

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

*The Benefice of the Guitings, Cutsdean, Farmcote, Upper and Lower Slaughter
with Eyford and Naunton*

October - November 2024



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Churches and School working together to share God's love in our communities

CHURCHWARDENS

Lower Slaughter (GL54 2HR)

(Vacant)

*Safeguarding Officer: Marion
Marshall*

Naunton (GL54 3AX)

(Vacant)

Safeguarding Officer: Jane Pickup

Temple Guiting (GL54 5RW) and Cutsdean (GL54 5RX)

Ruth Waller 01451 850611

Sheila Woods 01451 850328

Ros Hartnell 07967 127581

Safeguarding Officer: Sheila Woods

Upper Slaughter (GL54 2JF)

(Vacant)

Safeguarding Officer: Ken Pascoe

Guiting Power (GL54 5TX)

Simon Wallis 01451 851806

Safeguarding Officer: Tracy Formby

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Safeguarding Officer: Tracy Formby

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DEADLINE for the next issue

20 NOVEMBER 2024.

*This magazine is free to parish residents. Otherwise, the charge is **50p per copy.***

Temple Guiting Church of England Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Ann Barry

Tel: 01451 850304

www.templeguiting.gloucs.sch.uk

DEAR FRIENDS

As you will notice throughout this magazine, we had a wonderful send off for Catherine and her family on 8th September. It was great to gather in a full Guiting Power Church with friends from all around the Benefice for a Communion Service. One of the readings for the day was from the first chapter of the book of Joshua, which concluded with the words:

*Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*

Catherine spoke about the reality that life is full of transitions, of change and sometimes uncertainty, but that always these words from the Old Testament are true – God is with us wherever we go. She spoke about how these words are helpful for her and the family, as they make these big changes, but also for each of us in the big and small transitions in our lives. She spoke of times in which she had seen us as a Benefice and as individuals being brave and courageous in her 4 years with us, and we prayed for each other as we bid her farewell.

Catherine has asked us to pass on her love and sincere thanks for the gifts, prayers and well wishes of you all to her and the family.

Please do keep praying for them all in their new beginning in Beaulieu, Exbury and East Boldre.

With love and prayers, Katrina and Sue

Hello everyone.

Katrina has asked if I would give you an update on my progress after the knee replacement surgery in July, and I am so glad for this opportunity to say further afield how thankful I am for all your messages in different lovely forms and your prayers.

I am certain that all the prayers and encouragement I've received has contributed to what has been a good recovery. I've felt quite cosseted.

It's lovely to be walking without a stick (or a limp), although I'm not quite skipping yet!

You have all been in my prayers while I've been away, and I'm looking forward to bumping into you all when I'm back in the Benefice.

Quoting St Paul once again,

"I thank my God every time I remember you" (Philippians 1)

Sue

MORNING PRAYER IN THE BENEFICE

Mondays : 9.15am at Lower Slaughter

Tuesdays : 9.15am at Guiting Power

Wednesdays : 9.15am at Naunton

Thursdays : 9.30am at Temple Guiting (after Open the Book in School)

Fridays : 9.15am at Upper Slaughter.

Do join in if you'd like to.

COMMUNITY MINISTRY - we have shared in these services

Baptisms

"May God guide and protect them"

William Cane at Lower Slaughter on 18th August 2024

Aurora Leggett at Lower Slaughter on 1st September 2024

Dexter de Boynville at Upper Slaughter on 21st September 2024

Weddings

"May God bless them"

Alexander Albertyn and Lucy Robson at Lower Slaughter on 3rd August 2024

Charles Dawson and Katy Long at Guiting Power on 10th August 2024

Jonathan Martin and Melissa Smith at Upper Slaughter on 17th August 2024

David Marsh and Francesca Grimwade at Lower Slaughter on 20th September 2024

Funerals

"May God grant them light and peace"

Funeral Service for David Youngman at Naunton on 26th July 2024

Funeral Service and Burial for Philip David at Naunton on 6th August 2024

Funeral Service for Jacqueline Collins at Guiting Power on 4th September 2024

Memorial Service for Campbell Daffurn at Temple Guiting on 11th September 2024

Are you interested in a Wedding or a Christening in one of our churches?

Do contact us to find out more!

ZOOM ACTIVITIES AND LINK

We continue to offer worship and Bible Study on Zoom for all who would like to join us. The Sunday services continue with a 9.00am Morning Prayer on the first Sundays 6 October and 3 November, and a 6.00pm service of Compline on the third Sundays 20 October and 17 November. Please see service schedules for details.

For all Zoom events please follow link below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7979867589?pwd=h6UaQN2VhIdx79AlafPNV50YxJVtZA>

Meeting ID: 797 986 7589

Password: 815669

To join by telephone please call 0203 481 5237 and enter Meeting ID and password.

BIBLE STUDY

Each month we have Bible study group for an hour on Zoom. We look at a Bible passage together, discuss our thoughts on it and learn from one another. Everyone is welcome to join this group - no preparation is needed, just join and add your reflections.

