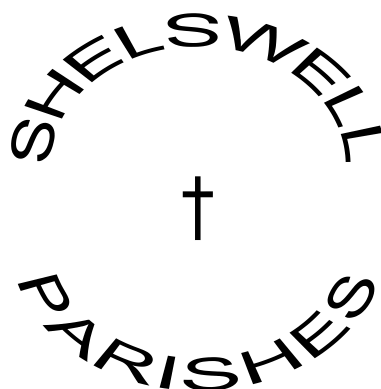


Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

Cottisford
Fringford
Hardwick
Mixbury
Stoke Lyne



Finnmere
Godington
Hethe
Newton Purcell
Stratton Audley



St Michael and All Angels, Fringford

We celebrate the Feast of St Michael & All Angels (Michaelmas)
on 29th September

September 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.

MINISTRY TEAM

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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 **October 2021** edition of Shelswell News

To Magazine Correspondents: **Tuesday 14 September 2021**

Correspondents to Editor: **Thursday 16 September 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

I am writing this the week before my summer holiday. For various reasons we are not going away this year, but for me being able to switch off my computer and not having to make ‘**To do**’ lists each day or do school pick-ups, is a holiday in itself. One thing I want to try to do more this holiday is something I have been reflecting on for a few weeks – the art of doing nothing!

In the work environment we often find ourselves needing to be seen to be doing something, needing to justify our jobs. Before the pandemic I think many bosses held the idea that people who held office jobs needed to be in an office to work effectively. To get some time working from home was not easy and I think bosses assumed that working from home meant working less and being easily distracted and therefore less productive. However, since being forced to work from home that is no longer the case. Many companies are now moving towards allowing people to work from home and visiting the office a few times a month. They have found that there wasn’t a sudden dip in productivity once people were working from home and I think that the challenge going forward is going to be how we balance working from home and getting back into offices – not everyone wants to work from home after all!

The difficulty with working from home is knowing when to switch off from work, when to stop opening emails, when to switch off your phone. Workaholic behaviour has almost been brainwashed into us. If we aren’t doing work we may find ourselves filling in our days with other things: yoga classes, gym, shopping, visiting friends, DIY jobs around the house and garden etc. and if we are not working or being busy we start to feel guilty, guilty that we aren’t doing something!

And that leads me to my question – are you good at doing nothing? Doing nothing means exactly that – doing absolutely nothing. Not checking messages, phones, the internet, not consuming books, articles, podcasts, TV, radio etc.

Dr Sue Smalley, Professor Emeritus in the UCLA Department of Psychiatry and Founder of the UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center ([MARC](#)) said in 2019 “We are a work-consumed society and that has generated guilt and perceptions of laziness if we aren’t working all the time [...] Science is starting to show the *value* of spending time in silence, in nature, and in not engaging in constant external stimulation. We need time doing ‘nothing’ to be our best selves: well-rounded and creative human beings. The ‘doing’ side of our nature needs a ‘being’ side to be in balance. It’s not surprising that rates of depression, anxiety, and stress are increasing as the doingness of life seems to have little counterbalance.”¹

Brian O’Connor (Ph.D., Full Professor and Head of the School of Philosophy at University College Dublin) believes that “the idea of being immensely productive and of never resting, even if it has its roots in the Protestant work ethic, seems to be at a level that’s unprecedented, especially in the West”; he goes on to suggest that we might all be a lot happier if we stopped obsessively trying to make something of our talents and consciously embraced idleness instead! Few people get to the end of their life and regret not having worked harder; rather, people regret having worked so much.¹

Giving yourself permission to take time each day, each week, each month to do nothing is good for you. Giving yourself time to let your mind wander, to think, to ponder. Our churches are open again for personal prayer and reflection, our churchyards too. If you are looking for a quiet space feel free to go in, take a cushion or two, sit quietly, lie down if you like, listen to some music and just switch off! There are many spiritual practices which enable and encourage spending time in silence, in nature, away from constant stimulation – the aim being to **help** you - not to give you more things to worry about. If you would like any ideas, do get in touch! Every retreat I have been on has always



To do list: ☒ **Nothing**

started with the leaders saying that if we found ourselves needing to sleep, then to do just that, because that was what we really needed. If you drift off when “doing nothing” that is good too!

So may I encourage us all to give ourselves permission to do nothing – and to get good at doing nothing; to prioritise time for ourselves and not to feel guilty about it. It will be good for us in the long term and will help us avoid complete burn out in the future.

Jesus said “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” Matthew 11: 28-30

Rev. Yvonne Mullins

References :

1. <https://www.shondaland.com/live/body/a30125041/why-doing-nothing-is-actually-one-of-the-best-things-you-can-do/>

BIBLE READINGS



| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Sunday 5 th September | 14 th Sunday after Trinity | Isaiah 35 v4-7a James 2 v1-10 [11-13] & 14-17 Mark 7 v24-end |
| Sunday 12 th September | 15 th Sunday after Trinity | Isaiah 50 v4-9a James 3 v1-12 Mark 8 v27-end |
| Sunday 19 th September | 16 th Sunday after Trinity | Jeremiah 11 v18-20 James 3 v13 – 4 v3 and 7-8a Mark 9 v30-37 |
| Sunday 26 th September | 17 th Sunday after Trinity | Numbers 11 v4-6,10-16 & 24-29 James 5 v13-end Mark 9 v38-end |

(Note: Alternative readings may be used at the various Harvest Festivals which take place this month.
These will be advised individually by those taking the services)

Confirmation Service Sunday 5th September 2021 11 am

Fringford Church

People from across the Benefice churches will gather at Fringford on Sunday 5th September for a very special service when the new Bishop of Dorchester, The Rt Revd Gavin Collins, will confirm Sue Earle, Jen Iddon, Charlotte Talmage, and Phillippa Taylor.

When they were baptised as babies, their parents and godparents declared on their behalf that they believed in God and that they would follow Jesus.

Sue, Jen, Charlotte and Philippa have decided that they would like to renew these baptism promises for themselves. During the service, Bishop Gavin will confirm this decision through prayer and the laying on of hands, and we will be asking God to give the candidates power through the Holy Spirit to enable them to live in the way of Jesus.

There will be a celebratory glass of something and some nibbles after the service very kindly provided by Fringford PCC.

Do come along, meet the bishop and show your support the candidates!
Photo to follow next month!

COME AND SEE

Earlier in the year four chaps and Alice followed the 'Come and See' programme that the Oxford Diocese had put together to encourage folk to explore afresh the Christian faith. We met via Zoom and shared our thoughts about some short films where the Bishop of Oxford talked about aspects of Christianity. Perhaps the most helpful aspect of the sessions was the opportunity to connect with one another and share thoughts, feelings and experiences.

Anyway, we enjoyed the sessions and decided to continue after Lent, although it has taken us ages to work out how and when to do this! Finally we settled on meeting via Zoom at 7.30 pm on a Tuesday evening for no more than an hour on a (more or less) fortnightly basis.

What are we doing? Well, we are working from the basis that if the Christian faith is worth anything, then it should make a practical impact on our day to day living. So we choose a bible story and over a few sessions we ask the questions:

1. if this story happened today, what would it look like
2. what is this story saying to me? What am I getting out of it?
3. Could the story make a difference to my life? If so, how?
4. (Then at least a week later) Did this story make a difference to my life? If so, how?

If having done it for a bit, the answer to 4 is 'no, not at all' then we will probably give it all up as a dead loss!!

But so far, our reflections on the story of Jesus turning the tables over in the temple have proved interesting, illuminating and challenging.

If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome. You don't need to know anything about the Bible. It doesn't matter if you have been a Christian for years and years or not at all. The only proviso is that (unless you are Alice) you have to be male!!

Contact Alice on alicegoodall313@gmail.com for further details.



SHELLOW 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.

LITTLE LAMBS

The new Little Lambs term will start on Wednesday 8 September, and the sessions will run from 10.00am to 11.30am in Stratton Audley Church.

We are looking for people to help at the sessions. It just involves making teas and coffees and chatting to parents and carers to make them feel at home. There's also clearing up to do at the end. Could you help? Each helper does about 3 sessions a term. Ring Penny on 01869-277310.

AND, ONE-OFF HELP REQUIRED – to clean and sort Little Lambs toys and equipment.

