

The Parishes of  
Uppingham-with-Ayston  
Belton-with-Wardley

**September 2021**

# QUARTET



***Benefice Ministry Team***

**Rector**

Revd Canon Rachel Watts    The Rectory, 45 Lime Tree Avenue  
Uppingham LE15 9SS                      829956

## Curate

Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds      18 Siskin Road LE15 9UL      822906

### Honorary Assistant Priests

Revd Dr Peter Holmes	14 Bayley Close	821834
Revd Canon John Rankin		822180

## Uppingham School Chaplain

Rev'd Dr James Saunders      Pentire House, High Street West  
829934

## Readers

Mrs Jill Cannings	Crossways, Ayston Road	821870
Mr Anthony Morse	8a Station Road	821508
Mrs Christobel Price	Church Lane, Bisbrooke	823201

## Lay Pastoral Ministers

Mrs Shirley Harris	49 Stockerston Crescent	822428
Mrs Eileen Hill	25 North Street West	822271

## Mothers' Union

Mrs Janet Wardle 5 Elizabeth Way LE15 9PQ 829923

All telephone dialing codes are 01572 unless shown otherwise.

For Churchwardens and other contacts, please see the list on the back cover.

Please contact the Rector to arrange baptisms, weddings or funerals.

To receive Communion at home please contact a member of the ministry team. Confession, spiritual direction and the ministry of healing are offered by the clergy by appointment.

### *The Rector's letter*

3 September 2021

The Rectory  
45 Lime Tree Avenue

Dear friends,

September this year really does feel like a month full of new starts. Our Young people have gone back, or are preparing to go back, to school or college. For some this is in a new place and with new people, with the excitement of the past leaving, or exam results over and new work and challenges to come. We wish all our young people well in this new year's endeavours. We are also seeing fresh starts as we begin to take up the things we enjoy, as clubs and events start up again. We are learning, at different paces, how to put anxiety aside and be ourselves again. In fact, we are trying to see who we are now – as we have all been changed by covid and lockdown. We have lived through a real life 'disaster movie' and come out the other side, and we need time to process this.

In Church also we begin with our new plans as we return to a regular pattern of worship and being Church. Our Service times will remain the same on Sunday mornings but the services may have some differences. In Uppingham, we are aiming to keep the 10.45am Service to the hour while enjoying singing our liturgy together. On the 3rd Saturday afternoon and the 4th Sunday morning we are launching something different, with *Come Rejoice* – a more intergenerational and informal way of worshipping. Do give it a go, and bring family or friends with you. On the evening of the 3rd Saturday, there will be the chance to celebrate the Eucharist with a different style of music, this all alongside a fantastic programme of Choral Evensong. We are learning together as we seek to reach out to our communities, but also making sure we preserve what we do so well.

In all we have endured over the last two years, I believe we have seen the faithfulness of God and his love. As we have suffered loss we have realised what is important to us. I believe that God is true to his promise. "I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." So let us move forward this month with confidence, open to what he is saying to us.

## Every Blessing

## Rachel

**Services in Uppingham Parish Church**  
**September 2021**

Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
5 <sup>th</sup> Trinity +13	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
12 <sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10am	MU Holy Communion & meeting
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
	5pm	<b>COME, REJOICE!</b> (see previous page)
19 <sup>th</sup> Trinity +15	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.45am	Sung Eucharist (CW)
	6pm	Choral Evensong (BCP)
<i>music by Ayleward, Thomas Weelkes &amp; Henry Purcell</i>		
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
26 <sup>th</sup> Trinity +16	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.45am	<b>SUNDAY REJOICE!</b> Eucharist

Our Sunday pewsheet is on the website each week, available from the previous Friday for use in your own quiet time. Do print and bring a copy to church with you, if you wish. Some paper copies will be available at the door, for the benefit of those people who are without access to internet or a printer.

You are welcome to join us online for our monthly Service of the Word  
 (check the website for details)

or listen to the service by phoning 01572 497004

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

**On the farm...**

All the crops are now ready for Harvest: hopefully the Combine Harvester should get them all done this week, if the weather forecast is correct. Then it's the turn of the new addition to the farm – named Claas (see photo) – to disc the soil prior to the new seeds being sown.

