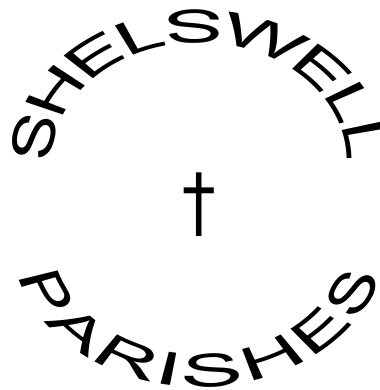


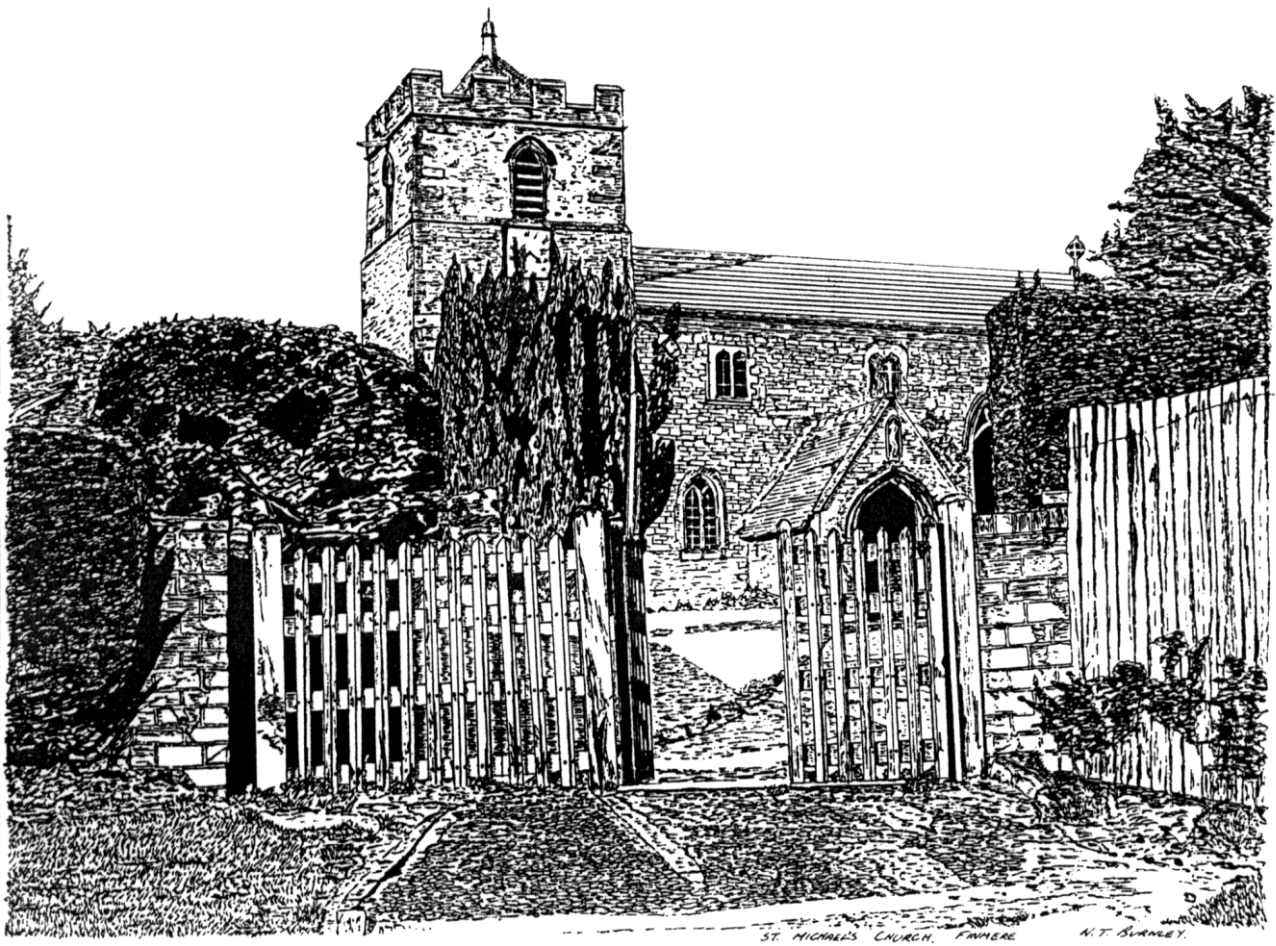
Shelswell News

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, Finnere

May 2023

£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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HOLY TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, HETHE,

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Weekday Mass: 9.30 am Monday

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 **June 2023** edition of Shelswell News

To Magazine Correspondents: **Friday 12 May**

Correspondents to Editor: **Sunday 14 May** at editor@shelswellparishes.info

All articles must be submitted in WORD in a format that can be COPIED AND PASTED PLEASE

www.shelswellparishes.info

Many thanks for your cooperation.

SHELLOWELL NEWS ARCHIVE. to look up previous issues of the Shelswell News. Please go to the Benefice website and look at the Archive. If the issue you want to refer to is not there please contact the Benefice office .

MINISTER'S LETTER

What do you think?

Since the beginning of 2023 I have turned up at at least two churches to take a service only to find, at the appointed 'start' time, that no more than one person has arrived. A couple of other times only 3 people arrived. I don't think I need to take this personally because other members of the Ministry Team report similar experiences. Overall, numbers attending Sunday by Sunday are very small 6 – 8 – 10

Few people today are committed to worship every Sunday. Maybe 20 over the whole of the Shelswell Benefice. Yet every Sunday in the Shelswell Benefice there are four or five services on offer for them to go to. As it's unlikely the regular attenders will go to church more than once on a Sunday, it means each service is sparsely populated, even if a few of the irregular attenders turn up! Consequently, the worship is friendly but hardly uplifting. It's inhibiting to have to sing when there are so few people; it can be difficult to find people to help with the preparation of the church, the readings etc., volunteers are few and Ministers feel rather like 'pressgang masters' trying to get people to come and participate. The congregation can feel disheartened – a sad 'remnant'.

Why don't we just have one service on a Sunday which everyone goes to? [Or at the most, two.] The committed worshippers would benefit from each other's company, Ministers would benefit from being able to share leading the worship, there would be more chance of offering 'live' music and having the support of a choir; we would be strengthened by worshipping together. Any 'new' person who might risk putting a toe into the church would not feel so 'exposed' as they would do entering a church where there are only 4 or 5 people. Each Sunday the service could be in a different church so that 'hosting' responsibilities are shared.

Is this such a mad suggestion? Well, experience over many years highlights a particular emotional difficulty - the reluctance of many people to worship in any church other than their 'own' church. People are willing to drive to hospital appointments, the supermarket, the gym, take their dogs for walks, visit friends, go to the theatre, etc. etc. but going to another church appears to be a step too far. Or is this just a convenient excuse for **not** worshipping? In which case, these will almost certainly be the people who won't regularly turn up anyway even to services in their 'own' church. So, for the benefit of supporting and building up the committed, and to enable deeper, richer worship, let's try worshipping together.



BIBLE READINGS



Sunday 7 th May	5 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 7 v55-end 1 Peter 2 v2-10 John 14 v1-14
Sunday 14 th May	6 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 17 v22-31 1 Peter 3 v13-end John 14 v15-21
Sunday 21 st May	7 th Sunday of Easter	Acts 1 v6-14 1 Peter 4 v12-14 & 5 v6-11 John 17 v1-11
Sunday 28 th May	Pentecost	Acts 2 v1-21 1 Corinthians 12 v3b-13 John 20 v19-23 or John 7 v37-39

LOVE YOUR BURIAL GROUND WEEK 24th – 30th April

(in case you get your copy of the magazine in time....)

WILDLIFE WORKSHOP

Saturday 29th April,

10 am – 12 noon – Open workshop - Stratton Audley Churchyard

An open workshop for people of all ages exploring the flora and fauna of the churchyard. You don't need to live in Stratton Audley to come!

The workshop will be led by Stephen Nisbet, MBiolSci CEcol MCIEEM. Ste is a Chartered Ecologist with 9 years' experience in the Ecology sector. He works for Atkins as an Associate Ecologist and is currently on secondment to East West Rail Alliance, where he holds the role of Section Ecologist. Ste is interested in all sorts of UK species and habitats, but particularly in herpetology (amphibians and reptiles).



Ste will be staking out some suitable spots in the churchyard with wildlife cameras in advance of the event and bringing the footage with him, so that we can see what nocturnal wildlife there is, and he will be laying out some reptile mats in sunny spots to hopefully attract any amphibians, reptiles and interesting invertebrates for us to see. He will be taking these away with him after the event, but will be leaving us with a bug hotel.



What you need to bring:

- weather-appropriate clothing and footwear
- binoculars and hand lenses or magnifying glasses, should you have them.

We will provide:

- Hot drinks and maybe even a bacon roll!

There is no charge for this event – it would be helpful if you can let Alice know that you plan to come by emailing alicegoodall313@gmail.com or phoning 01280 848192 so she gets enough bacon in, but if you forget, just turn up.

AN OUTDOOR SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE BENEFICE

Sunday 30th April

10.45 am – Fringford Churchyard

Come and celebrate God's glorious creation with songs and hymns, readings and prayers. Bring a rug or garden chair with you if you can. (And if the weather is absolutely disgusting, we will retreat to inside the church!).



Fun @ Four

Sunday 21st May 2023

4 – 6 pm

Stoke Lyne Church

Jesus's story about the mustard seed

Crafts and activities, worship,
sandwiches and cake – all are very welcome!

There is no charge for this event, though donations to cover the cost of materials and heating are always welcome.

Lighthouse booking opens in May!



Save the date!

Holiday Club for 5 – 11s

Monday 24th July – Friday 28th July 2023

10 am – 3.30 pm

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

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

Sport

Craft

Performing arts

music

for more info check out
www.lighthousecentral.org

Recommended donation of £10 per day. Bursaries available.

SOME PICTURES FROM OUR PHOTO ALBUM!

February's Fun @ Four

We were thinking about Jesus in the wilderness, getting ready for Lent, and making pancakes – with a good selection of toppings.



Good Friday Workshop

We met at Fringford Village Hall and did lots of things to reflect on the Easter story. At 12 noon, we walked down to the church for a service – here are some of the stragglers.



Experience Easter

In the last week of term, both Fringford and Finmere Primary Schools visited their local churchyard to explore more of the Easter story by following a trail around the churchyard.



FOODBANK DONATIONS STILL REQUIRED

The foodbank donation points in our churches in Cottisford, Finmere, Fringford, Hardwick, Hethe, Mixbury, Stoke Lyne and Stratton Audley are still in place and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

Thank you very much to all those who have dropped donations into the boxes - please keep them coming! Urgently needed items are listed below.

