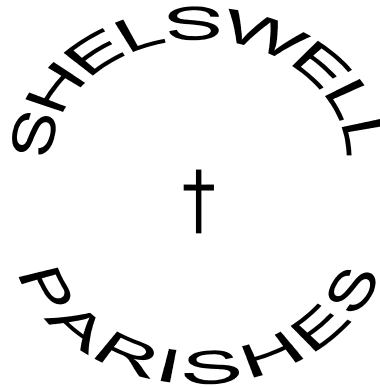


# Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

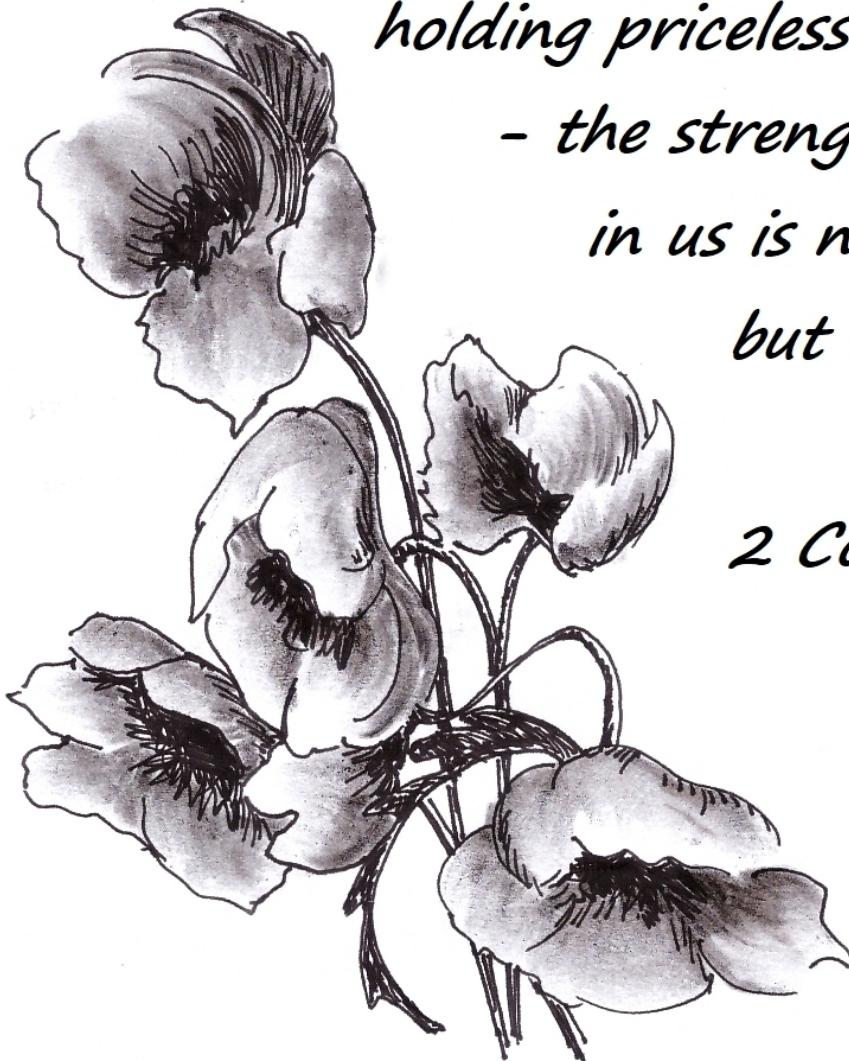
Cottisford  
Fringford  
Hardwick  
Mixbury  
Stoke Lyne



Finmere  
Godington  
Hethe  
Newton Purcell  
Stratton Audley

*We are like fragile clay jars  
holding priceless treasure  
- the strength  
in us is not ours  
but God's*

*2 Cor 4:7*



## 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

**RECTOR:** The Reverend Alice Goodall, The Rectory, Water Stratford Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4AT Telephone: 01280 848192 Email [rector@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:rector@shelswellparishes.info) **(Normal day off – Friday)**

**BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR:** Mrs Becky Adams, c/o The Rectory (as above)

Email [admin@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:admin@shelswellparishes.info)

Administrator's normal office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER:** The Reverend Liz Welters, 19 Scampton Close, Bicester OX26 4FF

Telephone 01869 249481 Email [lizwelters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lizwelters@yahoo.co.uk)

**LICENSED LAY MINISTER:** Mrs Penny Wood, 8 Crosslands Fringford, Bicester, Oxon. OX27 8DF

Telephone: 01869 277310 Email [penelope.wood@btopenworld.com](mailto:penelope.wood@btopenworld.com)

**BENEFICE TREASURER:** Mr Jeremy Coke-Smyth, Yew Tree Cottage, Mansfield Yard, Fringford, Bicester OX27 8DN

Telephone: 01869 278233 Email [jcs@pcsd.co.uk](mailto:jcs@pcsd.co.uk)

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: 4pm Saturday.

Weekday Mass: 9.30am 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

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](mailto:admin@shelswellparishes.info)

**EDITORIAL OR ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES:** Mrs Becky Adams, Benefice Administrator, The Rectory, Water Stratford Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4AT Tel 01280 848192 Email [admin@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:admin@shelswellparishes.info)

**SHELLOWELL NEWS TREASURER:** Phillip Rushforth, 7 Chinalls Close, Finmere, Buckingham, MK18 4BQ Tel: 01280 848534 Email [prfinmere@btinternet.com](mailto:prfinmere@btinternet.com)

**Deadlines for the December 2023 edition of Shelswell News**

To Magazine Correspondents: **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Correspondents to Editor: **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at [editor@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:editor@shelswellparishes.info)**

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

[www.shelswellparishes.info](http://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

### How long, O Lord?



end to it.

Has your heart been breaking as you've heard the news about the conflict between Israel and Palestine? My emotions have been buffeted between shock and horror, anger, and deep deep sadness as I imagine the utter fear of the people at that music festival in Kibbutz Re'im, as I hear on the radio the pain of parents who had just been told that their son was among the dead, as I see those pictures of tower blocks reduced to rubble and as I wonder whether there will even be an



Perhaps by the time you read this, a fragile peace may have been restored. But at the time of writing, the violence just seems to escalate, and each fresh atrocity on either side seems to simply fuel it further. I long for world leaders to say 'stop – there is just no future in this', for people to be prepared to really listen to one another's grievances, and for wise and able diplomats to broker a different, more peaceful way forward.

I think it is the barbarity of it that distresses me most. There seems to be no limit to the cruelty that we can inflict on one another, and at times we seem to have such scant regard for the preciousness of human life.

Perhaps it has particularly struck me it seems in such contrast to other things I have heard or seen this week, things where life has been treated as precious, something to be handled carefully and with respect.

Like the person telling me of the way in which her husband had been treated with such care and compassion, and afforded such dignity whilst dying in a local hospice, and of the difference that this had made to him and his family.



Or whilst visiting an elderly gentleman with dementia, how I witnessed the kind and respectful way in which the live in carers interacted with him.

Or the joy of a great grandmother as she proudly showed me the photo of a new baby born just that day.

#### A prayer in response to the violence in Israel and Gaza

O God of all,  
Of Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Isaac, and Ishmael:  
Our hearts are broken in pieces at the suffering  
and murder of your people.  
Our voices cry for peace and for justice.

Comfort those who grieve,  
Console and heal the injured,  
Be close to those in fear,  
Restrain with your mighty hand those who  
perpetrate violence.

Send us your wisdom in all that we say and do,  
That our voice may always seek justice, peace  
and security for all. Amen.

*Revd Peter Colwell, Deputy General Secretary,  
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland*

I have felt privileged to hear of and meet people who seemed to realise the preciousness of each and every life, and were doing what they could to honour that life and treat it with the reverence that it deserved.

There may be limits to what most of us can do about the conflict between Israel and Palestine, but perhaps if we could all take this approach with those we meet, the world might be a better, warmer and more peaceful place.

Alice Goodall (Rector)

Through life, I want to walk gently. I want to treat all of life – the earth and its people – with reverence. I want to remove my shoes in the presence of holy ground. As much as possible, I want to walk in peace.

