

Dadford and Stowe Parish **Magazine**

March - April 2022



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This magazine is produced every two months for everyone in Dadford Village and Stowe Parish.

STOWE CHURCH CONTACTS

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The **North Buckingham Parish** is part of the Diocese of Oxford in the Buckingham Archdeaconry.

www.nbpchurches.org.uk for viewing the different villages and places of interest and details of services.

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Dear Friends,

We are in a new situation with restrictions relaxed, self-isolation no longer mandatory and people back in the workplace. Yes, we all feel pleased to return to what we view as 'normal' - the familiar, back to what we know. But does anything stay the same? Isn't there always change?

We have come through two years of a deadly pandemic by the skill of scientists at home and abroad and the dedication of doctors and nurses in saving lives. We thank God for their knowledge and hard work, and we are learning to live with Covid.

Now, we feel the shadow of war from Russia and their brutal invasion of Ukraine, pulling in ourselves and other countries across the world. And, as if the elements echo our feelings of unrest and uncertainty, we have been battered by storms of strong winds and rain causing destruction in many parts of the country.

But we shouldn't be downcast for long as there is so much to be thankful for. So where do we turn? Not very far as it happens. As Christians, we trust our Loving Father in Heaven and are witnesses to the beauty of His creation and we have the knowledge of His Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who "is the same yesterday, today and forever." Here is our stability and here our firm foundation.

There is such hope in looking out on the countryside and our gardens coming to life after the winter months. Snowdrops have more than pushed through the ground and in Dadford many daffodils planted by generous people over the years are showing their green shoots.

We are now in the season of Lent. A time of self-reflection, perhaps of spiritual renewal or self-discipline. However we choose to acknowledge this time, it is an opportunity for preparing for Easter, to reflect on and understand anew the meaning of the Easter story.

Lent leads to Maundy Thursday, where we remember Jesus' Last Supper with His friends, before His arrest and Crucifixion on Good Friday. On Easter Sunday, in churches across the world, we joyfully celebrate Jesus rising from the dead. New life, new hope. Our parish church of St Mary's cannot be seen from Dadford, but it is only just up the hill - always open, and welcome to all!

GS



DADFORD PARISH COUNCIL

After a very wet and stormy start to 2022 let's hope that we can look forward to a brighter and warmer spring. Perhaps you will be able to take a walk in the Dadford play area and enjoy the new daffodils that were planted in the Autumn very soon.

The thought of spring may encourage you all to start thinking about planting; there are a few plots available in the allotments should you wish to take up a new hobby. Just contact us on the below email address for more information.

We are still awaiting the final outcome concerning the additional traffic calming. It has been deemed that additional lighting will also be required, and this has meant that the final approval has been delayed. Once we have a final plan and a timescale we will of course share them with you.

The Parish Council have approved the purchase of an additional Speed Indicator Device on Main Road. This device will allow us to store and retrieve data concerning the speed

of traffic and will allow us to present this to the Council and Police, if the information recorded presents us with any cause for concern.

We have been informed by Royal Mail that the post box formerly at Stowe Crossroads has been removed following a recent traffic accident. It cannot apparently be reinstated at the same location, although we have been informed that the relocation is being looked in to.

The Parish Council have set up a working party to organise an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This event will be held in the Dadford Playgrounds area on Friday the 3rd of June. We are planning to kick off the celebrations from 3.00pm with a Hog Roast being served at 5.00pm.

You may have seen a flyer through your door, if you could let the parish council know whether you would like to attend it would be really helpful as it will allow us to cater adequately for everyone. We do hope that you will be able to join us as there will be a bouncy castle, music and games; hopefully we might be able to enjoy some sun and fun with our neighbours.

Please email info@stowepc.uk if you are able to attend.

KW

What's been happening at St. James and St. John Church of England Primary School...



St. James and St. John School is a one-form entry school located in two villages, Akeley and Chackmore.

As we welcome the children back after a restful half term break, it certainly seems more spring-like, both in terms of the weather and the natural world around us, as well as the enthusiasm and excitement of the children at school as we jump back into our learning.