Last Thursday – a very noisy day on the farm, as all the lambs were separated from the ewes. They are now all in a separate field well away from the ewes (so it's quiet again), and the mothers can have a rest. The lambs must reach above 40kgs, then the market will be calling...

Claas has already been put to work, and the cattle have had their fields topped, to cut down the old grass.

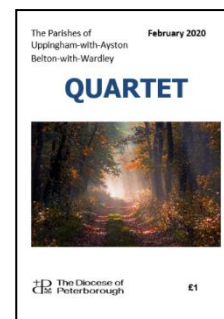
Everyone else is enjoying the summer, putting weight on, ready for winter.

Our new piglets are due, in about ten days, so there'll be more news about them next month.



Jeff Whelband

**Quartet in 2021**



Publishing dates: **Next edition (October)**

Copy to editors by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
 email to [john.wardle@btinternet.com](mailto:john.wardle@btinternet.com)

Available by Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

This autumn, in the rundown of paper issues of *Quartet*, we are dispensing with our pages of adverts. From January 2022, *Quartet* will just be available online, but copies may still be printed off at home.

## Increase the Parish Church's income by £10,000 for the price of a cup of coffee

- Give up one cup of coffee per week & donate the money to the church
- 100 people x 1 coffee per week (£2.50) > £10,000
- With Gift Aid = £12,500
- Save it up and donate on a significant date to you (birthday, anniversary, etc)
- Maintain your normal giving
- Start now !



## RIDE+STRIDE



WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING ON 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER?

Why not visit the churches of Rutland –  
on foot – or by bike (or car, if you have restricted mobility) –  
and help raise money for their upkeep?

*Rutland Ride & Stride* is a sponsored event for cyclists, joggers, walkers,  
and people with restricted mobility who wish to use a car.  
The event is held in Rutland, once every two years, to raise money for the  
preservation of our county's beautiful and ancient church buildings.

*Participants challenge themselves to visit as many churches as they can, at the same  
time raising money for the Rutland Historic Churches Preservation Trust.*

Contact Sue Cripps (01572 850800) or visit [RutlandRideAndStride.org.uk](http://RutlandRideAndStride.org.uk)

**EITHER** *Actively participate on the day (cycling, walking, etc) and get  
sponsored by your friends, family and colleagues*

**OR** *Sponsor your friends or family members at [JustGiving.com/rhcpt](http://JustGiving.com/rhcpt)  
and remember to Gift Aid your donation so we get 25% extra*

**OR** *Offer to help out in church by checking in visiting cyclists/walkers.*



**CLASSICAL CONCERTS  
AT LAUNDE ABBEY –  
SUNDAY AFTERNOONS IN 2021**

**19<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Duo Dunamis : Violin & Piano**  
Christine Townsend & Steve Robbins

**17<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Classical Guitar**  
Jonathan Richards

**14<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Aquilae Duo : Harp and Flute**  
Eleanor Turner & Lisa Nelsen

Concerts at 3pm, followed by cream tea at 4.15pm -  
Phone Launde, 01572 717254, or book online [laundeabbey.org.uk](http://laundeabbey.org.uk)

**Looking for a venue?**

Why not try Uppingham Church Hall?

Fully equipped kitchen  
Capacity for up to 50 people  
Audio visual presentation facilities  
Centrally located

Ideal for:

Parties  
Lunches  
Meetings  
Talks  
Receptions  
Fund raising events  
Coffee mornings  
Keep fit  
... and much more



To find out more or to book please phone 01572 823629

***The Crystal Ball***  
*Music for September 2021*

The kneelers and runners are back in the pews; the choir are back in the choir stalls. 'God's in his heaven, all's right with the world.' If only it were that easy . . . But let's give thanks for what we have; and for some people at least the presence of John Rutter on the music list is cause for rejoicing, so they will be pleased that we begin our month's music on 5 September with his popular setting of *God be in my head*. That will be followed, on 12 September, our Harvest Festival, by a performance of one of the two anthems for which Maurice Greene, contemporary and friend of Handel, is still remembered, his cheerful and tuneful *Thou visitest the earth*, in which the material of the opening tenor solo is taken up and developed by the full choir.

