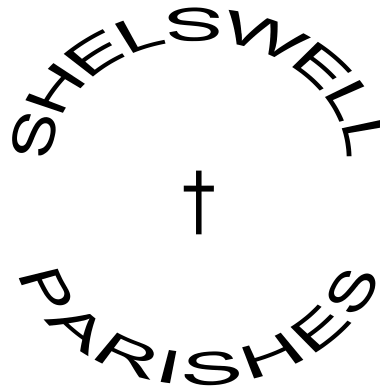


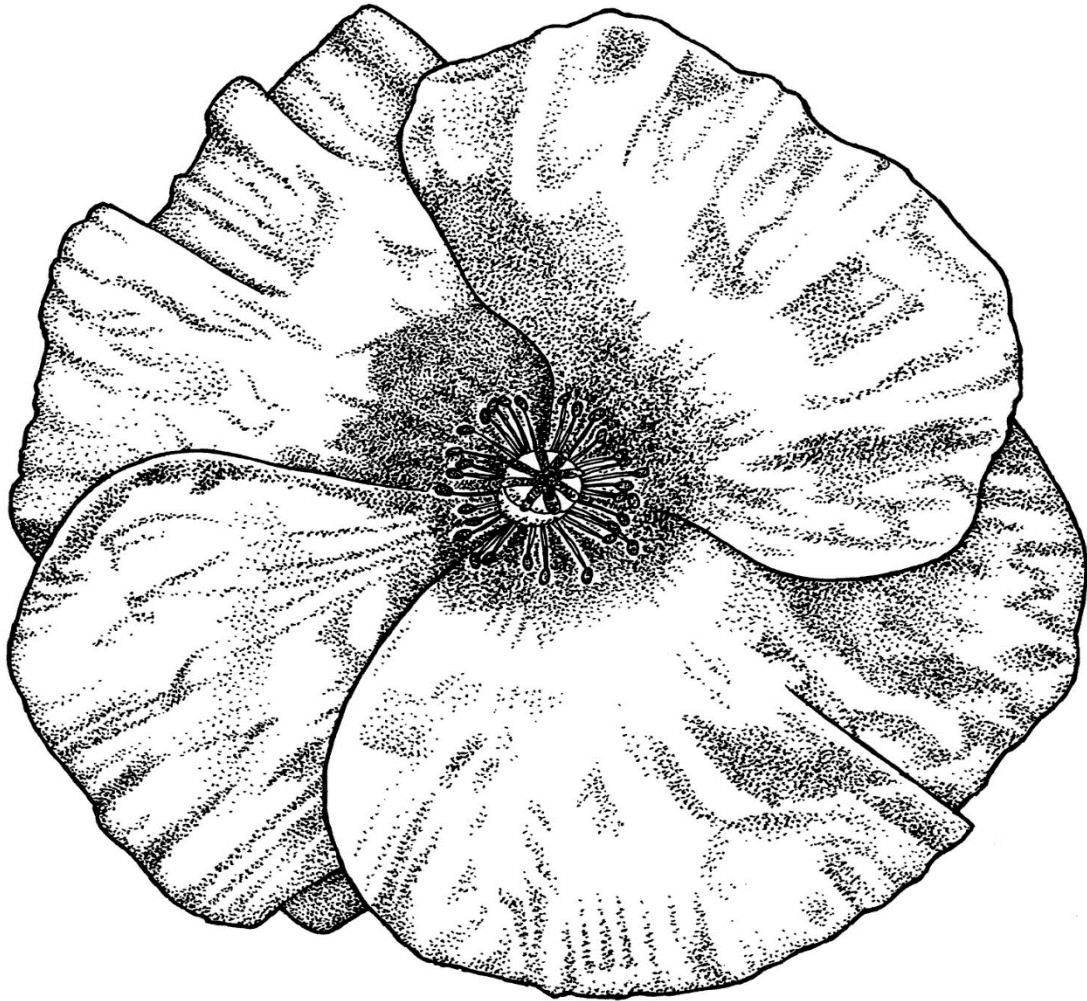
Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

Cottisford
Fringford
Hardwick
Mixbury
Stoke Lyne



Finmere
Godington
Hethe
Newton Purcell
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November 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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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

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

To Magazine Correspondents: **Tuesday 16 November 2021**

Correspondents to Editor: **Thursday 18 November 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

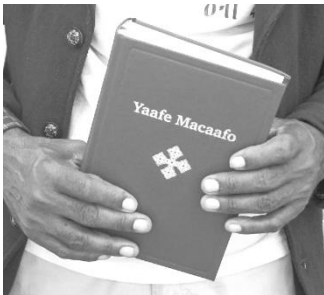
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShelswellNews/>

Ministers Letter

Your Never Know

In the Summer we received an email from Carolyn, a friend we'd known in Ethiopia in the 1970s when we taught at the same school in Addis Ababa. More than 45 years ago Carolyn, a gifted linguist, left teaching to become involved in Bible translation work. Along with colleagues, she has worked on four Ethiopian languages, the latest being Kafa, which is spoken by more than a million people.

The email was to tell us about the completion of the Kafa translation project and the Dedication of the Kafa Bible. Although now retired in America, and despite Covid restrictions, Carolyn was able to attend the Dedication in the forest-covered mountainous region of southwestern Ethiopia. She wrote:



“After the Dedication, the Bibles were on sale at a subsidized price. I don’t know yet how many Bibles had been brought, but all of them sold out within a few minutes. A pick-up truck was sent to bring more. The truck never made it inside the gate but was stormed by the crowd, and every Bible it had brought also sold.

The people were saying,

Why did you only print 10,000? That isn't nearly enough for all of us!

“It looked like a famine-relief truck being stormed by hungry people.

In a spiritual sense, I think it was. Praise God!

“Kafa Project Manager Matewos (Matthew) had worked hard to get the audio recording of the Kafa Bible synchronized with the written text. He also made several Apps, which were put on micro-SD cards that can be inserted into smart phones.”

This was exciting news to hear, but the enthusiasm of the Kafa people puts us to shame. There are so many versions of the Bible available in English, ranging from the Authorised Version to the Wycliffe Bible, from the Easy-to-Read Version to Youngs Literal Translation. Sadly, not many people clamour for copies here.



In Carolyn’s email I was very moved, and somewhat surprised, to read:

“Liz, I am sure you remember that it all started when you offered to teach 10th grade math so I could move to Zezencho and work on the Gurage translation! I am truly grateful. This was the confirmation I needed from the LORD to move into Bible translation.”

I very vaguely remember offering to teach Carolyn’s Grade 10 students all those years ago but had no idea until now that this was the confirmation she was seeking. Taking her class was no hardship as I was mainly teaching biology at the time, which I hadn’t studied since O-level, so I was glad to have some additional maths. In the end, I didn’t take her class for long as an Ethiopian maths teacher was soon added to the staff.

You never know If you offer to do something within your capabilities, it may free up someone else to do what they are gifted to do. (But you may not know about it till later, if at all.) So why not offer to do something, however small, if a need arises.

Liz Welters
Associate Minister



BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 7 th November	3 rd Sunday before Advent	Jonah 3 v1-5 and 10 Hebrews 9 v24-end Mark 1 v14-20
Sunday 14 th November	2 nd Sunday before Advent/ Remembrance Sunday	Daniel 12 v1-3 Hebrews 10 v1-14 [15-18] 19-25 Mark 13 v1-8
	(Other readings may be used for Remembrance Services)	
Sunday 21 st November	Christ the King	Daniel 7 v9-10 and 13-14 Revelation 1 v4b-8 John 18 v33-37
Sunday 28 th November	Advent Sunday	Jeremiah 33 v14-16 1 Thessalonians 3 v9-end Luke 21 v25-36
Sunday 5 th December	2 nd Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3 v1-4 Philippians 1 v3-11 Luke 3 v1-6

Monthly Mid-Week Service of Holy Communion followed by Lunch

Dates for the Service and Lunch: **Thursday 4th November**
and **Thursday 2nd December** at **12 noon** in **Stoke Lyne Church**

We do hope you will be able to come for worship, food and fellowship.

If you would like a lift or more information, please contact Liz, Yvonne or Alice.



SHELSWELL BENEFICE CHOIR

The Choir is back in operation again. We meet at 7.30pm each Tuesday in Stoke Lyne Church. We sing at Benefice services, and usually one service of Evensong a month. We'd love more people to join – **all** voices, and tenors would be especially welcome! Come along any Tuesday evening to give it a try. If you'd like to have a chat beforehand, ring Penny on 01869-277310.