Mrs Woods has enjoyed meeting all of our wonderful students and members of staff, as well as many of the parents, governors and friends of the school, over the last half term. She is very keen to welcome the community back onto both sites of the school after the difficult last few years and there are many plans ahead to encourage this further. One of these is the wonderful Mother's Day assemblies that will take place just before Mothering Sunday at both the Akeley and Chackmore sites this year. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all those who are able to take up their invitations.

For Valentine's Day in February, children across the school were involved in making cards, including sun catcher hearts, for residents in some of the care homes in Buckingham. The children were very pleased to find out how much the cards and art work were appreciated. We look forward to strengthening these links over the school year. In another of our community links, the Buckingham Library is also playing host to a selection of art work from children across all the year groups. Keep an eye open for them when you visit!

As a Church of England School, St James and St John has always enjoyed a close relationship with the local churches.



We have been very happy since the start of the academic year to welcome back both Kate Pellereau from the Buckingham Parish Church to our Chackmore site and members of the team from the North Buckingham Parish to our Akeley site. The two sites are in different parishes, which allows us to benefit from double the enthusiasm and support of the church community in our school again, as well as enjoying their expertise in leading Collective Worship assemblies.

At the start of March, we look forward to celebrating the annual World Book Day, on March 3rd, a celebration of books and reading for all ages! As well as the excuse to dress up as a favourite book or character, there will also be lots of book based activities during the school day. With this event in mind, our attention has turned to our school libraries. Many of our books have been well read and loved and we would like to start replenishing them and purchase some new books. To this end we are going to be holding a book sale after school on World Book Day at our Chackmore site, with the proceeds going towards replacing library books.

We look forward to a busy half term of learning and activities, as we head into Spring and, towards the end of the month, Easter.

CG

Update on the Nepal Sewing Project

Mina is the first woman to receive a sewing machine and start her own business.

Mina and her one-year-old daughter were taken in by Pastor David and Mariya 5 years ago and have lived and worked in the children's home. They arrived with nothing and Mina has rebuilt her life. This year a marriage was arranged for her and she has just moved to Pokara and is starting her own sewing Business so she can support her new family.

It is her dream come true!



CHURCH NEWS

Closed for many months during the last 2 years, the church is **now open** all the time and people are welcome to visit, spend time in quiet prayer or attend services.

The normal service pattern has been resumed and all are welcome to attend. It is lovely to hear the hymns being sung with enthusiasm again and although there is no requirement for masks, these and hand sanitiser are available for those who wish to use them. Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after every service. The service is recorded most weeks and can be watched on YouTube – link on request from churchwardens.

The Stowe Coffee Morning via Zoom will still take place **every Tuesday morning at 11am**.

Delta Bible Study group continue to meet fortnightly on a Thursday at 7.30pm via Zoom. It is hoped that the **Lantern Bible Study** group will resume fortnightly in the near future.

The weekly **Monday Ladies' Bible Study** meets every Monday during term-time via Zoom. All are welcome.

The **Young Mums group** meets fortnightly in term-time at 9.00am on a Monday at The Moors, Chackmore **Prayer cells** continue to meet either via Zoom or face-to-face. Do contact a church warden if you would like to be part of a prayer cell.

There will be a **Lent Bible Study** Group meeting via Zoom at 7.30pm on the following Wednesdays in Lent – 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th. March. All are very welcome to join in. Delta group will not meet on these weeks.

The deanery evensongs resume this year and will be held every Sunday evening during Lent at 6.30pm. The service on March 27th will be held at Stowe. Please see page 10 for the other venues.

The Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services will be held in Maids Moreton Church this year.

Food bank: (non-perishable) Pasta, Pasta sauce, Soup, Spaghetti, Tomatoes, Peas, Sweet corn, Potatoes – large, Hot dogs, Corned beef, Meat products, Tuna, Biscuits, Fruit juice – large cartons, Cereal – large and small, Rice pudding, jam/marmalade, Custard, tins of Fruit, Tea bags, Coffee, Sugar – large and small would be most welcome, thank you. LONG LIFE plastic bags are still most welcome but no others. Donations gratefully received on Tuesdays 10-12 at The Centre, Verney Close.

There is also a box in Church for any food donations.



