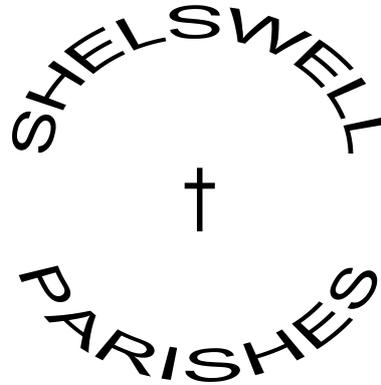


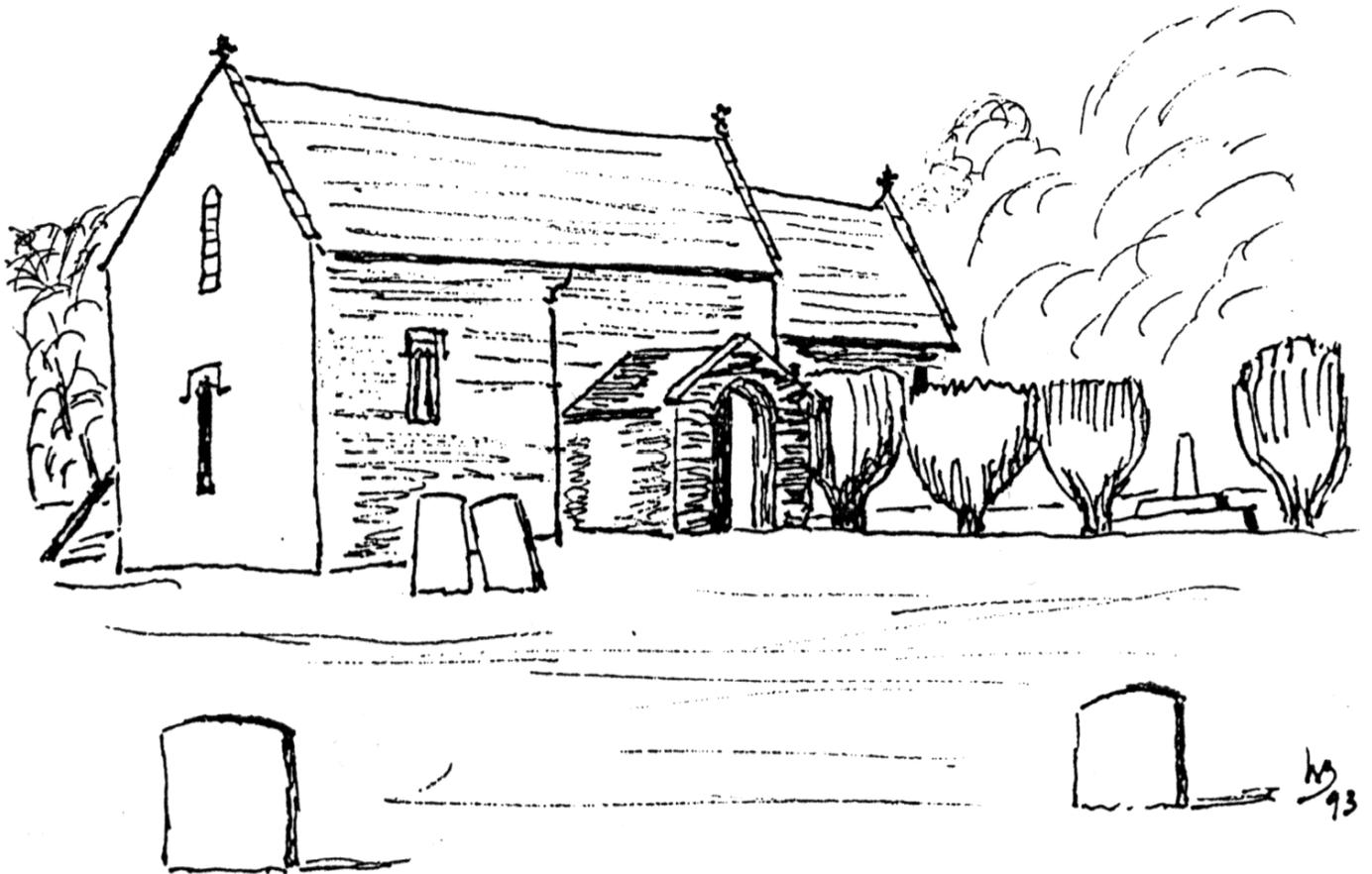
Shelswell News

The magazine of the Shelswell Group of Churches

Cottisford
Fringford
Hardwick
Mixbury
Stoke Lyne



Finmere
Godington
Hethe
Newton Purcell
Stratton Audley



St Mary the Virgin, Cottisford

July 2022

£1

SHELLOWELL BENEFICE MISSION STATEMENT

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

MINISTRY TEAM

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THE PARISHES ARE PART OF THE DEANERY OF BICESTER AND ISLIP AND THE DORCHESTER EPISCOPAL AREA OF THE DIOCESE OF OXFORD

HOLY TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, HETHE,

Mass: 4 p.m Saturday.

Weekday Mass: 9.30 am Monday

Priest: Very Rev. Canon John Batthula, Henley House, 12 The Causeway, Bicester, OX26 6AW.

Telephone: 01869 253277

Website: <http://www.holytrinityheth.co.uk/>

SHELLOWELL NEWS

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Deadlines for the August 2022 edition of Shelswell News

To Magazine Correspondents: **Friday July 8**

Correspondents to Editor: **Sunday July 10** at editor@shelswellparishes.info

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

www.shelswellparishes.info

Many thanks for your cooperation.

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

MINISTER'S LETTER

Showers of blessing

*St Swithun's day, if thou dost rain,
For forty days it will remain;
St Swithun's day, if thou be fair,
For forty days 'twill rain na mair.*

Ancient rhyme

According to British folklore, if it rains on 15th July, then we can expect 40 days of showery and stormy weather. This myth arose after the buried remains of St Swithun (Swithin) was removed from its original site in a church garden and taken into a Saxon cathedral.

Swithun was an Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. Legend says as the bishop lay on his deathbed in 862AD, he is asked to be buried outside where his grave would be rained and trodden on. But nine years later, on July 15, monks moved his remains to a shrine inside the cathedral. From that day it rained every day for nearly six weeks – as if this was his displeasure at being moved!

Weather is quite a good metaphor for all those other things in life that we can't control, where it seems that all we can do is put in place our own 'wet weather' plans: sickness, death of loved ones, the war in Ukraine, rising prices, climate change to name but a few.

The Bible mentions rain (and water) many times. These include the great flood and Noah's Ark (Genesis 7); Ezra's open-air public assembly in Jerusalem in the pouring rain (Ezra 10:9) and the parable by Jesus about two houses in a rainstorm (Matthew 7:24-27).

Over the centuries, hymn writers have also used water and rain to describe our need for God. They've used such phrases as

*I need Youlike refreshing summer rain and Father,
like rain from the skies send Your word into our lives.*

Some hymns include rain as a metaphor for the Holy Spirit to come and refresh, restore and revitalise us; to cleanse us of our sins or to wash away our sorrows.



Weather. There is so much in life we can control, but quite a lot that we can't, and weather is one of those! My admiration went out to those who had planned Jubilee events on Sunday 5th June, as they read the dire forecasts and with only a day or two to prepare came up with 'wet weather' plans. And what will the weather be like for the Art and History Festival? Or for those longed for family holidays? We can only wait and see.

Some facts about St Swithun you may not know!

- St. Swithun was a Saxon Bishop of Winchester. He was born in 800AD in the kingdom of Wessex and educated in its capital, Winchester.
- He had a keen interest in weather and therefore become the Patron of Weather.
- One miracle is attributed to Swithun while he was alive. An old lady's eggs had been smashed by workmen building a church. Swithun picked the broken eggs up and, it is said, they miraculously became whole again.
- St Swithun was said to have built several churches and was known for humanity and his aid to the poor and needy.

(Taken from the Doncaster Free Press)

Here is a verse and the chorus from an old hymn written by Daniel W. Whittle (1840-1901) that reminds us that when overwhelmed with gloom and despair, God can and will pour new hope into our lives.

There shall be showers of blessing, this is the promise of love;
There shall be seasons refreshing, sent from the Saviour above.
There shall be showers of blessing, O that today they might fall,
Now as to God we're confessing, now as on Jesus we call!