Our link with Wulu, South Sudan

A message from Bishop Zechariah (26th September)

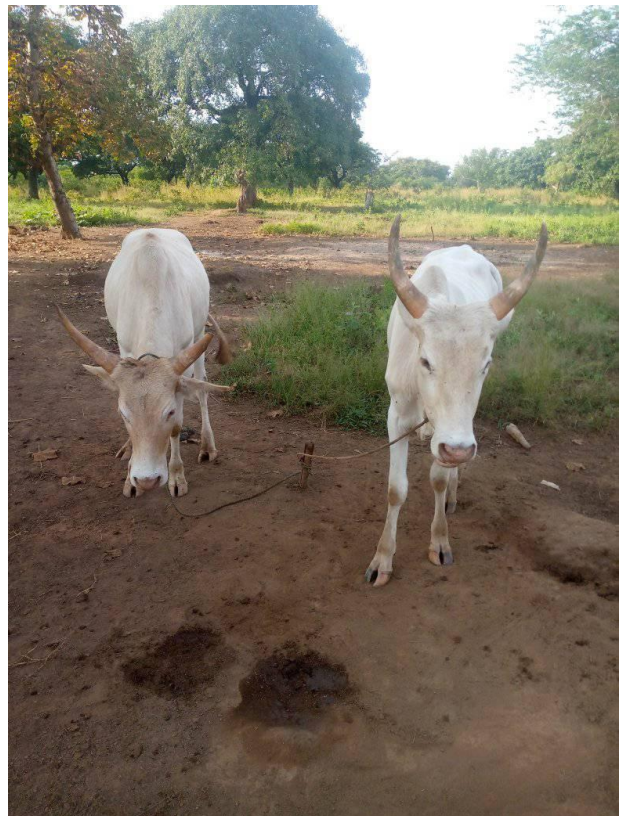
I want to thank God again and again, for His protection all of you in the difficulty of the pandemic time. We are keeping prayers for you and I received your message today. Thank you,
And may Almighty Father continue with his protection.
I also happy and appreciate all the members of Shelswell church including pastor Alice with her family, thank you.

The Ox plough project

We have now made the fifth of six donations of 500 USD towards the purchase of oxen and ploughs for the Women's Farming Project in Wulu. We were very late in sending the last two donations because of the pandemic, but in October Joe and I made the trip to the bank in Shepherds Bush once again.

John Juma Mangok, who works as the Diocesan Secretary for the Diocese, sent us this picture of the two cows they purchased in February 2020 with our third donation. Making the purchase was tricky as the price of the cows kept increasing to more than the money that they had available. (South Sudan has seen an inflation rate of 400%). Initially they decided to wait until the price dropped but, as that didn't seem to be happening, they decided just to get the oxen and then hope that the group can raise the money for the plough. They managed to get a reasonably favourable price for these two.

We hope to make the final donation towards the ox plough project in February or March and have asked for a full report on the project and the difference it has made.



The girls' primary school

We have decided that we would like to continue our link with Wulu and have agreed to donate 500 USD every six months towards recreation materials, sanitary pads for the older girls and sports equipment.

John Juma Mangok tells us that they have started 'Sports for Peace' clubs in the school so that the girls from different ethnic groups can play friendly matches among themselves.

Lambeth Conference

We hope that Bishop Zachariah may be able to come to the Lambeth Conference next year (27 July – 8th August) and that he can visit us here in Shelswell in the previous week. It would be good to hear first hand about life in Wulu and the projects we are supporting. More on that in due course.

The Sudans Day

I was pleased to be able to attend a day organised by the Salisbury - Sudans Link. Key points from the Sudans Day organised by Salisbury Diocese on 9th October. Things that struck me included:

- During Lent, the Salisbury Diocese asked its parishes for donations to help the Sudans cope with the Covid crisis. People were very generous, and they raised £100 000. Half of this was given to South Sudan for awareness training, water containers, sanitiser and soap. However the Bishop of Sudan asked if their donation could be spent on food. He said 'we would rather die of Covid than starvation'.
- this highlights the current level of food instability in both countries. A significant factor in this is climate change. Over the past two years South Sudan has seen unprecedented flooding in states right across the country – normally flooding would be expected in just two states. Using the IPC classification system, which is a common global system for describing the severity of food insecurity and malnutrition, 6.3 million or 53% of the population of South Sudan are at level 3 or above. 50% of children under 5 years old are either stunted or wasted. Lakes State, which is where Wulu is, is identified as being in Phase 3.
- Agnes Oswaha, the Ambassador of South Sudan in London, told us about through the political situation since 2011 when South Sudan gained independence. It has been a rocky road - the current peace agreement is fragile but holding. As she took us through the different components of the peace agreement, the need to keep on board the 45 different political parties, the process for developing a constitution, the complexities of maintaining peace, and all amidst the devastation caused by floods, locusts and covid 19, we began to appreciate what a very challenging task faces the country.
- Jane Backhurst from Christian Aid spoke with sadness of the reduction in overseas aid given by the UK by nearly 50%, and in some places almost 60%, and the very real impact that was having on people's lives. She spoke of the key role played by the Council of Churches in South Sudan in peace building and reconciliation, where they are well respected, seen as providing a neutral forum for negotiations and being a bit of an 'honest broker'.
- It was fantastic to hear about all the projects being supported by churches in the Salisbury Diocese and elsewhere: primary care clinics, salaries for health workers, medicines, bicycles, educational resources, microfinance schemes, agricultural schemes and many others – and to know that here in Shelswell we too are making a contribution.



Thank you for your continuing support of our link with Wulu. Please do let me know if you might be interested in visiting Wulu at some point – it would be wonderful to strengthen the link that we have and to directly observe the projects we are contributing to.

Alice Goodall

We have inherited a garden: we must not leave a desert to our children

Update on COP26, The Climate Change Conference, 31 Oct - 12 Nov

World Leaders are attending the Glasgow summit along with tens of thousands of negotiators, government representatives, NGOs, citizens and businesses. 195 governments have agreed the latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report on the impacts of global warming. Now the delegates at COP26 need to hammer out the details for its implementation. Scientists are on hand to clarify implications of any policy decisions. For more info see: IPCC Sixth Assessment Report <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

What Climate Scientists say:

“The earth’s climate has always been changing, but natural fluctuations between glacial and interglacial periods happen over huge timescales. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels have waxed and waned in the past but modern-day CO₂ levels are well above natural variations. CO₂ impedes the emission of infrared radiation back into space, so more heat builds up. CO₂ levels are 48% higher than in pre-industrial times, with the average global temperature around 1°C warmer - and rising. Methane is also a greenhouse gas - produced, for example, by burping ruminants and rice production - but it can potentially be reduced more rapidly than CO₂.

“Every tonne of CO₂ emitted, and every bit of resulting warming, contributes to climate change impacts. Regional variations in climate change are difficult to predict, but there will be more intense rainfall and more severe droughts. Wet events will be wetter, dry events drier. It will be a different type of heat - more humid.

“Melting arctic sea ice and glacier retreat have caused a 10cm sea level rise in the last 30 years. This rise will continue even if the temperature rise is limited to 1.5°C, as ice sheets are slow to respond to changes and it takes hundreds of years for oceans to circulate. Large tracts of land will be lost to the sea.

“Substantial, rapid and sustained cuts in greenhouse gas emissions are needed, to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, thus limiting further climate change.”



Christian Aid says: “Churches can speak up with a strong moral voice. Together, we can mobilise members to challenge the abuse of creation and insist on the value and dignity of every human being. Churches can offer powerful witness, in words and actions, for a future where everyone can flourish.”

Tearfund says: “Scientists are clear that climate change is a human-made problem. Without radical action, it will push 132 million more people into poverty this decade. It’s those least responsible for the climate crisis who are the most affected.”



Faith Leaders, representing the world’s major religions, say:

“We are currently at a moment of opportunity and truth. We pray that our human family may unite to save our common home before it is too late. Future generations will never forgive us if we squander this precious opportunity. We have inherited a garden: we must not leave a desert to our children. Scientists have warned us that there might be only one decade left to restore the planet.

“We plead with the international community, gathered at COP26, to take speedy, responsible and shared action to safeguard, restore and heal our wounded humanity and the home entrusted to our stewardship.

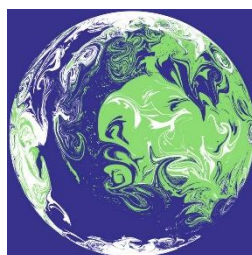
“We appeal to everyone on this planet to join us on this common journey, knowing well that what we can achieve depends not only on opportunities and resources, but also on hope, courage, solidarity & good will.”

What can we do?

Find out more from **The Climate Coalition**, www.theclimatecoalition.org or from its member organisations. Over 140 UK organisations dedicated to action against climate change are part of the coalition, including Christian Aid, Tearfund, Oxfam, CAFOD, Salvation Army, National Trust, The WI, Wildlife Trusts, RSPB. Join others in signing *The Climate Coalition’s Declaration* at: <https://thetimeisnow.uk/declaration>

To counteract gloom and doom we need to be people of hope, focussing on the positive, constructive things we can do as individuals, churches and communities.

