

St J's Diary & Notices: w/c Sunday, 16/08/2026

			
(3 rd in month) Sunday, 16/08/2026 Trinity 11 / Pentecost 12	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	
	14.00	Forest Church	Meet outside Crichton Church, dressed for weather
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter
Monday, 17/08/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	13.00-15.00	Fibromyalgia Group (Hall)	
Tuesday, 18/08/2026	18.30	1982 Eucharist (Lady Chapel)	
Wednesday, 19/08/2026	10.30	1970 Eucharist (Church), followed by refreshments (Hall)	
Thursday, 20/08/2026	11.00	Memorial Service for Hilary Grieve (Church & Hall)	Light buffet in Hall afterwards. All welcome.
	19.00	Prayer Meeting/ discussion on last Sunday's gospel	At Annette's. All welcome. Church Office can put you in touch.
	19.30	Bell Practice (Tower)	Please contact bells@stjohnsdumfries.org or 07754 596140 if not a regular.
Friday, 21/08/2026	10.00-17.00	Church Office open	
	12.00	Friday Prayers for World Peace (Church)	30 mins or so, followed by tea/coffee. All welcome. Just show up.
Saturday, 22/08/2026			

			
(4th in month) Sunday, 23/08/2026 Trinity 12 / Pentecost 13	09.15	Sunday Worship: Crichton Memorial Church	Crichton Campus, Dumfries DG1 4ZZ
	09.30	Holy Communion @ Maxwelton Chapel	Just off B729 between Wallaceton & Moniaive. DG3 4DX
	11.00	1982 Family Eucharist (Church); Youth@11; Godly Play Activity Bags available; refreshments afterwards (Hall)	Including Ministry for Healing; listen for announcement.
	18.00	Contemporary Worship (Church)	
	Any time*	Service online	www.stjohnsdumfries.org . *Available on website from about same time as actual event & for some days thereafter

If you need to contact St John's, for any purpose, you can do the following:

- The Rev Jim Booth, Interim Priest, has the Rector's phone (07487 653069) throughout the Vacancy, and any emails addressed to rector@stjohnsdumfries.org will be received by him (and only him).
- Please do not contact the Rectory landline (01387 254126) meantime; it is currently out of use.
- For most things, you can contact the Church Office (07754 596140) / pastadmin@stjohnsdumfries.org. The Office will continue to be open Mondays and Fridays and most other weekdays besides, except Wednesdays, but please call before making a special trip.
- So, in general, normal service will continue, under exception of the Rectory landline.

MU NOTICES

- During the summer months, Ann Wren is completing a **hymn playing challenge** as part of the Mothers' Union 150 celebrations. Money raised will be for Mothers' Union Projects World-wide. Ann is playing hymns in the Scottish Hymnal (820 hymns) at various venues around Scotland including St John's (usually Tues evenings and Wed mornings). Please see Carolynne Sorrell for the sponsor sheet. Thank you for your support.
- **MU Informal meeting** will take place at Dumfries Baptist Centre on Thursday, 20/08/2026 at 2pm. A chance for members and friends to meet up for coffee, chat and cake! All welcome.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CLUB: MONDAY 3 TO FRIDAY 7 AUGUST:

There's some video playing on the TV at the back of the church, documenting our activities during Holiday Club week. We had about 38 primary aged children; many of whom we knew either from our own regular activities (Primary School Chaplaincy, Youth@11, Mystery Evenings, Senior Investigating Officers); some from previous Holiday Clubs, and a few new, and very welcome, faces. And there was nobody we wouldn't happily have again! We had a truly fantastic week, albeit an exhausting one, and our sincere thanks to all those who supported the enterprise in any way: with prayer, with their physical presence, with donations of things, with forbearance at the disruption, and so on. A really successful Holiday Club for 2026, and special mention needs to be made of Annabelle, who masterminded and co-ordinated the whole thing and to Team Ukraine (Inna, Maria & Lily) who were a tremendous team-within-a-team. Thank you, everyone.

NEWS SUMMARY...

