

# April 2020

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Winchcombe Parish Magazine is available at 50p, or £5.00 by annual subscription for ten issues (£15.00 by post). If you would like to subscribe, please contact Sara Collins: email [lesandsara.collins@live.co.uk](mailto:lesandsara.collins@live.co.uk)

Views expressed in the magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the church leadership or other church members.



## Foreword

Did you give up chocolate for Lent? Are you looking forward to your chocolate Easter eggs?

One of my favourite films is *Chocolat*, released in 2000 and based on the novel by Joanne Harris. The central character is Vianne Rocher who arrives in a small French village, as if blown in by the north wind. There she opens a *chocolaterie*, even though it is the beginning of Lent. Vianne is much less traditional than her new neighbours. She wears colourful clothes, is not conventionally religious and has an illegitimate daughter, Anouk. But her friendly and open demeanour soon wins over some of the village. Vianne helps Armande spend time with her grandson, Luc, despite the opposition of the boy's mother, Caroline. She helps Josephine escape from her violent husband, Serge. She falls in love with a fellow traveller, Roux.

Vianne's principal antagonist is the mayor, the devout Comte de Reynaud. Lonely and abandoned by his wife, Reynaud is scandalised by Vianne, especially when she opens her new chocolate shop during a season of self-denial. Rigorously resisting temptation for himself, he attempts to impose discipline on the villagers, using every means at his disposal to try to turn them against Vianne. During a party, Serge sets fire to Roux's boat, almost killing Anouk. Reynaud is horrified and banishes Serge from the village, but he still sees Vianne and her *chocolaterie* as the source of all the trouble.

Vianne concludes that she cannot beat Reynaud and, as the wind begins to blow again, she gets ready to leave. But the villagers have come to love her and persuade her to stay. Together, they prepare a feast of chocolates for the Easter celebrations. On Easter Eve, Reynaud breaks into the *chocolaterie*, intending to destroy their creations. Accidentally tasting a morsel, he is unable to resist temptation. Overcome, Reynaud bursts into tears, gorges himself and falls asleep in the

window, covered in chocolate. There he is found on Easter morning by Vianne and the young parish priest, Henri. Reynaud whispers, 'I'm so sorry', and is treated with kindness and dignity.

Père Henri is a minor but fascinating character in the film. Inexperienced, and overawed by the mayor, he reluctantly lets Reynaud write his sermons for him, castigating immorality. But at Easter, asleep in the chocolate shop, the sermon had not been finished. So Henri is forced to improvise...

I'm not sure what the theme of my Easter homily ought to be. Do I want to speak of the miracle of our Lord's divine transformation? Not really, no. I don't want to talk about his divinity. I'd rather talk about his humanity. I mean, you know, how he lived his life here on Earth. His kindness. His tolerance.

Here's what I think. I think we can't go around measuring our goodness by what we don't do, by what we deny ourselves, what we resist and who we exclude. I think we've got to measure goodness by what we embrace, what we create and who we include ...

*Chocolat* is a deeply Christian parable. It tells the story of a Lenten battle and an Easter victory. Vianne is a Christ-like figure, unsettling those she meets but gradually transforming the whole community one by one and creating around her a band of disciples. Reynaud is 'strangely released' from slavery under the Law to freedom under grace. Père Henri finally overcomes his fear, just like the disciples on Easter morning, boldly proclaiming new life and new hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Henri was right. 'Nothing can ever separate us from the love of God', wrote St Paul. Easter is a call to live our lives as Jesus lived his life. It's a call to live our lives in the power of the Spirit, the wind blowing through us. Enjoy your chocolate this Easter.

Revd John Paul Hoskins

# EASTER PRAYER

Lord God, you died like all things natural  
And rose like things eternal,  
From the dark night of death  
Into the new light of day;  
Help us to lock into this cycle of your life,  
And rise from our weakness and despair  
Into the warmth of your love  
And the eternal life  
Which you offer us daily  
Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+ Peter



## Coronavirus

The national Church of England has published guidance to churches about coronavirus. It is based on the official government advice from Public Health England. The Church guidance can be found at [www.churchofengland.org/coronavirus](http://www.churchofengland.org/coronavirus) and is updated frequently.

Some events mentioned or advertised in this magazine may be affected in response to this advice.

## The Front Cover

We are very grateful to Andrew Horton for submitting this month's photograph of daffodils near Corndean Lane, Winchcombe.

