CHURCH NEWS Monthly Edition

PERSHORE BENEFICE

July / August 2024

Welcome to the Church News Monthly Edition for July and August 2024

The weekly bulletin in our regular service sheet will continue to keep you up to date with what's happening week by week.

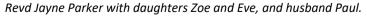


Congratulations to Revd Jayne Parker on her Ordination - she is now a priest!



Thank you so much to everyone for your love, prayers and support leading up to my ordination as a priest on Saturday 29 July. It was a wonderful occasion, made all the more special that so many of you could be there in spirit or in person to celebrate together. I was humbled to be able to lead the Eucharist the following day and to celebrate God's presence with my church family. Thank you to all who have offered gifts, cards, time and talents including cake, fizz and laundry – you are all amazing and I am grateful. But mostly thank you for your prayers. *Jayne*







Revd Jayne Parker with Bishop Martin (L) and Bishop John (R)

IN THIS EDITION

CELEBRATIONS - ECO CHURCH ACTIVITIES - HYMNS AND PIMMS - PLUM FESTIVAL

TO REQUEST A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS BULLETIN PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ON 01386 552071

MINISTRY NEWS



30TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN IN PRIESTHOOD: Many gathered at the Abbey on Thursday 20 June to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of the first women as priests. The service was led by Becky Elliot, Dean of Women's Ministry and Claire. Bishop John preached with Archdeacon Nikki leading the prayers. The bells were rung to celebrate the start of the service by an all female ringing team, and Hilary Fowler kindly provided a finely decorated celebratory cake!



Photos: www.cofe-worcester.org.uk

BABIES AND TODDLERS - SUMMER BREAK: Our Babies and Toddlers group will be on its summer break from Friday 12 July, retuning on Friday 13 September for the Autumn Term. The Autumn Term will run until Friday 13 December, with a half-term break on Friday 1 November. For more details, contact Sara Speed on 01386 710776. Sara Speed PERSHORE ABBEY COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 20 JULY: July's monthly parish coffee morning will be hosted by the Abbey Eco Church Group. Everyone is invited to pop into St Andrew's between 1030 and 1200 to enjoy coffee, cakes and a chat. There will even be an Eco Church Give and Take stall so bring along any books, plants or produce that you would like to give and, in return, take away something someone else has brought. No clothes or bric-a-brac please. We look forward to seeing you there. Jane Knox, PASA



"LOVE IS IN THE AIR" - DIOCESAN MOTHERS' UNION SERVICE: A service to celebrate love... ours and God's in Pershore Abbey Saturday 13 July at 1400. Come and give thanks for and reaffirm, the gift of love in all relationships; married, widowed, same sex, parent and child. Children are welcome. Afterwards, bring teddies and a picnic to enjoy the Abbey grounds, weather permitting. Sarah Cottrill, Head of Community of Interest for Faith

<u>TEDDY PRAISE SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 1415:</u> Join us at the Bandstand in Abbey Park for our annual Plum Festival Teddy Praise service on this plum-filled bank holiday weekend. Children (of all ages) are encouraged to bring along their favourite teddy!

MINISTRY NEWS

MORNING PRAISE IN THE PARK SUNDAY 28 JULY 1030: As part of our 'Fun at the Abbey' Day, this special outdoor service will be taking place on 28 July to celebrate the great outdoors. Meet outside the Abbey near the wildflower meadow. You are of course welcome to bring chairs if you wish, and perhaps brollies! (See poster on page 11)

FUN AT THE ABBEY SUNDAY 28 JULY: The Pershore Abbey Community will be hosting Fun at the Abbey on Sunday 28 July. The event will take place outside the Abbey by the Wildflower Meadow and will be an opportunity for residents to meet and make new friends. The day will start with our Outdoor Morning Praise service at 1030, followed by games for all ages at 1130, and a bring-your-own picnic at 1200. Everyone is welcome to come along for all or part of the day.