Liz Welters



Fun at Four

Join us for craft, conversation,
contemplation and cake!

21 November 2021
4pm- 5.30pm

St Peter's, Stoke Lyne
All are welcome!



Little Lambs Baby and Toddler group

Wednesdays (Term Time)

at 10 am - 11.30am.

**We will meet
in Stratton Audley Church
for play, music and stories.
We will be serving refreshments
for Adults and Toddlers.**

Shelswell Youth Group

Alternate Friday evenings

7pm-9pm

in Fringford



5 November
19 November
3 December
17 December

Email: curate@shelswellparishes.info
for venue details.

SHELLOWELL YOUTH GROUP



We have started meeting on alternate Friday evenings for some fun together. The evenings begin with games, then some hot chocolate and cake, ice cream, pancakes... any tasty treats really and end with some time of reflection and more games.

So far we have tried our hands at Croquet on the Green, played Exploding Kittens, Uno and some Wii sports together!

The group is evolving and we very much want the teenagers themselves to determine what they want it to be – what they need it to be.

For further information please contact Revd Yvonne by emailing -

curate@shelswellparishes.info



REGISTRY

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

Baptisms

Lawrence Andrew Bonnell **LAKE**

Saturday 18 September 2021, St Mary the Virgin, Cottisford.



Liam and Danielle Lake brought Lawrence and all his family to St Mary's, Cottisford for his Baptism. Covid 19 had delayed the service, but luckily Lawrence was still able to fit into the family Christening gown. Both Lawrence's Grandmother, Uncle and sister were also baptised in the church and wearing the same gown! The church was filled with family and friends, some traveling from as far away as Bristol, a journey that took over 5 hours due to very heavy traffic, but thankfully they made it to the church just before we began! The hymns chosen were *All things bright and beautiful* and *Be thou my vision*. The readings chosen by Danielle and Liam were the account of Jesus's baptism in the River Jordan and Jesus welcoming the little children. After a brief talk everyone wrote prayers for Lawrence for his life journey which were collected and put into a box resembling a suitcase, to be kept and read to him as he grows up. Lawrence has 4 godparents: James Morris, Steven Bussy, Hollie Williams and Natasha Parker-Lake. His sister Jemima helped to hold his Baptism candle when it was presented to him. We pray that Lawrence would grow up secure in the knowledge that God is always with him on his journey through life.

Wilfred Michael Herbert Windle

19th September 2021 – St Mary the Virgin, Hardwick

It was lovely to welcome Wilf into Hardwick Church on Sunday 19th September, along with all his family and friends. Wilf was born in July 2020, and moved to Hardwick in March this year with his mum and dad, Rosie and Patrick Windle. Rosie was working as an estate agent before she went on maternity leave, and Patrick works as a chartered surveyor.

Wilf has four godparents: Emily Faux, Kimberley Ferguson, William Adler and Oliver Lintott, all of whom are really old friends of Rosie and Patrick. Rosie has experienced a close and supportive relationship with her own godparents and hopes that Wilf can have something similar with his godparents. Rosie and Patrick also wanted Wilf to be baptised to mark the start of a journey of faith for him. They would like him to have a good foundation in the Christian faith, so that in due course he can decide for himself whether this is something he wanted to pursue in his life.

Rosie and Patrick had chosen two hymns for the christening service: 'Give me joy in my heart' and 'Lord of all hopefulness'. They had two readings, the wonderful prayer that 'you may comprehend what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fulness of God' from Ephesians 3: 14 – 21 and read by one of the godmothers, and the lyrics to 'Forever young' by Bob Dylan read by Patrick's sister. Wilf's guests wrote their own prayers for him on cards that he will be able to read for himself when he is older.

After the christening, everyone went back to the house to carry on celebrating, and a good time was had by all.

We pray for Wilf that he will discover the truth of the amazing love that God has for him and that all those prayers will be fulfilled.

Lottie Grace Keating

Saturday 2nd October – St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley



Stratton Audley Church looked stunning, decorated with lots of pastel shade bunting, and with the most amazing array of cakes and sandwiches set up in readiness for the christening tea. And it was a delight to welcome Lottie, together with her family and friends to her christening. A good number of her guests had travelled from Ireland to be there.

Lottie is the first child of Lucy Adams and John Keating. Although Lucy is now working as a nanny, she and John met when they were both working in a stable yard in Lamborn. Lucy grew up in Stratton Audley and was pleased to have her best friend Millie Rawicz-Szczerbo as one of Lottie's godparents. Kevin Dowling was the other godparent. Church was an important part of both Lucy and John's childhoods, and they wanted this for

Lottie as well. For Lucy it was also important that Lottie was part of the Stratton Audley church family.

Lucy and John had chosen three hymns for the service: 'All things bright and beautiful', 'The Lord's my shepherd' and 'Lord of the dance'. The organ was played by Flora Skinner who has known Lucy since she was very young. Jeremy Adams, Lottie's grandfather, read Matthew 18: 1 – 5. and John's sister, Laura, read a Celtic blessing at the end of the service. Lottie behaved beautifully throughout.

After the service, photos were taken, tables were brought out, and everyone tucked into the refreshments. And some moved on from that to the Red Lion, where the celebrations continued until very late.

We pray that her baptism may be for Lottie the start of an amazing adventure in faith, where she discovers just how much she is loved by God.

'Forever Young', by Bob Dylan

May God bless and keep you always,
May your wishes all come true,
May you always do for others
And let others do for you.
May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung,
May you stay forever young.
May you grow up to be righteous,
May you grow up to be true,
May you always know the truth
And see the lights surrounding you.
May you always be courageous,
Stand upright and be strong,
May you stay forever young.
May your hands always be busy,
May your feet always be swift,
May you have a strong foundation
When the winds of changes shift.
May your heart always be joyful,
May your song always be sung,
May you stay forever young.

Matthew 18.1-5

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?'²He called a child, whom he put among them,³and said, 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.⁵Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

Marriages

Andrew Alexander **ROSS** and Flora Lucy **DIX**

On Saturday 11 September 2021 Andrew and Flora were married in St Michael and All Angels, Finmere.



Andy and Flora live in Edinburgh where Andrew works as a Chartered Accountant and Flora is a Clinical Scientist. Living in Scotland meant that the couple had to apply for a Common Licence before the wedding as the Church of Scotland do not have Banns of Marriage. Flora grew up in Finmere and can now say that her parents Sheila and Peter have seen her baptised, confirmed and married in the church.

The church was filled with beautiful flowers by Buzzy Leper from *Flowers Naturally* and the congregation were piped into the church by a Piper. The church was filled with laughter right from the start as family and friends gathered for the special occasion.

Flora arrived early (it doesn't take long to get from Peter and Shelia's to the church!) but we kept Andy waiting just a minute or two!

Flora and Andy had chosen two readings – **1 Corinthians 13** which was read by Karen Lawrence and **A red, red rose** by Robert Burns read by Adam Muir. Our hymns were *One more step along the world I go*, *Praise my soul the King of Heaven*, and *Jerusalem*.

The address was done by Flora's friend Hannah and was both very funny and also full of good advice! Hannah had done some research and found

out what the number one hit singles at the time of Flora and Andy's births were: 'The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)' by Cher for Flora and 'Nothing's Gonna Change My Love for You' by Glenn Medeiros for Andy. And unsurprisingly, the lyrics in the second song were a little more profound than the Shoop shoop song; 'If the road ahead is not so easy, our love will lead the way for us like a guiding star, I'll be there for you if you should need me. You don't have to change a thing, I love you just the way you are. So come with me and share the view, I'll help you see forever too'.

Hannah then went on to explore 1 Corinthians 13, Paul's great teaching on love "scientifically" – by making an observation, forming a hypothesis, testing with experiments, analysing the data and drawing conclusions. And she ended with some words of encouragement for them both, using financial terms which would be very familiar to Andy:

"Invest in each other each day, **count** your blessings, **manage** your expectations of each other, remember that **balance** is key and never go to sleep without **reconciliation**. Oh, and after all the wedding cake, watch your **figures!**"

The couple lit their wedding candle from the Pascal candle, symbolising two becoming one, which was also a wonderful reminder of all the life events that Flora has celebrated in St Michael's, Finmere.

Their witnesses were Flora's brother Sam and Andy's sister Katherine.

Andy and Flora left the church to ***You Make my Dreams come True*** by Hall and Oats.

It was an incredibly joyous occasion and the couple and all their guests went on to Huntsmill Farm for their Wedding reception.