Please keep your photographs coming! It's lovely to have a colourful seasonal picture of Winchcombe on the cover; not necessarily of the church.



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## Our Parish Magazine



We welcome any contributions to our magazine but **please remember to send them to us by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, using "Word"**. Unfortunately, copy submitted after this date will not be able to be included until the following month.

The Editorial Team would welcome any suggestions, ideas or contributions. Contact us at [magazine@winchcombeparish.org](mailto:magazine@winchcombeparish.org) or speak to one of the team.

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**[www.winchcombeparish.org.uk](http://www.winchcombeparish.org.uk)**

Visit our website for weekly bulletin, forthcoming events, church calendar, music at St Peter's and much more.

Selected services at St Peter's can now be heard via <https://myradiostream.com/winchstpeters>

## Music Notes



Psalms have been used in Christian worship for some two thousand years. The word "psalms" (from the Greek ψαλμοι) means "instrumental music" and so, by association, the songs that accompany the music. In Hebrew, the words are *Tehillim* – praises. Although sometimes attributed to King David, the psalms are a collection selected from writings over a period of five centuries. Not all the songs in the Bible are

described as Psalms – others appear in the Song of Solomon, for example. There are songs of praise, laments, thanksgivings, and some which tell of coronations, marriages or battles.

From early Christian times, Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant churches have made systematic use of the psalms. Music to accompany them has been varied, and psalms may be found in the Requiem by Brahms, the Vespers of Monteverdi, and in many settings by Bach, Schütz and others, including modern composers such as Bernstein and James MacMillan. Monks sang psalms to plainchant, from which developed Anglican chant and metrical versions for congregational singing. Following the Reformation, metrical psalms were much preferred to hymns (religious songs whose scriptural references were thought then to be too vague) but the quality of some psalm arrangements was not good, and eventually hymns by the likes of Wesley and Watts became more popular.



At St Peter's, we have recently started to sing a psalm after the first reading at the Sunday morning service of Holy Communion. The psalm helps to connect us with the earliest Christians and is chosen as a meditation on the words of the Old Testament lesson or the theme of the day. So far, we have used contemporary "responsorial" psalms which use the language of Common Worship. The verses are sung by a cantor and a short response is sung by the choir and congregation. The response is repeated several times, and is quite short, so do join in; the words are usually printed in the weekly bulletin.

Shelley drew my attention to the words of St Augustine, the great fifth century bishop of North Africa: "Those who sing pray twice. We sing because singing is what the people of God do in God's presence. Song is the gift God has given us to unite our heads and our hearts in praise." We sing psalms and hymns, and it follows logically that, when we are able, we also sing prayers to God, such as the *sursum corda* and other parts of the Eucharistic Prayer. Fortunately, most of our clergy are blessed with a good singing voice, and Bishop Robert also sang very effectively when he presided at the moving Ash Wednesday service a few weeks ago.



Pope Benedict XVI wrote "Whether it is Bach or Mozart that we hear in church, we have a sense in either case of what *gloria Dei*, the glory of God, means. The mystery of infinite beauty is there and enables us to experience the presence of God more truly and vividly than in many sermons". I would wish to broaden his musical taste, but agree with his sentiments.

