

Benefice Directory

Churchwardens	Uppingham	Richard Cole	821190
	Belton	Mark Turner	
Treasurers	Uppingham	Russ Garley	
	Belton	John Hill	822271
PCC Secretaries	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
	Belton	Marietta King	821488
Parish administrator	Uppingham	Jenny Harris	07864 065198
Mothers' Union	Uppingham	Janet Wardle	829923
Director of Music	Uppingham	John Wardle	829923
Organist	Belton	John Hill	822271
Flowers	Uppingham	Nicky Jervis	07703 984032
Bible Study		Anna Wilkinson	345004
Youth Emmaus		Ian Watts	829956
Safeguarding		Sue Saunders	829934
Bible Reading Fellowship		Anna Wilkinson	345004
Bell Ringers		Sue Webster	821922
Church Hall Bookings		Hilary Dawe	823629
Social and Fundraising		Jenny Harris	07864 065198
Gift Aid Secretary	Uppingham	Nick Clarke	829885
Quartet Editors		John & Janet Wardle	829923
Readers Rota	Uppingham	Richard Cole	821190
Uppingham C of E Primary School			823245

Parish Giving Scheme

0333 002 1260

parishgiving.org.uk

Set up or review your donations, by phone or on the website,
quoting our Parish code 280628378

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

July 2022

QUARTET



 The Diocese of
Peterborough

The views expressed or implied in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Rector, Ministry Team, Churchwardens or Editors.
CCLI200555

Online edition

6 July 2022

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

Revd 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 Minister

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.

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 !**



The Rector's letter

3 June 2022

The Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue

Dear friends,

It is good to be back with you, as we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is good to see people in the mood for celebration and for gathering together with their communities.

It has been a tough few years, years filled with sadness and grief; and we are ready to have some fun and some hope. These celebrations take us through the joys and sorrows of the past, and point us to the future.

The feast of Pentecost – sometimes referred to as the birth of the church – is a festival of joy and hope. It reminds us that God is faithful to his promises, and leads us into and beyond hope. The disciples have gone through some tough days. They saw their friend and leader killed, sharing the violent death of a criminal. In that moment they lost their hope in what they had hoped the future held. Then came the joy and celebration of the resurrection. Finally, they have had to say goodbye once again to their friend Jesus. They have been promised that this goodbye will lead to the beginning of something new. In their trust and hope in these promises they come to receive, hope, joy and peace and the knowledge of God's love and presence. Pentecost brings to us all the great gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the comforter in times of difficulties and our joy and strength in good times. As we embrace God's promise and receive the gift of the Spirit we can move into the future with hope and joy. We hope and trust in a better future. We put the past behind us and look to good times to come. The promises of God and his Spirit poured out on us means that whatever the future holds we will be alright. Our future here and in the life to come is filled with God's promises of good times to come.

May God bless the Queen, may God bless his Church and pour his Spirit upon it. May God bless each of us and fill us with his Spirit and love.

Every blessing

Rachel



Services in Uppingham Parish Church July 2022

	<i>Mondays</i>	9am	Morning Prayer
	<i>Tuesdays</i>	9am	Morning Prayer
		7pm	Choir practice
	<i>Wednesdays</i>	10.30am	Prayer group
		6.30pm	At Your Pace Space
	<i>Saturdays</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion (CW)
3rd	SS Peter & Paul	8am 10.45am	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Eucharist (CW)
10th	Trinity 4	8am 10.45am	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Eucharist (CW)
12th	(Tuesday)	10am	MU Communion
16th	(Saturday)	4pm	<i>COME, REJOICE</i>
17th	Trinity 5	8am 10.45am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Eucharist (CW) Choral Communion (BCP) <i>music by Byrd, Stanford and Parry</i>
24th	Trinity 6	8am 10.45am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>COME, REJOICE</i>
31st	Trinity 7	8am 10.45am	Holy Communion (BCP) Sung Eucharist (CW)

Firstly, a sad note on which to start. On **Friday July 8th** the funeral of Fran Britnell will be held in the Parish Church at 1.00pm. Fran was an active supporter of the MU for many years, and I hope to see a goodly number of members in the congregation, to celebrate her life.