- We have a buyer for the **Rectory**, and have also offered on a nearly new 4 bedroom house in Summerpark. All stages of the transactions to date have been overseen and approved by the Rural

Dean, Diocesan Architect & Surveyor, our Solicitors and the Vestry as Trustees of St J's. As you will appreciate, nothing is finalised until we have concluded missives for both sale and purchase transactions, but things are looking hopeful. In fact, the word 'providential', as used by Jamie Brand in his verbal update recently, seems to have been the *mot juste*. In the meantime, there is a fair amount of good quality furniture in the Rectory. The purchasers may want some of it, but the rest will have to be disposed of. If you think any of it might be of interest to you, please ask David about viewing it, and we may be able to come to 'some arrangement'.

- At the same time, the **Vacancy Committee**, assisted by Bishop and Rural Dean, interviewed our preferred candidate for the post of St J's Rector recently. We were all extremely impressed with the candidate, whom we, Bishop and Rural Dean, all believe would be a fantastic appointment for St J's and one who will be able to lead us forward into our next phase. A visit is to be arranged for the candidate to get a better look at us, and us them and we hope they will confirm their willingness to join us in early course thereafter. It may take a little time before we can disclose the identity of the person we have chosen; they need time to break the news to their own congregation, and it would be wrong for that congregation to find out what's happening through gossip or via Facebook. The Vacancy Committee has done its best, within the confidentiality rules pertaining to all recruitment processes, to be as open as possible with the whole congregation about its deliberations and actions. And we have practised prayerful discernment in the best way we know how, throughout the process. Any queries – though we may, for the reasons outlined above, not be able to tell you much more – please speak to Jamie Brand, **but please avoid speculation**, which can be damaging at this delicate stage of things.

- **A Prayer for the Vacancy Committee (and the preferred candidate):**

Almighty God,

who by your Holy Spirit calls faithful servants to shepherd your Church:

Grant to us the gift of courage, that with humble hearts, clear minds and prayerful discernment we may recognise your will for this community.

Bless your servant who comes before us, giving grace to listen, wisdom to speak, and confidence to follow your call. Unite this congregation in faithful prayer, that together we may receive with joy the future you have prepared for St John's; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

CHRISTIAN AID:

- Keep the date: The **September Coffee Morning** will be held in St George's Hall on Saturday 12th September. More details nearer the time. *Margaret Morton*

Summer holidays, Vikings events, it is a busy time. We are next gathering as **Forest Church at the Crichton on the 16th of August**. Please send in your photos and experiences of "reading" creation and finding God in everyday life.

A poster for a Forest Church gathering. The top section features a background of green leaves and red apples. Below this, on the left, is a white box containing the text: "All are invited. Whether you consider yourself a close friend of Jesus, or are just a wee bit curious, we meet in his name and share his peace. We meet in peace and make peace through meeting. Worshipping in the company of creation, bathing in the green". To the right of this text is a large white circle containing the text: "We will gather as Forest Church outside the Crichton Chapel 2pm, 16th of August 2026". Below the text are three photographs: a person holding a large sunflower, a person in a yellow dress holding a large sunflower, and a close-up of a large sunflower. At the bottom left is the Quartz logo with the text "A partnership between Quartz, Bala, and Crichton Chapel". At the bottom right is a QR code and a small logo for "St John's Church for All". The website address "www.ancient-pathways.co.uk - Forest Church!" is at the bottom.

<https://www.ancient-pathways.co.uk/fresh-expressions/forest-church/qfc-16th-of-august-2026/>

Quartz say...

NEWS

Ukrainian Kids

By admin 25 May 2026 No Comments



Border to Barcaple

Fiona Crudgington is raising money for Abernethy

33%

£3,375
raised of £10,000 target by
62 supporters

Some of you may remember the visit of Ukrainian children to Dumfries last year. This is to give them some relief from the war.

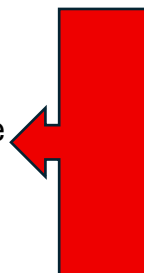
Fiona Crudgington is raising funds to help this years group make the journey

you can support her here:

Here's the link to the fundraising page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

[2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fiona-crudgington-2026?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL) Or you can donate **directly** to the Abernethy trust which allows for gift aid and smaller transaction fees. <https://www.abernethy.org.uk/donate/> the option Ukrainian appeal can be selected from the drop down box.



Quartz will be meeting the **Ukrainian children** at Caerlaverock on 21 August.

There will be a **MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HILARY GRIEVE** on Thursday, 20/08/2026 at 11.00, followed by a light buffet in the Hall. All welcome.