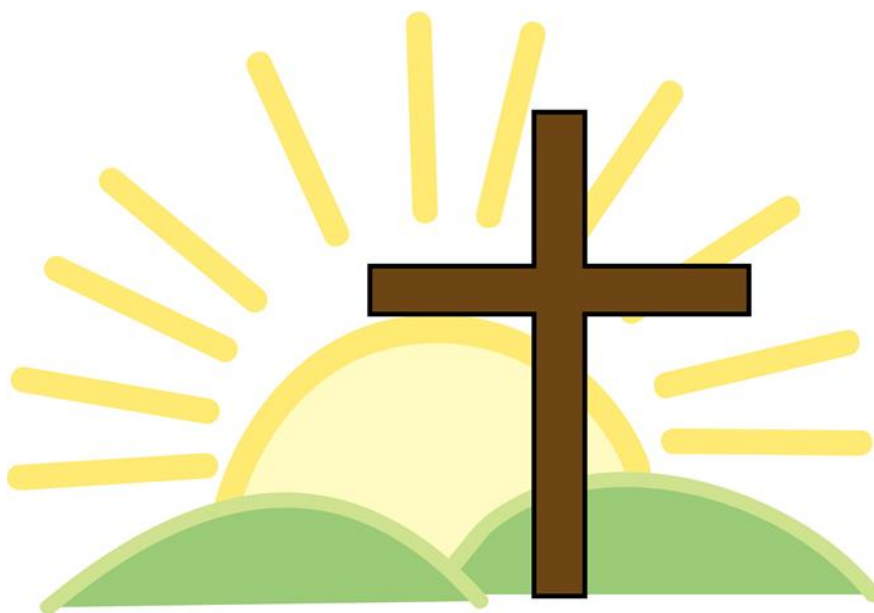


Holy Week and Easter are almost upon us: the most solemn and most joyful time in the church calendar as we remember Christ's suffering and resurrection. On Maundy Thursday we will sing a setting of *Ubi caritas* (Where there is love, there is God) by the modern Norwegian composer, Ola Gjeilo, and *Solus ad victimam* (Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord) by Kenneth Leighton, a haunting twentieth century setting of the words of the medieval French scholar, Peter Abelard, which reflects on the agony of the three days that ends in the triumph of Easter.

On Good Friday at 2 pm there will be a service of words and music to meditate on Christ's final hour. At daybreak on Easter Sunday the Easter Liturgy is at 6 am; then later that morning at 10.30 am follows the Family Communion when there will be plenty of opportunity to sing, including the chorus *Hallelujah* from Handel's *Messiah*.

*Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!* Psalm 150.

Andrew Horton – Joint Director of Music







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# MABEL



You'll all have heard of Mack and Mabel; well, after MACS, (Mike's Alphabet of Church Speak), comes MABEL, (Mike's Adventures in Bible Land!)

This month Mike continues his adventures with some more characters from the Old Testament.

## The Promised Land

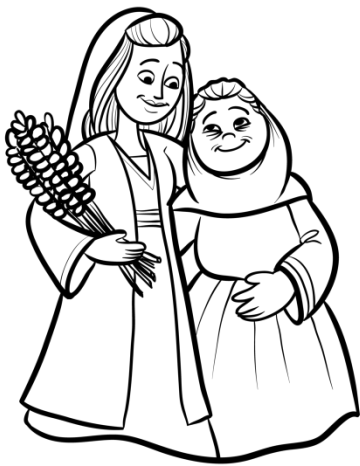
'Joshua fit the battle of Jericho' goes the song but the reality is rather different. We come to the time when God's people, under the leadership of Joshua, enter the land God promised them. But this is not an empty land and battles ensue, the most famous of which is the siege of Jericho. The Jewish people, though, are not an army nor trained in fighting. The message of the book of Joshua is that God is the one who fights for his people and, in the end, the land is occupied and the twelve tribes spread out across it. But before they do, Joshua reminds them of the duty they owe God and the need for them to continue to serve only him.



This is now a very different life for the Jewish people, settled rather than nomads and surrounded by other people with different ways. In the book of Judges we read of a very tribal way of life with little, if any, central authority. Problems arise and fighting breaks out almost inevitably, and it is through the judges that God helps and guides his people. Some famous names appear here, Deborah, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson, to name just a few. But when is this land truly going to become one land? But before that, we take a small detour, the importance of which will become clear later.

## **A Love Story**

The book of Ruth is so short that, as you skim through the pages of a bible, it's very easy to miss altogether. But it really is worth stopping to look because it's a cracking story! It's a story about an immigrant which makes it appropriate for today's world but it's also a story about love which is appropriate at any time.



Ruth is the daughter-in-law of Naomi who flees to the land of Moab to escape a famine. She's not a Jew. When Naomi's sons die, she goes home but Ruth refuses to abandon her and travels with her back to Bethlehem. As a foreigner with no means of support she's in a very vulnerable position. But the story goes on to describe the love and courtship between Ruth and their neighbour Boaz in wonderful detail. You can learn a lot about the way people lived and their customs from this book.

In the midst of the problems we read of in the book of Judges, this book reminds us that ordinary people were getting on with their lives and that good people can always be found even if they're not always where you expect them to be. That's a good enough reason for this story to be here but the last verses explain the importance of this story. One of the descendants of

Ruth and Boaz is Jesse, the father of a young man called David. We'll certainly hear more of him later!

## **Speak Lord**

Samuel is another of those pivotal characters in the history of Israel. Like Moses, he oversees a massive transition in the lives of the people but, again like Moses, the driving force comes from God. In the two Books of Samuel we read of the transition from a disparate group of settled nomads into a nation. But the



scene is set right at the start as we read of Samuel's birth and then of God's call to him while he is still a child. The response old Eli teaches him, 'Speak Lord for your servant listens,' becomes the watchword for his whole life.