Bible Study will take place on Wednesday evenings 2 October, 6 November and 4 December.

CONFIRMATIONS

Are you interested in finding out more about the Christian faith, in being part of a group discussing together what it is all about, and maybe in coming to be Confirmed? We will be running groups for adults and younger people in the coming weeks and would love you to join us. To find out more, contact Katrina.

WIDER CHURCH NEWS

HARVEST and supporting the North Cotswold Foodbank

Our Joint PCCs have agreed that again this Harvest time, as we celebrate God's goodness in creation, we wish to raise funds and donations for our local Foodbank. All of our Harvest services will be receiving donations of packaged food and also financial donations that will enable the further work of the Foodbank.

The North Cotswold Foodbank has run in our area since 2011, feeding local individuals and families with emergency food parcels. Sadly, the need continues to increase and they are feeding more people each year – with now 7 different centres opening around the North Cotswolds each week, as well as the Warehouse in Guiting Power.

At the moment, the warehouse is particularly short of:

Sweet & savoury snacks
Rice
Long-life milk
Long-life fruit juice/squash
Spreads
Stock cubes
Packet sauce mixes

And they welcome all donations of cans and packets of long-lasting food.

If you are able to make donations at our Harvest services, that would be greatly appreciated as we show our care for our neighbour as well as our thanks for all who work on the land.

If you are struggling to access food yourself, do speak to Sue or Katrina, who can issue Foodbank vouchers to those in need. Please don't suffer in silence!

ANGEL TREE

This autumn we would like to invite our church communities to join us in supporting the Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree project. Angel Tree gives parents in prison the opportunity to send a Christmas present to their children. In 2021, they sent out 4,624 gifts!

The project is described as:

Christmas is especially difficult for prisoners and their children. Angel Tree lessens the devastation experienced as a result of parental absence by not only helping families connect and build relationships, but by providing children with much-needed joy.

Prison Fellowship volunteers work with prison chaplains and local churches to buy, wrap and deliver the presents. As long as prisoners are allowed access to their children, they are given the opportunity to apply for a gift to be sent to them.

There are around 312,000 children in England and Wales with a parent in prison - 7% of all children will experience their father's imprisonment before they leave school.

Angel Tree is a very simple and incredibly rewarding way to help prisoners stay in contact with their families during imprisonment, which can contribute to reducing re-offending rates. Those prisoners being visited by a partner or family member have a 52% re-offending rate as compared to 70% for those who do not.



As a Benefice, we would like to invite you to join a team of us, connecting with Long Lartin Prison Fellowship to raise funds for gifts, buy and wrap gifts for prison families. Do contact Katrina or Sue if you would like to be involved with this.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday 12 October: Refreshments & Table Top Sale, Lower Slaughter Village Hall

Saturday 19 October: Soup & Sale, Guiting Power Village Hall

Friday 25 October: Soup and a Story, St Mary's Temple Guiting. Mike Edwards – 'John Buchan'

Friday 25 October: Paul Roberts Talk, Naunton Village Hall

Saturday 2 November: 'Stray Threads' Concert, St Faith's Farmcote

Saturday 9 November: Temple Guiting Quiz, Temple Guiting Village Hall

Saturday 30 November: Christmas Fayre, Lower Slaughter Village Hall

Saturday 7 December: Guiting Power Christmas Fayre and Grotto.



AUTUMN SALE & REFRESHMENTS

Saturday 12th October
10am-4pm
Lower Slaughter Village Hall

Delicious Homemade Cakes & Bakes
Cream Teas
Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks

Variety of items for sale

Everyone welcome!



St Michaels & All Angels
**SOUP, CAKE,
DRINKS &
TABLE TOP
SALE**

12 - 3pm
Sat 19th Oct

- Raffle
- Toys & books
- General sale & bric a brac

at
**Guiting Power
Village Hall
GL54 5TX**

To book a table for selling @ £10.00 please call 07403 734137



Journeying through time and place

Songs and tunes
for voice and harp

Saturday 2nd November 7pm



Ali Clifton Barnard In support of St Faith's Church
Mark Harmer

St Faith's, Farmcote
£15 to include glass of wine

Tickets must be booked from lornaeayrs@gmail.com



Fabulous Raffle !

THE FABULOUS TEMPLE GUITING QUIZ!



Quizmaster
**ROBERT
LLEWELLYN**

**Saturday, 9th November
Temple Guiting Village Hall**

6.30 for 7.00pm

Tickets £15
(under 16s £8)

to include Light Supper
from Kate Mather

katemather@landgatetg.co.uk/07776_180121

or Ali 07583 415065

Get a team together (max 6)
Licensed CASH Bar

Supporting St Mary's Church

'VILLAGE VOICES' A very informal group of singers from local villages who meet on alternate Mondays, mainly in St Mary's, Temple Guiting. Do come along if you enjoy singing. Please call Ali Clifton Barnard on 07583 415065.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

All of these activities are for everyone, and with no charge:

St Andrew's Coffee Shop – Every Thursday from 10.30am-12.30pm, come along to share drinks and biscuits and chat in the church in Naunton.