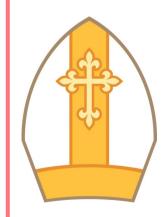


RIDE + STRIDE SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER: This annual event is a wonderful way to enjoy getting out and about whilst raising much-needed funds to support grant applications from churches and chapels across the country. The Abbey will once again be taking part, as will St James', Birlingham. St Mary's, Wick, and St Nicholas', Pinvin, will also be taking part and will be offering refreshments. To find out how to participate, please visit: https://ridestride.org/

THE BIBLE FOR ALL: Come and join this short study course as we explore the Bible together. The course is two sessions long and will take place at St Andrew's on 3 and 10 October at 1430-1600, or if an evening suits you better, come along on 1 and 8 October 1900-2030. For more info contact me. Claire



<u>DEANERY SYNOD MEETING - TUESDAY 23 JULY 1930 AT ST ANDREW'S:</u> There will be an open meeting of Deanery Synod on 23 July and a warm welcome is extended to anyone involved in New Worshipping Communities, or those interested and would like to know more. A definition of what is a New Worshipping Community can be found here: https://cofe-worcester.org.uk/parish-support/new-worshipping-communities/#:~:text=New%20%2D%20The%20aim%20of%20a,people%20grow%20in%20their%20faith Alison Sandham, Secretary & Administrator for Pershore & Evesham Deanery



JOIN THE CONVERSATION: The process of looking for a new Bishop of Worcester has begun and the Diocese of Worcester want to hear the views of as many people as possible so the 'Statement of Needs' they compile accurately reflects what the diocese is looking for in their new bishop, and where the diocese is seen at the moment and in the future. To join the conversation, please complete their short online survey, before **Thursday 1 August**: www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/join-the-conversation

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE FOODBANK

The volunteers of Pershore Foodbank continue to work hard to support local people who are going through a difficult time so that they can have enough to eat and put food on their children's table. A recent overview of our data reveals that the numbers of people using our service has levelled off over recent months with a heartening reduction in multiple repeat visits. Since we try very hard to steer our clients towards solutions to their problems rather than repeated use of the Foodbank this counts as excellent news. We use anonymised data for these calculations and make sure to respect the personal dignity of our clients and the rules of confidentiality.

In July 2024, we will be launching a special initiative to help families over the School Summer Holiday period. We will be offering eligible families with school-age children three food parcels at fortnightly intervals because, if the children are hungry at the beginning of the holidays then they are likely to need more than one parcel of high calorie food to get them safely back to school in September. Of course, we continue to work with partners in the community such as the Riverside Centre, Community Cupboard, Wellbeing Hub and Pershore Volunteer Plus but your help will also be invaluable.

Regular donations of non-perishable foodstuffs are always welcome and we are certainly going to need plenty of extra pasta, beans, cereal and long-life milk to keep those hungry youngsters fed. If you would like to make a financial donation it can be used specifically for this purpose as we always seek to make our bulk purchases in the most economic way. Alternatively, you could specify that your donation be used for our fresh fruit and vegetable vouchers as we have recently been able to increase their value from £5 to £10. Thank you all again for making it such a pleasure to serve the people of Pershore and the surrounding villages.

Nicola Ainsworth





THE PERSHORE FOODBANK IS OPEN IN THE ST ANDREW'S CENTRE ON TUESDAYS 1100 - 1300 AND FRIDAYS 1300 - 1500

For further info please see our website <u>www.pershore.foodbank.org.uk</u> or contact us on 01386 555347

The Foodbank aim to have a Citizens Advice representative available at Friday sessions

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGES

PET SERVICE AT ST MARY'S, WICK: St Mary's, Wick, hosted its annual Pet Service on Sunday 9 June and we are delighted to report that 20 dogs and a macaw brought 40 of their owners to our service, to worship God and be blessed. They also enjoyed home cooked sausage rolls, biscuits and cheese straws. Here are a few photos of the congregation! Penny Gordon, Churchwarden

WICK CONFETTI SERVICE: An amazing 70 people congregated in Wick for the special Wick Confetti Service on Tuesday 25 June, by kind invitation of Charles Hudson. The sun shone and the beautiful flower-filled fields were greatly admired.