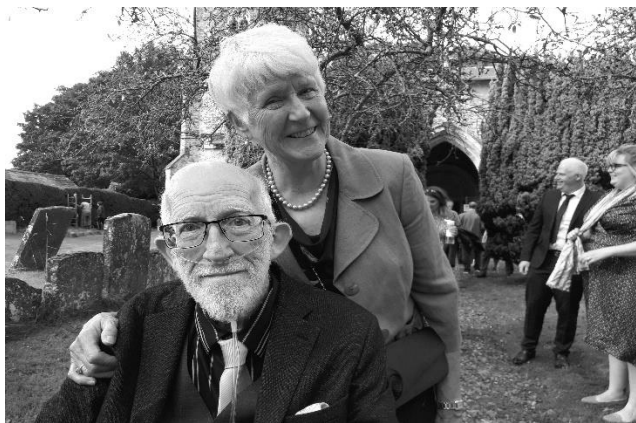
We wish Flora and Andy every blessing in their marriage.



Peter John Silver and Christine Blanche Underwood

Monday 27th September 2021 - St Michael and All Angels, Fringford

Peter and Christine met with their guests in St Michael and All Angels at 2 pm on Monday 27th September. The candles were lit, there were some lovely flowers, including on the ends of the pews, arranged by Carol Reader. And all was set for the marriage ceremony.



Peter and Christine had chosen some lovely readings: A Lovely Love Story by Edward Monkton (about two dinosaurs – the fierce Dinosaur and the Lovely Other Dinosaur), an excerpt from Winnie the Pooh, and Ecclesiastes 4: 9 – 12. A short address was given by Penny Wood, neighbour to Peter and Christine, and then vows were made, a ring was given, and the marriage was blessed. And then the newly weds left the church for photographs before returning home for a seemingly endless supply of delicious refreshments, provided by another neighbour Sharon, as well as the opportunity for everyone to congratulate them, catch up with one another and enjoy the wonderful garden in the sunshine. We pray that their marriage will be a great blessing to them.

Extract from **Winnie the Pooh** by A A Milne

"If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day so I never have to live without you."

Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind. "Pooh?" he whispered. "Yes, Piglet?" "Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's hand. "I just wanted to be sure of you." "We'll be Friends Forever, won't we, Pooh?" asked Piglet. "Even longer," Pooh answered. "If ever there is tomorrow when we're not together... there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is, even if we're apart... I'll always be with you."

Timothy James Ayling and Susanna Victoria Kiff

Saturday 2nd October 2021 – St Michael and All Angels, Finmere

So in spite of all the planning, the weather on Saturday 2nd October was awful. But St Michael and All Angels looked very welcoming decorated for harvest and with all the candles glowing warmly. And everyone was delighted to be there to celebrate the marriage of Tim and Susanna.

Tim and Susanna have known each other for four years since Tim took over a pub where Susanna happened to be working. When Tim moved to the Red Lion in Finmere in September 2018, he asked her to come and work with him. They got engaged in September 2019, and whilst many people found lockdown fairly stressful, Tim and Susanna found that it further solidified their relationship. They love spending time together whether wandering around Bicester, flying off for a spur of the minute weekend in Lanzarotta or going to an Air show.

Susanna came down the aisle on the arms of two of her children to Nat King Cole singing L-O-V-E. Her dog was also part of the bridal party. Susanna was given away by her son Donovan. Tim and Susanna had chosen one hymn for everyone to sing: The Lord's my Shepherd. They had three readings: Ecclesiastes 4: 9 – 12 read by Lottie Claridge, The Notebook read by Viv Higgins and the poem 'On your wedding day' read by Hannah Prowle. Whilst the marriage document was being signed, we listened to Nimrod by Elgar, and then the couple left the church to 'At last' by Etta James.

The guests dashed back to the pub in torrential rain for a wonderful reception which continued late into the evening as villagers dropped into the pub to add their congratulations. The newly weds left for their honeymoon in Barbados a few days later.

We are delighted to see them wed and wish them every happiness.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? ¹² And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

FRINGFORD SCHOOL - CO-OPTED GOVERNOR VACANCY

The twelve member Governing Board is the accountable body of this successful school. We are seeking a Co-opted Governor, ideally someone with no current links to the school to add independence to the decision-making of the strategic planning of the Board. The full Governing Board meets six times a year and in addition membership of a sub-committee is required which involves three additional meetings during the academic year.

No experience of education is necessary but a willingness to undertake governance courses would give you valuable insights into the role of a School Governor. Also, undertaking safeguarding training is essential. Appointment will be dependent on a DBS check.

The role is very fulfilling and interesting and for further information, please contact the school in the first instance on 01869 277397.

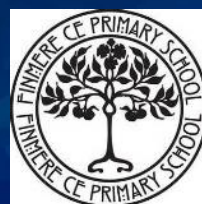
FINMERE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Governors of Finmere Church of England Primary School would welcome interest from any potential new governors committed to raising educational outcomes of all children at our busy village school.

Potential new governors should have a willingness to;

- Work positively with others as part of a team to provide strategic leadership and challenge to the head of school
- Develop their knowledge and understanding of their role and of the key issues and priorities facing primary schools by; attending training, reading papers, attending evening meetings (6 per year) visiting the school.

***If you would like to find out more about becoming a Governor and how to apply for one of our vacancies, please contact Catherine Musgrove, the Clerk to the Governors,
c.musgrove@warriner.oxon.sch.uk***



Finmere CofE Primary School

We have places in reception for September 2022
Please contact the school office to make an appointment
to visit our wonderful school and meet the staff and
children.

Email: office.3090@finmere.oxon.sch.uk

Phone: 01280 848459



Club news

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

SHELSWELL WALKERS



The Shelswell Walkers will meet on **Sunday 7th November**. The walk will be from the arch at the top of the drive to Stowe Gardens. If you are not a National Trust member there is a small public car park 10 minutes walk away at Chackmore.

Dogs must be on leads. New walkers are always welcome, please just turn up.

We plan to have a cuppa in the cafe at the end of the walk



SHELSWELL GARDEN CLUB



Our October talk was provided by Tony Russell who has been a regular speaker at our club. This time his talk was about 'Ornamental Trees for the 21st Century Garden'.

With stunning photographs, he described some of the most beautiful trees that we can grow in our gardens; how to plant and look after them, particularly in the 21st century bearing in mind the effects of climate change. Some of his suggested species were the Portuguese Laurel, Flowering Dogwood, Sunrise Horse chestnut, Judas Tree and Magnolia Wilsonii to name but a few.

Posing the question "Why plant a tree in your garden?", he explained that given the speed of climate change this will help by locking in carbon dioxide, releasing oxygen, cleaning the air, providing screening and encouraging wildlife, thereby enhancing our own landscape as well as providing colour and interest all year round. He also reminded us that we should think about the purpose of the tree, the impact of its position and to remember that different trees require different soils. He suggested that this autumn will be full of colour and maybe we should plan a trip to an arboretum.

At our **November 9th** meeting, we will be welcoming **Stella Exley** of Hare Spring Cottage Plants who specialises in Camassias. Her talk entitled '**All I wanted to do was grow plants**' will cover how and why she set up a plant nursery plus all the information we need for growing Camassias from the owner of this RHS award winning nursery.

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.



SHELSWELL WI

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



The October meeting was very well attended in Fringford Village Hall. It was our 2nd meeting face to face inside and some members joined in by zooming. The speakers from ARCh- Assisted Reading for Children gave an update on how they adapted the service during lock-down and how they are now back in schools inspiring children to read with help from the many volunteers. Refreshments of tea, coffee and biscuits were served by Elma and Sue, and the raffle won by Jane.

The November meeting on the 4th at 7.30pm, will be hands on crafting, hopefully making bunting, under the guidance of Beryl Mann, from Langford WI, who is also an WI Adviser.

The rest of the programme is as follows, although please note that it could change at short notice: -

December 2021 – Christmas in Fringford Hall

January 2022 – The History of Masks!

February 2022 – Travel with Aunty- Alistair Lack - my life in the BBC World Service.

March 2022– AGM

April 2022 – Peter Tickler- Blood on the Key Board - writing a murder mystery novel.

May 2022– Fringford History Walk.

June 2022– Garden Party to Celebrate The Queen's Platinum anniversary.

Members often meet up for a coffee and its a good time for a catch up. The walk around Kingsmere housing estate in September was very interesting, seeing all the new homes being built and the progress made. Walking football was taking place on the enclosed pitches and we were asked if we would like to join in! The October walk took in Cottisford, part of the Tusmore Estate and Juniper Hill.

Shelswell WI were able to make use of the Bicester community market stall on Friday 8th October. We sold bags, gloves, scarves, jewellery, books, CD's, etc. The rain kept off and we made some money to pay for the hire of the village hall for a few months.

The benefits of being a member of Shelswell WI. We are 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 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.

SHELLOWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

At our October meeting we read and discussed the following poems, which all related in some way to the period covered by the Zodiacal signs of Libra and Scorpio :

The poems *Balance by Alice Fogel*, and *Scale by Helen Mort*, both relate to the idea of weighing one thing against another, the symbol for Libra being scales. For Scorpio we had *Night of the Scorpion by Nissim Ezekiel*, *The Scorpion by Hilaire Belloc* and *Game Changer by Solli Raphael*.

The Norman Conquest of October 1066 was brought to mind and linked with the Allies' invasion of France in 1944 in *At the Statue of William the Conqueror, Falaise*, by *Charles Causley*. The aftermath of the Battle of Trafalgar, in October 1805, is treated humorously in *1805 by Robert Graves*, who imagines an Admiral and a General chatting at Nelson's funeral.

Poem in October by Dylan Thomas is an exuberant yet tender celebration by the poet of his thirtieth birthday, and is given extra resonance by our knowledge of his drink-induced death at the shockingly early age of 39.

No survey of poems about the Zodiacal season would be complete without descriptions of the natural world at that time. *An October Garden by Christina Rossetti*, two poems entitled *October by Robert Frost* and *Siegfried Sassoon*, *October Dawn by Ted Hughes* and *Autumn Crocus by Ruth Fainlight* are full of the colours and atmosphere of the season, and as a grand finale, the classic *Ode to Autumn by John Keats*, completed a very enjoyable session.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday **November 9th** at 10.30 am, and will be related to the signs of Scorpio and Sagittarius – events, weather, food, history, the natural world relating to the period. If you would like to join us, please contact me on 01865 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk
Judith Harvey

SHELSWELL READING GROUP

Our October meeting, held in Juniper Hill, focused on the Penelope Lively's novel, the Booker Prize winner, ***Moon Tiger***. It was much enjoyed as a mature, realistic novel which makes one think about what constitutes history and how we all have our own versions of it. This is done through the musings and memories of a dying woman, but it is not a downbeat novel. The reader is left with an appreciation of a full life, lived on its own terms, and the main character, Claudia Hampton, is both very much an individual and a symbol of a generation. We generally felt her portrayal to be balanced and warm, although she is certainly never presented as perfect!

Recommendations from personal reading this month are : ***The Plot*** by Jean Hanff Korelitz, ***The Lightless Sky*** by Adaaf Souief and ***Homegoing*** by Yaa Gyasi.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday **11th November**. The book is ***The Midnight Library*** by Matt Haig and the venue is Manor Grange, Cottisford, the home of co-ordinator Jane Birnage. If you would like to join the group, please contact her on 01280 847455/janebirnage@icloud.com
Judith Harvey

Nai's House

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

On 17th May 2021 Nai's House CIO moved into our new home on the first floor of Garth House, Garth Park, Bicester!! These premises are exclusively ours but currently are a work in progress.

Our aim is to create a safe and confidential space where we can offer our guests the high standard of service they deserve.

Our new home provides us with the opportunity to build on the offerings we currently deliver and develop new services and activities for our guests, their families and the wider community.

Over the next few months we will be opening Nai's Lounge, a safe space for young people to be, chill and chat, as well as restarting our suicide prevention training workshops, please check our social media pages and website for up to date information.

Despite the building works we are open and seeing guests for support sessions, counselling and complementary therapies.

Our parent support team is running a parent / caregivers group every second Tuesday of the month, 6-8pm.

For more information please check out our website: www.naishouse.org.uk or email us on: hello@naishouse.org.uk.

For counselling enquiries please email: counselling@naishouse.org.uk

For family support please email: support@naishouse.org.uk

For 1-2-1 support please email: hello@naishouse.org.uk

**NAI'S
HOUSE** 07437 497697



THE SHELSWELL BENEFICE

The Seventh of the Village Articles

GODINGTON

The setting of Holy Trinity Church is possibly the most beautiful in the benefice, with a 'captivating atmosphere' but little of architectural interest.

There was a church on this site in Saxon times, when the hamlet was probably known as 'Godan dun' meaning 'Goda's hill'. Little remains of medieval date in the present church, which was built in 1792 at the expense of William Fermor, the Roman Catholic lord of the manor and squire of Tusmore.

In 1857, the manor was sold to the 2nd Earl of Effingham when he bought Tusmore Park. The rectors were non-resident for some 150 years. In 1852, the last of these absent rectors, Thomas Haverfield, who lived in London, raised money from his wealthy London friends to install pointed windows in the chancel, a new pulpit, open seats and a new altar, altogether about £100. The church was further restored and a new south porch added in 1905.

The Earl of Effingham owned the manor until 1927, when the estates were sold and manorial rights lapsed. In the 1860s, he built three pairs of semi-detached cottages, similar to ones which he built at Tusmore and in Hardwick and Cottisford.

In 1665, there were two gentlemen's houses, including the Rectory, with six hearths for the hearth tax. Five other houses were listed but none had more than two hearths. In 2006, there were still only fourteen houses, including Moat Farm, the Old Rectory, Grange Farm formerly Manor Farm, and the new Rectory. Moat Farm is surrounded by a rectangular moat that dates back to medieval times. The present farmhouse was built in the 17th century and has the date 1672 with the initials CB on the weathervane.

The population in 1801 was 99, rising to its peak of 118 in 1831. By 1901 it was down to 57, in 1951 only 45 and 40 in 2001. In that year there was a merger of the parishes of Godington and Stratton Audley.

Up to 1840 the hamlet contained a majority of Roman Catholic inhabitants and a number of them are buried in the churchyard. In 1739, Dr Tilly, the rector, had to ask the Bishop of Oxford for advice on how to deal with 'my popish parish', 'for the distemper grows and requires a pretty rough remedy'. Moat Farm was occupied by Catholics for 200 years, latterly by the Collingridges, a well-known Catholic family, and Mass was celebrated in a chapel under the roof for many years. Many of the Collingridges were born at Pimlico Farm, near Tusmore, and members of the family also lived at Hethe, Fritwell and Somerton, so we may meet them again. Godington Hall Farm, on the fine site at the top of the hill, was originally built in the 1820s. In the terrible winter of 1962-3, the house caught fire and was largely destroyed. It was later rebuilt and seen as a possible site for new kennels for the Bicester Hunt. This plan was rejected and the house was sold as a private dwelling.

Until recently there were five farms in the hamlet. Over the years, by far the largest number of the inhabitants have been employed on the land, which was always most suitable for livestock, particularly dairy herds. Until the 1970s, there were still two large dairy herds and two small ones in the hamlet. Today there are none. Recently, the main livestock enterprises have been related to bloodstock, with two Stud Farms in the village. Mention should also be made of the Old Rectory, which was built in 1867 to the designs of William Wilkinson, the architect of the Randolph Hotel. In the 1930s the rectory was sold for use as a private house.

In 2001, with the population down to 40, the ecclesiastical parish formally merged with Stratton Audley. In conclusion I must acknowledge my debt to Patricia List for some helpful discussions and her book *Godington, The Story of an Oxfordshire Village* (2006). Martin Greenwood

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

The day of the Harvest Festival was warm and sunny and refreshments were taken outside in the churchyard. The amount of food brought to the church and from there taken to Bicester Food Bank was very gratifying and there were many generous contributions of flowers, fruit and vegetables for the decoration of the church.

At the moment it is uncertain whether or not the Social Committee will be providing refreshments at the Carol Service in December, as it depends what is advised by the authorities. We will still be decorating the church the day before the first Christmas service, and children will be very welcome to come and decorate the Christmas tree. Watch this space for further information.

We are hoping to plant a few trees on the playing field later in November, as our contribution to increasing the diversity of our environment.

DON'T FORGET the bonfire in the playing field at Juniper Hill on Saturday 6th November, from 5-7 pm. There will be three kinds of soup, hotdogs and flapjacks on sale, and free sparklers for children and the young-at-heart. Contributions of wood are welcome. **KIDS** – why not make a guy and bring him along to join in the fun? He can be sure of a very warm welcome!

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:



Allotments



The Poor's Plot currently has a small 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

Village Hall

The work at the hall is in its final stages and bookings are now being taken. New storage areas have been added and the meeting room refurbished. In addition, a set of patio doors have been installed on the west facing end, leading onto a newly created patio area, facing the existing children's play area and creating an ideal environment for children's parties.



Update: unfortunately it looks as though there has been an arson attack on the village hall which has resulted in considerable smoke damage. The hall will likely be out of action for the immediate future to allow for insurance assessment and clean up.

Need some local help?

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

Village facebook page

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

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

The Remembrance Sunday Service will be at 9.15am this year – outside in the churchyard if the weather is fine, or inside the church if wet with the Act of Remembrance at the war memorial.

