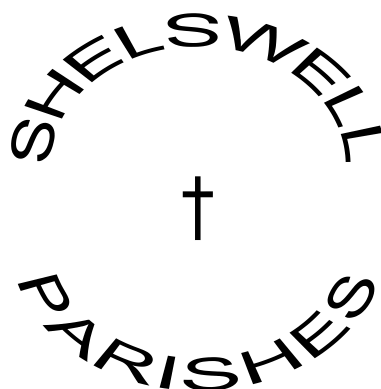


Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

Cottisford
Fringford
Hardwick
Mixbury
Stoke Lyne



Finnmere
Godington
Hethe
Newton Purcell
Stratton Audley



The Church of St Edmund & St George, Hethe

Saint Edmund the Martyr (841-869AD) is the Patron Saint of Pandemics

July 2021

£1

SHELLOWELL BENEFICE MISSION STATEMENT

The Shelswell Family of Churches aims to bring people closer to God and to show the love of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to everyone.

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**THE PARISHES ARE PART OF THE DEANERY OF BICESTER AND ISLIP AND THE DORCHESTER
EPISCOPAL AREA OF THE DIOCESE OF OXFORD**

HOLY TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, HETHE,

Mass: 8 am on Sunday. Occasional 12 noon Traditional Latin Mass.

Weekday Mass: 9.30 am Monday and Friday

Priest: Very Rev. Canon John Batthula, Henley House, 12 The Causeway, Bicester, OX26 6AW.

Telephone: 01869 253277

Website: <http://www.holytrinityheth.co.uk/>

SHELLOWELL NEWS

Published monthly. To subscribe, contact Mrs Becky Adams, Benefice Administrator, The Rectory, Water Stratford Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4AT Tel 01280 848192 Email admin@shelswellparishes.info

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Deadlines for the **August 2021** edition of Shelswell News

To Magazine Correspondents: **Tuesday 13 July 2021**

Correspondents to Editor: **Thursday 15 July 2021** at editor@shelswellparishes.info

All articles must be submitted in WORD in a format that can be copied and pasted PLEASE

www.shelswellparishes.info

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShelswellNews/>

Ministers Letter



The Leaves of the Tree are for the Healing of the Nations

My gaze has often been diverted from the computer screen to the trees in the gardens around us. Watching the leaves unfurl, catkins and blossom appear and the trees blowing in the wind/gales this Spring has been a joy. Trees are appreciated for their beauty, their rootedness, the habitats they provide for animals and for the multitude of useful products they provide.



Trees are mentioned throughout the Bible, from the first to the very last chapter. In the creation story the land produces trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God sees that it is good! (Genesis 1.12). After a while, things are not so good. Adam and Eve disobey God's command not to eat the fruit of the tree in the middle of the Garden and have to leave Eden.

At the pivotal point of the Bible is the tree of the Cross, the life-giving tree, which gives humanity the promise of a new start. The final Biblical book pictures the river of the water of life flowing from the throne of God. On each side of the river stands the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations (Revelation 22.1-2).

We are increasingly aware just how much trees contribute to the overall welfare of our world. Trees can greatly help to combat climate change, reduce global poverty and decrease migration. Although many tree-planting projects are being undertaken world-wide, conservation of existing forests is also being carried out. Two interesting programmes are: 'The Queen's Commonwealth Canopy' and 'The Great Green Wall'.

The Queen's Commonwealth Canopy is a network of forest conservation projects across the 54 countries of the Commonwealth. The aim is to conserve indigenous forests, to raise awareness within the Commonwealth of the value of these forests and to save them for future generations. Knowledge and best practice will be shared and collaborative initiatives for forest conservation set up.

(<https://queenscommonwealthcanopy.org/>)



The Great Green Wall is an African-led movement to provide a wide belt of trees, vegetation and fertile land right across the Sahel, from Senegal in the West to Ethiopia and Djibouti in the East. In the Sahel land is rapidly losing its fertility, people cannot grow enough food and poverty is increasing. Millions are forced to go hungry or flee their homes in search of employment. The Great Green Wall is bringing Africa's degraded landscapes back to life and reclaiming the land for people to use. Women in particular benefit from making and selling tree products such as shea butter, frankincense and soap. The income from their businesses helps them to pay for essential healthcare and education.



In Ethiopia, as temperatures rise, trees are disappearing and the desert is spreading. The Metema Forest in the north-west of the country is especially important because of its frankincense (*Boswellia*) trees. These are a lifeline for local families who sell the resin which they tap from the trees. The resin is used around the world as incense and in essential oils. Unsustainable practices used to extract the resin stop the frankincense trees from regenerating. Without action, the forest will be on the brink of extinction in 20 years' time. With tools and training, the local community in Metema is learning ways to harvest frankincense sustainably while protecting the existing forest, and 3000 new trees will be planted.

(www.treeaid.org/projects/ethiopia/future-forest-project/)

I visited a frankincense warehouse in Ethiopia many years ago but had no idea where the resin came from!

Once complete, The Great Green Wall – an 8,000km long mosaic of trees and restored land - will be the largest living structure on the planet, 3 times the size of the Great Barrier Reef. It has the potential to transform the lives of millions living on the frontline of the climate crisis. (www.greatgreenwall.org)

May trees be for the healing of the nations

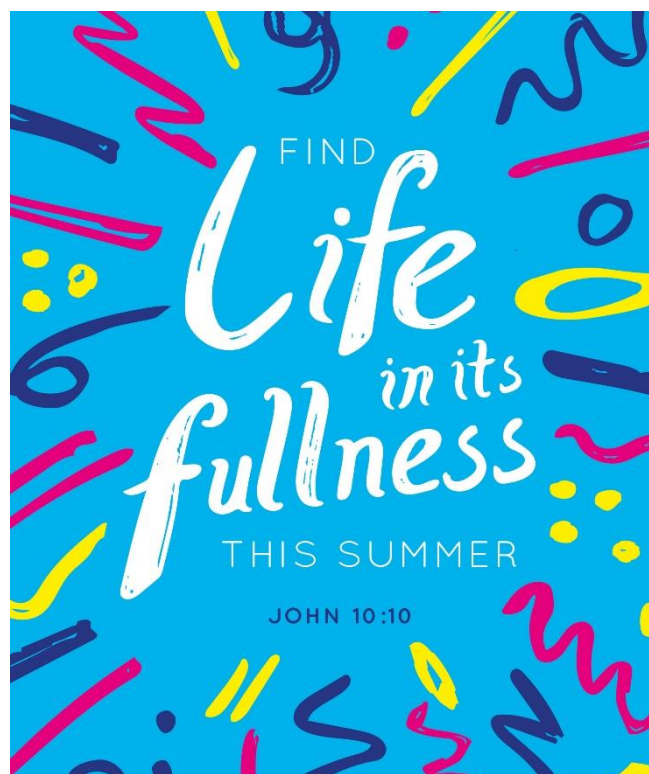
Liz Welters, Associate Minister



BIBLE READINGS



Sunday 4 th July	5 th Sunday after Trinity	Ezekiel 2 v1-5 2 Corinthians 12 v2-10 Mark 6 v1-13
Sunday 11 th July	6 th Sunday after Trinity	Amos 7 v7-15 Ephesians 1 v3-14 Mark 6 v14-29
Sunday 18 th July	7 th Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 23 v1-6 Ephesians 2 v11-end Mark 6 v30-34 and 53-end
Sunday 25 th July	James the Apostle	Jeremiah 45 v1-5 Acts 11 v27 – 12 v2 Matthew 20 v20-28
Sunday 1 st August	9 th Sunday after Trinity	Exodus 16 v2-4 and 9-15 Ephesians 4 v1-16 John 6 v24-35



REGISTRY

This section will announce any baptisms, marriages and funerals that have recently taken place within the Shelswell benefice

Marriages

Frank Michael JACKSON and Margaret Rosalind VENN

At 12 noon on Saturday 29th May 2021, Mixbury Church was looking very spic and span. The sun was shining. The harpist had managed to get through the heavy traffic and reach the church in time. And all was well as we met at 12 noon for the marriage of Frank Jackson and Margaret Venn.

Frank is a mathematician and engineer, and whilst studying at Bristol University met John Venn (*Margaret's first husband*). In due course Frank married Pauline and John married Margaret. As the years went by, Frank and Pauline raised a family and moved to Mixbury. John and Margaret first settled in Bristol then London, New York, Colorado and back to Bristol. In 2007, 40 years after their graduation from Bristol University, Frank and John together with their wives met for a reunion. Thereafter a small group of mathematicians including Frank and John meet each year until John, very sadly passed away in 2016. In 2018, very sadly Pauline also passed away. But Frank and Margaret kept in touch and in due course, friendship blossomed into romance. In March 2020, as lockdown loomed, they decided that if they were going to see anything of each other, they would need to be in the same place, and Margaret moved up to Mixbury. And whilst most of us may have been bemoaning lockdown, Frank and Margaret were really enjoying it, being able to spend time working together in the garden and generally enjoying each other's company.

Covid restrictions meant that Frank and Margaret were unable to invite all the friends they would have liked to have done, but none the less their immediate family and a couple of close friends were delighted to be there for the service. Frank's son Alex was his best man, and Margaret's brother Richard walked her down the aisle and gave her away.

As we were not allowed to sing, Frank and Margaret opted to have all the music played on a harp. Cecily Beer, professional harpist, played in the bride to Giga by Corelli, and later in the service played both 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' and 'The Lord of the Dance', before finally playing out the newly married Mr and Mrs Jackson to the Triumphal march from Aida. And during the service, Frank's granddaughter Emma Hinxman played Skye Dancing by Corrina Hewat.

The couple had chosen two readings: the excerpt from Song of Solomon which was read by Frank's daughter Harriet Hinxman, and Ecclesiastes 4: 9 1 12 read by Margaret's nephew Duncan Reid.

After the service and photographs in the Churchyard, the party retired to Aldebaran for further celebrations! We wish them every happiness in their life together.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.