So we hear of the people's demands for a king, 'like other nations,' and of Samuel's warning to them. But God allows this and Samuel anoints Saul as King over Israel. But after a good start, Saul begins to forget that this is God's people he is leading and turns away from him. God sends Samuel to anoint David, who enters Saul's service and proves a mighty warrior. But Saul becomes more and more jealous of David and this just hastens his downfall. The first book of Samuel ends with the death of Saul and his sons. The stage is now set for the greatest of Israel's kings to take the throne, the one chosen by God and anointed by Samuel, David.

Mike Holloway



## **Winchcombe Museum Reopening on 1 April**

Firstly, a very big THANK YOU to everyone who has either donated to the Appeal Fund or supported us in our efforts both to raise the funds and to carry out the works at the Museum.

The Community of Winchcombe has contributed over £60,000 to the total cost of Phase 1 of the works.

The building itself now has significantly improved access, including a lift and an accessible toilet. We have created a new entrance and glazed in the Undercroft, which will make a big difference to welcoming visitors as well as a much-improved place for the Tourist Information Centre.

This is an important first step in creating a Heritage Centre for Winchcombe.

The next objective is to consult with the local Community about the Museum itself and over the next 12-18 months, to consult about how best to portray Winchcombe history and heritage.

When the Museum itself is transformed, we hope that this will be the firm foundation for attracting more visitors to Winchcombe. This will benefit local shops and businesses, and help keep the heart of Winchcombe beating strongly.

**The Museum opens on 1<sup>st</sup> April.** As a thank you to the Community, admission charges are being waived for all local residents until 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Michael Dufton - Trustee

# AMAZING STATISTICS

## for 2019

Over the years Tom Hancock has patiently compiled lists of visitors to St Peter's. 2019 saw over 8,000 recorded visitors and the average for the last seven years is certainly well over 8,000. Numbers do fluctuate and weather seems to make a lot of difference.

Virtually the whole world has been represented in our visitor numbers. The USA, Australia, China, Russia, Western and Eastern Europe have walked into our church, followed by South America, the Falklands, Dubai, Turkestan, Estonia and so many more. Nearly 2,000 recorded non-UK visitors came in 2019! You only have to look at the maps, updated annually, to see the huge variety of countries from which these people come.



The Stewards give a warm welcome to these visitors. There have been some amusing moments such as when a Chinese group rushed in and said (very politely), "*You are a Church?*", "*Yes*", "*May we*

*use your toilet?*" "*Yes*". Having used the facilities they then all rushed out with very sincere, "*Thank Yous*"!

Visitors come to the Church for many reasons: peace and prayer, interest in history and culture, love of stained glass windows and architecture and, of course, there are those doing their family history and hunting for their ancestors. The grotesques depicting Ralph Boteler and his Lady wife and The Mad Hatter or Town Bailiff are great attractions which then draw visitors through the door. Other visitors have needed information about the town itself as well as where to eat, have a coffee or just to ask simple directions.

An Australian couple visited recently with fires burning back home. They asked us to pray for their country. They did say that the fires had brought communities together, with people communicating who had never spoken to one another before.

These Australians were anxious for the security of our planet and their own flora and fauna, but indicated that through these tragedies people are coming together and helping wherever they can.

Visitors love to chat and from these conversations we learn how St Peter's answers many people's needs and interests. We in turn learn a lot about the areas or countries from which they come. They are sometimes stunned to learn that the Church is so busy and that the Church Community gives to so many charities, as well as supporting an historic church. The same visitors are also amazed at how the four Winchcombe churches work together.

Unfortunately the numbers given are only those recorded. Because of the lack of stewards at certain times of the day, we are aware that visitors will walk into an unmanned Church. This means that the true record of visitor numbers could be considerably higher. We are so fortunate that as a Parish Church the building is used and loved by the wider community (local people considering it 'their heritage') as well as by churchgoers.

If anyone would like to join our team your involvement would be welcomed, not only by the Stewards but also by the many visitors needing help, support and a cheerful smile in a Strange Land. You need not be a churchgoer yourself! Your reasons for helping could be as varied as those of our visitors.

Please contact St Peter's Centre 01242 602067 or by email [spc@winchcombeparish.org.uk](mailto:spc@winchcombeparish.org.uk) if you feel inspired to join us.

