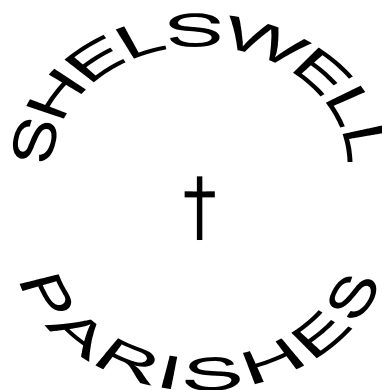


Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

Cottisford
Fringford
Hardwick
Mixbury
Stoke Lyne



Finnere
Godington
Hethe
Newton Purcell
Stratton Audley



FAREWELL TO REVD ALICE AND JOE

Church of England to give more money back to parishes - our Treasurers comment, p.12
Bishop Mullaly speaks out on Parliamentary votes affecting euthanasia and abortion p.37

August 2025

£1

SHELLOWELL BENEFICE MISSION STATEMENT

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

MINISTRY TEAM

RECTOR: The Reverend Alice Goodall, The Rectory, Water Stratford Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4AT
Telephone: 01280 848192 Email rector@shelswellparishes.info **(Normal day off – Friday)**
From 11th August, Vacancy

BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs Becky Adams, c/o The Rectory (as above) Email admin@shelswellparishes.info
Administrator's normal office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

ASSOCIATE MINISTER: The Reverend Alex Mahlava, 10c St Michael's Close, Fringford, Bicester OX27 8DW
Telephone: 07957 905969 Email: amahlava@gmail.com

ASSOCIATE MINISTER: The Reverend Liz Welters, 19 Scampton Close, Bicester OX26 4FF
Telephone 01869 249481 Email 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

BENEFICE TREASURER: Mr Philip Austin c/o The Rectory or email philandpenni@live.com

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: Father Craig Davies, Henley House, 12 The Causeway, Bicester, OX26 6AW.

Telephone: 01869 253277

Website: <http://www.holytrinityhethe.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

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES: Mrs Becky Adams, Benefice Administrator, The Rectory,
Water Stratford Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4AT Tel 01280 848192 Email admin@shelswellparishes.info

EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES: Sylvia List, Tel: +49 8061 9391479 Email editor@shelswellparishes.info

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

Deadlines for the **September** edition of Shelswell News - very early this month due to holidays!

To Magazine Correspondents: **Midday on Friday 8th August**

Correspondents to Editor: **Midday on Saturday 9th August at editor@shelswellparishes.info**

All articles must be submitted in WORD or LIBRE OFFICE in a format that can be COPIED AND PASTED PLEASE - Many thanks for your cooperation.

www.shelswellparishes.info

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 .

Goodbyes

So this will be my last 'minister's letter'. What to say? Nine and a half years Joe and I have been here – not long in village terms, but long enough that leaving is going to be a wrench for us.

We have always been aware that we would be a temporary fixture in the Shelswell patch – the Rector swoops into your villages for a short time and then is off again. But you have generously made space for us and welcomed us. There have been some wonderful times – and, to be fair, some not so wonderful times. There are so many memories that I will treasure including those Plough Sunday and Harvest Home Celebrations with folk from the farming community and church gathered together, the joy of Lighthouse and school assemblies, our link with Wulu and the visit from Bishop Zechariah and Mama Monica, Shelswell by the Sea, some wonderful Christmas services – especially the crib services – especially the one where I had the opportunity to play the wicked King Herod. It has been a privilege to be able to accompany some of you through those significant times of life in funerals, weddings and christenings. I have really valued things shared during Lent groups and confirmation preparation. And a particular delight of late has been joining in with the choir. We will miss feeling a part of the community, being able to wave at friendly faces we know, that sense of belonging.



The thing I think that will stick with me most, though, is the dedication and devotion of those regular members of our church communities, doing their absolute best to live out their faith in their day to day lives. I am so struck by the way they go out of their way to help others, of the kindnesses that they have shown to me and others. I am so struck by how they hold fast to their faith in difficult and challenging times. So often, they are giving of their time, not just to church and church activities, but to other village institutions, to involvement in charities of one sort or another, and to the community in general. And they are doing it because their faith is so central to their lives, God matters to them. They want to show his love, his care, to others, and they long that others may come to share their faith and the blessings that it brings.

At a funeral, I will say some words taken from psalm 103:

*'our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field;
when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more.'*

I know that after we leave, things will carry on. The churches will continue to function, thanks to the efforts of the ministry team, the church officers and all who are involved in church life one way or another doing what they do. You may think of Joe and myself occasionally, but mostly we will, quite rightly, be forgotten. And then there will be a new Rector who will have their own ideas of how things should progress, and I hope that you will welcome them as you welcomed us, and I hope that you will do your best to work with them as they try to take our churches forward.

They will have a difficult job – life for our churches is increasingly difficult. The regular congregations are small and generally ageing. The ancient church buildings are a nightmare to maintain. It would be a mistake to assume that these churches will just continue – they will only stay open and functioning if there are people attending them, and people stepping up to take responsibility for them by getting involved, and sufficient money coming in to pay for their upkeep and for the clergy to work in them.

But even if the worst were to happen and all the churches were to close, the one thing I am absolutely certain of is that God won't be shutting up shop. His love will continue, his blessings will continue and his work will continue. That's what comes next in psalm 103:

'But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever towards those that fear him and his righteousness upon their children's children - with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.'

Whether Christians are meeting in a church or a village hall or someone's home, God will continue to pour out his love and care, and those who follow him will continue to find deep joy and peace, strength and guidance, in good times and in bad. Because God is utterly faithful.

Alice Goodall



BIBLE READINGS



Sunday 3 rd August	7 th Sunday after Trinity	Ecclesiastes 1 v2, 12-14 & 2 v18-23 Colossians 3 v1-11 Luke 12 v13-21
Sunday 10 th August	8 th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 15 v1-6 Hebrews 11 v1-3 and 8-16 Luke 12 v32-40
Sunday 17 th August	9 th Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 23 v23-29 Hebrews 11 v29 – 12 v2 Luke 12 v49-56
Sunday 24 th August	10 th Sunday after Trinity	Isaiah 58 v9b-end Hebrews 12 v18-end Luke 13 v10-17
	or Bartholomew the Apostle	Isaiah 43 v8-13 or Acts 5 v12-16 or 1 Corinthians 4 v9-15 Luke 22 v24-30
Sunday 31 st August	11 th Sunday after Trinity	Proverbs 25 v6-7 Hebrews 13 v1-8 and 15-16 Luke 14 v1 and 7-14

A Chance to Say Goodbye to Alice

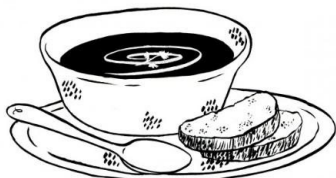


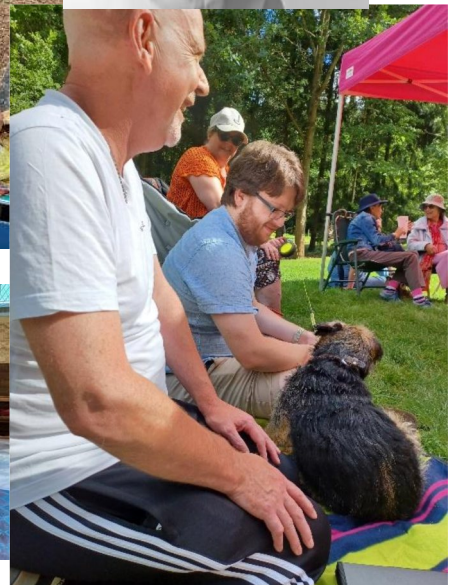
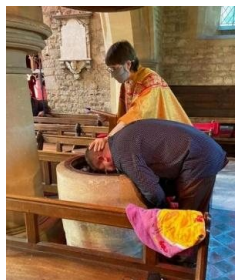
You are invited to
Alice's last service
 in *St Michael and All Angels, Finmere*
 at *11 am*
 on *Sunday 10th August*
 and afterwards
 to a 'bring and share' picnic
 at *Finmere Village Hall and playing field.*
Come to the service and / or the picnic!
No need to RSVP.
Parking in the village halls
Everyone is welcome!

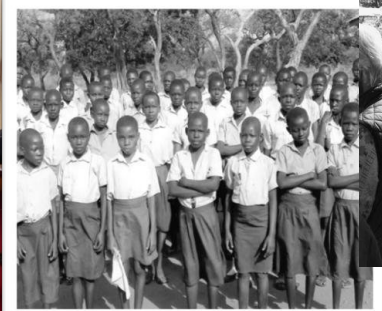
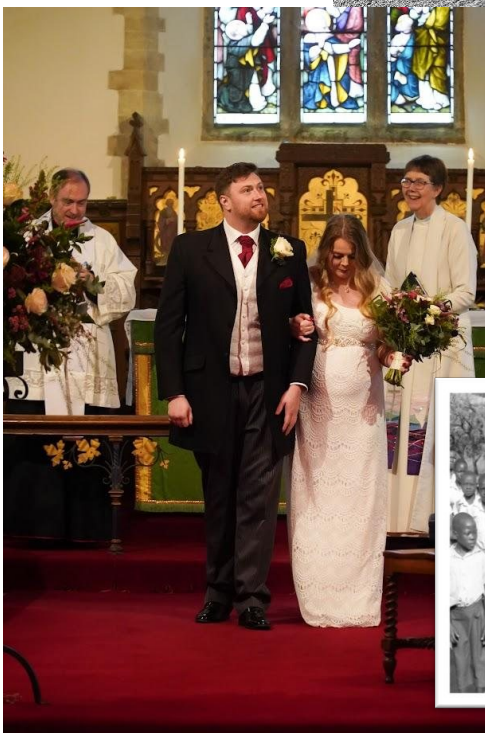




**Goodbye, Alice and Joe.
You've both been amazing!**









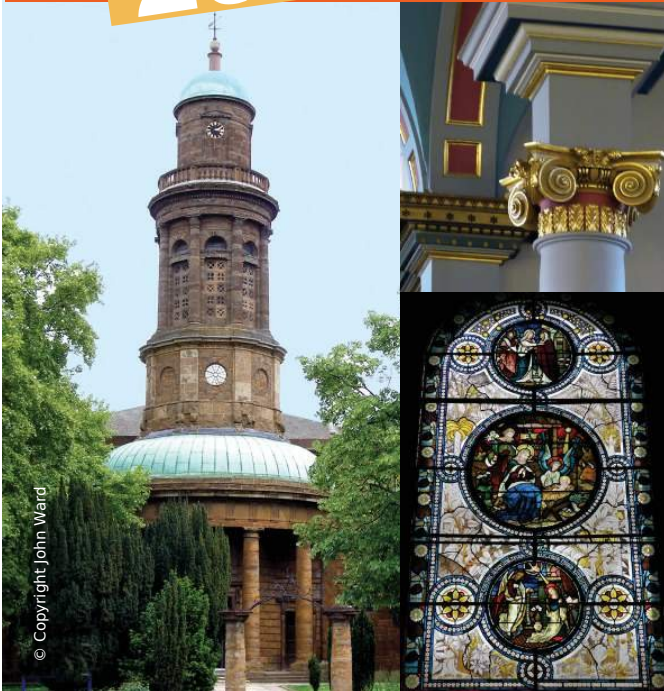
**Thank you for everything!
We're going to miss you a lot.**



TH
13
SEPT
2025

RIDE+STRIDE **for Churches**

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



© Copyright John Ward

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

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



Many ways to take part, cycling, walking, horse riding, bell-ringing, with a mobility aid or contact us to check out your plan! Sign up with our online fund-raising partners GoodHub.