In June, Rector Rachel shared some Reflections with us; it is wonderful to have her back in action and looking so well; she involved us in the reflecting as well!

We have a busy time coming up, so stand by for action! On **Saturday July 16th** we are holding a stall in the Marketplace from 9- 12, to raise money for the work of the MU. We are asking you to donate items to the stall; cakes and biscuits always sell, also jams and chutneys, garden produce both plants and surplus crops; items for the tombola are also welcome, but Trish Damen needs them asap, well before the big day! Anything that might sell is welcome from 8.30am; if you are unable to come yourself, ask a friend or a committee member to deliver for you. We have not held a stall over the last two years, and are hoping for a mighty relaunch, so please plan how you can help.

August 9th, Mary Sumner Day, falls on a Tuesday this year and so we are hosting a celebration on the correct day! There will be coffee etc served in church from 10.30am, a Eucharist (with proper music!) at 11.00am celebrated by Rev Deborah Marsh, our Diocesan Chaplain then lunch at 12.30 at the café at Welland Vale Garden Centre. The lunch must be preordered; forms available on request. Everyone is welcome to our celebrations, not just members and transport can be provided – just ask!

Our regular meetings continue over the summer. Janet Thompson's talk on volunteering has been transferred to **September 13th**, and Moyra will speak to us on **July 12th**.

Finally another date for your diary. There will be another Beetle Drive and afternoon tea on **Saturday October 15th**, starting at 2.30pm. The attendance at last year's drive was hit by Covid, but I hope for a greater attendance this year; those who came to the last one thoroughly enjoyed their frivolous afternoon – give it a try!!

God bless.

Janet Wardle (829923), Branch Leader

The Crystal Ball

Music for July 2022

This month's programme, like last month's, departs from our usual pattern of events, though in this case the trigger is not national celebration but a local event. No Choral Evensong; but instead a rare opportunity to take part in a Prayer Book Sung Eucharist. More of this below.

The short anthem *O Lord, increase our faith*, by the little-known Henry Loosemore, would have been an appropriate choice for the feast of St Thomas, which occurs on 3 July in the Common Worship calendar; it was perhaps less suitable for the feast of our patron saints which replaced it this year after a late change of plan, though its sentiments are, of course, universally appropriate. On the following Sunday, 10 July, we have something on a larger scale, with John Ireland's *Greater love*; often sung at Remembrancetide, this is a powerful setting in a late Romantic idiom of a text drawn from various parts of the Scriptures, which Ireland draws together into a convincing and moving whole.

Next up, on 17 July, we have a double helping of choral services: at our usual Sung Eucharist in the morning we shall sing Mendelssohn's popular *I waited for the Lord*, a mellifluous duet and chorus from his *Lobgesang*, while in the evening we shall sing a Choral Eucharist according to the use of *The Book of Common Prayer*. This is in preparation for our visit to Greenwich in August, so if you are not able to join us for that event, you do have the chance this month to hear the music we shall be singing there. The setting of the Mass is Stanford in C plus his Benedictus and Agnus Dei in F, which we sang at Coventry cathedral during our residency a few years ago; the introit is Byrd's joyful setting of *Haec dies* and the anthem Parry's own version of *Dear Lord and Father*, both of which we have sung earlier this year. Three well-known hymns will give our congregations in both churches a chance to sing as well; please do come and join us for this unique event.

It may not surprise you to learn that, after this big effort, on 24 July there will be no choral services, just the usual monthly Sunday Rejoice! at 10.45 am. On 31 July, with summer holidays coming up, the anthem will be Martin How's familiar setting of *Fairest Lord Jesus*, which you may have heard on Ascension Day.

August will no doubt be a fairly quiet month as usual, but this also will not surprise anyone. Full details will be revealed in due course, when the mists have cleared from my scrying device . . .

Succentor

Memories of Jo Harrison

*compiled by Vivian Anthony,
with contributions from other choir members*



It is with sadness that we record the sudden and unexpected death of our friend and colleague Jo Harrison. We have been singing with Jo in the choir for over 20 years and have much enjoyed her friendship and support; she had become a valued member of the alto section, gradually building her voice from small beginnings. It was typical of Jo that once she took an interest in something she wanted to succeed at it, as she had in several other disciplines. She learned the piano and most recently been working for a Diploma of Archivism. I met her several times at the Leicester County Record Office in Wigston, when I was doing some local research there. But her principal career had been in medicine, and she met her husband, Richard, when they were both medical students in Manchester. She subsequently spent some time in General Practice.