Alice proposes to do this on Wednesday 1 September at 10.00am. If you were able to come and help do that it would be **much** appreciated. Just turn up at 10.00am in Stratton Audley church.



Little Lambs Baby and Toddler group

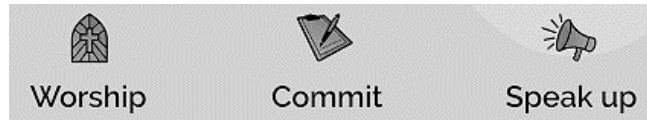
8 September

at 10 am - 11.30am.

**We will meet in church
for play, music and stories.
We will be serving refreshments
for Mums and Toddlers.**

MUDDY CHURCH

Further details of future events will be published in next months magazine or contact
admin@shelswellparishes.info



Churches are being urged to hold a Climate Sunday Service before COP26

What is COP26? ‘COP’ stands for ‘Conference of Parties’.

COP26 is the 26th UN Climate Conference which will be held in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November 2021. It brings together heads of state, climate experts and campaigners from the countries which are part of the UN’s climate change treaty. They will discuss how to keep temperature rises below dangerous levels and prevent the climate crisis from causing even worse catastrophes, especially for the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people, and decide how to take coordinated action.

To focus our thoughts on the world’s changing climate and our response to it, we are holding a

Benefice Climate Sunday Service of Holy Communion

on 31st October 11am at Stratton Audley Church

“People seem to think this is an issue that can be solved another time, but there is no other time.” Zoe, 14.

REGISTRY

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

Baptisms

Roux Stephen BRAIN

Sunday 1st August Stratton Audley Church

Roux is the second child of Josie Gurden and Billy Brain, and we were very pleased to welcome him, his parents and big sister Margot to Stratton Audley church for his baptism on Sunday 1st August, along with his extended family and friends.

Roux was born in March this year – a lockdown baby with all the challenges that presented. It had been lovely to get to know him and Josie a little when we restarted ‘Little Lambs’ and they came along.

Roux and his family live in Bicester, but Josie’s sister Kelly lives in Stratton Audley, so Josie knows the village well. Josie had worked as a PA for Harley Davidson prior to the pandemic, but was made redundant in lockdown. Roux’s dad works as a painter and decorator.

Roux has four godparents: Ruth Palayiwa, Natasha Clarke, Adam Broadbent and Ben Capel. We sang two hymns: All things bright and beautiful and Lord of the Dance. Josie and Billy had chosen two readings. The first was Matthew 18: 1 – 5 where Jesus tells his disciples that we should all be like children, rather than trying to be the most important, and says ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me’. The second was the following passage from Kahlil Gibran.

[Kahlil Gibran](#) - 1883-1931

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said,

Speak to us of Children.

And he said:

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life’s longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,
 And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.
 You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
 For they have their own thoughts.
 You may house their bodies but not their souls,
 For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
 which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
 You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.
 For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.
 You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.
 The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,
 and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.
 Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;
 For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.

Josie and Billy wanted Roux to be christened partly because it was a family tradition that they wanted to continue, partly because they wanted a blessing for Roux, and partly because they wanted him to belong in the church. We look forward to seeing more of them at 'Little Lambs' and other church happenings, and hope that Roux's christening is the start of an amazing journey in which he discovers just how much God loves him. After his christening, the family went over to the Red Lion for refreshments and celebrations.

Marriages

Thomas Alexander Lindsay STEELE and Caroline Mary McCORQUODALE

Saturday 31st July 2021 – Mixbury Church

Mixbury Church was gleaming and polished, filled with the most amazing flower arrangements. Guests were turning up in their best finery, and the piper was piping under a tree in the churchyard as we gathered together for the marriage of Tom and Kyzie.

Kyzie and Tom have known each other for about four years. They met through mutual friends, although when Kyzie accepted the invite to visit them at their home, she didn't realise she was being set up with Tom. When she first met him, Kyzie thought Tom was nice but assumed he'd have a girlfriend. However things progressed, and in due course, Tom proposed by Cottisford Lake and Kyzie said 'yes'.

Kyzie grew up in Hethe, daughter of Fergus and Mary McCorquodale, before leaving home for university. She now lives in London where she works as a teacher and Tom as an investment manager. When not at work, they enjoy walking in Scotland, outdoor pursuits, swimming and Scottish dancing. Tom also enjoys a game of golf once in a while, and Kyzie enjoys cooking.

They had originally intended to marry in July 2020, but then the pandemic intervened. But with the lifting of restrictions, they were finally able to fill the church with their guests and there was much singing: Guide me O thou great Redeemer, Be thou my vision, and Jerusalem. Flora Skinner played the organ, welcoming the bride into the church with Purcell's Trumpet Tune, playing Road to the Isles and Mairi's Wedding during the signing of the marriage document and Handel's Arrival of the Queen of Sheba for the recessional.

Tom and Kyzie had chosen three readings: the passage from 1 Corinthians 13 which was read by Kyzie's brother Malcolm, himself due to be married later in the year; an excerpt from the Song of Solomon read by Rebecca Steele; and an excerpt from Romans 12 read by Robbie Kerr.

We were delighted that the marriage ceremony itself was conducted by Rev Dr David Wenham who knew Kyzie when she was a youngster in Hethe and prepared her for confirmation. David also gave the address, reminding the couple that although the world tends to celebrate 'I did it my way', the Christian couple aims to do it Jesus's way, the way of love embodied in Jesus and described in 1 Corinthians 13.

After the wedding, bells, photos and much confetti throwing, the wedding party trundled its way down Featherbed Lane to the Old Rectory, Hethe for the reception, where celebrations continued until the wee small hours.

We wish Kyzie and Tom every happiness in their married life together.

From 1 Corinthians 13

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things

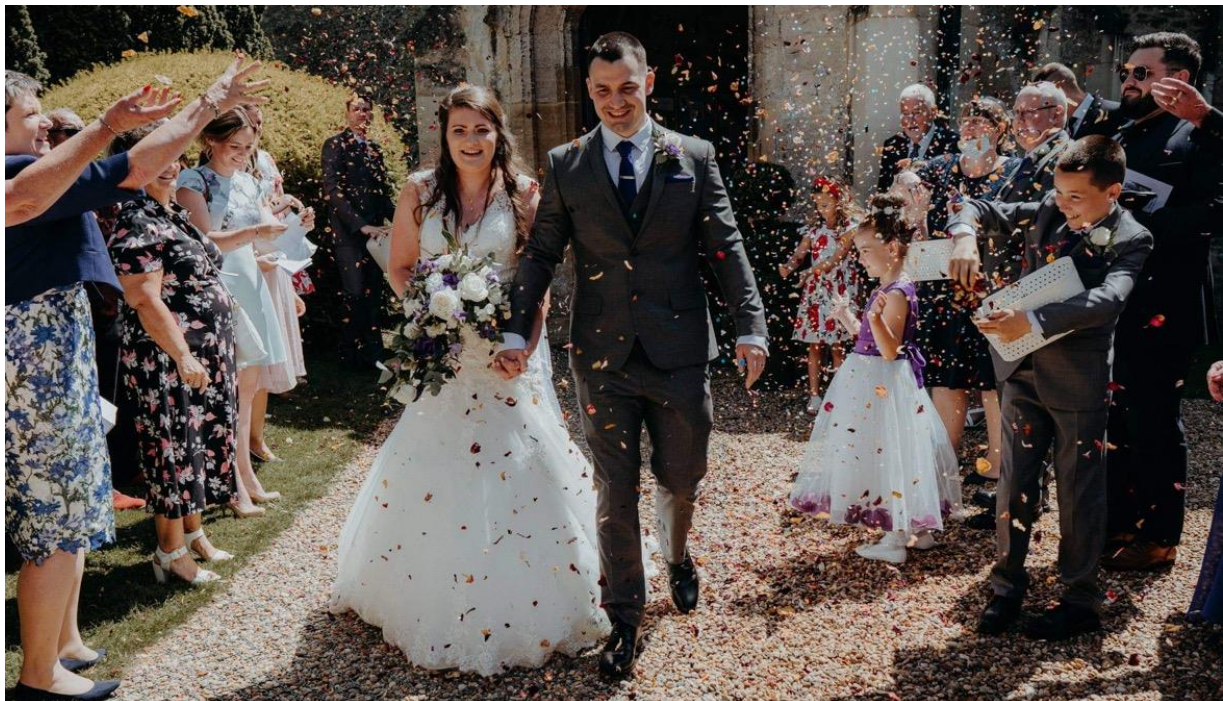
Rachel Denise **PARROTT** and Nathan **KERBY**

17th July 2021 in the St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley.