PRAISE INDEED: The Songs of Praise service held at St James' on Sunday 9 June was a wonderful way to become acquainted with the Abbey's new Director of Music, James MacDowall Scott, as he was the guest organist. The organ has never sounded so good and the recessional music was even applauded. A good number of the Abbey choir were also present and as well as enhancing the hymn singing they performed a motet 'Thou visited the Earth' Maurice Greene. All present really enjoyed the service and the cake supplied for refreshments was a bonus...! *Adrianne Woodward, Churchwarden*



RAISE A GLASS FOR ST JAMES: St James' Church, Birlingham are holding a 'Hymns and Pimms' service on Sunday 14 July at 1500. The service is being led by Canon Claire and it is to commemorate St James' Day which is in July. Glasses of Pimms will be served and replenished during the service and other non-alcoholic drinks will be available. All are invited to raise a glass to St James...! Adrianne Woodward, Churchwarden

PLEASE CONTACT THE
BENEFICE OFFICE FOR
MORE NEWS FROM
WICK AND WE WILL PUT
YOU IN TOUCH!

BENEFICE OFFICE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
KEEP UP TO DATE WITH
MORE NEWS FROM
BIRLINGHAM PLEASE
VISIT THE VILLAGE
WEBSITE AT
WWW.BIRLINGHAM.ORG

FOR MORE NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM PINVIN PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE BY VISITING WWW.PINVIN.ORG.UK

Summer's Little Seeds @ St. Andrew's Centre







Come and hear a story, listen to a message and prayer, sing a song, make a craft, take part in a free play activity and have a snack.



GRUFFAL

Friday 26th July, 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd August 2024

9:30am to 11.30am

For pre-school aged children and siblings with an accompanying adult

> If you want to find out more contact: Sam Andrews: 07879 310312

Summer Activity Morning @ Pershore Abbey



Tuesday 13th August 2024

Drop in between 9:30am to 12pm

for

Games • Crafts • Trail • & More

Children up to 11 years old with an accompanying adult

If you want to find out more contact: Sam Andrews: 07879 310312

SALZWEDEL TRAVELS

Impressions of a novice "Salzwedel-Twinner"

Early in the morning of 6 June 2024 five members of the congregation of Pershore Abbey gathered in bright sunshine at Birmingham Airport to pay a visit to our twin church of St Katharine's [Katharinenkirche] in Salzwedel, central Germany. Michael Hodges was our leader, the others were Angela Gerrard, Emily Miller and Jan and John Ayres. Michael and Angela had been before but for the rest of us it was our first visit.

The main activity in Birmingham Airport on this Thursday morning seemed to be queuing, but eventually we made it through all the necessary hoops that air travel likes to put in our path these security-conscious days without any undue problems, and had a trouble-free flight to Frankfurt.

We arrived in Salzwedel in the early evening and were warmly greeted by their pastor, Matthias Friske, and our hosts at the Lateinschule, their equivalent of our St Andrew's. We all joined in a barbecue dinner in the school's garden and started



1 of the 8 churches Matthias is responsible for



Michael in one of the village Churches in Matthias' care

to get to know each other better. We then went home with our respective hosts, except that our accommodation was slightly different, a self-contained flat on the top floor of the Lateinschule – good exercise!

On Friday morning we joined Matthias and his family for breakfast and then went across to the church for a simple morning service [Andacht]. Matthias then took us on a tour of the church, showing us such its triptychs treasures as and surprisingly extensive library. The more adventurous of us then climbed higher and found ourselves clambering over the top of the ceiling and making the occasional unplanned contact with some very old wooden beams and some equally ancient spiders' webs. Then the even more

SALZWEDEL TRAVELS



1 of the 2 Triptych in St Katherine's church

adventurous (not me) climbed even higher to see the bells.

When we had all returned safely to terra firma Matthias took us on a walk around part of the town before leading us to the Amadeus restaurant for lunch. Early afternoon was ours to do as we wished and Harry Helbig very kindly led Jan and me on a walk through parts of the town we had not been able to see in the morning, including the other major church, the Marienkirche. Here we met its very friendly part-Canadian caretaker.

After tea and cake back at the Pfarrhaus we made a tour of several of the churches in the surrounding villages, many of which are Matthias's responsibility, with him again in professional tour-guide mode. The day ended with another al fresco dinner in the garden of the Lateinschule and a slide show of previous Pershore and Salzwedel exchange visits.