— Steve Goodier



## BIBLE READINGS



Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	All Saints Sunday	Revelation 7 v9-17 1 John 3 v1-3 Matthew 5 v1-12
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	3rd Sunday before Advent/ Remembrance Sunday	Amos 5 v18-24 1 Thessalonians 4 v13-end Matthew 25 v1-13
<i>Other readings may be used for Remembrance Services</i>		
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	2nd Sunday before Advent	Zephaniah 1 v7 and 12-end 1 Thessalonians 5 v1-11 Matthew 25 v14-30
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Christ the King	Ezekiel 34 v11-16 and 20-24 Ephesians 1 v15-end Matthew 25 v31-end
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 64 v1-9 1 Corinthians 1 v3-9 Mark 13 v24-end



*You are invited to a*

# SOUP LUNCH

**with cakes and hot drinks**



**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 12.30-2pm  
at Stratton Audley Parish Church**



**Donations invited towards the  
Incentive Scheme for Teachers  
at the Girls' Primary School,  
Wulu, South Sudan**



*All  
Welcome*

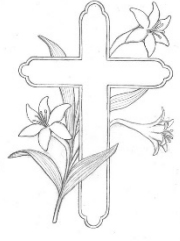
## MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION

**AND SOUP LUNCH  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

**12 noon**

**Stoke Lyne Church**

If you would like a lift then please contact Alice  
on 01280 848192 or [rector@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:rector@shelswellparishes.info)



## SERVICE TO COMMEMORATE THE DEPARTED

Each year, near to All Saints' Day, we hold a special service to commemorate all those who have died, particularly those for whom we have taken funerals in the benefice over the last couple of years. This year the service will be on:

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm in Stratton Audley Church**

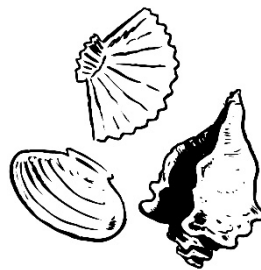
We will shortly be issuing personal invitations to all the families we have met in the course of taking funerals in the past two years, but we would like, through the magazine, to take the opportunity to invite any others who have lost loved ones, however long ago, or who would like to attend for any other reason. It is a quiet reflective service, and will include the opportunity to light a candle to remember a loved one. Many people have said that they find the service helpful, and we hope that this year's service will again prove useful.

If you would like a loved one remembered by name in the service then please let any member of Ministry Team know.

*Ministry Team*

## Shelswell By The Sea

A break from routine  
run by the Shelswell Group of Churches



**13 & 14 November 2023  
in Hethe Village Hall,  
from 10.30am to 3.30pm,**

Cost: £7.00 a day (includes all meals)

Give yourself time to chat, read newspapers, play board games, do a jigsaw, have a go at a craft activity, play Boccia ..... Coffee, lunch and tea provided.  
On Monday we'll join in with Hethe's Coffee Morning.

We can give lifts to and from Hethe.

Pick up a Booking Form in one of our churches, or ring or email Penny Wood [01869-277310]  
[penelope.wood@btopenworld.com](mailto:penelope.wood@btopenworld.com)

# Fun @ Four

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Stoke Lyne Church

4 – 5.30 pm

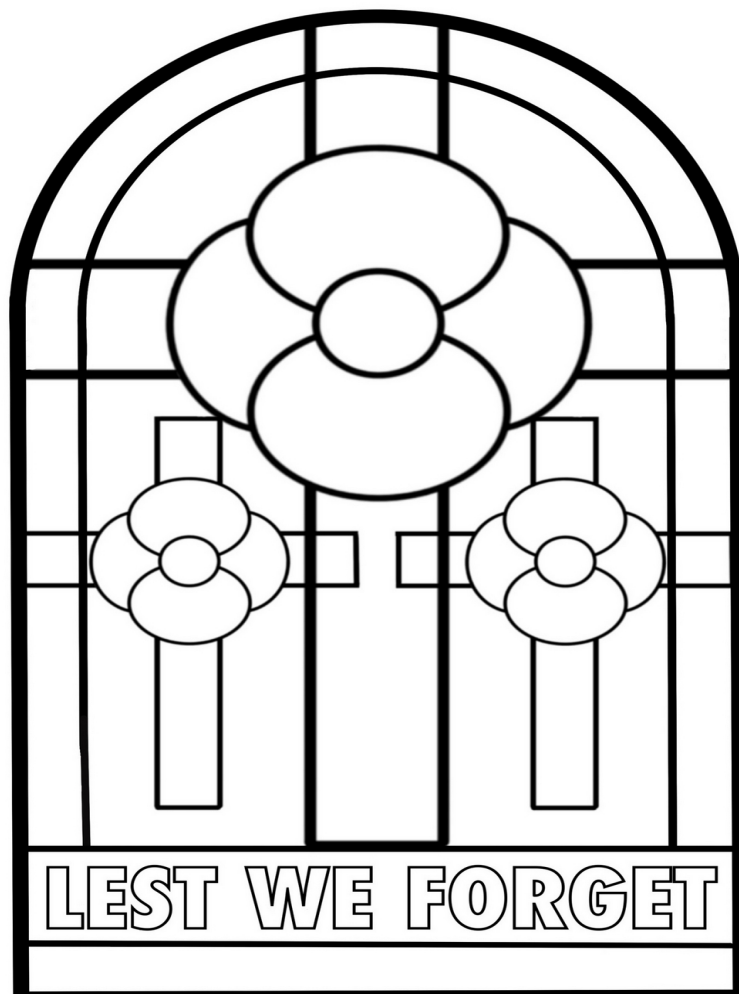


The story Jesus told about the two sons

Craft and activities, Prayer and Praise, Sandwiches and Cake

Come along and join in the fun!

There is no charge for this event, although donations are always welcome.



You are invited to the

**GLOW in the DARK**



**Light Party**

on



**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**3.30-5.30**

**in Fringford Church**

**for ages 5-11**

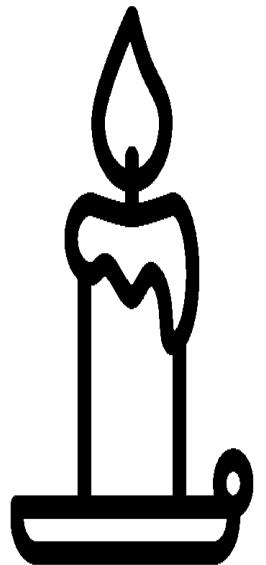
Parents welcome too

**With Games Crafts**  
**Food and a Story**

**Everything Free!**

**Organised by the Shelswell**

**Group of Churches**



# THE PHOENIX SINGERS

St. Michael and All Angels Church, Newton Purcell

## A CELEBRATION of CHRISTMAS with

**Music and Readings**

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

Festive Refreshments

Doors open at 7.15 — Tickets £10 payable on the door

Musical Director: Peter McMullin



## HARVEST IN WULU

Bishop Zechariah has been harvesting too – here you can see one of his family picking one of the crops, and photos of some harvested peanuts and black beans. He sent this message:

‘to reach this moment wasn’t easy  
– it is through your support and  
prayers Thank you so much.’



## MEN’S SHEDS – what are they?

A ‘Shed’ is a place where men can take part in craft-based activities similar to those they would do at home or in their own garden shed but with the bonus of other like-minded men providing good company. It’s a setting where men can be productive, socialise and be part of their local community. Some guys come just for the tea and banter and the Shed provides a venue to share life experiences in a relaxed environment.



### Buckingham Men in Sheds

Activities may include woodwork, metal work, electronics, weaving, computing and digital photography.

**When:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 am to 1 pm and Fridays 10 am to 2 pm

**Where:** Men in Sheds Buckingham, The Cote, next to The Woolpack, 57 Well Street, Buckingham, MK18 1EP. Email: [buckmshed@btinternet.com](mailto:buckmshed@btinternet.com)

Feel free to pop in – everyone welcome.

### Bicester Men’s Shed

**When:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday opening times: 10 am to 5 pm

**Where:** Bicester Green, Station Approach, Bicester, OX26 6BZ.  
Tel: 01869 388564, email: [stuart@bicestergreen.org.uk](mailto:stuart@bicestergreen.org.uk)

**Brackley** is aiming to get a ‘Men in Sheds’ facility in the near future. [www.meninshedsbrackley.uk](http://www.meninshedsbrackley.uk)  
email: [info@meninshedsbrackley.uk](mailto:info@meninshedsbrackley.uk)



## YES! HANDEL'S MESSIAH



But with just 12 excellent singers (plus the church organ) each of whom have roles as soloists and chorus members as the performance unfolds.

Merry Opera's imaginative staging of The Messiah is not what you expect. The cast of 12 is each given a back-story which brings an added dimension to the performance, allowing the audience to consider the reasons behind faith and challenging us to construct our own interpretations. So the audience is engaged not only with Handel's music, but also with the characters played by the singers themselves.