Their wedding had been postponed due to the Covid Pandemic and was one of the last where masks had to be worn by the congregation during the service! Rachel and Nathan had gone through the roller coaster ride of Government decisions about numbers and had eventually determined their guest lists for 15, 30, 40 etc. in case things changed. Finally the decision was taken to have the wedding with 40 guests and then to have a Wedding Blessing and reception next year, 2022!



The day dawned bright and sunny and it was truly a great celebration with the couple surrounded by family and friends. The couple had chosen 1 Corinthians 13 as their Scripture reading which was read by Noreen McCarrick and Rachel's mum Tina read *The Art of a Good Marriage* by Wilfred Peterson. We listened to the hymns – All things bright and beautiful and Morning has Broken. The couple left the church to the Wedding March. We all wish them every happiness in their new life together.



Alexandra Harriet **SWEENEY** and Alexander Steven Mun Chun **LUI** were married in St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley on Saturday 24th July 2021



Alexander and Alexandra decided early on during the second Lock Down to limit their Wedding to just their immediate family and in doing that they avoided the stress of various Government decisions and it was a lovely small intimate wedding!

Our orders of service were hand made by Alexander and the church was laid out for the 14 members of the family. The Shelswell choir joined us to lead the singing, their Wedding being the first to have singing indoors once again! The couple had chosen the hymns Morning has Broken, Be thou my vision, and Amazing Grace. The Bible reading 1 Corinthians 13 was read by Annette Sweeney and then Alex and Ali read Invisible Kisses by Lemn Sissay together. Alexander's grandfather Tony and Alexandra's grandmother Ciss were the witnesses for the Marriage Document. It was a wonderful celebration and the couple and their family went to The Old Parsonage for their wedding reception.

Thanks to their photographer for the pictures – he was also called Alex!



Sophie Valerie **BARTLETT** and Kristian James **PICKWORTH** were married in St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley on Friday 30 July 2021



Having twice postponed their wedding day due to the pandemic, Sophie and Kristian were glad to finally gather with friends and family for their marriage. Sophie, a teacher and Kristian, a pilot met when they were at school and have known each other since they were 11 years old. They had to wait until Covid restrictions were lifted to be able to celebrate with all their friends and family and were extremely pleased to be able to sing hymns and not have to wear masks during the service!

As the bride arrived the rain stopped just long enough for her to get out of the Tesla Falcon with its fold up doors! Sophie entered the church to *One day like this* by Elbow. The hymns chosen included *Lord of all hopefulness* and *Jerusalem*. Michaela, Kristian's sister, read from Song of Solomon 8 and Sophie's mum Leigh, read an extract from *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* Love is a temporary madness by Louis de Bernières. We listened to *Us against the World* by Coldplay while we signed the Marriage Document. It was a wonderful celebration – the couple left the church to *I want to hold your hand* by the Beatles with the church bells ringing. Unfortunately, at that point the heavens really opened and everyone had to dash to their cars and on to the reception which was held at Stratton Court Barn. We wish Sophie and Kristian every happiness in their married life together.

Andrew Nicholas ASTLEY and Joanna Elizabeth YOUNGHUSBAND

Saturday 7th August 2021 - Mixbury Church

Andy and Joanna met on Andy's birthday nearly nine years ago in Sydney, Australia. Andy had been there about a year, and Joanna hadn't long arrived. He was having a joint birthday party with someone that Joanna was sharing a house with – he was dressed a little bizarrely - as the party was a charity shop challenge – in cow patterned pyjamas and a cowboy hat, but they got chatting and one thing led to another and a friendship grew. Her mother had given her strict instructions that she wasn't to fall for an Australian, in case she stayed there, but luckily Andy was from the UK!

From Sydney they ended up travelling through Australia, doing a spell of potato picking, followed by harvesting grapes in Jacobs Creek. They stayed in an aboriginal town in North Australia and a cowboy town in Queensland. And then set off for South east Asia, Vietnam for a couple of years teaching English as a foreign language. Then finally home, Joanna to Ireland and Andy to England to embark on teacher training courses. They had assumed that the relationship might well break up at that point, but it didn't. and they got engaged during lockdown in the first week of the school holidays.

Joanna's mum had been brought up in Monks Farm, Mixbury, and although, after her own spell of travelling back in the 1980s she had ended up settling in Ireland with Joanna's dad, the family would regularly visit Mixbury and Joanna has fond memories of school holidays at Monks House playing in the pool all summer and with lambs at Easter. She would often help her granddad Charlie Hawes, who was church warden at the time, set up things for services, and indeed has attended Christmas services at Mixbury on 28 of her 32 Christmases. So it was lovely that Joanna and Andy were able to be married at Mixbury. David Baker played the organ for the service with Pachelbel's Canon in D for the Entrance of the Bride, proudly escorted in and given away by her uncle, Robert Hawes, and Mendelssohn's Wedding March as the Recessional. Andy and Joanna had chosen three hymns: Lord of all hopefulness, I vow to thee, my country (a second best for Andy who had really wanted Jerusalem, but with half the wedding party coming from Ireland, it was felt this might not be politic - at least 'I vow to thee' doesn't specify which country), and One more step along the world I go.

And there were three readings: the excerpt from Song of Solomon read by Elizabeth Hyland, 1 Corinthians 13 read by Andy's granddad Brian Lee, and To be with Each Other by George Eliot, read by Neville Cairns. During the signing of the marriage document, Katie O'Farrell sang How long will I love you by Ellie Golding and A thousand years by Christina Perri.

The wedding party went back to Monks House for the reception. We wish Andy and Joanna every happiness in their life together

An extract from the poem written by Joanna for the back of the Order of Service:

And let us have journeys and adventures galore
Or just camping out in a tent by the shore
Let us have laughter and do our happy dance
much better than wild displays of romance
May we always do the holiday count-down
And rub each other's brows when we frown
Let's continue playing cards, beer bottle in hand,
Like we used to on foreign sands
And carry backpacks
And take the scenic route
And always own a good hiking boot!
Most importantly, let us always be the bestest of friends
Having fun together and looking after each other
Through all life's twists and bends.

Old Laptops, Tablets and Phones Wanted!

The team at Bicester Green are looking for donations of laptops and devices (tablets & phones) that are not too old to be reconfigured, but which you no longer need. They will wipe and reconfigure them, then pass them on to those in the area who need to get online.



Bicester Green been appointed as a hub in the 'Getting Oxfordshire Online' programme, giving new life to old laptops and tackling digital exclusion. For more information visit oxfordshire.org/laptops

Bicester Green, The Yard, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester OX26 6PS. www.bicestergreen.org.uk

WE NEED YOU!



Do you have a keen interest in the history of our community?

Did you visit and enjoy the last Shelswell Festival 2019?

The next Festival is planned for July 2022 and we are looking to recruit new members to help plan this exciting community event that brings together all the villages in Shelswell.

The theme is to be: Trade and Transport across the Ages

To find out more about the Festival have a look at our website

<http://shelswellhistoryfestival.org.uk/>

If you can help or are interested in finding out more please email Mike at shelswellhistory@outlook.com

or Alice Goodall at rector@shelswellparishes.info

The next Planning Meeting is on Monday 27 September at 7.30 p.m in Newton Purcell Village Hall – all welcome.



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

At the time of writing no decision has been made regarding the walk this month. Please contact one of the members. Dogs must be on leads.



SHELSWELL GARDEN CLUB



We don't usually have a talk in August, but pandemics change things! So, on Tuesday 10th August we held a Zoom meeting with Ben Cross. It was slightly earlier than usual so that Ben could take us for a tour around Crosslands Flower Nursery before the light faded. The nursery is located in West Sussex and has been in Ben's family since 1936 when they started a market garden through the Land Settlement Act. They now have four acres of glasshouses, where they specialise in Alstroemerias. The flowers are handpicked and are far superior to the imported versions. They supply Florists, Hotels, restaurants, events etc. They no longer supply supermarkets except for Morrisons. However, they offer a 'boxed' service by post to the general public. Details can be found on the Facebook site: Crosslands Flower Nursery. Ben was a most enthusiastic and passionate speaker and a great ambassador for buying British!

