anglican Church – on Valentine’s day! Becoming a regular worshipping member of the Church of England felt for me like ‘coming home’ and I love it – warts and all.

When I have the time I love being creative, knitting and sewing. I also love walking, cycling and bird watching, visiting National Trust places and watching films. I keep bantam hens – 4 named Josie, Lulu, Salt and Pepper.

I have been made to feel very welcome here already and look forward to getting to know and serve this community.

**Amanda**

### Lemsford Walks



**2nd Saturday** in the month at 10.30am, a one—two hour walk and coffee break, for people who live or work in the Parish or attend Lemsford church. Suitable for the family or dog walkers, all ages!

**June 13th** Tour of **Ayot St. Peters** with Peter Shirley; Peter is Ayot St Peter’s historian and will give us a very interesting insight into the village both past and present.

\*\*\* **July 11th** Tour of **Lemsford** with Andy Chapman, Andy is Chair of Lemsford Local History Group

**August 8th, Panshanger Park, Hertford**

**September 12th Lemsford Springs**

October 10th, tba November 14th tba

More details **June Copping** [Hatfield1357@Outlook.com](mailto:Hatfield1357@Outlook.com)

## Lemsford History website relaunched

Lemsford Local History group have had a website for over 10 years. This has recently been updated to accommodate an expanding archive of articles, reference documents and images.

The revamped site was launched at the 2015 Fête. The address of the site is [www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk](http://www.lemsfordhistory.co.uk) and includes the Buildings, Pubs, Houses of the Parish. You can follow the timeline, learn about the Pubs & Inns of the Parish including many whom no longer exist. With a list of every Census record since 1841 it contains a page for every family who lived in the Parish between 1841 to 1911.

An extensive collection of photos is showcased in various galleries :

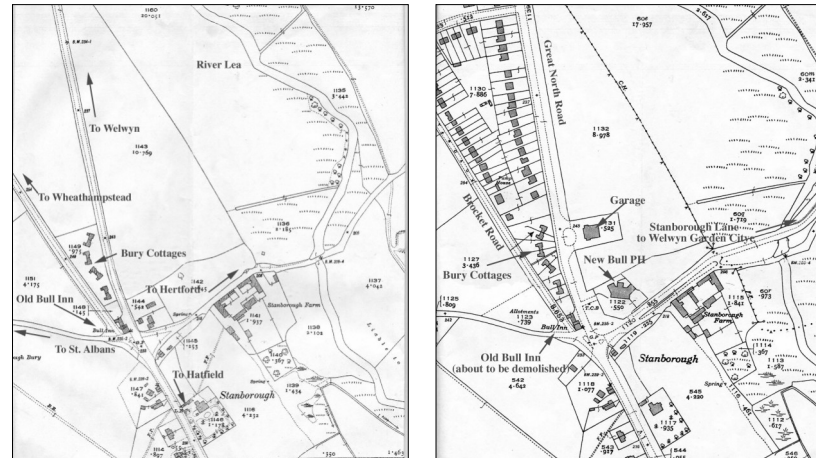
<b>St Johns Church</b>	<b>St Johns Church Choir</b>	<b>The Church Bells</b>
<b>St Johns School</b>	<b>St Johns School Classes</b>	<b>Lemsford Mill</b>
<b>The Sun Inn</b>	<b>Long &amp; Short Arm</b>	<b>The Waggoners</b>
<b>The Crooked Chimney</b>	<b>Head Teachers</b>	<b>The Vicars</b>

Articles include,:

<b>The Golden Age of Lemsford</b>	<b>The Bells of St Johns</b>	<b>The History of Brocket Hall</b>
<b>100 years of St Johns School</b>	<b>Lemsford Mill</b>	<b>Lord Mount Stephens</b>
<b>St. John's school 1960's</b>	<b>Bridge House</b>	<b>The Brocket Babies</b>
<b>The Old Reading Room</b>	<b>Lemsford F.C.</b>	<b>Lemsford Fete</b>

The site lists every house in Lemsford village with images from 2003 taken by Ginny Butler. Each house has its own page and with the help of the village it is hoped to add to these pages to get the complete history for every house. A similar template will be developed for Cromer Hyde, Valley Road, Corner, Brocket Road and The Great North Road, including adding to the Bury Cottages article.

To demonstrate how the parish developed we have a section on maps of the parish. Below demonstrates the development of Stanborough from 1923 to 1938



By listing every Family who lived in the parish from the 1841 to 1911 census and building a page for each family name we also hope that this inspires relatives to add to the page and develop a complete history of every family who lived in the Parish.

My favourite section is the Pubs & Inn's of the parish. This lists all the pubs that are in the Parish including the Pubs & Inn's we have lost. (A certain member of the group has spent much of his adult life researching this topic. ) The list is enhanced by the article *The golden age of Lemsford* which describes the Coaching trade when over 150 coaches and wagons went through the Parish daily in the 1800's.