Lynn Gorman





## Easter Flowers

St Peter's Flower Guild would be grateful for donations towards the cost of Easter Lilies in remembrance of loved ones.

Envelopes can be left in the Church Donations' Box or sent to Helen Morgan, 48 Delavale Road, Winchcombe GL54 5HN.

If donating by cheque, please make payable to "St Peter's Flower Guild."



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# Churches Together



We have had two excellent United Services during the past months, both held by kind invitation in St Nicholas RC Church. The first was during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January when Rev Rachel Murray gave a very thoughtful address.

The second was on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March when we joined with people around the world to share a service of prayer for the people of Zimbabwe – the service was written by the women of that Country who are bearing the brunt of the current economic and military oppression.



At both the music, welcome and atmosphere was excellent.

In March, we are sponsoring a Defibrillator Awareness Session and a talk about Dementia. In addition, each week we continue to hold our drop-in coffee morning in the Methodist Church.

Clergy and lay members from all four churches in Winchcombe meet every other month to plan worship, activities and community service.

Janet Dufton

# **Dates for your Diary**

## **April 2020**

On 17 March the Archbishops made a statement as a result of the measures being taken to counter the coronavirus following which Revd John Paul wrote:

Dear Friends,

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have now issued advice that public worship should be suspended until further notice. This follows the most recent Government guidance about avoiding all non-essential contact.

Your parish churches remain open. Rachel and I will continue to offer prayer and worship on your behalf and on behalf of the whole community. We are exploring how best to help you share in worship from your own home, and we will let you know more about this in the next couple of days.

We are members of the body of Christ. We are one in Jesus and one in the Spirit with the whole people of God throughout time and space. This continues to be true even though, for the time being, we cannot physically meet together.

As members of Christ's body, it's vital that we continue to look out for one another, particularly those who are especially vulnerable or isolated. So be kind to each other. Pick up the phone. Hold one another in prayer.

The next few weeks and months will feel very strange. We might feel anxious or afraid. But Christians are always people of hope. At Easter we will celebrate the fact that God raised Jesus from the dead.

And so:

*I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8.38,39).*

Do get in touch with Rachel or me at any time. As your parish clergy, we will continue to support you in any way we can. We will be in touch with you regularly, so do look out for emails from us. My phone number and email address are below.

*Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honour everyone;  
love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
Amen.*

The Reverend John Paul Hoskins  
Priest in Charge of Winchcombe, Gretton, Sudeley Manor and  
Stanley Pontlarge  
01242 603640  
[johnpaul@winchcombeparish.org.uk](mailto:johnpaul@winchcombeparish.org.uk)



## **Winchcombe Music and Arts Festival**

Sadly the Committee has agreed that following recent advice regarding measures to combat the spread of coronavirus, the 2020 Festival is cancelled. The Committee thanks everyone for their continued support and looks forward to planning another Festival in 2021.

### **From the Registers**

#### **Weddings**

Callum Priest and Beth McIldowie

#### **Funerals**

Frank Cull

Alice Clarke

Sue Dudley-Smith

Caroline Gunn

Marion Ruddock

Joan Wilkes



**Friends of St Peter's Church Winchcombe**

**Registered Charity 1046434**

## **Tower Illumination Request**

Date(s) requested .....

Occasion(s): .....

Name: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Email: ..... Telephone: .....

*Donation (£5 minimum per evening) £.....cash or cheque to "Friends of St Peter's Church Winchcombe". Please read below and sign and return this slip with your remittance to St Peter's Centre, Gloucester Street, Winchcombe, GL54 5LU, at least two weeks before the requested date.*

*Please tick as appropriate*

☐ *I would like this to be an annual occurrence*

*Please contact me to arrange.*

☐ *I am a UK taxpayer and assent to the Gift Aid declaration below*

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Signed:..... Date: .....

**Notes:**

- In exceptional circumstances the Friends' Committee reserve the right to decline a request.*
- Dates are not exclusive and in the event of more than one request for a particular date the later applicant will, where practicable, be informed and may be offered an alternative.*

## St Peter's Charitable Giving

John Sutcliffe convenes a group that recommends to the PCC a list of charities to be supported in the forthcoming year, and the proportion of the total sum available to be given to each. This year the PCC agreed to the suggestion that each charity might be the subject of an article in the magazine. This month John writes about the *Church Urban Fund*.