STOWE STARS

Family Services

March 27th - Mothering Sunday
Genesis 32, 3 - 8 and 33, 1 - 11
Peacemakers
Family discord - Twin brothers

Abraham and Sarah had the longed-for son when they were very old - "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Gen, 18, 14)

Isaac was so precious that Abraham was careful to choose a wife for him who came from his original family in Mesopotamia. He sent a servant on this mission with strict instructions and the servant found Rebecca, a beautiful young woman of Abraham's family. Isaac married Rebecca and in time they had twin boys, Esau and Jacob.

Esau became a skilled hunter who liked the outdoor life and Isaac enjoyed the game he brought home. Jacob preferred staying quietly at home with his mother. They competed to earn Isaac's blessing.

Deceitful, unscrupulous Jacob, with Rebecca's clever help, manipulated Isaac for the blessing. Having his inheritance stolen from him made Esau vengeful and Jacob fearful of

retribution. Their father sent Jacob to Mesopotamia to find a wife from his family.

Many years later, when both brothers had prospered and acquired cattle, donkeys, sheep and goats, it was time for Jacob to return home. He had to go through Esau's territory and he was anxious and distressed for his family's safety and all his possessions. To appease Esau he sent messengers ahead with lavish gifts of goats, sheep, camels, cows and donkeys. Esau, however, ran to meet him and kissed him, refused the gifts and suggested they travel on together. Because he expected to be distrusted Jacob did not trust Esau so once again Jacob failed to honour Esau and chose a different way home.

Jacob thanked God for saving him from Esau's wrath peacefully, for His kindness and faithfulness, for furthering His promise of descendants as numerous as the sand along the seashore.

We might think of Jacob as an unreliable, crafty man but his story reminds us that God moulds and reshapes this raw material through His grace and makes us willing to serve and trust Him in good times and bad.

*"You, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay. You are the potter. We are the work of your hand."
(Isaiah 64, 8)*

April 17th - Easter Day
Acts 10, 34 k- 43; John 20, 1 - 18
The Prince of peace

"Peace be with you" were Jesus' first words to His disciples huddled together in terror behind locked doors on that first Easter evening. Their sorrow was turned to joy.

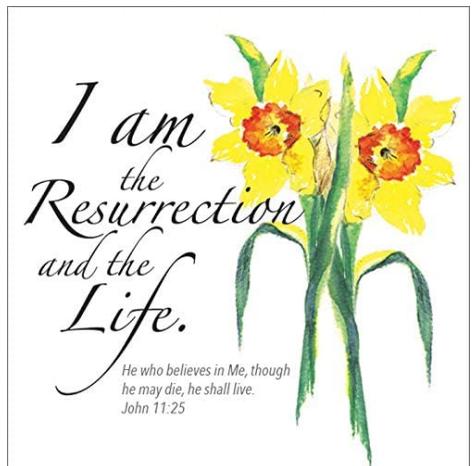
Earlier Jesus had said,

"Peace is what I leave with you; it is My own peace that I give you."

In his commentary, RVG Tasker writes: "The peacemakers are those who are at peace with God 'the author of peace and lover of concord'; and who show that they are truly children of God by striving to use every opportunity open to them to effect reconciliation between others who are at variance."

Jesus died because of the malice and hatred of sinful people. He wants us to follow Him in loving and forgiving people. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the sons of God", (Matthew 5, 9).

We rejoice today because the Prince of peace is alive and has opened the door of heaven to us. Happy Easter!



GM



The Stowe Parish Church Annual Meeting will be held on Monday 25th April in Dadford Village Hall. The Annual Vestry meeting will start at 7.15pm and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will follow immediately afterwards.

The Buckingham Deanery
Lent Evensongs in 2022
Sunday Evenings at 6.30pm



March 6th
St Mary, Thornborough



March 13th
St John the Evangelist
Radclive



March 20th
Assumption of the BVM
Leckhampstead



March 27th
Assumption of the BVM
Stowe



April 3rd
St Augustine, Westbury



April 10th
All Saints, Nash



DADFORD WI

It was good to get together in January for our first meeting of 2022 and we were delighted to welcome two guests. We soon dealt with our business and welcomed fellow member Una Robinson who gave us a talk entitled 'Semi-Detached.' What could this mean? Well, it proved to be a moving tale of the semi-detached houses that Una had lived in over the years. With tales of her semi-detached neighbours.