Please note that the Rector, Alice Goodall is now a 'Local Referrer' and can refer anyone who is in need to the Bicester Foodbank. Contact: Alice Goodall, The Rectory, Finmere 01280848192 alicegoodall313@gmail.com

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

- **FRUIT JUICE**
 - **FRUIT SQUASH**
 - **JAM**
 - **LONG LIFE MILK**
 - **TINNED CHOPPED TOMATOES**
 - **TINNED FRUIT**
 - **TINNED MEAT MEALS**
 - **TINNED SOUPS**
 - **TINNED VEGETABLES**
 - **TINNED VEGETARIAN-SUITABLE MEALS**
 - **TINNED FISH**
-

HELPERS NEEDED FOR 'LITTLE LAMBS' TODDLER GROUP

We have a band of regular helpers at our 'Little Lambs' baby and toddler group, but one or two more people are needed to help at sessions – offering refreshments to the mums/carers, chatting, preparing for the 'snack time', and helping Liz (the organiser) to tidy up at the end. Time involvement is about two and a half hours, on one or two mornings a term. You would need to have a DBS check. Please consider volunteering, and contact Penny [01869-277310]

REGISTRY

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

Confirmation

Victoria Thompson

Congratulations to Victoria who was confirmed at the Easter Vigil service at Christ Church on Saturday 8th April by Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford.

Victoria lives in Juniper Hill with husband Ed and their little boy Benedict. She attends Cottisford Church and is on the rota to read some of the Bible readings during the services.

It was a very special service – it started in the Cathedral Garden in the twilight. A new fire was lit as we recalled the first words of God at the moment of creation: 'let there be light' and as we remembered the saving works of God throughout history, culminating in raising Jesus from the dead. The Paschal candle was lit from the flames, and the president proclaimed 'Christ is risen!' We all responded 'He is risen indeed. Alleluia!' - a proclamation of our faith that Christ's resurrection is more powerful than any earthly force, a shout of defiance against all the powers of darkness.



Later in the service, we all renewed our baptismal vows, and then the four candidates were confirmed. Bishop Steven prayed for them, anointed them with oil and laid his hands on their heads saying 'Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit'.

After the Eucharist, Victoria was presented with a candle lit from the Paschal candle.

Our prayers are with Victoria as she continues on her Christian journey – may she discover more and more of the riches of God's love in her life.

Marriage

Thomas Luke FENDICK and Roberta Ann MARSHALL

Saturday 15th April 2023

St Peter's Church, Stoke Lyne

Roberta's parents were at Covent Gardens at 3 am on Thursday 13th April to buy the flowers for decorating Stoke Lyne church, and after two solid days of hard work by her mum Heather it looked beautiful.

Roberta and Tom live in Wing. Their reception was being held at Stratton Court Barn but it was important to them to be married in church. So they have been attending services in the Shelswell Benefice in order to establish their qualifying connection and have struck up quite a link with the congregation at Stoke Lyne which they hope to continue now they are married.

Roberta and Tom have known each other for some

while – about 14 years in all. They met in

London when Tom was working in an Outdoor Store selling walking boots and Roberta was on a University placement with the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. Tom now works for a limestone importer and Roberta is an assistant manager for the White Company. They became engaged in September 2021 whilst on holiday in Suffolk – Tom popped the question one evening on the beach with a glorious sunset. Roberta entered the church on her dad Peter's arm to Pachelbel's Canon in D major played on the organ by Pam Morgan. She had three bridesmaids - her sister Hannah and her two little nieces, Sienna and India - and a page boy Elliot. Tom's best man was Chris. Roberta and Tom had chosen three hymns for their service: Make me a channel of your peace, Lord of the dance and Amazing Grace. Their Bible reading was from the Song of Solomon and was read by Roberta's uncle, Andrew McNeill, and the second reading, Love, had been chosen for them by her aunt, Jane McNeill. Tom and Roberta's mums both witnessed the signing of the marriage document. The newly weds left the church to the song 'Signed, sealed and delivered'. We pray that God will richly bless Roberta and Tom's marriage, and we look forward to seeing them again at Stoke Lyne very soon!



Love,

Puts the music in laughter,

The beauty in song,

The warmth in a shoulder,

The gentle in strong.

Love,

Puts the magic in memories,

The sunshine in skies

The gladness in giving,

The starlight in eyes.

Love,

Puts the fun in together,

The sad in apart,

The hope in tomorrow,

The joy in the heart.

Funerals

Eileen Bessie Curtis

26th October 1936 – 24th February 2023

Eileen was born on 26 October 1936, at Grange Farm in the tiny Oxfordshire village of Godington. She was the youngest of three children, with her sister Margaret and brother Norman. Her parents were Kathleen (née Markham) and Roy Tew.

From the war years, Eileen remembered the farm work and the evacuees sent to live with them. She talked of the hours of work churning the butter, and of the long walk up Godington hill every day to the school bus for Fringingford. In 1948 when she was 12, her mother died suddenly at the age of 45. Eileen was sent then to a weekly boarding school in Summertown, Oxford, which she disliked, until at age of 15 she enjoyed a short and happy time at art college, creating beautiful dress designs; she was incredibly talented.

She was abruptly called back home at the age of 19 - upon Margaret's marriage, to keep house for her father and brother. Through Young Farmers, she met John Busby, a farmer, and married him when she was 21. They took over College Farm in Weston near Towcester together, from John's father. Stephen was born in December of that year, and Caroline in April 1961. Eileen was a hard-working housewife and mother on the large mixed farm which included dairy, livestock and arable.

Her brother's and sister's growing families played a huge part in family life, staying in each other's homes and sharing family seaside-holidays and Christmases. After around 12 years however, at the age of 35, she left John and took the children to live with Norman, his wife Anne and their family back at the farm in Godington.

Eileen found live-in work at Caroline's school as a matron, and later as a primary school teacher in Brackley. She was unused to working out in the world and learned a lot, including, she said, to bear her shyness more easily, and to earn her own living for the first time.

The family of three moved to a cottage in Fringford next to her father's house, which is where local farmer and widower John Curtis, from Hardwick, came to take her out to dinner one day. A year and a half later, in 1976, when she was 39, she and John married, and his and Eileen's families lived together in Hardwick, with John's children Tim and Sally, over the road from John's brother Bob, Jean and their family.

Eileen joined John, Bob, and Bet Morgan from next door, and sometimes John's sister Mary, in running the farm. It was very physical work, including the harvests, the busy Christmases (selling Christmas trees and cockerels), the potato and egg businesses – helping to grade hundreds of eggs every day and delivering them and sacks of spuds locally. She was never happier than during those years. She loved her large family and being every day outdoors. In 1996, Eileen and John moved into the new house they had built in Hardwick - Sycamore House, where everyone celebrated her 60th birthday the same year.

Soon afterwards, John and Bob decided to stop farming, and for Eileen those years were then filled with managing her bed and breakfast guests, enjoying her grandchildren, her cake and jam making – first for the new farm-shop, then for her own regular market stall in Brackley and Bicester, and her gardening of course.

Eileen and John loved travelling, especially abroad, and visited far and wide, including New Zealand at least seven times to see Norman and his family there. Other holidays, more often than not, included Norman, Anne and Margaret. Eileen and John also became more involved in local Christian-based activities, supporting the church and hosting home-group meetings too.

When John passed away in 2021 after over 45 years of married life together, she learnt to slow down and take things more easily, adoring her family, her garden, reading more, and deepening her faith. She said she came to know more from the inside how we were all being cared for, loved and guided along God's path.

Eileen's family have been struck by how many of the cards and other tributes received have described her kind and gentle soul, her lovely presence and radiant light, her care for others, her being a lifetime giver, and a special friend. Her funeral was a celebration of her life, simple and informal as she'd wished. It wasn't easy for her to be the centre of attention and she came to accept this more - that she was loved and appreciated by so many.

Norman Davis

23rd November 1929 – 22nd February 2023

Norman Davis, long term resident of Hethe, very sadly died on 22nd February. His funeral took place at Banbury Crematorium on Monday 27th March.

Norman grew up in Long Whittenham. He had been born prematurely on 23 November 1929 as a result of a motorbike crash involving a van, when his dad was killed and mum badly injured. So he was called Norman, after Norman the Conqueror, by the nurses at Abingdon Hospital, as he was such a little chap, but intent on surviving! He showed the same determination to survive when undergoing major heart surgery in his 40s, proceeding to live in relatively good health until the last few months of his life and living to the grand age of 93 years.

Norman enjoyed his childhood at Long Whittenham. He was in the church choir, which involved attending church at least twice on a Sunday. His first job was with Ameys in the gravel pits on the Thames near Long Wittenham, and it wasn't long before he'd persuaded his boss to let him have a go at driving the big digger.

He was a good driver and was driving right up to his last few days. When he joined the army, his driving skills were put to good use. During his army days he travelled widely, and recounted his days in Singapore, Aden and the Suez canal, where he was involved in building bridges and roads. On leaving the army, he took on lorry driving. It was through this that he first met Margaret. He would describe with some joy how he found some excuse to take her in the lorry, sitting her on the long leather seat in the front, and quite deliberately taking the lorry round the corner just a little bit fast, so that she came sliding over the leather to bump into him.



He and Margaret were married on 29 March 1952. It was winter and snowing. The song 'Get me to the church on time' was true for Margaret, but unfortunately not for Norman. His car broke down on the way from Long Wittenham, and having managed to get a lift to Bicester, there were no taxis available as they were by this time all at Hethe! He managed to persuade a well wisher to give him a lift but was over an hour late. Apparently some doubted whether Norman had chickened out, while Margaret had no doubt whatsoever that he would arrive!

For a time Norman worked as a cattle lorry driver. Local farmers remember how good Norman was at this job. Often he had to drive long distances to places like the Isle of Sheppey, arriving home in the early hours around 3 or 4am. Often the lorry broke down. Sometimes he was so tired that he would get done for speeding, but the fine went to his boss and there were no penalty points in those days! On more than one occasion, his boss then arrived at dawn knocking at the door asking for Norman to take some stock to market, only to be rebuffed by a very protective Margaret. She soon had him move on to a more appropriate job. He also worked for William Barrett and later for Morris's at Cowley, which he really enjoyed. He was unique in wearing a white shirt on the production line, thanks to Margaret who always wanted her man to look the part!

Norman and Margaret were devoted to one another. They used to sit on the sofa holding hands, and her daughter Chris remembers Margaret sitting in the cold of the front room wrapped in her coat watching for Norman to come home. In later life, when Margaret became less able, Norman looked after her. He said once that it would have been better if he had gone first, as it is women who know how to do everything in the house. But none the less, for three years he cared for her, and under her tuition washed and cooked and cleaned and kept everything up to scratch. And he missed her hugely after she died.