Why did the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visit an area where a third of adults are out of work, 35% of children are in child poverty (the highest in the country), 45% of the population claims to be Christian and 24% Muslim, and 40% of the city's wards are classed in the 20% most deprived in the country? They went to see a Church Urban Fund community project that brings together people from different backgrounds to learn about each other and work together for the common good. There are over two hundred such groups in the country, meeting in churches, temples, community centres, mosques or libraries. All are in multi-faith areas which suffer multiple deprivations.

There are many examples of successful projects. After-school community groups to help children have been established in some of the poorer areas of the country. As well as building relationships between parents, children and grandparents, they offer meals, help with homework and support for parenting problems.

Altogether 93,000 people from a variety of ethnic backgrounds meet in groups with the aim of creating better mutual understanding.

Churches and Christian organisations of all denominations are running innovative projects that help young people to explore and grow in faith, access training and work opportunities, develop life and leadership skills, and feel less isolated.

In the first wave of a project aptly named Growing Lives, 21 groups received a share of £276,487 of funding, and another 65 benefited from almost £650,000 funding in the second wave.

All this work is supported by the Church Urban Fund. Started in 1987, the Fund is a legacy of the Archbishop's Commission on Urban Priority Areas. At the heart of the Fund is the belief that each individual has gifts and skills, and each community – no matter how disadvantaged it may feel – has valuable assets. The aim of the Fund is to assist in deprived and impoverished areas of the country by operating in local partnerships that serve local communities.

The Fund's statistics in their most recent report are impressive:

***Together Network*** – facilitated church-based social action for 110,000 people, to tackle social inequality, transform neighbourhoods and change lives;

***Near Neighbours*** – improved social cohesion in diverse or divided communities. Last year over 1,000,000 people took part in programmes which bring people of different backgrounds together so that they begin to know and understand one another better;

***Just Finance*** – worked for a fairer financial system for everyone. Community projects help people to avoid and find ways out of debt by providing information and support, and signposting to self-help and services.

Over the years the scope of the work has broadened. The Fund now has a green policy, helps homeless people, works in rural areas, and with the restorations of heritage buildings

This is a mere peep into work which we support by our grant. For every £1 that churches and individuals have donated, the Fund has been able to raise additional monies to invest over £8 back into their charitable activities.

John Sutcliffe



Winchcombe School  
Greet Road  
Winchcombe  
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Tel: 01242 602233  
Email: [admin@winchcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@winchcombeschool.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Mr Jonathan Templeton

## **Winchcombe School Governor Recruitment**

Are you interested in the education of young people in our town? Winchcombe School is seeking to recruit new governors to its board. We are looking for people with accountancy, H R or business development skills. More important, however, is the desire to assist the Headteacher and staff to ensure that the students at Winchcombe School receive a well balanced, high quality education.

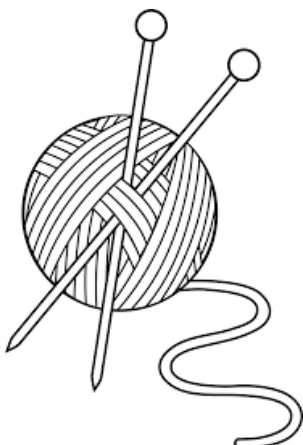
If you are interested please email the [chair@winchcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:chair@winchcombeschool.co.uk) or [clerk@winchcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:clerk@winchcombeschool.co.uk), for further information.

Many thanks

Sue Proctor – Chair

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## **Big Knit**



The BIG KNIT will be held in St Peter's Church on Saturday 30th May from 10am to 12.30 pm, and it is open to everyone. So come along and knit a square for charity.

Irene Smart

# **CHRIST CHURCH, GRETTON**

has a new project!

A big effort to be at the heart of the community!

## **The Breakfast Club**

will be held every 3rd Sunday, 10:00 am

We'll meet in the church for

 Light snacks 

 Excellent coffee and tea 

 Music and informal chat 

Each month we'll have a theme to mull over – so

April 19th 'What gives you joy?'

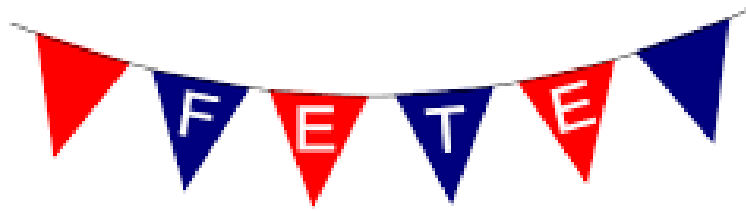
May 17th 'What makes you feel well?'

