

SPKES

SPEAKING TO AND FOR ALL OUR CHURCHES

JANUARY 2023

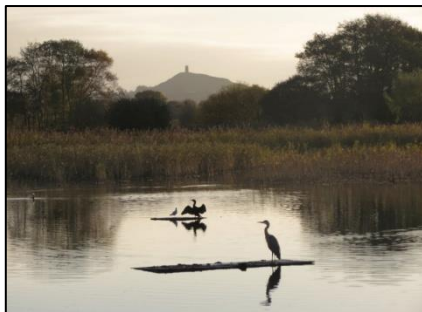
Hi folks,

Have you ever received a well-packed Christmas present – which looks amazing with the wrapping paper and the ribbons – only to be disappointed by what's inside? Sometimes, it's the badly-wrapped present that actually contains a gift which has been given with real thought and understanding for you as a person. The wrapping paper is a distraction compared to what matters, which is what's within.

Church can be like that, in a different way. Sometimes, the language that we use, or the formality of the style, can be a distraction from what really matters – which is God's love for each one of us, expressed through Jesus, recorded for us in the Bible, and manifested today via the Holy Spirit.

That's why we're running our "Invitation to Explore" this January, as an opportunity for anyone interested to begin to explore whether or not the story of Jesus is relevant and true for us today, living in the Poldens and the Levels.

Over the last few months, I've been putting together three ten-minute videos – one for each of these sessions. I've done most of

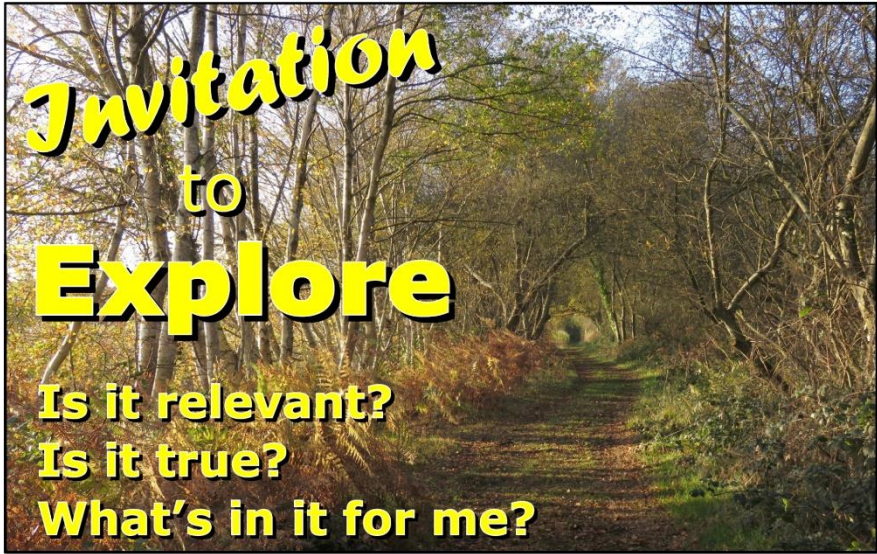


the videos in places like Shapwick Heath and Glastonbury Abbey and have also interviewed some local people. These videos are focussed on three guiding questions: "Is it relevant?", "Is it true?" and "What's in it for me?".

The sessions are running on three consecutive Wednesdays in Shapwick Church, starting on the 11th at 7pm. Each session will begin with a full supper, followed by the video, with plenty of time afterwards for an open discussion. It's an opportunity to look at what Christianity is about, without the distracting wrapping, in a friendly and informal setting. Do come if you are interested – you will be warmly welcomed!

Every blessing, Rich Tweedy

vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk



A three-week opportunity to explore whether Christianity is relevant and true.
 Wednesdays 11, 18, 25 January, 7pm, Shapwick Church.
 Full supper – then video with local flavour by Rich – followed by discussion time.
 Please book beforehand: contact details for Rich as below.