Norman and Margaret initially lived in a flat over the village hall which is now Hethe house, where Christine and then Pauline soon arrived. Eventually they moved to Fringford, then back to Hethe to Hardwick Road and ultimately to their bungalow in Bainton Road.

Both Norman and Margaret were keen Oxford United supporters when they played at the Manor Ground and travelled the country to away matches and helped arrange transport. Norman also helped and encouraged youngsters in Hethe to play football, where he was called Uncle Norman. Sometimes Norman would take the family to a café in Banbury where Norman's choice from the juke box was Perry Como's 'Catch a Falling Star'. They had amazing holidays, often with other supporters. One of Norman's favourites was to the West coast of the States, visiting Grand Canyon, Yosemite, San Francisco and LA - these long holidays sometimes resulted in long term friendships. They enjoyed more latterly long weekend trips with the family to Bournemouth.

Norman lived a long life largely filled with joy and fun. He will be missed by all who knew him, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this difficult time.

Remember me – Anthony Dowson

Speak of me as you have always done.
Remember the good times, laughter, and fun.
Share the happy memories we've made.
Do not let them wither or fade.
I'll be with you in the summer's sun
and when the winter's chill has come.
I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze.
I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.
I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep,
but memories we've shared are yours to keep.
Sometimes our final days may be a test,
but remember me when I was at my best.
Although things may not be the same,
don't be afraid to use my name.
Let your sorrow last for just a while.
Comfort each other and try to smile.
I've lived a life filled with joy and fun.
Live on now, make me proud of what you'll



Club News

SHELSWELL WI



April's meeting, on the 6th, was a more familiar style after our successful AGM in March, with our guest speaker, Robert Peckham, from Imagex, in Bicester, telling how to take better photos. The importance of backing up photos taken on our mobile phones, as well as making sure we took photos of people who are often reluctant to have their photo taken, were two useful tips. He also explained how putting the focal point of your picture to one side and allowing two thirds of the photo to be 'background', actually made it a much better picture, and the examples he showed us proved that tip to be another good one!

A small group did the April walk, on a very windy day, around Elmsbrook eco village. Although all had done the walk before, it is interesting to see how it is developing and it prompted some interesting chat. In May we will be doing a circular walk around the village of Launton.

In May we traditionally have some kind of outing, due to Fringford Village Hall being used as a polling station, on the first Thursday of the month, when we usually hold our meetings. This year we are off to UK Motorsports at the Heritage Centre in Bicester. It promises to be an interesting evening, with many of the group seeing and learning about something very new to them. One of the main aims of the WI is to encourage members to learn about something new, and this will surely be a good example of that.

The Oxfordshire Federation of WIs also has several 'new' opportunities for members, ranging from trips out to places such as Bath and The Forest of Dean, and holidays – this year to Cardiff and Thursford – plus a range of talks on topics such as well-being, 'Pearls and the Art Deco' and learning how to play croquet, all of which are planned for the coming months. All the activities are outlined in the monthly magazine called 'Oxfordshire Inspires' which all members are entitled to, and then the National Federation of WIs also produce a magazine - 'WI Life' - with news, craft ideas and activities for members, on a bi-monthly basis.

Coming Up: (Why not try a meeting? – newcomers are always welcome).

Meetings are usually in Fringford Village Hall starting at 7.30 pm.

May 4th – visit to Motorsports UK. **June 1st** – a talk on kimonos.

We continue to collect empty foil pill cases and plastic bottle tops for recycling and Pathfinders.

For more information on Shelswell WI, please contact the president Lesley Beagent on 07729 605670



SHELSWELL GARDEN CLUB



In March we welcomed John Morris of the Chiltern Woodlands Project. This is a registered charity based in the Chilterns and was founded in 1988. The area has now been designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. What makes it special is the wildlife, cultural heritage, high beech forests and wooded landscape which covers parts of four counties.

Ancient woodlands have been identified where the flora has adapted to heavy shade, for example, Primroses and Solomon Seal. At Pulpit Farm, an Iron Age Hillfort has been identified. John illustrated his talk with beautiful photos of the landscape as well as a selection of natural flowers e.g., Orchids, Bluebells and Hellebores. He has been working for the project since the start, alongside volunteer groups and he gives courses in Woodland Management, Tree Identification, Felling Licences and applying for the grants.

On April 11th our meeting was quite different! Anne Webb gave a talk entitled Forensic Botany and Palynology. (Palynology is the study of pollen grains and spores.) She had always been interested in Forensic Science and avidly followed TV programmes e.g. Life Scientific. By exploring and using evidence from trees, plants, pollen and fungal spores at the scene of the crime or on victims or suspected offenders prosecutions can be made very successfully (mostly for murder and rape cases). Pollen found on victims can be traced on offenders, for example a honeysuckle that only grows in ancient woodlands. These specialist scientists must have extensive knowledge in toxic plants, wood, leaves, seeds, pollen and fungal spores and how and where they grow.

The use of forensic botany and palynology is more widespread now and used effectively in more and more cases.

May 16th (*A week later than usual*) – Evening visit to **Chivel Farm**, near Enstone, OX27 5TR, a garden we have been to several years ago but it was raining! Hopefully this time, the sun will shine and we can see how it has developed. We will meet there at 7pm. Cost is £5 for members and £10 for visitors.

June 13th is another visit. This time to **The Grange**, Chalgrove. OX44 7RQ. Meeting again at 7pm and same costs.

We welcome visitors to our club that normally meets at Hethe Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month (apart from August). Meetings and outings are open to members and visitors, friends and relatives. Plants are for sale at most meetings and your membership card gives you discounts at Preston Bissett Nursery and Swallows Nursery in Mixbury. *During winter months, some meetings may be held via Zoom.* **Annual fee is only £10!**

For further information, call Sally Drummond Hay on 01280 848591 or Corrine Mitchell on 01869 247411 or email shelswellgardenclub@gmail.com

SHELSWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

The subject for April was Eggs – following on from the Birds topic of March. The earliest example was an anonymous *Anglo-Saxon Riddle*, which was written in the persona of a cuckoo's egg. A witty take on the habits of the same bird was *Cuckoos* by **Andrew Young**. *Hatching* by **Elizabeth Jennings** describes a chick's emergence from its shell, whereas the anonymous *Dear Egg* is a love-letter from a newly-hatched chick. **Edna St. Vincent Millay** ponders the instinct which makes a chick break out of its protective egg in *Inert Perfection*.

Robert Louis Stevenson's poem *Nest Eggs* and the anonymous *Birds' Nests* combine verse with teaching children about birds, their eggs and their habits. **John Clare**, the Northamptonshire poet, describes the finding of a nest with "curious eggs, in number five/Of deadened green, or rather olive-brown" in his poem *A Nightingale's Nest*. **Robert Frost** depicts the turtle eggs he found as "torpedo-like, with shell of gritty leather" in *The Egg and the Machine*. In *Death of a Naturalist* by **Seamus Heaney** the eggs take the form of frogspawn.

Ezra Pound uses eggs as symbols for his poetic efforts, with himself as "a grave poetic hen" in *Poetic Eggs*. **T S Eliot** in *A Cooking Egg* uses a stale egg to symbolise a marriage from which the novelty, freshness and excitement has gone. A happier relationship is at the heart of an extract from *Marginalia* by **Billy Collins**.

In the realm of poetry written for children, **Dr. Seuss's Green Eggs and Ham** will be very familiar (nb Nigella Lawson's recipe for green eggs and ham is excellent!) and finally, we all know the nursery rhyme *Humpty Dumpty*, a character depicted as an egg by Lewis Carroll in *Through the Looking-Glass*, (the sequel to *Alice in Wonderland*) but, some sources suggest, based on the collapse of a huge siege engine in the English Civil War.

If you would like to join the group for our future meetings, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at judith.harvey@live.co.uk

SHELSWELL READING GROUP

The book chosen for our March meeting was *Disturbed Ground* by **Carla Norton**, which all thought a good choice, with a story which was extremely unsettling. The themes of deception, secrets, abandonment and a life 'off grid' gave us a lot to discuss. It resonated with our concerns about people living in similar or worse circumstances in the UK today.

Other books we discussed were based on our individual reading. They were *On Chapel Sands* by **Laura Cummings**; *Feral* by **George Monbiot**; *Small Things Like These* by **Claire Keegan**; *Moth* by **Melody Razak**; *Seven Moons of Maali Almeida* by **Shehan Karunatilaka**; *A Fortunate Man* by **John Berger**; *The Slow Worms' Song* by **Andrew Millar**; *Crossing to Safety* by **Wallace Stegna**; and the autobiographies of **Clarissa Dickson-Wright**, **Andre Agassi** and **John McEnroe**.

The April meeting took the form of a discussion of *Ragtime* by **E L Doctorow**. Opening in 1902, it addresses aspects of American culture and history, with a many-stranded plot.

If you would like to join the group, please contact Jane Birnage on 01280 847455 or at janebirnage@icloud.com

Cantores Consort

in concert

Join us for an evening of a cappella vocal music
sacred and profane, old and new,
polyphony, folksong and jazz.
Refreshments available.
No tickets required.
Retiring collection in aid of church funds,
suggested donation £10 per person.

Saturday 13th May 2023 at 7.30pm
Church of St Mary the Virgin, Hardwick
OX27 8SS

OXFORDSHIRE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CAR CLUB PILOT LAUNCHES



An Oxfordshire-wide pilot of electric vehicle (EV) car clubs has begun, with fourteen new car club EVs being launched across Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Eynsham, Henley, Kidlington, Oxford, Thame, Witney, Wallingford and Wantage. These shared vehicles – operated by CoWheels, Enterprise CarClub and Thame EV Hire Club - will be available for people to use on a pay-per-use basis that provides a convenient and affordable alternative to individual car ownership, as well as providing an opportunity for petrol and diesel drivers to try an EV without any long-term commitment.

Oxfordshire County Council has coordinated the pilot and facilitated the arrangements between participating councils, car club operators and chargepoint operators. The EV car club vehicles will mainly be based at Park and Charge hubs in District Council car parks, and Oxford City Council are also introducing a new EV car club based at the Energy SuperHub at Redbridge Park and Ride.

Whilst car clubs have seen great success within Oxford, little has been tested outside of the City. The aim of this pilot project is to demonstrate the demand for car clubs in more urban and rural areas and test the business models for non-city EV car clubs. The hope is that if successful this pilot will help inform future EV car club roll-out strategy for the County and pave the way for more EV car clubs across Oxfordshire in the future.

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

COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who came and supported the coffee morning in April; it was great to catch up with everyone. Special thanks go to Jan for hosting. Coming in the summer months pop up pubs, watch out for more details.

Both Cottisford and Juniper Hill looked beautiful with all the daffodils in full bloom, thank you to all those who help keep our villages so smart and tidy. Don't forget that we have the recreation field available for everyone to use. The new bench is now in situ ready for those family picnics and games on the field.