Alexander Lloyd KEEBLE and Emma Louise HARPER

At 2 pm on Saturday 29th May, the bridegroom and best man together with their guests had taken their seats inside St Mary and St Edburga's, Stratton Audley. Some delightfully dressed flower girls, a page boy and two adult bridesmaids were milling around the churchyard, and quite a few onlookers were stood outside the church gates in the glorious sunshine. But where was the bride? She arrived 10 to 15 minutes late, got out of the car and adjusted her rather lovely dress before noticing that she did not have her bouquet – it had been left in the fridge at Hill View Farm to stop it from wilting, and there it remained. Dad was dispatched back to the farm to collect it whilst Alice went and explained to the folk inside the church. Eventually he returned and the ceremony began.

After an online introduction, Alex and Emma first met each other in November 2016 at the Unicorn in Deddington. A bit like on their wedding day, Alex had made sure he was there in very good time, and Emma had sauntered in at the last minute after having met a friend for Sunday lunch. They took to each other straight away, and romance ensued. Alex managed the perfect proposal over a Valentine's weekend in 2019 – he and Emma were staying in a shepherd's hut near Worth Matravers, they'd had a lovely meal on the Saturday evening, and the next day were walking to the viewpoint at Houns Tout where Alex proposed. On returning to the car, he produced a hamper and champagne which had been secreted away.

In spite of the wonderful engagement, it did seem like this marriage would never happen. Alex and Emma had to postpone it from the original date in May 2020 because of the pandemic. And then they were unable to get their banns read in their parish church as it was not opening for worship until after their wedding. So they needed to get a common licence, which requires various bits of paper that they didn't have in the right form...and so it went on. But finally all was set for 29th May.

The church looked amazing with masses of greenery all around. The guests looked amazing with matching face masks. Pam Morgan played the organ for the entrance of the bride (Trumpet Voluntary by Jeremiah Clarke) and for the newly married couple as they left the church (Mendelsohn's Wedding March). We listened to recordings of three hymns: Praise my soul the king of heaven (which the bride's mother and grandmother also had at their weddings), Lord of all hopefulness, and How great thou art. Readings included the passage from the Song of Solomon and 1 Corinthians 13, as well as 'The Song of Wandering Aengus' by WB Yeats and Love's Philosophy by Percy Shelley. Daniel Bryars played the piano during the signing of the Marriage Document and the bells rang out (or at least three of them, that being all that could be rung in a socially distanced way) as the couple left the church.

After photographs, the party returned to Hill View Farm for celebrations. We hope they will be very happy in their new life together.

Love's Philosophy

BY PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

The fountains mingle with the river
And the rivers with the ocean,
The winds of heaven mix for ever
With a sweet emotion;
Nothing in the world is single;
All things by a law divine
In one spirit meet and mingle.
Why not I with thine?—
See the mountains kiss high heaven
And the waves clasp one another;
No sister-flower would be forgiven
If it disdained its brother;
And the sunlight clasps the earth
And the moonbeams kiss the sea:
What is all this sweet work worth
If thou kiss not me?

Obituaries

John Richard Curtis 19th September 1932 – 20th May 2021

On 1st June 2021 John was laid to rest in the churchyard after a service in St Mary's Hardwick, the place where he had served so faithfully.

John was born at Baynards Green on 19th September 1932. At the age of 2 weeks he came to Manor Farm in Hardwick and lived in the village for the rest of his life, moving 3 times within Hardwick. John is survived by his sister Mary, but sad to say his younger brother Bob passed away last August. John went to school in Hethe, then as a weekly boarder along with Bob at Magdalene School in Brackley, after their mother died when John was 14. After her death John helped to look after Bob.

From Hardwick John biked to and from school. A friend Bob Brown and John used to hang on the back of lorries going uphill to give them an easier ride on their bikes. John loved sport – he was captain of Bicester Rugby Club and played for Tusmore Cricket Club. At school he used to tutor younger children in sport.

On leaving school John worked with his dad on the farm. Then he branched out into poultry farming, fattening cockerels for Christmas. He bought his first chicken run, then built 5 more himself. Later John had 5000 battery hens, then moved on to keeping free range hens. In addition to the birds, he also had a small amount of livestock – sheep, cows and pigs. John was always making things and made a trailer to go with his quad bike, which he loved. With brother Bob he founded JayB haulage company, and they transported grain around the country.

In June 1959 John married Gillian and they had two children Tim & Sally. Sadly Gillian died in December 1973. In 1976 John married Eileen and welcomed her children Stephen & Caroline into the family. Eileen and John enjoyed 45 years of marriage. John was a loving, caring husband, father and grandfather of Jackson, Freddie, Redford, Harriet, Bethany and Edward.

At the age of 21 John became Churchwarden at St Mary's, only retiring last year, a rather longer term of office than usual! On his retirement he was given chocolates, flowers & a beautifully decorated cake bearing his favourite saying, 'Put it in the hands of the Lord.' John was made a Fellow of St Birinus, a fellowship which honours people who have given exceptional service to their church and community over many years. He also received Maundy Money and met the Queen.

Before services John always rang the bell at St Mary's and sometimes had to hang on waiting for late clergy or parishioners to arrive. John greatly enjoyed singing and was a member of Cloud 9, a singing group which met at Stratton Audley.

A charity that John supported is Plan International UK, which advances children's rights and equality for girls around the world. John was particularly keen that children should have access to education & opportunities in life, and recently he sponsored a little girl in Ecuador. Donations at the service have been sent to Plan International UK.

On cards received by the family many remarked that John was a gentleman and a gentle man. He was solid and reliable and never grumbled. Comments have included: 'He was a lovely man, a perfect gentleman and a church warden who I had great respect for,' and 'He was always one of the stalwarts of the church, someone you could turn to when needed.'

John was a member of a Home Group and in recent years many happy meetings started with a meal around John & Eileen's kitchen table. John had an enquiring mind and would often come up with challenging questions. But when it came to difficult problems, his response was always 'Put it in the hands of the Lord.' John lived out his faith in God with love, steadfastness, thoughtfulness, good humour and generosity.

The poem 'Don't think of me as gone away' was read by Harriet and Bethany, and Redford read 'Papa's Garden'. John's daughter Sally shared about 'Our Dad'. Pam Morgan played the hymns chosen for the funeral: Be still, for the Presence of the Lord; Blessed Assurance; and How Great Thou Art. The Bible readings were Psalm 23 and 2 Corinthians 5.1-8. The hymns and readings sum up John's faith and his blessed assurance.

'Well done, good & faithful servant: enter into the joy of your Lord.' Matthew 25.21

Children and Families

'Little Lambs'

'Little Lambs' has started again, albeit on a smaller scale. We are currently meeting on Wednesdays between 10am and 11am. When possible we will meet outside, with appropriate social distancing for adults. We have a limit of 15 adults, although we can have more if we use both indoor and outdoor space and the weather is good.

At the moment we bring our own tea or coffee, but as soon as we can offer hospitality we will!

It has been wonderful to gather together to chat and watch the children playing with the toys, wandering around and just being in each other's company. For mums and carers it has been SO good to have time to chat to different people, having been limited to meeting up with family or bubbles for over a year! Everyone also felt that they had done enough crafts over the various Lock Downs and that they would rather just have the opportunity relax and watch the children playing together. Once we are able to meet for longer we will re-introduce Story Time and musical fun.

To book a place please email admin@shelswellparishes.info



Little Lambs

Baby and Toddler Group

Wednesdays from 10 - 11 am (Term Time)

Stratton Audley Church

MAX 15 adults - please book in advance.*

Come and meet new families from the local area.

Sanitizer toys and appropriate social spacing.

***Email: admin@shelswellparishes.info
to book your place.**

Please bring your own tea or coffee until we are able to provide hospitality.

Experienced Childcare required near Hethe for the month of August.

Please email ann_maltzahn@yahoo.com for details



Holiday Club for 5-11's

Monday July 26th to Friday July 30th
10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.

Finnmere CE Primary School, Mere Road, Finnmere, MK18 4AR

**A Christian based holiday club
 welcoming children of all faiths and none.**

Sport

Craft

Performing arts

music

**For more information and to book a place for your child,
 or to volunteer go to <https://lighthousecentral.org>**



Find my Lighthouse - Shelswell

Recommended donation of £10 per day, bursaries available.

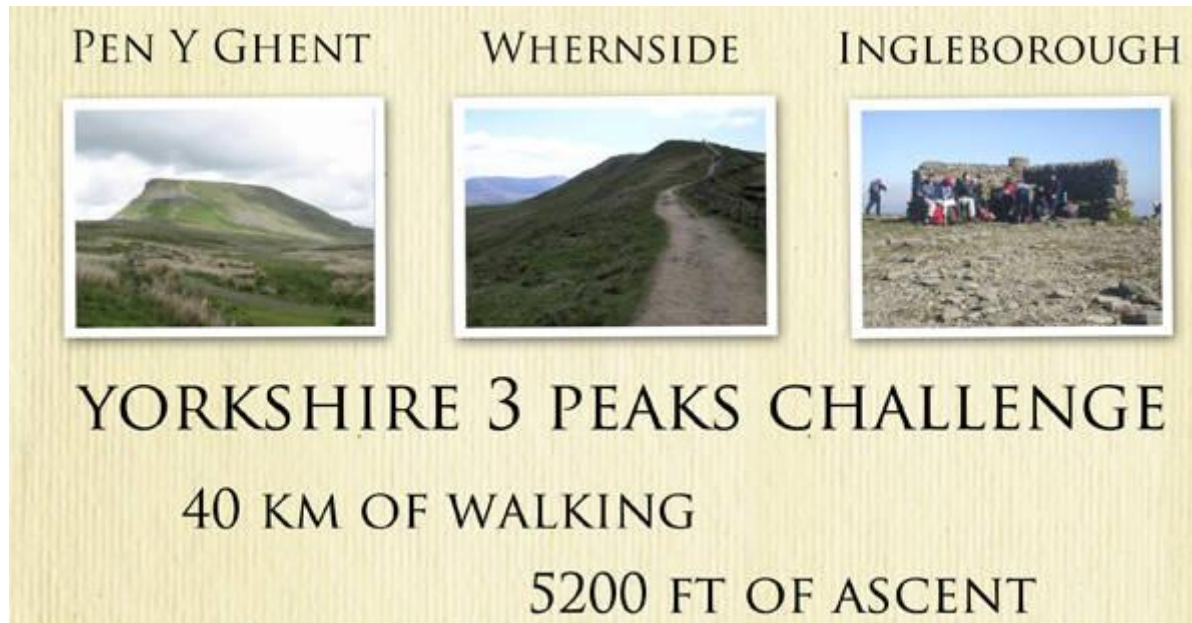


"Due to our failure to secure a holiday-relief organist, the next hymn will also be sung to the tune, *Chopsticks*."