**We will have Fliss Hall and Chris Haslam with us**

COME AND JOIN US!

YOU'LL BE VERY WELCOME!

Normal services will be on the other Sundays of the month as usual



## **St Peter's Summer Fête**

### **4 July 2020**

I am starting to pull together ideas for this year's St Peter's Summer Fête which will be held on Saturday 4 July starting at 12.30pm. Revd John Paul Hoskins has given his guidance that this is to be very much a community event and a Parish affair and not just a St Peter's or Winchcombe one.

In attempting to broaden the involvement in the event, particularly looking at our younger citizens, I have started to engage with local schools in Winchcombe and Gretton as well as local groups including Scouts, Guides and playgroups to seek their involvement.

If you are interested in helping in any way, I can forward you a list of the proposed activities, many of which are carried forward from previous fêtes. I hope that those who helped in the past will feel able to come forward again, but I am looking for new blood as well. I am also seeking loans of gazebos or similar to keep the sun off those running stalls.

If you would like to help, or can loan a gazebo, please contact me via the details below. So far, I have had 14 positive replies but I need more to be able to run the event.

Simon Andrews Organiser St Peter's Fête  
[fete@winchcombeparish.org.uk](mailto:fete@winchcombeparish.org.uk)  
07842 168451

# Becoming an Eco Church

Have you heard about the Eco Church scheme? Perhaps you saw JP's notice in the weekly Bulletin earlier in the year, asking for anyone interested in exploring this scheme to speak to him? A few of us did so. Somehow, thanks to Lynn Gorman's direction, we have found ourselves in an enthusiastic, if currently still fairly ignorant, group. However, we are learning fast! It might reassure you that we are not doing this on our own – the Diocese of Gloucester has signed up to the Eco Church scheme, run by the Christian charity A Rocha, so we have a roadmap. If you too would like to know more, there are details at <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>

Our first task as an Eco Church Committee is to ascertain our current environmentally friendly credentials (we can tick the boxes on low energy lightbulbs and solar panels for example) and to explore what more we can be doing. With The Friends' input we can also tick a few of the draught exclusion boxes as they funded the South Porch and the door inside the West Door. Obviously in a mediaeval building, saving energy is problematic, but we can still do a little more about a certain amount of draught reduction – watch this space!

Alongside this aspect, we are also keen to explore the possibility of making the churchyard more wildlife friendly. You may wish to look at these two websites to learn more:

<https://ecochurchsouthwest.org.uk/actions/living-churchyards/> and <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>.

One of the Anglican Communion's Five Marks of Mission is: 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. This aim is of course totally in tune with current national and international aims to tackle climate change, and for the urgent need for all of us to reduce our carbon footprints, and to be stewards of the land we want to leave to our descendants. We know we are in this for the long



haul, but we are all keen that our church should play its part in caring responsibly for our environment.

If you, like us, feel passionate about caring for the earth, and would like to know more about what we hope to achieve at St Peter's, do please get in touch with any members of our informal Eco Church Committee:

Lynn Gorman, Margaret Bearne, Monica Cleasby, Jennie Davies, Margaret Holloway, Natalie Stone, Abbie Andrews

We would love to hear from you.

Jennie Davies

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Winchcombe's High Street is open for business - and would love to help you through this difficult time.

All of our shops remain open, and many will deliver.

At this link is a handy map with phone numbers:

<http://trythehighstreet.com/tthsmap/>

Here's a list of which stores can help you with deliveries (we'll keep adding to this list):

Winchcombe Fruit & Veg  
01242 609 500

Vale & Hills Butchers  
01242 602 998

Winchcombe Flowers  
01242 602 920

Keeling Newsagents  
01242 602440  
[keelingsnewsagents@btconnect.com](mailto:keelingsnewsagents@btconnect.com)  
List: <http://trythehighstreet.com/keelingsdeliveries/>

Norths Bakery  
01242 602416

Layton's Fish & Chips  
01242 652 222

You can also order from Broadway Wine Company, should you need a tippie!  
01242 603 463

As always, we'll do everything we can to help you find exactly what you're after and we're grateful for your business.

## **Becoming UnBusy**

And the people stayed home.  
And read books, and listened, and rested, and  
exercised, and made art, and played games,  
and learned new ways of being, and were still.  
And listened more deeply. Some meditated,  
some prayed, some danced.  
Some met their shadows.  
And the people began to think differently.  
And the people healed. And, in the absence of  
people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless,  
and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.  
And when the danger passed,  
and the people joined together again,  
they grieved their losses, and made new  
choices, and dreamed new images,  
and created new ways to live and healed the  
earth fully, as they had been healed.