If you would like to host a coffee morning or pop up pub contact Sandra at sandrambickmore@gmail.com

Finmere St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: Steven Myers, 4 White Houses, Mere Rd, Finmere

Tel: 07875 102952

TREASURER: Jacqueline Chelin, 19 Valley Road, Finmere

Tel 01280 847782

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Katherine Grimston, The Old Rectory, Finmere

Tel: 01280 848364

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

Tel 01280 848268

VILLAGE HALL

The village hall is now fully back in use and many of the regular users have resumed their scheduled events.



Since the arson attack last year, the hall has been completely re-decorated with a number of improved facilities added, including updated AV facilities with a new projector and large screen, new flooring and front and fire exit doors and enlarged storage spaces for regular users.

WiFi facilities have also been added.



The hall will be open on 6th May, the **Day of the Coronation** and the day's events will be projected live onto the large screen. Tables / chairs will be laid out and everyone is welcome to bring their own drinks / food (coronation chicken, anyone ?) / snacks and view the coronation in what is hoped will be a 'suitable' communal atmosphere.

For all bookings enquiries, please visit www.myfinmere.com/villagehall

CORONATION MUGS

In the past, it has been traditional to present each child in the village with a mug celebrating the Coronation. The Parish Council are continuing this and have purchased a number of mugs for distribution. Their intention is to give one to each child (under 18) in the village. Data protection laws make it very difficult for them to hold details of children living in the village.

They have already arranged to give a mug to children attending Finmere Primary School. If your child(ren) do not attend the school, please contact the Clerk (email: parishclerk@finmerepc.org or telephone 01280 850578) if you would like your child to receive a commemoration mug. Due to the data protection laws mentioned above, they have had to estimate the number of mugs, so requests will be treated on a “first-come, first-served” basis.

FINMERE'S CORONATION WEEKEND

In celebration of the Coronation of Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort, on Saturday 6th May, live TV coverage of the **ceremonial proceedings** in London will be screened in Finmere Village Hall from 11 am. Everyone is welcome to bring their own snacks and drinks in order to enjoy the event with others.

On Sunday 7th May, there will be a **Bring and Share Lunch** at the Village Hall from 12.30 pm until 5 pm. Everyone from the village and surrounding area is welcome. Please bring your own picnic plus a plate of food to share with others. If the weather is nice, tables and chairs will be placed on the playing field, otherwise we will be inside.

During the afternoon, the Parish Council will unveil a plaque at the Whitebeam tree that was planted to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in June last year. This will be followed at approx. 3.30 pm by the serving of tea and cake by the regular “Tuesday Teas” team (plus helpers). This event will replace the “Tuesday Tea” that would normally have been held on 9th May.

If anyone feels able to bake a cake or offer help serving refreshments, please let Carol (07967 386303) or Jo (07974 740312) know.

As the village now owns the spinney on the south side of the playing field, on Monday 8th May, as part of the nation's **Big Help Out**, volunteers are invited to join a working party to help clear undergrowth and cut ivy off the spinney trees. This is in readiness for further restoration work later in the year. The working party will meet at the spinney at 10.30 am and it would be helpful if volunteers could please bring secateurs or a pen knife. Please wear gloves and suitable footwear as the ground is uneven and there are trip hazards.

Allotments

The new season has started and most allotment holders are digging, weeding, planting (with some care since there are likely some frosts yet to come) and preparing for the summer months. Also considering a ‘no-dig’ allotment 😊 [No-Dig Gardening Guide | BBC Gardeners World Magazine](#)

A reminder to those allotment holders who have not yet paid their fees 😞 **Come on – pay up!** The Poor's Plot continues to have a small waiting list for allotment plots and there is always a possibility that a few plots may become available shortly, so any aspiring allotment users should visit www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot



Some Finmere related links:

Finmere facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/finmereandlittletingewick/>
 Shelswell Parishes website at – www.shelswellparishes.info/finmere
 Finmere Parish Council website at – www.finmerepc.org
 Village hall news at – www.myfinmere.com
 Old Finmere history website – www.myfinmere.com/history
 Finmere on Wikipedia - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finmereikipedia>
 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	

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, SERVICES & EVENTS

Services

- Sunday 7 May – at 10.45am - Morning Service celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III
- Sunday 21 May – Holy Communion at 10.45am

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

Open Gardens - 13/14 May.

Come and enjoy the gardens that are open, from 1.00pm to 6.00pm. Visit the church to see the flower arrangements, and the exhibition of paintings by local artists. Tea and cake available in the garden at 8 Crosslands [enter from Church Lane]. Entry to the Open Gardens event is £5-00; purchase your programme from the gazebo by the Village Hall.

Anyone willing to open their garden this year, or to exhibit art work, or to make a cake for the Teas, contact Penny on 01869-277310.

Fringford Beer Festival – Saturday 10th June

Come and enjoy a fun-packed day. Something for everyone: beer and cider tent, food [Gurkha Streetfood (Nepalese), Baja Cantina (Mexican), Fringford Cricket Club BBQ, Howe & Co Fish and Chips, ice cream], stalls, and entertainment for young and old. Look on Eventbrite for the 'Early Bird Offer'.
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/fringford-beer-festival-2023]

- Still possible to sponsor a barrel, cost £110, please contact Simon Knight on 07598 104444.
- If you'd like to help in some way – put up tents in advance, serve on the bar, help prepare the site on the day, clear up afterwards – contact Penny Wood on 277310.

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

You can still sign up to the 100 Club. Contact Christina McCullagh to register your involvement **ASAP**, on **07867 515207**. The draw takes place monthly at the Village Coffee Morning.

Little Lambs Babies & Toddler Group

Every Wednesday during term time in Stratton Audley Church, from 9.30am to 11.00am.

Just come along, but if you need information in the meantime, email admin@shelswellparishes.info

NOTE: One or two more people are needed to help at sessions – offering refreshments to the mums/carers, chatting, preparing for the 'snack time', and helping Liz (the organiser) to tidy up at the end. Time involvement is about two and a half hours, on one or two mornings a term. You would need to have a DBS check. Please consider volunteering, and contact Penny [01869-277310]

FRINGFORD FRIENDS NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT GROUP

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 email silvercb1@outlook.com

FRINGFORD VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Village Coffee Mornings will take place on Monday 15 May from 10.30am to 12 noon, in the Chinnery Room at the Village Hall. Just drop by any time during the morning. Contact Penny on 277310 if you want more information.



On Sunday 14th May 2023, at 6.00pm

St Michael & All Angels, Fringford,
present

'SPRING NOSTALGIA'

An evening of music with :

Alaster Bentley – Oboe

Jane Rainey – Cello

Flora Skinner - Keyboard

Katherine Spencer - Clarinet

Christopher Trentham – Keyboard

£10 a ticket to include a glass of wine in the interval
Book on 01869-277310, or Pay on the door

Grateful thanks to Alaster and Jane, and their colleagues, who have organised this concert on behalf of Fringford Church, and to the Taylor family who have organised the interval refreshments.

Regular Activities held in Fringford Village Hall

Details of regular activities taking place in Fringford Village Hall. To find out more or book a place, please contact the hirer direct.	
Weekly Activities	Monthly Activities
<p style="text-align: center;">FS Dance Monday & Wednesday (term time) After school classes BALLET • TAP • MODERN • STREET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">leah.fsd@gmail.com or 07885827592</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Village Coffee Morning All ages welcome Third Monday in the month - Chinnery Room Drop in anytime between 10.30 am and noon</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Penny Wood 01869 277310</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Puppy Stars Dog Training Tuesday evening – various classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact Nick 07542 131400 www.puppystars.co.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Council Meeting All villagers welcome Third Monday in the month 7.45pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact 01844 237766 or fringford.parishclerk@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Fringford Yoga Wednesday (term time) 9.30am – 11am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carolyn White 01869 277161</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bicester Sound Bath Meditation First Sunday of the month from 7.45 pm Sonia - contact@holisticaxis.com Please text - 07709634847</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Just Puppies Puppy Training Wednesday evening – various classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact Kerri 07720 891489 www.justpuppies.training</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Shelswell WI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">First Thursday of the month 7.30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact Lesley Beagent on 07729605670</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pilates (new class) Thursday at 10.00am natashaflowerspilates@gmail.com or 07545 525820</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mindfulness Meditation Monthly Sunday 11am to 12.30pm janerainey17@gmail.com or 07971 008337</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Village Hall Meeting Every 6 weeks – 7.30pm Open meetings – all welcome fringford.hall@gmail.com or 07936 879175</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fringford Sewcial Sew and Chat! Alternate monthly Wednesday from 7pm & Sunday from 3pm Contact Melissa at mamcs100@gmail.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">To book the hall for your own event, please go to fringford.info, village hall, how to book Here you will find all the information you will need to book on-line. For any other queries please phone or text 07936 879175 or email: fringford.hall@gmail.com</p>	

Hardwick St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Vacancy

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Veronica Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

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

Hardwick Church New Guidebook

The new 2022 guidebook for Hardwick church and the parish of Hardwick with Tusmore is now available. This 44-page booklet has over 20 colour photos and provides a fascinating insight into the features and history of Hardwick church, the village and the Tusmore Estate. You can collect a copy from the church or contact David Barnes (01869 277690), who can send one to you. We ask that you make a minimum donation of £5 to church funds.

Pilgrim Pathways

Why not walk the Hethe to Hardwick to Cottisford to Hethe "Pilgrim Pathway". This is the first of what will be a network of walks between local religious sites being organised by the Bicester and Islip Deanery. This 4 mile circular route takes in the C of E churches of each of these villages as well as Holy Trinity, Hethe's RC church. You can start and end your walk at any point on the route, which takes in some glorious North Oxfordshire countryside. Pick up a free brochure outlining the route from any of the three C of E churches or contact David Barnes (01869 277690), who can send one to you.

Cantores Consort *in concert*

Join us for an evening of a cappella vocal music
sacred and profane, old and new,
polyphony, folksong and jazz.
Refreshments available.
No tickets required.
Retiring collection in aid of church funds,
suggested donation £10 per person.

Saturday 13th May 2023 at 7.30pm
Church of St Mary the Virgin, Hardwick
OX27 8SS

HARDWICK CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY

Visit **Hardwick Church**
 Open Daily: 10 am – 4 pm
 Available for:
 Private prayer and quiet contemplation
 Viewing the architecture, memorials and stained-glass windows
Please make use of this special space

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 village 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 the next edition of the Shelswell News is on Page 2.

ST EDMUND & ST GEORGE CHURCH

Church Services and Events

See the back page for details of services in our church. You will be welcome at any of these services and in other churches in the benefice, or if you are away from the Shelswell area, you can find a nearby service through the web site <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>.