In aid of Katharine House Hospice

Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge 31st July 2021

Diane and Richard Cross of Marsh Gibbon have a friend, Richard Kent, who is taking on the following challenge for Katharine House Hospice – Banbury. It is hoped you will support his efforts in aid of this charity which supports many local people.



The Yorkshire Three Peaks are situated in the Yorkshire Dales and the challenge consists of climbing the summit of Pen-y-ghent (694m; 2,227 ft), Whernside (736 m; 2415 ft) and Ingleborough (723m; 2,372ft) in less than 12 hours.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

You can donate to their JustGiving page by clicking here: https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/uk-3peaks?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=uk-3peaks&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=5e8398f04b2b4f3eb6966143f1018917

PLANET REFILL – ‘WHERE ZERO IS THE HERO’

Planet Refill is a zero waste refill shop on the **Buckingham Industrial Park**. It's setup for both the retail and wholesale of household cleaning and personal care items which are natural, organic, vegan friendly and eco-friendly.

Products have been responsibly sourced from local manufacturers in Brackley and Northampton with wholesale outreach to local businesses and refill shops in Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas.

Going plastic/packaging free is so easy and very liberating. Here are just some of the WINS you can expect from using the same containers to refill:

- Gone will be the days of full refuse sacks and overloaded bins a week (or two) before the bin men are due.
- Saving cupboard space and being able to find things easily (you'll have memorised the refill containers!)
- You'll have saved plastic and packaging from going to stinky landfill!
- You'll be supporting local businesses and helping them to survive.

So, please drive on over! You'll find that there is lots of free parking next to the unit.

Our 5 litre products are a very popular choice with residents and include free delivery. Our larger 20 litres are a popular choice for businesses and other refill shops.

Receive a 10% discount on bulk 5 litre purchases if picked up in store.



Products listings and prices can be found on our website. Please feel free to make any suggestions about what products you would like to see in stock. We look forward to developing more great local relationships and doing our bit for the planet!



Website: <https://planetrefill.org.uk/>

RABBIT WARRENS ARTICLE **(In the May edition of 'Shelswell News')**

Brenda Hazel would like to say how much she enjoyed the article on rabbit warrens under "Mixbury" in the May edition of Shelswell News. She writes:

It provided useful background to the rabbit warrens that used to exist in Stoke Lyne.

The Oxfordshire History Centre gave me permission to share the attached image on our village Facebook page, with the appropriate citation, and perhaps the author of the article might be interested in my post on 28 November 2020 which introduced it which I paste in below:

"If you've ever wondered how the land to the north of the village was used in previous centuries, then this map extract should give you a clue. The image below was originally shared by the Oxfordshire History Centre on a Twitter post in April 2019 about animals on maps. Keen to find out more I emailed them about it and asked if I could share the image on our FB page. The answer was yes, provided I gave a citation to them and the catalogue reference, which is E12/M/1. The image comes from a map which is part of one of their estate collections, "Estate of the Fermor family of Tusmore".

The archivist says this:

"We don't know a great deal about the map, and no further information was published at the time of the Twitter post. It appears to be a 17th century map of the Parish of Stoke Lyne, but it's quite 'rough' and is painted so the details aren't particularly clear. There's no key and little in the way of place names (some of which are difficult to read)."

"The image on Twitter shows roughly the top right quarter of the map, including the enclosed areas full of rabbits and their warrens. The one labelled 'Heath Close' sits just above Baynards Green (you can see the end of this label in the image). There are two further closes shown to the right of this. A distance below these, at the bottom of the map, a house is illustrated, which appears to be in the approximate position of Stoke Lyne village. To the left of this is the top of Stoke Great Wood. "

"The rabbit warrens illustrated on the twitter post would probably be in the area above and to the left of 'Stoke Bushes', probably the bottom of Tusmore Park/ Park Farm."

The Oxfordshire History Centre unfortunately doesn't have a digital image of the whole map which is approximately A2 size and too big to scan but once the centre reopens it is possible for visitors to photograph it upon payment of a £7 photo permit."

The Oxfordshire History Centre originally shared the image on their Twitter account at:

<https://twitter.com/OxHist/status/1115910766455078917/photo/2>



Club news

**Due to the current Coronavirus protective restrictions many events are cancelled for the time being:
Please watch this space.**

KNIT FOR PEACE



The photo shows a very small selection of the items knitted for knit for peace. The charity would like to say a big thank you to everyone who made a contribution. The amount of knitting that Marion passed on was fantastic.

Any further contributions to be left at 2 Church Close, Fringford. Please ring Marion Crowther on 01869 277404 prior to dropping anything off.



SHELSWELL WALKERS

The July walk is on the 11th July, the 2nd Sunday of the month. We will meet outside Fringford village hall for a 2 hour walk. New people are very welcome, please just turn up. Dogs must be on leads.



SHELSWELL GARDEN CLUB



On Tuesday 8th June we held a Zoom meeting with Mandy Bradshaw. She was originally a local journalist who “fell into garden writing” over 20 years ago. Mandy is gardening correspondent for Cotswold Life magazine as well as other publications and blogs. She is therefore well placed to talk to us in ‘Beyond the Garden Gate’ – a guide to the best Cotswold gardens. The talk was beautifully illustrated and Mandy was an enthusiastic and interesting speaker. She showed us a variety gardens and told us about the stories behind their creation. These gardens included Hidcote and Highgrove. Mandy gave us plenty of ideas of places to visit this summer – we hope!

Our **July** meeting will take place on **Tuesday 13th** speaker on Zoom at 7.30. The speaker is Pip Beasley who spoke to us earlier this year. Lots of members asked if we could have her back to hear her **Garden Snippets** talk. She is a renowned florist and has worked in Floristry for many years. However, this talk concentrates on those plants that are good ‘do’ers’ in the garden with tips on making the most of them.

An email will be sent out before the meeting to give you the Zoom link, so if you do not receive the club emails, please give Corrine a call on 01869 247411 to be added to the email list.

We do not have a speaker in August but we are looking at the possibility of a garden visit for July, to replace the usual summer outing. Details to follow once confirmed.

The Club is pleased to announce that it will be holding a Plant Sale/Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th September in the lovely garden of member, Fi Bairstow, in Mixbury. Fi lives opposite Swallows nursery and she has developed the garden considerably over the last few years and it is well worth a visit. So, if you have any plants that we could sell, please look after them till September. We missed our Plant Sale last year and this spring but better late than never!



SHELSWELL WI

If you're going to join, then join in - a warm welcome awaits



Our Thursday, 1st July, meeting at 7.30pm will be a Summers Evening 'Picnic on Fringford Village Green'. This is a catch up with each other, with a bit of fun thrown in.

Our first face to face meeting in June, under the Oak Tree by Fringford Village Hall, was very well attended by the members and we had a guest.

Fraser Liversage gave an incredibly interesting and educational presentation about 'Medical Detection Dogs'. We learnt how these dogs can be trained to identify minute odour changes emitted prior to an emergency; conditions such as Type 1 diabetes, Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia, Addison's disease and other endocrine disorders, severe allergies and many others, including Covid.



We also had a visit from Lala, a small very well behaved black Labrador, with Carolynne Mollon her volunteer socialiser from the Medical Detection Dogs. A huge thanks to Fraser and Carolynne who were so flexible in coming to speak to us, as so much depended on the weather and we may have needed to return to 'zooming'.

The May walk took in the Bure Park Nature reserve, before walking around Elmsbrook 'The Eco Town' with its interesting homes and wild life areas. The heavens opened, it was wet, windy and cold but the weather did not stop the hearty souls of the WI members.

June's walk will be on the other side of Bicester, starting in Langford, passing under the A41 and walking around Graven Hill with its self-build homes, custom new homes, apartments, and affordable housing. Plans are for a primary school, a pre-school nursery and a community centre, as well as shops, a pub, and, maybe, a new Medical Centre.

The benefits of being part of Shelswell WI are to be part of a national membership organisation, receiving the monthly newsletter and Oxfordshire Inspires magazine and the bi-monthly WI Life magazine. Also, to attend group meetings, access the 'my WI' website, make new friends, gain new knowledge, take part in new activities, as well as campaigning, and access to the Shelswell coffee club and Facebook page. And to take part in the monthly walks.

For more information on Shelswell WI, please contact President Elaine Whittaker 07917 453224 or Nicky Lane 07814 796171.



SHELLOW POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

The group enjoyed a lively session looking at poems about poetry at the June meeting. (See the June edition of Shelswell News for the titles). Our July meeting will be on **Tuesday 13th July**, beginning at 10.30 am, and the venue is The Old Stables, Stoke Lyne. The topic will be poems associated with the Zodiac signs for July - Cancer the crab and Leo the lion. If you would like to join us, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk

Judith Harvey

SHELLOW READING GROUP

The May and June meetings were lively get-togethers in members' gardens. The May book was *Our Fathers* by Rebecca Wait. A great contrast was provided in June by *The Pursuit of Love* by Nancy Mitford, recently serialised on tv. The book is very entertaining, and can be seen as a 'light' read, but has a deeper level of social and historical detail which brings the 20s and 30s in England to life.

The book for July is *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell, and the meeting will begin at 7.30 pm on **Thursday the 8th July**, in Cottisford. If you would like to join us this month, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk

Judith Harvey

SHELLOW BY THE SEA

It's been a long time since we could meet up. However, all being well, we hope to start in a small way with a one day 'holiday' on Wednesday 4th August. Look out for more details in future editions of the *Shelswell News*.