It's a lively performance, the cast is often on the move, up and down aisles whilst singing. This energises the work and is in contrast to the choral sections where the cast root themselves and deliver in unison.

By the end of this intimate performance it feels like you've gone on a spiritual journey with the cast and truly experienced birth, death and resurrection.

**At St Edburg's Church, Bicester, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**  
**Tickets can be purchased on line or from Coles Bookshop, Crown Walk, Bicester**

*"An astonishing performance of one of the bastions of Western religious music that brings out the humanity of people rather than just their religious faith – a new musical experience"*

*"We have never experienced anything so moving or exciting"*

*"The Messiah I have waited all my life to see"*

**Now in its 16th revival year - already seen by over 13,000 people.**





## Do you struggle with transport? ABILITY can help!

### SHOPPER SERVICE



Select your preferred level of membership to suit your needs. Concessionary bus passes are accepted and non bus pass holders are charged a mileage fee. Call to book your seat on our weekly shopper trips to

**Bicester - Friday**



**BOOK YOUR  
SEAT NOW**

### OUT AND ABOUT

Enjoy a day out to a place of interest, garden centre or shopping outlet. Have a spot of lunch in a beautiful location and make some memories.



### GROUP TRAVEL

Do you belong to a community group that requires transport? If so email your requirements to [admin@abilitycic.org.uk](mailto:admin@abilitycic.org.uk)

**TEL: 01327 604123**

**MON - FRI 9AM-2PM (VOICEMAIL AFTER)**



## Harvest Home Celebration

**It was so much fun!**



Huge thanks to Phillippa and David Taylor for hosting our Harvest Home Celebration! We had the most enjoyable time at Waterloo Farm on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September.

The service was lovely. David Taylor and Jean Ramsey did the readings. Flora Skinner and Simeon Goss led our prayer of thanksgiving. Liz Welters led our prayers of intercession. Leanne Sinclair, Fund Raising and Trusts Officer from the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, gave the talk all about the work of the RABI. And the choir led our singing of the hymns and also sang an anthem: Lord, you created a world rich in splendour. As part of the service, different people brought forward the 'Symbols of the harvest', much of which was taken to the Bicester Food Bank the next morning.

And after the service, tables were set up, beer and wine was flowing, there was much conversation between old friends and new, and somehow Phillippa and her family managed to feed the over 90 folk who had come along with a most delicious lunch. Thank you to everyone who was involved. Roll on next harvest time!

A fantastic £760 was donated which was donated between RABI and the girls primary school in Wulu. Thanks to everyone for that too!

Alice



## REGISTRY

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

### Baptisms

#### Alfred John Henry BAXTER

St Michael and All Angels, Fringford

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023



We were delighted to welcome Alfie and his friends and family to the Fringford Family Service on 17<sup>th</sup> September for his christening. Alfie was born in June last year, the first child of Becca and Andy Baxter who live in Fringford, as do Becca's parents. Andy and Becca got married in St Michael and All Angels last year. Andy works as a civil servant and Becca is currently focussing on being a mother and home maker.

As well as wanting to say 'thank you' to God for Alfie's arrival, and to ask for his blessing on Alfie, Becca and Andy wanted to officially recognise the amazing help and support that they have already received from the people they chose to be Alfie's godparents: Hayley Holmes, Ikhlās Pokun and Richard Marty-Harris. Becca's friend Rachel has also been a huge support, and it was Rachel who lit and presented Alfie's baptism candle to him at the end of the service.

During the service, we sang three hymns chosen by Andy and Becca: 'Morning has broken', 'One more step along the world I go', and 'I the Lord of sea and sky'. We also sang 'God forgave my sin in Jesu's name'. The reading for that Sunday was Matthew

18: 21 – 35, The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant, which reminded us of just how amazing God's love for us is. After Alfie had been baptised, everyone in the congregation had the opportunity to write their own prayer for Alfie, which we collected up for him to read when he is older.

After the service, there was tea and cake for everyone, before the christening party went back to Becca's parents' house for lunch and further festivities.

We pray that God will richly bless Alfie and his family, and we look forward to seeing lots of them at church activities in the coming years.

#### Orla Seren RODAS

St Michael and All Angels, Finmere

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

It was a lovely sunny day for Orla's christening. Orla is the second child of Ellie and Harry Rodas, having come into the world in November 2022. Ellie grew up in Finmere, and her parents still live there in Chinalls Close. The family have a long standing link with St Michael and All Angels – Ellie used to be in the choir there, she and Harry were married there, and Orla's big sister Enya was christened there in summer 2021. When Enya was christened, we were still having to take covid regulations into account, so there could only be 30 people there and they had to sit in family bubbles. But there were no such considerations at Orla's christening!

Ellie and Harry had chosen three hymns for Orla's christening – the same three that we had at Enya's – Lord of the Dance, Lord of all hopefulness, and Sing Hosanna. There were two readings: Harry's mum read Ephesians 3: 14 – 21, that wonderful prayer that 'you may have the power to comprehend what is the breadth and length and height and depth ...of the



love of Christ.. and may be filled with all the fulness of God'. and Ellie's dad read 'When you thought I wasn't looking' by Mary Rita Schilke Sill. We made baptingles to help us think about baptism, and everyone wrote their own prayer for Orla which we collected up for her to read when she is older.

Orla has three godparents: her uncle Alastair Butcher, Amy Waller and Abby Smith. She also has a supporting friend, Daniel. Daniel lit and presented her with her baptism candle at the end of the service.

After the christening, everyone went up to the village hall for refreshments – and to play on the play equipment in the field if so inclined!

We thank God for Orla and pray that God will richly bless her as she grows up.

### **Auriel Eden Honsinger PAYNE**

St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Auriel was born in June, the second child to Lise and David Payne. The Payne family live in London, where David works as a chief product officer and Lise as a chief operating officer. But Auriel's maternal grandparents are John and Chris Honginger, and her big brother Mallo was christened in St Mary and St Edburga's, so it seemed only right that Auriel should be too!



#### **Some Aphorisms from Marcus Aurelius**

You have power over your mind — not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength.

Accept the things to which fate binds you, and love the people with whom fate brings you together, but do so with all your heart.

Very little is needed to make a happy life; it is all within yourself in your way of thinking.

Dig deep within yourself, for there is a fountain of goodness ever ready to flow if you will keep digging.

Spend each day as if it were your last, without frenzy, laziness, or any pretending.

Do not indulge in dreams of having what you have not, but reckon up the chief of the blessings you do possess, and then thankfully remember how you would crave for them if they were not yours.

Love the hand that fate deals you and play it as your own. When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive - to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.

Auriel had two hymns at her christening: 'Lord of all hopefulness' and 'One more step along the world I go'.

There were three readings. Because Auriel's middle name is 'Eden', the first reading was taken from Genesis chapters 2 and 3 – the story of the Garden of Eden – and reminded us that even though Eve messed up, God didn't give up on her or on humanity. Instead he took the instincts which had led her to crunch into the apple – curiosity, a thirst for knowledge, the courage to do new things – and turned them into gifts that have given us science, medicine, space travel and so much more. And even more than that, he came to earth in the person of Jesus in order to win us back to himself and restore the garden of Eden.

Auriel's dad is a classicist, so the second reading was a collection of Aphorisms from Marcus Aurelius, which contained some really good thoughts on how to approach life. And the third was an excellent reading of 'Here we are' by Oliver Jeffers.

At the end of the service, and with a little help, Mallo lit and presented Auriel's baptism candle. Then after photos, the christening party retired to Stratton House for sandwiches and a very splendid christening cake

baked and iced by the Payne family.

We pray that Auriel's christening will be the start of an amazing journey of faith for her, in which she discovers for herself just how much God loves her.

## Weddings

### Jack Charles CLARKSON and Rachel Theresa HELM

St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Jack and Rachel had both grown up in the same village of Kennington, went to the same school, and travelled on the same school bus, although Jack was in the year above Rachel. Jack played football for the village, and Rachel and her mates would go along to the football club's social events, and so they ended up in the same friendship circle. And eventually romance blossomed.

Jack works as a carpenter and Rachel as a nurse, and when they are not working, they like eating, cooking, going out for a meal, seeing their families, and walking. Jack also enjoys football and golf – lots of golf, and Rachel enjoys going to the gym, seeing her friends and relaxing at home.

Rachel walked down the aisle, preceded by her bridesmaids, on her grandad's arm to the music of 'I get to love you' by Lyndsey Elm. The couple had chosen two hymns for their wedding: 'Come to a wedding' and 'Amazing grace'.