The church is open every day for visits and private prayer. Works are currently on hold while we identify a new Church Architect and obtain up to date costs and funding.



Many thanks to Helen Wood for volunteering to clean the church and provide flowers this month.

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's church spring clean, and churchyard tidy up, and those who donated prizes for the raffle held at the Flea Market in April. We raised £138 for church funds from the raffle.

The Annual Report and Accounts for last year are available on the village web site and in the church.

How the parish pays to keep the church open and available....Regular giving is the best source of income for the church. There is now a feature in Parish Giving to make a one-off gift through a single transaction using a debit or credit card, or Apple or Google Pay, using the secure PGS website. If you wish to give specifically to maintain the rear part of the churchyard, you can give through this facility or pass your donation to Flora or Mike.

Scan here to make a one-off donation or to set up regular giving by direct debit





St Edmund & St George 100 Club

<p>Results of the 51st draw held on Saturday 15th April 2023</p> <p>1st Prize No 14 Hamish McCorquodale 2nd Prize No 23 Lisa Soper 3rd Prize No 41 Nicky Beddall</p>	<p>Results of the 52nd draw held on Saturday 15th April 2023</p> <p>1st Prize No 30 John & Sue Schutz 2nd Prize No 1 Lily Skinner 3rd Prize No 56 Bill Mansfield</p>
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Many thanks to our members
Hethe PCC

100 Club. 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.

Annual Church Meetings. Flora was re-elected as the Church Warden at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) which took place after the Easter Sunday Service on 9th April.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Activities in May:

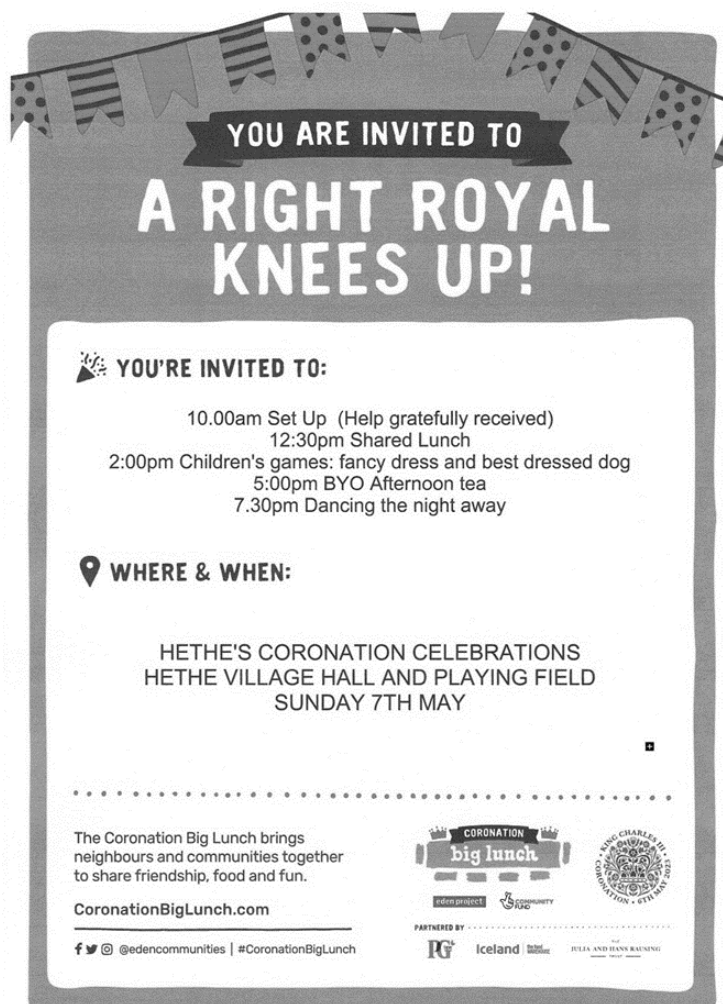
Thursday 4th May - Local Elections in the village hall

Sunday 7th May - Coronation Big Lunch in the village hall/playing field

Monday 8th May - Community Coffee Morning in the village hall

Tuesday 16th May - AGM of the Parish in the village hall

Elections on 4th May. Note that photographic evidence will be required for all voters at these local elections. The Polling Station is in the village hall, from 7.00am to 10.00pm.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

A RIGHT ROYAL KNEES UP!

YOU'RE INVITED TO:

10.00am Set Up (Help gratefully received)
12:30pm Shared Lunch
2:00pm Children's games: fancy dress and best dressed dog
5:00pm BYO Afternoon tea
7.30pm Dancing the night away

WHERE & WHEN:

HETHE'S CORONATION CELEBRATIONS
HETHE VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD
SUNDAY 7TH MAY





The Coronation Big Lunch brings neighbours and communities together to share friendship, food and fun.

CoronationBigLunch.com

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [edencommunities](#) | [#CoronationBigLunch](#)

CORONATION
big lunch

PARTNERED BY

Hethe Community Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

Monday 8th May from 10.00am to 12.00pm

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



Reduced Speed Limit through Hethe. The Parish Council have applied for a reduction in the speed limit for the whole village because:

- The village is small which means those passing through (rather than visiting) often exceed the 30mph speed limit by some margin.
- As we are close to the M40, Brackley, the A43, Bicester and the A4421 and A421, we are often used as a cut through when road closures and accidents reroute traffic.
- The roads are narrow and wind through the village creating the risk of accidents and bottlenecks.
- The regular movement of farm vehicles from the two working farms in the centre of the village increase the risk of accidents.

Have your say by completing the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SJM9SN2>

It will only take a few seconds to register your opinion and influence how the Parish Council act on this important issue.

Parish Council. Please note that all meetings are held In Hethe Village Hall starting at 8.00pm and that Planning Meetings will be called as required. Meeting dates to come for 2023/2024.

May 16th AGM of the Parish Council

July 11th Parish Council Meeting

October 17th Parish Council Meeting

January 23rd 2024 Parish Council Meeting



The Village Hall Management Committee are proud to announce that they now have Full Fibre Broadband inclusive of the hire fee. For bookings, please contact Flora, the village hall booking secretary fjskinner@hotmail.co.uk.

The **Stay & Play Group** contact is Jess, email: jessicablamb@yahoo.co.uk.

The Hardwick Road Allotments.

Please note that the contact for the allotments off the Hardwick Road is now Yvonne Thomas, 3 Wilson Way, Caversfield, OX27 8FB, tel 243536 or 07773065890. The agents are Carter Jonas for the Oxford Diocese.

Mixbury All Saints

CHURCHWARDENS: Martin Ayres, Northwell Farm, Finmere	Tel 07899 792552
Alec Howard, Middlestead, Mixbury	Tel 01280 848295
TREASURER: David Mitchell. 2 Town Farm, Mixbury	Tel 01280 847769
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Anna Howard	Tel 01280 848295
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Sue Goodman pasgoodman551@gmail.com	Tel 01280 848002

If you have any news articles for the Parish Magazine please do not forget to let your Magazine Correspondent know in good time – deadline dates are normally found on the inside cover of the Shelswell News. Sue Goodman; email: pasgoodman551@gmail.com or telephone: 01280 848002.

CHURCH SERVICES

Services will be on the third Sunday in the month at 9.15am.

If you have any news articles for the Parish Magazine please do not forget to let your Magazine Correspondent know in good time – deadline dates are normally found on the inside cover of the Shelswell News. Sue Goodman; email: pasgoodman551@gmail.com or telephone: 01280 848002.

MIXBURY CHURCH FLOWER ROTA 2023

If anyone would like to be added to the rota or removed, please contact Eryl Tobin on 07840 464541 or 848466. Thank you to all those who decorate our church with beautiful flowers. It's always appreciated.

May	Barbara Mortimer
June	Kate Darby
July	Sue Goodman

MIXBURY CHURCH CLEANING ROTA (Revised 2023 - 2024)



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to go on this rota in order to clean and to help maintain the church throughout the year. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

May	Alison Bailey, Pam Burrill and Jules Channon
June	Nicola Adams and Anna Howard
July	Julie Mitchell and Helen Backon

If anyone else would like to help with cleaning, we would be very grateful for extra volunteers. This would help to lighten the load on otherwise busy people. The job only requires a couple of hours simple cleaning in your allotted month, and if you can find a partner or join a group of two to make groups of three, it can be a pleasant way to involve yourself in the village and familiarise yourself with our beautiful church. For more information please contact - Julie Mitchell on 01280 – 847769

‘JUST MARRIED’



Congratulations to Barney Williams on his marriage to Hannah on 15th April 2023 at Honiton Deer Park in Devon. Barney grew up in Mixbury and is the son of Viv and the late Luke Williams. Best men were Sam Ryan and George Brooker, apparently the weather was glorious sunshine. Good luck Barney and Hannah in your new life together – the couple are off to live in Boston, USA for a short while.

BRIGHTON MARATHON

Congratulations to Matt Wethey on completing the Brighton Marathon on 2nd April 2023 in a respectable time of 4hrs 41mins (26.2 miles), raising £2,071.20 (plus £449.05 gift aid) for Cancer Research UK. The challenging route consisted of breath-taking views of the City following the coast and finishing at Hove Lawns. Well done Matt.

‘RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT’

Amelia and George Berrie have been fund raising for the above charity by holding a sale just before Easter outside their house. The intrepid pair raised £252 by selling homemade cakes, string bags, vases and other goodies. Well done Amelia and George Mixbury is proud of you.



ALSO THANK YOU TO SAHIB


....who left Easter sweets outside his house on Easter Sunday; what a lovely kind thought that was. Mixbury is so lucky to have all these young people living here.

MIXBURY POP UP PUB NIGHTS

The Mixbury Pop Up Pub has been a tradition in the village for many years now and is a lovely way to socialise and make friends. The hosts provide the venue, glasses and a few nibbles and the guests arrive with their own drinks. If you are interested in hosting a pub night please contact Tanya – email: markandtanya@yahoo.co.uk.

BRACKLEY BITE CLUB

Fancy trying a different kind of eating out? Brackley Bite Club is Pop Up Street Food, ranging from Pizzas, Indian, Burgers, South African, deserts and drinks all held at Egerton Hall, Juno Crescent, Brackley – next date for Brackley is 12th May 2023 from 17.00hrs – 21hrs. . There are toilet facilities and indoor seating in Egerton Hall, Brackley. Tickets from: www.wegottickets.com/event/569787



Join us to celebrate


The King's Coronation

Village picnic
Sunday 7 May, from 1-5pm

*Dancing, live music, crafts, quiz, games, cupcake
competition and more!*

Venue: The Old Rectory, Mixbury
Dress code: Red, white and blue

*Please bring your own chairs and picnic blankets, and a
cake for the sharing table.*



CHERWELL DISTRICT LOCAL ELECTIONS 4TH MAY 2023, POLLING STATION MIXBURY PARISH CHURCH, MIXBURY: 7AM-10PM

This year photo ID is required for voting, below are some acceptable forms of photo ID, further information can be found on the Cherwell Web Site.

