



Benefice Diary September 2024

From Reverend Karen:

Please excuse this short article as I caught Covid whilst on holiday and I'm still recovering. There appears to be a lot of it about at the moment so please take care when out and about. I believe I caught it at a garden centre on holiday as this was the only time we were indoors with people we did not know for any extended period. I blame the selection of delicious cakes. It took so long to decide whether it would be a slice of millionaire's shortbread or a chocolate brownie that the virus got me! Although I am now negative the post viral fatigue means that I am only able to work for part of a day and some things that need doing will be late or shortened.

BENEFICE CONTACTS

Reverend Karen Wellman 01451 831567 revdkaren@stedwardsstow.org.uk

CHURCHWARDENS:

Stow-on-the-Wold Vacant

Condicote Chris Wynn 830389 and Adam Fleming

The Swells Jolyon Grey 822215 and Hazel James 831367

NEWS AND EVENTS

MOTHERS UNION

Thank you to all those who attended the coffee morning on the 15th August. It raised £306 for MU projects in the UK and around the world. This month there is a Wave of Prayer event on the 3rd September 3-4pm in church. Everyone is welcome

BUILDINGS UPDATE

At the time of writing the work on the heating has been completed. There are some repairs to the wall at the east end of the chancel that will be finished soon. Repair works on the roof have been paused. More work is needed but it needs consideration of how we approach this and when. The North Door Project is going well. Some very old broken bones were found during the work and they were reinterred using the committal prayer from the Book of Common Prayer.

CRIB FESTIVAL UPDATE

A letter has gone out to all of the contributors to last year's Christmas Tree Festival. Some local organisations are already planning their nativity scenes. It will be a smaller festival than in the past but the hope is that it retains its community focus.

Inspired by the loan of a crib scene from Mauritius we have invited people to search for their family nativity sets and to bring those to display as well as the handmade ones. Many family nativity sets have a story. In this one Joseph has got lost. Maybe he popped out for some essential supplies! Thank you Hazel for the loan of your lovely crib.



If you are able to make a nativity scene or share a family crib set then please let us know so that we can plan the layout of the cribs in the church.

END OF SUMMER PARTY CONDICOTE

This will be on the 8th September at 5pm in church for hymns and then on the Pound for a BBQ. Look out for St Nicholas and locations around Condictotet in Sister Boniface Season 3.

CONCERT IN CHURCH

28th September 7pm. Young Musicians Concert. Come and support these talented young people and wish them well as they go off to university. Entrance by donation.

MUSIC AT STOW FESTIVAL

. The five evening concerts take place in St Edward's Church from 10th to 14th September. One innovation this year is a FREE concert for children aged 6-10 on Saturday morning by clarinettist Emma Johnson and friends, featuring her innovative *Instrument Stories* programme. Book at www.ticketsource.co.uk/music-at-stow or phone 0333 666 3366 or find out more at <https://www.musicatstow.co.uk/>.

RIDE AND STRIDE

The Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust runs its Ride & Stride effort again this year on Saturday 14th September (the busiest day of the Music at Stow Festival!). Our fundraising site is at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-edwards-stowonthewold>. Peter Dixon will do his customary 'Ten Churches in 20 Miles' walk earlier that week, but please think of any activity you or a family member might do to support St Edward's' contribution. Half of the money raised comes back to St Edward's and - importantly - any grant we might receive from the GHCT depends on our having supported Ride & Stride. Contact Peter with your ideas.

WEDDINGS

Two local couples are getting married at St Edward's. Kate and Pete are getting married on the 21st September. Angus and Katie are getting married on the 5th October. We have six wedding planned for 2025 across the benefice.

BAPTISMS

We are welcoming two babies into the life of the church on the 1st and 22nd September

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

SUNDAY 1st September

11.00 am Holy Communion St Edward's Stow

1.00 pm Baptism St Edward's Stow

THURSDAY 5th September

11.00 am Holy Communion Newlands Court

SUNDAY 8th September

11.00 am Holy Communion St Edward's Stow

11.00 am Matins (lay led) St Mary's Church Upper Swell

5.00 pm End of Summer Celebration St Nicholas Condicote

ST EDWARDS CHURCH IS CLOSED FROM TUESDAY 10TH AND REOPENS ON SUNDAY MORNING.

SUNDAY 15th September

9.30am am BCP Holy Communion St Mary's Church Upper Swell

11.00 am Morning Prayer with hymns St Edward's Stow

SATURDAY 21st September

1.00 pm Wedding Kate and Pete St Edward's Stow

SUNDAY 22nd September

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Condicote

11.00 am Holy Communion with baptism St Edward's Stow

3.00pm Dementia Friendly Service Edwardstow Court

SUNDAY 29th September

11.00 am Holy Communion St Edward's Stow

The service at St Edward's on the 29th September will not be streamed but all the others will as long as the technology behaves!