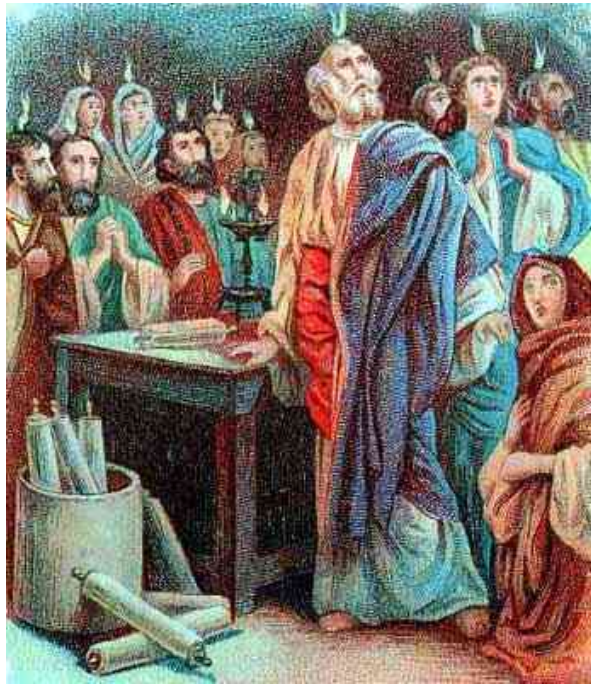


News and Views from the Parishes of Badgeworth,  
Schurdington and Witcombe with Bentham

# Three in One



Issue number 336

May 2024

Price

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## Three in One Magazine

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### THREE IN ONE MAGAZINE

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# CHURCH SERVICES

This is our regular pattern of worship each month. Please look at noticeboards, online and elsewhere in this magazine for special services e.g. Christmas, Easter etc.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

8am	St Paul's	BCP* Holy
Communion		
9:30	St Paul's	Worship
11am	Holy Trinity	Worship
11am	St Mary's	Worship

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month

8am	St Mary's	BCP* Holy
Communion		
9:30	St Paul's	Worship
11am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion
11am	St Mary's	All-age Worship

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month

9:30	St Paul's	Holy Communion
11am	Holy Trinity	BCP* Morning Worship
11am	St Mary's	Holy Communion
3pm	St Paul's Hall	Cake & Prayers

(sometimes with Holy Communion)

*\*These are services using the Book of Common Prayer*

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion

*January, April, July, October at Holy Trinity  
February, May, August, November at St Mary's  
March, June, September, December at St Paul's*

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Benefice Service at 10am "Let's Worship"  
usually in Shurdington Church of England Primary School

## SHURDINGTON CHURCH HALL

School Lane, Shurdington

Lettings for groups and private functions.

Rates £25 large room, £20 small room per session

Further details from Mrs Julie Miller

Tel. 01242 701127 (no later than 8pm please)

## WITCOMBE & BENTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Enquiries should be made to the Custodian

07518 137635

[witcombevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:witcombevillagehall@gmail.com)

[www.witcombevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.witcombevillagehall.co.uk)

## BADGEWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Our lovely old school hall is an excellent venue for meetings, rehearsals, receptions and small parties, seating a maximum of 50 people.

Reception hall, main hall, fully fitted kitchen with crockery and cutlery for 50.

Car park opposite the hall for hall users.

Hire charge £25 per session

(8am-1pm, 1-6pm, 6-11pm).

For enquiries and bookings, please email

[badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com)

or call 07895 764947.

Badgeworth Village Hall Management Committee

## SHURDINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre consists of two spacious halls, a room which Links both, and a grassed open space.

Events may be booked by following the 'Bookings' link

on our website : [shurdingtoncomcentre.net](http://shurdingtoncomcentre.net)

Email: [bookings@shurdingtoncomcentre.net](mailto:bookings@shurdingtoncomcentre.net)

Tel: 07483 303190

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Jesus washing St Peter's feet by Burne-Jones

Contributors please note: material for the  
June 2024 issue to  
John Cummins at [editor3in1@gmail.com](mailto:editor3in1@gmail.com)  
by Wednesday 15th May



# Pastoral Letter

Robert writes



May 2024

My dear friends

As I looked back at my computer files for the last time, I wrote a Parish Letter for the month of May I noted that it was in 2021. In that letter, I wrote about the death of HRH Duke of Edinburgh and the post Covid road map to normality.