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

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

WULU GIRLS PRIMARY SCHOOL, SOUTH SUDAN

Summary of information from Martin Ngula Simon, County Procurement Officer, Wulu County

In our community girls are the most vulnerable group as they are mean of getting resources, and it is said if you educate girls, you educate the nation and educating girls is important because it ensures the gender equities and equalities. It is best to have a school only for girls to avoid disturbances from boys and allow them to study freely.

The school opened in 2008 and is run by the Church. 185 girls are enrolled this term and 165 or 170 attend each day on average. They take exams at the end of every term or year and finish school at 17-18 years old due to our situation and context. (Primary is intended for 6-13 years.) For now, Wulu Girls has no P8 (the top year) so this means no girls can go on to Wulu Secondary School. In our community girls can be married by then, but now they look for money and go to school.

There are only four classrooms but seven classes. There are blackboards in the classrooms, but they need renovation. The girls wear school uniform provided by parents as the school has no budget for these. The school is free, but learners have to buy textbooks, pens, exercise books etc from markets. The school has no computers and no internet access.

'Beli and Dinka languages are spoken, but not all the girls know 'Beli, so it is taught. It is important for the girls to learn English (the government language) and know about their cultures as well.



Five teachers are getting the incentive payments of **20 USD** per month which is paid in cash. It helps them cater for their families' needs and treatments. Only two teachers receive government pay and there are three new teachers this year.



sorghum

The Church has just started a school garden to grow groundnut, semsem (sesame) and sorghum. Funds from the garden can support the school and help feeding the teachers. In the nearest future we plan to provide food for the girls because when the school has feeding it can attract more learners to join the school. Girls are taught at home by their mothers about growing food, and cooking.

Wulu Diocese is overwhelmed with happiness for your usual support. Here are some important things:

- a. The School is in an open place where motorcycles and vehicles pass, meaning the school needs to be fenced.
- b. Classrooms are not enough, some children are studying under trees
- c. No concrete office for the teachers



*Thank
you*

Thanks to everyone's generous giving, the well-attended Cream Teas on 29th June raised **£399** on the day for Wulu, and some more donations have come in since. The cakes and scones were much appreciated in a cool church on a hot day. Heartfelt thanks go to the willing bakers and helpers.

In July the Benefice sent **£600** for the Teachers Incentive Scheme.

As a Benefice we are privileged to be able to support Bishop Zachariah's desire to see girls' education improved via the Teachers' Incentive Scheme. If you would like to contribute to this, the details are:

Account Name: Shelswell Group of Churches

Sort Code: 30 91 39 **Account No:** 00261525 **Ref:** Wulu

Midweek Holy Communion and Soup Lunch at Stoke Lyne – Thursday, 3rd July 2025

The Rector, the Reverend Alice Goodall, led the service assisted by Reverend Liz Welters. Alice began by welcoming all to the service and prayers.

The Gospel reading Galatians Chapter 5 was read by Rena. Alice then did a second reading from Galatians Chapter 5. The story is about Jesus setting us free, so we can live as free people. Paul says that having been freed through the faithful life, death and resurrection of Jesus we are now able to live as Jesus did in love for our neighbour.

After the short service of Holy Communion, we then moved over to the tables set for lunch, to enjoy a choice of two soups with bread rolls, most of us tried both. Then there was a choice of three desserts of which you could have seconds.

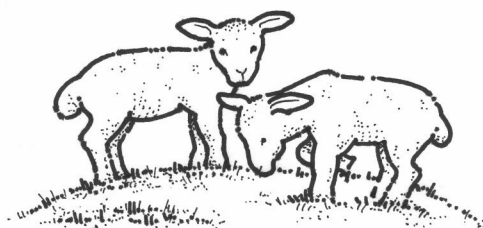
We would like to say a big thankyou to the Ministry team and helpers for providing the food for lunch.

This was Alice's last time doing the Midweek Holy Communion and soup lunch, we will all miss her and wish her and Joe good health in their new venture.

Our next Midweek Holy Communion and Soup Lunch will be on Thursday, 4th September at 12.00 at St Peter's Church, Stoke Lyne.

Rena Andrews

	<p>MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION AND SOUP LUNCH</p> <p><i>No midweek Communion in August - returning on Thursday 4th September at 12 noon!</i></p> <p>Stoke Lyne Church</p>	
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LITTLE LAMBS BABIES & TODDLER GROUP – HELPERS NEEDED – PLEASE CONSIDER OFFERING TO HELP

Two or three new volunteers needed in term time to help the Children and Families Worker at Little Lambs which is held in Stratton Audley Church - making refreshments, chatting to Mums and Carers, clearing up at the end. 9.45am to approximately 12 noon on Wednesdays. Usually no more than twice a term. You would need to have a DBS check, which we would arrange. Interested? Please contact Penny on 01869-277310 or penelope.wood@btopenworld.com.

Major investment in local churches and parish clergy as £1.6bn three-year national spending plans unveiled



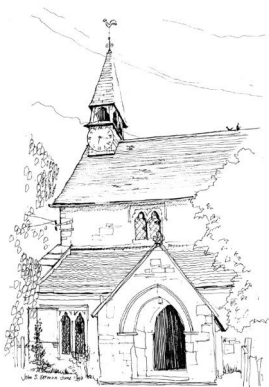
The Church Commissioners' funding towards work of the church is set to leap by 36 per cent in the three-year period 2026-28, amounting to the biggest distribution in Church's history.

The C of E plans to invest more than £1.6 billion towards sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and serving local communities over the next three years. In total, it plans to invest £4.6 billion over the next nine years, from 2026 to 2034.

Also, the typical stipend is set to rise 10.7 per cent next year, under new proposals as clergy well-being put at centre of spending plans.

On top of that, the funding for churches in the lowest income communities will jump from £91 million spent in the last three years, to £133.5 million.

There will also be a major focus on safeguarding, for which £30 million has been allocated.



The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: "Parishes and clergy are at the heart of everything we do in the Church."

Mike Green, Treasurer of St Edmund & St George Church in Hethe commented, "It is good to know that our clergy are to be looked after!

"It is welcome news that the Church Commissioners are releasing funds and may satisfy many people who believe that the CofE is "cash rich" so why should they contribute their money to the local parish church.

"However, the Diocese have been releasing more money in grants for works with conditions such as that parishes should be paying their full Parish Share. A reduction in Share would be the fairest option and would benefit all parishes and would allow individual churches to make their own choice as to how they used the money - ie day to day expenses or works."

Janey Poole, Treasurer of St Peter's in Stoke Lyne agrees with the last point. "We are finding it increasingly hard to pay in full our Diocesan share. It would be more helpful to small parishes to reduce our overheads rather than allow The Church of England to distribute from their central office which is very detached from our small community.

"If ever we need help from The Diocese procedures are complex and timescales very drawn out, requiring expertise which takes more funds and time which would be better spent developing our mission.

She has a further suggestion, "There is potential for long term money saving improvements but these require up-front capital investment on a large scale that at present is not available [to St Peter's]. Some kind of capital loan fund would be useful. "



The Parish Share is the money paid from our parishes to the Church of England. The broad church group savetheparish.org has recently criticised the level of Parish Share and how it is spent.

Registry

Baptisms

Ernie Arthur WALTON

St Edmund and St George, Hethe

Sunday 6th July 2025

It was a delight to welcome Ernie and his family to Hethe Church on the morning of Sunday 6th July – Ernie is just seven months old and the first child of Molly and Jonnie Walton who live in Hethe. They were married in Hethe church in August 2021 (delayed a year because of Covid), and indeed Molly was born and grew up in Hethe, the daughter of Philip and Jane Mansfield.

Since getting married, both have changed jobs. After spending over 9 years with the GB rowing team, Jonnie is now a banker. And Molly has moved from teaching to tutoring people engaged in apprenticeships. But the biggest and happiest change has been Ernie's arrival!

Jonnie and Molly wanted to have Ernie christened partly because it is a family tradition, and partly because they wanted to celebrate his arrival and give thanks for his birth. But it was also important to him that he become a part of the church family, and particularly to Hethe church because of the links that the Mansfield family have had with it over the years. They also wanted him to have godparents, because godparents had been important to both of them in their lives. And they wanted him to be in a position to have a faith as he moves forward and to have a good strong moral base.

Ernie has four godparents: Natalie Warrington, Dora Mansfield, Joe Mansfield and Archie Mansfield. Molly and Jonnie had chosen two hymns for the service: 'All things bright and beautiful' and 'Sing hosanna'. And there were two readings: Ephesians 4: 1 – 3, 32 and the poem 'Wishes'.

'A life of gentleness and love'

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4: 1 – 3, 32

everyone was invited to write their own prayers for him, which were put in a little box for him to read when he is older. At the end of the service we presented him with a children's Bible and a candle.

We have been having such lovely weather that Molly and Jonny had planned to have a celebratory lunch in their garden. But just before the service, the heavens opened and everyone had to look out their umbrellas. By the time we finished, the rain had stopped and the sun had come out once again – so off they went to dry off the cushions and enjoy the afternoon.

We pray that Ernie will grow up to know for himself just how much he is loved by God, and will walk in this love throughout his life.



Baptism



Samuel James Jeffrey GOUGH
St Edmund and St George, Hethe
Sunday 6th July 2025

As 1 pm drew nearer, Hethe church began to fill up for its second christening of the day with Samuel's family and friends. Samuel is the third child of Eleanor and Curtis Gough. They too were married in Hethe church in June 2016, and their other two boys – Zacc and Theo - were christened there.

The family now lives in Bicester - Curtis works as a stone mason and Eleanor as a paediatric nurse. The children go to the same primary school that Eleanor used to attend.

Samuel took the event in his stride. He has four godparents – Terry Allan, Andrew Nash, Denise Wilson and Ashleigh Wilkie. There were three hymns: 'Lord of the dance', 'He's got the whole world in his hands' and 'Sing hosanna'.

Eleanor and Curtis had chosen the Bible reading from Matthew 18: 1 – 5 where the disciples were wanting to know who would have the best seats in heaven and Jesus took a child and said 'this is how you need to be'. He went on to say 'whoever welcomes one such child welcomes me'. They had also chosen the lovely poem 'Wishes'.

To help us think about christenings, the children then made baptingles – we lit these and held them as we sang 'He's got the whole world in his hands'.

After Samuel had been baptised, everyone was invited to write their prayers for him, which we collected in a little box for him. And then his brother Theo presented him with his candle, with a little help from Zacc. There were photos, and then everyone went off to Launton to continue the celebrations.

We pray that God will continue to bless Samuel and the whole family, and that Samuel will discover for himself the length and breadth and depth of God's love for him.