We hope you enjoy the site and if you have any thing to add, please send images and articles and we publish them.

I have also developed a site based on the history site for St Johns Church Lemsford ([www.lemsfordchurch.org.uk](http://www.lemsfordchurch.org.uk)) as well as maintaining the Lemsford Village website built in 2010 .

*Editor's note: Andy has put a tremendous effort into these websites. All 3 are built and maintained by local web design company Lemsfordonline. [www.lemsfordonline.co.uk](http://www.lemsfordonline.co.uk)*

*We shall miss Sue's Sermons, which are thoughtful and inspiring. Here are extracts from the one she preached before our Annual Church Meeting, based on a reading from St John's Gospel.*

“And then Jesus says to them again - Peace be with you - but on this second occasion adds - 'so the Father has sent me - so I send you! And breathing on them they each receive the Holy Spirit. A sign that they must now be sent out into the world to continue the work of Jesus.. It is through the Holy Spirit, that Jesus will continue to work in and through them ...

I am reminded of the words of St Teresa of Avila

*Christ has no hands, but your hands  
to do his work today.*

*Christ has no feet but your feet  
to speed men on his way.*

*Christ has no lips but your lips  
to tell men why he died.*

*Christ has no love but your love  
to win men to his side.*



The truth is that we are called to be Christ to others, and to see Christ in others. We do this in the power of the spirit within us! The resurrection is the spirit of the new creation - a new world dawning - empowering each of us to be here today and to reach out to the needs of the world...Yes - this IS resurrection... Resurrection is not simply something of the past - its something for us in the present.

To know what it means to live in Christ and Christ in us can't be learned by rote from a book - it has to be experienced - it has to be felt... To be in Christ means that through the holy spirit, we are released from all those things that shackle and bind us - because Jesus comes into our tomb-like existence and says 'peace be with you'... like the disciples there that day - including Thomas the doubter - we can no longer resist being changed for the better... and that turn around has a positive effect on all those around us.

As a church, we too need to be empowered by the Easter faith -like the new community of believers we heard about in the reading from the book of Acts. A group of believers with one heart and soul ... bowled over by God's grace as they heard the conviction of the testimonies to the resurrection offered by the Apostles...

After this service we have the opportunity to experience that at our Annual Church meeting. I invite you to stay for good reason... the reality is that this beautiful church of St Johns needs us all to take our share in its mission - this place is a spring board...to going out into the world... if we are to truly live in the spirit of the risen Christ - then we can only do so with a firm foundation... a firm foundation means - having a church that is well maintained - has sound finances - has a vitality in its worship - continues to be the 'beacon on the hill' - reaches out to people beyond its physical walls. This means that regardless of the length of time we have been here at St Johns giving to the life of this church and receiving God blessings through it - by your presence today - you are supporting all those who work tirelessly work for this church - and I use that word because I know it IS tiring work!! Like the apostles we too need to continue God's work in this place, our homes and our communities...

For us today our faith in the wonder of the resurrection is based on the biblical witness accounts - not as we heard today literally seeing the risen Christ in our midst - seeing his wounds and sharing the peace with him! But every time we meet here we do encounter the risen Jesus.

And that's the great joy of John's gospel - it shows us that there is no one size fit for faith - there is faith based on signs and there is faith that needs no signs - there is weak faith and strong faith - there is shallow faith and deep faith - there is growing faith and faltering faith... John's gospel shows us that faith in the gospel is rarely as simple as making a one-off life time decision to follow Jesus - instead it means making decisions anew time and time again .

### St Michael's Birchwood Summer Fete

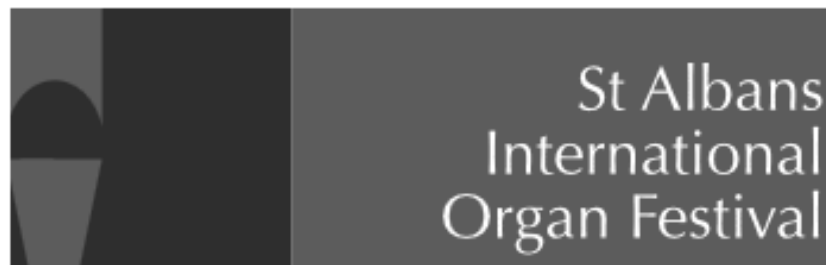
11th July 10.00-2.00 pm

Bouncy Castle, cake stall, plant stall,

BBQ food *always available*

Bouncy Castle, Face Painting,

Sherlock homes Treasure Hunt; Local school choirs



### 4 – 18 JULY 2015 FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Commissions from James MacMillan & Paul Patterson
- Orchester Wiener Akademie dir. Martin Haselböck
- St Albans Bach Choir
- Walton *Belshazzar's Feast*
- Vaughan Williams *Dona nobis pacem*
- Ensemble Bash
- Combined choirs of Westminster Cathedral,  
Christ Church Oxford, St Albans Cathedral
- Jury recitals and much more