This note which was delivered to The Rectory for inclusion in the magazine.
Of course, it represents one point of view, and we recognise that there will be a variety of opinions on the matter.



St Michael's Church
Finmere

Dear Villagers,

My family and I would like to apologise for any damage caused around here. We have lived in this area for many, many generations and truly love it here and hope to stay.

We thought you might like to know a little about us, as I don't suppose we shall ever meet face-to-face. We are small, dark and handsome, and as insectivores we don't eat flowers or seeds.

My family and I are natural diggers, and we build our homes underground and for this we use our shovel-shaped paws. We can dig a tunnel at a rate of up to 15-18 feet an hour – unlike HS2 workers!

We would like to thank you for the enjoyable music which comes from the church. Our favourite hymn is about 'All creatures great and small'.

Bye for now,

Moldy Warp (The Head Mole)

P.S. Please excuse my paw writing

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



presents

*It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like
Christmas!*



*St Michael & All Angels Church, Fimmere
Saturday 27th November*

7.30pm

£10 (£6 Children), including a glass of wine and nibbles

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

Services

- 14th November - 10.45am Remembrance Sunday Service [during the service we move outside for the Act of Remembrance by the War Memorial at 11.00am]
- 21st November – 11.00am Holy Communion

To find out the times and places of services on other Sundays, please look at the back of this magazine, check the noticeboard, or our website www.shelswellparishes.info or ring the Benefice office (01280-848192). You will always be welcome in our other parishes.

Bats in Fringford

We had a fun evening on 9th October. Lots of people came to learn a bit about bats. Yvonne had put together a very interesting presentation, and included two short videos. Then we went outside in two groups, with the bat detectors, and had a walk around the village during which three or four species were identified. After that it was back to the churchyard for marshmallows and hot chocolate round the barbeque. Many thanks to Yvonne and Rich Mullins for organising everything.

Next Event – A Thanksgiving Meal on Saturday 26th November

There's a lot to be thankful for; we've come through a difficult few months and it would be good to celebrate with an American inspired Thanksgiving meal. So, we are going to hold a special meal on Saturday 26th November, just a day after the USA's Thanksgiving Day. The Thanksgiving meal will be at the Village Hall from 7.30pm, tickets cost £20 and can be obtained from Jane Petry at fringfordjane@aol.com 07803 082408; Christina McCullagh at christina.skarbek@talk21.com 07867 515207, or Penny Wood at penelope.wood@btopenworld.com 01869 277310 [In aid of Fringford Church funds.]

Advent Windows 2021 - 'Christmas Spirit'

Following last year's successful event, we thought we'd suggest having one again this year. The theme will be 'Christmas Spirit'. How it works....

- 24 volunteers agree to decorate a street-facing window (an 'advent window') on the theme 'Christmas Spirit'. [Or maybe an outdoor display] Each window [or display] is assigned a date on which to 'open'.
- A new window 'opens' (appears and is lit) each day from 1st to 24th December
- The window is then 'opened' every day from 5.00pm on its opening date until 31 December.
- A Trail leaflet is created and we have an advent window trail around Fringford that anyone can walk and enjoy, at any time throughout the month.

To take part please email penelope.wood@btopenworld.com (or ring 277310) to give your address and the 'title' of your window.

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 September winners were: 1st Jane Russam £49; 2nd Alison Spencer £30; and 3rd Jeremy Coke-Smyth £20.

The October draw had not happened at the time of writing. You can still sign up to the 100 Club. Contact Christina McCullagh to register your involvement **ASAP, on 07867 515207.**

Fringford Church Book Exchange

The box for book exchange is in the church porch

Little Lambs Babies & Toddler Group is back!!!

Every Wednesday during term time in Stratton Audley Church, from 10.00 to 11.30am. [Not during half term.] Just come along, but if you need information in the meantime, email admin@shelswellparishes.info

SUPPORT DURING THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS, AND AFTERWARDS

Support is always available from the **Fringford Friends, Neighbourhood Support Group :**

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

To join Fringford's **What's App Group** ring or email Christine Underwood 07961 972388 or christine@avalon23.plus.com

FRINGFORD VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning will be on Monday 15th November, 10.30am to 12 noon. The venue will depend on what people decide at the October get-together. Please contact Penny on 277310 if you want to find out where it will be. It will be announced on the village What's App group too. The November Fringford Church 100 Club draw will take place that morning.

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.

Fringford Village Hall

From 1 September, we will be reopening our doors for occasional bookings. If you would like to hire the hall, please go to www.fringford.info, navigate your way to the village hall tab and then booking information. Here you will find all the information you need to make a booking request online.

As a multi-purpose building with a regular flow of different people using the facilities, we will be continuing with our existing COVID-Secure procedures, to ensure the safety of all users. So, when you make your booking request keep in touch to confirm the measures required for your event. Our normal capacities have been reduced and we will discuss this with you individually as this varies by activity type and numbers attending.

Should you have any other queries please do not hesitate to contact us either by email fringford.hall@gmail.com or mobile **07936 879175**

Fringford Village Hall Committee

Hardwick St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick
 TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Meryl Daniel
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Veronica Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick
 WEBSITE: <http://hardwickvillage.btck.co.uk>

Tel 01869 277690
 Tel 01869 277690

Tel 01869 277690

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



St. Mary's Church, Hardwick – OPEN DAILY

St Mary's Church, Hardwick is 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

Hardwick Harvest Festival Service

This year we were able to hold the traditional Harvest Festival Service in Hardwick church on Sunday 26th September.

Nowadays, we hold a Harvest Festival Service as a celebration of and thanksgiving for farming, food and rural life. The modern British tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Revd Robert Hawker invited his parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. The idea quickly caught on with other clergymen as a way countering what they saw as “disgraceful scenes”, when farm workers marked the end of the back-breaking work of harvesting, which required contributions from all members of the community, with the celebration of a “harvest home”, which involved feasting, drinking, singing and general merriment.

The themes of sowing and reaping are used throughout the Bible. The words of verse 5 of Psalm 126, sung at our service, “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy”, capture well the sure and certain hope of a better life promised by our faith.

For our service, our thanks are due to:

- Penny Wood, our Licensed Lay Minister for leading the service.
- The Shelswell Benefice Choir, for their renditions of the anthem *Thou Visiteth the Earth* and Psalm 126, and for leading the singing of traditional harvest hymns, including *We Plough the Fields and Scatter* and *Come Ye Thankful People Come*.
- Those who made offerings of food and produce. These were donated to the kitchen of our local care home, Cherwell House, in Caversfield.
- Those who provided and served the refreshments after the service.
- Those who gave to the collection. This was donated to the Ox Plough project, in which the Shelswell Benefice is helping fund the purchase of oxen and ploughs, to enable the women of Wulu, South Sudan, to grow more food and have better resources to care for their families.

Hethe St Edmund and St George

CHURCHWARDEN: Flora Skinner, Fox Hollow, 2 Hardwick Road, Hethe

Tel 01869 277366

TREASURER: Mike Green, Greenhill Cottage, Main Street, Hethe

Tel 01869 278166

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Flora Skinner as above

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Mike Green as above

Tel 01869 278166

WEBSITE: www.hethe.org

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 Events

The church is now open every day for visitors and private prayer. Please take care, think of others and continue to follow any guidance on how to safely access and use the church.

Join us for Morning Prayer on 7th November at 9.30am and the Remembrance Day Service on 14th November at 10.45am. This year's Ecumenical Carol Service will be held in our church on Monday 20th December starting at 7.30pm. Please see the back page for further details and other services.

Hethe Community Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

Monday 8th November 10-12 noon
with the 100 Club draw

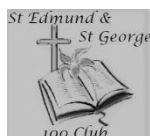
Friends, neighbours, dog walkers, pram pushers: an opportunity to meet during the daytime – there's great cake too!



Church Repairs & Redecoration

We are again reprioritising works, waiting for up-to-date costings for the porch, and making the west window at least safe in the short term. Redecorating will have to wait until we have more funds. If you wish to give a donation towards any of this work, please use the on-line giving page below, contact a PCC member or send a message to hethepccsecretary@outlook.com.

100 Club



The results of the October draw:

1st Prize No 54 Pauline O'Gorman

2nd Prize No 43 Philip Mansfield

3rd Prize No 27 Mary Morgan

The next draw will be held on Monday 8th November (at the coffee morning in the village hall). There are still plenty of numbers if you wish to join! Please contact Mike or one of the other PCC members for an application form. The form and full details of the scheme are on the village website.

Eco Church



Thanks to Lisa and Ian Soper for donating the bird boxes which were fixed to churchyard trees at the Harvest Festival.