How much has changed and happened since then!

For most of us the gradual emergence from the wettest winter on record and, hopefully, into a drier, warmer Spring is a huge relief and a sense of hope that the worst is behind us.

The season of Easter was early this year, arguably as early as it can be in the calendar year which, to me, heightened the sense of anticipation of better times to come against the backdrop of Winter. Even though much better weather was yet to arrive, the scattering of drier sunnier days amid the wet indicated improvement.

As I start to cut grass, I note the underlying soil is still very wet, too wet to do a harsh cut without ripping up the roots so “topping off” is the order of the day to start with. Though Easter may have been early, the growing season is late in starting. I have no doubt it will be busy times ahead as nature catches up quickly and enthusiastically.

Such is life in the world of gardening and farming, yet those of us not directly involved in either can also get a sense of things getting better. Longer hours of daylight, warmer temperatures, a more cheerful daily greeting between friends and neighbours, the sound of birdsong in the mornings as the annual mating, territorial marking and nest building be-

gins. Such things lift our spirits far more than we might easily recognise.

Going from gloom and sadness to acceptance and new beginnings is never instantaneous. It takes time, and may be a little internal effort, to process the events of the past and move more hopefully to a new and different future. Even the significance great events of Easter took time to sink into those most closely linked with them. The famous story of Doubting Thomas is indicative of this as are the other post-resurrection, pre-Ascension stories.

As Springtime proceeds towards Summer, bringing with it the first signs of new beginnings, So Easter heralds new beginnings for all people of the Christian faith, no matter how long their active Christian life may have been.

Blessings to you all.

Robert Poole

Reader.

## ***Special Church Services - May & June 2024***

*May and June follow our usual pattern of services – see details on the inside back cover, with one additional service for **Ascension Day** – see below, and our usual 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday service in school on 30<sup>th</sup> June (see separate advert in this magazine).*

### ***Thursday prayers:***

On the first Thursday of each month, we usually meet in person, at school at 8:30am and then in St Paul's church at 9am.

*Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> May School prayers 8:30am will be at Shurdington School, then Morning Prayer will be at 9am at St Paul's.*

*Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> May is **Ascension Day**. As this is a special day in the church calendar, we will celebrate with a service of Holy Communion in St Paul's Church at 9am. There is also an evening Holy Communion service at St Bartholomew's in Churchdown at 7pm.*

*Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> June School prayers 8:30am will be at Shurdington School, then Morning Prayer will be at 9am at St Paul's.*

*Usually, on other Thursdays in the month (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>), apart from on Ascension Day, morning prayer is online at 9am on zoom. Please email [greenway.bswb.office@gmail.com](mailto:greenway.bswb.office@gmail.com) for the link to the meetings. All are welcome.*

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2024:**

*Holy Trinity Badgeworth's meeting took place on 21<sup>st</sup> April. St Mary's Witcombe with Bentham is at 7pm on Weds 1<sup>st</sup> May in church and St Paul's Shurdington is immediately after the 9:30am service on Sun 12<sup>th</sup> May, in the church hall.*





# 'Big Breakfast' at the Village Hall

On Saturday 13th April the Village Hall echoed to the sound of hungry people devouring their Big Breakfasts! The Hall opened at 9am and we soon had a steady flow of customers. At £5 a head (£3 for children) it was good value for egg, bacon, sausage, tomatoes, beans, toast, tea/coffee and juice as well as convivial company. It was good to see old friends and also some new faces.

It was a successful morning and, with the raffle, we raised over £300 for church and community. If you know of any charity or group in Witcombe and Bentham that would benefit from financial support please let a WSF member know (details in the 3in1 magazine) and we will do our best to help.

The next WSF event is "Wheels on the Green", a great family occasion to be held on Witcombe village green (opposite the Twelve Bells) from 12 noon until 4pm on Saturday 15th June. There will be a large collection of interesting cars and motorcycles, BBQ, raffle and teas. This has always proved an enjoyable day for all your family - come along and join in!

Geoff Pilgrim-Morris

## **Are you interested in learning more about being a Christian?**

We'd love to invite you to a series of conversations, with refreshments. In a casual friendly environment, you can ask those awkward questions, or the questions you think you should know the answers to but don't! We want to share the basic understanding of our faith and talk about what we believe and why. There is no such thing as a stupid question – we want to make it as easy as possible for you to explore Christianity and there is no commitment to attend church as a result of the conversations.