.Penny Wood

Nai's House

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Support for Young People
Reach out, we'll be there

If you or someone you care about is struggling with their mental health,
get in touch so we can help: hello@naishouse.org.uk

We are pleased to announce the return of our Parent/Caregiver support group, every second Tuesday of the month, 6-8pm. All enquiries to support@naishouse.org.uk

For more info about what we do and what we offer please check out our website
www.naishouse.org.uk

Nai's House has now moved to Garth House in Garth Park. We are in the process of redecorating and alterations but we continue to remain open for our guests.

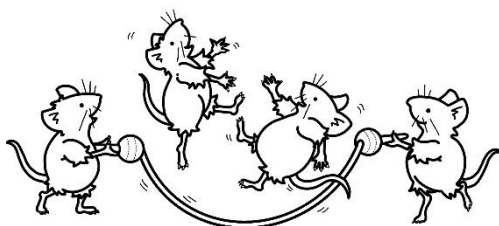
CANCELLED

Finnmere's Summer Fair

Sunday 4th July

Sadly, because of continuing restrictions, the decision has been made to cancel the fete for now. We are looking to come up with another date and will make this public as soon as possible. Many thanks to those who have donated to the tombola - unless we hear otherwise, we will keep hold of all donations for the rearranged date.

There will be a Service in Church at 11 a.m. on 4th July



THE SHELSWELL BENEFICE

The Third of the Village Articles

Stoke Lyne

This large parish once stretched right from Fritwell in the west to Fringford in the east but in 1948 it lost Ardley and its hamlet of Fewcot to Fritwell.. The name Stoke is derived from ‘stoc’ meaning ‘cattle-farm’. It was once called Stoke Insula or Stoke de Lisle, after the medieval lords of the manor; but after it passed into the Lyne or Lynde family in the 15th century the suffix Lyne came into use. During most of the 19th century the living was held with Caversfield by members of the Marsham family, the patron, Charles Marsham being vicar from 1812 to 1867, a period of benign neglect. The nave and chancel of the church of St Peter date from the 12th century, the south transept from the 14th century. Ten pews are 17th-century, with the date 1654 carved on the end of one of them.

By 1854 the church was in a state of ‘ruinous neglect’, when the village was described as a ‘bad’ parish. From 1838 there was a Methodist group meeting at James Phillips’ house. Although there were 68 present in 1851, they never built a chapel and by the 1860s there were not more than 15 ‘thorough-going’ dissenters. The church was restored in 1868-9. In 1873 Lady Peyton of Swift’s House presented the stained glass and the organ, which was built by John Rogers of Fringford. The walls of the nave were repaired and a new west window built. The tower was raised and buttressed and battlements were added. The porch was rebuilt, a vestry added, and the church re-seated. In 1951 the chancel was again restored by the Peytons in memory of their son, John, who was killed on 13 April 1945. The Victorian reredos was removed, and a new altar and rails installed. ‘The whole effect of the white-washed interior is one of extreme simplicity and beauty’. In the 1990s a parish room was created at the west end of the nave.

Bayard’s (now Baynard’s) Green (i.e. horse’s green) is traditionally supposed to have been the site of tournaments ordered to be held at Brackley in the 13th century. The green seems to have covered a larger area in the 17th century. In 1644 Charles I’s army *en route* from Brackley to Buckingham came to a ‘large greene or downe called Bayard’s Greene, where often is horse-racing, six-myle long’. In 1616 the boundary between Stoke Lyne and Tusmore had been in dispute, with Thomas Pigot of Tusmore claiming the right to keep 400 sheep on the Green. The Green also supported rabbits, which were profitable, and Pigot had encroached, built a house, a warren and 300 burrows. There was also valuable timber there.

In the 19th century the parish was a noted hunting centre. In about 1800 Sir Thomas Mostyn established himself and his hounds at Swift’s House. He was joined there by the Revd Griff Lloyd, curate of Newton Purcell, who was given a licence to ‘look after his cousin’s hounds and morals!’ Griff, who appeared in Punch cartoons, was nationally famous as ‘The Hunting Parson’ or more popularly as ‘The Black Whipper-In’. Mostyn was followed by the Peytons, another noted hunting family.

There were various small schools before 1858, when the Peytons built the Church of England School and the School House next door. It became a Junior School in 1930, with senior pupils going to Fritwell. In the 1980s the school closed and was pulled down and the PCC bought the land and the School House. The population in 1801 was 334 rising to a peak of 631 in 1851. Thereafter it declined following the agricultural depressions and by 1881 there were 40 paupers (7.2%) receiving Poor Relief, the highest percentage in the Bicester Union. By 1901, the population was down to 409. By 1951, after the merger of Fewcot with Ardley in 1948, it was only 231 and in 2011 just 218. You can read more about the Shelswell villages in my book *‘In Flora’s Footsteps, Daily Life in Lark Rise Country 1876-2009.’*

Martin Greenwood

REPORTS FROM THE PARISHES

Cottisford and Juniper Hill

St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: Charles Jackson, Cottisford House, Cottisford

Tel 01280 848247

TREASURER David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Meryl Daniel

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Judith Harvey, Lark Rise Cottage, Juniper Hill Email: judith.harvey@live.co.uk

To donate to St Mary's, Cottisford just scan this code with your phone:



COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Newcomers to our village and hamlet now receive a Welcome sheet, with some information about the area, useful numbers and groups they might like to join. If you know of someone who has recently moved into Cottisford or Juniper Hill and has not yet received a sheet, please let one of the Committee members know. We are Judith Harvey, Juniper Hill, 01869 811994; Rachel Prior, Cottisford, 07837 782551; Eileen Torrance, Juniper Hill, 01869 810537; Jane Birnage, Cottisford, 01280 847455; Gillian Groom, Juniper Hill, 01869 810593; Sally Evans, Cottisford, 01280 847250.

Unfortunately, the retention of restrictions on social events means that we do not feel able to go ahead with the Picnic in the Field, planned for July 4th, as outdoor activities are restricted to 30 people and, should bad weather mean we have to huddle in the marquee, there is a limit on 6 individuals or 2 families indoors. Let's hope we can do something next year!

This autumn we are hoping to obtain trees from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Trust, to establish a small woodland walk in the corner of the playing field at Juniper Hill. We would like to supplement the 'official' trees with contributions from residents, so if you have any unwanted, disease-free birch, hazel, rowan hornbeam or fruit saplings lurking in your garden, please pot them up and pass them on to us in November, which is when the Jubilee ones will be available.

The residents of Juniper Hill would like to add their own contribution to the obituary piece about Mafalda Medori in the June edition of Shelswell News. She and her husband Ernesto were well-liked in our hamlet and we were sorry to hear of her death. On the day of her funeral, about 15 inhabitants lined the road opposite her house, South View, to pay their respects as the funeral cortege passed by. Present restrictions meant that we could not attend the funeral service, but we wanted to mark the passing of a long-time resident.

Finmere

St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: Vacancy

TREASURER: Jacqueline Chelin, 19 Valley Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4BG

Tel 01280 847782

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Katherine Grimston

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Paul Nash Email: paan63@yahoo.co.uk

Tel 01280 848268

To donate to St Michael & All Angels', Finmere just scan this code with your phone:



CANCELLED

Finmere's Summer Fair

Sunday 4th July

Sadly, because of continuing restrictions, the decision has been made to cancel the fete for now. We are looking to come up with another date and will make this public as soon as possible. Many thanks to those who have donated to the tombola - unless we hear otherwise, we will keep hold of all donations for the rearranged date.

There will be a Service in Church at 11 a.m. on 4th July

Village Hall

The hall is currently open for bookings and we now have small number of regular users re-booking. It is stressed that all users must comply with all current COVID guidelines, which include a mandatory the use of the hall QR code.

Please note that building work is scheduled at the hall for the months of July/August



Allotments

Get planning for your new growing season. The Poor's Plot now has a waiting list for allotment plots in the village. There is a possibility that a few plots may become available shortly, so any aspiring allotment users should visit www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot



Need some local help

<http://www.shelswellparishes.info/documents/corona/communitynetworks.pdf>

Village Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/finmereandlittletingewick/>

Shelswell Parishes website at – www.shelswellparishes.info/finmere

Finmere Parish Council website at – www.finmerepc.org

Village hall news at – www.myfinmere.com

Finmere Primary School - www.finmere.oxon.sch.uk

Fringford

St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: John Mayo, 10 Church Close, Fringford
 TREASURER: Christina McCullagh, 5 Crosslands, Fringford
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Penny Wood as below
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Penny Wood, 8 Crosslands, Fringford
 VILLAGE HALL CORRESPONDENT: Christine Underwood
 WEBSITE www.fringford.info

Tel 01869 278873
 Tel 07867 515207

Tel 01869 277310
 Tel 01869 278949

To donate to St Michael & All Angels', Fringford just scan this code with your phone:



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, SERVICES & EVENTS

St Michael and All Angels is now open again every day for private prayer. Worship in our church buildings is happening again. No need to book. Masks must still be worn and singing is not permitted, though things may change as we move into June and July. The Service pattern in the Benefice has changed. To find out times and places of Sunday services check the noticeboard, or Facebook page [*Shelswell News*], or ring the Benefice office (01280-848192).

Services in Fringford will be:

- 18th July – 11.00am Holy Communion

A short reflective service is live streamed every week day, but check the Facebook page for the time.

Muddy Church

For all ages, at 3.00pm on 18th July, usually in Stoke Lyne Churchyard. But contact Revd Yvonne Mullins for more information: ring 01869-278090 or email: curate@shelswellparishes.info

Little Lambs Babies & Toddler Group is back!!!

Wednesdays from 10am to 11am (Term time) at Stratton Audley Church. Maximum 15 adults, and booking is a must; email admin@shelswellparishes.info Bring your own tea or coffee – sanitised toys, and social spacing. Come and join us! Stories, music and toys; chance to meet others safely, and chat.

ZOOM Socials

Under review – to find out if they are still running in July contact the Rector on 01280-848192, or email alicegoodall313@gmail.com

Fund-raising Initiatives

Open Gardens took place on 26th and 27th June. At the time of writing we don't know how many people came, or how much was raised, but we do very much thank everyone who opened their garden, or made cakes, or put up a display in the church, or exhibited paintings, or helped on the day.