We are looking for someone to lead in how we make the church and churchyard more environmentally friendly. We have already made a start but a volunteer to manage this would be the best way forward for the church and the village. St Edmund & St George Church is registered under Eco Church which is the award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that they can manage their church to help conserve the natural environment. Areas to be covered could include worship and teaching; buildings; land; lifestyle and community; and global issues. Volunteers do not have to be an active worshipper in the church - applications from anyone will be considered.

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.

John Sermon NDD PPCSD



John Sylvester Sermon passed away peacefully at home in Evesham on 10th July 2021, aged 89, after a short illness. He was the much-loved husband of Pam and father of Bill, Richard and Paul, and proud grandfather of Molly, Beka, Lottie, Silke and India.

John lived for many years in Hill Rise House, Main Street, Hethe, and was active in village life. He was Secretary to Hethe PCC for five years, between 1994 and 1999. He designed the "New" Village Hall off the Hardwick Road which was opened in 1987. John attempted to stop the removal of the red telephone box next to his house by standing in it to prevent it being removed. Unfortunately, BT had their way and came very early one morning and took it away!

John was deeply interested in his family history and had traced his ancestors back to the 12th Century.

The above photo was taken in 1995 in Hethe during the celebrations for 50 years of peace following the end of the Second World War

John worked as a design consultant, achieving the National Diploma in Design (UK) and was a member of the Chartered Society of Designers. He studied design at Moseley School of Art, Birmingham, and Architecture and Design at Birmingham City University, becoming a full member of the Society of Industrial Artists (SIA) in 1957 and a Fellow of the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers (SIAD) in 1970

He was responsible for the design of the infrastructure of Milton Keynes between 1971 and 1980, i.e., street furniture, signs, lighting, architectural accessories and the general image of the town. He lectured in Professional Practice at the High Wycombe and Liverpool Colleges of Art and Design.

Over the past two decades John served on the Chartered Society of Designers as an Elected Member of Council, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer. He served as President from 2005 until 2007. John was the first person to receive the CSD Service Award at the AGM in 2015 (pictured above) marking 52 years on the Councils of the SIA, SIAD and CSD of which he served until Saturday.



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.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 26th January, starting at 1.30pm.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Village Hall

Please contact the booking secretary on fjskinner@hotmail.co.uk for availability.

Book Club - Books are now available in the church.



THE TOWN WELL



Many thanks to Natalie, Poppy and Daisy for the recent thorough clean of the well and all of the other villagers who have kept it clear, including Bill, Andrew and Perry.

Known as St George's Well, St George's Spring and Hethe Town Well, it was renovated under the Youth Training Scheme by Cherwell District Council in 1988.

Thank you to Ben Jones for enhancing and colouring photos of the area around the well and throughout the village. These photos are on the village web site. If you have any black and white photos of Hethe for Ben to work his magic on, please let him know or send them to hethenews@outlook.com.



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 are usually on the third Sunday in the month at 9.30am, though this month we will have out Remembrance Service at 10.45am instead.

Mixbury Church flower rota 2021

November Fi Bairstow

December Carol service and Christmas - everyone

Reserve Sam Lockwood

Easter Barbara, Sam, Melanie, Morag, Sue Goodman, Helen, Sally, Kate

Results of Mixbury History Group Children's Competition

Belated Result

Many apologies to Thomas Palmer for missing off his creative drawing of a Crest for Mixbury, which was on display at the village fete. Well done Thomas it's a brilliant design!



Welcome to Mixbury

Amanda, Ross and Evie have recently moved to Mixbury and enjoying the country lifestyle.
We hope you will be very happy here.

November 

All Our Yesterdays – November 2021 – by Bruce Epps
A Language Challenge.

Here are the answers to the quiz in last month's magazine: The questions are printed again in case you have mislaid last month's magazine:

1. What was a yaffle? (Aficionados of children's television in the 1970s should get this.)
2. What was a Quarter Day?
3. What was, and still is, beef tea?
4. What was the "bite and shoot" of an area of common land?
5. What were the "bite and scrapings" from roads?
6. Who were bothy boys?
7. What was a deak?
8. What was going on when women were leazing in cornfields?
9. What were the toppings from a mill?
10. How do you make a scratching cake?

Answers to Westbury language quiz.

1. A green woodpecker. Professor Yaffle featured as a woodpecker in the children's TV programme Bagpuss.
2. Traditionally they were the days upon which debts such as rents were collected. Those commonly used were Lady Day (25th March), Midsummer (29th June), Michaelmas (29th September) and Christmas Day.
3. A sort of broth, using beef instead of tea leaves.
4. Sorry. Don't know.
5. The scrapings were horse manure. The right to collect it from a particular road was auctioned annually, with the money going to the Vestry (forerunner of the PCC) to maintain the roads. Not sure what the "bite" bit was.
6. Bothy boys were bachelor gardeners who lived in primitive dwellings called bothies, on the grand estates they tended.
7. Not sure. It was used in the context of a church choirmistress "tapping the deak" at practice, to stop the choir if it went wrong.
8. Leazing was another name for what we also know as gleaning i.e. going through a cornfield after it has been harvested to recover any grains left behind.
9. Sorry. Don't know.
10. Made with the dry bits left when the fat had been extracted from a pigskin for lard, mixed in a bowl with flour, baked in a flat tin and cut into squares.

Mixbury Bonfire Night

The annual Mixbury Bonfire Night will be taking place on Sunday 7th November. Many thanks to Frank Jackson for kindly allowing the village to use his field once again. If you are having an autumn tidy up in your garden please feel free to drop off the suitable burnable waste in the field, to the right of the gate, from Sunday 24th October onwards.

Bonfire night is one of our many great village traditions and myself and the rest of the team are really looking forward to hosting it once again after missing out last year!

The timings on the night will be:

- 10.00am - build the bonfire
- 5.30pm - light the bonfire
- 6.00pm - fireworks time!

Please make sure all your animals are safe and sound on the night.
 Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 7th November :-)

Garden Waste Collections are Changing

Between September 2021 and January 2022 Cherwell District Council will be delivering a free 23 litre silver outdoor caddy to all households in the district.

They will let us know when to expect our caddy delivery by putting a bin hanger on one of our bins a week before delivery. Once received, please start to use your caddy for food waste instead of the brown bin. They will also supply a roll of compostable caddy liners to help us get started. The food waste caddy will be collected weekly.

From February 2022 garden waste collections will change to a paid-for opt-in service at a cost of £40 per year. We will be able to sign up from December 2021 and those registering before 1st February 2022 will be charged a reduced rate of £36. From February please do not put food waste in your brown garden waste bin, use your outdoor food waste caddy. Further information can be found on the Cherwell District Council recycling website along with a bin collection calendar.

Mixbury Book Exchange – has moved!

The books have now been moved to a table next to the organ in 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. Now the pandemic restrictions have eased we are no longer wrapping books in clear plastic, but there is a bottle of hand sanitiser next to them for your convenience. There are a good selection of children's books now available too. Please only leave books that are in good condition, now that the books are inside the church we can accept a few more – do not leave books in the bus shelter thank you.

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



Services – Please see back page

Harvest Festival & Lunch -

'All Being Safely Gathered In', it was wonderful to be able to celebrate Harvest again this year. The church looked splendid with beautiful flowers and vegetables and we all enjoyed a feast of a lunch together. Our grateful thanks go to all who gave produce, flowers, dry goods for the food bank, helped with decorating the church, generously provided food for and helped with the organisation of the lunch. A big thank you to all involved!

Bonus Ball Lotto -

Our recent lucky winner was Nancy Crofton. Thank you to all who have already sent in their subscriptions for the coming year. We still have a few unallocated numbers so it's not too late to join in. For just £1.00 each week you too could have a chance of a weekly cash prize and help our church. For details please contact Ann von Maltzahn.

Dates for Your Diary -

Service of Remembrance - **Sunday 14th November - Please Note the service will be at 9.15 a.m.** and not 9.30 a.m. as previously advertised.

Christmas Concert - Friday 10th December.

Stoke Lyne St Peter's

CHURCHWARDENS: Christopher Poole CTP@oxford-educational.co.uk
Ali Miller alisonjanemiller@icloud.com

Tel 01869 346020

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

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Services :

St Peter's Church Stoke Lyne Services

Thursday November 4th - Shelswell Benefice Midweek Holy Communion and Lunch



7th November – 'Food for Thought'

Everyone is very welcome to come along to this short and informal service on the first Sunday of every month, with the next service on 7th November at 10am. If you would like to suggest any themes or hymns for future services, please do get in touch with Kelly at kholdenwhite@aol.com.

November 14th 10.45am - Remembrance Sunday Service

This is a service to remember and honour those who gave their lives in two world wars and also those who have died in different conflicts since then. Please, when wearing your poppy, think of those men and women who are still protecting us both here and across the world.

Please see the back page of the magazine for more services.