If you might be interested, please contact Susan, the vicar, either by email [revsusancooke@gmail.com](mailto:revsusancooke@gmail.com) or by telephone 01242 321806. There is no obligation in expressing interest.

Susan will set up conversations in small groups according to the responses she receives, or she can set up one to one conversations.

We can also run a more formal course if people are interested.



## Useful Phone Numbers:



Furniture Recycling Warehouse	01452 331333
Removal of Bulky Waste	01684 295010
Glos Highways	0800 0 514 514
Faulty Streetlights	0800 0 514 514
Police (non-emergency)	101
101 is 15p, the local call number is	01452 726920
Fire/Police/Ambulance (emergency only)	999
NHS 'Out of Hours'	08454 220220
NHS Help line	111
Adult social services and District nurses	01452 328224
Samaritans	116123
Citizens Advice	01452 527202
Children's social services	01452 328213
CARE direct	0800 444000
Electricity Power Loss	0800 328 1111
Water Services & Emergencies	0800 783 4444
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Emmaus*	01452 413095

\*at Chequers Road, Gloucester:

Collections and Sale of furniture, electrical goods etc.

*\*at Chequers Road, Gloucester:*

*Collections and Sale of furniture, electrical goods etc.*

# Julian Meeting

Meeting in silence with God

Please do join us for 30 minutes of silent prayer  
followed by a cup of tea together.

Time: 2:30pm Wednesday May 22nd 2024

Place: 52 Lambert Avenue, Shurdington. GL51 4ST  
Ian & Wendy Davies (01242 861293)



## Shurdington church and village organisations

Churchwardens	Mrs Clare Stewart	(01242) 862598
	Mr Andrew Spence	(01242) 862101
PCC Secretary	Mrs Lisa Pearson	(01242) 862538
	Mrs Anita Jackson	
PCC Treasurer	Mr Mark King	(01242) 862505
Gift Aid Officer	Mrs Cheryl Gobey	
Sacristan	Mr Andrew Spence	(01242) 862101
Church Flowers	Mrs Helen King	(01242) 862505
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Lisa Pearson	(01242) 862538
Mothers' Union	Mrs Janet Holmes	(01242) 862989
Church Hall Lettings	Mrs Julie Miller	(01242) 701127
Verger	Mr Michael Cass	(01242) 861139
Parish Council Clerk	John Kay	07841204404
Shurdington Pre School	Kelly Clifford	07867813627
Gardening Society	Mr. G. Woodruffe	07792269353
Scout Group	Mrs Louise Slee	
	15thcheltenhamscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Shurdington Sports Club	Mr J Barnfield	(01242) 862826
Friendship Club	Mrs Maureen West	(01242) 863991
Children's Society	Mrs Helen King	(01242) 862505

In time of illness if you would like a visit and / or to be remembered in prayer please contact Clare Stewart (01242) 862598, Sue Padfield (01452) 862509.

Three in One Magazine  
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Business Manager Ian Davies tel (01242) 861293  
email: [ilandavies@pobox.com](mailto:ilandavies@pobox.com)



## Witcombe & Bentham church and village organisations

Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
	Mrs Lynne Cooper	(01452) 864523
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
PCC Treasurer/Gift Aid Officer	Mr Jon Frewin	(01452) 862583
Verger	Mrs Jane Bell	(01452) 862558
Captain of Bells		
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Lynne Cooper	(01452) 864523
Magazine Coordinator	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
Village Hall Enquiries Custodian		07518137635
Witcombe Social Fundraisers	Mrs Christine Dyer	(01452) 862399
Witcombe Under 5s	Kyla Hill	thevictoria@btinternet.com



## Badgeworth church and Village organisations

Churchwardens	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
	Mr Paul Stanfield	(01242) 463626
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sally O'Hare	07887422010
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Hazel Cotton	(01452) 857180
Gift Aid Officer	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
Sacristan	Mrs Sue Avery	(01242) 520388
Verger	Mrs Rachel Cottell	(01452) 715034
Captain of Bells	Mr David Turner	(01452) 712302
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs H.L. Jones	07840073143
Village Hall	Mrs Rachel Cottell	(01452) 715034
Friends of Church	Mrs Beverly Pickering	(01452) 712907
Church Flowers	Mrs Diana Brown	(01242) 239179

## **Do you need someone to talk to?**

### **Would you like someone to listen to you?**

## **Someone to pray with you or for you?**

We have a small, dedicated team of people ready to listen.  
We can also pray with you or for you, if you would like us to:

Clare Stewart on 01242 862598, Sue Padfield 01452 862509,  
Mary Tombs 01452 713200, Chris Nation 01242 521280, Rob  
Poole 01452 855660, Revd Ian Gobey 07817980173  
Revd Susan Cooke 01242 321806

Why not give one of us a call if you're struggling with life?  
We've all been there and are pleased to lend a listening,  
sympathetic ear.