Greetings Cards

Packs of greeting cards (6 cards for £3) available for purchase. They feature 6 photographs of the church both in and outside. Ring Christina McCullagh on 07867 515207.

Fringford Church 100 Club

The second draw will take place at the Village Coffee Morning on 21 June - too late to be reported in this edition of *Shelswell News*.

You can still sign up. Next draw will be on 19 July (at the Village Coffee morning, see below). Contact Christina McCullagh to register your involvement **ASAP, on 07867 515207**.

Fringford Church Book Exchange

The box for book exchange is in the porch [Leave one, take one, please don't overload!]. But remember the virus can stay on items such as books or games for 72 hours, so please put the book you donate into a plastic bag and write on the bag the date you put it into the box. That way, anyone wanting to read the book knows when the 72 hours is up and the book can be read. Thank you.

Penny Wood

SUPPORT DURING THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

On-going support is still available. If you need some help, please don't hesitate to contact **Fringford Friends, Neighbourhood Support Group** :

- Telephone: 07704 756840
- Email neighbourhoodsupport@fringford.info

To join the **What's App Mutual Support Group** ring or email 'Fringford Friends' use the contact details above.

FRINGFORD COMMUNITY CHAT ON FACEBOOK

I have started a Facebook group called Fringford Community Chat that is connecting villagers and helping residents become aware of village goings-on to make the group more widespread. Steadily in the past year it has gained popularity and has been a fantastic medium for people to exchange information about relevant village events and for advertising local community services

Residents only need to type in Fringford Community Chat on Facebook or if they would like more information they can email me at Trilby-100@hotmail.co.uk

James Honour

FRINGFORD VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Mornings have started again. Usually on the third Monday of the month – join us on Monday 21st June. 10.30am to 12 noon. But **please note** that we will be meeting at the Butcher's Arms, using the coffee shop there. If fine we can sit outside; if not, we can be inside. Look forward to seeing everyone.

Penny Wood

THE BUTCHER'S ARMS

To find out the latest news at the Butcher's Arms contact Simon via email: syeborg2009@yahoo.co.uk or mobile; 07850 415189. Alternatively, contact Stuart on 07952 445468.

Hardwick St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Meryl Daniel

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Veronica Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

WEBSITE: <http://hardwickvillage.btck.co.uk>

To donate to St Mary's, Hardwick just scan this code with your phone:



St. Mary's Church, Hardwick – IS OPEN DAILY

St Mary's Church, Hardwick is now open for private prayer and reflection every day between 10 am until 4 pm.

To keep you safe, please follow the guidelines below:

- Please maintain social distancing if more than one person is on the church at any time.
- Please use the hand sanitizing gel provided on entering and leaving the church.
- Please feel free to use the prayer cards and sheets. If you do, please DO NOT return them to the table but take them with you. More will be provided for others.

THANK YOU

The Hiorns of Hardwick

In Hardwick church there are two brass memorial wall plaques that commemorate the Hiorns family. One to Thomas Hiorns and his wife Caroline. The other to Mary Ann Hiorns. Given that the other memorial wall plaques are dedicated to Tusmore's nobility, either members of the Earls Howard or the Barons Bicester families respectively, then the Hiorns must have been important to Hardwick. So, who were Thomas, Caroline and Mary Ann Hiorns, and what were they to each other?

Thomas Hiorns was born to a farming family in Whichford in Warwickshire in 1831. By 1841, the family were farming in Barford St. John, Oxfordshire. In 1851, Thomas married Caroline Underwood at Newbottle, Northants. Caroline was born in 1823 in Sywell Northants. By 1854, Thomas was farming at Down Hill Farm in Westcott Barton. By 1861, Thomas and Caroline had five daughters and were living in Fritwell, where he held the freehold of a house and land and traded in sheep. Tragically, Caroline died in 1866, aged 43.

By 1867 Thomas was re-married to Mary Ann Nichols, a farmer's daughter from Godington. She was born in Shotswell, Warwickshire in 1838. After the wedding, she joined Thomas in Fritwell, where, in 1869, she gave birth to a no doubt much longed-for son, Tom John. Thomas and Mary Ann went on to have a further four sons and a daughter. The family moved to Hardwick in 1876, when Thomas took over the tenancy of Manor Farm, under Earl Howard, who had become owner of Tusmore Estate in 1857. Thomas is listed as Church Warden for Hardwick on the plaque in the church that commemorates its major re-ordering, completed in 1879.

Thomas died in 1886. The brass wall plaque commemorating his life is on the south wall of the church, adjacent to the font. The plaque names Caroline as his wife, whom he had outlived by some 20 years. He is buried in a distinctive tomb at the north west corner of the churchyard, by the gate that leads into the Manor. The plaque also notes that Caroline is interred in Fritwell. Thomas's death left Mary Ann as a relatively wealthy woman, as his estate was valued at £2,636 12s 3d, worth around £322,000 in today's money. Mary Ann continued to live Hardwick Manor, taking over from Thomas as tenant farmer, which was unusual for a woman at that time.

Mary Ann died in 1909, aged 72, outliving her husband by 23 years. Her funeral, which seemed to be a very grand affair, was described in great detail in the local paper, which reported that "rarely has the little church been so full". As well as the many members of her family, it was attended by Earl Howard, owner of Tusmore, and many of the local farming community. Clearly, Mary Ann Hiorns was well-regarded in the locality. The newspaper noted that she was "beloved in Hardwick and neighbouring parishes for her kindness of heart and sympathetic nature". It also noted the length of service of her employees, including William Collins 42 years, James Heath 42, George Allen 34, James Blencowe 27, and Thomas Rouse 25 years, commenting that "this is a record of which any employer might pardonably be proud". She was laid to rest in the same grave as her husband in Hardwick churchyard. However, the brass wall plaque commemorating her is also on the south wall of the church, about as far away from Thomas and Caroline's plaque as could be. It notes that she "was for 40 years resident in this parish". In closing, the paper reported that the service was conducted by the Rev. Railton and "the funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Alfred Mansfield, of Hethe."

After Mary Ann's death, her eldest son, Tom John, took over the tenancy of Hardwick Manor from his mother. He died in 1938 and is buried in Hardwick churchyard, just a few feet from his mother and father's grave. Hardwick church is now open again every day 10am to 4pm. Please do go in and use this special space for private prayer, quiet contemplation or to admire its architecture, monuments and stained-glass windows.

Hethe

St Edmund and St George

CHURCHWARDEN: Flora Skinner, Fox Hollow, 2 Hardwick Road, Hethe
 TREASURER: Mike Green, Greenhill Cottage, Main Street, Hethe
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Flora Skinner as above
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Mike Green as above
 WEBSITE: www.hethe.org

Tel 01869 277366
 Tel 01869 278166

Tel 01869 278166

If you have any news or a local event to publicise, please send the details to me, where possible with a photo, and if suitable I will add them to next month's news and include them on the village web site. The deadline for this publication is on Page 2.

The village web site contains up to date information affecting the village - planning applications, agreed PCC minutes and notices of meetings, HS2 and other road works, grants and advice on COVID-19 related matters and much more.

Many thanks, Mike.

ST EDMUND & ST GEORGE CHURCH



Church Services and Access

At the time of writing this article the church was opening for private prayer on Saturday and Sunday from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Many thanks to Flora for getting the church ready.

In July we have two services, Morning Prayers on 4th July, starting at 9.30am, and Holy Communion on 18th July, starting at 8.15am.

Please follow the guidance on how to safely access and use the building.

Altar Flowers for July and August:

Sunday 4th - Helen Wood

Sunday 18th - June Nesbit

Sunday 1st - Iris Alder

Church (Late) Spring Clean



The church will be given a thorough cleaning between Thursday 29th and Saturday 31st July. If you would like to help, please come along at a time to suit yourself. A roster of jobs to be done will be available in the church courtesy of Flora.

Church Repairs & Redecoration

We are working on getting the required permissions and scheduling the refurbishment of the church so that it is a safe, welcoming and comfortable space and to encourage more people into the building. The refurbishment includes conservation repairs to the west window in the nave, redecoration and some replastering in the nave, further works to the porch and replacing the notice board by the church gate. If you wish to give a donation specifically towards this work, please use the on-line giving page - details below.

The PCC have outline plans and have completed some preparatory work towards opening part of the church for more widespread use. This will be a free, open space for individuals to meet and talk, which could be used for specific groups of people, such as a reading group, and a space for quiet meditation and prayer. The church could then be more easily used for events to draw people together after being isolated for so long. The events could include concerts, painting and photograph displays. In the future we plan to have water installed which will enable us to provide kitchen and toilet facilities.

Church Funds & Regular Giving



You may contribute regularly to general funds by direct debit through the Parish Giving Scheme. Through this scheme the church receives 100% of your gift and you will have options for your contribution to be gift aided and inflation proofed. If you are able to choose either or both options, it will maximise your contribution and allow your PCC to plan more confidently into the future.



You now have the option to set up a contribution on-line, by clicking this QR-Code or by using the link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/>, type in OX27 8ES and then select our church.

Alternatively, phone 0333 002 1271. This line is open Monday to Friday, between 9.00am and 5.00pm. You will need to have your bank account details, our church/parish name (Hethe St Edmund & St George) and our PGS parish code (270627041) to hand.

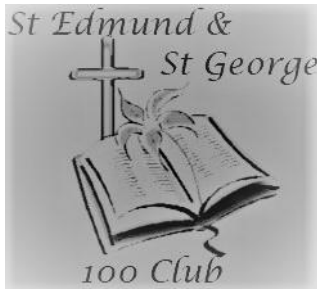
On-Line Giving Page

For one-off and regular donations without setting up a direct debit we have an on-line giving page which can be accessed by scanning this code or through our village web site under www.hethe.org/st-edmunds-st-georges-church/fund-raising/. There is no up-front cost for this service, but we pay 1.95% per transaction.

For other ways of contributing to the running costs of the church, please contact hethepccsecretary@outlook.com.



100 Club



Draws are taking during the Shelswell Quiz on the second Wednesday of the month via Zoom. There are still plenty of numbers if you wish to join!