Wishes

May you know the gift of friendship,
 feel the sun upon your face,
 may you win displaying dignity,
 and accept defeat with grace.
 May you marvel at the wonders,
 of nature and the earth,
 may you value education,
 and know your own true worth.
 May you live and love with honesty,
 and do the thing that's right,
 may you stand up for the helpless,
 and sleep in peace at night.
 May you thrive upon a challenge,
 and sing and dance and laugh,
 may you know the joy of parenthood,
 and follow your own path.



Wedding

Samuel Alexander LAIDLER and Megan Emily TARBARD
St Michael and All Angels, Fringford
Saturday 14th June 2025



Sam and Megan have recently moved to Westbury with their son Teddy who is three years old. Megan's mum has lived in Fringford since 2020, and Sam and Megan thought it would be lovely to be married there.

They first got to know one another when they were at college in Silverstone about 14 years ago – at that time Sam was doing bricklaying and Megan was doing animal care. However they got into a relationship in 2019 when they recognised each other on a dating app.

They went out for a meal for their first date, which led to Sam having food poisoning, but they did not let this put them off. After a few more dates, Covid struck, at which point Megan went to stay with Sam, and three houses and one child later, we were gathered together in Fringford Church to see them wed. They had managed to choose the same day as the Fringford Beer Festival, but largely the guests seemed to come straight to the church rather than diverting for a pint or two first!

Sam is now director of a construction company, and Megan is a retail manager. And Teddy is a lively little boy who was excited to see him mummy and daddy get married.

Sam had two best men, Simon and Will, and three groomsmen: Jeff, James and Olly. Megan had three flower girls and four bridesmaids – Holly, Grace, Mia and Lily. And Teddy was the page boy.

Megan entered the church on her dad's arm to Joesef's 'Let's stay together'. The couple had chosen two hymns: 'Sing hosanna' and 'Lord of the dance'. There were two Bible readings: that famous hymn of love 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 7 read by Mia Wetherall and an excerpt from Song of Solomon (2: 10 – 13) read by Greg Heald. Whilst we were signing the Marriage Document, everyone listened to Stevie Wonder's 'Signed, sealed and delivered', and the couple left the church to Father John Misty's 'Read love baby' and the sound of the bells being chimed by some of Megan's friends.

We wish them every happiness in their life together, and pray that their marriage will be life long and life enhancing.



Wedding

Shaun Christopher ATKINS and Olivia Jayne GIRVAN
St Peter's, Stoke Lyne
Friday 27th June 2025

Olivia's family have long standing links with Stoke Lyne Church – her grandparents Jenny and Mike Curtis were married in the church and lived for many years in Picadilly Cottage. Her mum Gail grew up in the village and was also married in the church. Liv herself was christened in the church, and there have been various other family events marked in the church, so it was only right that she and Shaun should get married there.

Shaun and Liv have been together for 11 years. They met in a bar – Shaun had lost his phone and so was busy writing important numbers on a piece of paper – Leanne jokingly asked if he wanted hers – and from that, romance blossomed. The couple now live in Brackley. Shaun works as a roofer and cladder, and Liv as a recruiter.

Liv entered the church on the arm of her stepdad John to an orchestrated version of 'Never enough'. Rather charmingly, the day before Liv's wedding, her mum posted a photo of her walking down the path on her dad's arm when she was just a little girl (left).



She had four bridesmaids: Lucy, Katie, Lauren and Chelsie. Shaun had two best men: Lee and Justin.

Lee had to work extra hard as he was responsible for playing the music through the church's amplification system. The order of service came in the form of a newspaper: The Wedding Day Post.

Shaun and Liv had chosen one hymn: 'All things bright and beautiful'. They had two readings – 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – 8 read by Shaun's dad Stanley Atkins, and 'Love is friendship caught fire' read by Ian Curtis. Whilst we were signing the Marriage Document, everyone listened to RuthAnne's 'The Vow', and at the end of the service, the newly weds left the church to the bells chiming and Etta Jones singing 'At last'.

We pray for Shaun and Liv that their marriage will be long and happy, and that they will know God's blessing throughout it.



Club News



SHELSWELL WI



For our July meeting we welcomed a return visit from Stuart Cummins. This time he entertained us with his talk about his career as a structural engineer, Left a Bit Right a Bit.

The year is going fast and August sees us participating in our annual walk. In September our speaker is Anna Wheeler and her talk 'From High Street to High Fashion in Knitwear', followed in October by Dave Wheeler and his presentation about the work of the Thames Air Ambulance.

Also in September we will be celebrating 110 years of the WI.

Oxfordshire Federation also have some very interesting classes, talks and trips coming up in the near future.

If you would like to come and join our friendly group contact Sandra Bickmore at sandrambickmore@gmail.com.

We meet monthly usually on the first Thursday of the month 7.30pm in Fringford Village Hall.

SHELSWELL READING GROUP

The Shelswell Reading group is a great opportunity to read a variety of books, from best sellers to classics and everything in between. If you are not sure about joining, why not come along for a meeting to meet the group and see what we are about. No need to have read the book for that month - just come along and meet all of us and listen in. If you are interested, please let Jane Birnage know - janebirnage@icloud.com 07770 220605

Our next meetings are:

1. Monday 4th August, 7.30 pm – at 1/2 Hethe Cottages, Cottisford Next Book – 'Tell me Everything' by Elizabeth Strout
2. TBC. Monday 1st September, 7.30 pm – at Manor Grange, Cottisford

Our July meeting was postponed due to various conflicts, so we will be discussing 'Tell me Everything' by Elizabeth Strout at our August Book Club.



SHELSWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

An August Midnight

I

A shaded lamp and a waving blind,
And the beat of a clock from a distant floor:
On this scene enter--winged, horned, and spined -
A longlegs, a moth, and a dumbledore;
While 'mid my page there idly stands
A sleepy fly, that rubs its hands . . .

II

Thus meet we five, in this still place,
At this point of time, at this point in space.
- My guests parade my new-penned ink,
Or bang at the lamp-glass, whirl, and sink.
"God's humblest, they!" I muse. Yet why?
They know Earth-secrets that know not I.

The poem for August is **An August Midnight** by Thomas Hardy (1840-1928). The poet muses on how a chance collection of creatures in his room causes him to pause in his writing and think about their place in the universe, humble as they are compared with man. It is a theme he also deals with in **The Darkling Thrush** and **Afterwards**. Living in Dorset for much of his life, he felt a close connection with the natural world and used it as a backdrop in many of his novels.

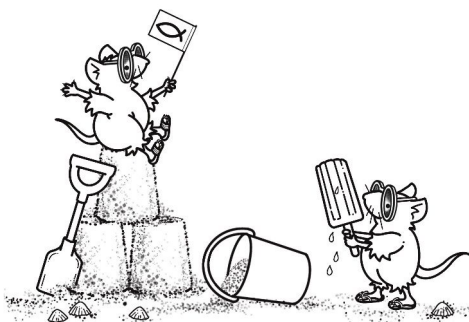
At our June meeting, we were depleted in number, due to illness and holidays, but filled every minute with the poems we had chosen. We began with a brief extract from a poem which was a balm to anyone who has recently lost a beloved relative, friend or animal companion. We went on the look at the deceptively simple **The Star** by Ann Taylor (1782-1866) and her sister Jane (1783-1824). As a poem/nursery rhyme it is full of simple (if now disproved) facts for young minds, along with some imaginative flourishes.

We continued with two poems evoking heat in their various ways. **Work and Play** by Ted Hughes (1930-98) makes us think about how a swallow's work seems to the poet far more full of joy and beauty than crowds of holiday makers supposedly 'at play'.

The final poem was **The Lotos Eaters** by Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-92), based on Homer's Odyssey. He takes the episode of Odysseus having to rescue his travel-weary sailors from the island of the lotos eaters when the scouts sent on ahead have been given the lotos fruit to eat. Sunk into dreamy anarchy, they have lost the will to do anything more than eat more of the fruit which drugs them. Modern interpretations include that Tennyson was warning of the dangers of laudanum and opium in making passive and dependent ghosts of a growing number of addicts in Victorian Britain, but it can also be enjoyed as an evocation of a warm, soft and voluptuous way of life which almost lulls the reader to sleep with its use of onomatopoeia (language which evokes the sounds and feelings of the thing described).

Our July meeting will be on Tuesday 15th at 10.30. If you would like to join us, please contact me on 01869 811994 or at 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 Flora Skinner Tel: 01869 277366
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Sandra Bickmore, Thatch End, Juniper Hill (sandrambickmore@gmail.com)

SERVICES

Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service with us
 Sunday 17th August 10.45 am Holy Communion

COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A big thank you to Jane and David who hosted an impromptu pop up pub in June. The weather was amazing and we all enjoyed the evening in their beautiful garden. Our next event will be a coffee morning on Tuesday 22 July 10.30 at Manor Grange Cottisford.

On September 19 we will be holding a wine and nibbles evening in Cottisford Church.

If you would like to help the social committee in any way contact sandra at sandrambickmore@gmail.com



Finmere

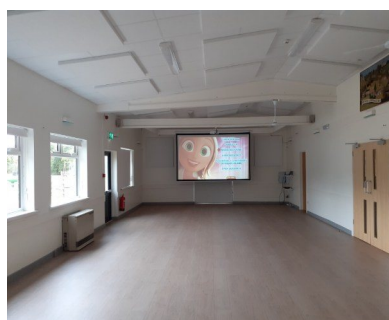
St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: Barbara Cunningham, 'Woodlea' Finmere, Tel: 01280 847992
 TREASURER: Emma Brennan emma_mary@hotmail.co.uk
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Katherine Grimston, The Old Rectory, Finmere Tel: 01280 848364
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Paul Nash Email: paan63@yahoo.co.uk Tel 01280 848268

Church Services

Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion (CW) - Alice's last service
 Sunday 24th August 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

Village Hall



The village hall is available for hire. Facilities include AV system with a new projector and larger screen, plus sound system. Fitted kitchen, Meeting room, Patio doors onto the children's play area and enlarged storage spaces for regular users. WiFi facilities are available. For all hall booking enquiries, please visit www.myfinmere.com/villagehall.





Allotments



This is the month all growers look forward to. It's the beginning of harvest and time to start evaluating which crops have done well. This year most allotment holders are a little disappointed with carrots but on the other hand, brassicas, chard, salads and beans are all prolific and potatoes are delicious. The main winner in this weather however, has been the soft fruits: strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants and gooseberries have all been wonderful.

Jams and ice creams have been made so when we are eating them in mid winter, we can look back at this wonderful season with great memories!

Contact below for a plot and start planning next year now.

Interested, visit www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot and select the 'enquiry' link.