They had two readings: Anne Cotterell read I Corinthians chapter 13, and Ian Biggs read 'The Art of Marriage' by Wilfred Arlan Peterson. The signing of the marriage document was witnessed by the mums, Jane Clarkson and Sandra Helm whilst the congregation listened to 'I guess I'm in love' by Tauren Wils. and then the newly weds processed out of the church to 'Signed, sealed and delivered' by Stevie Wonder.

To be accurate, they processed as far as the tower, where they hid whilst the rest of the congregation left the church and got lined up with their confetti. Then when one of the groomsmen let them know that all was ready, they left the church to the sound of the bells ringing and were showered with confetti. There were glasses of prosecco in the churchyard, before everyone went back to Stratton Court Barn for the reception.

We wish Rachel and Jack every happiness in their life together!



## Club News



### SHELLOWELL WI



October's meeting saw us welcome the owner from Beautifully Different in Brackley. Liz gave us a brief history of her journey to owning her own business. She then went on to share some of her hints and tips for dressing different body shapes and how to feel comfortable in what we wear. We also learnt some scarf knotting ideas (no more slipping scarves for the Shellsell WI ladies).

November sees us welcome Jane Fletcher and her talk "Memories, making the most of your possessions." This month also sees us visit Bucknell WI for the North Ploughley group meeting and in December we are looking forward to our Christmas meal and Carol Service.

We have a wealth of varied speakers and meetings lined up for 2024 so if you would like to join us we meet on the first Thursday of the month 7.30pm in Fringford village hall. For more information contact Lesley Beagent 07729605670.



### SHELLOWELL GARDEN CLUB



At our October meeting John Gibson, who is an RHS Daffodil Society speaker and judge, came to talk about growing bulbs. He explained the differences between bulbs, corms, rhizomes and tubers. He gave us tips on when to plant, what medium is best to plant them in, what type of container to use (must have drainage holes), where to position and their aftercare. He suggested that bulbs are great value for money as there are varieties for every season. He displayed some well-known bulbs in flower e.g. Begonias and some more exotic ones that needed extra care!

In September we heard about Penstemons from John Lee who has a wealth of knowledge about this perennial. It was originally found in the USA where it still grows in all states bar Hawaii. It can flower for up to 7 months a year and comes in many colours. It prefers a sunny position and doesn't normally suffer from any infestations. It is also easy to propagate. John also gave us some useful gardening tips. His Froggery Cottage garden was developed from original allotments and covers three quarters of an acre 'packed' with plants and is a haven for wildlife. It also contains a large National Collection of Penstemons.

The talks for the last two months of 2023 are as follows:

On **November 14<sup>th</sup>**, we will welcome Avril Hughes with a 'surprise' talk. Avril is an excellent speaker who has visited us previously.

On **December 12<sup>th</sup>** we will have our AGM with mulled wine and nibbles. This will be followed by a practical session making a Christmas arrangement in an unusual container (maximum size of approx. 25 cm). There will be a prize for the best display.

Club membership has remained at £10 for many years. All related club costs have been increasing and therefore the committee has decided that as of this membership year (starting September 2023) our membership fee will increase to **£15 per year**. This covers all speakers, zoom meetings in January and February as well as entry to the evening garden visits.

We are also increasing the **visitor fee to £5**, which will be refunded if the visitor decides to join the Club that evening. **Swallows Nursery** in Mixbury has kindly offered a discount to our members when you show your membership card.

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.

For further information, call Sally Drummond Hay on 01280 848591 or Corrine Mitchell on 01869 247411 or email [shelswellgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:shelswellgardenclub@gmail.com)

## SHELLOWELL READING GROUP

The September book, 'The Children's Act' by Ian McEwan was universally agreed to be a good book club choice – lots to talk about, with 'real life' cases providing great discussion. For some, this was a first Ian McEwan, for others a revisit, but we all agreed that his writing was concise, clever, caustic – with a light touch that belies his skill as a writer. The descriptions of scenes, noises and movements were particularly vivid. The writer was able to keep us guessing – will Fiona decide for / against the blood transfusion, what will happen at the end (a twist none of us saw coming)? And much discussion about how stress can 'unhinge' people and lead to unpredictable behaviour. NB: The film is worth watching!

The October meeting is due to be held at 3 Kennel Cottages, Cottisford on Wednesday 18th October at 7.30 pm. The book is **The Memory Police by Yoko Ogawa**. At the time of going to print, the meeting had not yet taken place so a review of the book will be in the December Shelswell News.

The Reading Group date for November is Wednesday 22nd November, 7.30 pm at 1/2 Hethe Road Cottages, Cottisford and the book is '**The Siege**' by **Helen Dunmore**.

There will be no Reading Group in December, but we will hold one on Wednesday 10th January at 7.30 pm at 6 Hethe Road Cottages, Cottisford. For information on that book, please see January's Shelswell News. If you are interested in joining our Reading Group, please contact Jane Birnage, Manor Grange, Cottisford (07770 220605 or [janebirnage@icloud.com](mailto:janebirnage@icloud.com)).

## SHELLOWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

The *theme* of our October meeting was Silver. Many poems about the Moon use the epithet silver, and we found a good range of ways in which poets allied the two ideas. They were: *Silver Moon by Paul Mariani*; *The Silver Road (anon)*; *Beneath a Silver Moon by Tracy Davidson*; *Silver by Walter de la Mare*; *Moonlit Apples by John Drinkwater*; *Under the Harvest Moon by Carl Sandburg*; *A Hymn to the Moon by Lady Mary Wortley Montagu*; *The Moon, as Silver as the Sun is Gold by Redfeather*, and *The Song of Wandering Aengus by WB Yeats*.

*Maxwell's Silver Hammer*, a *Beatles* song, is full of ghoulish humour, and *Penelope* contains the bitter humour of *Dorothy Parker*. In his poem *Silver*, *Uros Zupan* thinks about all the connotations of the word 'silver', whereas *Qiniso Mogale*, in his poem *Silver and Gold* plays on its use in currency and its ill effects. *Silver Threads Amongst the Gold* was written in the last century by *Hart Pease Danks and Eben P Rexford* and was a popular parlour song. In his play *The Merchant of Venice*, *Shakespeare* created a plot around three caskets, of gold, silver and lead, and we looked at what various characters have to say about silver.

From left field we had the quirky *The Lone Ranger and Werewolves by Randy Johnson*, a latter-day McGonagall, and went on to the surprising and downbeat poem *Silver Wedding by Vernon Scannell*. A more upbeat poem on the theme of wedding anniversaries came from Arthur Hugh Clough, in *The Silver Wedding*.

*The Silver Swan, by Orlando Gibbons* is a dark and pessimistic poem, whereas *Christina Rossetti's* poem *Paradise: in a Symbol* is a visionary rendering of a spiritual experience in which imaginary birds figure. Finally, *Rainy Twilight by Evelyn Scott* evokes a beautiful evening in which rain becomes "silver ladders". Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th November at 10.30 am, and the theme will be Joy.

If you would like to join us, contact me on 01869 811994 or at [judith.harvey@live.co.uk](mailto:judith.harvey@live.co.uk)

Judith Harvey

## 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](mailto:judith.harvey@live.co.uk)

### COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

At the start of October we celebrated our Harvest Festival. Thank you to everyone who attended and those of you who helped the day before to dress the church; it looked beautiful. By the time you receive this copy of the Shelswell news we will have also had another pop up pub, thank you to the hosts Mike and Anita.

The start of the month saw some lovely sunny and warm weather, now near the end autumn has arrived and we are certainly looking towards winter. With this in mind we would like to invite everyone to our annual

#### Bonfire on the field

Saturday 4 November 5.30 – 7.30 pm

Hot dogs £1, Soup £1

We look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like to help, host a pop up pub or coffee morning please contact Sandra at [sandrambickmore@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:paan63@yahoo.co.uk) Tel 01280 848268

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 9.15 am.

### VILLAGE HALL

The village hall is now fully back in use and most 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. For all bookings enquiries, please visit [www.myfinmere.com/villagehall](http://www.myfinmere.com/villagehall)



Don't forget the monthly Tea & Cakes at the hall on the second Tuesday of each month.

## ALLOTMENTS

With the Summer growing season coming to an end, many allotments can boast a surplus of beans and courgettes, whilst a variety of squashes start to mature. Soon it will be the season for digging in preparation for Winter, since we are not entirely sure how the RHS recommended 'no-dig' allotment' ☺ .... [No-Dig Gardening Guide | BBC Gardeners World Magazine](#), really works.