A complete change of mood follows on the following Sunday morning, with Purcell's sombrelly beautiful *Thou knowest, Lord*, written for the funeral of Queen Mary in March 1695, used at the composer's own funeral later the same year, and described by one writer as being similar in spirit to the Russian Kontakion of the Departed. Unusually, this month Choral Evensong will be sung that evening (19 September, the third Sunday of the month rather than the usual fourth), as certain essential personnel are departing for more singing in Wales the following week; so we shall have only a hymn from the virtual choir and a duet by Marcello (from virtual versions of Pat and Emma) on the fourth Sunday of this month.

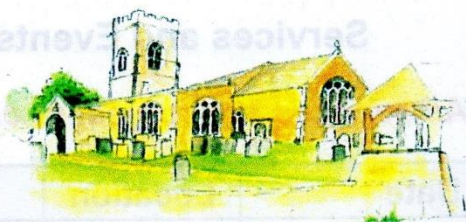
So what do we have for you at Evensong? In some respects, rather more sober fare than usual: the introit *I will arise* by the long-lived Robert Creighton (or Creighton, 1639–1734) is a rather academic setting in canon of well-known words from the parable of the Prodigal Son; and the canticles will be sung to the Short Service by Thomas Weelkes, which, like all the Tudor settings, is rhythmically energetic, but is in what we would think of as a minor key. But the lively responses by Ayleward and Purcell's celebratory *Rejoice in the Lord alway* (the 'Bell Anthem') will ensure that cheerfulness keeps breaking in.

Finally, a note on the choir concert I mentioned last month. It now seems likely that this will take place on 21 November, the Eve of the Feast of St Cecilia, which is a very appropriate date for a church choir in particular to give a concert. Please make a note of the date; further details will, we hope, soon be available.

*Succentor*



# St. Peter's Church Belton w Wardley



## Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions

With the general easing of covid-19 restrictions in England, as from the 19th July, we initiated some changes at St. Peter's church:

- The church is now unlocked daily, for visitors, and for private prayer. The wearing of face-coverings, and maintaining social distancing is encouraged while in the church.
- Congregational singing is back!  
During August we increased the congregational singing week by week, and now have returned to pre-covid levels! Distribution of the sacrament has remained unchanged.
- We have also revived our post-service social gathering after the 9:00 am service, when coffee and biscuits are available, subject to covid-19 restrictions.

## Ride & Stride - Saturday 11th September

Ask your friends and colleagues to sponsor you to visit Rutland churches, via cycle or on foot. Full details and sponsorship forms are available in the church.

## Harvest Festival - Sunday 12th September

This year's 'Churches together in Uppingham' harvest celebrations are led by the Methodist minister, who will give her sermon (indirectly) at our morning Holy Communion service. In the afternoon our family orientated harvest service, will be immediately followed by a Pets Blessing. *Please ensure your largest animal friends remain in the churchyard.*

Note:

The church will be open on the Saturday for decoration,  
(and Ride & Stride!)

## Services and Events in September

Note: *All services are subject to current Covid-19 restrictions*

Date	Location	Time	Details
5 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Rutland	10:00 am >6:00 pm	Rutland Historic Churches <b>Ride &amp; Stride</b>
	St. Peter's Church	Church is open all day for harvest decoration	
12 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	<b>Harvest Communion</b> (cw)
		4:00 pm	<b>Harvest Festival</b> followed by <b>Pet Blessing</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
26 <sup>nd</sup> September <b>Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (cw)
3 <sup>rd</sup> October <b>Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity</b>	St. Peter's Church	9:00 am	Holy Communion (bcp)
Please check with "Parish Notes" for any late changes			

St. Peter's website: [www.belton-wardley.org.uk](http://www.belton-wardley.org.uk)

St. Peter's church, Belton with Wardley website, may be accessed via the above URL or by scanning this QR code using your mobile phone. The calendar lists all services and related events and meetings, and is updated regularly..



The six unclued lights are thematic; brief hints to their answers (not in order of appearance) might be 'Founding archdeacon (7)', 'Seventeenth-century bishop (6,6)', 'Bird of prey (6)', 'Encountered animal, English, in Warwick (8)' and 'County literary establishment (7,8)'.