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

Voter Authority Certificate - If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. The deadline to apply for a Voter Authority Certificate for the elections taking place in May will be 5pm on Tuesday 25 April. Apply at voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk.

Find out more: For more information on which forms of photo ID will be accepted and to find answers to other common questions, visit: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/11/elections/1041/voter-id>

Invitation from Swallows Nursery Friday 19th May 2023

There is going to be a Special Preview of Swallows Nursery & Plant Centre. Come and visit the Nursery and view the exciting new Show Gardens whilst enjoying a complimentary drink. We look forward to welcoming you. RSVP Drop in or email: enq@swallowsnursery.co.uk.

Newton Purcell St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDENS:	Ann von Maltzahn, Home Farm Shelswell Park	Tel 01280 848680
	Vacant	
TREASURER:	Fai Li	Tel: 07725 009838
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Flora Skinner	Tel: 01869 277366
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT:	Ann von Maltzahn	Tel 01280 848680

Services:-

Sunday 7th May - 9.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Easter Sunday:-

Our Easter Sunday service was well supported and all who came enjoyed the Bucks Fizz and Egg Hunt that followed. Some were even lucky enough to win prizes in the Easter raffle!

Our special thanks go to Ethan (Alice and Joe's son in law) who played the organ and to James who had mown the churchyard in advance.

Save the Date:-

Please make a note in your diaries for this year's 'Art in the Countryside' which this year will be combined with a traditional village fete over the weekend of the **10th and 11th of June**. Always a popular event and not to be missed!

Bonus Ball Lotto :-

Our recent lucky winner was Fay Harris.

Church Cleaning and Flower Rota:-

We still need volunteers to help with this.

'Many hands make light work' so do please contact Ann von Maltzahn if you would like to join in.

Stoke Lyne St Peter's

CHURCHWARDEN: Christopher Poole CTP@oxford-educational.co.uk	Tel 01869 346020
TREASURER: Janey Poole janey@oxford-educational.co.uk	Tel 07810 120457
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Emma Brown emmabrown911@gmail.com	
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Rena Andrews renacyanlion@btinternet.com	Tel: 01869 346653
PARISH ROOM BOOKINGS : Kelly and James Holden-White kholdenwhite@aol.com	Tel 01869 345211
WEBSITE www.stokelyne.org	

St Peter's Church Stoke Lyne Services

Sunday 14th May – Evening Communion (6pm)

Sunday 21st May – 'Fun @ 4'

Sunday 28th May – Holy Communion (10.45am)

Flower Duty for May

Pippa Elliot

Food for Thought – Sunday, 2nd April

As part of the service, we watched part of one of my favourite animations, 'Miracle Maker', focusing on the events of Palm Sunday. The animation cleverly shows the events surrounding Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey, with the reactions of those people for and against Jesus captured. We enjoyed our usual 'continental' breakfast and had palm crosses to remind us how quickly the mood towards Jesus changed during Holy Week.

There will not be a Food for Thought service in May because of the celebrations for the King's Coronation on 7th May. We will return for our next service on Sunday 4th June, with breakfast at 10am.

Kelly Holden-White

Midweek Holy Communion – Thursday, 6th April.

This happened to be on Maundy Thursday so the sermon by Alice, who was leading the service, was all about Maundy Thursday. The Gospel reading from John Chapter 13 was read by Liz and Rena.

During her sermon Alice said that one of the most common questions she is asked during Holy Week is about Maundy Thursday. People “get” Palm Sunday and Good Friday and Easter, but Maundy Thursday is unclear. The one thing people want to know most is what does Maundy mean? It is a good question and to explain it Alice read to us “The Love Mandate- homily for Maundy Thursday” by Emily Heath, an American Pastor which tells the story of the first Maundy Thursday.

After communion we moved to the tables set for lunch. The centre piece was a lovely Simnel cake made by Janey Poole. There was a choice of two soups with bread rolls and most had seconds. This was followed by the very enjoyable Simnel cake.

This is a very enjoyable short and relaxed service meeting up with folk from across the Benefice.

Thank you to the Ministry Team and volunteers for supplying the food, and also Janey Poole for making the cake and as it was also the birthday of one of the attendees, “Happy Birthday” was duly sung to her with a round of applause.

Rena Andrews

Stoke Lyne W.I. – Thursday, 13th April 2023 at Hethe Village Hall

Rena welcomed all to the meeting and opened it with members singing “Jerusalem”. This also being the Annual Meeting, we proceeded with that first and the records of last year’s Annual Meeting were read and approved. The financial statement was read by Sheila and approved and signed. Judith gave the committee report of what we had done over the year which showed how busy we had been even though it didn't feel like it, but when it was read out we realised we had been. This record was also approved and signed.

Rena thanked all the committee and members for their support during the year in making her job as President easy. The competition cup for 2021 was won by Rena, and the Margaret Ackerman Plate competition was won by Pauline. Members were given slips of paper when entering to ask if they were willing to stand for committee. These slips were given to Pauline who read out the committee from the list of names and a vote was taken for the new president. Rena was re-elected.

We then moved on to our usual meeting: there were two birthdays, Rena and Jackie, who both received cards and “Happy Birthday” was sung. The usual business was dealt with and any matters arising. The “Oxford Inspires” magazine was gone through.

Sheila went to the Oxfordshire Federation of Women’s Institutes (OFWI) Annual meeting at Cassington and found it a very interesting, meeting up with members of other W.I's. She gave a good report on what was happening in the OFWI. There were two excellent speakers who gave lots of good information. Rena thanked Sheila for attending the meeting and giving her report.

Upcoming events were read out members will have the Programme in May showing events and meetings. The winner of the competition cup with most points was Pauline who was presented with the cup by Rena. The winner of the Margaret Ackerman Plate, which was for an apron, was Rena and Carol presented her with the Plate. At the next meeting on 11th May at 1.00pm we will be celebrating the King's Coronation with afternoon tea, the venue to be arranged. There is no competition but we will have a quiz instead.

Refreshments were then served by Sally and Dorothea. This being all the business, the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

Rena Andrews

Stoke Lyne 100 Club – April Results

Results for April 100 Club are as follows:

1st Prize	Membership No.	4	Pam Adams
2nd Prize	Membership No.	30	Nikki Popoola
3rd Prize	Membership No.	19	Ali Miller

I have had many requests to join the club which would be great as it would increase the prize money. So for those who wish to join you can do so as follows:

Set up a standing order to:
 St Peter’s Church PCC
 Acct No. 01832174
 Sort Code 51 70 15
 Use ref: 100 + your surname.

Membership nos. are £3.00 per month each (you can buy as many as you like to increase your chances of winning) Alternatively, you can drop a cheque for the year’s subscription to me for £36.00.

It would be helpful if you could email me to let me know your intention to join.

The next 100 club draw will take place at the King’s Coronation Big Lunch on 7th May 2023.

Janey Poole

Treasurer St Peter’s Church PCC

janey@oxford-educational.co.uk

Annual village litter pick- Sunday 2nd April 2023

Thank you to Hugo, Emma, Keryn and family, Sharon, Celia, Karen, Kelly, Linda and Dexter for giving up their Sunday morning to help keep our village lanes pleasant. We collected 24 bags of rubbish and have sent details of heavier rubbish (car parts/rubble/printer! etc) to CDC for follow up collection.

Thanks for your help everyone.

Elaine Barnes

Mothering Sunday Posies

On Friday, 17th March, 6 ladies who shall be nameless gathered in Church to make the posies. They were surrounded by daffodils of varying varieties along with greenery and some carnations. All in all in all they produced approximately 72 posies and no two posies were the same. As they were being made there was lots of chatter and laughter. On Saturday 18th another group of ladies and some children laid the posies on the doorsteps. The first time we did this was during the Covid pandemic in March 2021 when we thought it would be a nice gesture to give a bit of cheer to brighten up the lives of people who couldn't visit mothers and families and so decided to lay one on the doorstep of every house in the village. Owing to the number of thank you messages received with photos attached indicating that the posies were greatly appreciated, we have continued each year since.

Rena Andrews

A LOOK AT THE SINGING PRIZE CERTIFICATES WHICH USED TO HANG IN ST PETER'S CHURCH UTILITY AREA

These have hung for many years in the utility area of the church but I understand they are not there at present.



The 1932 one, somewhat the worse for wear was awarded to "St Peter's Stoke Lyne Children's Chorus" for winning the second prize in Class IV of that year's Berks, Bucks and Oxon Competitive Musical Festival and the 1935 one to "St Peter's Stoke Lyne Choir" for winning First Prize in Class V E of that year's event.

So what was this festival? This annual event began in 1903, the first one taking place in Reading Town Hall but each year a different destination within the three counties was chosen eg Oxford, Banbury, Maidenhead, Aylesbury etc. The objectives of the festival were "*to offer inducements to the intelligent study of music; to apply to music the stimulating influence of competition; and to encourage local talent.*" In the early years the Festival had some very distinguished connections: the President was HRH Princess Christian (aka Princess Helena, daughter of Queen Victoria, who was well known as a hard-working member of the Royal family: a founder member of the Red Cross and president of two other nursing charities) with Vice-Presidents Sir Hubert Parry (the composer of the music for "Jerusalem"), Sir Walter Parratt and Mr. C. H. Lloyd and patrons included the Lord Bishop of Oxfordshire and several Earls and other titled persons. The 1904 festival was held in the Town Hall, Oxford on 5th, 6th and 7th May for which Sir Hubert Parry composed his "Ode on St Cecilia's Day" for performance by the combined choirs on the evening of the final day. Two of the adjudicators booked for that year were the composers Dr Walford Davies and Dr. Vaughan Williams.

Unfortunately the local Bicester and Oxford newspapers for the 1930s are not yet available on the British Newspaper Archive website so the only reports I can find are from Banbury or Buckingham and they quite naturally concentrate on their own area's participants. However, I have found a report mentioning Stoke Lyne's 2nd prize win at Aylesbury in 1932 in the Bucks Herald of 3rd June. The maximum score for each of the two test pieces was 100 and the totals combined for the final score.

"CHILDREN'S CHORUSES.

Test pieces – "Sea Roads" (Martin Shaw); "The Jackdaw of Rheims."

1 and Banner – 2nd High Wycombe Trinity Guides, conductor Miss I. Harvey, 124 (81, 43). Not quite broad enough and rather too lyrical for such compass words in the first piece while in time breaths not always taken in suitable places. In the second piece the phrases had not quite enough breath. Were often cut short.