*Showers of blessing, showers of blessing we need;
Mercy-drops round us are falling, but for the showers we plead.*

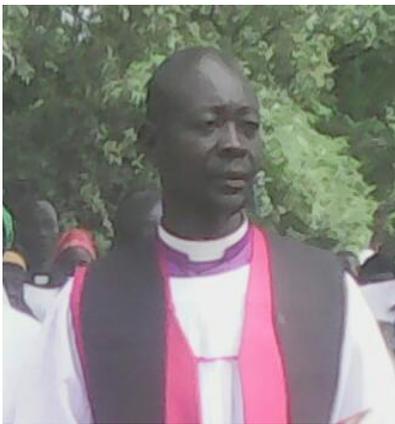
I hope that this summer, whatever the weather, whatever the news holds, whatever is happening in your life, that you are able to enjoy some of the very many blessings that God showers us with every day!

BIBLE READINGS



Sunday 3 rd July	Thomas the Apostle	Habakkuk 2 v1-4 Ephesians 2 v19-end John 20 v24-29
Sunday 10 th July	4 th Sunday after Trinity	Deuteronomy 30 v9-14 Colossians 1 v1-14 Luke 10 v25-37
Sunday 17 th July	5 th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 18 v1-10a Colossians 1 v15-28 Luke 10 v38-end
Sunday 24 th July	6 th Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 18 v20-32 Colossians 2 v6-15 [16-19] Luke 11 v1-13
Sunday 31 st July	7 th Sunday after Trinity	Ecclesiastes 1 v2, 12-14 & 2 v18-23 Colossians 3 v1-11 Luke 12 v13-21

Come and meet Bishop Zechariah
Wednesday 10th August
7 pm for supper (no charge)
7.30 pm for brief presentation, questions and answers
St Peter's Church, Stoke Lyne



We are delighted to be able to welcome Bishop Zechariah and his wife Mama Nyikon Abuou from Wulu Diocese in South Sudan to the Shelswell Benefice in the week of 8th August. Over the past three years, we have sent regular donations to the ox plough project, enabling the Women's Farming Project in Wulu to farm more land and grow more crops, and we have just started to support the Girls' Primary School in Wulu. So it will be great to meet Bishop Zechariah and hear first hand more about the projects and their impact. Bishop Zechariah will be in the UK the previous week to attend the Lambeth Conference, and we are grateful to the Diocese of Salisbury, who have a link with the Anglican Church in South Sudan and facilitate the Bishops and their spouses staying on for a week to visit supporting parishes.

As well as showing them around the Benefice, we would like to invite you to come along on the evening of Wednesday 10th August to share a meal with Bishop Zechariah and his wife and to hear a little from him about the Diocese of Wulu.

Some of the questions we have are:

- what difference has the Ox Plough project made?
- how has Covid affected Wulu?
- how is climate change impacting on life in Wulu, with reference to factors like increases in flooding, influx of internally displaced people and so on.

Please let me know your particular questions so I can add them to the list.

It would be helpful for catering purposes if you can let me know that you hope to be at the meal – email me on alicegoodall313@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

Alice

The Shelswell Benefice is now supporting

The Girls' Primary School

In Wulu Diocese, South Sudan

Many girls drop out of school as a result of early marriage or because their family cannot afford the costs.

Bishop Zechariah wishes to improve the standard of girls' education in Wulu Diocese, eliminate child marriage, and maintain a child's right to an education, regardless of gender.



We have pledged to send £500 every six months for 3 years towards recreational materials, sanitary pads for the older girls, and sports equipment



The school is fortunate in having buildings for the classrooms, and has six forms with 40 - 60 girls in each. There is a toilet block with five cubicles – one for the teachers, the others for the girls.

Please support this project through your prayers and giving

BICESTER FOODBANK



Top 10 items needed by the Foodbank

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| * Tinned tomatoes | * Long life milk | * Juice or squash |
| * Baked beans | * Tinned rice pudding | * Jam or spread |
| * Tinned fish | * Tinned meat | * Deodorant |
| | | * Soap |



Can you help by donating an item or two to ensure the Foodbank can provide food to people in crisis?
There are collection boxes for items in the Benefice churches.

You can also help to transform lives by making a financial donation. Visit: bicester.foodbank.org.uk

£169 Sent to the Christian Aid Week Appeal



Donations at the Service in Evenley Wood Garden at the end of June amounted to **£169**, which was sent to **Christian Aid** to help women in Zimbabwe grow crops that survive in drought conditions. Seven out of ten women in rural areas rely on farming to make a living. The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict and drought have robbed communities of the power to provide for their children.

The climate crisis is causing aching hunger for families and, for the first time in a generation, global poverty is rising.

THE FUTURE WE CHOOSE

.... Will we plant more trees?

See a small sapling somewhere, in untended ground or taken root in your garden? Hopefully of a native tree. If you can, why not gently uproot it, pot it up and grow it on. When it's big enough, find a landowner with space enough to plant it. Add to the 'Green Canopy'.



.... Let's value trees more; they have much to teach us,
and they protect the land.

^{a27} Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

[Jeremiah 17, v 7 - 8]

ART & HISTORY FESTIVAL



Saturday 16th July 10am-6pm

FREE Family fun day, vintage displays & stands

Our new location for the festival: Elms Farm,
alongside the A4421 in Newton Purcell, MK18 4AY

www.shelswellhistoryfestival.org.uk



ARTISTS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

An exhibition featuring local artists celebrating
the British countryside

artinthecountryside.co.uk

Saturday 16th July 10am-6pm

Sunday 17th July 10am-4pm



ART & HISTORY FESTIVAL Celebration Service

Sunday 17th July

on the Festival site at Newton Purcell

MK18 4AY

11 am

followed by a bring and share lunch!

Everyone welcome!



ARTISTS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

An exhibition featuring local artists celebrating
the British countryside

LAST CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

There is still room for some last minute volunteers to:

- make cakes or savouries for the tea tent
- help Stoke Lyne WI serve teas
- rattle a collection bucket
- sell raffle tickets
- marshall traffic

If you are free on Saturday 16th July, why not give a couple of hours to helping out at the Art and History Festival and help us to raise some money for The Woodland Trust, Oxfordshire Mind and the Shelswell Group of Churches. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Send me a message on alicegoodall313@gmail.com or phone 01280 848192

**SHELLOW WI @ THE SHELLOW HISTORY FESTIVAL
VINTAGE STALL ETC
CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES**

At the Shelswell History Festival, Shelswell WI will have a 'Vintage' clothes stall plus other pristine items. (We believe 'Vintage' is variable depending on your age!)

We are **now** looking for suitable clean clothing and accessories to sell. These need to be in excellent condition. Perhaps you have some? Any leftover items will be passed on to Charities.

Proceeds from the stall will go the History Festival Charities and Shelswell WI.

Collection points for the items are as follows:

Date	Details
July 3 rd - 13 th anytime	Nicky will be available or leave in the carport at 2 Cavendish Place Stratton Audley, OX27 3BN
July 11 th 9.30 - 12.30	Phone Sue in Bicester to arrange on 01869 245324
Anytime until 13 th July	Phone Veronica in Hardwick on 01869 277690

**MORE CLOTHES WELCOMED
THANK YOU!**

**Shelswell Youth Group
Friday evenings 7pm-9pm
in Fringford**



**2nd July Spree camp weekend with ECB
8 July Fringford Village Green 7pm
22 July Fringford Village Green 7pm
24 July BBQ with ECB at Hall Farm, Fringford.
Time to be confirmed.**

Email: curate@shelswellparishes.info for venue details.

REGISTRY

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

Baptism:

Rory James HUDSON

Sunday 22nd May - St Edmund and St George, Hethe

It was lovely to welcome Rosie and James back to Hethe for Rory's baptism. They now live in Caddington, which is between Luton and Dunstable, but they were married in St Edmund and St George, and their first son Harry was christened here back in May 2018. Rory was born early in the first lockdown and initially his christening had been planned for August last year, but with covid still being very much around, the decision was made to postpone until this May.

Covid certainly complicated Rory's arrival in the world, and meant that it was a long while before some of the family were able to see him. Thankfully, Rosie and James had some good friends in Caddington, and being able to go on walks with them or meet in the park was a huge support. However, in spite of it all, both boys are clearly thriving!

The service got off to a bit of a late start due to the fact that several of the guests were stuck on various motorways. But eventually most people had made it. We kicked off with singing the first of the two songs that Rosie and James had chosen: He's got the whole world in his hands. James' mum, Margaret, read our Bible



reading, Matthew 18: 1 – 5 where Jesus's disciples were wanting to know who was the greatest in heaven, and Jesus calls a child to him and suggests a little bit more humility wouldn't go amiss. And he urges them to welcome children. Then we made baptingles before baptising Rory. After that, we wrote down our prayers for Rory, and we presented him with a small book of prayers and a candle, and finished the service with 'Lord of the Dance'.

Rory has four godparents, Eve Helyer, Holly Featherstone, Robert Helyer and Kieran Cresdee.