# Across

- 1,5 See preamble  
 10 '\_\_\_\_, you rat-catcher, will you walk?' (*Romeo and Juliet*) (6)  
 11 Following degree, comic writer is in charge of these islands (8)  
 12 See preamble  
 16 Green tea brewed for adolescent (8)  
 18,20 See preamble  
 21 Statute misses one when describing guns etc (8)  
 22 Building to contain soldiers with special responsibility for the sovereign (9,6)  
 27 Stimulating prison group (8)  
 28 'All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and \_\_\_\_' (Ps 45) (6)  
 29 Cardinal still just qualifying as 16 (8)  
 30 Police operations with painful consequences (6)

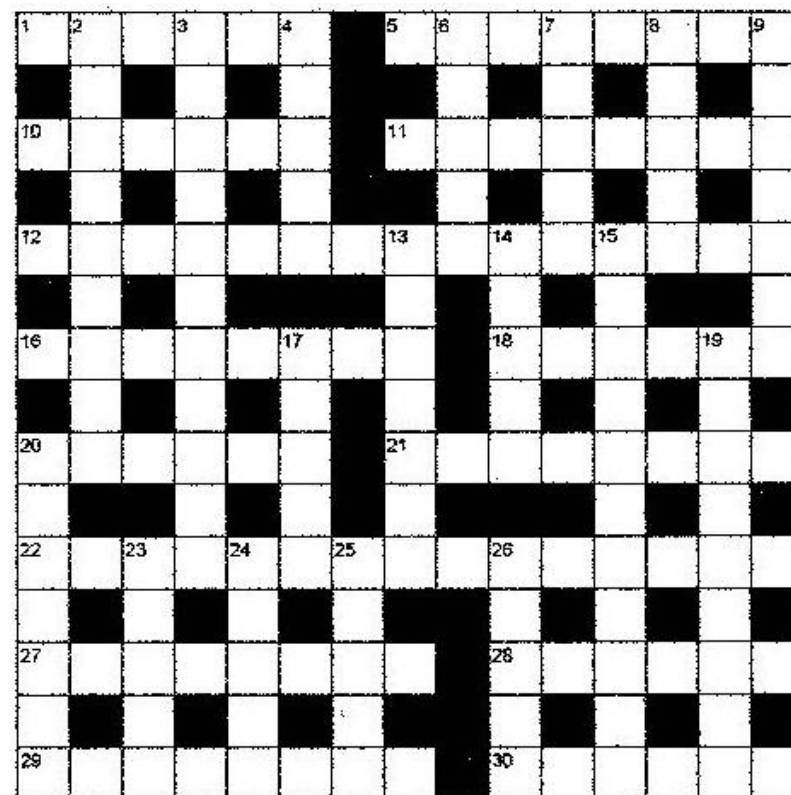
# Down

- 2 Order to describe previous situation (2,3,4)  
 3 Greens (assorted) at Hall after start of Christmas will raise questions (11)  
 4 Refuse name? That's definitely off (3,2)  
 6 Source of inspiration in time to . . . (5)  
 7 . . . be an office drudge, like Mr Cratchit (5)  
 8 Student on feature of building: 'It's a tree!' (5)  
 9 Directions to dance for the one that got away (7)  
 13 A. L. Brown supplies material for bird (4,3)  
 14 Exposed and ejected missing son (5)  
 15 Composer provides second mazy dance – now slide across the snow! (11)  
 17 Singly, PhD theses may include this symbol (5)  
 19 Taking over and keeping busy (9)  
 20 See preamble  
 23 Merger in trade association (5)  
 24 For instance, on the subject of topics at first: 'A bird' (5)  
 25 Lightweight cat (5)  
 26 Secures VAT, for example, it's said (5)

## CROSSWORD NUMBER 350

### 'An Uppingham Special'

by Succentor



## SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

C	A	T	H	E	D	R	A	L		W	A	L	E	S
I	H	N	E		O	A	A	C						
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E	M	E	I	K	N	K	T							
D	R	I	E	R	G	I	B	B	E	R	I	S	H	
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D	E	P	L	O	R	E	G	A	U	D	I	E	R	
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A	M	E	N	D		S	A	R	A	B	A	N	D	E





Well, dare I say it, we are gradually getting back to normal! Last month we held a Eucharist, followed later by a Cream Tea in celebration of Mary Sumner Day. The sun shone, the refreshments were enjoyed by all, and we raised £220 for MU funds. Special thanks go to our hosts, Joy and Chris Sworn, who worked very hard to make it all happen.