Jean (Allotment correspondent)



Sorry folks...
In August, there will be no
Tuesday Teas

Teas will resume on Tuesday 9th September
Finmere Village Hall
2 - 4 pm

Everyone welcome – no charge

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

Finmere Poor's Plot – www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot

Old Finmere history website – www.myfinmere.com/history

Finmere on Wikipedia - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Finmereipedia>

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

Light lunch

Finmere Village Hall
4th Tuesday of the month
No charge but donations appreciated



**TO BOOK YOUR PLACE
 PLEASE RING DEBBIE
 07765 874090**

Monthly at the village hall



Pop Up Pub

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 3 August – at 10.45am - Morning Service
- **Sunday 10 August - at 11.00am Holy Communion in Finmere Church followed by a Bring & Share Lunch in the Village Hall.**
Alice's last service with us.
- Sunday 17 August – at 10.45am Holy Communion
- Sunday 31 August - at 10.45am Holy Communion – a Benefice Service in Stratton Audley Church

There is a variety of services available in the Benefice. For details of those services please see the back cover of this *Shelswell News*.

EVENTS

Fringford Beer, Cider & Perry Festival on Saturday 14th June raised £8,500 for the Church Restoration Fund - a great outcome.

On 5 July the concert by **Opus Sax**, led by Lily Skinner, was a very enjoyable occasion. The quartet delivered a brilliant and varied programme. Thanks to generous donations from the audience, who clearly appreciated the concert, we were able to support the quartet with over £200.00.

SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE

It's that time of year again - the good old 'Ride and Stride, in aid of Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and a church that you nominate.

Would you consider riding and getting sponsored to do so? Get a sponsor form from me. The Ride & Stride takes place on 13 September. See how many churches you can visit in the time available. For more information contact Penny on 01869-277310.



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

Numbers cost £3 a month (£36 annually) Payment by BACS, cheque or cash. Draw each month for 50% of the income divided amongst 3 winners: at the moment 1st prize £61, 2nd £37, 3rd £25. 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. Times are: from 10.00am to 11.30am. [Not during holidays and half term.] Just come along. If you need information in the meantime, email admin@shelswellparishes.info . [Volunteers still needed to help at Little Lambs – see General Section – could you help?

FRINGFORD VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING

Village Coffee Mornings usually take place on the third Monday of each month. In August we will meet on Monday 18th. Drop by for a coffee/tea and a chat any time between 10.30 am and 12 noon. It is in the Chinnery Room at the Village Hall. Contact Penny on 277310 if you want more information.

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 any sort of craft.

You are also welcome to drop in for a tea or coffee and a chat, crafts not essential

We get together once a month, either on a Wednesday evening at 7 – 9pm
or Sunday afternoon at 3 – 5pm
In the Chinnery Room at Fringford Village Hall.

Our next sessions for 2025 are:

August	No meeting
September	Wednesday 17 th
October	Sunday 19 th
November	Wednesday 19 th
December	Sunday 14 th

No need to book – just come and join us!

If you would like information, please email Irene ireneethomas@btinternet.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
<p style="text-align: center;">FS Dance Monday & Wednesday (term time) After school classes BALLET • TAP • MODERN • STREET 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 Penny Wood 01869 277310</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Council Meeting All villagers welcome Third Monday in the month 7.45pm Contact 01844 237766 or fringford.parishclerk@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Just Puppies Puppy Training Tuesday evening, Sunday afternoon – various classes Contact Kerri 07720 891489 www.justpuppies.training</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Fringford Yoga Wednesday (term time) 9.30am – 11am Carolyn White 07763 817078</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bicester Meditation Space & Sound Bath First Sunday of the month from 6 -9 pm Sonia - contact@holisticaxis.com Please text - 07709634847</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Pilates Thursday at 10.00am natashaflowerspilates@gmail.com or 07545 525820</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Shelswell WI First Thursday of the month 7.30pm (Not December or August) Contact Sandra Bickmore 07961 828571</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">My Baby Spa Monday mornings Spa experience for babies and toddlers 1 – 4 years www.mybabyspa.co.uk contact Danielle at contact@mybabyspa.co.uk</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fringford Sewcial Sew and Chat! Monthly Wednesday from 7pm Or Sunday from 3pm Contact Irene at ireneethomas@btinternet.com</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 Team Meeting Please contact for dates Open meetings – all welcome fringford.hall@gmail.com or 07936 879175</p>
<p>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
 TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Flora Skinner
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Veronica Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick
 WEBSITE: <http://hardwickvillage.btck.co.uk>

Tel 01869 277690
 Tel 01869 277690
 Tel: 01869 277366
 Tel 01869 277690

Church Services at Hardwick Church

Sunday 3rd August 9.15 am Holy Communion
 Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service
 Sunday 24th August 6.00 pm Evensong with the Shelswell Group Choir



Hardwick Church will be open every day from 10am to 4pm.

Private prayer and quiet contemplation

View the architecture, memorials and stained-glass windows

Please make use of this special space

Pilgrim Pathways

Why not walk the Hethe to Hardwick to Cottisford to Hethe "Pilgrim Pathway". 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 churches or contact David Barnes (01869 277690), who can send you one.

Hardwick Church guidebook

The guidebook for Hardwick church and the parish of Hardwick with Tusmore is available to collect from the church or contact David Barnes (01869 277690), who can send one to you. 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. We ask that you make a minimum donation of £5 to church funds.

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

ST EDMUND & ST GEORGE CHURCH



**“All churches need friends,
and they are out there ready to be made”**

Church Services and Events

There are no services in the church this month. At the time of preparing this news, we were waiting for confirmation that repairs to the church would be started this month in which case it will be closed. Remember that you will always be welcome at services in any of the other churches in the benefice, or if you are away from the village, you can find a nearby service through the web site <https://www.achurchnearyou.com>.

Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service with us.

The image at the top of this news and the one featured in the July edition, were dated 1903.



Thank you to Flora and Lily for the concert by Opus Sax held in the church on 6th July which raised £300 for church funds. Flora wrote:

“Saxophone fans were in for a massive treat on the weekend of July 5th and 6th with two contrasting concerts from Opus Sax, fresh from their exuberant appearance at Fringford Beer Festival a couple of weekends previously.

Hethe, continued

"The programme at Fringford ranged from JS Bach's Little Fugue in G minor through Piazzolla's 'Histoire du Tango' to some beguiling pieces by contemporary composers David Salleras, Edward McGuire and Andy Scott. They finished triumphantly with the atmospheric 'Witch Hunt' by Ulrich Schuttheiss, full of frantic energy and complete with witchy screams.

"At Hethe, the quartet showed off another facet of their musical prowess, bringing us some soulful sound pictures in Althea Talbot-Howard's 'Rievaulx' and Ola Gjeilo's 'Northern Lights'. At the other end of the spectrum there was ragtime and jazz, familiar tunes to get our toes tapping, and 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square' to sing along to. They finished with an arrangement of George Michael's 'Careless Whisper' before drawing to a close with a rousing 'Cantina Band', a favourite with Star Wars fans - what a joy!!" And thanks to Gary for the photo.

Open Village Meeting

In summary, the meeting was useful as people took the opportunity to voice any concerns, what they value about the church and what was the legal position regarding its future use.

Flora opened the meeting and stressed that although there is shortage of money, without people who are willing to help with the day to day running of the church it will not survive. This includes membership of the PCC in addition to cleaning and churchyard maintenance. There is plenty to do!

We are grateful to the Archdeacon of Dorchester, the Venerable David Tyler, for his involvement.

- He explained that the Church of England is not "cash rich" but is nevertheless releasing more funds which should trickle down to the clergy and local parishes.
- St Edmund and St George Church was unlikely to be accepted as having sufficient historical interest to merit it being taken on by a church conservation trust. If it were to be closed for regular services, it is unlikely that it would be converted for residential use. In the worst case, and despite its listing, it could be demolished.
- Although there is some uncertainty over what would happen to the church if it were to be closed, the Parish Council would be responsible for the churchyard.

There were many suggestions as to how money could be raised and the necessity to engage with more people, particularly those who do not come to these meetings or other parish events. These included considering more varied use of the building, improving the facilities (especially water and a toilet), more musical events (the acoustics in the church are better than those in the village hall). The possibility was floated of doing more across a number of local parishes. The idea of a "Community Hub" to involve more people and raise funds is to be discussed further, realising that without the involvement and commitment of more people the church won't survive - regardless of the amount of money in church funds.

We heard that many people visit the church for the peace and quiet that they find there. It was acknowledged that we all have spiritual needs, whatever our beliefs, and the engagement of more villagers is required.

The Church of St Edmund & St George

a

Can you get involved in helping to
keep Hethe's Parish Church open
and accessible to all?

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Save our Church



The Church of St Edmund & St George

You can be part of all of this by:

- Joining the PCC, or
- Joining the worshipping community, or
- Volunteering in the church and churchyard, or
- Giving - monthly, quarterly, annually, one-off or
- Fund Raising to preserve the church

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Save our Church

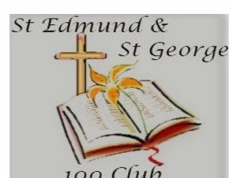


Thank you to everyone who came to the meeting and those who were not able to attend but gave useful input. Finally, thank you to those who volunteered to join a rota for cleaning the church and providing flowers.

Churchyard. Thanks to Ian Soper and Helen Pritchard for strimming and raking. There is more to be done if anyone can help, please contact Flora for guidance as we need to preserve some wild areas. Helen is approaching tree surgeons to assess the safety of the walnut tree due to the dry weather which is causing limbs to break off trees. Philip Mansfield has made an excellent job of clearing the fallen branch at the far end of the churchyard.

Finances

We would be grateful if you could consider giving a regular donation to the church to help keep the doors open. It needn't be too much – current donors give between £10 and £70 a month. There is a simple means of setting up a regular donation to the church through the Parish Giving Scheme – you decide how much, how often, when and whether you can allow gift aid to be claimed. Simply follow this link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/home/>, enter Hethe and select St Edmund & St George Church; then select donate and follow the instructions on the screen. Alternatively, you can access the church page through this QR Code or phone the team who are responsible for the scheme on 0333 002 1271. **This link can also be used to give a one-off donation.**



St Edmund & St George 100 Club

Results of the 77th draw held
on 25th June 2025

1st Prize No 30 John & Sue Schutz
2nd Prize No 6 Helen Pritchard Family
3rd Prize No 53 Anne Mansfield

Many thanks to our members
Hethe PCC

Many thanks to Helen Pritchard who has now taken over the running of the 100 Club.

Ride & Stride. Note the date – Saturday 13th September.



“Ride + Stride is the single largest source of income for many Historic Churches Trusts enabling them to make Grants to places of Christian worship. Taking place on the 2nd Saturday of September the funds raised can be split between the nominated Trust and the participants chosen church or chapel.”

Our church will be greeting those taking part, so we hope to see you then - there could be cake available to sustain you on your travels! If you would like to take the opportunity to help the church, we need volunteers to meet and greet, in hourly sessions. Please let Mike know if you are available.

Next PCC meeting, Wednesday 15th October.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Hethe Community Coffee Morning in St Philip's Hall

Monday 11th August from 10.00am to 12.00pm

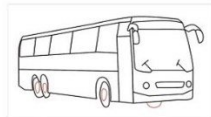
***Friends, neighbours, dog walkers, pram pushers:
an opportunity to meet during the daytime – there's great
cake too!***



Hethe and District Darby & Joan Club

meeting at Hethe Village Hall on the third Tuesday of the month, 2-4pm
and
holding a Bingo Night at Hethe Village Hall every third Saturday of the month, 7.30pm

SUMMER EVENTS



Membership £15 p.a.
New members welcome.