2 – Stoke Lyne Children's chorus, conductor, Mrs. M. Spencer, 122 (82, 40). There was good tone in the first piece. Breath not always judicious. Mouths well open but consonants need a little more punch and vowels a little more character. Well in tune. In the second piece the tone improved otherwise and apart from sharpness on the top notes pleasant to listen to, but it was not always accurate as regards note values."

As well as receiving a certificate the 1st prize winners also received a banner, an example of which I've cropped from a postcard on sale on ebay, "BBOCMF" being the initials of the music festival.



I have not been able to find any reports mentioning Stoke Lyne for 1933. The 1934 festival took place in High Wycombe and Stoke Lyne came 4th in the children's choruses class. The 1935 festival at which Stoke Lyne won 1st prize took place at Maidenhead but again I've not been able to find further information. Presumably they brought home a banner similar to the one above.

The BBOCMF was not the only festival in which the children's choir participated. In 1934 the Bucks Herald of 24th March reported that "St Peter's School, Stoke Lyne" were new competitors at the "Children's Day" of the annual Buckingham Music Festival and were conducted by Mrs. C. Spencer. They competed at Buckingham again in 1935, 1936 and 1937, usually in several classes: those with an attendance of 60 or less and those with an attendance of 120 or less and those with an attendance of 200 or less and on each occasion were conducted by Mrs Cecil Spencer. Mrs Spencer did not restrict herself to the children's choir: the Bucks Herald of 20th March 1936 also lists her as conducting both the Fritwell WI and the Bucknell WI in Class V on the Choir Day (Stoke Lyne WI was not formed until 1959).

So just who was Mrs M/Cecil Spencer? Mary (or Marie) Kate Chapman was born in 1892 in Homerton, London. On the 1911 census her occupation is "typist". Her first husband was an Arthur Edward Banner whom she married in 1919. On the 1921 census she is described as a "stenographer" working for shippers Lane and Macandrew Ltd. She and Arthur eventually divorced and on 27th January 1931 she married Cecil Spencer, "Clerk in Holy Orders" at "The Chapel of the Savoy".

Wikipedia explains that this was a “Royal Peculiar”, outside the jurisdiction of a diocese but under that of the reigning monarch. It became known as a location where divorced persons could marry or have their civil marriages blessed, a practice which was stopped by an incoming incumbent in 1933. By the time of his marriage Cecil was already Vicar of Stoke Lyne. His signature first appears on an entry in the burials register on 23rd January 1930 where he describes himself as “Vicar designate”. Cecil was baptised in Great Sankey, Lancashire on 2nd December 1877, making him 54 when he married Mary who was aged 38. Alas Cecil and Mary did not have long together. He died in 1937 on 3rd April at The Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis in Maida Vale London but was buried here in Stoke Lyne in St Peter’s churchyard. His last entry in the burial register was on 16th April 1936 and the next entry is for his own burial on 6th April 1937. His death certificate names three causes of death, one of which was an operation for cerebellar carcinoma which he underwent on 1st April. Here’s his gravestone:



Of course with her husband’s death, Mary had to leave the vicarage and it was at this point perhaps that the church sold off the property, for by the time of the 1939 register the Donovan family were living there (see my follow up article on the Old Rectory in the December 2022 issue of Shelswell News). I have not been able to find Mary on the 1939 register but several family trees on the Ancestry website have her marrying again to a Percy James Clayton Johnson in the Oxford registration district in 1940. The death of a Mary Kate Clayton Johnson is recorded in the Lambeth registration district of London on 4th February 1979.

As an footnote to this article, apart from bringing to the village a wife who obviously took a keen interest in church affairs, Cecil also had “modern” ideas about fundraising. The Daily Mirror of 14th August 1931 published this article:

CHURCH – AND TEA!

Novel Appeal to Motorists – Picnics on Vicarage Lawn

CAR PARKS FOUND

A novel bid to popularise church-going among motorists is revealed in a report just issued by the R.A.C. It contains a list of churches where car owners and cyclists are particularly welcome.

It included a “few notices from the list” and amongst those chosen was:

Stoke Lyne Church, Bicester, Oxon – Teas, including sandwiches and cake can be had for 6d. per person. Will cater for high teas for parties if advised beforehand. All profits to church funds.

The Exeter and Plymouth Gazette of 15th August 1931 also picked up on this and included a last bit of detail from the RAC entry:

“There is a notice board giving full particulars at the Stoke turn of the road. Vicar: Rev. C Spencer”.

Brenda Hazel (With thanks to Andrea White in Canada for Cecil and Mary’s marriage certificate and Cecil’s death certificate and to David Woodhead for his suggestion re the BBOCMF origins.)



STOKE LYNE'S
KING'S COMMEMORATIVE
CORONATION BIG LUNCH & CELEBRATIONS

SUNDAY, 7th MAY 2023 from 12.30pm

EVERYONE WELCOME
Bring & Share Lunch,
Live Jazz,
Pay Bar,
Cream Teas
& Family Fun.

12.30pm Bring & Share Lunch in the Park
1.00pm Live Jazz
3.00pm Best Dressed King or Queen Competition
3.30pm Dog Show
4.00pm Tug of War & Welly-Wanging
4.30pm Cream Teas & Prosecco in the Church
7.30pm Streaming of the Coronation Concert

**Please bring and share cooked/cold food lunch
 and your own chairs.**

Please call or email Kelly
 kholdenwhite@aol.com or 07557 108067

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

CHURCHWARDENS: Sarah Noujaim, 15 Cavendish Place, Stratton Audley
Penny Oakey, Grange Farm, Godington

Tel 01869 277497

Tel 01869 278778

TREASURER: Fai Li

Tel 07725 009838

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Maxine Ling

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant

FOODBANK DONATIONS STILL REQUIRED

The foodbank donation point in the church porch in Stratton Audley, supporting Bicester Foodbank, is still in place and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Thank you very much to all those who have dropped donations into the box - please keep them coming! Urgently needed items are listed below. Please note that the Rector, Alice Goodall is now a 'Local Referrer' and can refer anyone who is in need to the Bicester Foodbank. Contact: Alice Goodall, The Rectory, Finmere 01280 848192 alicegoodall313@gmail.com

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

- **CANNED FRUIT**
- **CANNED MEAT MEALS AND VEGETARIAN ALTERNATIVES**
- **FRUIT JUICE**
- **FRUIT SQUASH**
- **INSTANT COFFEE**
- **JAM**
- **LONG LIFE MILK**
- **RICE PUDDING**
- **TOOTH PASTE**
- **DOG FOOD**



Little Lambs Baby and Toddler group

**Wednesdays (Term Time)
at 9.30am - 11.00am.**

**We meet
in Stratton Audley Church
for play, music and stories.
Tea, coffee and snacks
for Adults and Toddlers.**

HELPERS NEEDED FOR 'LITTLE LAMBS' TODDLER GROUP

We have a band of regular helpers at our 'Little Lambs' baby and toddler group, but one or two more people are needed to help at sessions – offering refreshments to the mums/carers, chatting, preparing for the 'snack time', and helping Liz (the organiser) to tidy up at the end. Time involvement is about two and a half hours, on one or two mornings a term. You would need to have a DBS check. Please consider volunteering, and contact Penny [01869-277310]

CELEBRATING THE KING'S CORONATION SUNDAY 7TH MAY

The Parish Council is working closely with the Red Lion and Maggie Woodward, who is organising several children's activities for the street party on Sunday 7th May. A number of people have already volunteered to help on the day, but more are welcome. We will be setting up from 9am outside the Red Lion, collecting and putting up the marquee, tables, chairs and bunting. So, if you have not already done so, please do get in-touch with John Honsinger on jhonsinger@btconnect.com 01869 278000 or 07801 816600

The Hog Roast is free for all to share, and a vegetarian burger alternative will also be available. Everyone is encouraged to bring whatever food and drink they may require such as salads and sweets. As with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee last year, if you want to bring your own gazebo chairs and tables there will be room for you to set up in the street. Decorating your table and dressing up yourself is to be encouraged.

Maggie is organising a children's street pageant so, parents, get working on your ideas for custom-made costumes. There will be prizes!

Angie Miles has very generously volunteered to bake a Coronation cake.

Proposed outline timetable

All times approximate

09.00 Helpers to assemble outside the Red Lion

10.00 Street Closure and diversion signage put out

12.30 Event start

13:00 Hog roast ready to serve

13:30 Children's pageant/parade

14.00 various children's activities commence

14:00 Live music set#1 (45 mins)

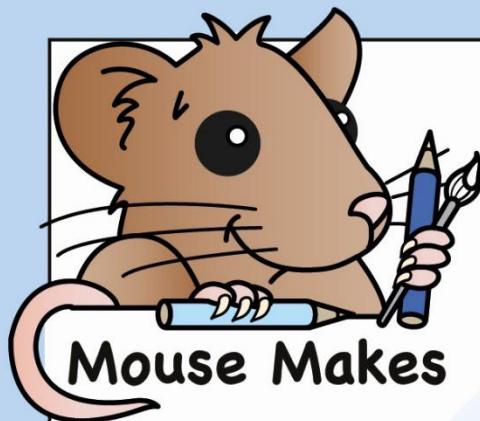
14:45 Announcements / presentations / cake / National Anthem

15:15 Live music set#2 (45 mins)

16:00 Tea/cakes at the church

18:00 Church service





Mouse Makes

Find the answers in the word search

What did Jesus
say to the Apostles?

a _____
Acts 1:9

Where was Jesus taken
up to? _____
Luke 24:51

Where did the
Apostles return to?

Acts 1:12

Forty days after His resurrection
Jesus appeared to the Apostles
one last time. He told them
that the Holy Spirit would
come, then He blessed them
and **ascended**
into heaven.



READ
Acts 1 4-17

What did
Jesus say
that the
Holy Spirit
would give
the Apostles?

to be Jesus'
witnesses.
Acts 1:8

Who appeared to
the Apostles?
Two _____ and
what were they dressed
in? _____
Acts 1:10

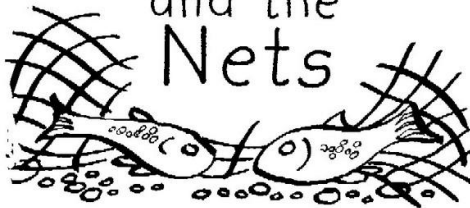
Where is
Jesus seated?