Richard and Jo came to live in High Street East in a fine Victorian House, bought from Jon Siviter, a teacher. For many years they entertained their friends at parties there. Jo was a naturally quiet person, but she had a good sparky wit, which she used to good effect in choir practices. She was generous: our singing at several festival services earned the reward of a box of chocolates among the choir – though Philip had more than the rest of us! In the few minutes when our choir master allows us to chat, Jo would take a great interest in her fellow choristers, asking about the well-being of our families. She had clear



views on most subjects and while she was never vociferous she let us know whether she was in support or not of the various ideas expressed in our lively choir community. She was pleased to see the steady growth of this section of

the Church in Uppingham. Jo was very loyal and seldom missed services or rehearsals, even in recent years when she has found it increasingly difficult to move around. As another chorister who willingly takes a seat when possible, I was aware that Jo was frequently 'out-standing' me. Our most recent conversation was just last Sunday, and her mind was as clear as ever - she assured me that was not in pain – so it was a great shock to hear she had died just a couple of days later. Jo was a lovely person. We will miss her.

Jenny wrote... I don't think I ever heard her complain; she was ever smiling and cheerful. She was a wealth of knowledge regarding music and composers. We are going to miss our little Jo.

Philip wrote... As well as echoing what others have said about Jo's gift for friendship and encouragement, I'd like to thank her for the number of times she took me to concerts at both Lyddington and Launde, in the days when she was still able to drive. Conversations on such occasions were always wide-ranging, as Jo had a breadth of interests and activities, which added to the pleasure of the occasions.

Alison was inspired to compose this poem...

Jo Harrison, our friend, Jo, Beloved of the choir, We'll miss your cheerful smiling face, You never seemed to tire. You made us all your friends, Jo, Shared fun, and joy, and woe; And gave us such encouragement, Jo Harrison, our Jo.	Jo Harrison, our friend, Jo, A stalwart alto voice, You sang with sensitivity Byrd, Bruckner, Bach and Boyce. We hope you're singing now, Jo, In a heavenly second row, Sharing Elysian chocolates, Jo Harrison, our Jo.
---	---

...and added... Jo had a wicked sense of humour and would crease up with laughter at a well-delivered sotto voce comment about choral and ecclesiastical goings-on.

Hui-yen wrote... When I attended my first rehearsal and was introduced to the choir, Jo was not only the first to extend her welcome but the first chorister to pronounce my name correctly! I was most impressed how she seemed to have a good ear for foreign names. It transpired that her sister-in-law and I shared the same name, which is a rare occurrence among the Chinese community. Thus, Jo and I had a special bond and in a short space of time we'd met for coffee at The Falcons and chatted. She also visited me at home and met my husband and family. I will treasure her spirit in my heart forever.

John Woodhead wrote... Jo took a keen interest in other people as individuals, and would find time to have a chat and to listen. She was very good at recalling details about things that had happened or had been said. Appearing self-effacing, she was a confident person and, as we all know, was capable of many a pithy comment. We will miss greatly Jo's kindness and good humour. May she rest in peace.

Jeremy Rider (Music in Lyddington) wrote... Jo began her association with us in 2004. Having already written a dissertation on the history of music making at Uppingham School, in 2005 she asked Brian Stokes whether she might do a similar brief history of the society. By then, Jo had been gratefully welcomed onto the committee, and she and Richard have generously sponsored a concert every year since. She proved to be a knowledgeable and wise voice in discussions. I also have fond memories of accompanying her to the Wigmore Hall for the annual YCAT finals, where we would listen to talented young artists who might be suitable for a MiL programme. Jo resigned in 2015 but continued to be a loyal supporter of concerts and will long be remembered and mourned by those who knew her.