It doesn't matter if you've never been to a church, used to go, or  
are never planning to go. Our support is for everyone.

All three churches are open every day for visits and private  
prayer but if you're not sure when your church is open, just ask!

You can call Clare, Sue or Paul to check the opening times or  
arrange for the church to be opened for your private prayer:

Holy Trinity - Paul Stanfield 01242 512926

St Mary's - Sue Padfield 01452 862509

St Paul's - Clare Stewart on 01242 862598

***Susan and the church teams.***

# *Greenway Gifts*



# *Food Bank*



If you need some help with groceries, please come along to our non-referral food bank, every Monday, except Bank Holidays, between 9am and 10am, at St Paul's Church Hall. This for Shurdington, Witcombe, Bentham and Badgeworth.

If you would like to support the Food Bank, you can offer long dated items by leaving them in our churches, dropping in on a Monday morning, or you can donate directly to Shurdington Parochial Church Council – see below. Thank you!





# SHURDINGTON & BADGEWORTH GARDENING SOCIETY



Our next meeting is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in the Millennium Hall on “The Salvia Family” with Robert Champion. Please feel free to join us.

Hopefully now the weather is better, although as I am writing this it is raining again, which will mean we can get out and do some of the gardening jobs.

A few garden maintenance jobs are: clearing weeds from ponds and water features. Put soft tops on all canes to prevent injury. Apply wood treatment as necessary. Apply a nitrogen rich summer lawn feed to encourage leafy growth, grass seed or new turf needs to be done by end of the month. Hoe bare soil and hand-weed beds so they do not have time to establish and set seed.

A date for your diary is Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June when it will be the June show.

Stay safe keep gardening

Janette Willis (Secretary)



# Open Mondays at Shurdington Community Centre

Century Hall from 11am – 4pm  
Second and last Monday of the month.

Refreshments

No charge and all are welcome.

Newspapers, jigsaws, table tennis, charge your phone or just have a chat.

Between 2pm and 4pm, there will be a family film showing on our cinema system.

Play facilities for children and on the last Monday of the month, an **NHS run Baby Hub**.

## All welcome



Supported by: **Shurdington Parish Council, Tewkesbury  
Warm Spaces  
Community Fund, Gloucester Thriving Communities,  
National Grid Community Matters  
Gloucestershire Community Foundation**



**BOOKS AND BANTER**  
*book club*

We are a friendly bunch of book lovers, meeting ten times a year in Beauty and the Teacup in Shurdington at 6pm.

*New members are always welcome.*

**Our May meeting is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup>  
May**

*Dates for 2024*

14th June 12th July No August meeting

13th Sept 11th Oct 8th Nov

13th Dec

If you'd like to join, please email [revsusancooke@gmail.com](mailto:revsusancooke@gmail.com) or ask Wendy in Beauty and the Teacup or just turn up!

All welcome! *Susan & Wendy.*



# COFFEE AND CHAT



**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> May**

**10am-12noon**

**Badgeworth Village Hall**

Coffee and home-made cakes, good company,  
a raffle & the morning papers.

Please bring items for the Foodbank box.

**A community event organized by Holy Trinity Church**

**Big Mission Weekend, with the Archbishop of Canterbury**  
**Over the May Bank Holiday, Friday 24 to Sunday 26 May, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, will be coming to the Diocese to join in with our mission and vision.**  
**Friday 24 May**



Archbishop Justin will start by having breakfast with farmers in the North Cotswolds. They will have some big conversations about issues affecting farmers, environmental considerations and care for creation. He'll then meet children at two of our Gloucestershire schools, answering their questions and joining in with singing and worship on an environmental theme.

After lunch, he'll visit a church where the community have set up a thriving café and shop and get to know some of the team who volunteer there, as well as being trained up to make a delicious latte.

At 5pm, Archbishop Justin will be joining Evening Prayer at St John Baptist Church in Cirencester. All are welcome to this service.