Flower Duty for November

Rena Andrews

Stoke Lyne 100 Club

Our prize money has been increased since we have more members join so the total prize money now is £76.50.

The October results are as follows:

1st Prize	No 34 Ben Brown
2nd Prize	No 21 Camilla Brown
3rd Prize	No 33 Chris Lowe

Congrats to the winners and good luck next month to all members. If anyone wants to join please email me for payment methods. It's only £3.00 per membership per month and as you can see from the Brown household, the more memberships you buy the more you can win.

Janey Poole, Treasurer

St Peter's Church PCC

janey@oxford-educational.co.uk

Food for Thought Service – October 2021

It was wonderful to have one of our favourite services back including breakfast, singing and friends! We welcomed friends from across the Benefice and followed the theme of thanksgiving, thank you for food, friends and a new normal.

Kelly Holden-White

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition October 2021

After completing my charity work, personal skills and physical target, it was time to complete the bronze award expedition which had been delayed by over a year because of Covid.

I walked from my school, Blessed George Napier, to a campsite using a map (no phones allowed) and back again the next day.

The campsite was at Barford St Michael which was 12km from school. Once we were there we cooked our own dinner (pasta with chorizo, cheese and onions), set up our tent and tried to sleep which isn't easy when the ground is uneven. The hardest part of the expedition was carrying our own tents, rucksacks and cooking utensils. We were very lucky with the weather considering it was October and didn't need the waterproofs we had to take. I did have bad blisters which are still healing but it was all worth it.

Sophie, aged 15, Stoke Lyne.

London Marathon

We had quite a few people doing a virtual marathon through the village, all in a good cause.

News about people in the village

Please keep in your thoughts those whom you know are ill and all those who are still suffering from the Lockdown.

Harvest Festival and Communion Service – 26th September

The church looked beautiful with all the lovely flower arrangements and a selection of vegetables around the church.



Photos by Julie Adams from the village Facebook page

This was a lovely service with Rector Alice presiding. It was lovely to be able to sing out the well-known harvest hymns and during the service the children were invited to bring more produce up to the front of the church. Any produce not sold was taken by Emma to the Food Bank where it was much appreciated.

Find a Grave and Stoke Lyne's WW1 and WW2 War Dead

Back in April I wrote about how I had photographed and transcribed the memorial inscriptions in St Peter's Churchyard as a lockdown project, the results of which can be found on the Find a Grave website. The website also offers the facility for the user to create a "virtual cemetery" which is basically a collection of memorials for people who are buried in different cemeteries, so for example, one could create one's own "virtual cemetery" of family members or any grouping which is of interest, the memorials in it do not have to have been created by that person. I have therefore created a "virtual cemetery" for the 13 men commemorated on Stoke Lyne's two memorial plaques. Most, if not all, the entries were created by the International Wargraves Photography Project based on military cemetery records from round the world. Over the years other people have gradually added photographs and family connections. In the case of "our" men I have added a photograph of the relevant memorial plaque in the church. There is also a button you can click on to leave a "virtual flower" such as a poppy on the memorial entry. Here is the link:

<https://www.findagrave.com/virtual-cemetery/1435646>

Stoke Lyne W.I.

We met on 14th October at 1.00 pm in Hethe Village Hall. Rena welcomed all to the meeting, and we then sang "Jerusalem". Four members had birthdays, cards were given out and "Happy Birthday" was sung.

The business of the day and events coming up were discussed and dates given for diaries.

The speaker was introduced who gave us an interesting talk on what he did when he left school and how he got into working for Taylor's Tea, the company who produced Yorkshire Tea. He travelled all over the world and showed us lots of photographs of the tea plantations he visited and went on to explain about how hard they worked picking the tea and all the different processes it went through. He also spoke about the difference in the taste of tea in hard water and soft water areas. We then had tea and biscuits serviced by Beryl and Judith.

The competition of a teapot was won by Rena and winner of the raffle was Beryl.



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PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Jackie Fox

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant



To donate to St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley just scan this code with your phone:



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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

Remembrance Sunday Service at 10.45am on Sunday 14th November

For other Church Services please see back page for details

***Please note Stratton Audley Village Carol Service
Sunday 12 December 2021 @ 6pm Save the date***

Church Tidy



This was a great success with much clearing of debris and cutting down of branches in the churchyard particularly to the south end.
This should make it easier to mow etc.

Thanks go to Anthony Flack for organising it and those who helped - Stewart Hopkins, Paul Roberts, Charles Penny and Sarah Noujaim. and all the volunteers.

Village volunteers are greatly appreciated whether helping with flowers, cleaning and the general regular maintenance of the Churchyard. Jeremy Adams always has seasonal cottage flowers and makes the area pleasant to sit and contemplate..

Coffee Morning at the Red Lion

Coffee morning is held in The Red Lion every Wednesday morning at 11.00. Coffee and biscuits followed by a light lunch is £10.00, no booking required. Coffee without lunch is £2.50. Come along and join this happy group, all are welcome.

Books for Sale

Books are for sale at 50p each in The Red Lion. The bookcase is in the corridor, there is an honesty box. There are various plants in the courtyard at 50p each, all proceeds to The Church.

100 Club

It has been decided to start the 100 club again having had to take a break because of Covid. The subscriptions will be due in November/December, a collector from the team will be knocking on your door for your subscription which is £10 but more than one subscription per household can be taken if desired. There will be four prizes, £30, £20 and two at £10, the prize money will be doubled in December. The money will be delivered to the winners. The first draw will take place on Wednesday 5th January 2022 in The Red Lion at coffee morning and thereafter on the first Wednesday of the month. The list of winners will be displayed on the Parish Council, The Red Lion and Church noticeboards and will be published in the Shelswell News. Any profit from the club will go towards a village project.

The collectors are as follows:

Willows Lodge	Jeff
Glen Close and Stoke Lyne Road	Angie
Cherry Street and The Limes	Paddy
Cavendish Place	Stewart
Mill Road	Jeremy
Launton Road	Viv
Bicester Road	Maggie
The Manor	Emma

Please give generously and support your village. Many thanks and good luck!

Order a bottle of Nocino – all funds go to the Church building



David Young has started taking pre-orders for people who want their very own bottle of Nocino walnut liqueur in time for a relaxing autumn and Christmas.

To order a bottle, please rsvp to david@betteroutliers.com. All donations go directly to maintaining the church building and anyone pre-ordering is invited to go into the church and see their liqueur develop - the process to make Nocino takes 40 - 60 days and needs someone to gently shake the Nocino kilners/vat jars every 2-3 days.

Stratton Audley Barn

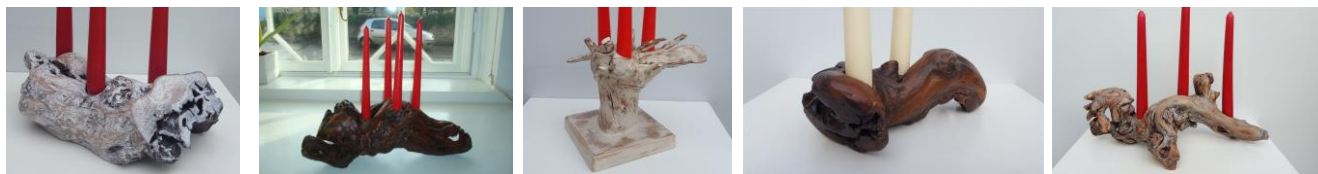
The Barn is now open and the shop filled with Christmas Goodies. The Cafe has extended into a festive warm and cosy heated marquee with the new brunch & lunch menu proving popular. Homemade Ice Cream is continuing through the winter season with a reduced offering of flavours so you can still treat the kiddies or order your favourite milkshake too! Open Tuesday to Sunday 10am - 4pm, pop along to the Barn soon & try a little delicious something new from the menu..

Vineworks at Stratton House Showroom open to visitors

To visit, just call 01869 278000 or email jhonsinger@btconnect.com Alternatively come to Stratton House (OX27 9AT), on the corner of Stoke Lyne and Bicester Road.

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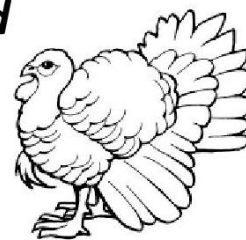
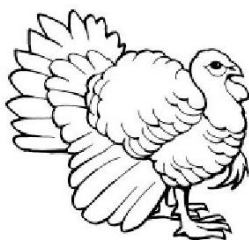
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Contact Victoria:

Constituency:

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Orchard House
Hopcraft Lane
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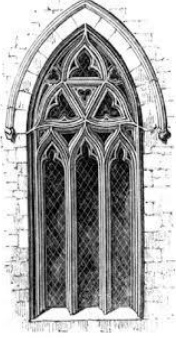
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