We pray that Rory will grow up knowing just how much he is loved by his family and by God.

Mallory George HONSINGER PAYNE

Thursday 2 June 2022 – Stratton Audley

On Thursday 2 June 2022 the family and friends of Mallory George HONSINGER PAYNE gathered together in St Mary and St Edburga, Stratton Audley, to celebrate his Baptism. Mallory's grandparents John and Chris Honsinger live in Stratton Audley and as it was the first day of the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend, it was an ideal day for a Baptism, followed by a party for family and friends in their garden. Some of Mallory's guests were unfortunately stuck in Bank Holiday traffic, but with the most important person in attendance we began the service at 12pm in the hopes that others might join us later (which they did!).

David and Lise, Mallory's parents had selected three hymns *All things bright and beautiful*, *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*, and *I danced in the morning* which we sang to the accompaniment of the choir of St Martin's in the Fields



Chris Honsinger read Wordsworth's poem *My heart leaps up* and Mike Payne read the Bible readings from Matthew 3:16-17 and Ephesians 4:1-6. We then learned about Baptism as we shared a short Peppa Pig story together – we talked about the meaning of the symbols used in Baptism, the promises that would be made, and our responsibility as Mallory's Christian family to pray for him as he grows up. All the family wrote prayers for Mallory which were gathered up into a little suitcase – a suitcase to remind us that the Christian life is a journey.

We did indeed welcome more friends and family during the service and it was a happy celebration. We pray that Mallory will continue to grow in faith and love throughout his life and that God would give David and Lise, and Max and Alison (his Godparents) his gifts of love, wisdom and faith as they support him throughout his life.



Marriages

Joshua RIDER and Roxanne HUMPRHEYS

Saturday 21st May 2022 - St Michael and All Angels, Finmere

The day had dawned fine, the decorations of the church had been completed, but none the less the bride had had a challenging morning of it. Her makeup lady arrived to tearfully announce that her mother had sadly fallen ill and she was unable to stay, which everyone understood. So one of the male ushers was dispatched to Boots, where a helpful assistant went round the shop with him collecting all the necessary products, and then the bride and bridesmaids set to. With good effect, it has to be said.

Roxanne and Josh live in High Wycombe. Roxanne works as a design draughtsperson and furniture designer, and Josh is a Business Development Manager. They have known each other for 10 years since being at Bucks New University together, and have been a couple for 7 of those years.



They got engaged very early on in Lockdown on 30th March 2020. The reception was to be held in Fulwell and because they wanted a church wedding, Josh and Roxanne attended services within the Shelswell Benefice regularly in order to establish a qualifying connection to get married in Finmere. Roxanne's mum worked hard to decorate Finmere Church for the occasion. There were candles and arrangements of pampas grass, white muslin and lanterns at the pew ends.

All the music was provided by Ben Eaton, acoustic guitarist. There were two hymns: 'Be thou my vision'

and 'Give me joy in my heart'. Josh's mum, Suzette, read the Bible reading, 1 Corinthians 13, and Lewis Priestly read the poem, Existence. There was a retiring collection to be divided between the church and British Red Cross Ukrainian Appeal. The couple left the church to bells and much confetti before moving on to the reception. We pray that their marriage will be richly blessed.

Existence by Richard Lamoureux
 awkwardly I dance
 because I have two left feet
 hard to find partner
 I watch you dancing
 it seems you have two right feet
 let us share some shoes
 will you follow me
 for if we move together
 dance will have purpose
 you move fluidly
 my feet provide the structure
 made for each other
 no limitations
 with artistry and purpose
 we dance with the stars
 life is not boring
 we live within the rhythm
 music from heaven
 God is our maestro
 leading us to forever
 in death we won't part



Benjamin Wellicome and Eleanor Goodall

1st June 2022 -St Peter's, Stoke Lyne

It was a bit of a family affair. The service was conducted by the bride's mother. The music was led by a small group which included the bridegroom's father Paul on guitar, one of his brothers Nathaniel on clarinet, his mum Judy and sister Katy doing the vocals, the bride's sister's husband's sister on bass guitar, and a family friend Ian on the violin. The talk was given by the bridegroom's sister Katy Traynor who is the lead Children's Worker at St Paul's Church, Leamington Spa. She had made a multi-layered parcel for the couple to unwrap, with all sorts of little gifts to illustrate different aspects of marriage including a pack of playing cards and some socks, but right at the centre the verses from Ecclesiastes about a cord of three strands, reminding Ben and Ellie of the importance of having God at the centre of their marriage.

The bride entered the church, slightly chilly from having driven from Finmere to Stoke Lyne in an open topped car, to a recording of 'Mrs Darcy' from the 2005 film of *Pride and Prejudice*. The hymns were 'Be still for the presence of the Lord', 'Blessed be your name' and 'Be thou my vision'. Ben's mum

Judy sang a version of psalm 145 (setting by Ben's dad) and the congregation joined in the response 'I will bless your name forever, O God my King, Halleluiah, halleluiah'.



There were two readings: Song of Solomon 2: 10 – 13 read by Ben's godfather Mark Castell and 8: 6 – 7 and Philippians 4: 4 – 9 read by one of Ellie's friends, Sally Naylor.

Whilst the marriage document was being signed, the music group sang Thomas Tallis 'If ye love me'. In fact, they sang it twice, both times beautifully, as the signing and photographs were taking longer than anticipated! And after the final blessing, the newlyweds left the church to a recording of Nat King Cole's L.O.V.E.

A group photo of the wedding party and all their guests was taken in the churchyard by drone, before the party proceeded to Evenley Wood Gardens for a wonderful reception. (The photo was taken in the Gardens – the bridegroom did not wear wellies in church).

We pray that Ellie and Ben will know great happiness in their marriage together, and that their marriage will be life long and life enhancing.

Wedding

Phoebe Annabel TAYLOR and Samuel Peter JONES

On Friday 3rd June Phoebe Taylor from Waterloo Farm married Sam Jones from Oakham, Rutland in St Michael and All Angels, Fringford. Phoebe and Sam met when Sam moved into the area due to his work, namely working with horses and hounds.

Both Phoebe and Sam love horses and horse riding and enjoy Point to Point, hunting and racing together.

David and Phillippa Taylor, along with the rest of the family, had cleaned the church and then squeezed in as many chairs as there was floor space for throughout the church, and over 240 guests came along to celebrate with Phoebe and Sam.

Guests were greeted at the entrance to the church by two pairs of riding boots filled with flowers and the whole church looked beautiful with glorious arrangements throughout.



Phoebe was surrounded by her Maid of Honour Elizabeth Coombes and bridesmaids Charlotte Merry, Otilie Tinkler, Poppy, Rosie and Minnie Twiston-Davies and Maddie Williamson. Page boys were Freddie Merry, Teddy Tinkler and Ted Twiston-Davies. Sam's Best Man was William Kennedy and the ushers were Thady Duff, Marcus Foley, Richard Killoran, Jack Seal, Marcus Thorpe-Codman, Andrew Tinkler and Harry Williams. Victoria Williamson read our Bible reading from 1 Corinthians 13 and Emily and Verity Taylor read *I'll be there* by Louise Cuddon together. Sam and Phoebe had chosen many traditional hymns and it was lovely to hear a full church singing along. They had chosen Fringford Church as the recipient of the collection taken during the service, which was most gratefully received by the church.

During the Signing of the Marriage Document the congregation had the privilege of listening to Anna Tomlinson, Sam's cousin, singing Elvis Presley's *Can't help falling in love*.

Young Ted Twiston-Davies and his Trumpet teacher Andrew Farrington played the Recessional Music together which was so good it stopped all the family and friends in their tracks as they listened right to the very end of the piece before applauding and only then exiting the church! The guests retired to Waterloo Farm for the Wedding Reception.

Phoebe and Sam will be setting up home together at Ashwell, Rutland where Sam works. We wish them God's richest blessings in their marriage together.



Holiday Club for 5 – 11s

Monday 25th July – Friday 29th July 2022

10 am – 3.30 pm

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

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

Sport

Craft

Performing arts

music

Children's registration is open!

- for more info check out
www.lighthousecentral.org

Recommended donation of £10 per day. Bursaries available.



CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 11
ARE NOW ABLE TO GET A
COVID-19 VACCINE

NHS

PLAYER 1

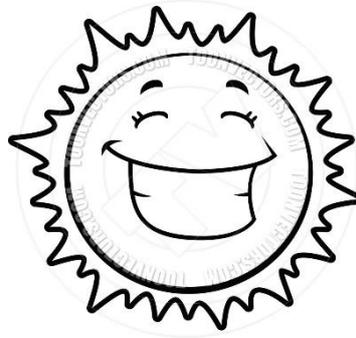
COVID-19

vs

To book an appointment visit www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination

Shelswell By The Sea

A Holiday at Home for adults
run by the Shelswell Group of Churches



**Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
4, 5 and 6 July 2022
in Hethe Village Hall, from 10.30am to 3.30pm**

6 July will be an outing to The Bell Plantation Garden Centre, Towcester.

Time to chat, read newspapers, play board games or do a jigsaw.