Also time for the payment of the annual allotment fees, a bargain at £20. 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](http://www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot)



## Please come along to support Finmere's "Tuesday Teas"

If you are at home in the day, please pop into the Village Hall for a cuppa & a catch-up...

**Tuesday 14 November from 2 - 4 pm**  
**Tea, coffee, cake & biscuits**  
**All locals welcome, no charge**

**We would love to grow the numbers so  
please bring a friend!**

If you need transport, please contact  
Jo (07974 740312) or Katherine (07770 804025)

If anyone would like to help with "Tuesday Teas",  
we need help serving refreshments, setting out tables, providing lifts and  
**BAKING CAKES!**

Your baking costs can be reimbursed  
No need to volunteer every month; just help when you can...

### Some Finmere related links:

Finmere facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/finmereandlittletingewick/>  
 Shelswell Parishes website at – [www.shelswellparishes.info/finmere](http://www.shelswellparishes.info/finmere)  
 Finmere Parish Council website at – [www.finmerepc.org](http://www.finmerepc.org)  
 Village hall news at – [www.myfinmere.com](http://www.myfinmere.com)  
 Old Finmere history website – [www.myfinmere.com/history](http://www.myfinmere.com/history)  
 Finmere on Wikipedia - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finmereipedia>  
 Finmere Primary School - [www.finmere.oxon.sch.uk](http://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: <a href="http://www.fringford.info">www.fringford.info</a>	

### ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, SERVICES & EVENTS

#### Services

- Sunday 5 November – 10.45 am Morning Service  
4.00 pm Service for the Commemoration of the Departed
- Sunday 12 November – 10.45 am Remembrance Sunday Service
- Sunday 19 November – 10.45 am Holy Communion.

*On Remembrance Sunday we will begin the service in the church but go outside to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance, hopefully as near to 11.00am as possible.*

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

#### Events

See the **General Section** for details of activities taking place in the Benefice during November: there's **Shelswell By The Sea on 13 & 14 November**, and a **Soup Lunch on Saturday 18 November** in Stratton Audley Church in aid of the Wulu girls' school in South Sudan.

#### Greetings Cards

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

#### Fringford Church 100 Club

The 100 Club winners in September were:

1st No. 82 Joff Cheney £61; 2nd No. 3 Penny Wood £37; 3rd No. 14 Carol Reader £21.

Congratulations! You can still sign up to the 100 Club.

Contact Christina McCullagh to register - **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.

[Not during holidays and half term.] Just come along, but if you need information in the meantime, email [admin@shelswellparishes.info](mailto:admin@shelswellparishes.info)

### FRINGFORD FRIENDS NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT GROUP

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

- Telephone: 07704 756840
- Email [neighbourhoodsupport@fringford.info](mailto:neighbourhoodsupport@fringford.info)

To join Fringford's What's App Group ring or email Christine Underwood: 07961 972388 or email [silvercb1@outlook.com](mailto:silvercb1@outlook.com)



### COME & JOIN US AT 'SEWCIAL'

We enjoy any type of craft and a natter  
getting together to relax and enjoy each other's company.  
Some of us knit, crochet, embroider, quilt, sew or create craft albums.

We get together once a month,  
either on a Wednesday evening at 7 – 9pm  
or Sunday afternoon at 3 – 5pm

We meet in the Chinnery Room at Fringford Village Hall.

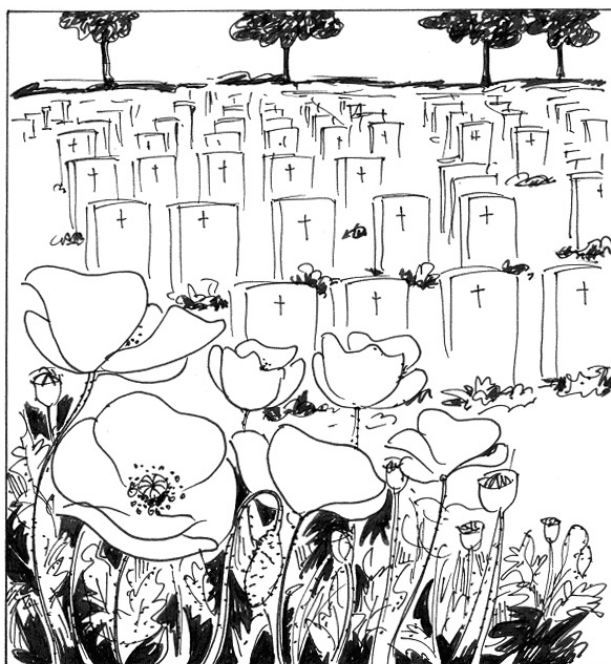
Our next sessions are:

**Sunday 19 November      Wednesday 13 December**

Sessions are £2.00

No need to book – just come and join us!

If you would like information, please email Melissa at [mamcs100@gmail.com](mailto:mamcs100@gmail.com)



## Regular Activities held in Fringford Village Hall

To find out more or book a place, please contact the hirer direct.	
Weekly Activities	Monthly Activities
<b>FS Dance</b> Monday & Wednesday (term time) After school classes BALLET • TAP • MODERN • STREET <b>leah.fsd@gmail.com or 07885827592</b>	<b>Village Coffee Morning</b> All ages welcome Third Monday in the month - Chinnery Room Drop in anytime between 10.30 am and noon <b>Penny Wood 01869 277310</b>
<b>Puppy Stars</b> Dog Training Tuesday evening – various classes  <b>Contact Nick 07542 131400</b> <b>www.puppystars.co.uk</b>	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> All villagers welcome Third Monday in the month 7.45pm  <b>Contact 01844 237766 or</b> <b>fringford.parishclerk@gmail.com</b>
<b>Fringford Yoga</b> Wednesday (term time) 9.30am – 11am <b>Carolyn White 01869 277161</b>	<b>Bicester Sound Bath Meditation</b> First Sunday of the month from 7.45 pm <b>Sonia - contact@holisticaxis.com</b> <b>Please text - 07709634847</b>
<b>Just Puppies</b> Puppy Training Wednesday evening – various classes  <b>Contact Kerri 07720 891489</b> <b>www.justpuppies.training</b>	<b>Shelswell WI</b>  First Thursday of the month 7.30pm  <b>Contact Lesley Beagent on 07729605670</b>
<b>Pilates</b> Thursday at 10.00am <b>natashaflorespilates@gmail.com</b> <b>or 07545 525820</b>	<b>Mindfulness Meditation</b> Monthly Sunday 11am to 12.30pm <b>janerainey17@gmail.com or 07971 008337</b>
<b>My Baby Spa</b>  Monday mornings Spa experience for babies up to 12 months and toddlers 1 – 4 years <a href="http://www.mybabyspa.co.uk">www.mybabyspa.co.uk</a> contact Danielle at <a href="mailto:contact@mybabyspa.co.uk">contact@mybabyspa.co.uk</a>	<b>Fringford Sewcial</b> <b>Sew and Chat!</b> Alternate monthly Wednesday from 7pm & Sunday from 3pm <b>Contact Melissa at <a href="mailto:mamcs100@gmail.com">mamcs100@gmail.com</a></b>
	<b>Village Hall Team Meeting</b> Every 4 weeks – 7.30pm  Open meetings – all welcome <b><a href="mailto:fringford.hall@gmail.com">fringford.hall@gmail.com</a> or 07936 879175</b>
<b>To book the hall for your own event, please go to <a href="http://fringford.info">fringford.info</a>, village hall, how to book Here you will find all the information you will need to book on-line.</b> <b>For any other queries please phone or text 07936 879175</b> <b>or email: <a href="mailto:fringford.hall@gmail.com">fringford.hall@gmail.com</a></b>	

## 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>

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.50 am.

### 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.

### HARDWICK CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY

Visit **Hardwick Church**

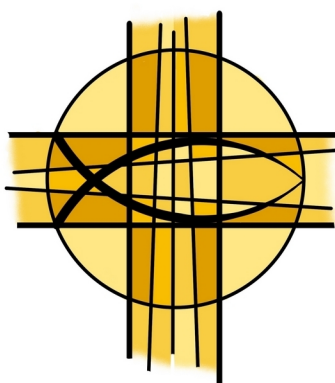
Open Daily: 10 am – 4 pm

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](http://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. Note the **Remembrance Service** on 12<sup>th</sup> November starting at 9.15am in the church and then proceeding to gather at the War Memorial. 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.