Avril Hughes owns the fabulous garden at Islip called Hollyhocks. We visited the garden in 2018 and Avril has given two excellent talks on Winter Plants and Salvia's. We have invited her back for a talk on 14th September, this time about 'Planting for adventurous gardeners'. We look forward to hearing her again.

We will still be using Zoom so 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.

In addition, please don't forget **our Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday 11th September** in the garden of member, Fi Bairstow, in Mixbury. Fi lives opposite Swallows Nursery and is the first house on the right as you enter the village off the A421 (Finmere to Croughton Road). It will start at **10am till noon** and we are looking for plants to sell as per usual. Fi has done lots in her garden and it is well worth a visit. It will be a lovely opportunity for us to meet in a beautiful, safe environment while bagging a few bargains.



SHELSWELL WI

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



Our Thursday, 5th August, Summer's Evening walk around Fringford Village was a victim of the weather. Hopefully, we will be able to rearrange this at a later date.

2nd September, at 7.30pm, in Fringford Village Hall, is a 'green theme', in keeping with the Oxfordshire and National WI 'The Great Big Green Week' later in the month. Members can share good ideas, exchange home grown produce and plants and any spare seeds.

The coffee club has continued to meet in many locations for a catch up and a chat. Last month a walk around Marsh Gibbon was included.

The September walk will be on Wednesday 8th starting at 10.30am with a walk around the Kingsmere new housing development and taking in the open spaces for recreation and sports.

The benefits of being a member 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 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.

SHELSWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

Our first meeting after the summer break will be on Tuesday September 14th, at The Old Stables, Stoke Lyne, home of Jane Warde-Aldam, and will begin at 10.30.

The topic is the month of September and its Zodiac signs, and we will be reading and discussing poems relating to both the month itself and things associated with it.

If you would like to join us, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk

Judith Harvey

SHELSWELL READING GROUP

We continued to meet during the summer and our August session involved a discussion of the book 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens. Set in North Carolina, it tells the story of a 'poor white' girl Kya who lives a solitary life in the coastal marshes, unloved and uneducated until she teams up with a local boy. Her development into a biologist and author on the one hand and into the lover of a no-good ladies' man weaves a plot which is full of tension. It was generally enjoyed by the members, although it was found to be rather predictable in parts. It certainly tells the reader a lot about life on the margins of society.

Our September book is 'You Will Be Safe Here' by Damien Barr. It is set first during the Boer War in 1901, and then in Johannesburg in 2010. The South African setting and melding of two periods of history promises to be interesting. The meeting will be on Thursday September 9th in Cottisford and will start at 7.30. If you would like to join us, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk

Judith Harvey

SHELSWELL BY THE SEA



Another 'holiday at home' will take place on 18/19/20 October. The first two days will be in Hethe Village Hall and there will be an outing on the Wednesday. 10.30am to 3.30pm each day. A leisurely time, with some activities for those who want to do them, good food, and time to chat. Ring Penny (01869-277310) for an Application Form, or contact the Benefice Office.

Penny Wood

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. With funding from Bicester Village and Bellway Homes we are dividing one of our rooms into three separate and soundproof talking rooms. We are also hugely grateful to Howdens, Bicester Tradesmen and Kingsmere Kitchen and Interiors for supplying and fitting a new kitchen so we can transform the space into a kitchen / reception area. 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 Fifth of the Village Articles Hethe



The name means 'uncultivated ground'. There was a Saxon village here, possibly on the eastern side of the stream, where there are still a few houses. The first church was erected in the 12th century, dedicated to Saint Edmund the Martyr, the then patron saint of England. Following the Crusades when the church was rebuilt in stone, it had the additional dedication to Saint George, the new patron saint and to this day it is dedicated to both Saint Edmund and Saint George. The ancient parish included some lands in Hardwick and Cottisford, which over the years were surrendered to those parishes. In 1888, however, 523 acres including Willaston hamlet were transferred to Hethe from Mixbury.

The village sits between two Estates, Tusmore and Shelswell, which have both played a very important part in the history of the village. Most of the properties have been owned by the Estates and tied the occupants to working for the Lords of the Manor, notably the Earls of Effingham and the Harrison family. The population in 1801 was 262 and rose to a peak of 442 in 1861. Following the agricultural depressions, it had declined to 311 by 1901. There were some five or six farms until the 1950s but most of them have ceased farming today. It was only during the 20th century that the Estates sold off a large amount of their property, which allowed those who could afford it to buy their homes. After the Second World War, the local authority built the Council Houses on the Hardwick Road. However, the population in 1951 was only 288 and in 2011 still only 275.

Hethe has been unique in the benefice in supporting three Churches, Anglican, Roman Catholic and Methodist. The earliest record of Free Church worship is 1794, although the first Methodist chapel was not built until 1854. A new one was built on the Green in 1876 and it was active until it closed in the late 1960s. There has been a strong Catholic presence in the area, thanks to the patronage of the Fermor family, who lived at Tusmore Park and maintained a Priest for many years. In Hethe, under the leadership of Father Alfred McGuire, the Holy Trinity chapel was opened in 1832. The strong Catholic tradition has continued and in 1984 Adderbury was joined to Hethe to form the new parish of Hethe-with-Adderbury. There is also a friendly relationship between the Anglican and Catholic churches, with ecumenical services held at Christmas.

In 1852 a primary school was built. In 1924 the senior pupils were sent to Fringford. In 1948 children aged 8-11 were sent to Fringford, while seniors moved on to Bicester. The school closed in 1973. The Catholics also ran a primary school next to their chapel from 1870. By 1920 it was for infants only and it closed in 1930. It re-opened in 1940 to receive some 30 evacuees from Walthamstow and by 1941 it was accommodating about 60 children. By June 1943, however, only 17 children remained and the school closed for the last time.

The Whitmore Arms closed some years ago but it has now been refurbished and extended as The Muddy Duck. The ground floor of Hethe House, formerly the Dower House to the Shelswell Estate, was given to the village in 1948 by John Dewar-Harrison for a village hall. In 1986 the village built a new village hall for £7,500, half the proceeds of the sale of the Dower House. There used to be eleven shops, now there are none, and a great many tradesmen of whom few remain. Some links with Flora Thompson continued, as her sister, May, lived here and her niece, Violet McGovern, used to deliver newspapers for many years.

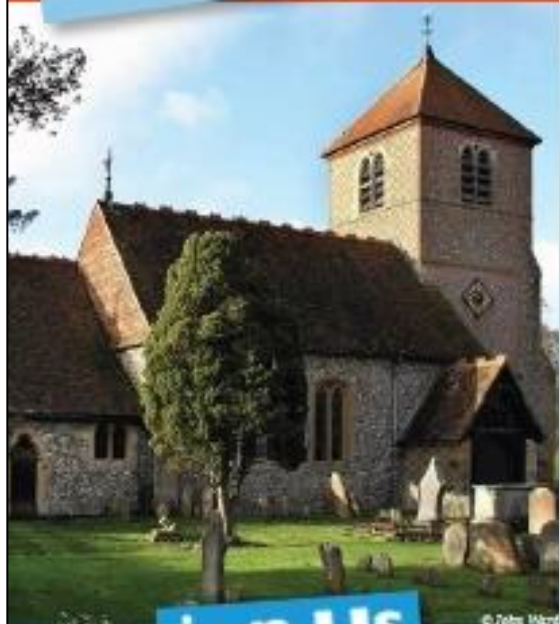
Martin Greenwood

RIDE+STRIDES

for Churches

11TH SEPT. 2021

Many of the 500 churches and chapels in Oxfordshire will be open.



Join Us

Help preserve the history on your doorstep by raising funds for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust.

All funds raised go to OHCT and 50% can be passed on to a church or chapel of your choice.



Oxfordshire Historic
Churches Trust
Supporting Oxfordshire's
Churches since 1964

County Organiser: Hilary CakebreadHall
Email: rideandstride@ohct.org.uk Tel: 07831 690524

For full details including sponsorship forms, link to Virgin Money Giving and list of churches visit
www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride

Charity number 1161567

Supported by the
National Churches Trust
Charity Number 117805



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 Vacancy
 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:



RIDE AND STRIDE FOR CHURCHES IN 2021

This year's event will be on Saturday September 11th. The church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Cottisford will be taking part in this year's event and looks forward to welcoming participants on the day. If you live in Cottisford or Juniper Hill and would like to be a Rider or Strider, please contact your local co-ordinator, Jane Birnage (janebirnage@icloud.com or phone 07770 220605, for more information, sponsor forms, list of participating churches, etc.

COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Don't forget the Picnic in the Field on Sunday 5th September from 2-4 pm. You bring a picnic, we'll provide drinks and crockery! There will be a tombola (prizes, please to Jane Birnage, Manor Barn, Cottisford (see Ride and Stride item, above, for phone and email) and an informal prize quiz based on the month of September to fill in during the afternoon. We'll be putting up the marquee from 6pm onwards on Friday 3rd, and we will be grateful for the help of anyone who can make it. It's an event open to all, so please feel free to bring friends and family. Parking is in the field itself.

We will be applying for free trees from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Trust and the Woodland Trust this autumn, and we will gratefully accept any native tree saplings that people can spare from their gardens- especially birch, rowan, hazel, holly. We would like to develop a small wooded area as part of the existing playing field, with, in years to come, a short woodland walk with benches. It is obviously a long-term project, but this year seems a good time to start. If we are successful in obtaining saplings we hope that we will get some volunteers to handle the heavy spadework!

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:





Everyone Welcome!



Finmere Harvest Festival Lunch

Sunday 3rd October

From 12 noon – after the 11 am church service

Finmere Village Hall

Selection of hot dishes with 'bring and share' puds... (please bring your favourite pud)

Tickets £10 each or £25 for a family (children under 12)

Wine and soft drinks available for a small charge

Numbers limited. Please book by 28th Sept.

Email Jo Brooks on brooks.joanne@btinternet.com or telephone 07974 740312

Proceeds to help repair the leaking church roof!

Village Hall

The work at the hall is in its final stages and bookings are now being taken for September onwards.

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..



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



Need some local help

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

Village facebook page

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

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

Tel 01869 278873

TREASURER: Christina McCullagh, 5 Crosslands, Fringford

Tel 07867 515207

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Penny Wood as below

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Penny Wood, 8 Crosslands, Fringford

Tel 01869 277310

VILLAGE HALL CORRESPONDENT: Christine Underwood

Tel 01869 278949

WEBSITE www.fringford.info



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

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, SERVICES & EVENTS

The Service pattern in the Benefice has changed. To find out times and places of Sunday services see the back of this magazine, or check the noticeboard, or look at the Facebook page [*Shelswell News*], or ring the Benefice office (01280-848192).

In September, services in Fringford will be:

- 5th September – 11.00am a Service of Confirmation, led by the Bishop of Dorchester. Three of the candidates to be confirmed are from Fringford: Sue Earle, Charlotte Talmage, and Phillippa Taylor. We wish them every blessing as they take this significant step on their Christian journey.
- 19th September – 5.00pm Harvest Festival Service [The celebration will involve a walk at 3.30pm, tea in the churchyard at 4.30, and a service at 5.00pm]

A short reflective service is live streamed every Thursday at 12 noon.

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (OHCT) Ride and Stride on 11 September 2021

There will be a Ride + Stride event this year. Further information about the event can be found on their website: <https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

Fringford Church will be open to greet 'riders & striders'. ***Welcomers required – would you sit in the church for an hour or so? And, of course, we need people to be sponsored to ride or stride!*** [Half of any sponsorship money you raise will come to Fringford Church's Restoration Fund and half will go to OHCT.] If you would like to take part, please ask me for a sponsorship form, or download one from the OHCT web-site. [I'll be cycling! So if anyone is willing to sponsor me, ring 277310, or email penelope.wood@btopenworld.com]
Penny Wood

Little Lambs Babies & Toddler Group is back!!!

Starting again on Wednesday 8th September, 10 - 11.30 am, in Stratton Audley Church. If you need information in the meantime, email admin@shelswellparishes.info

Bats in Fringford

Saturday 9 October

6pm

in St Michael and All Angels Church.

Join us for an informative evening

learning about bats, using bat

detectors to

identify which bats live in Fringford

and watching their movements in

the church and in the village.

Bring a torch.

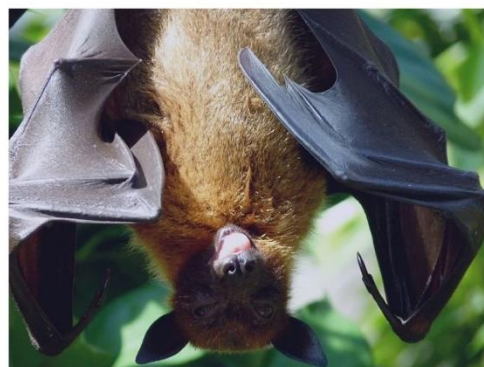
Marshmallows and Hot Chocolate

around the fire afterwards.

For more info contact

Penny Wood 277310 or

Yvonne Mullins 278090



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 please provide as much information as possible about your planned activity and number of guests. We will then be 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

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

100 club July winners were:

1st Christine Underwood £49

2nd Amanda Page £30

3rd Fiona Hutchons £20

And August winners were:

1st No 30 Kevin Tobin £49

2nd No 55 Helen Fargin £30

3rd No 31 Kevin Tobin £20

The September draw has not happened at the time of writing. It will take place at the Village Coffee Morning on 20th September, in Matilda's Coffee Shop at the Bitchers Arms. 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 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.

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 VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Mornings have started again. Usually on the third Monday of the month – join us on Monday 20th September, 10.30am to 12 noon. **Please note** that we will be meeting at Matilda's coffee shop in the Butcher's Arms; get your own coffee and cake. If fine we can sit outside; if not, we can be inside. Look forward to seeing everyone.

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

TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Vacancy

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

To keep you safe, please follow the guidelines below: St Mary's Church, Hardwick is now open for private prayer and reflection every day between 10 am until 4 pm. 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**

MUSIC IN QUIET PLACES

**A concert of classical music in the Great Barn of Hardwick Manor
on Saturday 18th September 2021 at 5.00 pm**

In aid of St. Mary's Church Hardwick

The programme: Haydn String Quartet Op. 54 No. 2 in C major
Mozart String Quartet K.575 in D major
Schubert String Quartet D804 in A minor "Rosamunde"

The players: Charles Sewart – Violin, Gillian Secret – Violin,
Robert Secret – Viola, Julian Metzger - Cello

Music in Quiet Places is a hugely successful rural touring music project that takes a series of classical concerts to historic venues in the most beautiful villages. Each concert features an attractive and inspirational mix of classical music performed by professional musicians.

There will be an optional pre-concert walk
around the grounds of this historic Manor at 4.00pm

Refreshments will be available.

A perfect way to spend a late summer evening!

Tickets £10

Available from David Barnes - Tel: 01869 277690;
email: david.l.barnes@outlook.com

Ticket sales will be limited in order to maintain social distancing

· HARVEST FESTIVAL, ST MARY'S CHURCH, HARDWICK



- This year's service will take place on Sunday 26th September at 4 pm
 - with the Shelswell Benefice Choir
 - Refreshments will be served after the service
- Any offerings of food and produce will be donated to Bicester Food Bank
 - All Welcome

The Fermors of Tusmore

From 1606 to 1828, the Tusmore Estate was owned by successive generations of the Fermor (pronounced “Farmer”) family. At the peak of their wealth, they owned land and property across north Oxfordshire, including in Hardwick, Tusmore, Somerton, Fritwell, and Cottisford, and also in Croughton in neighbouring Northamptonshire, and further afield in Normanton in Leicestershire and Childswickham in Worcestershire.

The first notable Fermor was one Thomas Richards, alias Fermor of Witney, a wealthy wine merchant of Irish descent. His son, William was very active in local government, being appointed coroner in 1509, J. P. in 1511, and high sheriff of the county in 1533. He acquired the Manor of Somerton in 1512 and bought a third of Hardwick Manor in 1514. William went on to complete the purchase of all of Hardwick Manor in 1548. William was succeeded by his son Richard, who began the building of Hardwick Manor House in 1580. However, the Fermors never resided in Hardwick, as Richard went on to buy the Tusmore Estate in 1606, moving to Tusmore in 1625. Richard died in 1642. He was buried in Somerton church, where there is a side chapel dedicated to the Fermors, with memorials to many family members.