Coffee, lunch and tea provided.

We can help transporting people from home to Hethe, and back.

Cost: £7.00 a day (includes all meals)

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

FUN @ 4

**Note that there will be no 'Fun @ 4' in July or August.
We will be back on Sunday 18th September with a special
Harvest-themed event. Have a great summer!**

Club news

Coronavirus protective restrictions may apply and arrangements may be changed.

KNIT FOR PEACE



The photo shows a very small selection of the items knitted for knit for peace. The charity would like to say a big thank you to everyone who made a contribution. The amount of knitting that Marion passed on was fantastic.

Any further contributions to be left at 2 Church Close, Fringford. Please ring Marion Crowther on 01869 277404 prior to dropping anything off.

COME & JOIN US AT SEWCIAL



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

We get together once a month, either on a Wednesday evening or Sunday afternoon.

We meet in the Chinnery Room at Fringford Village Hall.

Our next sessions are

Wednesday 13th July at 7 – 9pm

Sunday 18th September at 3– 5pm

Wednesday 12th October at 7 – 9pm

Sunday 13th November at 3- 5pm

Sessions are £2.00

No need to book – just come and join us!

If you would like information, please email Melissa at mamcs100@gmail.com

SHELLOW WALKERS



Please contact the walking group direct for next venue. New walkers are welcome, just turn up. Dogs must be on leads. Tea or coffee after.



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



Shelswell WI celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 9th June, with a lovely party. We had hoped to have it in a village garden, but due to the inclement weather we decided to celebrate in the village hall. Christine and Carol did a fantastic job of decorating the hall with Union Jack bunting, several flags, and a corgi and Paddington Bear. To top it off, the Queen herself was present - in the form of a life size cardboard cut-out! All members contributed food or drink, and a lovely spread was enjoyed by everyone.

A big thank you goes to Lorraine, who baked a delicious cake with raspberries (RED) BLUEberries and WHITE icing. We wore our posh frocks and pearls: Pearls in recognition of the Shelswell WI's 30th anniversary which was in 2020, but this was the first opportunity to celebrate since then. Some of the members brought photos from 1990, as a reminder of what we were doing (and how we looked) back at the start of the Shelswell WI story, and our photo albums were displayed, as another reminder, of friends and events that have taken place over the past 30 years. Elaine provided a cake and a jar of sweets for a guess the weight, and number competitions, and the monthly raffle was extra special as Veronica and Linda had donated several special prizes to be won. A big thank you must go to all the contributions that made this a very enjoyable evening.

In July (7th) we will be trying out Seated Zumba, in the village hall, with Thea Rogers. New members are always welcome – we have been seeing new faces on a regular basis recently, so don't be shy and come along – it should be fun. There will also be an opportunity to drop off any items of clothing or accessories that are suitable for our Vintage Stall at the Shelswell History Festival, taking place on July 16th. Just bring anything suitable to the village hall between 7.15 and 8.30pm on the 7th July.

Members meet for coffee, from time to time, and Nicky Lane organises walks, usually once a month. In May several members enjoyed a circular walk, starting at Souldern, and taking in the Oxford Canal. This month the North Ploughley Group are organising a walk and lunch starting at Lower Heyford.

Other benefits of being a member of Shelswell WI have never been more significant than over the past couple of years: As a national membership organisation there are many opportunities to join in with like-minded people; the monthly newsletters, an 'Oxfordshire Inspires' magazine, and a bi-monthly 'WI Life' magazine. In addition there are many, and varied, on line courses through the 'MY WI' website, not to mention the monthly face to face meetings in Fringford Village Hall – on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. All the activities enable us to make new friends, gain knowledge, take part in a wide range of activities, as well as campaigning for important issues.

Coming Up:

July 7th – Seated Zumba and Resistance Training with Thea Rogers.

July 16th – Vintage Stall at the Shelswell History Festival – any vintage items to village hall on July 7th.

August 4th – Summer Walk – meeting place will be advertised in August Shelswell News

We continue to collect foil pill cases and plastic milk bottle tops for recycling and Pathfinders, respectively

For more information on Shelswell WI, please contact the president Elaine Whittaker on 07917 453224



SHELLOWELL GARDEN CLUB



At the time of writing our June meeting to Abbots House in Winslow has not yet taken place. The report will be in the next edition of Shelswell News.

After the June trip we have our annual day trip. This year it is to **Avon Dassett Open Gardens** on **Sunday 10th July**. We will be taking a small coach to 8 gorgeous gardens in this pretty Hornton stone village including kitchen gardens, cottage, gravel and tropical gardens. The cost will be £20, which is non-refundable unless we can fill your seat and numbers are limited. To go on the trip please contact Margaret on margaret.jones47@btopenworld.com or 01869 277972 soonest.

After our usual break in August, we will return to Hethe Village Hall on Tuesday 13th September at 7.30, to listen to Paul Green on Dark and Dangerous plants!

SHELLOWELL POETRY APPRECIATION GROUP

Our June meeting featured Cats as a focus. Unsurprisingly, we found a wealth of musings on the subject.

The anonymous 9th century Irish poem, *Pangur Ban*, apparently written by a monk in a scriptorium, is full of love for his pet, and wry humour, and compares his domestic cat with Saint Jerome's lion. We looked at two very different translations, by Michael Schmidt and Seamus Heaney, both late-20th century poets.

Emily Dickinson, the 19th- century American poet, in the short poem *She sights a bird-she chuckles*, describes her cat's foiled attempts to catch a robin, whilst Edward Thomas, writing in the first half of the 20th century, also muses on the hunting instincts of the animal, and his ambivalence about one particular cat, in *A Cat*.

In the poem *Null*, Stevie Smith, an eccentric mid-20th-century poet, takes on the persona of a bad-tempered cat and its encounter with an angel. She is possibly taking a sideswipe at the aggressive do-gooder! Anna Seward also speaks as a cat, but a gentler and more loveable one in *An Old Cat's Dying Soliloquy*, written in the 18th century.

Two more 18th century poets who wrote on cats are Thomas Gray and Christopher Smart. Gray turns a tale of feline tragedy into an amusingly-delivered homily on being deceived by ornament in *Ode on a Favourite Cat, Drowned in a Tub of Gold Fishes*. Smart, confined to a lunatic asylum in the days before psychiatric medicine had made much progress, wrote a wonderfully sympathetic and loving poem about his pet cat, in *My Cat, Jeoffry*.

In *The Early Purges* Seamus Heaney describes how the harsh realities of life on a farm manifested themselves in incidents like the drowning of unwanted kittens, the memory staying with him into adulthood. In Welsh poet Gillian Clarke's poem, *Death of a Cat*, writes of her son's nightmare's after the death of his pet cat.

The French poet, Charles Baudelaire, writing in the 19th century, created the poem *Cats*, comparing them with scholars. It has been translated into English by several people, amongst them William Aggeler and Jack Collings Squire.

The 12th-century Chinese scholar Lu Yu writes affectionately of his feline companion in *I Got a Cat From a Nearby Village*, and William Wordsworth, in *Kitten at Play*, John Keats in *To Mrs Reynolds' Cat* and Ford Madox Ford in *The Cat of the House* marvel at cats' characters and what they mean to them.

The Owl and the Pussycat by Edward Lear is well-known to children, but the follow-up poem, which was unfinished at his death, *The Children of the Owl and the Pussycat*, is less familiar.

As for big cats, comparisons with lions and tigers are common in cat poems, but we also had Ted Hughes's poem *The Jaguar*, inspired by a visit to the zoo. Seeing the magnificent but caged animal, he imagines, perhaps unrealistically, that capture has not lessened the creature's power.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12 July and the theme will be Drink.