Dinner will be at The Grace Network, which supports social enterprises that reinvest profits into their local communities. Guests will have the chance to put their questions to the Archbishop and find out more about how his faith has shaped the person he is today.

### **Saturday 25 May**

The day begins with a service of morning prayer and a Messy Church session in Gloucester. The Archbishop will have a go at

some crafts, singing and chatting with the children and families who worship here.

He'll set off on a prayer walk through Gloucester, stopping for an ice cream on the way to chat to some local Christian business owners and see how their faith plays out in their business. He will be popping into a not-for-profit community café, before getting a steam-punk angle on Gloucester's Tall Ships Festival.

At 1pm to 3.30pm, the Archbishop will be involved in a community fun day run by Sportily, full of lots of sports and activities, at Longford Skate Park. Come along for a coffee and an ice cream and practise your map-reading skills in our treasure hunt.

As a diocese, we believe that people deserve to live in homes that are safe, stable, sustainable, social and satisfying. The Archbishop will find out more about how the Diocese is locally supporting better housing provision.

Young people in Cheltenham have invited the Archbishop to come and join in their regular worship session and then he will end the day with a meal with partners from across the diocese. Bishop Rachel will interview Archbishop Justin and there will be a question-and-answer session about Christian faith and mission.

## **Sunday 26 May**

Archbishop Justin will travel to Tidenham in the Forest of Dean to join in worship, which is open to the local community.

The weekend ends with a celebration diocesan Eucharist (Holy Communion) service at Gloucester Cathedral at 3pm. Please do come and join us for this joyful service of celebration and thankfulness.

Read more: [gloucester.anglican.org/big-mission-weekend-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury](http://gloucester.anglican.org/big-mission-weekend-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury)



## **Light up the world in prayer: Thy Kingdom Come, 9–19 May**

**New resources and tools are available for the Church of England’s annual 11-day prayer initiative. How will you be joining in this year?**

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. Every person, household and church in the Diocese of Gloucester are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way.

Last year, Churches Together in Lydney invited people to drop-in prayer sessions. Christ Church School in Cheltenham created a dedicated prayer space for children during SATS week. St Catherine’s Gloucester led a prayer walk around the area, praying for every street in the parish, St Michael and All Angels in Bishop’s Cleeve put on a Prayer Breakfast, while Trinity Cheltenham provided resources on their social media channels to inspire people to ‘Pray for 5’.

There are so many ways to take part. Download the Journal and other resources to join in as a church, group or individually.

Visit: **[thykingdomcome.global/new-2024](https://thykingdomcome.global/new-2024)**

We’d love to hear the ways are you praying for Thy Kingdom Come this year. Share with us by emailing

**[kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk)**

### **Get the latest news from the Diocese**

Every Friday, get a WhatsApp message from the Diocese of Gloucester with our top three inspiring stories, videos or events.

Visit: **<https://bit.ly/OneDioceseWhatsApp>**

## Events and training

More details for all these events at [gloucester.anglican.org/events](https://gloucester.anglican.org/events)

### Branch youth worship event

**Forest of Dean Community Church, Cinderford**

**4 May, 7.15pm to 9pm**

A monthly worship for secondary school-aged people.

**[gloucester.anglican.org/event/branch-youth-worship-event-may24](https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/branch-youth-worship-event-may24)**

### West End musicals by candlelight

**Gloucester Cathedral**

**17 May, 7.30pm**

An evening of musical theatre with live orchestra London Concertante joined by some of West End's greatest singers for a spectacular musical concert.

**[gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/west-end-musicals-by-candlelight-17-may-2024](https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/west-end-musicals-by-candlelight-17-may-2024)**

### FireWatch Pentecost youth event

**St Mary deCrypt Church, Gloucester**

**18 May, 6pm to 7.30pm**

An alternative youth worship night with candles and contemplative prayer, aimed at those from more Anglo-Catholic traditions.

**[gloucester.anglican.org/event/firewatch-pentecost-youth-event](https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/firewatch-pentecost-youth-event)**

### Wanted: people to do a short training to become Rural Domestic Abuse Champions

Hairdressers, publicans, parish councillors and priests wanted to target rural domestic abuse. The aim is to improve understanding of domestic abuse and ensure participants are able to respond appropriately when victims confide in them. No previous knowledge needed. Contact Clare Joynes on [Clare.Joynes@greensquareaccord.co.uk](mailto:Clare.Joynes@greensquareaccord.co.uk) for more information.