Our next meeting is on **September 14th**, and will be the first time for many months that we shall be able to resume our usual pattern of Eucharist in the church, followed by refreshments and a speaker in the Church Hall. This month 'one of our own', our Curate, Rev Debbie Smith-Wilds, will speak about her visit to Zambia. Then, on **Wednesday September 22nd at 10.30**, the Wave of Prayer will be held in the Methodist church. Please do join us if you are able.



The following is a message from Jill Cannings:

*Please join me at the Falcon on **Wednesday 8th September**, from **10am**, for an opportunity to meet Ephra Matthew, the Diocesan President of NECA (North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba). She is staying for the week, and will also be joining our Harvest Eucharist on Sunday 12th.*

I do hope many of you will be able to drop in and say 'Hello'.

The Deanery of Rutland has been invited to tell the Diocese a little about itself, its Branches and activities. If you feel you can contribute to a paragraph on our branch, please do let me know.

We are planning to hold an afternoon of fun and fundraising on **October 9th**, in the form of a **Beetle Drive and Afternoon Tea**. Book the date now; more details to follow.

It is wonderful to be able to look ahead and plan with some certainty. Of course, things may go awry once more, but we plan in the hope that we here in Uppingham can move forward, and in so doing can strengthen our ties with our world-wide fellowship.

God bless

**Janet Wardle**



*Thanks to Chris and Joy Sworn*

### ***A thank-you...***

My dear friends in Uppingham and Stamford,

I just want to thank you for being so good and kind to me over the years. Barry and I came to Leicester in 1960, and at the time I made him promise that it would be a stepping-stone to something better. However, the job turned out to be very important to Barry, and after twelve months I started to like – in fact, came to love – this part of the world, especially after we discovered Rutland and were blessed with our lovely daughter. In 1967 we came to live in Belton, for ten years, then Preston, Uppingham, and Stamford where, sadly, Barry died. And finally, back to Uppingham, where I thought I would end my days – but that was not to be.

I have been so lucky, so enriched over the years, particularly with the people I have known. Keep Fit classes opened a door to the world of dance, and later teacher training. After Barry died I became a guide at Burghley, and was lucky to stay there for 15 years.

My mother had a strong faith, much needed during the Second World War, which she passed on to me. Then I was very lucky meeting Barry, and I am only now realising how wise he was. And now I realise the need to be closer to my family in these final years. I am going home: I was born a Hampshire Hog. God bless you, and thank you.

**Maggie Roberts**



## ***Bargain Hunt!***

...how we did it, by Janet Thompson

### **Janet and Alex Thompson Hunt for Bargains**

I have always wanted to appear on the BBC1 TV show Bargain Hunt and, as you need to be a team of two, asked around to find someone willing to be my co-star. I wanted someone with a good eye for a bargain and who knew lots about antiques, but even Geoff was not interested in venturing onto television with me... Then during lockdown Alex was working from home, and we shared lunch every day, watching 'Bargain Hunt' on BBC1. Well! He was hooked, so now I had my 'willing' volunteer.

Also, last year Alex decided that he was ready to leave home and buy a house. Now, you might think that a young man of 21 would want to go for a newish house and furnish it with Ikea furniture. No! He found a house built in 1633 made of beautiful Collyweston stone and a Welsh slate roof. Well, if you buy an old house, you have to fill it with.....yes.....antiques. We attended (online, of course) several auctions, and Alex managed to buy quite a few antique items, but he still didn't have completion on his house, so they had to be stored in our garage.



So now I am all ready to apply to be on Bargain Hunt: After our on-line application was approved, we had to provide a home-filmed video presentation. This was hilarious, talking into a camera and trying to sound enthusiastic but not like some crazy lady. Alex, as you can imagine, was super cool and decided that he would be "Xander" for TV, as this is the name he is known by at work (but that's another story). We then had a Zoom interview and were selected.

The recording for the show was originally scheduled for November 2020, at the always-windy Newark Showground, but this was postponed twice. Finally...in March this year we recorded 'The Hunt' at Brackley Antiques rooms. It was an amazing place with some fantastic pieces and packed full of history. There were a lot of quirky items and we even managed to buy a few items for Alex's house before filming started. There were three other teams, each with £300 of BBC money to spend, but we had to keep our purchases secret from the opposition. It was so much fun, we did end up acting like crazy people (well I did) but it was worth it! The hardest part was having one hour to find three items of value, one that had to be over £75 and one to meet Charlie Ross's challenge of 'something with a face'. We looked at a chair, cricket bats, teddy bears, silver teapots: it was a veritable Aladdin's Cave. We did get into a panic when we only had 3 minutes left and still had one item to purchase. In the end we settled on some aromatic wooden soap

trays, a mahogany dresser set with a mirror and (Alex's favourite) a Jaeger vintage car clock. Phew! We had managed it, but how much would they go for...?