Words at Play

Thoughts inspired by thirty years of crossword compiling

Language can be used for many things, of which conveying information is only one. When we affirm our faith by saying the creeds, we are not informing anyone of anything, but taking part in an act of solidarity with all other Christian worshippers; when we say ‘How are you?’ to a friend, we are not looking for detailed information on his or her health, but recognising that person’s presence and opening the door to a conversation. And this gift of God is perhaps most properly and joyfully used to give pleasure: when language is allowed to sing and dance, it is then most like the creative Word of God from whom all language ultimately originates. Great poetry and fine prose lift the spirit; and on a lower but equally legitimate level, word games entertain and inform us while stretching our concept of what words can do.

The crossword is a comparatively recent invention, not much more than a hundred years old, but it is now firmly established as part of our culture. The cryptic variant (as opposed to the general knowledge type, which is basically a quiz fitted into a grid) has over the years evolved into an intricate and mind-stretching exercise which forces its devotees to look closely at even the smallest elements of language: in a cryptic crossword clue, even the punctuation may not be what it seems. (For some reason, this version of the crossword is less popular in America, though there are exceptions, such as Stephen Sondheim, who once said ‘The nice thing about doing a crossword puzzle is, you know there’s a solution.’ His comment is acute, and is one pointer to explaining the popularity of this diversion; the chance to reduce a little bit of chaos to order is psychologically helpful when confronted by all the things we are incapable of putting right. Classic detective stories have a similar function.)

Rowan Atkinson has recently gone on record as saying that every joke has a victim; but this is not true: puns and other forms of wordplay require no victim to have their effect. Readers of my generation may remember the verbal humour of Paul Jennings in such collections as *Idly Oddly*, which relied entirely on the quirks of language; and I always hope that at least one of my monthly clues will get a smile or a groan from solvers, so that over these last thirty years I have contributed, if only slightly, to their well-being.

I have written here before about the links between poetry and word games, especially crosswords, and I make no apology for returning to the theme. Language is a gift of God, and like all the gifts of God can be appreciated in many ways, from the organ music of a Shakespeare or Milton through to, for instance, the experimental art of Gerard Manley Hopkins, unrecognised in his day but now counted among the great poetic innovators. (I feel sure that Hopkins would have taken to the cryptic crossword. His capacity to look at words sideways, as it were, would have led him to appreciate the art of setting cryptic clues.) Poets today continue the tradition of cleansing our vision, and in their own way so do

crossword compilers: both activities involve going back to the roots of language and exploring less conventional ways of using it.

Doing things with words

Being made to think hard about words leads to a consideration of what can be done with them. There is a long tradition (which, sadly, has no basis in empirical reality) of belief in a special or original language which has direct effect on the world: that is, a language of magic. Many fantasy writers have used this tradition to great effect: I need only mention a few, such as Ursula Le Guin, Diane Duane, Genevieve Cogman and Ben Aaronovitch. However, although such ideas belong only in the realm of fantasy (as far as we know!), even our everyday use of language can in fact bring about changes in reality: ‘I now pronounce you husband and wife’; ‘I declare this bridge open’; ‘I promise to come and see you tomorrow.’ This should make us careful about what we say: broken promises and false declarations are a misuse of language and we are responsible to God for them.

On a lighter note, of course, language can be used by stand-up comics, writers of Christmas cracker jokes and other verbal performers to take our minds off the distressing realities of life for a time, for which we should be grateful; their art may be a slighter thing than that of the great poets and prose writers, but it is still an art which has its ultimate origin in the Word. The magic of popular imagination and fiction may not exist, but to use language in this way has something of magic in it nevertheless.

To go back to my starting-point: crosswords, like other forms of wordplay, can divert us when we get too serious; but not only that, they can distract our conscious minds and give our subconscious a chance to solve problems which resist direct attack. Research¹ strongly suggests that when making decisions in complex situations the best results are obtained not by thinking directly about them or by consulting others but by first indulging in diversionary activities (or, of course, by sleeping on the problem, which one might call the ultimate form of diversion). So ‘words at play’ can be practically helpful as well as providing entertainment; and both modes of use are legitimate ways of employing language. Let us continue to appreciate language’s capacity to enhance life; to support the creative use of words to take us into different worlds; to understand that fiction and poetry are just as important a part of our diet as non-fiction; and to encourage crossword compilers to maintain their quest for the perfect clue as they continue to mine language for its endless possibilities.