May 20th Coach to Webbs Wychbold
June 17th Coach to Welwyn garden city
July 15th Coach Mystery Tour
August 19th Coach to Eastbourne
September 16th Coach to Worcester

October 21st AGM Hethe Village Hall 2pm
November 18th meeting Hethe Village Hall 2pm
Nov 25th Coach Moreton in Marsh & Broadway
December 2nd Christmas Party members only.

Parish Council. The next meeting of the council will take place on Tuesday 14th October, starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Pop-up Pub. Friday 1st August in the Village Hall, from 7.00 to 10.00pm. Everyone welcome. Bring your own drinks of choice, snacks and games!

New Bus Service



Monday to Saturday - pick up at Hethe War Memorial at 07.39, 10.54, 1342 and 15.42. Last bus departs Bicester at 17.50 to arrive in Hethe at 18.12. Note that this service does not operate on Bank Holidays.

For **Village Hall bookings**, please contact Flora, the Village Hall Booking Secretary, on 01869 277366 fjskinner@hotmail.co.uk.

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

Keep up to date with what is happening in the village through:

Our village web site (courtesy of the Parish Council): <https://www.hethe.org/>

Facebook Pages:

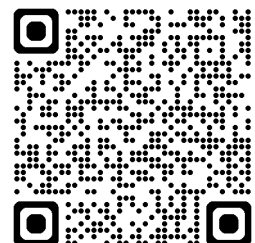
Community Spirit of the Hethens

Hethe Community

Hethe Allotments

The Next Door App - <https://nextdoor.co.uk/>

Shelswell Lift Share WhatsApp Group – Contact Flora to join



Mixbury All Saints

CHURCHWARDENS: Martin Ayres, Northwell Farm, Finmere
Alec Howard, Middlestead, Mixbury
TREASURER: David Mitchell. 2 Town Farm, Mixbury
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Anna Howard
CORRESPONDENT: Sue Goodman pasgoodman551@gmail.com

Tel 07899 792552
Tel 01280 848295
Tel 01280 847769
Tel 01280 848295 MAGAZINE
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

There is no service in Mixbury this month, but you are very welcome in other churches in the Benefice and don't forget **Alice's last service with Bring & Share picnic at Finmere on Sunday 10th August at 11 am**

MIXBURY CHURCH FLOWER ROTA 2025

August	Helen Backon
September	Philippa Brown
	Harvest festival – everyone
October	Morag Westworth
November	Fi Bairstow
December	Carol service and Christmas - everyone
Reserve	Sam Lockwood

Thank you to everyone for doing church flowers. It's much appreciated.

If anyone wishes to be added or removed from the list, please get in touch with Eryl on 07840 464541.



MIXBURY CHURCH CLEANING ROTA 2025

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.

AUGUST Rebecca Ayres and Eryl Tobin
SEPTEMBER Giovanna Holdcroft and Tanya Howroyd
OCTOBER Emma Bray and Viv Williams
NOVEMBER Alison Bailey, Pam Burrill and Jules Channon
DECEMBER Gail Bellingham, Mel Soar & Sue Boshier

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 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.

MIXBURY KNIT AND NATTER

Courtesy of Anna at Swallows Nursery Mixbury Knit and Natter now meets fortnightly in the coffee shop at the Nursery. 2-4pm. Next date: 29th July and 12th August.

All welcome – and you don't have to knit or crochet, just come along and chat! Swallows not only sell lovely plants but coffee and cake too.....!

MIXBURY HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY ARCHIVE

If you are new to the village you may not know that Mixbury has a vast history archive collection held in the Church. The key holders, if you should wish to view any of the collection are: Jason and Mel, Phil and Sue Goodman and Pat Beveridge. We held an Open Day last year where the Mixbury Lace and dolls along with other pieces of the collection were displayed and are hoping to do another next Spring – keep watch out for announcements.

Meanwhile if anyone is interested we have two publications that may be borrowed: "A History of The Church In Mixbury, Before 1900" and "Mixbury Its History and Archaeology" compiled in October 2018. Please contact Sue Goodman if you wish to borrow any of these.

BOOK EXCHANGE

Looking for something to read during the summer – there is a large collection of second hand books in the church for villagers to borrow and replace with any book they may have read.

Newton Purcell St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDENS:	Ann von Maltzahn, Home Farm Shelswell Park	Tel 01280 848680
	Stuart Hinton	Tel: 07593 784143
TREASURER:	Fai Li	Tel: 07725 009838
PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Flora Skinner	Tel: 01869 277366
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT:	Ann von Maltzahn	Tel 01280 848680

Services:-

Sunday 3rd August - 9.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service with us

Church Flower Rota & Cleaning:-

We still need a few more volunteers to spare a tiny bit of their time to occasionally help with a few simple flowers on the altar for our monthly services and to keep the Church clean and tidy. If you think you could help please contact Ann von Maltzahn who will be delighted to hear from you!



Hall to Let:-

Our newly refurbished and well equipped Old School is now available to hire. For details and to make your booking please contact Jackie Le Fevre on 07544 985117 or jackielefevre@btinternet.com

Dates for Your Diary:-

Save the date for his years **Harvest Festival & Lunch** which will be on **Sunday 19th October** with the Church service at 11.00 a.m. followed by the ever popular lunch.

Christmas Concert - Friday 12th December. By popular request the Phoenix Singers have kindly agreed to entertain us once again. More details nearer the time.

Stoke Lyne St Peter's

CHURCHWARDEN: Christopher Poole CTP@oxford-educational.co.uk
James Holden-White

Tel 01869 346020
kholdenwhite@aol.com

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

Tel 07810 120457

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Emma Brown emmabrown911@gmail.com

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Rena Andrews renaandrews820@gmail.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 3rd August 10.45 am 'Connect' Informal Worship

Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service with us

Sunday 17th August 10.00 am Food for Thought

Sunday 24th August 10.45 am Holy Communion

Flower Duty for August

Donita Read

Stoke Lyne 100 Club –July Results

1 st Prize	Membership No 4	Pam Adams
2 nd Prize	Membership No 39	Matt O'Brien
3 rd Prize	Membership No 8	Craig Mitchell

Please contact me if anyone would like to join the 100 club. Half proceeds to much needed funds for the Church and the other half distributed as prize money.

Janey Poole

Treasurer, St Peter's Church PCC

Hot Weather

I hope you are all being very careful with the weather being so hot and humid. There has been lots of information in the press and TV news about how to stay cool and make sure you protect your body with

Stoke Lyne, continued

suncream if you are out in the sun. Especially vulnerable are the babies and elderly. Make sure you drink plenty of water to keep hydrated. Advice on how to cope with the hot weather can be found at:

<https://prepare.campaign.gov.uk/be-informed-about-hazards/hot-weather/>

Rena Andrews

Welcome to the Village

When I went to the coffee morning in aid of Mental Health Week on Saturday 5th July I met Craig and Cerys who, with their daughter Erin, have recently moved into "The Cottage", the last house in the village on the way to Hardwick where Nick and Elaine Barnes used to live. They love the village and are finding lots of lovely footpaths to walk so if you see them please stop and chat. On behalf of the village I would like to extend a warm welcome to them to the village of Stoke Lyne and hope they will be very happy here.

Rena Andrews

Open Mic Night

St Peter's Church, Stoke Lyne

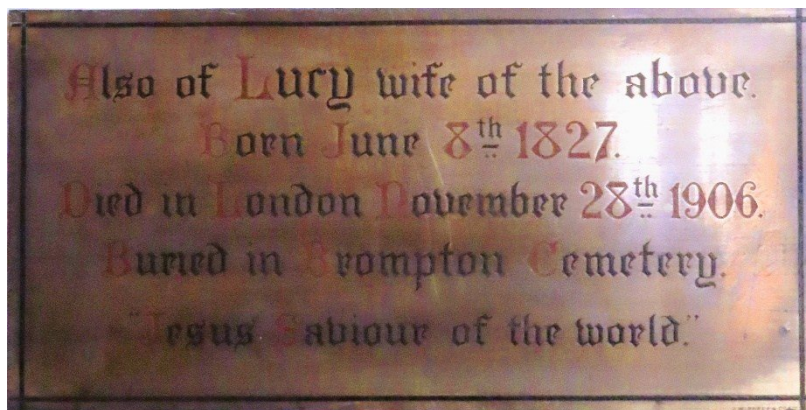
7-11 pm Saturday 2nd August

All artists welcome, if you're interested please contact Ped on 07926 590035

You can just turn up on the night to perform or spectate!
Food and bar will be available



A Look at the Peyton Memorials within the church – Part 5, Lucy wife of Major General Sir Thomas Peyton, 5th Baronet (1817-1888)



Lucy acquired the title "Lady Peyton" in 1872 when her husband became 5th Baronet (He was featured in the June 2025 issue of "Shelswell News"). It is not easy to find out anything about her early days and background. From one of Thomas's obituaries in 1888 we know: *"The deceased baronet married in 1853 Lucy, daughter of William Watts, Esq."* and another one adds that he was *"formerly of the Madras Civil Service."*

However, we know from the later censuses that she was born in London and we have the date of birth from the plaque. With that information I found an image of her baptism in the parish register St Marylebone on the Ancestry website. It states that Lucy Watts, daughter of William and Margaret Watts

was baptised on 1st August 1827. The address was “Grove Place” and William’s occupation was “Gent”. There is a note in the final column that she was born on 8th June.

The next record I have for her is an image of her marriage entry to Thomas Peyton on 3rd November 1852 at Bellary, Madras, India from British India Office records on the FindMyPast website. It states that her father was “William Watts (deceased)”. Unfortunately I cannot pinpoint where and when he died. Watts was a relatively common surname and William was a very popular first name.

Thomas and Lucy produced four children: Algernon Francis (who was in the army before he became the 6th Baronet), Thomas Thornhill (who became Rector of March in Cambridgeshire), William Robert Boileau (who was also in the army) and Elizabeth Gordon. All four were baptised in Secunderbad in India. When Thomas inherited his title, Lucy would have been 45, Algernon 17, Thomas 16, William 13 and Elizabeth 10. The careers of the three sons took them away from home but Elizabeth remained with her parents/mother and never married.