If you can contribute to the on-going availability of the church, you may make a one-off gift through a single transaction or set up regular donations, using a debit or credit card, or Apple or Google Pay, using the secure Parish Giving (PGS) website - <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/> or through the following QR Code:



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

**100 Club.** The club offers members an opportunity to contribute to church funds, while having the chance to win a cash prize from the monthly draws. 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 (full details on the village website).



St Edmund &  
St George  
100 Club

## St Edmund & St George

### 100 Club

<p style="text-align: center;">Results of the 57<sup>th</sup> draw held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Prize No 27 Mary Morgan</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize No 57 Mary Morgan</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No 30 John &amp; Sue Schutz</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Results of the 58<sup>th</sup> draw held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Prize No 1 Lily Skinner</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize No 56 Bill Mansfield</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No 7 Helen Pritchard Family</p>
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Many thanks to our members  
Hethe PCC

### HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

**Parish Council.** The next full council meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024, starting at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. The minutes from this year's AGM of the Parish and the July meeting are on the web site.

## Hethe Community Coffee Morning in the Village Hall

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November from 10.00am to 12.00pm**

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



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

**The Stay & Play Group** contact is Kelly Woodford on 07716 981263. They meet on Friday mornings.

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

**Clothes Recycling.** A Salvation Army clothes bank is now available alongside the bottle banks near the village hall.

“All high-quality products donated to our charity shops and donation centres will be offered for sale in-store. Our staff and volunteers sort donations, and saleable items are cleaned (all clothing and home linens are steamed) and displayed on the shop floor.

“Clothing donations we receive through clothing banks and door-to-door collections also end up on the shelves of our charity shops. Items sold here in the UK make the best profit for us, enabling us to help more people.

“Any clothing we are not able to sell in our shops is sold for reuse overseas. We act responsibly with all donations, using them to raise essential funds for The Salvation Army and avoiding unnecessary waste going to landfill.”



### Acceptable Items

All clothing, clean and wearable (Including underwear)  
Shoes (paired)  
Handbags  
Belts  
Hats, Scarves and Gloves  
Bed Linen  
Blankets  
Towelling

### Undesirable Items

Duvets  
Pillows  
Any item with “stuffing”  
Curtains  
Rugs  
Furniture  
Toys  
“Rags”

## 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](mailto:pasgoodman551@gmail.com) or telephone: 01280 848002.

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.50 am.

### 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.

**NOVEMBER**            **Fi Bairstow**  
**DECEMBER**        **Carol service and Christmas - everyone**



### 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.

**NOVEMBER**            **Alison Bailey, Pam Burrill and Jules Channon**  
**DECEMBER**        **Gail Bellingham, Mel Soar & Sue Bosher**

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

### MIXBURY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Christmas Bazaar will be held in the Church on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 6 pm – 9 pm

### 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](mailto:markandtanya@yahoo.co.uk).

### HARVEST FESTIVAL (From Pat Beveridge)

Sunday 8th October was the date for Mixbury's Harvest Festival in the Church and this was followed by our now traditional Soup Kitchen in the bus shelter, so a lovely warm and sunny Autumn morning saw some of the good folk of Mixbury come together for a feast of home made soups and bread. There was a wide variety of different offerings to suit all tastes, set in a delightfully decorated pavilion, and lots of chatter and

laughter. A big thank you to the ladies and gentlemen who provided the goodies, and to Anna, Eryl, Rebecca and Fi for making sure we were all replete. (Apologies if I missed anyone out).. How lucky we are to live here. Thank you! Proceeds raised going to the Royal Agriculture Benevolent Institution and to the community in Wulu supported by the Shelswell Parish.

## OXFORD HALF MARATHON

15<sup>TH</sup> October 2023

On a lovely crisp Sunday morning four residents of Mixbury put on their running shoes and ran the Oxford Half Marathon, huge congratulations to Matt Wethey, Stephen Goodman, Maddy Tobin and Richard Darby on completing the course. Next year I think Mixbury should have a shuttle bus to cheer them all on!



Left: Stephen Goodman      Right: Matt Wethey

Stephen is running the London Marathon in April 2024 for the Elton John AIDS Foundation. If you would like to sponsor him, he would be very grateful for any donations 🥰🏆🏃

Link to sponsor:

<https://2024tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/stephen-goodman>



## MIXBURY BONFIRE NIGHT

One of our great village traditions, the Mixbury Bonfire Night, will be taking place on **Sunday 5th November**. Many thanks to Frank for allowing us to use his field once again. If you are planning an autumn garden tidy-up please feel free to drop off any burnable waste in the field, to the right of the gate, from **Sunday 22nd October** onwards. The timings on the day will be:

- 10.00 am - build the bonfire (volunteers are always very welcome!)
- 5.00 pm - gates open, and a lovely selection of food and drink will be available (cash only)
- 5.30 pm - light the bonfire
- 6.00 pm - fireworks display (please make sure all your pets are inside and are safe and sound on the night)

The display is funded through donations, so please look out for a donation envelope coming through your letterbox. The organising team will be doing a collection in the village on Wednesday 25th October between 5.30 and 6.30 pm. If we miss you on the night, please feel free to drop off any donations to Fuchsia Cottage (roughly opposite the postbox).

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 5th of November!

## BOOKS

Don't forget there are lots of books in the Church for villagers to borrow and exchange – straight ahead when you go in the door located just in front of the North Door.

## Newton Purcell St Michael and All Angels

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

### CHURCH SERVICES

The **Service of Remembrance** will be on Sunday 12th November at 9.15 a.m.  
(Please note there will be no service on Sunday 5th)

### HARVEST FESTIVAL AND LUNCH

Our service of Harvest Thanksgiving was well attended and the church looked splendid thanks to all who brought and arranged their flowers and produce.  
Following the service we retired to The Old School for lunch and would particularly like to thank all who provided the delicious food and came to share the feast!

### BONUS BALL LOTTO

We would like to thank all of you who have renewed your subscription to this vital part of our fund raising and to those who have just joined.  
All monies are used for 'Special Projects' to keep our church in tip top order.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We are delighted to welcome back The Phoenix Singers who have very kindly agreed to entertain us once more on Friday 15th December.  
Always a popular event so please contact Ann von Maltzahn (either on 01280 848680 or by email at [ann\\_maltzahn@yahoo.com](mailto:ann_maltzahn@yahoo.com)) well in advance to secure your booking.  
Tickets remain at £10, payable on the door.  
We look forward to welcoming all and a full house!

## Stoke Lyne St Peter's

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

### St Peter's Church Stoke Lyne Services

See back page for details. The Remembrance Service will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45 am.

**Flower Duty for November** - Rena Andrews

### Food for Thought – Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October at 10 am

We enjoyed left over cakes and scones for breakfast and reflected on the success of the craft fair and Macmillan cake sale. Our next FFT service will be on 5th November at 10am. Come along for a short informal service, good chat and food!

Kelly Holden-White

## **Midweek Holy Communion at St Peter's Stoke Lyne with soup lunch – Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon**

Alice rang the bell to remind people of the service. When we entered the church there was a lovely aroma of food cooking to get the taste buds going. Liz welcomed all to the Communion service. She was assisted by Alice and the service started with prayers for all who are ill and also for those recently bereaved and their families and anyone known to us who may be suffering at this time. We were also asked to remember all those who have recently been baptized and couples recently married. There were also prayers for people in countries where there have been earthquakes and flood disasters.

The reading this month was about Peace and was from St Lukes Gospel Chapter 10 where Jesus sent people out to help bring in the plentiful harvest as there were few workers. This went on through the towns and villages as Jesus was trying to promote Peace across all communities where there may be strife trying to bring them together.

We then had the short Communion service after which we went to the tables set for lunch of a choice of two soups, parsnip or courgette and leek with bread rolls, followed by apple pie or lovely Victoria sponge cake tea or coffee. Lots of chit chat catching up about flu and Covid jabs and what is happening in other villages.

This midweek communion is at 12.00 on the first Thursday of the month, please come along and join in where you will meet others from across the Benefice.

Rena Andrews

## **Stoke Lyne 100 Club – October Results**

The results of the October Stoke Lyne 100 Club are as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize Membership No. 50	Mel O'Brien
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize Membership No. 3	Margaret Dudley
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize Membership No. 36	Adrian "Eddie" Taylor

Once again, spread the word about the 100 Club £3.00 per month. The more members, the bigger the prizes.