Attributed to Kitty O'Meara

# **Winchcombe Walking Festival**

## **Friday, 15 May until Sunday 17th May 2020.**

Time again for Winchcombe Walking Festival! Dust off those boots, polish the poles, and sign up for a stroll!

You don't have to be a seasoned walker to take part. Walks are available for amblers, and those wanting to take in pleasant views of the countryside, but challenges are open to the more ardent adventurer. If you would like to find out something about local history or combine a trip on the train with a trail, then the Walking Festival is for you!



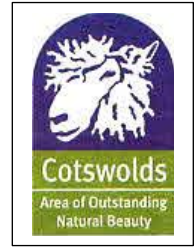
All walks (except the Winchcombe Way Challenge) are led by experienced Cotswolds guides who will share their knowledge of the countryside and the local features with you.

For more information, and to book on-line see the website [www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/festival](http://www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/festival) or the leaflets at the back of the St. Peter's Church. Advance booking is essential.



Cathryn Wilcock

# **Local Walks with the Cotswolds Voluntary Wardens April 2020**



## **Reasons to be Thankful – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April - Moderate**

A comfortable short walk along the Warden's Way, Heart of England Way and the Windrush Way. Plenty of watering holes in Bourton. 2 hours: 5 miles.

*Start:* 10.00 am Bourton-on-the-Water War Memorial in village centre. OS Map ref: SP 167 206.

## **Woods and Wolds – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Strenuous**

This varied walk takes us through three historic villages and across the Wolds which provide lovely views across the North Cotswolds. We walk through woodlands and meadows which should be rich in flora and fauna. Bring packed lunch & drinks. 5.5 hours: 10.5 miles.

*Start:* 10.00 am Blockley Community Shop.  
OS Map ref: SP 164 349.

## **Ilmington – on the Edge – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Moderate**

Ilmington is the far northern outpost of the Cotswolds, with wide views all around and lots of interesting features. Please bring suitable refreshments. 3.5 hours: 6 miles.

*Start:* 10.00 am Ilmington Playing Fields car park, on the outskirts of the village along the Mickleton road.  
OS Map ref: SP 209 440.

## **Early Birds – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April - Moderate**

A walk from Temple Guiting to Guiting Power. Fairly level walking with three short hills and one stile. Likely to be muddy. We hope to see a range of common farmland birds and early summer visitors. Binoculars would be useful. 4 hours: 7 miles.

*Start:* 10.00 am St Mary's, Temple Guiting GL54 5RS. Park at village hall. OS Map ref: SP 089 277.

## **Bluebells in Bloom (hopefully!) – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April - Moderate**

A circumnavigation around pretty Cotswold outliers, Alderton & Dumbleton hills. A spectacular display of bluebells in the spring. Due to the fickle nature of the English weather we cannot of course guarantee them. Total ascent 552ft. 2 hours: 4 miles.

*Start:* 10.00 am Dairy Lane, Dumbleton WR11 7TP. Please park considerately. OS Map ref: SP 017 359.

### **Tips for Walkers**

Please use appropriate footwear as some walks may be steep and muddy in places.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Easy</b>      | Length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level)           |
| <b>Moderate</b>  | Includes some hills and rough ground                         |
| <b>Strenuous</b> | May be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep |

We welcome guide and hearing dogs - sorry, others not allowed. Walks are free although we do invite donations to help fund our conservation and improvement work.

The Wardens run a full programme of guided walks throughout the Cotswolds. For more information see [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk) or Tel: 01451 862000, also for any changes to arrangements such as due to extreme weather.

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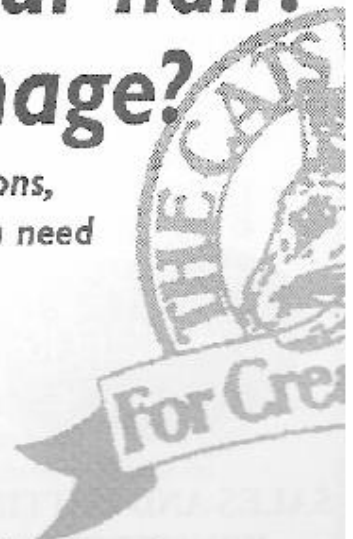
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