The auction was held in Stratford-upon-Avon and we expected some high prices to be paid. It turns out that dark furniture such as Mahogany is beautiful but not very collectable at present, and doesn't reach the price that it deserves. However, you don't enter Bargain Hunt for the money, nor for the notoriety, but for the sheer fun of it.

I won't say if we won, or not, because you may not have seen the show. If you wish to see it then you can do so on BBC iplayer – search for "Bargain Hunt Series 59: Brackley 6". It is horrid seeing oneself on TV! But it is always good to step out of your comfort zone occasionally, and I am so glad that I did. I got to spend real quality time with my boy and this will remain, forever, a fantastic adventure that we shared together. Anyone with children will know that these times are precious because they grow up so quickly. Some of you will know that Alex is one of the three miracles that I have experienced personally in my life and I thank God for him every day.

We should all enjoy everything that we do and everyone that we share our time with.

### ***Uppingham Church "spring clean"***

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August saw us take another small step back towards a more normal way of life, as a group of volunteers worked together to clean the parish church and return much of the building to normal.

Pew cushions and kneelers were replaced, floors washed, cobwebs removed, dust dusted and pews polished; tape and one-way systems were removed.

We continue to ask everyone to follow government guidance to be cautious and considerate to others and we have procedures in place to accommodate those more vulnerable to infection.

Our thanks to all those who helped on the day – the whole place looks so much better for your efforts.



**Richard Cole**

## **Revd Thomas Meredyth, Rector of Allextion, 1939-1946**

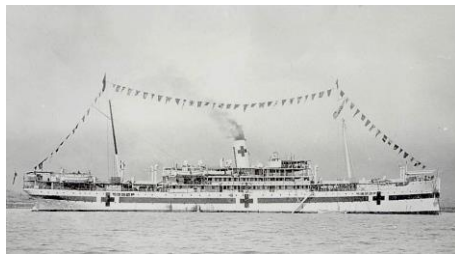
*(notes by Vivian Anthony, continued from the July issue)*

Thomas Leslie Meredyth was ordained in Lichfield Cathedral, having served as curate at St Luke's church in Leek from 1934 to 1937. His second curacy was something of a contrast; where St Luke's had been in a growing industrial area, the home of the Britannia Building Society, All Saints, Hordle, was on the edge of the New Forest with views over the English Channel. He stayed just one year, 1937-8, before moving to the Leicester Diocese. He was presented by H C H Heycock & W A North to be Rector of Allextion with East Norton in 1938. These neighbouring rural parishes had a railway station, nearer to East Norton, and a combined population of only 137 but the gross income of the living was £304 and there was a fine Queen Anne style rectory in Allextion with a glebe of 24 acres, valued at £30.



Tom's first duty in the Parish was unusual, on 30 May 1938 he took the funeral service for his predecessor, Asher Goldberg, who is buried in Allextion churchyard. Five years later, on 21 June 1941, he attended the baptism of his daughter Annabel Eveline with his wife, Phyllis, taken by George Green, the Vicar of Great Easton, in Allextion Church. Then he was called up for military service in 1942.

Tom Meredyth does not tell us about the work he was doing before or after he joined HMHS Vita. He merely said he sailed on the hospital ship through the Mediterranean – he saw Churchill arriving in North Africa – then called at Malta and went through the Suez Canal into the Indian Ocean, where he spent the rest of his war. He may have been shielding Phyl from worry about his dangerous or unpleasant activities. As the Chaplain he would obviously have been responsible for the services and other religious life on board and, given that Vita he must have and held funerals. He he had been over his board, with carol Mass and Christmas said over half of those communion, and nonconformists. Turkey and Plum Pudding had been served for Christmas Lunch and he had enjoyed a glass of Scotch. His presents included a bottle of Swan ink from the Chinese Shop, so necessary for his letters.



was a hospital ship, ministered to the sick tells Phyl how busy first Christmas on services, Midnight Morning Services. He on board had taken including Catholics

His voyages took him to East Africa, including Madagascar, to various Indian ports, and to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). He writes of having some days leave when the ship was in port 'for scraping'. He went to 'Gillett's', probably in Ceylon, and met Mr & Mrs Dent of Ribston Hall in Yorkshire, and the Vicar of Hunsingore. 'Gillett' is a name given to some fine precious stones and he bought something for Phyl; he asked for confirmation that the ring had arrived.