On Saturday morning, after breakfast, it was our turn to take the morning service and we took as our model the Iona service with its simple hymns and readings. Angela led and Michael kept us on the

straight and narrow musically, while the rest of us read lessons and prayers. Afterwards Jan presented Matthias with a large photograph of our "paper" Christ as a gift from the Abbey.

The main event of the day was a trip to Magdeburg for which we caught the train and had a relaxing journey through the Saxon countryside. The city centre itself is now much like any other major city in Europe with tower blocks (not too tall) and broad main streets, and tramlines helping to keep traffic pollution and congestion down.

As we walked from the station we passed an enormous twin-towered, but quite plain, Gothic church which proved to be the Catholic Cathedral of St Sebastian. Just beyond it we came to the even larger Lutheran Cathedral (of Saint Mauritius and St Katharina), the oldest Gothic cathedral in Germany. Here we spent the rest of the morning as Matthias explained some of the history and many of the highlights of this imposing building.



Green Citadel in Magdeburg

SALZWEDEL TRAVELS

After this we had lunch at the Spanish restaurant Bodega before taking a walk through the weird and wonderful Green Citadel. the only building extraordinary Hundertwasser in this part of the world. You either love or hate its extravagant use of multi-coloured tiles and almost organic shapes, but I think most of us loved it. Then some of us the small but superbly explored well-presented Dommuseum before we all made our weary way back to Salzwedel for a quick supper with our hosts and a cello and organ concert in the Katharinenkirche.

On Sunday morning, after breakfast at the Pfarrhaus, Matthias showed us some of the church's treasures including an early printed book with hand-coloured initial letters, a medieval chalice and a reliquary

Our last lunch together

that resembled a very large fob watch. We then went to the church for the morning service, during which we were presented to the congregation and a small presentation was made to us. Then followed brunch in the Lateinschule garden before it was time to say our very sad farewells.

Our abiding memories will be of extremely generous people with warm and loving hearts, for whom nothing was too much trouble. Strong friendships have been formed and we will all be in each other's thoughts and prayers in the coming years.

John Ayres



THE SALZWEDEL EXPERIENCE: For those who have been before and want to renew their recollections and for those who have never been but might like to enjoy a taster of the place and the people – you are invited to come along to **St Andrew's at 1900 on Tuesday 9 July** to see the photographic record of this year's visit. There will be time for questions, fellowship and refreshments, as we plan to host a party from Salzwedel here in Pershore in 2025 and make a return visit in 2026. We hope to see you. *Michael, Angela, Emily, Jan and John*





ABBEY BOOKSTALL

We are noticing that the Abbey is welcoming lots of private tours, visiting organists and bell ringing groups, hosting weddings and concerts, not to mention more and more visitors from far and wide coming in to appreciate our beautiful building. Pleasingly, there are new welcomers so we have more of the time that the Abbey is open, covered. We also have new stock - particularly Abbey branded pens in two colours and wooden Church mice, hand carved from sustainable wood in Indonesia. Please come by and have a look!



The welcomers are having a get together on Thursday 11 July at 1400. By now everyone should have been notified but if you are interested in joining us please let me know or just come along to meet other welcomers over a cup of tea and biscuits!

You can contact me on pershoreabbeybookstall@gmail.com call me on 07858 506218 or say hello in person. I look forward to chatting with you! Sally Whyte



PERSHORE ABBEY ECO CHURCH



ECO CHURCH FILM: Following the Litter Pick on Saturday 13 July, head to St Andrew's for a short video on recycling. Refreshments provided.

COFFEE MORNING: Eco Church will be hosting July's parish coffee morning, with a Give and Take stall, on Saturday 20 July from 1030 until 1200. (See page 2 for more details)

RECYCLED PAPER: This July/August Monthly Bulletin has been printed on recycled paper. As we look for changes we can make to be kinder to our environment, using recycled paper is a small yet significant step in the right direction.