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

Judith Harvey

SHELLOW READING GROUP

Our chosen book for June is a powerful document. In *Trans - a Memoir*, by Juliet Jacques, a man's transition to another sex is recorded, and the physical and psychological toll the long-drawn-out process takes is very evident. The author accounts the journey worth all the trauma, and, whilst she never makes light of what she has suffered along the way, it is clear by the end of the book that she has 'come home' and feels a more complete human being. She shows the wide range of attitudes the outside world takes to transitioning and to those who undertake it and the reader is left feeling admiration for her honesty and perhaps a better understanding of what it means to go through such a huge emotional upheaval.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 11 July and the book chosen *Kara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. for more information, please contact Jane Birnage on 01280 847455 or at janebirnage@icloud.com

REPORTS FROM THE PARISHES

Cottisford and Juniper Hill St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: Charles Jackson, Cottisford House, Cottisford

Tel 01280 848247

TREASURER David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

Tel 01869 277690

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Vacancy

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Judith Harvey, Lark Rise Cottage, Juniper Hill Email: judith.harvey@live.co.uk

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



COTTISFORD AND JUNIPER HILL SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Coffee Morning held at Lark Rise Cottage in Juniper Hill on May 21st was well-attended, despite the cool and windy weather. Children attending with their parents enjoyed a Treasure Hunt around the back garden. The sum of £137 was raised by the sale of plants and refreshments and a Tombola stall, and it was divided between the Committee and The Friends of Cottisford Church.

The next event organised by the Committee was the Lighting of the Beacon in the playing field at Juniper Hill on Thursday 2nd June, to celebrate the Queen's seventy years on the throne, which was also marked, earlier this year, by the planting of trees in a corner of the field.

Two days later, the gates of Tusmore Estate were thrown open to the inhabitants of Tusmore, Cottisford, Juniper Hill and Hardwick for a very enjoyable afternoon with a range of activities on offer.

On Sunday September 4th we will be holding our annual Tea in the Field from 2.30-4.30. Bring a picnic, and the Committee will provide hot and cold drinks. There will be a Tombola stall, a quiz and children's games and races. Bring friends and family with you for what is always a pleasant event where people catch up with each other's news and relax in the sun (Fingers crossed!).

Finmere

St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: Vacancy

TREASURER: Jacqueline Chelin, 19 Valley Road, Finmere, Buckingham MK18 4BG

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Katherine Grimston

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

Tel 01280 847782

Tel 01280 848268

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



Village Hall

The village hall is now back open for use and bookings and many of the regular users have now resumed their scheduled events. We will shortly be posting a new set of pictures detailing the many improvements that been implemented during the renovation process

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



Allotments



The allotments have become a hive of activity, especially now that we have had a little rain and the danger of frosts seem to have passed !

The Poor's Plot continues to have a small waiting list for allotment plots.

There is always a possibility that a few plots may become available shortly, so any aspiring allotment users should visit

www.myfinmere.com/poorsplot

Need some local help

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

Village facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/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 Primary School - www.finmere.oxon.sch.uk

Fringford

St Michael and All Angels

CHURCHWARDEN: John Mayo, 10 Church Close, Fringford Tel 01869 278873
 TREASURER: Christina McCullagh, 5 Crosslands, Fringford Tel 07867 515207
 PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Penny Wood as below
 MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Penny Wood, 8 Crosslands, Fringford Tel 01869 277310
 VILLAGE HALL CORRESPONDENT: Christine Underwood Tel 01869 278949
 WEBSITE www.fringford.info



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

St Michael & All Angels, Services & Events

- Sunday 3rd July – 10.45am Family Service
- Sunday 10th July – 6.00pm Evening Communion
- Sunday 17th July – 11am Service on the Shelswell History Festival site in Newton Purcell

Please check the noticeboard at the church, or our website www.shelswellparishes.info or ring the Benefice office (01280-848192) to find out when and where services are on Sundays when there is not one in Fringford.

Churchyard Clear Up Morning

Thank you very much to everyone who came to help on 11th June. Your work is greatly appreciated.

Fringford Beer Festival – 18 June

Had not happened at the time of writing. More in August *Shelswell News*.

Fringford Church 100 Club

The winners of the May draw were Phillippa Taylor £52, Cyndy Lee £32, and Marion Crowther £22. You can still sign up to the 100 Club. Contact Christina McCullagh to register your involvement **ASAP, on 07867 515207**. Draw takes place monthly at the Village Coffee Morning.

Shelswell By The Sea

Holiday at home on 4, 5 and 6 July. See 'General Section' for more information. Application Forms in church.

Support During The Time Of Coronavirus, And Afterwards

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

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

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

Fringford Village Coffee Morning The Coffee Morning will be on Monday 18th July 10.30am to 12 noon. Now meeting in the Chinnery Room at the Village Hall. Do drop in. [The Fringford Church 100 Club draw will take place that morning].

Penny Wood



Regular Activities held in Fringford Village Hall

Details of regular activities taking place in Fringford Village Hall. To find out more or book a place, please contact the hirer direct.	
Weekly Activities	Monthly Activities
<p>FS Dance Monday & Wednesday (term time) After school classes BALLET • TAP • MODERN • STREET</p> <p>leah.fsd@gmail.com or 07885827592</p>	<p>Village Coffee Morning All ages welcome Third Monday in the month - Chinnery Room Drop in anytime between 10.30 am and noon</p> <p>Penny Wood 01869 277310</p>
<p>Puppy Stars Dog Training Tuesday from 6pm</p> <p>Contact Nick 07542 131400 www.puppystars.co.uk</p>	<p>Parish Council Meeting All villagers welcome Third Monday in the month 7.45pm</p> <p>Contact 01844 237766 or fringford.pariahclerk@gmail.com</p>
<p>Fringford Yoga Wednesday (term time) 9.30am – 11am</p> <p>Carolyn White 01869 277161</p>	<p>Darby & Joan Club Third Tuesday of the month March to June 2.30pm – 4.30pm</p> <p>Marian Golding 01869 278355</p>
<p>Just Puppies Puppy Training Wednesday from 7pm</p> <p>Contact Kerri 07720 891489 www.justpuppies.training</p>	<p>Shelswell WI Varied programme of speakers & activities First Thursday of the month 7.30pm</p> <p>Contact Elaine Whittaker 07917 453224</p>
<p>Sound Bath Meditation Friday from 6.30pm</p> <p>contact@holisticaxis.com</p>	<p>Mindfulness Meditation Monthly Sunday 11am to 12.30pm Jane Rainey 01869 278227</p>
<p>VH Annual General Meeting Monday July 25th - 7.30 start Come along and hear about what we have been doing and our plans for the next year It would great to see you! Contact Helen 01869 278260</p>	<p>Fringford Sewcial Sew and Chat!</p> <p>Alternate monthly Wednesday from 7pm & Sunday from 3pm - next dates: Wednesday 13/7 Contact Melissa at mamcs100@gmail.com</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>	

Fringford Village Hall

Our Jubilee Picnic on the Green was rained-off but we weren't deterred!

We decided to set up the Village Hall as a street party with lots of bunting, flags and flowers and of course the Queen and corgis were in attendance. We also live-streamed the Jubilee Pageant on the huge screen. Villagers brought along fabulously decorated cakes and we were very grateful to Puratos and Matilda's for their cake donations too. Refreshments and cakes were all free of charge with donations of £147.50 going to Support for Ukraine.

Lots of villagers came along with their picnics or just came to enjoy chatting to friends and neighbours with a cuppa and some cake. There was a great atmosphere and a good opportunity to meet new residents and just get together as a community.

Thanks again to everyone for their jubilee cake, biscuits and trifle and thanks to the village hall team and helpers for putting on the event.

Hardwick St Mary the Virgin

CHURCHWARDEN: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

TREASURER: David Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Vacancy

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Veronica Barnes, Honeysuckle Cottage, 11 Hardwick

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

Tel 01869 277690

Tel 01869 277690

Tel 01869 277690

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



HARDWICK CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY

Visit

Hardwick Church

Open Daily: 10 am – 4 pm

Available for :

- Private prayer and quiet contemplation
- Viewing the architecture, memorials and stained-glass windows

Please make use of this special space

Hardwick Church new guidebook

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

Pilgrim Pathways

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

Hethe St Edmund and St George

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

Tel 01869 277366

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

Tel 01869 278166

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Flora Skinner as above

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Mike Green as above

Tel 01869 278166

WEBSITE: www.hethe.org

If you have any news or a local event to publicise, please send the details to me, where possible with a photo, and if suitable I will add them to next month’s news and include them on the village web site. The deadline for this publication is on Page 2.

Many thanks, Mike.

ST EDMUND & ST GEORGE CHURCH

Church Services and Events



The church is now open every day for visits and private prayer. See the back page for details of services.

Thank you to Jenny Cullen for volunteering to clean the church and provide flowers this month.

If you wish to contribute to the running costs of the church, please see the village web site, use one of the QR Codes below or contact hethepccsecretary@outlook.com.



⇐ Scan here for regular giving by direct debit

Scan here for one-off and regular giving by credit or debit card

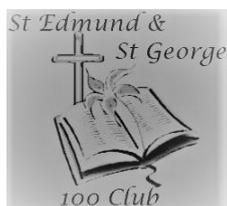




Thanks to Gary for building a compost container in the churchyard. The brown bin will continue to be available this year, but we would encourage people to put compostable waste on the compost heap wherever possible.