The results of the June draw:

1st Prize No 37 Ben Wood

2nd Prize No 16 Helen Wood

3rd Prize No 30 John & Sue Schutz

Next Draw Wednesday 14th July

Safeguarding

The Parish of Hethe is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), Flora Skinner. The Diocese of Oxford's safeguarding pages contain vital links and information including contacts for the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA) who advises our PSO. If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm, please contact the DSA. If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority Children or Adults Services.

Hethe PCC members are receiving basic safeguarding awareness training.

Eco Church



Thanks to Tamsin for continuing to take photos of the flora and fauna in the churchyard. The above is one of many photos taken in June. You can see it in colour on the web site - <https://www.hethe.org/st-edmunds-st-georges-church/the-climate-emergency/>.

British Native Flowers to watch out for in the Churchyard in July and August:

Buttercup - Common Red Poppy - Shepherds Purse - Red Clover - Bramble - Goose Grass - Daisy - Ox-eye Daisy - common Yarrow - Long rooted cats-ear - Field Bindweed - Self-heal - Red Dead-nettle - Plantain If you would like to be involved in the maintenance of the churchyard, please let us know.

Our aim is to turn the indicated areas into natural, flowery spaces, to encourage wildlife and make them more attractive and interesting for visitors. Our long-term vision is to preserve the churchyard as a special, sacred place, remembering that if we turn it entirely over to nature, we forget the work of past generations who cared for it and we could impede access to graves and for on-going burials.

Thank you to our Volunteers

Many thanks to the volunteers who work so hard to make our church a special place in the community. They undertake varied roles from helping to maintain the churchyard, to church cleaning, to providing flowers, to being members of the PCC – all are thanked for their contributions.

There were no changes to the membership of the PCC following the annual meetings in May.



St Edmund & St George Web Pages:
www.hethe.org/st-edmunds-st-georges-church/

The church is also on the web sites “A Church Near You” and “Explore Churches”.

Next PCC meeting Monday 12th July.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Village Hall

With restrictions changing so often, please contact the booking secretary on fjskinner@hotmail.co.uk for availability.

The Cherwell District Council Planning Authority have granted planning permission for the makeover of the hall.



Adventure Playground



The playground on the village playing field off the Hardwick Road was open at the time of writing this article. Please follow the instructions on the gates concerning bringing your own wipes and taking litter home.

Book Share

Following the success of the Cottisford “Bus Stop Book Exchange”, some of the books which have not been available in the church during lockdown have been moved into the bus shelter on the Bainton Road. The idea is that you borrow one or two books and return them when read. All free of charge.

Recycling

The bottle bank is still open and is being monitored and emptied. There are three glass recycling banks available for clear, green and brown bottles on the driveway approaching the Village Hall.

Please dispose of your glass responsibly – DO NOT LITTER - take metal/plastic tops and plastic bags/cardboard boxes away with you to dispose of or to recycle at home. It is an offence to leave bottles, or anything else, anywhere but inside the containers. Thank you.



St Edmund & St George Graves

The second in the series of “graves in the churchyard” has a link to Sir Thomas Mostyn who was featured in the article on the Bainton Monument in the June Stoke Lyne news. Another member of the Mostyn family, Colonel Morys Lancelot Lloyd Mostyn, lived in the Old Rectory next to St Edmund and St George Church with his wife Margaret Eleanor (nee Tubb).

Morys was born in 1887 in Eaton Square, Belgravia, London, and brought up in Bodysgallen Hall on the Creuddyn Peninsula, Caernarvonshire. His father was the brother of the 3rd Baron Mostyn. The Mostyn Estates in north Wales included Llandudno and the Mostyn family home for over 500 years - Mostyn Hall in Flintshire.

The ancestors of Morys supported the Lancastrian cause in the “War of the Roses”. Henry Tudor (later King Henry VII) is said to have stayed in Mostyn Hall during the time that he was planning his bid for the throne. It is said that Richard III’s soldiers forced their way into the hall looking for Henry, but he escaped out of the back of the building! Richard Mostyn led 1,600 men to fight for Henry at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. A grateful Henry is said to have given Richard the sword and belt he wore in the battle.

Morys was educated at Eton College. He fought in the First World War, where he was wounded. He was awarded the Royal Humane Society Bronze Medal, which was introduced in 1837 and is awarded to people who have put their own lives at great risk to save or attempt to save someone else. His award was “for having endeavoured to save life from drowning”.



He was appointed Officer, Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem which is a royal order of chivalry established in 1831. Its world-wide mission is "to prevent and relieve sickness and injury, and to act to enhance the health and well-being of people anywhere in the world." Membership is mainly Anglicans and by invitation only, except via appointment to certain government or ecclesiastical offices in some realms.

In 1939 he was listed as “Retired Private Means” and was a “Colonel Reserve of Officers Royal Welch Fusiliers”. He was living in the Old Rectory with his wife and a Parlour Maid, Agnes Harris. He was appointed as Officer Commanding Bicester Company Local Defence Volunteers (LDV) on 20th May 1940. The LDV were later renamed the Home Guard.

Morys and Margaret’s son, Henry Pyers Ronald Lloyd Mostyn is listed on the Hethe War Memorial. He died on 27th May 1940 while serving in 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, Royal Armoured Corps, and is listed on the Dunkirk Memorial in France. He had been mentioned in despatches and the following was reported in the London Gazette on 6th March 1942

“The KING has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of distinguished services in France and Flanders. “2nd Lt. H. P. R. Lloyd Mostyn (85587). (Since died.).

At the outbreak of the Second World War the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars was based at York. They were deployed as part of the British Expeditionary Force, and fought in the Battle of France, suffering heavy losses during the German advance and, having left all its armour and vehicles behind, took part in the Dunkirk evacuation.



It is understood that Henry was leader of the 5th Troop, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, and that he was the only individual from his troop to escape the battle at Assche and make his way across Belgium and France to the coast. He is reported to have then boarded a ship which was sunk crossing the channel and he was drowned.

Margaret was affectionately remembered by a war time evacuee, Mrs Pamela Hill, who had been visiting Hethe for 76 years to visit the War Memorial and to tend to the Lloyd Mostyns' Grave in the churchyard of St Edmund & St George:

"It was Lady Margaret Eleanor Mostyn who arranged for us to live in Hethe House, because it was a long way for us to walk up to our school and services at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in the Hardwick Road (particularly through the snow)."

Colonel Lloyd Mostyn served as High Sheriff of Oxfordshire in 1950. He died in 1968 aged 81. His wife died in 1974 aged 91. Their joint grave is in the north part of the St Edmund and St George graveyard.

Mixbury All Saints

CHURCHWARDENS: Martin Ayres, Northwell Farm, Finmere

Alec Howard, Middlestead, Mixbury

TREASURER: David Mitchell. 2 Town Farm, Mixbury

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Anna Howard

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Sue Goodman pasgoodman551@gmail.com

Tel 07899 792552

Tel 01280 848295

Tel 01280 847769

Tel 01280 848002

To donate to All Saints', Mixbury just scan this code with your phone:



Church Services

Services will be on the third Sunday in the month at 9.30am

Provisional Mixbury Church flower rota 2021

May	Sally Drummond-Hay
	Barbara Mortimer
June	Kate Darby
July	Sue Goodman
August	Helen Backon
September	Morag Westworth and Philippa Brown
	Harvest festival – everyone
October	Melanie Soar
November	Fi Bairstow
December	Carol service and Christmas - everyone
Reserve Sam Lockwood	
Easter	Barbara, Sam, Melanie, Morag, Sue Goodman, Helen, Sally, Kate

All Our Yesterdays: Bits and pieces in Mixbury, by Bruce Epps

I have said before that chance finds play an important role in piecing together the history of our parish. About five years ago one family passed us a shaped stone scored with Norman chevrons which had originally come from the site of Beaumont Castle: there is a photograph of it in paragraph 4 of the “Summary” article on our website, mixburymixhistory.co.uk. Another gave us a buckle from a nurse’s belt, almost certainly from the late 19th /early 20th century, when employment in rural areas increasingly saw the decline of agricultural labouring and the growth of the Public Sector. And another example of a “find” – a 1907 pattern bayonet handle - came from a family living where the head of the parish Home Guard had lived during WW II. In the last couple of months three further such finds have again caused us to ponder Mixbury’s yesterdays.

First, one part of the parish and a field in a neighbouring parish have given up a quantity of unused musket and pistol balls dating to the period of the English Civil War. They are a reminder that although Mixbury seems to have been for much of the conflict in no-mans-land, it was apparently passed through by armies on both sides at one time or another.

Second, a chance encounter with a South Midlands Archaeology Newsletter from 2017 resulted in us finding a picture of a Roman coin from Mixbury, dating to the period AD 293 to 296. The coin is described as only the second example of its type recorded: the other example is in the British Museum. We are sure, for a variety of reasons – not least, because of a quantity of Roman pottery sherds and a Roman road through the north of the parish - that the Romans spent some time in Mixbury, but this is the first coin we know about. It would be great to have some in the parish history archive

Third – and we are getting this checked by the Ashmolean Museum – one of the Group recently dug up what looks like a piece of fossilised bone, 6cm long and diameter 2.5, which has been split lengthwise. The two outer surfaces are highly polished. Now, a little learning is said to be a dangerous thing (and we may have got this wrong!) but we have been able to research two facts which seem very relevant. First, bone has been used since Neanderthal time – 40,000 years ago – and still is today, to burnish and iron the wrinkles out of leather. The process gives the bone a smooth finish. Second, bone only becomes fossilised after about 10,000 years, so if our piece is a leather tool, it is very old! Were people really living in Mixbury at that time?.

Mixbury Book Exchange – has moved!

The book box has now re-located to the porch just inside the church. The books have been kindly donated by one of Mixbury’s Book Clubs and a few individuals, these are for the villagers to exchange a book with one they have read and replace with one of their own. If you are leaving a book whilst the pandemic is on please wrap it in clear plastic labelled with the date it is placed in the box as after 72 hours any possible germs should have gone. Please only leave books that are in good condition, now that the books are inside the church we can accept a few more.

Pop Up Pub Nights in Mixbury ARE BACK!