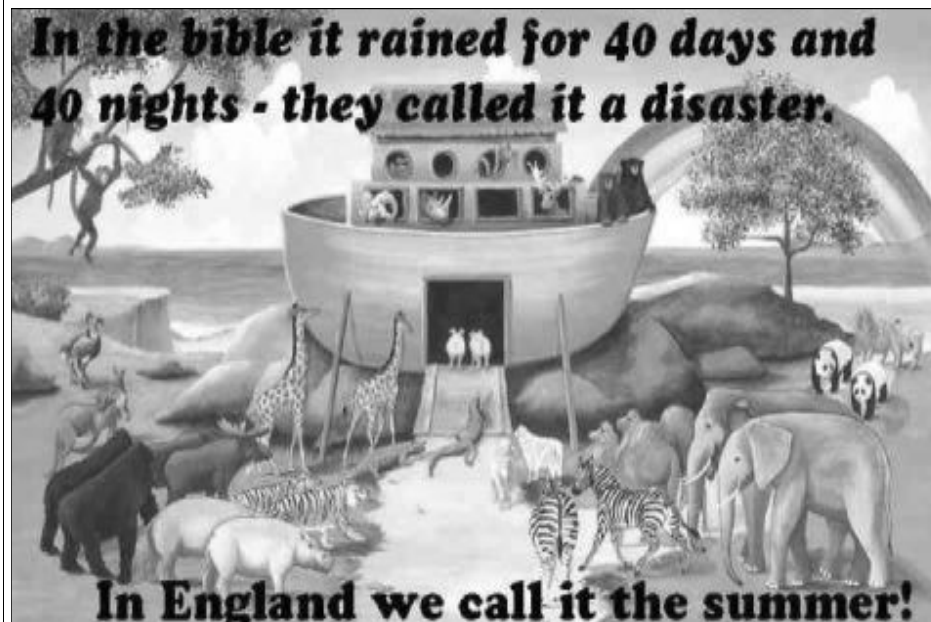
[www.organfestival.com](http://www.organfestival.com) for full festival programme



Long warm days...  
The pace of life slows...  
A time for picnics and rest in the shade...  
Lord, help me to rest awhile  
in the cooling shade of your presence.  
Slow down my restless heart and fill me  
with gentle compassion for all your people.

Amen.

*And finally .....*



	Web site	www.lemsfordchurch.org.uk
<b>VICAR</b>	Vacancy	
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Mrs Jackie Spry 57 The Crescent, Welwyn AL6 9JE	01438 715868
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Mrs Jean Stokes 44 Jordans, Hilly Fields WGC AL7 2HD	327873
<b>Treasurer &amp; Parish Clerk</b>	Mrs. Gina Butler 33 Gt. North Road Stanborough AL8 7TJ	372062
<b>Assistant Treasurer (Gift Aid)</b>	Mrs Jackie Spry 57 The Crescent, Welwyn, AL6 9JE	01438 715868
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Mr. Martin English 13, The Valley Green, Welwyn Garden City AL8 7DQ	334074
<b>Electoral Roll Secretary</b>	Mr Andy Garratt	322731
<b>Deputy Churchwardens</b>	Mr John & Mrs Olive Benson Mr John Cox Mrs Jean Mitchinson Mr Brian Spry	325663 265367 329023 01438 715868
<b>Choir Leader</b>	Mrs Carole Payne	329697
<b>Church Cleaning Organiser</b>	Mrs. Eileen Martindale	01438 716162
<b>Flower Arranging Organiser</b>	Mrs. Sara Poole	320358
<b>Garden of Remembrance &amp; Records</b>	Miss Barbara Taylor	329553
<b>PCC Chairman &amp; Magazine Editor</b>	Mr. Geoffrey Hollis g.hollis2@ntlworld.com	265617
<b>Organist /Musical Director</b>	Mr Tim Armstrong-Taylor	0779 6268565
<b>Notice sheet/ secretarial assistants</b>	Liz and Gus Edwards lizandgusedwards@gmail.com	323785
<b>St John's School</b>	Head Teacher Mrs Mandy Evans	322589
<b>Tower Captain</b>	Mr Roger Brown	01727 859059
<b>Transport Co-ordinator</b>	Barbara Taylor	329553
<b>Youth Co-ordinator</b>	Mrs Jo Brooks	256702



In May the Lemsford Old Folks Club enjoyed a day out to Windsor.  
After a boat trip on the Thames they visited the Castle. *Photographs by Carole Payne.*