The memorial for Richard Fermor (d.1642) in Somerton church

Members of the Fermor family who owned Tusmore after Richard, were Henry Fermor (1642-73), Richard Fermor (1673-84), Henry Fermor (1684-1703), James Fermor (1703-22), Henry Fermor (1722-47), William Fermor (1747-1806) and William Fermor (1806-28). The longevity of the Fermor family is all the more remarkable as they were staunch “recusants”, Roman Catholics, who held fast to the old religion after the English Reformation when it was illegal and dangerous to do so. For well over three hundred years, from the 1550s to the turn of the nineteenth century, “Papists” were subjected to strict laws and severe penalties, being regarded as likely disloyal to the crown and potential traitors. Catholics were barred from holding any civil or military office and prevented from being awarded degrees by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Failure to attend Church of England services could result in a fine. Attending the Roman Catholic mass could also lead to a heavy fine and one year’s imprisonment. Priests caught celebrating the mass were subject to even higher fines and imprisonment. Jesuit priests, who were usually sent from Catholic countries abroad, were the target of particularly harsh treatment, being banned from the country on pain of death. Those who harboured them or failed to notify the authorities of their presence could be fined, imprisoned, or even executed.

Nonetheless, the Fermors continued to allow mass to be celebrated in their private chapel in Tusmore House. The family always had a resident priest, usually a Jesuit, as the Fermors had long-standing connections to the order. Several Fermors entered religious orders. Perhaps unsurprisingly, all of the Fermor’s staff were Roman Catholics, and attended mass at their chapel at Tusmore, along with their co-religionists from neighbouring villages. Except for the period when Tusmore House was being rebuilt, mass continued to be said at the chapel until 1810, when the last William Fermor moved out of the house. His priest moved to Hardwick, where he continued to say mass in the attic of the Manor House, which had been converted into a Catholic chapel. After 1832, Hethe became the focus of local Roman Catholic worship, when a new chapel was built, today’s Holy Trinity R.C. church.

Perhaps the most notable owner of Tusmore was William Fermor, who inherited as a nine-year-old in 1746. William had Tusmore House rebuilt between 1766 and 1770 as a “great house”, designed in the classic style, with Ionic columns, by architect Robert Mylne. This was considered by many to be a masterpiece. In what was considered by commentators to be an act of architectural vandalism, the house was demolished in 1961 by the second Lord Bicester, who arranged for a more modest house to be built on the same site. When the present owner, Wafic Said had his new Tusmore House built in 2000, the design aped Mylne’s original design, being awarded the prize for the “best modern house in the classical tradition” in 2004.



The last of the Fermors to own Tusmore was William’s son, also William, who died, without a male heir, in 1828. The Estate then passed to Captain John Turner Ramsay, who was married to William Fermor’s adopted daughter, Maria. After his death in 1840, Tusmore was eventually sold to Henry Howard, 2nd Earl of Effingham in 1857, who thus became its first ever protestant owner, nearly 300 years after England had become a protestant country.

William Fermor 1737 – 1806

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 website. 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.

- Saturday 11th September - Ride & Stride - details below
- Monday 13th September - Community Coffee Morning in the Village Hall - details below
- Sunday 19th September - Harvest Festival - details below





Hethe Community Coffee Morning's Macmillan Fund Raiser

**Monday September 13th 10-12 noon
at the Village Hall**

Cake & Produce Stall, Games and Raffle
plus the Hethe 100 Club draw.



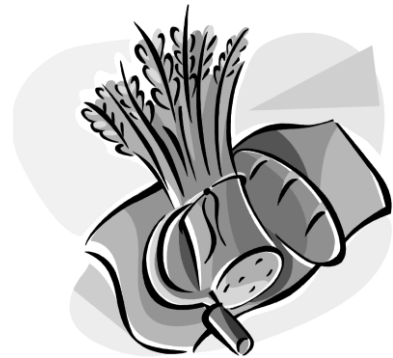
HARVEST FESTIVAL and PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

**Sunday September 19th
at 11am**

A family service in contemporary language.

Gifts of produce can be brought to the church
to be placed at the altar during the service, and will
be donated to Bicester Food Bank.

Ploughman's Harvest Lunch at the church after the service.



Altar & Harvest Festival Flowers

5th September - Altar - Ann Mansfield

19th September - Altar - Tasmin Overton; other Harvest Festival flowers - all welcome to contribute

3rd October - Altar - Pauline Allen

Now that we are having more regular services it is probably time to make a new rota. If you would like to take a turn for the altar flowers, please let Pauline or Flora know.

Cleaning

We also need an updated rota for Church cleaning. Anyone interested please contact Pauline or Flora - your help would be appreciated.

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, contact a PCC member or send a message to hethepccsecretary@outlook.com.

Ride and Stride 2021



This year's Ride & Stride will take place on Saturday 11th September and our church will be open for Rider Striders to book in. Sponsorship forms will be available in the church.

See the OHCT web site for up-to-date details -
<https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>.

Parish 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 can 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.

Our 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.

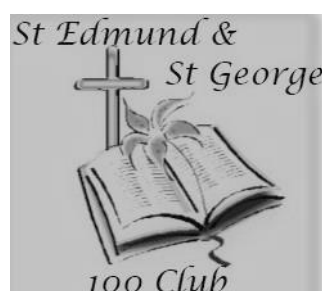


Eco Church

The “wild areas” are due to be cut this month and then raked over.

We are also looking into the possibility of installing a waterless composting toilet for the church.

100 Club



The results of the August draw:

- 1st Prize No 12 Mary Evans
- 2nd Prize No 41 Nicky Beddall
- 3rd Prize No 3 Gary Skinner

The next draw will be held on Monday 13th September (at the coffee morning). There are still plenty of numbers if you wish to join!

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.



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 4th October.

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.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Village Hall

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



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 Club

Books are now available in the church. Donations to the church in lieu of payment are very welcome.

Recycling

The bottle bank is 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.



Food and garden waste collections will be changing



Between September and January 2022 Cherwell District Council will be delivering a free 23-litre silver outdoor food 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 putting it in the brown bin. To help us get started, they will also provide a roll of compostable caddy liners. This 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.

Father John Burns 13th July 1929 - 14th July 2021



Father (Anthony) John Burns died in the early hours of Wednesday 14th July 2021 at Aston Hall. He celebrated his 92nd birthday the day before, 13th July.

Fr John was ordained on 19th July 1953 and his first appointment was at Sacred Heart in Tunstall (Staffordshire) from 1953 to 1965. He was at Our Lady Immaculate in Warwick from 1965 to 1985; Our Lady and All Saints in Stourbridge from 1985 to 1990; St Mary's in Leek from 1990 to 1996 and at Holy Trinity in Hethe from 1996 until his retirement in 2014.



Flora and Pauline attended his funeral and Pauline commented:

“A Requiem Mass was held for Father John at The Immaculate Conception, Bicester, on Monday 16th August followed by cremation at Banbury. He will be interred at Holy Trinity, Hethe, at a later date. Father John was resident priest at Hethe for 18 years and was much loved by his congregation. He joined with St Edmund and St George's for Remembrance Services and alternated hosting the Christmas Carol Service. For many years he took services both in Hethe and Adderbury. In 2014 he retired to Aston Hall, Stone, Staffordshire.”

Aston Hall is a home for retired and convalescent priests.

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

Mixbury Church flower rota 2021

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 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: The Remarkable Painter Family
by Bruce Epps

In the course of researching the history of All Saints church for the Shelswell History Festival in 2019 one family name – Painter – rose to prominence in the second half of the 18th century and continued into the 20th century. The branch of the family tree which settled in Mixbury descended from William Painter (1690-1758). He and his wife, Eleanor, had 12 children but we only concentrated on the line through his youngest son, Thomas (1757-1812) which had several links to the church and took us to the last Painter to live in Mixbury, Louisa, who died in 1935. We were helped in our research by having previously acquired copies of the wills of Henry Painter (1769-1838) and his sons, John (1802-1855), and Joseph (1833-1876); and the probate papers for his uncle Stephen (1774-1834).