Pub nights are traditionally held on the first Friday of each month (except January) and are a great way to meet people in the village. The hosts normally provide nibbles and you take along your own drink, be it tea, coffee or something stronger. Opening hours from 8pm – please contact Tanya Howroyd for further information (01280) 847521: For address of each host please contact Tanya.

2nd July - Richard & Nicola;
6th August - Tanya & Mark
3rd September - Alec & Anna
1st October - Alison Timms
5th November - Rob & Sarah
3rd December - Matt & Caroline

Save the date: Mixbury Fete: 4th September 2021



(Covid restrictions allowing!)

Newton Purcell St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDENS: Ann von Maltzahn, Home Farm Shelswell Park
 Roger Cross The Limes, Newton Purcell, Buckingham
 TREASURER: Fai Li, 4 St. Peter's Close, Stoke Lyne, Bicester, OX27 8RB
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Roger Cross as above
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Ann von Maltzahn

Tel 01280 848680
 Tel. 01280 847471
 Tel: 07725 009838

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Artists in the Countryside -

Despite current restrictions and social distancing being strictly adhered to, this years exhibition was another resounding success raising over £1,200 for church funds.

Fifteen local artists exhibited in a wide range of styles and in perfect weather visitors over the weekend were able to actually watch the artists painting.

Our grateful thanks go to all involved, the organisers, the artists, the Markham family for their delicious asparagus, those who provided and served refreshments and of course all who came to support and enjoy the event.



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

We very much hope to be able to have our Christmas Concert again this year and it is provisionally booked for **Friday 10th December** so please save the date!

Experienced Childcare required near Hethe for the month of August.
Please email ann_maltzahn@yahoo.com for details

Stoke Lyne St Peter's

CHURCHWARDEN:	Christopher Poole CTP@oxford-educational.co.uk	Tel 01869 346020
	Ali Miller alisonjanemiller@icloud.com	Tel 07762 719198
TREASURER:	Janey Poole janey@oxford-educational.co.uk	Tel 07810 120457
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Emma Brown	
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT:	Rena Andrews Email: renacyanlion@btinternet.com	
PARISH ROOM BOOKINGS :	Kelly and James Holden-White kholdenwhite@aol.com	Tel 01869345211
	WEBSITE www.stokelyne.org	

To donate to St Peter's, Stoke Lyne just scan this code with your phone:



Services :

Please see the back page of the magazines for dates and times of services of services

This month of June has started off with lovely warm weather and the gardens and allotments are looking good, the grass verges all around the village have had a beautiful show of Moon daises, cow parsley and hawthorn blossom and now the elderflowers are blooming, nice for the wine makers.

Flower rota

Hi All

Thank you so much for offering to arrange flowers in the church, St Peter's looks so much better when flowers are dotted around the building. We have a service on the 3rd Sunday of each month so it would be great if fresh flowers were arranged for that week end, if you visit the church subsequently and see that the flowers may need water or are dead can you attend to them during your month.

I am purchasing some fresh Oasis that will be placed in the flower cupboard to the right of the porch. Water can be found outside and all the old flowers should be placed in the brown bin. Here is a rota for cover, if you are unable to cover the month can you arrange to swap with others on the rota.

June	Emma
July	Julie
August	Caroline
September	Donita
October	Janey
November	Rena
December	Deborah

COLES, HAWKS AND STOKE LYNE MANOR HOUSE

In April Rena, our magazine correspondent, set me the challenge of finding out more about the Cole family and the Manor of Stoke Lyne as years ago she was informed by a colleague who used to live in Twickenham that there was a plaque there to a Cole described as “Lord of the Manor of Stoke Lyne” and as such was entitled to display a hawk on his coat of arms. Rena also wondered if I could work out where exactly Stoke Lyne’s Manor House was located.



In answer to Rena’s first question, I’ll start with the Holts who were Lords of the Manor from the 16th to 18thCs. According to the “Victoria County History”, published 1959, the last of the line of the male Holts was Charles *“who probably held the manor until his death in 1731. His daughter Susannah was his heir. She married Lt.-Col. Newsham Peers of Alveston (Warws.), who was holding the manor in the 1730’s. He was killed in 1743 at the Battle of Dettingen. He and his wife left no children, and for the next few years the descent of the manor cannot be traced.”* It eventually falls into the hands of the Vernons aka the Earl and Countess of Shipbrook.

There’s rather a striking portrait of the Countess of Shipbrook online. Her first name was Alice and her maiden name was Ibbetson. She married the English politician Francis Vernon (1715-1783), Esq., of Nacton, Suffolk, who was created Earl of Shipbrook in 1777. They produced a son, Francis, but he died in 1760 aged only 8 years. When the widowed Alice died on 23 September 1808, aged 78, the Manor of Stoke Lyne passed to her cousin Isabella’s family. Isabella had married one Thomas Rea Cole. Here is an extract about their son from Burke’s “History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland” published 1837-1838: *“COLE, STEPHEN THOMAS, Esq. Of Stoke Lyne, in the county of Oxford, and of Twickenham, Middlesex, b. 26th April 1765” “The Cole family has been seated at Twickenham, in Middlesex, for several generations, and may be found in the church registers as early as 1584 ... The present possessor of Stoke Lyne, in Oxfordshire, is the eldest son of the late Major Cole, of the 98th regiment, by Isabella, eldest daughter of the late Henry Ibbetson, bart. and inherited his estate in the county of Oxford from the Countess of Shipbrook, only daughter of Samuel Ibbotson, esq. elder brother of Sir Henry Ibbetson, bart. and widow of the Earl of Shipbrook ...”*

The next Cole to inherit the Manor of Stoke Lyne after Stephen was his son Edward Henry Cole. Then came Edward’s son, Edward Campbell Stuart Cole, who is probably best known in village history for his role in the “Stoke Lyne Ejectment Trials”. According to the “Brief annals of the Bicester poor law union and its component parishes” published in 1877: *“In 1860, first at the Lent assizes, afterwards at the Summer assizes, were tried some remarkable law cases, known as the Stoke Lyne ejectment trials. Edward Campbell Stuart Cole, the owner of the estate, and his mortgagees, brought suits against various parties who had enclosed pieces of roadside land, and erected tenements thereon.” “The cottages in question are built on the side of one of these highways, called Stratton Lane.”* The plaintiff won his case and was awarded damages of just one shilling. Edward Cole subsequently sold the Manor of Stoke Lyne to the Peytons of Swift’s House in December 1860 for £65.

The story of the hawk I first found in the “The Every-day Book and Table Book” published in 1841. The account was sent in by a reader together with an engraved wood-block from which the image replicated at the start of this piece was presumably created. *“AN ACCOUNT OF THE MANOR OF STOKE LYNE IN OXFORDSHIRE, LATE THE PROPERTY OF THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF SHIPBROOK. The lord of the manor has a right, by ancient custom, to bear a hawk about his arms agreeable to the print: it arose from the following*

circumstances. When Charles the First held his parliament at Oxford, the then lord of Stoke Lyne was particularly useful to the king in his unfortunate situation, and rendered him service. To reward him he offered him knighthood, which he declined, and merely requested the king's permission to bear behind his coat of arms a hawk, which his majesty instantly granted." However, J. C. Blomfield, in his section on Stoke Lyne in the "History of the Present Deanery of Bicester," series, published in 1894, has a different version: the King is Charles II. In his account he names the recipient of the offer as Ralph Holte (1644-1702). *"In the public strife of his early life he was a staunch Royalist. A story is current that having done some good service to Charles II, the King offered to bestow upon him a baronetcy or knighthood, as a mark of royal favour. But he declined the proffered honour, only asking that he might be allowed to wear his coat of arms on a bird's breast".* This version is perhaps supported by the fact that Ralph Holt's name was listed in the London Gazette in November 1678 as being appointed High Sheriff of Oxfordshire for the forthcoming year.

As to the location of the manor house, the "Brief Annals" states *"The old mansion of the Holts was a short distance south of the Church, but its last vestiges have been swept away."* The "Victoria County History" says that it *"had become a ruin by 1808 and was pulled down. In Ralph Holt's day in the 1660's it was a substantial house which was taxed on ten hearths. It is thought to have been built by William Lyne in the 15th century; traces of its site could still be seen south of the church at the end of the 19th century."* J. C. Blomfield's "History" states: *"During this interval the absenteeism of the owners, the Manor House, which after standing through three centuries had then fallen into a ruinous condition, was pulled down. Thus every vestige of what had been the home of the Lyne, Holte and Petty families through many succeeding generations disappeared, except the broken ground which marks its site, and of which old residents still say, 'There stood Squire Holt's House'."* Presumably this is how the property now known as "Holt's Ground" got its name.

Brenda Hazel

(Brenda has kindly supplied me with a list of references if you would like a copy please contact me. Editor)

STOKE LYNE 100 CLUB

Results of the Stoke Lyne 100 club are as follows

1st Membership No 53	Mandle
2nd Membership No 32	Bethan Knight
3rd Membership No43	Faye Billingham
Total prize money this month	

£70.50

Congrats to all winners and best of luck next month to all members

Membership numbers are still available from janey@oxford-educational.co.uk Tel 01869 346020.

Stoke Lyne W.I.

June 2021

We had a socially distanced meeting at the home of one of our members Mary Wilkins on Wednesday 9th June at 2.00pm We decided at committee to make the meeting special by having a Picnic tea.

This was a lovely setting under a beautiful tree which gave us plenty of shade on a very hot afternoon. We did a bit of business and Judith our secretary gave her yearly report on activities in the last year, I am sure like a lot of others during this Pandemic we haven't been able to meet up face to face, we have kept in contact with phone calls etc.

Now for the Picnic.

The committee then started to bring out trays of sandwiches with a selection of various fillings, followed by cream scones and then a lovely selection of all sorts of cakes, there was tea or coffee and a selection of cold drinks.

The members all agreed it was a lovely meeting and so nice to meet face to face.

We haven't been able to arrange our programme of speakers. In view of that it was decided that in July we would meet for a pub lunch and in August we would meet at Evenley Wood and hopefully we will be able to start having our proper meetings in September. We haven't had a proper meeting since last August when we had an open air meeting in the garden of the Muddy Duck, some of us met up in September for a walk at Bure Park and then lunch in the pub there, it was arranged those who were walking would meet at 11.00 and those unable to do the walk would meet at 12.30 where we would all join up for lunch.