Due to a number of different circumstances most of the churchyard is now growing wild! We have received some positive feedback on allowing nature free range, particularly at the front of the church with the multitude of moon daisies. Later in the year, some of the grass will be cut and raked clear to encourage more diversity next year. Other areas of grass will be allowed to grow and will be cut the following year.

Please let us know how you feel about continuing this initiative. If you would like to be involved in any way in how the church and village can help to protect wildlife and alleviate the effects of climate change, please email – hethenews@outlook.com.



There are still plenty of numbers in the 100 Club if you wish to join! June's results will be published in July. Please contact Mike or one of the other PCC members for an application form. The form and full details of the scheme are on the village website.

HETHE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Parish Council

Fran Boon was co-opted as the seventh Parish Councillor at the AGM of the Parish Council.

Update from Sam Wallace the Chairman of the Parish Council

At the most recent meeting it was decided that the Parish Council wanted to look for more engagement with villagers and seek to get more people involved in shaping the way we support and develop our community. We encourage anyone with issues, passions or questions to come to our meetings where there are forums dedicated to focusing on ensuring everyone in the village has the chance to have their voice heard. One of the things we also want to do is promote more widely the areas we are spending our time discussing, so we'll be regularly updating you all through this magazine as well as the noticeboards and the Hethe.org website. What we've agreed to look at, among a number of things, are:

- Jubilee Tree Planting; finding a site, tree and making arrangements for the tree which was planted at the celebrations on the Jubilee Weekend
- Electric Car Charging; we know a number of residents in the village don't have driveways or access to be able to easily charge a car, so the Council is looking at how we might get a number of these installed at the village hall
- The Village "Eco" Plan; we have had a number of both councillors and residents approach us to ask what we are doing around sustainability and the climate crisis, and we've now formed a small subcommittee to look at options which might be considered as part of our future work

The next meeting will be held at 8pm on the 19th of July and we would encourage anyone with interests in the goings on in the village to come along.



Village Hall

Please contact the booking secretary fj Skinner@hotmail.co.uk for availability.

The Stay & Play Group

Please note that the contact for the group is Jess, email: jessicablamb@yahoo.co.uk.

Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Thank you to everyone who helped to prepare for the street party in Hethe and particularly to Flora for organising the disco, the street party and the commemorative church service. The rain and cold did not put villagers off celebrating!



Jean Ramsey added:

“In the lull after the meal, and whilst helping with the clearing up that had to be done before reopening the road, a small party moved up to the Village Hall to plant the Platinum Jubilee Walnut tree. Thanks to Jill Elkington on behalf of Hethe Parish Council for buying the tree and to assisting Sam Wallace in preparing the site and digging the hole.

“Margot Cox and Pauline O’Gorman being the youngest and longest lived inhabitants of the village, were the official tree planters and Pauline said ‘God save the Queen’ as the first soil was put back in the hole. Dean Overton and Jill Elkington finished the job. The tree was much admired, and we thought of the enjoyment of the future inhabitants of Hethe who would enjoy its fruits and shade.”

See Jean’s full report on the village web site.

Shelswell History Festival

“If you live in a house that was once a Shop or Tradesman and have old photos or information about the same, I am hoping to put together a display for the Shelswell History Festival”. You have up to 16th July to contribute – or bring something along on the day. Contact Pauline by telephone on 277483 or at “Bergerac” on Main Street.

If you have any news or a local event to publicise, please send the details to me, where possible with a photo, and if suitable I will add them to next month’s news and include them on the village web site. The deadline for this publication is on Page 2.



Hethe Lending Library

A rich variety of fiction and non-fiction books, puzzles and CDs to browse and borrow, in St Edmund & St George Church.

Mixbury All Saints

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

Tel 07899 792552
Tel 01280 848295
Tel 01280 847769
Tel 01280 848295
Tel 01280 848002

To donate to All Saints', Mixbury just scan this code with your phone:



CHURCH SERVICES

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

MIXBURY CHURCH FLOWER ROTA 2022

July	Sue Goodman
August	Helen Backon
September	Philippa Brown
Harvest festival – everyone	



MIXBURY CHURCH CLEANING ROTA (Revised 2022 – 2023)

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to go on this rota and to everyone who has cleaned and helped maintain the church throughout the past year – it is very much appreciated.

JULY	Julie Mitchell and Helen Backon
AUGUST	Rebecca Ayres and Eryl Tobin
SEPTEMBER	Giovanna Holdcroft and Tanya Howroyd

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.

Next: 1st July 2022

If you are interested in hosting a pub night please contact Tanya – email: markandtanya@yahoo.co.uk.

ALL SAINTS MIXBURY – UPDATE FROM MIXBURY PCC



Although not the original plan, it was wonderful to see the church being used for the jubilee party on Sunday. We are fortunate that our village has such a great space which is accessible to everyone. Sometimes it just takes a bit of unpredictable summer weather and some imagination to see what is possible, but hopefully Sunday will inspire ideas for future events, big or small. If you would like to use the church for anything then please contact the churchwardens.

There are a few improvements that would make it even more usable, the most obvious being the availability of a loo. Our architect is currently drafting a feasibility study to explore how we can achieve this against the challenging backdrop of a grade 2 listed building located within a conservation area. In addition to the loo, the architect is also looking at how we can improve the kitchen facilities, maximize the storage space, find a way to safely accommodate some of our village history artefacts as well as a permanent home for the book exchange.

The ability to adapt the space to the requirement was born out on Sunday with room for the band, a dance floor and 94 people seated at tables for lunch. This was only possible by using the grass area to the north of the church (that so many people turned out to help prepare and seed last year) on which to erect the village marquee and create additional seating space. Accessing this useful area by re-instating a working door next to the organ should be very straightforward and the architect is looking at this too. It would also create an additional fire exit, which is important if the big double doors in the tower are blocked when the kitchen is in use.

Outside, the objective has been to make the maintenance of the churchyard as straightforward as possible by regular mowing between the graves and leaving some wild areas around the wall, that only require periodic attention. Feedback on the appearance of the churchyard, and indeed the church, has been very positive and once again, many thanks to all of the volunteers who help to achieve this. The church wall is a little like the Forth Bridge, requiring regular upkeep each year, so we will need to continue to invest in this. We are also planning to repair the church gates and replace the light above the gateway when we can get a suitable power source to it.

The church obviously also requires regular maintenance and this autumn our architect will undertake a formal inspection and produce a status report; this is a statutory requirement every 5 years and hence is called the Quinquennial Report. We still have some outstanding items of repair to carry out from the last inspection and the list will only get longer. We will share the findings in the autumn so that everyone can understand what is required to keep our lovely church open.

In addition to more strategic work, such as repairs to the masonry and roofs, there are also many important tasks that need to be completed each year like clearing gutters, maintaining the drains, fixing the outside lights and clearing up after the pigeons etc. Once again, the ability to carry out maintenance work as easily as possible ensures that it is completed in a timely manner and helps to keep the costs down. With this in mind, the PCC is inclined not to re-instate the railings around the church that were taken down a couple of years ago to give contractors safe access to the building. Not only would they be costly to put back, but they also limit access to some critical areas and present considerable health and safety issues for any work taking place on the south side of the church or around the tower. We are currently in discussion with the church authorities as to how best to address this.

As you can imagine, all of this activity needs quite a bit of thought and coordination, and we really **welcome your comments** on anything mentioned above so that we can feed them into the rather complicated processes that we are required to follow to make anything happen.

Please send your comments to alec.howard@btinternet.com

PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Mixbury's very own King and Queen attended an amazing picnic in the church/church yard on Sunday 5th June 2022. Approximately 94 villagers turned out to picnic, dance and sing during the afternoon whilst King George and Queen Amelia held court. Thanks to the PCC for putting up the village marquee and opening the North door of the church to extend the seating area, it showed what a useful community venue the church is for those sorts of occasions. A group village photo was taken by a drone – looking forward to seeing the results of everyone shouting “Jubilee” when the photo was taken! The village children were given commemorative coins and all adults a jubilee badge.



Queen Amelia and King George at the Jubilee celebrations.



The church beautifully set up ready for the party.

THE MIXBURY ASSOCIATION

The above Association has recently funded the beautiful flower troughs next to the bus shelter in the centre of Mixbury, and just to recap for everyone a brief summary of the rules, purpose and how to apply for funding is set out below. So if you can think of a scheme that Mixbury and the community can benefit from get applying!
Email: matthew.wethey@gmail.com



The MIXBURY ASSOCIATION (the “**Association**”) is an unincorporated association, which will be administered and managed in accordance with these rules by members of the Management Committee (the “**Committee**”).