### Have your say

Visit Facebook [f/Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine at [kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk), follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website **[Gloucester.anglican.org](https://Gloucester.anglican.org)**

# SUMMER FETE

SUNDAY 9TH JUNE  
2PM - 4PM

SHURDINGTON  
COMMUNITY CENTRE  
VILLAGE GREEN

A FABULOUS DAY OF FAMILY FUN  
BAR-B-Q WITH TASTY BURGERS  
RACES, GAMES & STALLS  
LIVE MUSIC  
TEA & COFFEE  
CAKES





# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our members arrived on a very windy afternoon but the Hall was cosy and everyone received a warm welcome.

Several members sent apologies Janet George, Averil, Charlotte, Josie, Rosemary, Val and Chris Langham because of holidays or sickness. We missed them all but Cathy remembered them in the Prayers we sent our love.

The afternoon was our Celebration of Easter with readings from Luke about Mary's discovery of the empty tomb and The Road to Emmaus read by Gil and Cathy.

Our dear and faithful John Stanley accompanied us on the keyboard as we sang three hymns Jesus Christ is Risen today, This Joyful Eastertide and Tell out My Soul. Thank you John.

We also listened to a CD of Emma Johnson playing The Victorian Kitchen Garden Suite on clarinet (once I could get the CD player to work!).

Included in the afternoon were readings and poems read by Chris N, Anna, Lisa and Cathy lead the prayers. Janet Holmes read the opening sentences and the closing Easter Prayer.

It was lovely to be together and reflect quietly on the Easter Story. Thank you all for a special time.

Tea was served, minutes of the April meeting read and signed, Coffee Morning discussed, Raffle drawn and the meeting closed at 4.00 pm.

Next meeting 14th May 2024 - We look forward to our dear friend Enid Lovell joining us.

Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

Why not try something different?

*You are invited to*

***“Let’s  
Worship”***

***5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Service***

**on 30<sup>th</sup> June**

Come along to Shurdington Church of England  
Primary School to share in worship together at  
**10am.**

This service is suitable for all ages and all stages  
of faith, whether you’ve never been to church, or  
you’ve been attending for months or years! We  
will have craft and colouring for those who  
enjoy it. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

***All are very welcome.***

*A service shared with school, chapel, all three Church of England  
churches and other fellow Christians.*

**What would life be?  
Without a song or a dance, what are we?**

On Saturday 23rd March friends and neighbours gathered together at Witcombe Village Hall to enjoy a themed evening organised by WSF. With its being the 50th anniversary of ABBA winning the Eurovision Song Contest the choice of theme was easy and resulted in a thoroughly enjoyable evening with great food (including Swedish meatballs of course), an ABBA themed quiz, entertainment from a team of dancers, Christine, Anne and Suzie (with the chance to join in and learn a routine) and a sing-along (or dance-along if you preferred!).

Not only was it a great opportunity to have fun but it also raised over £800 for much needed church and community causes.

**So I say thank you for the music  
For giving it to me (or rather, us!)**

*SAVE the DATE*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS at WITCOMBE

Saturday 15 June	Wheels-(+Teas)-on-the-Green
Sunday 7 July	Family Funday
Friday 18 October	The Witcombe Quiz
Saturday 23 November	Bingo + Fish'nChips

# Daniel Newman

## our curate-designate

You may already have heard that Greenway Benefice will soon be welcoming a new curate (vicar in training) and his family.

Daniel, his wife Tammy and their children Jocelyn and Ezra will move into Shurdington, probably in June, ahead of Daniel's ordination as a deacon on Gloucester Cathedral on the morning of Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Please pray for them as they prepare to move into this new ministry.

Daniel will be working across the parishes, putting into practice the skills and knowledge that he has gained at theological college and from his previous work in retail management.

He is expected to be with us for no less than three years and no more than four, while he learns more about being an ordained minister in the Church of England. Thereafter, he is likely to move on to be a vicar or priest in charge elsewhere. Please look out for him and his family and give them a warm welcome as they settle in here.

You may also know that we have been blessed with our erstwhile curate Reverend Rebecca Spear. Rebecca is now our associate priest, and we are delighted that she continues to minister with us now that her training is complete. We are blessed with a great ministry team! The full list is on the inside cover of the magazine.