At the _____
_____ of God.
Mark 16:19

W G A C J S A P O S T L E S D C M P
I A B L E S S E D H E A V E N H E R
T T I O S M C P O W E R E T U R N A
N H W U U J E R U S A L E M T I J Y
E E H D S K N L O O K I N G A S O E
S R I W O R S H I P P E D O K T Y R
S E T Y D R I G H T H A N D E L S Y
E D E K E F O R T Y D A Y S N L A E
S K Y S B H N H O L Y S P I R I T R

JESUS • CHRIST • FORTY DAYS • APOSTLES • ASCENSION • TAKEN • LOOKING
SKY • RETURN • BLESSED • WORSHIPPED • JOY • PRAYER • GOD • SAT
GATHERED • WITNESSES • HOLY SPIRIT

The parable of the Fish and the Nets

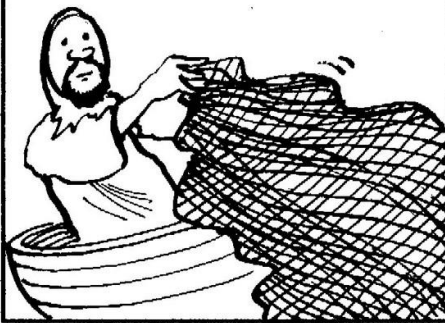


JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



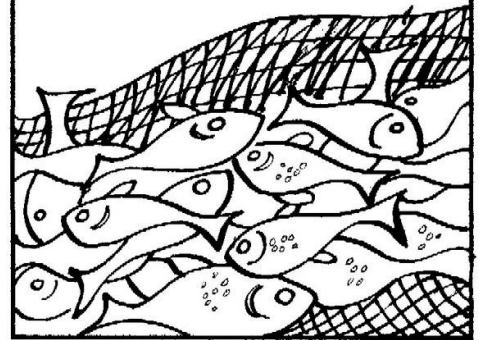
ONCE JESUS SAID THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN WAS A BIT LIKE
CATCHING FISH!

WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING
THEY THROW THEIR NETS
INTO THE LAKE...

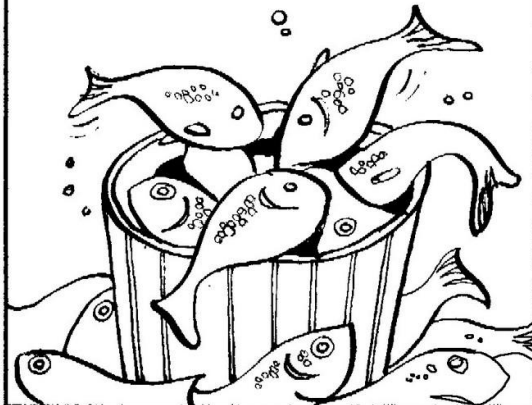


...WHEN THE NETS ARE FULL,
THEY PULL THEM TO SHORE

ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

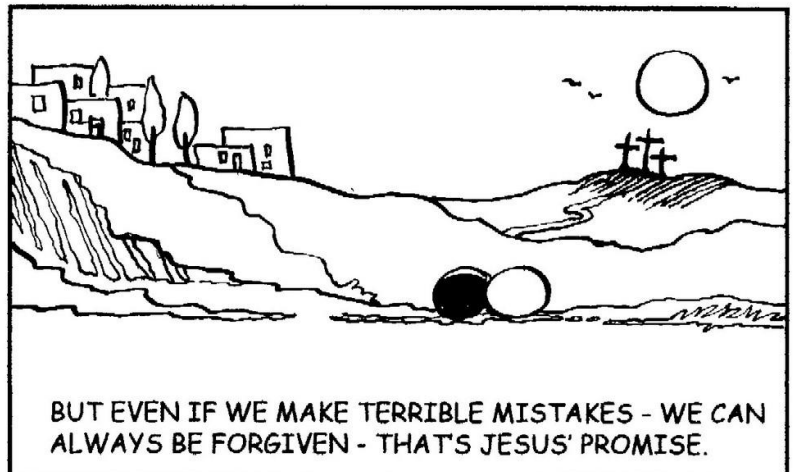


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



THE BAD FISH GET THROWN AWAY!

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE TOO WILL
BE SORTED LIKE THE FISH. WE CAN
CHOOSE TO DO GOOD OR BAD THINGS
WITH OUR LIVES.

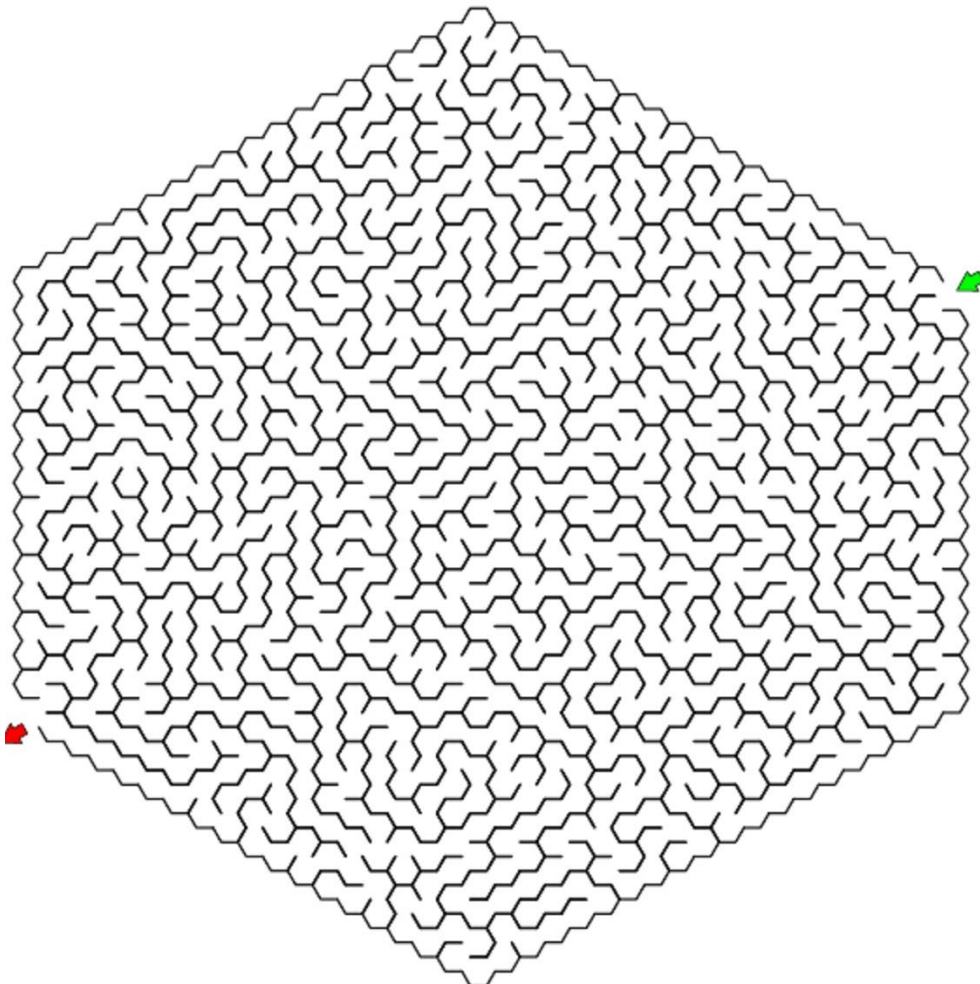


BUT EVEN IF WE MAKE TERRIBLE MISTAKES - WE CAN
ALWAYS BE FORGIVEN - THAT'S JESUS' PROMISE.

SUDOKU

8			6	5			4	
				7	4	3	2	
	3		8		9		1	5
	4			1		2		
2		7				1		9
		8		6			7	
4	7		2		1		6	
	8	6	4	3				
	9			8	6			1

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www.fringfordplaygroup.co.uk

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**For more information or to arrange a visit please contact Manager:
Sam Barnett-Legh Sam@fringfordplaygroup.co.uk or bookings:
Emma Moore fringfordplaygroup@gmail.com**



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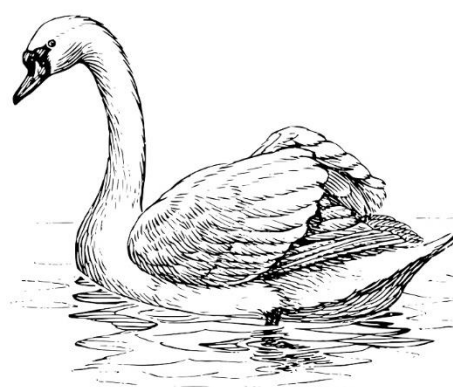
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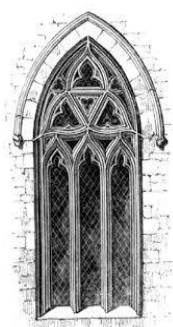
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| CW: 'Common Worship' modern language service      BCP: 'Book of Common Prayer' traditional language service |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                           |
| DATE                                                                                                        | 7 <sup>th</sup> May<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter                                                                                  | 14 <sup>th</sup> May<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter                                         | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Ascension Day                                                          | 21 <sup>st</sup> May<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter                                                         | 28 <sup>th</sup> May<br>Pentecost                                                                  | 4 <sup>th</sup> June<br>Trinity Sunday                                                                                                    |
| ALTAR                                                                                                       | White                                                                                                                                    | White                                                                                            | White                                                                                                   | White                                                                                                            | Red                                                                                                | White                                                                                                                                     |
| 8.00 am                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                  |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                  | Holy Communion<br>(BCP)<br>HETHE<br>AG                                                             |                                                                                                                                           |
| 9.15 am                                                                                                     | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>COTTISFORD<br>DG<br><br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>NEWTON PURCELL<br>AG/Wycliffe Student | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>HETHE<br>AG/Wycliffe Student<br><br>Mixbury Half Hour<br>PW | 12 noon<br>Service of Holy Communion<br>for Ascension Day<br>STOKE LYNE<br>to be followed by Soup Lunch | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>COTTISFORD<br>LW<br><br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FINMERE<br>AG | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG<br><br>Morning Service<br>FINMERE<br>PW | 9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>HARDWICK<br>AG<br><br>9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>NEWTON PURCELL<br>LW |
| 10.45 am                                                                                                    | Morning Service<br>celebrating the Coronation<br>of King Charles III<br>FRINGFORD<br>PW                                                  | Morning Service<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG                                                         |                                                                                                         | 10.45am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FRINGFORD<br>AG<br><br>4pm<br>'Fun at Four'<br>STOKE LYNE<br>AG  | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STOKE LYNE<br>VM                                              | 10am<br>'Food for Thought'<br>STOKE LYNE Lay-led<br><br>10.45am<br>Family Service<br>with Baptism<br>FRINGFORD<br>AG                      |
| 6.00 pm                                                                                                     | Compline<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG                                                                                                        | Evening Communion<br>STOKE LYNE<br>AG                                                            |                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                  | Evensong with the<br>Shelswell Group Choir<br>HARDWICK<br>PW                                       | Compline<br>GODINGTON<br>PW                                                                                                               |

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AG: Revd Alice Goodall

VM: Revd Vicki Mellor

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PW: Mrs Penny Wood (LLM)