Men's Breakfast

The first one of 2023 is being organised by Edington Chapel: Rich is the speaker! and will be on **Saturday 21st January** at the **Crown in Catcott at 8.45am.**

sChurch Contacts

Vicar:	Rev Rich Tweedy	01458 210260
	vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk:	<i>Day off Friday</i>
Parish Administrator:	Sue Ball	01458 210260
	admin@poldenwheel.co.uk	<i>Office hours: Tues – Thurs 10am – 2pm</i>
PCC Treasurer:	Brian Tilbury	01278 722208
All Saints, Ashcott:	Margaret Trimm	01458 210448
St. Philip & St James, Burtle:	Alison Everett	01278 723736
St Peter's, Catcott:	Martin Melia	01278 722808
St Edward's, Chilton Polden:	Anne Lush	01278 722408
St George's, Edington:	Rosie Tilbury	01278 722208
St Mary's, Shapwick:	Rosemary Hargreaves	01458 210533

Website: www.poldenwheel.co.uk

Church Services

Sunday 1st January

11.00 *Catcott*

Sunday 8th January

9.30 *Burtle*

11.00 *Ashcott*

4.30 *Edington*

Sunday 15th January

10.00 *Shapwick*

10.30 *Chilton Polden*

Sunday 22nd January

9.30 *Shapwick*

11.00 *Burtle*

11.00 *Edington*

6.30 *Ashcott*

Sunday 29th January

11.00 *Shapwick*

Sunday 5th February

9.30 *Catcott*

11.00 *Chilton Polden*

Sunday 12th February

9.30 *Burtle*

9.30 *Edington*

11.00 *Ashcott*

Naming of Jesus (White)

Holy Communion (BCP)

Epiphany (White)

Holy Communion

Informal Worship

Evensong

Epiphany 2 (White)

Café Church

Holy Communion

Epiphany 3 (White)

Holy Communion

Informal Worship

Informal Worship

Holy Communion

Epiphany 4 (White)

Holy Communion

3rd before Lent

Holy Communion (BCP)

Informal Worship

2nd before Lent

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Informal Worship with Baptism



Service of Quiet

Tuesday January
17th at 7pm in
Catcott church.

This will be a quiet space
for contemplative
reflection for half an hour.

Midweek Holy Communion

Wed Jan 25th at 10am
in Edington Church.

Readings

1st Jan: Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

8th Jan: Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-17

15th Jan: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9; John 1.29-42

22nd Jan: 1 Corinthians 1.10-18; Matthew 4.12-23

29th Jan: 1 Kings 17.8-16; Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Corinthians 1.18-31; John 2.1-11

Diary of Church Events

January

- Wed 4th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome.
- Wed 11th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Wed 11th **Shapwick:** Invitation to Explore at 7pm in the church with supper.
Please email Rich on vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk to book.
- Fri 13th **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm.
£1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.
- Wed 18th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome.
- Wed 18th **Shapwick:** Invitation to Explore at 7pm in the church with supper.
Please email Rich on vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk to book.
- Sat 21st **Catcott:** Men's Breakfast at the Crown in Catcott at 8.45am. Speaker will be Rich.
- Wed 25th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome
- Wed 25th **Shapwick:** Invitation to Explore at 7pm in the church with supper.
Please email Rich on vicar@poldenwheel.co.uk to book.
- Fri 27th **Catcott:** St Peter's Coffee Morning at 15, Steel Lane, TA7 9HW. 10.30 – 12. Coffee/tea and cake for £2. Raffle.

February

- Wed 1st **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome.
- Wed 8th **Ashcott:** Coffee morning in All Saints church 10-12. All welcome.
- Fri 10th **Chilton Polden:** Family Bingo in the Church Hall. Eyes down 7.30pm.
£1 per book. Raffle and refreshments. Children can play.
- Sat 11th **Ashcott:** Big breakfast in the village hall. 9-11am. £7 (children half price) for full English, cereals, juice and as much coffee and toast as you want.

Thanks to Valerio Thompson for his help in putting this newsletter together.