Both Lucy and Elizabeth seemed to have taken a special interest in the village schoolchildren. The Bicester Herald of 18th August 1876 reports:

“STOKE LYNE DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHOLARS had, on August 11, their usual annual treat at Swift’s House, kindly given by Sir Thomas and Lady Peyton. The children assembled in the large field, in which the school premises stand, and, after being arranged in ranks, and having flags distributed amongst them, proceeded on their way to Swift’s House, nearing which they commenced singing a song, when they were met by Lady Peyton and Miss Peyton, Miss Cotton and Miss Calvert (from Maidsmoreton), who lead them to the front lawn, where they played at various games, including croquet, swinging, drop-handkerchief, &c. The party had now become enlarged by the addition of Laura Lady Peyton [widow of the 4th Baronet, later to become Lady Valentia] and party, the Rev. C. D. B. and Mrs. Marsham, and the Misses Joscelyne, and a friend, who kindly joined in the children’s games. The boys were taken to the park, under the guidance of Messrs. T. and W. Peyton, with Rev. C.D.B. Marsham, and Mr. Hankey, where they thoroughly enjoyed themselves with cricketing and racing until they were invited back to the lawn to partake of an excellent tea repast. After tea the children were invited to the other side of the house, where the most successful ones in the late examination were to receive prizes. Three were given for needlework, one for good conduct, and 12 for general proficiency. They included a work-box, work-basket, and smaller work-box, large photographic album, containing photographs of Sir Thomas and Lady Peyton, and Miss Peyton, a writing case for travelling, pairs of illuminated texts, gold alluminium pencil, and handsome pen-knives and books. After the distribution her Ladyship told the unsuccessful children not to be disappointed, but to try again another year. On returning to the lawn there was a “bran-pie” (given by Laura Lady Peyton) for those who had not gained prizes, containing various things: knives, trumpets, balls, needle-cases, purses, &c.; and great fun was caused by the diving for these amongst the bran. Afterwards there was racing for all who liked to join, and varied were the prizes given to the best runners. The children were then formed into ranks and the flags given to them, when they sang several songs, and then marched two or three times round the lawn, receiving cake and buns on passing Lady Peyton. Cheers were heartily given for Sir Thomas and Lady Peyton, Miss Peyton, and Laura Lady Peyton, and the visitors; and, after giving Sir Thomas and her Ladyship “Musical honours,” the children started for home, singing and cheering as they went, and accompanied by Lady Peyton and Miss Peyton to the lodge. The very enjoyable holiday was brought to a close by the children going round the village carrying the flags and singing, finishing with three hearty cheers at the school.”

According to this Bicester Herald report from 24th January 1879 Lucy could play the piano well enough to accompany her daughter Elizabeth singing at local concerts:

“A CONCERT AT STOKE LYNE, the third this season, was given in the schoolroom on Monday evening, Jan. 20. The room was filled. The audience included a number of persons from neighbouring villages. The programme appeared to give satisfaction, the songs and glees being well received. Lady Peyton

accompanied Miss Peyton in the song, "Won't you buy my pretty flowers." and states that it was "Encored and two verses repeated".

In his will Sir Thomas bequeathed £500 to Lucy plus "a yearly jointure rent charge on the estates for life of £1,000, and bequeaths in trust £12,000 to pay for the income thereof to her for her life". It would appear that she used this money to set up home for herself and Elizabeth in London at 25 Egerton Gardens. She first appeared on the Kensington Electoral register at that address in 1892 and remained on it there until her death, when the following advertisement was placed in the Morning Post of 20th February 1907 by instruction of her Executors. It gives a good description of the property:

"No 25. EGERTON-GARDENS. S.W. – An attractive Modern RESIDENCE in red brick, containing eight bed and drawing rooms, box and bath rooms, four separate reception-rooms, and excellent domestic offices, with pantry and servants' hall. The property is of pleasing elevation, situate close to the Oratory, and being within a few minutes' of the Brompton Station of the Piccadilly and Brompton Tube and South Kensington Station, is within easy access of all fashionable parts of town and also the City. Direct Lease of nearly 70 years. Low ground rent. With possession."

Once set up in her new abode Lucy launched upon a series of annual "afternoon receptions" every July which were reported upon in periodicals such as the "Lady's Pictorial" or "The Gentlewoman". Here's the earliest I could find from 1893:

"On Tuesday last the Dowager Lady Peyton gave an afternoon reception at her residence in Egerton-gardens, which was largely attended. The hostess was attired in black and grey, and was ably assisted in receiving the numerous guests by her daughter, Miss Peyton, who wore an exceedingly becoming blue silk dress, trimmed with guipure lace. Mr. Godfrey Holbrach played several very attractive pieces, and there was also singing. Amongst those present were noticed the Countess Amherst, who brought her sister, Miss Probyn, Lady Marriott, Lady Robinson, Lady Peyton, Mrs. Burnside, Miss Wittington, Lady and the Misses du Cane, Miss and Miss Jane Karlake, Mr. and Mrs. Slater-Harrison, and many others too numerous to mention. The rooms were very prettily decorated with flowers."

All the reports are in much the same vein with a description of Lucy and Elizabeth's costumes, the floral decorations, who provided the musical entertainment and a list of principal attendees.

When Lucy died in 1906, the Bicester Herald published the following:

"DEATH AND FUNERAL OF THE DOWAGER LADY PEYTON. The death occurred on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 25, Egerton Gardens, London, of the Dowager lady Peyton, widow of the later Major-General Sir Thomas Peyton, and the mother of the present Baronet, Sir Algernon Peyton, of Swift's House, Bicester. The funeral took place on Monday morning at Brompton Parish, church, the large and beautiful church being crowded with mourners. A most impressive choral service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. Gough, assisted by the Rev. C. Hicks. Amongst the congregation were noticed Viscount Valentia, M.P., Mrs. Slater-Harrison ... (list of names).

There were over ninety beautiful wreaths and crosses sent by the following: - Sir Algernon and Lady, Peyton, Miss Peyton, the Rev. T. T. Peyton, Mrs. and Miss Peyton, Mr. A., Mr. H., and Miss D. Peyton, Viscountess Valentia (another list of names) ... the Farm Tenants at Stoke Lyne, the Servants at 25 Egerton Gardens. The Dowager Lady Peyton lived at Swift's House from 1872 to 1888, and was much respected in the neighbourhood."

An image of Lucy's grave in Brompton Cemetery can be found on the FindaGrave website at:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/140122642/lucy-peyton/photo>

Elizabeth died in 1924 and is commemorated on the same memorial.

Brenda Hazel

Stratton Audley and Godington

St Mary and St Edburga; Holy Trinity

CHURCHWARDENS: Sarah Noujaim, 15 Cavendish Place, Stratton Audley Tel 07941 273145
Penny Oakey, Grange Farm, Godington Tel 01869 278778
TREASURER: Fai Li Tel 07725 009838

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Maxine Ling

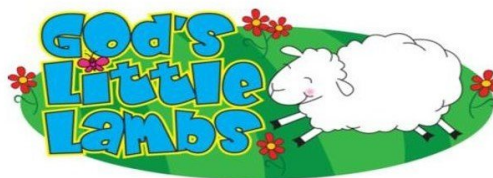
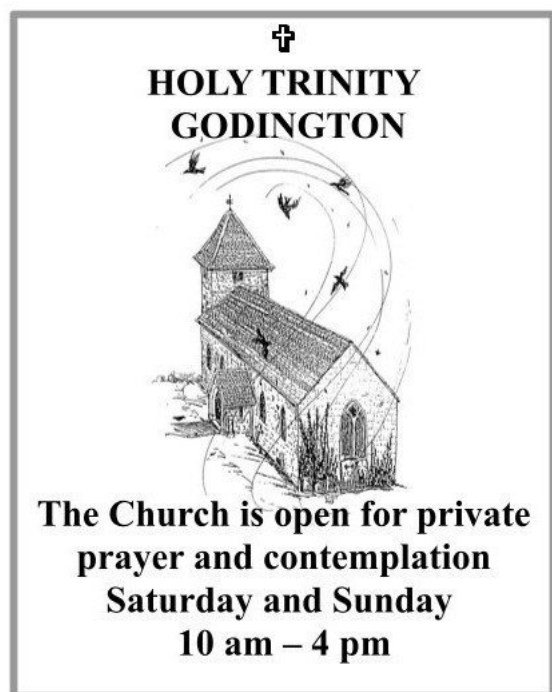
MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant (Stratton Audley); Sylvia List (Godington) editor@shelswellparishes.info

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3rd August 6.00 pm Compline at Stratton Audley
Sunday 10th August 11 am Holy Communion at Finmere - Alice's last service with us
Sunday 24th August 9.15 am Holy Communion at Stratton Audley
Sunday 31st August 10.45 am Holy Communion at Stratton Audley

FOODBANK

Please don't forget the foodbank donation point in the church porch in Stratton Audley, supporting Bicester Foodbank! Thank you to everyone who donates. Particularly appreciated are tinned fruit, veg, soup and fish also coffee and hot chocolate. The Rector, Alice Goodall is 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



'Little Lambs' Baby and Toddler Group

Stratton Audley Church
Wednesdays 10am - 11.30am
(Term Time)

Come & join us! Play, music and stories.
Tea, coffee and snacks for adults and children
Meet new families from the local area.

If you'd like more details or to be added to our regular email circulation then please email admin@shelswellparishes.info

The Last Word

"Whatever you do all the time, that's what you'll become good at"

- Some guy on the internet

"...I love how a fly will get into your house through a 2 mm crack in the bathroom window but can't find its way out even if you have the side of your house taken off"



A photographer has been killed when a huge lump of cheddar landed on him

To be fair the people being photographed did try to warn him.

17th August - Jeanne Delanoue, caring for the poor

Jeanne Delanoue was born at Saumur in Anjou, north western France in 1666. At the age of twenty-five she took charge of the family shop which sold drapery and pious articles. It is said that she had a reputation for being bossy (a successful businesswoman, perhaps?) and even a little bit greedy, as she kept the shop open on Sundays and holy days which are days of rest.

When she was twenty-six, she met a visionary called Francoise Fouchet who predicted that Jeanne Delanoue would abandon her business to care for the poor. The businesswoman found this hard to believe, but in time, she did start visiting the poor near where she lived. Her work helping them grew gradually. Jeanne eventually gave most of her goods away to the poor and transformed the caves and cellars of her home by the River Loire into a guest-house for the homeless.



An earthquake in 1703 destroyed the caves, but it took more than that to stop Jeanne. She founded the Sisters of St Anne of Providence of Saumur, with the help of two other young women to carry on the work. When famine hit in 1709, she and her two friends cared for 100 desperate people in Providence House.

Jeanne was always driven; she rose at 3am and spent her days looking after the distressed, the abandoned, single mothers and prostitutes. Her work was deeply appreciated by the town, especially during the years of war and hunger. By the time she died in 1736, Jeanne Delanoue had founded and inspired 12 communities to serve the poor and needy throughout France. Her particular talents of a shrewd business head and a certain pushiness had been put to use in the service of God through her life. She was canonised in 1982 by Pope John Paul II.

---NEWS ROUND---

Bishop Sarah Mullally comments on two controversial Bills that passed through the House of Commons recently

The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, recently urged MPs to halt the passage of a bill to legalise assisted suicide in England and Wales. Bishop Sarah – the former Chief Nursing Officer and the Church’s Lead Bishop for Health and Social Care – called instead on parliamentarians to ask themselves some searching questions “about the kind of society we want to live in”, before the Third Reading vote in the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill in the Commons took place.

She said: “If enacted, this Bill would arrive amidst hugely inequitable access to palliative care and an NHS on life support. The potential for abuse and uninformed or coerced decisions is enormous.

“This is not about so-called progressivism v conservatism, or atheism v religion. This is about the kind of society we want to live in.

“The vision that this Bill presents is one in which the disabled and vulnerable are made to feel like they are a burden, as if their lives are worth less.

“This is, and has always been, an unsafe and unworkable bill. The promise that Committee stage would ‘iron out’ major concerns with the Bill has not been forthcoming. Instead, it has presented more unanswered questions, left more doubts, and seen so-called protections crumble away before even coming into law.”