The purpose of the Association is to receive funds (the “**Funds**”) from:

- the Mixbury Annual Fete (the “**Fete**”);
- other events throughout the year; and
- potential individual contributions.

The Committee will allocate these Funds in accordance with the rules and principles set out below to the following three recipients:

1. To contribute to the annual running costs of the Church of All Saints, Mixbury, the “**Church**”.
2. To support charities nominated by and relevant to Mixbury residents, “**Charities**”.
3. To support projects for the benefit of the Mixbury community, which includes Mixbury Village/Parish, its residents and businesses operating in Mixbury, the “**Community**”.

The current members of the Committee are:

Matt Wethey (Chairman)	Nicola Adams	Kate Darby
Gemma Harris	David Mitchell	Maddie Tobin

Charity criteria

For a charitable donation request to be considered an application should be submitted to one of the Committee members in writing. The application, which should be no more than one page of A4, should provide sufficient detail to enable the Committee to assess the charitable donation request against certain objective criteria to ensure monies are allocated effectively and fairly.

The criteria which will be used when assessing charitable donation applications are:

- **PURPOSE OF THE DONATION**
- **MIXBURY CONNECTION** of the proposer/organisation
- **ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

Community funds

The Committee may take a longer-term view in order to build up the Mixbury Community Fund.

The purpose of the fund is to make monies available to support projects for the benefit of the Community.

Projects might include those involving community development, the arts, amateur sports, the local environment and the improvement of the Church buildings and churchyard, in Mixbury Parish and, in very exceptional circumstances, adjoining Town/Parish Council areas.

Community project criteria

For a project request to be considered an application should be submitted to one of the Committee members in writing. The application, which should be no more than one page of A4, should provide a description of the project in sufficient detail to enable the Committee to assess the project request against certain objective criteria to ensure monies are allocated effectively and fairly.

The criteria which will be used when assessing applications are:

- **PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT** - What impact will the project have on the well-being of the Community?
- **LOCATION** - Is the project within Mixbury Parish? (If not, is it a project which may reasonably be expected to have a positive impact on the Community)
- **TIMESCALE FOR THE PROJECT** - What is the timescale for the project and when is the project due to be completed?
- **TIMESCALE FOR FUNDING** - When is funding required?
- **MIXBURY CONNECTION** of the proposer/organisation
- **PROJECT FUNDRAISING** - Has any other fundraising been carried out? If so, how much was raised, and when?
- **ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FUNDING** - What other sources have been approached for funding? What percentage of total project funding is sought from the Association?

- **COMPLETION** – What will be submitted to the Association, and when, in order to demonstrate that the funding has been spent for the benefit of the Community?
- **ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

Example for 2019

For 2019 the fete raised approximately £24,000. Thus, funds would be allocated as follows:

External stall holders	£200 (to be checked)
Church	£12,000
Charity (fete holder nomination)	£3,600
Charity (village residents' nominations)	£2,000 (max)
Mixbury Community Fund	Balance approximately £6,200

DOGS

A polite request to all dog owners, could you please keep dogs on leads and under control **within the village** and church yard, dogs off the lead and out of control are a danger to other people and also at risk themselves of being in an accident. Some residents have had problems with dogs fouling their pathways and garden fronts please clean up after your dogs.

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS BY BRUCE EPPS

For this month's All Our Yesterdays and the two following months, I have drawn on the transcript of an oral interview which Adrienne Brunton undertook in 2007, with Frances Harris (nee Tew), when Frances was 100 years old. It provides a wonderful insight into life in Mixbury in the first half of the 20th century; and, I suspect, into the lives of many of our predecessors in the other parishes now in the Shelswell Benefice! Mixbury is lucky to have a rich collection of first hand stories told by people who lived here in that period, and slightly later. The best record of the 1940s, 50s and 60s is available in "Mixbury Gals and Pals: Memories of a Country Childhood", by Daphne Bowers and Susan Barnes.

"None of us were born in Mixbury. Mary Tew was my mother. I am Frances. I was the eldest. John was the youngest. He was 11 months old when we moved here. The rest of us were born in Farthinghoe but we left when I was seven to live at Hinton-in -the- Hedges during the war years (WWI). We moved to Mixbury when I was ten, in 1917, and I went to school from 10-14. We lived at number 23.

When I got engaged we were waiting for a house. There was lots of unemployment. Then when a house came along we got married, in 1928, and settled at No. 5 Mixbury. The Squire owned the village. All the houses were exactly the same - there had been no alterations - and we paid 3s a week for rent. The pump at the end of the village - by our house - was forever going wrong - wretched thing -, so we all had to go to the spring in the field at the back of the houses to get water. We had to cart it back up with buckets and jugs: it was hard work. The men folk used to fill anything. There were square stones at the spring where you could stand your bucket. The water from the spring was used for cooking, washing etc. It never ran dry. I never remember anyone clearing it out. We used to go and get watercress from there and have it for tea. I don't know what we would have done, if it hadn't been for the spring. I don't know of any other pumps in the village. We used to collect rainwater as well.

I didn't dare go to the well; there were three in the village: one was just opposite number 23 where we lived, another covered, halfway down the road, with a grassy path with fenced in railings, and one on the castle site. My neighbour, the one with the taxi, used to get me water from the well opposite.

There were five of us children - three girls and two boys and the boys shared one bedroom and the girls another. My husband lived in one of the houses in Fulwell from when he was three years old and there were ten children! I don't know how the bigger families managed. For those families who had lots of children some would have to sleep at neighbours' houses. We used oil lamps and candles for lighting. We all went to bed with candles: I never remember Mother saying be careful. All the girls had got long hair. No - one dreamt of any accidents.

Not all the cottages had cooking ranges: I had an open fire to cook on with a little oven to the side. You stood your kettles on top. It was at the back of the kitchen and there was a built-in copper to heat water. We burnt anything. Coal was cheaper then, 2s per cwt. There was loads of wood to pick up and we even burnt dried up old pieces of cabbage stalks. We were allowed to pick up wood. There was a woodland called Park Thorn (?) on the way to Shelswell. The wood was given free by the Squire. You could have whatever wood you wanted - you could cut down a tree if you wanted to - the men used to go and chop the wood and bring to the roadside and the womenfolk would go and collect it; even the children would go and get thin bits of faggots.

The houses didn't change. The toilets were earth affairs, just holes in the ground really, you might say. They were very primitive indeed. But the houses were considered attractive - lovely long gardens a long fence that went right along and a right of way to get to the back of the houses. It was a nice-looking village - quite a model village really. All the doors were painted in a pinky colour - a pinky red. I don't remember what year people could buy their houses, but it was for £300. All the houses had three bedrooms; two were medium sized and one was a little room. Later on, when you could buy, people turned the little one into bathrooms. " (continued in next month's Shelswell News)

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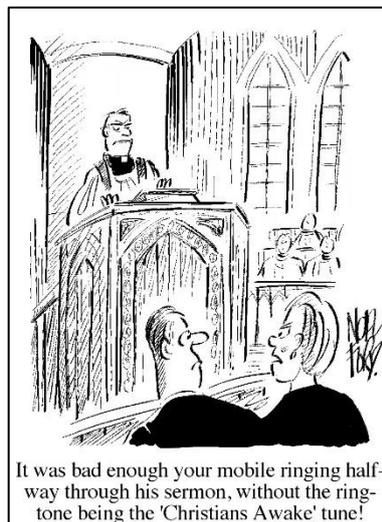


Services -

Sunday 3rd July - 9.15 a.m.

We look forward to welcoming all who are able to join us.

Bonus Ball Lotto :- Our recent lucky winner was Claire Abernethy.



Stoke Lyne St Peter's

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

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Tel 07762 719198

Tel 07810 120457

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

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Flower Duty for July

Julie Adams

Stoke Lyne 100 Club – June Results

The Jubilee celebrations continue with the 100 club draw results:

1st Prize Membership No 16 Peter Read

2nd Prize Membership No 22 Hope Poole

3rd Prize Membership No 10 Nick Barnes

Congratulations to all the winners. Once again if anyone would like to join please email me for details. £3.00 per month per membership no. Total prize money £73.50.

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

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Stoke Lyne - Saturday, 4th June



We enjoyed a fantastic bring and share lunch, toasting The Queen, and settling down to celebrate with friends and neighbours. The children made crowns and enjoyed some royal-themed crafts. Leo won the cuddly corgi by guessing that his name was 'Geoffrey'.