So, yes; having done my thirty years of hard labour (except that that makes it sound like a chore, which it isn’t), I am happy to embark on the next decade of disguising language for your entertainment. Please continue to come with me on the voyage if you’ve been with me so far; and if you haven’t, it’s never too late to join in.

Philip Riley (alias Succentor)

¹ See Richard Wiseman, *59 Seconds* (Macmillan, 2009), chapter 8, for more details.

A simple calculation reveals that 360 puzzles represents thirty years of setting. During that period we have had three incumbents, all of whom (along with the assistant curate who started the whole thing off) appear at 10, 11, 13 and 23 without further definition.

CROSSWORD NUMBER 360

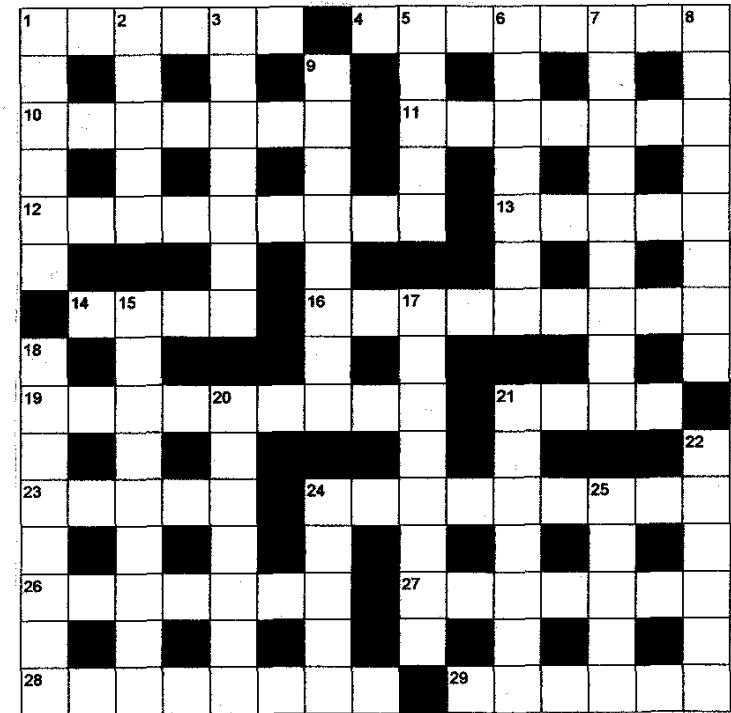
'Full Circle'
by Succentor

Across

- 1 Pester one of Mole and Ratty's friends (6)
- 4 Where hosts are held in reserve (8)
- 10 Desire English race (7)
- 11 Half of a successful team (7)
- 12 Criminals born of that devil Eros scattered? (9)
- 13 Knaves beheaded and dispersed (5)
- 14 Royal with foreign currency (4)
- 16 Any misdeed out East could have a variety of aspects (4-5)
- 19 Welsh town has potential to create French article and doll (9)
- 21 Small measure incorporated by main charity . . . (4)
- 23 . . . and measures of power (5)
- 24 Travelling – another do – travelling (2,3,4)
- 26 At almost eleven, drunk, lift! (7)
- 27 'No, not when thou hast smitten us into the place of ____' (Ps 44) (7)
- 28 Starry team – it does exist (8)
- 29 Unusual male offspring? Very likely (4-2)

Down

- 1 Hat for a cricketer (6)
- 2 City? I held otherwise (5)
- 3 People involved in exceptional deed did editorial work (7)
- 5 Four gestures, including 'drives' (5)
- 6 Complaints about short story lead to convictions (7)
- 7 Nice lad, troubled, I see, picked up language (9)
- 8 Series a team ignored (3,5)
- 9 Produced in abundance, like modern media use (8)
- 15 Oppressive social system I heard Pat destroyed (9)
- 17 Confused notion of French time of day (8)
- 18 Fault? Not so much – it's perfect! (8)
- 20 Bunyan's hopeless giant (7)
- 21 Country shop (7)
- 22 Inventor could be onside (6)
- 24 Last letter from Athens . . . (5)
- 25 . . . and capital of old Greece (5)



SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