Taking us through pre-war, wartime and post-war and making us realise the hardships that were suffered. We concluded with other members reliving memories of their first jobs, which proved to be quite hilarious.

In February we welcomed Flo and Ian Thornton, who came to tell us all about the Mercy Ships. This charity was formed in 1978 and has two working ships at present, each with a total of 750 staff and day staff. Flo and Ian spent 3 months on a trip to Conakry in Africa. Flo, a retired nurse, worked on the cleaning side, also befriending patients,

and Ian who trained as a baker when he was 17, did all the baking of bread, cakes, cookies and lovely treats. The ships are equipped with operating theatres and offer free health care to all that can access it. In nine months the ship can perform over 100,000 operations, 2442 surgical procedures and over 1000 eye operations.

This charity also helps with training so their hospital staff benefit from new technology. We were shown slides to explain the ships' conditions and we also saw before and after surgery pictures, which was quite breathtaking. A very vital and worthwhile charity for countries with very poor health care facilities.

On 10th March we have a talk by Cheryl Dawson entitled Memories of a nurse/midwife.

On 14th April we will try our hand at Calligraphy with Val Hiron and will also have our first Book Stall.

See you soon.
Loreen.





Nature Notes

Spring is the time of year when things start to 'spring' into action. The allotment holders have started to prepare the ground ready for early planting although not too early for the tender plants as, being in a valley, the allotments can catch a few out with some

late frosts. The daffodils are starting to show their heads around the village, especially all the new planting around the heartland and the wildlife pond. By the time you read this they should be in full bloom.

I've already heard one or two lawnmowers firing up from their winter sleep to give the lawns an early trim after the exceptional sunny January. The hedge along the main road has been trimmed ready for its spring growth.



The birds are already seeking out potential nesting sites and I have seen blue tits inspecting our nest boxes for sometime now, although there was a popular notion in England and France during the Middle Ages that birds started to look for their mates on February 14th.

The spring lambs are now 'springing' around their mothers, a wonderful sight to see them playing in the spring sunshine.

The spring sunshine also brings

homosapiens out to play after their winter hibernation. It is so good to see our neighbours out and about again, to have a chin-wag and put the world to rights.

There is a spring (water) along the main road which is fed from Gorrell field.

I remember, many years ago, when Shamus, no longer with us, would walk along with his buckets on a yoke and fetch water for his home-made wine. It was the best wine around, I can vouch for that!





Where did the New Year go? It felt like spring had sprung very quickly, only for us all to be reminded of the weather's mighty force over the past few weeks. Well, it's certainly keeping our gardeners on their toes and flowers all confused! Fortunately, the adverse weather has not deterred the hardy snowdrops, cyclamens and aconites, and we've had a lovely display in the gardens. Our gardeners are now busy with tidying up the gardens after a week of storms, and ensuring the gardens return to their true glory.



©National Trust/Anna Tolfree.
A glimpse of our 'Stowedrops' walk

Meanwhile our visitor experience team are busy preparing for Easter, where we're hosting our annual Easter trail. Always wanting to share the special stories that inspired the gardens at Stowe, this year's theme is Adventures in Nature. This spring, treat your little ones to a world of adventures at Stowe. Make your way along the trail, finding nature-inspired activities for the whole family.

The trail takes place at Stowe between 15-24 April 2022, from 10am to 5pm, with last entry at 4pm, so come along and explore the beautiful gardens of Stowe. The price of the trail is £3 per child and includes a trail map, pencil and a chocolate egg at the end.

Nearby Boarstall Duck Decoy will be reopening its gates from Sunday 3 April. It will be open on Sundays through until 25 September. It will also be open for the 4 days of the Easter bank holiday weekend, where their very own Easter Adventures in Nature Trail will be open to visitors.



©National Trust/David
Humphries.

The gardens at sunset as
captured by our
Welcome Assistant and
Photography Volunteer,
David.