Rena brought some Jubilee and Coronation memorabilia from previous years. Our Royal knowledge was tested by a quiz and Nick and Miles were the proud winners

‘The Queen’ popped in to judge the cake competition. We were very pleased to welcome her to Stoke Lyne. She had made an earlier appearance in 2012 at her Diamond Jubilee celebrations

Kelly Holden-White



Food for Thought with Platinum Jubilee Breakfast - Sunday 5th June



We enjoyed a special breakfast, including cakes and croissants and shared our experiences from the long, weekend. We sang The National Anthem and showed off our Royal knowledge by completing a crossword. It was also Pentecost Sunday and we brushed up on what the gifts and fruits of The Holy Spirit are and how they might be at work in our lives.

Please join us for the next FFT service on Sunday 3rd July, starting at 10am with breakfast, followed by short, informal worship.

Kelly Holden-White

STOKE LYNE W.I. – THURSDAY, 9TH JUNE

To celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee it was decided to have a Jubilee lunch. We were originally going to have it in the garden of one of our members, but on looking at the sky our hostess said we should have it indoors and we spread out over 4 rooms. On arrival members were given a celebration drink and before the business began President Rena asked members to raise their glasses to toast Queen Elizabeth II on her Platinum Jubilee year. We then had a short business meeting where members were given out forthcoming events for their diaries.

Buffet tables had been set up, one downstairs and one upstairs, and members were asked to help themselves to the wonderful selection of food. Of course we had to have coronation chicken as one of the dishes. Drinks were served by the Committee and even though we were spread out in different rooms we found time to socialise and chat in the different rooms. After the main course dishes were cleared away, it was time for dessert and what a lovely choice there was. Cheese and biscuits followed for those who wanted. Tea and coffee and chocolates were also served by the Committee.

The competition consisted of a piece of memorabilia and a write up of what you were doing at the coronation or, if you weren't born, memories told to you by your parents. This was won by Jackie for her coronation cup and saucer. The raffle was won by Rena.

Rena thanked Mary for her hospitality and allowing us to use her house for the meeting as well as thanking all the Committee for the wonderful spread of food they had prepared for this celebration lunch. Jackie also gave a vote of thanks to the Committee for supplying and cooking a wonderful lunch.

Stoke Lyne W.I. meet on the second Thursday of the month at Hethe Village Hall at 1.00 pm. For the July meeting the speaker will be giving a talk about an individual's rights and what he/she is entitled to. The competition will be "What is it?" for which we have to bring something along and others have to guess what it is. The tea hostesses will be Judith and Sally. Visitors welcome.

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

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

Tel 07941273145

TREASURER: Fai Li

Tel 07725 009838

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Jackie Fox

MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT: Vacant



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Services: - Please see back page

Children are welcome; the church has a small table and benches with a good supply of paper/crayons for young children during services.



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Tea, coffee and snacks
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Stratton Audley 100 club

The new Church noticeboard is now in place and a massive thanks to Dave Tucker who made the board, then erected it in the very stormy weather. The board was paid for with the profit from this year's 100 club so thank you to all the villagers who took out subscriptions.

The draw takes place at coffee morning in the Red Lion on the first Wednesday in the month.

Stratton Audley celebrates The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in style!

With heavy rain forecast for the day, marquees were erected in the street and the Church was utilised for additional seating. Remarkably the rain held off almost entirely and an amazing day unfolded. The party kicked off at midday with free Pimms for all adults, courtesy of The Red Lion, and over 200 residents and friends joined the festivities. Cakes began to arrive for entry into the Bake-Off competition and children followed trails, created their own flags and experimented with face painting.

Mike Gore and the Platinums provided fantastic entertainment throughout the afternoon. And special mention should be made of the contribution of Simeon Goss who performed several numbers.

Prizes were awarded for best dressed table and the cake judging got underway with 18 remarkable entries Nash's Bakery had created a cake fit for a Queen and, before cutting it, everyone raised a glass to Her Majesty and sang the National Anthem.

The day concluded with a Songs of Praise in the Church.

It was certainly a day that will live long in the memory of those who attended and collectively made the party such a happy community spirited affair.



To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in a more permanent way, and as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Initiative, the Stratton Audley Parish Council planted a Whitebeam tree on Saturday 4th June. Members of the community gathered to witness the planting of a splendid five-year-old tree and a number of long-standing residents took turns to shovel soil into the hole.



SAVE THE DATE!

Stratton Audley 2022 Boules Cup Competition

**Fri 5th August 6pm for 6.30pm start at
Stratton Audley Park**
Kind Courtesy of Emma & Mark ter Haar

Entry **£15** per person, **£10** under 16, **£5** children under 5
& all Drinks (Wine, Lager, Softies) includes a good Supper

Please bring a Boules set with you (if you have one!)
Don't worry if you're on your own, a partner will be found for you to pair up with!

- Play with your partner or child(ren) or mix up with friends!
- Play to win prestigious "Stratton Audley Boules cup" & the "Plate" competition for those knocked out in the first round!

▲ Tickets to competition & catering, please contact Emma at emmaterhaar@yahoo.co.uk or 07867 783938

All ticket proceeds will go to Stratton Audley Church (all food and drink very generously sponsored by Emma & Mark ter Haar)

Non-participants very welcome to come along for fun but still £15/10/5 per head for food and drinks

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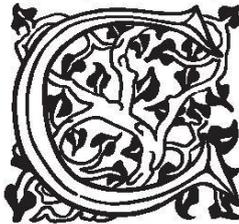
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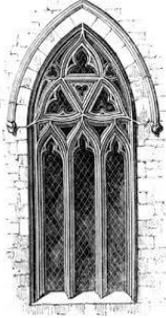
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| <b>SHELLOWELL GROUP SERVICES: JULY 2022</b>                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                      |                                                               |                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CW: 'Common Worship' modern language service    BCP: 'Book of Common Prayer' traditional language service |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                      |                                                               |                                                                                         |
| DATE                                                                                                      | 3 <sup>rd</sup> July<br>Thomas the Apostle                                                                                                                      | <b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July (12 noon)<br/>Midweek Holy Communion and Lunch<br/>STOKE LYNE</b> | 10 <sup>th</sup> July<br>4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                             | 17 <sup>th</sup> July<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                                                                           | 24 <sup>th</sup> July<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity                                                        | 31 <sup>st</sup> July<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity |                                                                                         |
| ALTAR                                                                                                     | Red                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                   | Green                                                                                                                     | Green                                                                                                                                                                   | Green                                                                                                                | Green                                                         |                                                                                         |
| 8.00 am                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                      | <b>Holy Communion<br/>(BCP)<br/>HETHE<br/>AG</b>              |                                                                                         |
| 9.15 am                                                                                                   | <b>9.15am<br/>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (CW)<br/>HARDWICK<br/>YM</b><br><br><b>9.15am<br/>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (BCP)<br/>NEWTON PURCELL<br/>AG</b> |                                                                                                   | <b>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (CW)<br/>HETHE<br/>AG/PW</b>                                                             | <b>11am<br/>BENEFICE SERVICE<br/>at the<br/>Shelswell History Festival<br/>site in Newton Purcell<br/>MK18 4AY<br/>to be followed by a<br/>'Bring and Share' Picnic</b> | <b>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (CW)<br/>STRATTON AUDLEY<br/>AG</b><br><br><b>Morning Prayer<br/>FINMERE<br/>PW</b> |                                                               |                                                                                         |
| 10.45 am                                                                                                  | <b>10am<br/>'Food for Thought'<br/>STOKE LYNE<br/>Lay-led</b><br><br><b>10.45am<br/>Family Service<br/>FRINGFORD<br/>AG</b>                                     |                                                                                                   | <b>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (BCP)<br/>COTTISFORD<br/>YM</b><br><br><b>Morning Service<br/>STRATTON AUDLEY<br/>LW</b> | <b>Note: There will be no<br/>'Fun@4' in July or August,<br/>but this will be back with a<br/>special harvest-themed<br/>event on 18<sup>th</sup> September.</b>        | <b>Holy Communion<br/>with hymns (CW)<br/>STOKE LYNE<br/>LW</b>                                                      |                                                               | <b>10.30am<br/>Benefice Service of<br/>Holy Communion (CW)<br/>STOKE LYNE<br/>LW/AG</b> |
| 6.00 pm                                                                                                   | <b>Compline<br/>GODINGTON<br/>YM</b>                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                   | <b>Evening Communion<br/>FRINGFORD<br/>YM</b>                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Evensong with the<br/>Shelswell Group Choir<br/>HARDWICK<br/>PW</b>                                               |                                                               |                                                                                         |
| AG: Revd Alice Goodall    YM: Revd Yvonne Mullins    LW: Revd Liz Welters    PW: Mrs Penny Wood (LLM)     |                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                      |                                                               |                                                                                         |