***Susan, vicar.***



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June 22nd, July 27th, August 24th  
September 28th, October 26th  
November 23rd

IN AID OF THE REFURBISHMENT OF THE CHURCH HALL

# Shurdington Community Wellbeing Activities

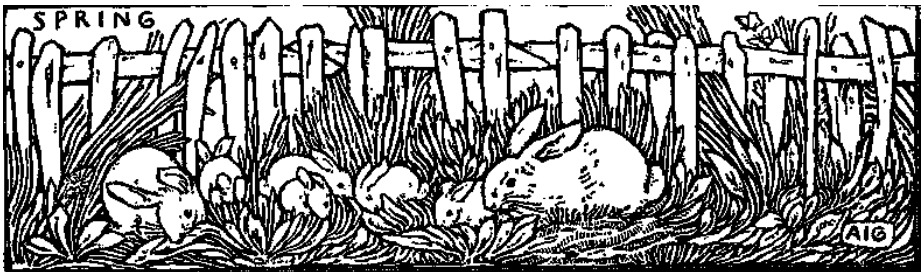
<b>Event</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Bingo @CC	Last Friday of every month	£8 to play, profits go to charity.	Just turn up
Books and Banter @BATT	Monthly, on Fridays, 6pm	Reading group (10 meetings a year)	Susan Cooke <a href="mailto:revsusancooke@gmail.com">revsusancooke@gmail.com</a> 01242 321806 or Wendy Lovett
Busy Hands @SC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Weds of each month, 10am 12noon	Monthly crafting activity, open to all	Beth Jones 07411121806 or Charlotte Rushworth 07956412579
Cards and socialising @BATT	After lunch till 3pm, Weds - Fri	Come along for a game of cards or a board game	Just turn up!
Veteran' Carers Café @TBI	1st Weds of each month 10am - 12noon	For veterans who are carers & carers for veterans. Cooked breakfast, or coffee and cake	Cathy on 07580100479 or email <a href="mailto:community.thebell@gmail.com">community.thebell@gmail.com</a>
Chair Based Exercise Class @CC	Every Thursday 11am	Free Tea, coffee and snack. Suitable for everyone	<a href="mailto:miles@pendulumfitness.co.uk">miles@pendulumfitness.co.uk</a> Or call Miles on 07454116931
Clubbercise Combat @CC	Saturday 9am - 9:45	£6 per session, pay on the door	
Crafty Afternoon @BATT	1st Wednesday of the month	Join in with a craft project or bring your own	Wendy Lovett or Beth Jones
50+ Dance Fitness Class @CC	Thursdays, 10am 11am	First class free	Prue Howlett <a href="mailto:pruehowlett@gmail.com">pruehowlett@gmail.com</a>

Friendship Group Lunch @BATT	Thursdays 12:30pm	All welcome, no need to book. Special offer meal, pudding & hot drink = £12.95	Wendy Lovett <a href="mailto:w.lovett63@gmail.com">w.lovett63@gmail.com</a> 07786986002
Greenway Community Choir @SPCH	Thursday evenings, term time only	All welcome, no auditions, free of charge	Susan Cooke
Greenway Gifts @SPCH	Mondays 9 to 10am (except Bank Holidays)	Village foodbank, no referral necessary	Susan Cooke
Memory Café @TBI	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Weds of each month, 10:30 - 12	£2 per person, tea, coffee & homemade cake	Cathy
Open Mondays @CC	11am - 4pm 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon of month	Refreshments, games, relax, family film from 2pm, free	Just turn up
Pilates Classes @CC	Every Tuesday 6:60 7:30pm	Suitable for all levels and ages	Call Kate on 07974370572 or email <a href="mailto:kp@elkstonegrove.co.uk">kp@elkstonegrove.co.uk</a>
Prize Bingo @BATT	First Fri of the month, 7pm	Families welcome	Wendy Lovett
Theatre trip @BATT	Thursday matinee, once a month		Wendy Lovett
Whist Weds @BATT	Every Wednesday 7pm		Wendy Lovett

Venue key CC = Community Centre  
 BATT = Beauty and the Teacup  
 TBI – The Bell Inn  
 SPCH – St Paul’s Church Hall  
 SC = Shurdington Chapel

# Benefice Diary

		Page
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee and Chat	15
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Open Monday	13
May 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ascension Day	4
May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Open Monday	13
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Gardening Society	12
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Julian Meeting	7
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Open Monday	13
May 10 <sup>th</sup>	Book Club	14
All Mondays (except Bank Holidays)	Greenway Gifts	11
All Thursdays	Community Choir	





## South again

In March I returned to Antarctica on a trip organised by the Friends of Scott Polar Research Institute. Although the Antarctic peninsula is now a up-market tourist area, weather much like it Shurdington 12,000 ago, visiting since the post-covid recovery has been constrained by limitations resulting from the Avian Flu, which is killing not only birds such as Skuas but also the sea lions.