The Vita was en route to Madagascar and when they were at sea he had time to fish off the stern of the ship and even managed to catch a shark. At some point they moved out of the theatre-of-war and he expresses surprise at sailing with all lights blazing. They also changed out of tropical whites to traditional naval blue uniforms. When they went into dry dock for hull scraping, Tom was invited by the chaplain of another ship in port to 'supper and pictures'.

His letters did not respond much to what Phyl had written, other than to send his undying love, but he did say how pleased he was that Mr Mawson had organised a jumble sale in Allextion which had raised £29 for the church. He was sorry to have missed Ann's ride in Corby's cart to East Norton (the other of his churches), and the two eggs a day from the fowls get favourable mention. He had written to the authorities expressing his desire to get home to his parish.

Vita returned to base at Trincomalee in September 1945, and Tom was still sending parcels – two dolls for Ann and a length of tweed for Phyl, in 1946. Vita resumed commercial service following a refit in May 1946, by which time Tom had returned to Allextion and his darling wife and daughter.

### ***'You should have been there...'***

Well done to all those involved in making such a success of the "Fashion Sale" held in Uppingham Parish Church on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August, whether you baked cakes, served teas or welcomed people to the church. It was great to see the church buzzing again and open to many visitors from the town and beyond.



Particular thanks to Jenny Harris  
(pictured below, off-duty)  
and Pat Cole for organising the event.







*The High Sheriff of Rutland, David Wood*

and

**The Bach Choir, London**

are pleased to present

**Bach Choir Voices**

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in a concert of

**MUSIC for a ROYAL OCCASION**

to include works by Handel, Vaughan Williams, Elgar, Parry  
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on

**Saturday 9th October 2021**

at 7.30pm

in All Saints' Church, Oakham

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### ***The Hebrews in Egypt***

It is possible to learn many interesting things from the wall paintings and carvings in Egyptian tombs and temples.

The Egyptians kept cool by wearing a kind of linen skirt, a chest ornament if sufficiently wealthy, and a wig. Until the onset of puberty, boys worked naked in the fields. They sported a side lock of hair, and it is obvious to see that they were not circumcised.

Probably somewhere around the 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Dynasties (1785-1745 BC), at a time when Viziers were appointed to high office to support the Pharaoh, a different people came down from the eastern Mediterranean. They had long, curly hair, long beards, and multi-coloured clothes and hats. As these cultures mixed, the Egyptians began to circumcise the young boys, while the newcomers adopted the side lock. Today, a section of the Jewish persuasion still uses the side lock of hair.

When you consider the story of young Joseph, in his fancy clothes, it is not surprising that his brothers failed to recognise him, with shaved head, dressed Egyptian style, and now a great man. In return, however, they would have been instantly recognisable to him, as they appeared as a hairy group of foreigners.

The Bible tells of Joseph preparing for famine by storing grain. When I was in Saqqara, I was proudly shown a small stream, about the width of the Welland, which was known as Joseph's canal. It seems that a stream ran (runs?) from the Nile to the Oasis at Fayyum. Joseph supposedly ran a canal from the Oasis, past Saqqara to Memphis, then the capital city.

The last time I was in Egypt, I was able to travel from Alexandria to the Suez Canal, crossing the Nile Delta. At one point we stopped at an active archaeological site being dug at Goshen, where the Israelites settled. In addition to interesting finds, dug up that day, we were shown the remains of huts, built of mud bricks without straw.

**Margaret Jennings**



## *Oxford Time*

Oxford has long been known as ‘the home of lost causes’, so I suppose it shouldn’t have surprised me to find that its cathedral still works on local time rather than GMT or BST: which means that a service advertised as beginning at 6 pm Oxford Time begins at 6.05 by everybody else’s reckoning. This was only one of the touches of the bizarre which made my recent visit to that city a slightly surreal experience. (I’ll come to the others later.) But although time has an important part to play in music, this particular eccentricity did not affect the pleasure I had in joining a small group of friends to sing the services there in the middle of August.