Stratton Audley and Godington St Mary and St Edburga; Holy Trinity

CHURCHWARDENS: Vacancy

TREASURER: Fai Li, 4 St. Peter's Close, Stoke Lyne, Bicester, OX27 8RB Tel 07725 009838

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Jackie Fox

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant



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Services: Please see back page for details

Stratton Audley and Godington PCC If you would like to know more please contact either Alice or Becky.

Magazine Correspondent please contact the Editor direct if you have any news for inclusion.



The Church of St. Mary & St. Edburga

Church Services

The church is once again open during the day for private prayer and reflection. It is no longer necessary to book for services, though masks and hand sanitising will still be required and social distancing will be strictly observed. Please see back page.

Are you interested in assisting with the future of our Church, please contact Alice, our Rector, to find out more?

CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

It was necessary to change the date of the Annual Church Meeting from Wednesday 23rd June to **Wednesday 14th July (7.30pm)** in Stratton Audley Church. We do hope that this date will be possible for people and we would be very grateful if you could raise awareness amongst any who might not otherwise see this message.

The Return of the Coffee Morning at the Red Lion

Coffee mornings start again - every Wednesday morning at The Red Lion,
11-12am, mugs of tea, coffee, biscuits £2.50..

A warm welcome awaits everyone so do pop along even if you have never been before.

Nocino Summer Drinks at Stratton Audley Church

Please see below details of an intriguing new fun event being organised by David Young on behalf of the church on Saturday 3rd July. He has made a great little video which can be accessed on this link: <https://spark.adobe.com/video/WpuYGJGx9pcEc>

Please feel free to join us on Saturday July 3rd in the gardens of Stratton Audley Church for Nocino cocktails. This year we will collect the green walnuts that fall in Stratton Audley and create Nocino liqueur cocktails to be served in a socially distanced and relaxed setting. There will also be non-alcoholic Nocino for people to drizzle over ice cream. No need to book.



Community Open Meeting

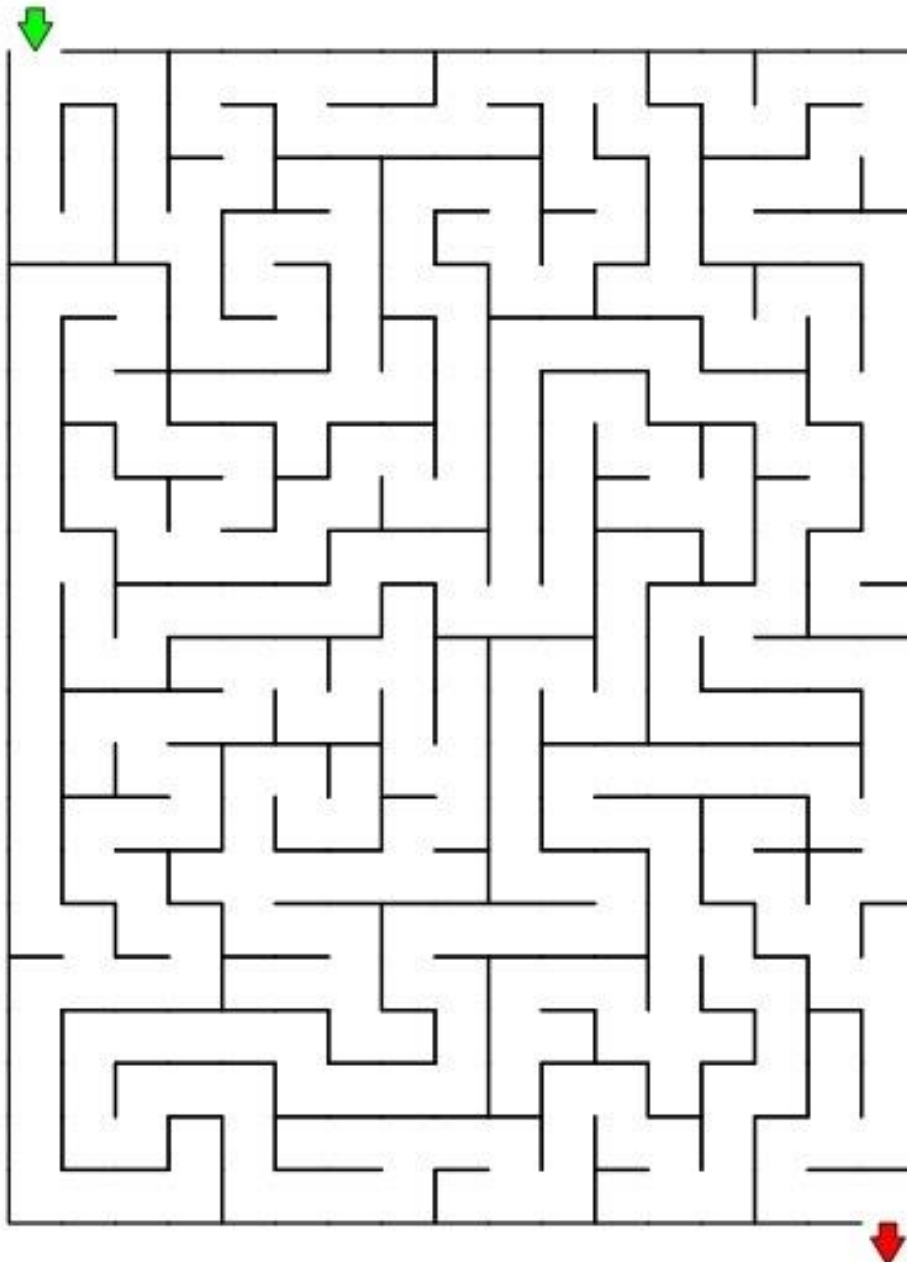
The Annual Open meeting of the Parish will now be held on 4th August at 7.30pm. Please put it in your diary and come if you are in the village that Wednesday evening. This meeting has not been held for two years and, whilst hosted by the Parish Council, is an open meeting of the community which means subjects that are not on the Agenda can be raised for discussion in an open forum.

Stratton Audley Barn

The Barn gift shop is now open as well as the café from Tuesday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm. Offering outside seating in the open or in the marquee for breakfast, lunch, coffee, cake and home-made ice cream. Booking for lunch is recommended. All of these activities are conducted under the latest Government guidance for social distancing. More information on www.strattonaudleybarn.co.uk or Facebook Stratton Audley Barn .

Cabaret at the Red Lion – Save the Date

Dillie has managed to secure the services of the sublime Christine Bovill, who will be performing her Piaf show on July 10th in the courtyard. See the Red Lion Facebook page or email Dillie for tickets: dilliedarling@gmail.com

THE MAZE

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

A man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?"
and Jesus replied with this parable:

A man was attacked by robbers, they tore his clothes, beat him and left him almost dead. A priest saw him but walked by on the other side. A Levite saw him but walked by on the other side. A Samaritan saw him and took pity on him, he poured oil and wine on his wounds and then bandaged them. He lifted the man onto his donkey, took him to an inn and cared for him.

The next day he gave the innkeeper two denarii to look after the man until he returned.

Which of the three travellers do you think was the neighbour to the man who was attacked?

Mouse Makes



Read the full story in
Luke 10:25-37



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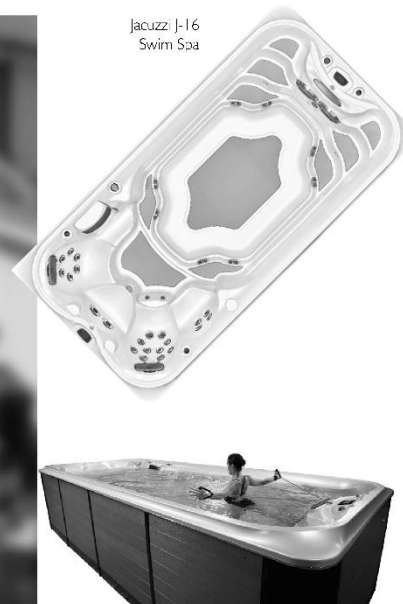
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

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Victoria Online:



@victoriaprentis



@victoria_prentis



/victoriaprentis

www.victoriaprentis.com

Contact Victoria:

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Deddington
OX15 0TD

Westminster:

020 7219 8756
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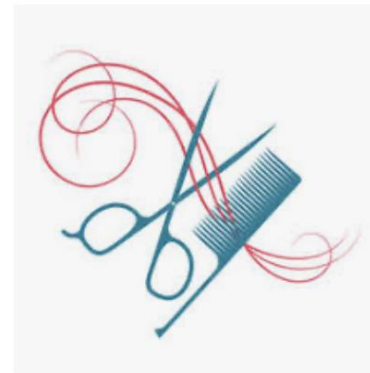
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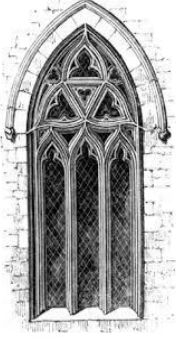
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| Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> July  | 9.30am  | Morning Prayer        | Hethe           | AG |
|                              | 11am    | Holy Communion*       | Finmere         | AG |
|                              | 6pm     | Compline              | Godington       | YM |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> July | 9.30am  | Holy Communion        | Newton Purcell  | YM |
|                              | 11am    | Holy Communion (BCP)* | Cottisford      | AG |
|                              | 6pm     | Evening Communion     | Stoke Lyne      | LW |
| Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> July | 8.15 am | BCP Communion         | Hethe           | AG |
|                              | 9.30 am | Mixbury 45            | Mixbury         | YM |
|                              | 11 am   | Holy Communion *      | Fringford       | AG |
|                              | 3 pm    | Muddy Church          | Stoke Lyne      | YM |
| Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> July | 9.30 am | Holy Communion        | Stratton Audley | LW |
|                              | 11 am   | Holy Communion*       | Stoke Lyne      | AG |
|                              | 6 pm    | Evensong              | Hardwick        | AG |

\* Services marked with an asterix will be livestreamed on Facebook (Shelswell News Group) and You Tube (Shelswell News channel).



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