The Painters appear to have been foremost amongst the “movers and shakers” of their days in Mixbury. When John died in 1855 he bequeathed to his sons his interest in the farm at Fulwell (to John); a farm at Finmere (Henry); Mixbury Lodge Farm and Knight’s House, Evenley (Joseph); and farms at Steeple Barton, Middle Barton and Tingewick (Thomas). In 1862 it appears from the Poll Book and Electoral Register of the day that Joseph also had Town Farm. For the Mixbury rate levy of 1849 John Painter Snr. paid 43% of the total raised in the Parish. They lived in times when wealth translated into influence and status in the village. We know that the family had at least four generations of men who were churchwardens.

As members of the powerful Vestry, an institution mentioned in a Hethe article last month, they helped to choose who the Churchwardens were; the Overseers of the Poor; the village Guardian (a job which we think came into being following the 1834 reform of Poor Laws); the Surveyor of Highways; and the village Constable. In any particular year one or more of these jobs was undertaken by a member of the family. A bizarre situation arose in 1827 when Henry Painter, as a churchwarden, reported his brother Stephen for refusing to pay an assessed sum towards the cost of repairing the church! However, Stephen went some way to make amends when he died 7 years later by leaving a legacy of £100 (roughly £13,000 at today’s prices) to provide bread for the poor people of Mixbury.

The Painter family is best seen today by looking in the churchyard. In the long row of headstones to the west of All Saints all, except one, mark the graves of Painters. At the end of the row near the path through the churchyard lie five “upmarket” graves which we are fairly sure are all Painters. The last Mixbury Painter, Louisa, is buried in the south-east part of the churchyard.

While history books sketch the part played in Mixbury by the Norman lords d’Oily and d’Ivry, later Lords of the Manor are remembered by inscribed slabs in the church, and Mixbury’s most illustrious son, Roundell Palmer (twice Lord Chancellor under Gladstone) is written into parliamentary records, farming families like the Painters are all too often overlooked.

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. 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.



The plant boxes are now looking lovely thanks to Fi and Nicola's hard work in the spring. Fi Bairstow is organising a plant sale for early September – look out for further information.

Good Luck

.....to all young children about to start school, slightly older children moving up to high school and secondary education, also young adults off to University very soon. Mixbury wishes you all good luck in your future education and career choices.

Mixbury History Group – Children's Summer Activities

Mo Westworth has compiled a Summer Activity Pack for the children it includes an art competition, history hunt, colouring, wordsearches and craft activities. For your pack please email Mo at : flymo74@gmail.com for your downloadable pack or visit the MHG stand at the fete.

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.

3rd September - Alec & Anna

1st October - Alison Timms

5th November - Rob & Sarah

3rd December - Matt & Caroline

Thank you to Gemma and Nigel Harris for all the lovely eggs they have supplied to the village recently.

Save the date: *Mixbury Fete: 4th September 2021 – Restricted to Villagers only this year (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
Tel 01280 848680

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



Bonus Ball Lotto -

Our recent lucky winner was Hugo von Maltzahn.

A gentle reminder that subscriptions for the year are now due.

Ride & Stride -

This year's Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride will take place on Saturday 11th September. As well as being a fun thing to do, the event is aimed at raising money for the Trust and the Church or Chapel of your choice. Last year the Trust awarded a record £300,000 in grants to the county's churches and chapels. For full details including sponsorship forms please contact Ann von Maltzahn or visit www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride

Our church will be open to welcome visitors from 10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.



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For full details including sponsorship forms, link to Virgin Money Giving and list of churches visit www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride

Charity number 168567

Supported by the National Churches Trust
Charity Number 118885

Dates for Yours Diary -

Sunday 10th October - Harvest Festival and Lunch

Friday 10th December - Christmas Concert

Stoke Lyne St Peter's

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

Tel 01869 346020

Tel 07762 719198

Tel 07810 120457

TREASURER: Janey Poole janey@oxford-educational.co.uk

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:



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BBQ & BYO
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3pm Scarecrow judging
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Please bring your own picnic rugs & chairs.

Games on the playing field.

SUNDAY 5th
From 1pm

NEW DATE

**STOKE LYNE
SCARECROW
FESTIVAL**

Please bring your Scarecrow to the Stoke Lyne playing field opposite the church.
CASH PRIZE FOR THE BEST SCARECROW

To celebrate 10 years of the Stoke Lyne Diggers Allotments. Everyone is welcome to exhibit a scarecrow.

Services :

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

September 26th 11.00 am Harvest Festival with Holy Communion

For Harvest Festival

Can we have volunteers to help Donnie who is on flower rota to decorate the Church with flowers food produce etc. all help greatly appreciated.

100 Club August 2021

The August results of the Stoke Lyne 100 Club are out. The total prize money £ 70.50 split between the winners.

1st Prize Membership No. 27 James Lewis

2nd Prize Membership No 20 Jeanette Smith

3rd Prize Membership No 57 Bob Wheatcroft

Prize money will be paid by cheque unless I hear to contrary, I can arrange a direct bank payment if the winners let me know their bank details.

So that we can increase the total prize money it would be great to sell more membership numbers so if you haven't joined yet please contact me to join. It's so easy.

Thank you everyone for your support.

Regards Janey Poole (Treasurer, St Peter's Church PCC)

Stoke Lyne W.I.

A group of members went to Evenley Wood, first stop was to have tea/coffee or cold drink and cake or snack and a chat catching up, we then spent about an hour and a half walking through the wood admiring all the different species of trees and different pathways you could walk, there were quite a few people walking round, not so many flowers about but we could see where the Azaleas and Rhododendrons had just gone over that must have been a beautiful sight as there are so many, there are lots of seats about and carvings of birds and animals a good way of recycling fallen trees.

We will be having our first proper meeting at a different venue, day and time.

We will be meeting at **Hethe village Hall Thursday 9th September at 1.00**

St Peter's Church Find

Some years ago, the banks were clearing their safe deposit boxes and so it happened that members of the PCC together with the church warden Jane Warde-Aldam and the treasurer Christopher Warde-Aldam gathered around a mystery box sent from the bank. Inside we found:



Communion Cup and Paten Cover 1637



Flagon circa 1800 and Plate circa 1800

(Deposited 15.06.99)

What a find! How could we store them safely?

It was decided to copy other churches and ask Christchurch Cathedral, our diocesan church to keep them on permanent loan. Jane Warde-Aldam undertook the task of arranging this, but being unable to continue, asked me as the other church warden to continue.

I phoned the Cathedral office with our request only to be told that the cathedral could no longer take in any communion vessels.

Consternation! I then explained that communion vessels from Stratton Audley had recently been accepted and that Stoke Lyne was in the same benefice, so thankfully they changed their minds. It was arranged that we should take our treasures to the cathedral. The person at the other end of the line was most concerned about their safety. He even told us we could drive into Tom Quad.

Apparently, the story goes, a churchman on bringing in his church's box, got off the bus outside the cathedral and remembering he had left his box on the back seat ran after the disappearing bus all the way to Gloucester Green bus station before retrieving it.

My sister Jean and I took the communion vessels to the cathedral. The recipient was grateful and showed us around rooms, including a choir room, which are set in thick walls of the old priory chapter house. An unexpected treat.

The story carries on. The communion vessels were returned to St Peter's church on the occasion of the Bishop of Dorchester's special service. On this occasion security measures were intensified — the communion vessels having been previously insured as well. They were returned safely to Christchurch cathedral where they will now be on display.

I previously saw them when they were in glass cases in the old priory chapter house.

They may have been moved to the new Visitors' Centre near Meadow Gate

Written with thanks to Rena, who encourages me to write this piece

Pat Cherry

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

CHURCHWARDENS: Sarah Noujaim (Acting Churchwarden)

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

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:



To donate to Holy Trinity, Godington just scan this code with your phone:



Village Magazine Correspondent Would you be interested in taking this on?

We would love to hear from you!

In the meantime, please contact the Editor direct if you have any news for inclusion.