BAT WALK: A Bat Walk has been arranged and will take place on Friday 23 August. Please meet at 2010 at the jammy dodger (moon goddess stone) in the gardens at St Andrew's Centre. A suggested donation of £5 per person would be gratefully received. Children and dogs are welcome, accompanied by a responsible adult. Please wear sensible shoes and prepare to be entertained! *Michelle Young*

ECO CHURCH WALK: 8 of us and Daisy the Shelty enjoyed walking around Pensham and the farmers fields on Sunday 30 June, learning little gems about farming from Bill. Such as the spring onions were probably getting watered for ease of pulling out of the ground and the plants left in the ground may be perfectly edible, but probably did not conform to supermarket specification. David Oldham



NEXT ABBEY
LITTER PICK DATE:

Join the Abbey Litter Pickers (ALPs)
SATURDAY 13 JULY 2024 1000-1100
B/HOLIDAY MONDAY 26 AUGUST 1715-1815

Meet at the West End of the Abbey All Welcome - Equipment Provided

NEXT ABBEY ECO CHURCH MEETING:

WEDNESDAY 04 SEPTEMBER 1915
ST ANDREW'S CENTRE UPPER ROOM

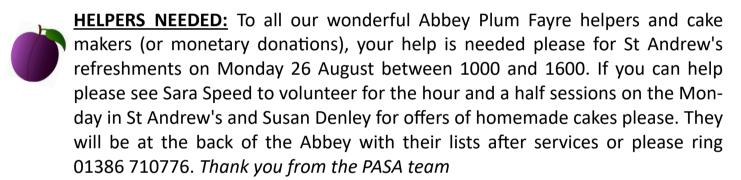
Please come and join us!

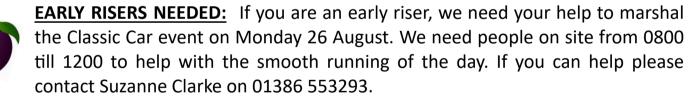
PERSHORE PLUM FESTIVAL AUGUST 2024

PERSHORE PLUM FESTIVAL AND CLASSIC CAR EVENT IS BACK!: Join us on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August at Pershore Abbey and Abbey Park as this family friendly extravaganza returns for 2024. Everyone's favourite attractions will be back including; Classic Cars, Teddy Bear Zip Wire and Teddy Bear Parachute Drop, Pershore Town Choir, Tower Tours, and of course refreshments in St Andrew's Centre.

Looking to enter the Classic Car event? Please either download an entry form here: Classic Car Application Form or contact office@pershoreabbey.org.uk For more details about the Abbey's Plum Festival activities, see our weekly bulletins nearer the time.

It is only possible to offer all the Abbey's Plum Festival activities thanks to the many kind volunteers that offer their time. If you are able and happy to help, here are just a few requests for help:



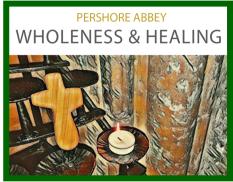


ABBEY TOWER TOUR GUIDES AND TOUR ASSISTANTS NEEDED: The Abbey Tower Team is looking to recruit volunteers for our Tour Guides and Tour Assistants roles. Only minimal time commitment. Please contact the Benefice Office on 01386 552071 or office@pershoreabbey.org.uk if you would like to become part of the Abbey Tower Team. Tony Wright-Jones

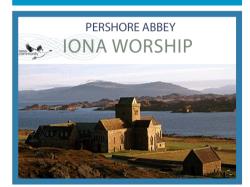
TEDDY BEAR VOLUNTEERS: We need volunteers to help with all of the teddy bear based activities in the Abbey from parachuting bears to tower desk helpers. If you would like to help please contact Suzanne Clarke on 01386 553293 and look out for more details in the weekly bulletin soon.

TEDDY BEARS WANTED FOR PLUM FAYRE: Once again the Abbey is collecting teddies to sell at the Plum Fayre Teddy Stall on Monday 26 August. Donations would be very much appreciated, please place in the "Teddy Box" at the back of the Abbey or phone Suzanne Clarke on 553293. *Thank you.*

REGULAR SERVICES







NEXT SERVICES:

SUNDAY 14 JULY & SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

We also offer the opportunity to receive the ministry of healing prayers with two of the Wholeness & Healing team in the St John Chapel after communion has been received at every 3rd Sunday 1030 Eucharist

NEXT SERVICES:

SUNDAY 14 JULY & SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 0930 ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

Come and join in with our family friendly and informal café-style worship in St Andrew's with worship, music and refreshments

NEXT SERVICE:

SUNDAY 28 JULY & SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 1700 PERSHORE ABBEY