Silent Prayer

On the Crime and Policing Bill amendment that proposes decriminalising abortion up to birth, Bishop Mullally said “Women facing unwanted pregnancies are confronted with the hardest of choices. Ultimately, they require compassion and care, to support them fully in the heart-wrenching decision they must take. They should not be prosecuted.

“However, decriminalising abortion can at the same time undermine the value of unborn life. The amendment passed to the Crime and Policing Bill may not change the 24-week abortion limit, but it undoubtedly risks eroding the safeguards and

enforcement of those legal limits. Women suffering from coercion, or those who are victims of sexual or domestic abuse, would be the most vulnerable to the proposed change, which does not consider improvements to abortion care, nor address the inadequacies of the ‘pills by post’ assessments. These concerns are well set out in the recent letter signed by over 200 clergy and published in the Telegraph.”

“This is not about so-called progressivism v conservatism, or atheism v religion.

This is about the kind of society we want to live in.”

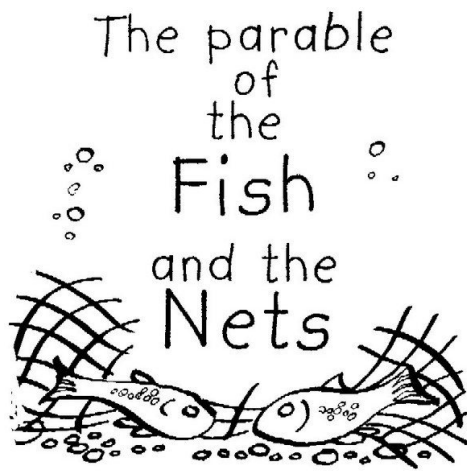
“We need a path that supports women, not one that puts them and their unborn children in the way of greater harm.”



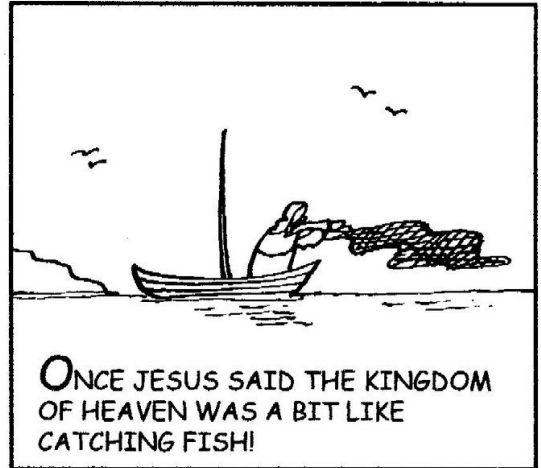
Bishop Sarah Mullally

Abortion up to birth was decriminalised in Germany in 2024 and an attempt in 2025 to appoint a judge to the German supreme court (*Bundesverfassungsgericht*) who is explicitly pro abortion up to birth has recently been defeated amid strong protests from the churches.

Worldwide, abortion providing is estimated by the World Health Organisation to be worth more than 30 billion dollars each year. Human fetal tissue is used in a wide range of industries, including pharmaceutical research and testing and the research and development of food additives and of beauty products.



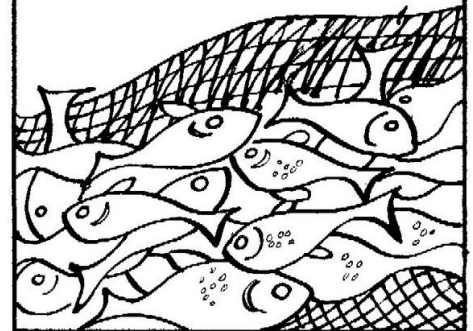
JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



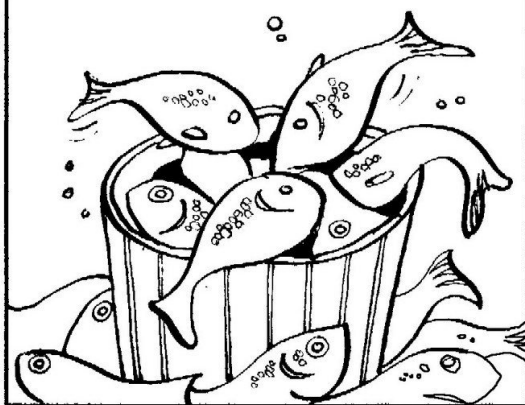
WHEN PEOPLE GO FISHING
THEY THROW THEIR NETS
INTO THE LAKE...



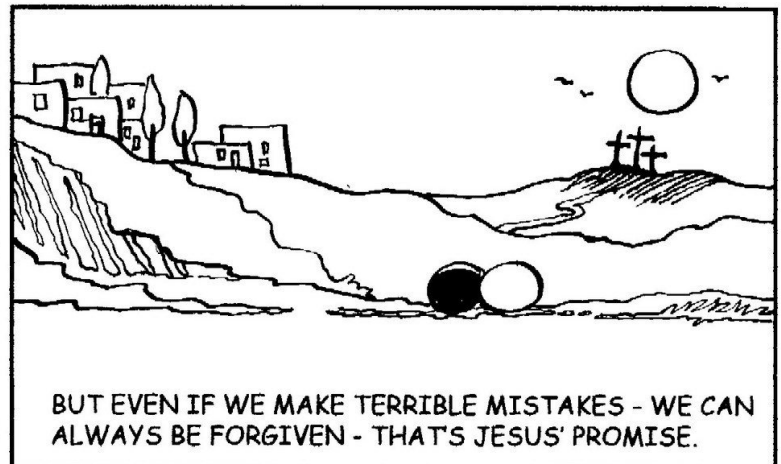
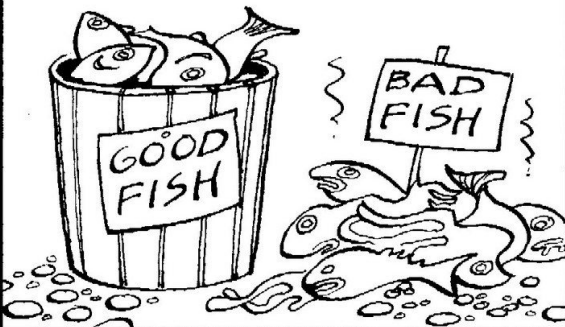
ONCE ON SHORE THE FISH
HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT.

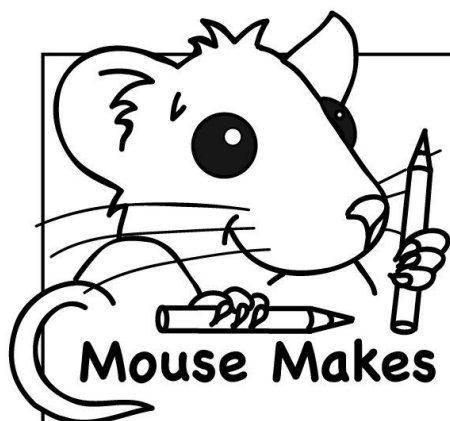


THE GOOD FISH GO INTO BUCKETS



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





Mouse Makes

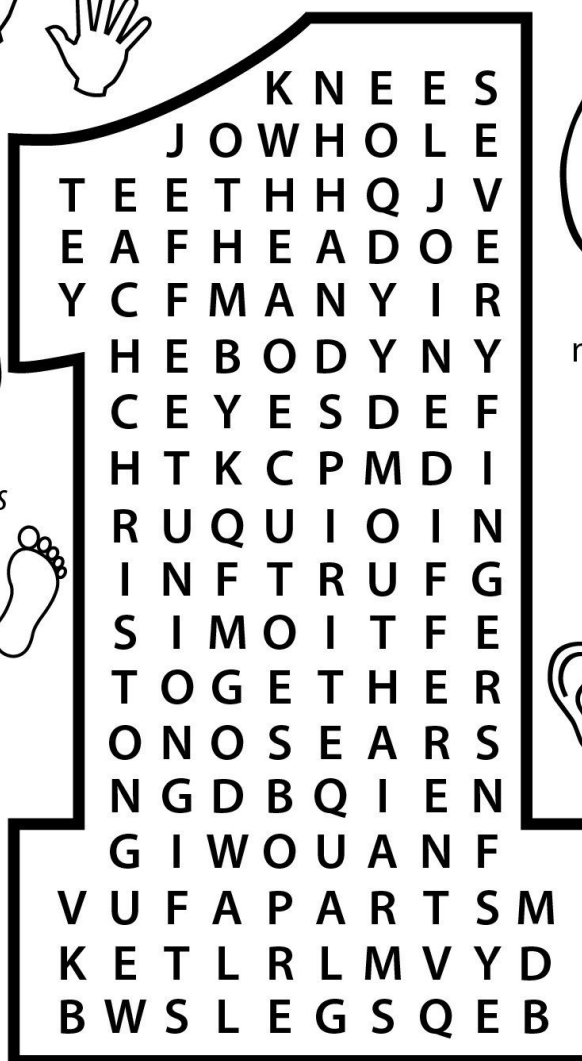
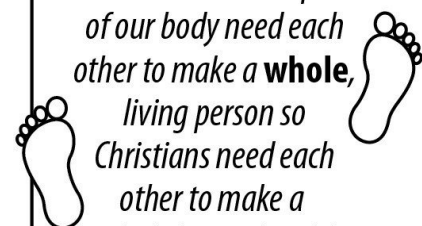
"Just as a **body**, though **one**, has **many** parts, but all its many **parts** form one body, so it is with **Christ**. For we were all baptised by one **Spirit** so as to form one body... Even so, the body is not made up of one part but of many..."

...Now you are the body of Christ, and **each** one of you is part of it."

from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27



Just as the different parts of our body need each other to make a **whole**, living person so Christians need each other to make a whole living church!

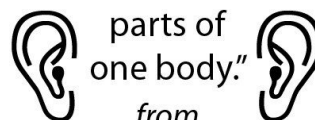


Look in the Bible verses for the words written in **bold** then look for these words too!

GOD • TOGETHER • **EQUAL** • ALL • EVERY
HEAD • EYES • EARS • MOUTH • TONGUE
TEETH • NOSE • ARMS • HANDS • FINGERS
LEGS • **KNEES** • FEET • TOES • GIFTS



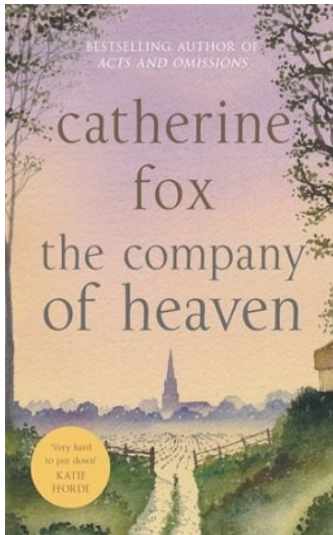
"Though we are many, we are one body in **union** with Christ, and we are **joined** to each other as **different** parts of one body."



from Romans 12:1-7



Books for Holidays



The Company of Heaven

By Catherine Fox, SPCK £10.99

Return to Lindchester once more with *The Company of Heaven*, perfect for fans of Anthony Trollope's *Barchester Chronicles*, Barbara Pym and BBC's *Rev.*

Valiantly written in real time in the midst of the pandemic, this entertaining book captures the difficulties of 2021 with heart, humour and insight. Perfect for Lindchester fans, it's also the ideal novel for anyone seeking comfort and a way of understanding all that has happened.