As some readers will no doubt know, the cathedral of Oxford diocese is also, by an arrangement unique within the Anglican Communion and probably the world, the chapel of Christ Church College; so instead of being set in a typical cathedral close, it is an integral part of the college buildings, with its entrance from Tom Quad, the first part of the college seen by visitors after passing the porters’ lodge. I didn’t have the pleasure of staying in any of the historic parts of the college, but was in a building conveniently placed some two hundred yards or so further up St Aldate’s, used by the college for extra student accommodation. Guests did, however, have breakfast in the Hall, where a suitably impressive painting of Henry VIII, flanked by Cardinal Wolsey and Elizabeth I, and accompanied by an assortment of other luminaries connected with the college, dominates proceedings from its position over High Table.

Being an unrobed choir, we did not process to or sing from the choirstalls, but sang from the north transept. This might seem odd, but in fact the acoustic there was very good and enabled our small number of singers to sound to best advantage and maintain a cohesion which might have been lost in a more conventional set-up. The music was carefully chosen to play to the strengths of a small choir (and much of it would have been familiar to regular attenders at Uppingham’s monthly Choral Evensong); which meant that we were able to concentrate on detail and bring out the character of the music.

For me, the undoubted highlight of the music list was the Sunday morning Choral Eucharist, at which we sang the Gloria, Sanctus & Benedictus and Agnus Dei from Palestrina’s *Missa Aeterna Christi Munera*. (The Agnus Dei, again, would be familiar to members of our congregation, though we sang it in its full version rather than the single petition of our usage.) I mentioned how good the acoustic is, and it was here, in music written for such buildings, that it really supported us; I shall remember that experience for a very long time and with great pleasure.

It was also a great pleasure to see three familiar faces at our final service on the Sunday: John, Janet and Pat made the trip to come and support us, which enhanced my enjoyment of that last Evensong.

Oxford is an extraordinary place: you only have to look a little way behind the trappings of a modern city to be aware of its mediaeval origins, and it is no surprise to me that it should have been the home of the ‘Oxford Movement’, the revival of Catholic practice in Anglican worship which began in the mid-nineteenth century and has influenced the entire Anglican Communion. Without that little group of clergy – Pusey, Keble, Newman and others now less well known – our present-day worship would be a different, and probably much duller, affair; which should be a lesson to us to remember that even a small group can have far-reaching influence under God.

I have mentioned two of the oddities which coloured my stay in Oxford; the third also has to do with time. Somewhere within earshot of our rooms in St Aldate’s – I never did find out exactly where – there was a church or college clock with chimes identical to those of Uppingham. That would have been strange enough; but the mechanism of this clock was obviously defective, as the hour-chimes went from some three hours *ahead* of BST on our arrival to the same amount *behind* by the time we left, by which time the quarter-chimes had also slipped out of alignment, with the hour being struck at a quarter past the hour! Is it any wonder that I felt I wasn’t entirely in the real world during those few days?



***Philip Riley***



## ***Benefice Directory***

<b>Churchwardens</b>	Uppingham	Jeff Whelband	07753 422816
	Belton	Bob Atkinson	717464
<b>Treasurers</b>	Uppingham	Russ Garley	
	Belton	John Hill	822271
<b>PCC Secretaries</b>	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
	Belton	Marietta King	821488
<b>Parish administrator</b>	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
<b>Mothers' Union</b>	Uppingham	Janet Wardle	829923
<b>Director of Music</b>	Uppingham	John Wardle	829923
<b>Organist</b>	Belton	John Hill	822271
<b>Flowers</b>	Uppingham	Nicky Jervis	07703 984032
<b>Bible Study</b>		Anna Wilkinson	345004
<b>Youth Emmaus</b>		Ian Watts	829956
<b>Safeguarding</b>		Sue Saunders	829934
<b>Bible Reading Fellowship</b>		Anna Wilkinson	345004
<b>Bell Ringers</b>		Sue Webster	821922
<b>Church Hall Bookings</b>		Hilary Dawe	823629
<b>Social and Fundraising</b>		Jenny Harris	07864 065198
<b>Gift Aid Secretary</b>	Uppingham	Geoff Thompson	821560
<b>Quartet Editors</b>		John & Janet Wardle	829923
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