Thank you everyone for your support.  
Kind regards

Janey Poole, Treasurer  
St Peter's Church PCC  
Tel: 01869 344502 (Office)  
Tel: 01869 346020 (Home)  
Mobile: 07810 120457

## **Stoke Lyne W.I. – Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September at Hethe Village Hall**

Rena welcomed members to the meeting. Five apologies were received and as there were three birthdays, cards were given out and "Happy Birthday" sung. There were no minutes to read out as we don't have a meeting in August. Instead, we had an outing for members to get together at the Trigger Pond in Bucknell for lunch, and all agreed it was a lovely lunch and nice to be able to socialise.

Rena introduced Dave Clack who gave an insight into his involvement with MI5. He started his talk by saying that anyone who has signed the Official Secrets Act is on it for life, so there were certain things he could not divulge. Dave then gave us a bit of history about his life: on leaving school he loved music and used to refurbish the reeds on musical instruments after which he worked for 5 years in a music shop.

He then joined the Police Force, a job he loved, and we were told about some of the horrific cases he was called out to such as sudden deaths, suicides, motoring accidents to name but a few and as a young 21-year-old who had never seen a dead body he found that hard. He didn't want to show us photos as it would be too upsetting. Some of his duties took him to places like Greenham Common and Upper Heyford (I am sure most of us remember seeing women chaining themselves to the fences) and included policing the miners' strike. To this day there are families who are alienated from each other all because some wanted to go back to work as they needed to have an income coming in to pay their way and feed their families. Dave was assigned to the Aylesbury Police Department and told us that the Prime Minister's country residence at Chequers came under their jurisdiction and that two of their officers had to be sent to check it every day but were not allowed to go through the gates as Chequers has its own security.

Dave retired from the force as a Police Inspector and then went on to get a job on the Council Highways. He also volunteered at Bicester Heritage Centre making and filling boxes to be given to NHS staff and all involved in helping with the Pandemic.

At question time afterwards, members asked about what drove people to murder repeatedly, examples being Myra Hindley, Jack the Ripper and Harold Shipman to name but a few. Rena thanked Dave for a very interesting talk and we then had tea served by tea hostesses Sheila and Rena during which members were reminded about the Group Meeting at Bucknell and other upcoming events. The winner of the raffle was Sally, and the competition winner was Beryl.

Rena Andrews

### **Stoke Lyne W.I. – Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> October at Hethe Village Hall**

The meeting began with Rena asking members to stand for the singing of Jerusalem. This was especially nice with a male voice accompanying which belonged to our speaker Mr Alastair Lack. His talk was all about the life story of John Thaw who played the character "Inspector Morse".

The talk opened with a photograph of the word-famous red car, registration number 248 RPA. There is a replica of the car at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu. The original car is now owned by a multi-millionaire.

John Thaw was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1942 and died on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2002. He was born in Gorton South Manchester to working class parents. Growing up he joined RADA and that was the beginning of his acting career. Over the years John played many different acting roles, starring in "The Sweeney", one of his favourite roles; "Z-Cars"; "Kavanagh QC"; roles in various films and then on to play "Inspector Morse". He was a very shy man and loved classical music. Alastair told us that lots of the college scenes were actually filmed at a college at Harrow near the film studios in London and also various other locations across the country. If they were filming in the streets of Oxford people watching were sometimes asked if they would like to be an extra and lots took up the offer. Alastair then spoke about Kevin Whately, who played Lewis, and then a bit about Shaun Evans, who played "Endeavour".

Rena Thanked Alastair for his enlightening talk. We then had tea served by hostesses Beryl and Judith. The competition of a photo of Oxford was won by Judith and the raffle winner was Mary. We then went on to the business. There were two birthdays: Sally and Beryl and "Happy Birthday" was sung and there was an update on future activities and dates for diaries. The Group meeting is now on 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Bucknell Village Hall at 7.30 pm. The competition is a Christmas card. The next Stoke Lyne WI meeting will be on 9<sup>th</sup> November at Hethe Village Hall at pm when the speaker will be Dave Clack talking about genealogy. The competition is a gingerbread. Sally and Celia will be on tea duty. The date of the wreath-making session is 16<sup>th</sup> December and the Christmas Party will be on 7<sup>th</sup> December. Rena then closed the meeting with the National Anthem.

Rena Andrews

**Super September!**

Many thanks to Ali for organising not just one, but two super events this month.

Kelly Holden-White

**Quiz Night – Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> September at St Peter's Church at 7 pm**

This raised a whopping £250 for the church. Thank you to everyone who came and made it such a fun evening. A special thank you to all involved in making a wonderful hot supper.

Ali Miller

PS. Just a quick note to say the microphone should be up and running for the next quiz...

**St Peter's church  
Stoke Lyne Presents  
A chilly seasonal  
Quiz  
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6.30 for a 7pm start  
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Strictly 6 max per team

**Please let me know you are  
coming**

**Ali Miller**

**07762719198**

**[alisonjanemiller@icloud.com](mailto:alisonjanemiller@icloud.com)**

**Stoke Lyne Craft Fair – Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> September at St Peter's Church 2-5 pm**

The craft fair raised a grand total of £502 to be shared equally between Macmillan Cancer Support and the Church. Thank you to all who supported this event. Thank you to all my trusty helpers for I couldn't have done it without them, all the bakers and their delicious cakes, those who served the teas and cleared and cleaned it all up, to those who donated and help with the raffle and tombola and finally to the craft stall holders thank you so much for bring and showing your products. Without you all it would have been a damp squib of an afternoon instead it was an amazing event.....Let's do it all again.

Ali Miller

# STOKE LYNE CHRISTMAS FAIR



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DECEMBER  
2PM-4PM**

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## A Further Look at the Men from Stoke Lyne Killed in WW1 and listed on the Memorial Plaque in St Peter's Church

This is the time of year I look at the “fallen” of Stoke Lyne and put together what fresh information I’ve been able to unearth about them and their lives during the past year. This year I’ve new information on their families from the 1921 census (which was the first census to show employer information) as well as the wills which four of the men wrote on page 13 of their soldier’s pay books. Privates and non-commissioned officers in the Army and Air Force were encouraged to write a will in these books when they went on active Service. There is a detailed explanation about such soldiers’ wills on this website:

<https://www.westernfrontassociation.com/world-war-i-articles/in-the-event-of-my-death-an-analysis-of-what-can-be-gleaned-from-soldiers-wills/>

**Cecil Brandrick** signed and dated his will on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1916. He died just over a month later on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1916 at No 14 Stationary Hospital in Wimereux. He writes:

*“In the event of my death I will leave all my property to Mrs C Brandrick of 3 Cambridge Rd Walton on Thames Surrey England.”*

On the 1921 census Cecil’s wife, Caroline, is described as “widowed”, aged 30, living at the home of her sister’s family at 13 Victoria Terrace in Stratford-on-Avon. Her occupation is given as “laundress” for a Mr Edmonds at 19 & 20 Greenhill Street in Stratford on Avon. Cecil’s parents, John and Maria, with his brother Ernest are still in Stoke Lyne, living in Stratton Lane. Both John and Ernest are described as labourers working for Sir A Peyton.

**Charles Butler** signed and dated his will on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1915 and died just a few months later on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1915 writing:

*“In the event of my death I give the whole of my property & effects to my Mother Mrs Rebecca Butler, Stoke Lyne, Nr. Bicester, Oxfordshire, England.”*

On the 1921 census Rebecca, aged 62, and her husband Frederick, aged 66, are still in Stoke Lyne, giving their address as “near Church”. Frederick is still a “gardener’s labourer” for Sir A Peyton at Swift’s House.

**Gilbert Collins** signed his will but did not date it. He was killed in action in France on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1917.

*“In the event of my death I give the whole of my property to Mrs T Collins, Park Farm Tusmore near Bicester Oxon.”*

On the 1921 census his parents, Thomas, aged 58, and Eliza, aged 57, are still living at Park Farm Cottages, Tusmore, with their sons Harry, George, Ernest and Alfred, ages ranging from 32 down to 16. All the males except George are farm labourers for T J Hiorns at Park Farm, Tusmore. There is nothing recorded against George in the occupation column, not even “out of work” or “none”.

**Harry George Hinton** signed and dated his will on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1915 and died at the Manoel Military Hospital on Malta on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

*“In the event of my death I give the whole of my property and effects to my mother Mary Hinton, Stoke Lyne, Bicester, Oxon.”*

On the 1921 census Mary, aged 71, is recorded as living “near Lower Farm” in Stoke Lyne. At the same address was her stepson James, aged 57 who was a ploughman for Rupert Adams, and granddaughter Dorothy. Harry’s brother, William, had married and was living with his wife and child in The Street and was also employed by Rupert Adams.