This particular tour was intended to have various special activities, not least visiting areas named for a parent or grandparent of some passengers and even a Bay named for one of the passengers. It's a rare treat to visit a place with the person from whom it got its name. (Antarctic) Place names are allocated for navigation, science, safety, or protection. (In biology there is a move to remove names of individuals from birds and animals.)

People's names have long been derived from places, sometimes to comic effect in the house of Lords, and it's polite to



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get them right, but names remain far more significant in other cultures.

Indeed the church now often sounds evasive, 'praise the name of the Lord' instead of praising the Lord, or off-putting first priority: 'hallowed be thy name'.

There was small Ukrainian chapel at the Vernadsky base, previously Faraday (or Base F), which was sold to Ukraine for a pound by the UK after the Russians had grabbed all the ex-Soviet facilities. St. Volodymyr's chapel was built in 2011, and now has a yellow door and a blue wall. The first priority on taking over a British base was to add a sauna. The bar, wiring and humour has been retained. The base is where the ozone hole was first detected. Nearby, our Zodiac was checked out by a curious Minke whale and we check out a sleeping humpback whale.

The low cloud base for most of the trip meant that we did not see what are now called the Una Peaks, but being with a group with diverse but overlapping interests there were plenty of lectures on how some animals sleep while diving, or the finding of the Endurance wreck as well as the geology of the area and the complexities of ice in an area with significant warming. (It was not freezing at any time when I was there.) If all the ice melts, the coast would run along Shurdington Road.

Mark (The second name of yet another St John. See Acts 15:37)

# May Feast days

9 May	Thursday	Ascension Day
19 May	Sunday	Pentecost
26 May	Sunday	Trinity Sunday

## May

- 1 Philip and James, Apostles
- 2 Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 373
- 4 English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era
- 8 Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, c.1417
- 12 Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952
- 14 Matthias the Apostle
- 16 Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877
- 19 Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, Restorer of Monastic Life, 988
- 20 Alcuin of York, Deacon, Abbot of Tours, 804
- 21 Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, 330
- 24 John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists, Hymn Writers, 1791 and 1788
- 25 The Venerable Bede, Monk at Jarrow, Scholar, Historian, 735
- 25 Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, 709
- 26 Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605
- 26 John Calvin, Reformer, 1564
- 26 Philip Neri, Founder of the Oratorians, Spiritual Guide, 1595
- 28 Lanfranc, Prior of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Scholar, 1089
- 30 Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906
- 30 Joan of Arc, Visionary, 1431
- 30 Apolo Kivebulaya, Priest, Evangelist in Central Africa, 1933
- 31 The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth



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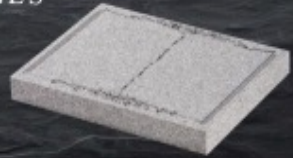
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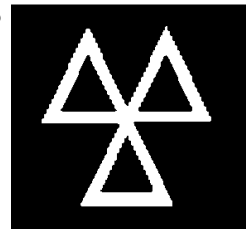
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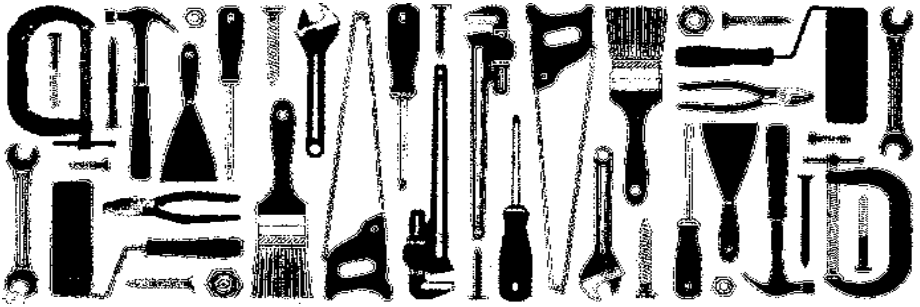
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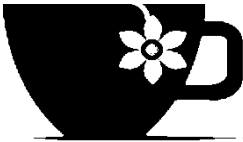
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