It is offering us a place to meet with friends and family, get some fresh air, and enjoy exploring the natural world waiting for us right on the doorstep. With every season bringing a new charm, a new smell and a new colour to the gardens, we cannot wait to see the blossoming of spring at Stowe.

The gardens at National Trust Stowe are open 7 days a week, 10am-5pm and there is no need to pre-book. Our shop, café, bookshop and Parlour Rooms are all open for visitors to enjoy. We hope to see you soon. If you wish to contact the team and find out more about anything on offer, please phone 01280 817156.

MP

DEADLINE FOR THE MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please let Lyn East (lmeast@btinternet.com) have submissions (articles, photographs, ads or news items) by the **15th of the month prior to publication** (February, April, June, August, October & December)

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To see a colour copy of the magazine, or to find out where we are,
visit our website at www.stowechurch.org.uk

Stowe Parish Church Rotas

Date 2022	Sidesmen	Prayers	Refreshments
March 6th	Richard and Essex	Sally Drummond-Hay	Frances Orger
March 13th	Chris C-S & John or Tamara	Liturgy	Lyn East
March 20th	Lyn & Ray East	Gillian Macdonald	Bernadette Matthews
March 27th	Nancy Pullin	Children	Elsbeth Mullineux
April 3rd	Loreen and Hilary	Tamara Kimpton	Nancy Pullin
April 10th	Bernadette and Pat	Liturgy	Kay Murray
April 17th	Philip and Patricia	Sally Drummond-Hay	Tamara Kimpton
April 24th	Robin and Nancy	Andrew Rudolf	Frances Orger
Date 2022	Flowers	Cleaning	Prayer-board
March 6th		Chris and Philippa Atkinson	Please note that until a rota is organised several members pray regularly for the requests pinned to the board
March 13th	No		
March 20th	Flowers	Chris Close-Smith and Venice Gordon	
March 27th	During		
April 3rd	Lent	John and Tamara Kimpton	
April 10th			
April 17th	Diana Wyatt	Lyn and Ray East	
April 24th	Gillian Macdonald		

DATE	TIME	SERVICE	THEME	READINGS	LEAD/ PREACH
March 2nd	19:30	Ash Wednesday		Joel 2:1-2 + 12-17 Matt 6:1-6 + 16-21	@ Maids Moreton Church
March 4th	11.00a.m. World Day of Prayer at Maids Moreton Church				
How to grow as a Christian					
Mar 6th **	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			Rev Ron Bundock
	9:45	Morning Prayer	1. Fellowship and Worship	Hebrews 10:19-25 Acts 2:42-47	L & P Rev Hans Taling
Mar 13th **	9:45	1662 Communion	2. Prayer	Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 11:1-4	Rev Chris Murray P. Joe Rhee (Simeons)
Mar 20th **	9:45	Common Worship Communion	3. Feeding on God's word	2 Timothy 4:14-17 John 5:26-40	L. Rev Maurice Stanton-Saringer P. Andrew Rudolf
Mar 27th **	9:45	Family Service	Peacemakers - Esau and Jacob	Genesis 32:3-8 + 33:1-11	Kay Murray
Apr 3rd **	8:00	Said 1662 Communion			TBA
	9:45	Morning Prayer	4. Sacraments (Baptism and Lord's Supper)	Luke 22:14-23 Acts 13:22-25	L - Andrew Rudolf P - Pauline Stanton-Saringer
Apr 10th **	09:45	1662 Communion	Hosanna!	Psalms 118:1-2 + 19-29 Luke 19:28-40	L & P - Rev Ron Bundock
Apr 14th	18.00	Maundy Thursday		Exodus 12:1-4 + 11-14 John 13:1-17 + 31b-35	@ Maids Moreton Church
April 15th	14:00 - 15:00	Good Friday Meditation			Andrew Rudolf
Apr 17th Easter	9:45	Family Communion	He is risen!	Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18	TBA
2 Peter - encouragement when church teaching is confusing					
Apr 24th	9:45	Common Worship Communion	1. Knowing Jesus by faith	2 Peter 1:1-11 John 17:1-5	L - ???? P - Paul Mileham

** Deanery Evensong on these dates - please see website for venues.