The families of most of the remaining men on our memorial (whose wills I was unable to find on the Probate Service website) were still based in Stoke Lyne for the 1921 census.

The parents of **William Harry Curtis**, Harry and Edith, were at Church Farm together with their four surviving sons. Bernard was still at school but the other sons worked for their father.

Allen and Mary Damant, the parents of **Percy Allen Damant**, were at Ivy Cottage, Swift's House where Allen was Farm Bailiff. Percy's sister Selina is recorded as having "no occupation" whilst his brother Ernest, aged 30, is a boot repairer (on the 1911 census he was a "stonemason" – so did he take over the boot repairing business which was Percy's occupation on the 1911 census?)

**William Mervyn Golder's** wife, Clara, had remarried in 1919 and on the 1921 census she and her second husband, Gilbert Trinder, were living in Park View, Charlbury. Clara was a district nurse in Finstock. Clara and Gilbert had an 8 month old daughter, Elizabeth, who was born in Stoke Lyne (presumably Clara had returned home to her mother's for her confinement). William's parents, Alfred and Sarah Ann, aged 58 and 56, were still in Stoke Lyne, their address is recorded as "near school". Alfred did general farm work for Rupert Adams.

The parents of **Howard Stanley and William Clarence May**, Thomas and Elizabeth, aged 68 and 66, were at Baynards Green where Thomas was a farmer. Their surviving brothers, Thomas and John, worked on the farm while sister Kate helped their mother, and sister Adeline was a post office clerk at the Post Office in Brackley.

Finally, to the family of **Henry Sydney Charles Peyton**: his widowed mother, Ida, now aged 53, was at 51 South Street, in Mayfair, London with his sister Dorothy, aged 28, with two servants. I've not been able to find Henry's brother, Algernon Thomas, the 7<sup>th</sup> Baronet, and his wife Joan: they are not at Swift's House. Their daughters, Delia and Elizabeth are recorded as visitors at "Stella Maris" in Birchington (a seaside village in Thanet, Kent), with a Nurse and Under Nurse, so perhaps they were sent there while their parents were out of the country.

The above information has also been incorporated into my detailed write-ups of the men from the village killed in WW1 and is downloadable from the "Stoke Lyne Stories" website at:

<https://stokelynestories.webador.co.uk/ww1-and-ww2>

Brenda Hazel

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PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Maxine Ling	
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant	

### **REMEMBRANCE SERVICE IN STRATTON AUDLEY Sunday, 12th November at 10.45am**

The service this year will be held on Sunday November 12th at 10.45am and we hope to be joined once again by members of the Parish Council.

## STRATTON AUDLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The society is pleased to announce that they are now meeting regularly and that the following talk has been arranged for 3rd November.

## STRATTON AUDLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



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We have enjoyed Stephen Barker's talks in the past as he always produces excellent presentations with the opportunity for questions.

Further activities are planned for 2024 so keep your eyes peeled.

## COFFEE MORNING

Coffee morning has now moved from The Red Lion to The Church and is held every Tuesday morning from 11.00 a.m. till noon. The cost is £3 for tea or coffee and biscuits, perhaps cake if there is a birthday. Come along to this friendly group, meet your neighbours and have a good old chat for an hour. All are more than welcome, just pop in, we'd love to see you.

## 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](mailto:alicegoodall313@gmail.com)

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– Francis de Sales



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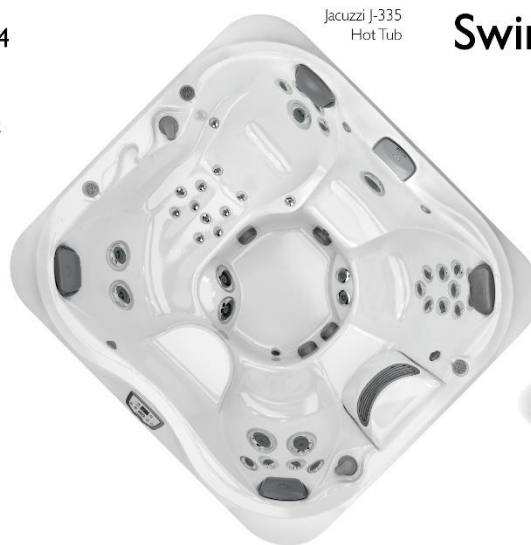
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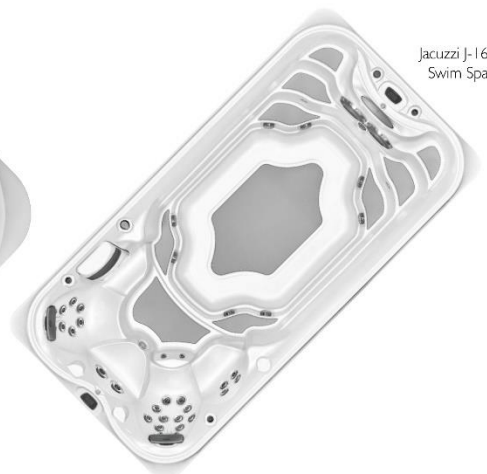
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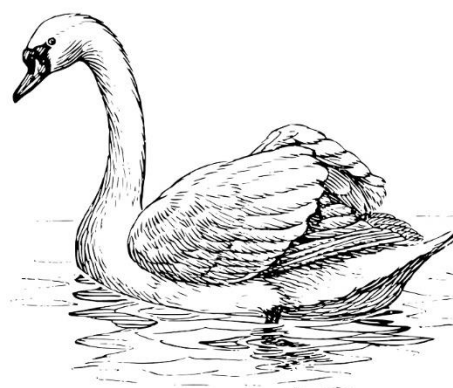
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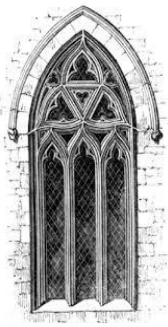
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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CW: 'Common Worship' modern language service                                                                                     |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | BCP: 'Book of Common Prayer' traditional language service                                                                                                          |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                           |
| DATE                                                                                                                             | 5 <sup>th</sup> November<br>All Saints' Sunday                                                     | 12 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Remembrance Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                | 19 <sup>th</sup> November<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent                                                                                                  | 26 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Christ the King                                                        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> December<br>Advent Sunday                                                                                                 |
| ALTAR                                                                                                                            | White                                                                                              | Red                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Red                                                                                                                                                                | Red                                                                                                 | Purple                                                                                                                                    |
| 8.00 am                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                    | Holy Communion<br>(BCP)<br>HETHE<br>AG                                                              |                                                                                                                                           |
| 9.15 am                                                                                                                          | 9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>COTTISFORD LW                                       | 9.15am<br>Remembrance Service<br>FINNIERE AG<br>Remembrance Service<br>HETHE LW<br>Remembrance Service<br>NEWTON PURCELL PW                                                                                                    | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>COTTISFORD<br>MK<br><br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FINNIERE<br>AG                                                  | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG<br><br>Morning Service<br>FINNIERE<br>PW | 9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>HARDWICK<br>CO<br><br>9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>NEWTON PURCELL<br>AG |
| 10.45 am                                                                                                                         | 10am<br>'Food for Thought'<br>STOKE LYNE Lay-led<br><br>10.45am<br>Morning Service<br>FRINGFORD PW | 10.45am<br>Remembrance Service<br>FRINGFORD PW<br>Remembrance Service<br>STOKE LYNE CO<br><br>10.50am<br>Remembrance Service<br>HARDWICK LW<br>Remembrance Service<br>MIXBURY AG<br>Remembrance Service<br>STRATTON AUDLEY PSS | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FRINGFORD<br>AG<br><br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STOKE LYNE<br>Revd Canon David Tyler,<br>Archdeacon of Dorchester | 4pm<br>Evensong with the<br>Shelswell Group Choir<br>HARDWICK<br>PW                                 | 10am<br>'Food for Thought'<br>STOKE LYNE Lay-led<br><br>10.45am<br>Morning Service<br>FRINGFORD<br>AG                                     |
| 6.00 pm                                                                                                                          | 4pm<br>Service of Commemoration<br>of the Departed<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG/PW                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 4pm<br>'Fun at Four'<br>STOKE LYNE<br>AG                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                     | Advent Service<br>GODINGTON<br>PW                                                                                                         |
| AG: Revd Alice Goodall    MK: Revd Michael Kingston    CO: Revd Carolyn Oley    LW: Revd Liz Welters    PW: Mrs Penny Wood (LLM) |                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                           |