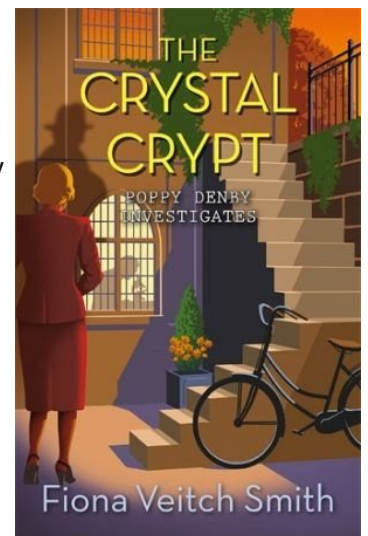
This new volume in the Lindchester Chronicles is contemporary Christian fiction at its finest. Sharp-eyed, witty and compassionate, Catherine Fox once again helps us make sense of real-life events and challenges, and leaves you with hope that grace can be found even in the darkest times.

The Crystal Crypt

By Fiona Veitch Smith. SPCK £9.99

Set in the 1920s, Reporter sleuth Poppy Denby is asked to investigate the mysterious death of an up-and-coming female scientist in an Oxford laboratory known as the Crystal Crypt.

The official verdict is that Dr June Leighton died in a tragic accident, but Dr Leighton's lab assistant believes it was murder. However, when Poppy discovers that the colleague has spent time in a mental institution and has an unresolved murder in her own past, Poppy wonders if she is being misled. But then, another female academic is attacked, and Poppy herself becomes a target.



Maths Hour...



Phlegm Clandango
@Cain_Unable

Follow

The Scottish have gone too far this time.



BBC News (UK) @BBCNews · 2h

Battered Smart car pulled over by police bbc.in/3QVt37h



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Ruth chapters 1 and 2

When famine came to Bethlehem, Elimelech took his family to the nearby country of Moab. The two sons married local girls.

But Elimelech and his sons died, leaving Naomi, Orpah and Ruth as widows.



Naomi told her daughters-in-law she was returning to Bethlehem.

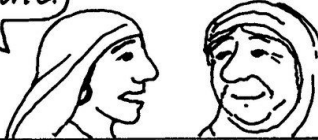


Go back to your parents' homes.

The girls cried, and Orpah left, but Ruth stayed.



I will stay with you. Your people and your God will be mine.



So Naomi and Ruth went back to Bethlehem.

Call me 'Mara' not 'Naomi' because God has made my life bitter.

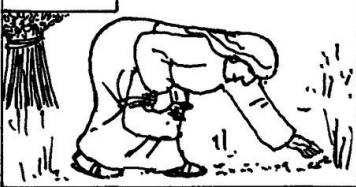


*'Naomi' means 'Pleasant' 'Mara' means 'Bitter'

It was the start of the barley harvest. Poor people were allowed to glean - to pick up the ears of grain that had been dropped. Ruth went out to glean.



She picked a field, asked if she could glean, then worked hard

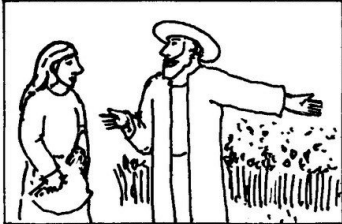


The field's owner, Boaz, arrived.

Who's that girl?



That's Ruth, who came from Moab with Naomi.



Boaz told Ruth she was welcome to work in his fields.

He told her to join his workers at lunch-time, and made sure she had more than enough to eat.



Ruth worked hard and took home a huge bag of grain.

I worked in Boaz's field.



He is a near relative!

Ruth worked all through the barley and wheat harvests in Boaz's fields.



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Ruth chapters 3 and 4

Naomi and Ruth had returned to Bethlehem as widows. Ruth had worked during the harvest in the fields of Boaz, a near relative.

Naomi told her daughter-in-law Ruth

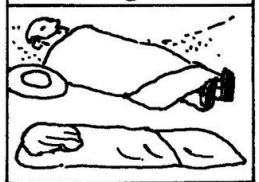
You need someone to marry and look after you. I have a plan

I will do all you ask of me.

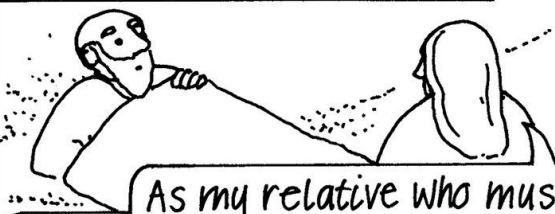
So Ruth went to where the grain was threshed. Boaz was on guard that night..

but she stayed out of his sight until he was asleep.

Then she uncovered his feet and lay down by them.



At midnight, Boaz woke, and was shocked to find her there.



As my relative who must look after me, will you marry me?

You have a closer relative; I will ask him tomorrow. If he will not marry you, I will do so gladly. Lie down now, and sleep.



Just before dawn, Ruth returned to Naomi.



All we can do now is wait.

Boaz went to the meeting place, and waited for the relative to pass.



Naomi wants to sell the land she inherited from her husband, and as nearest relative, you get first refusal.



I want to buy the land.

Then you must marry Ruth as the land must be inherited by her son

In that case, I don't want to buy it.

Then I will buy the land and marry Ruth.

So Boaz married Ruth and they had a son.



My life is no longer bitter!

and he was an ancestor of King David!



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be home

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Commission

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Sometimes the best care is a game of Scrabble.

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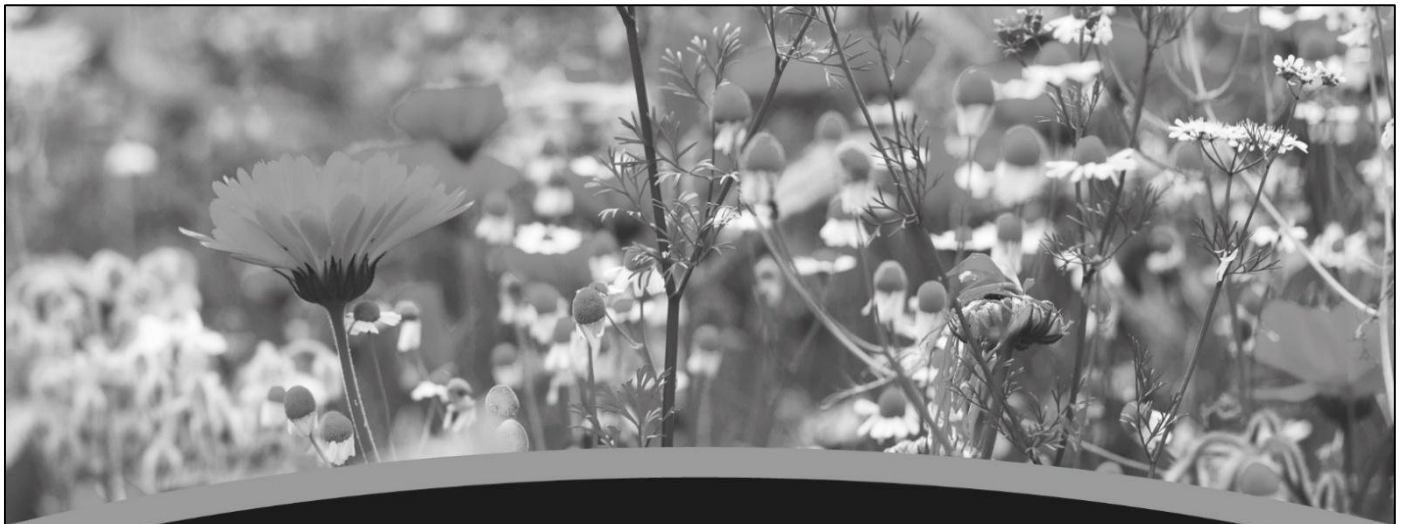
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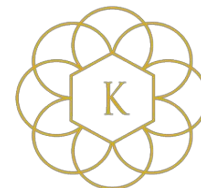
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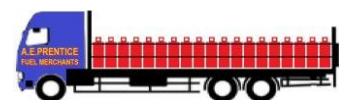
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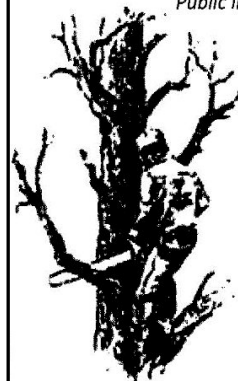
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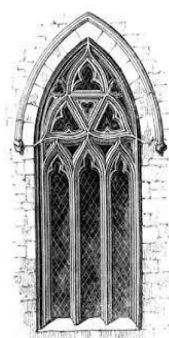
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| CW: 'Common Worship' modern language service    BCP: 'Book of Common Prayer' traditional language service                    |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                  |                                                                              |
| DATE                                                                                                                         | 3 <sup>rd</sup> August<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                        | 10 <sup>th</sup> August<br>8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                                                                                             | 17 <sup>th</sup> August<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                                          | 24 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity/<br>Bartholomew | 31 <sup>st</sup> August<br>11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity             |
| ALTAR                                                                                                                        | Green                                                                                                                 | Green                                                                                                                                                                                       | Green                                                                                                                                    | Green                                                                            | Green                                                                        |
| 8.00 am                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                          | Holy Communion<br>(BCP)<br>FINMERE<br>AM                                         |                                                                              |
| 9.15 am                                                                                                                      | Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>HARDWICK<br>AG<br><br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>NEWTON PURCELL<br>LW |                                                                                                                                                                                             | 9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FINMERE<br>AM                                                                             | 9.15am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>CO             |                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                             | 10am<br>'Food for Thought'<br>STOKE LYNE<br>Lay-led                                                                                      |                                                                                  |                                                                              |
| 10.45 am                                                                                                                     | 'Connect' Informal Worship<br>STOKE LYNE CHURCH<br>AM<br><br>Morning Service<br>FRINGFORD<br>PW                       | 11am<br>Benefice Service of<br>Holy Communion<br>Alice's Last Service<br>FINMERE<br>AG<br><br>To be followed by<br>'Bring-and-Share' Picnic at<br>Finmere Village Hall and<br>Playing Field | 10.45am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (BCP)<br>COTTISFORD<br>LW<br><br>10.45am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>FRINGFORD<br>AM | 10.45am<br>Holy Communion<br>with hymns (CW)<br>STOKE LYNE<br>AM                 | 10.45am<br>Benefice Service of<br>Holy Communion<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AM/PW |
| 6.00 pm                                                                                                                      | Compline<br>STRATTON AUDLEY<br>AG                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                          | Evensong with<br>the Shelswell Group Choir<br>HARDWICK<br>PW                     |                                                                              |
| AG: Revd Alice Goodall    AM: Revd Alex Mahlava    CO: Revd Carolyn Oley    LW: Revd Liz Welters    PW: Mrs Penny Wood (LLM) |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                  |                                                                              |