We hope you will join us either in person or via Zoom. Contact iona@pershoreabbey.org.uk for the Zoom link

HOLLAND HOUSE

AN EVENING OF JAZZ: Holland House is hosting An Evening of Jazz on Saturday 13 July, 1800-2100. The event will be an informal evening and you are invited to take your friends and enjoy the house and gardens with live music by *Adam Sanders and Friends*, a jazz quartet who will play a selection of standards from the jazz catalogue alongside innovative arrangements from the Christian tradition. Tickets are £15.00 and include one drink and light bites. Additional drinks can be purchased at the bar. Tickets are available via their website: www.hollandhouse.org Emily Miller

QUIET GARDEN DAYS: You are invited to spend a day in quietness, peace and reflection

in the beautiful gardens at Holland House, 1000-1600 on the following days:

Thursday 18 July - The Ven. Frank Bentley, 'The Dandelion'

Thursday 22 August - Nicholas Owen, 'Herbs'

Wednesday 11 September - Revd Nikki Moon, 'The Grape Vibe'

The cost is £25 for the day including light lunch, coffee and afternoon tea. A led reflection at the start of the day, optional communion before lunch, and shared group reflection to close before tea. Book at www.hollandhouse.org or call 01386 860330.

PERSHORE BENEFICE SUNDAY SERVICES **JULY & AUGUST 2024**

Details of our planned **Sunday** worship services within the Pershore Benefice are given below, though please do check our social media pages and website in case of changes.

We look forward to welcoming you in person, and don't forget that the 1030 Sunday Service from Pershore Abbey is livestreamed and available to view on our YouTube

Channel: **Pershore Abbey Community**

PERSHORE ABBEY

SUNDAY 7 JULY - TRINITY 6

0800 BCP Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream 1700 Evensong

SUNDAY 14 JULY - TRINITY 7

0800 Eucharist 0930 Café Church (St Andrew's) 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream 1700 Wholeness & Healing

SUNDAY 21 JULY - TRINITY 8

0800 Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream

SUNDAY 28 JULY - TRINITY 9

0800 Eucharist with Livestream 1030 Morning Praise in the Park 1700 Iona Worship

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST - TRINITY 10

0800 BCP Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST - TRINITY 11

0800 Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream 1700 Wholeness & Healing

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST - TRINITY 12

0800 Eucharist 1030 Sung Eucharist with Livestream

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST - TRINITY 13

0800 Eucharist 1030 Morning Praise with Livestream 1415 Teddy Praise (Bandstand)

ST MARY'S, WICK

SUNDAY 14 JULY

1030 Morning Praise

SUNDAY 28 JULY

1030 Parish Communion

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST

1030 Morning Praise

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

1030 Parish Communion

ST NICHOLAS', PINVIN

SUNDAY 7 JULY

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 21 JULY

1030 Sunday Praise

SUNDAY 4 AUGUST

1030 Holy Communion

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST

1030 Sunday Praise

ST JAMES', BIRLINGHAM

SUNDAY 14 JULY

1500 Hymns and Pimms

PERSHORE ABBEY PLUM FESTIVAL DATES AND ACTIVITES



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 1415

TEDDY PRAISE SERVICE - THE BANDSTAND

MONDAY 26 AUGUST 1000 ONWARDS

CLASSIC CARS - ABBEY PARK
TEDDY ZIP WIRE - ABBEY PARK
TEDDY PARACHUTE DROP - ABBEY PARK
TOWER TOURS - ABBEY
PERSHORE TOWN CHOIR - THE ABBEY

REFRESHMENTS - ST ANDREW'S CENTRE

See our weekly bulletins for more details

PERSHORE ABBEY CONCERTS & EVENTS

SATURDAY 6 JULY 1000
PERSHORE MIDSUMMER BRASS

SUNDAY 7 JULY 1400 ORGAN PROMENADE

SUNDAY 14 JULY 1400 ORGAN PROMENADE

SUNDAY 28 JULY 1400 ORGAN PROMENADE

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST 1000
THREE CHOIRS ORGAN RECITAL

For full details please visit our website www.pershoreabbey.org.uk





Facebook: #pershoreabbeycom YouTube: Pershore Abbey Community

Website: www.pershoreabbey.org.uk