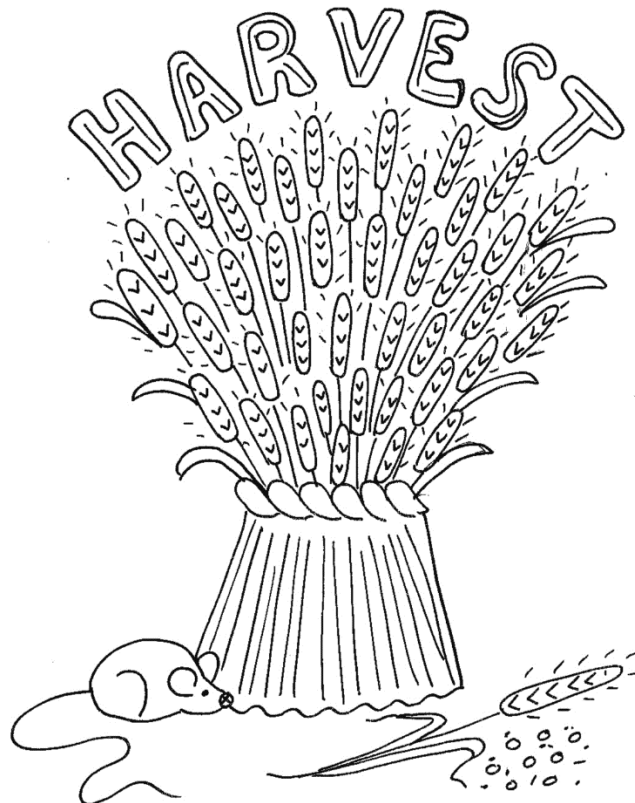


The Church of St. Mary & St. Edburga

Church Services

Please see back page for details.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



The Harvest Festival in Stratton Audley will be held on Sunday 26th September at 9.30am. Please bring any harvest contributions along to the service or place in church at any time over the weekend of Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th September. After the weekend the contributions will be donated to Bicester Food Bank to help those who are struggling to pay for essentials – please give generously. Thank you.

Coffee Morning at the Red Lion

Tea, coffee, biscuits, cake £2.50 in The Red Lion every Wednesday morning at 11.00-12noon - mugs of tea, coffee, biscuits £2.50. A warm welcome awaits everyone so do pop along even if you have never been before.

Also, plants for sale in the courtyard garden, 50p each in aid of the Church.

Red Lion check the website for future events or facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/redlionstrattonaudley/>

RIDE + STRIDES for Churches

11th September 2021

Whatever your ride or stride is, come and enjoy a family, friends or group day out to view local churches, the beautiful local countryside and raise funds to contribute, however big or small, so **YOUR** church can keep the roof and the building in good shape.

This year's Ride & Stride will take place on **Saturday 11th September with St Mary's & St Edburga** being open all day for all Riders/Striders/Wheelers to book in (10am-5pm), use the facilities or collect/refill water bottles

Sponsorship forms are available on the OHCT website together with further details at <https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/>

If you are lacking a printer, copies of sponsorship forms are inside the church porch on notice board or contact Sarah 07941 273145

Please wear a facemask in church and hand sanitiser is provided

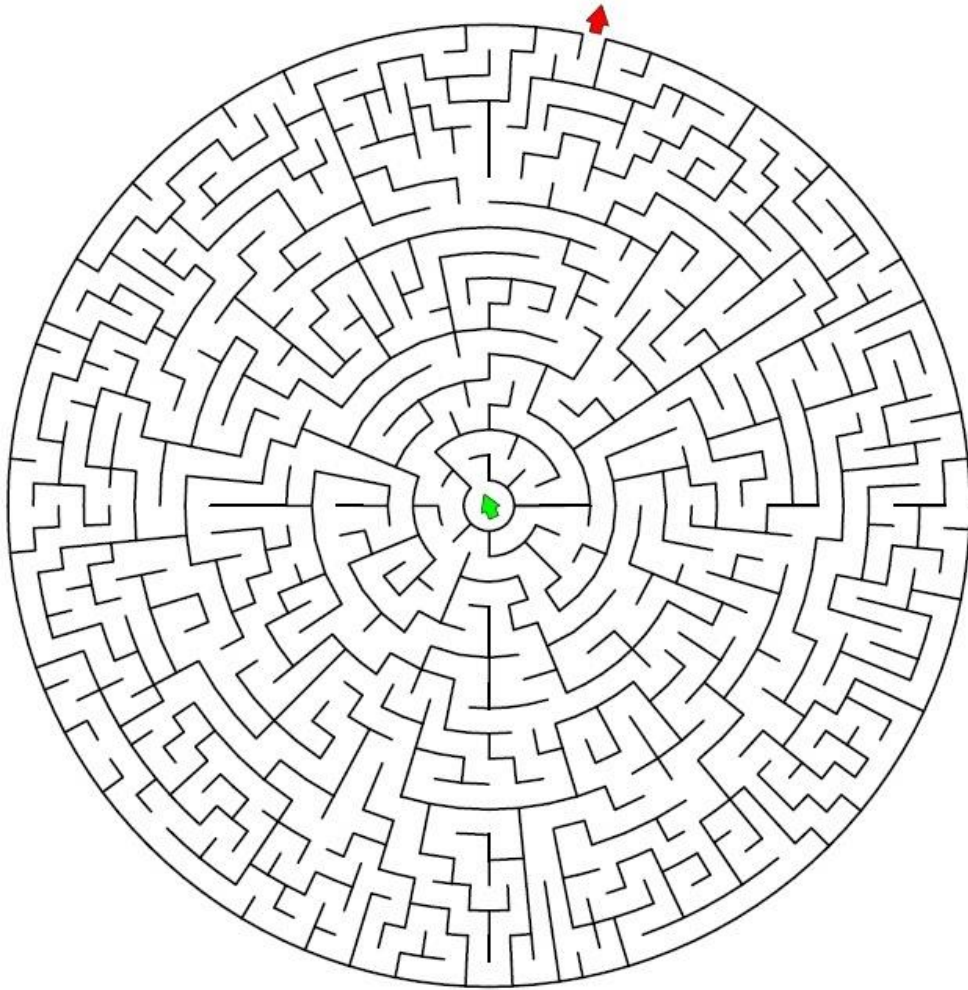


Thank you

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with the day to day management of the Church, from cleaning, churchyard maintenance, flowers etc.etc. It is much appreciated.



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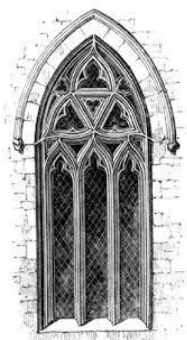
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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATE                                                                                                                                                                             | 5 <sup>th</sup> September<br>14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                       | 12 <sup>th</sup> September<br>15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity | 19 <sup>th</sup> September<br>16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                             | 26 <sup>th</sup> September<br>17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> October<br>18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                 |
| ALTAR                                                                                                                                                                            | Green                                                                                    | Green                                                               | Green                                                                                                           | Green                                                                                                                  | Green                                                                                            |
| 8.15 am                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                          |                                                                     |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                  |
| 9.30 am                                                                                                                                                                          | Holy Communion with<br>hymns (CW)<br>FINMERE<br>AG                                       | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>NEWTON PURCELL<br>YM           | Harvest Festival<br>MIXBURY<br>AG                                                                               | Harvest Festival<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>LW                                                                              | Holy Communion with<br>hymns (CW)<br>HETHE<br>YM<br><br>10am<br>'Food for Thought'<br>STOKE LYNE |
| 11.00 am                                                                                                                                                                         | Confirmation Service<br>FRINGFORD *<br>The Rt Revd Gavin Collins<br>Bishop of Dorchester | Holy Communion with<br>hymns (BCP)<br>COTTISFORD *<br>LW            | 11am<br>Holy Communion with<br>hymns (CW)<br>HARDWICK *<br>AG<br><br>11am<br>Harvest Festival<br>HETHE<br>YM/FS | 11am<br>Harvest Festival with<br>Holy Communion<br>STOKE LYNE *<br>AG<br><br>4pm<br>Harvest Festival<br>HARDWICK<br>PW | 11am<br>Harvest Festival<br>FINMERE *<br>AG                                                      |
| 6.00 pm                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                          | Evening Communion<br>STOKE LYNE<br>YM                               | 5pm<br>Harvest Festival<br>FRINGFORD<br>PW                                                                      |                                                                                                                        | Compline<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG                                                                |
| AG: Revd Alice Goodall    YM: Revd Yvonne Mullins    LW: Revd Liz Welters    PW: Mrs Penny Wood (LLM)<br>* Livestreamed service (or pre-recorded service available at this time) |                                                                                          |                                                                     |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                  |