Coffee and Cake in the West End, St Mary's Church Temple Guiting -

At 10.00am on **FRIDAYS** 11 and 25 October and 8 and 22 November.

Come and join friends and neighbours for real coffee and homemade cake.

(Donations welcome).

Community Space at Lords of the Manor – On the second Tuesdays of these months, we will be hosting a space at Lords of the Manor Hotel in Upper Slaughter from 11am-12noon. Come along for coffee, tea, biscuits, a warm, lovely space and time together, on Tuesdays 8 October, 12 November and 10 December.

SERVICES IN OCTOBER 2024

Saturday 5th October

6pm Temple Guiting Harvest

Sunday 6th October

9am Zoom Morning Prayer

11am Upper Slaughter Harvest and Communion

4pm Guiting Power Harvest

Sunday 13th October

9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote and Harvest

11am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter

11am Naunton Harvest

Sunday 20th October

9.30am Holy Communion at Cutsdean

11am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter

3pm Confirmation with Bishop Robert at Temple Guiting

6pm Zoom Compline

Sunday 27th October

9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton

10am Family Holy Communion at Temple Guiting

11am Lower Slaughter Harvest

6pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday 3rd November

9am Zoom Morning Prayer

10am Holy Communion at Guiting Power

11am Matins at Upper Slaughter

4pm Remembering Loved Ones Service at Temple Guiting

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Sunday

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Farmcote
- 10.45am Remembrance Service at Lower Slaughter
- 10.45am Remembrance Service at Naunton
- 10.45am Remembrance Service at Temple Guiting

Monday 11th November

- 10.50am Act of Remembrance at Guiting Power War Memorial

Sunday 17th November

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Cutsdean
- 11am Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter
- 3.30pm Wild Worship at Temple Guiting Village Field
- 6pm Zoom Compline

Sunday 24th November

- 9.30am Holy Communion at Naunton
- 10am Family Holy Communion at Temple Guiting
- 11am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter
- 6pm Evening Service at Guiting Power

**Our apologies if services have to be cancelled or altered at short notice. **

ADVANCE NOTICE OF CAROL SERVICES IN DECEMBER

There will be a full service schedule in the December magazine, but in case you are keen to get our Carol Services into your diaries, here are some of the special dates:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|
| Sunday 1 st December | 11am | Benefice Advent Carols |
| Thursday 19 th December | 6pm | Temple Guiting Carol Service |
| Friday 20 th December | 6pm | Guiting Power Carol Service |
| Saturday 21 st December | 4pm | Cutsdean Carol Service |
| | 6pm | Upper Slaughter Carol Service |
| Sunday 22 nd December | 4pm | Lower Slaughter Carol Service |
| | 6pm | Naunton Carol Service |
| Tuesday 24 th December | 7pm | Farmcote Carol Service |

NEWS FROM THE PEWS AND VILLAGE EVENTS

FARMCOTE

I was in Norfolk recently and it occurred to me how few cyclists there were, compared with the Cotswolds. It reminded me of an occurrence earlier in the summer. Returning home late one afternoon, I saw a cyclist standing outside our garden, nursing a cup of tea. It transpired he had his cycle battery and mobile phone on charge in our cottage and he was chatting with my husband.

I joined them and learned Nick – you have to know someone very well to know their surname nowadays! - was on his way home to Machynlleth in mid Wales, after a nine month trip around the world on his electric bike! This trip had started and finished in Amsterdam, thence to London and he was hoping to reach Wales in a day.

This was far from his first trip around the world on two wheels, having made previous trips by motorbike and pedal bike, several times. He had had plenty of adventures, travelling very light and supported by an international tech company, who sponsored him a modest sum for his cycle batteries – wouldn't want to run out mid Mongolian desert!

His exploits hadn't gone unnoticed and a television company had recently interviewed him for a piece on the news but someone announced a General Election the day of the planned transmission, so that was that.

As he stood, gazing across at the Malverns and on to the Welsh hills, drinking in the views and home almost within sight, it brought back to me how fortunate we are to live in this glorious spot. No Yorkshire, I think the Cotswolds are God's own country.

Nick didn't reach his rather ambitious target of Llanwrtyd Wells that evening. I think the short boost to his batteries wouldn't have got him much further than Tewkesbury. As he pedalled off down the track to Hailes, he shouted his thanks and farewell then added his surname.

We have many visitors to Farmcote church on foot, by car or bicycle, but I bet few with as long a journey!

We may receive a lot of visitors to our lovely ancient church, but the bills still roll in, and it is to that end that we are very excited to be able to welcome Stray Threads, aka Ali Clifton Barnard and Mark Harmer, who will be performing with voice and harp in the church on Saturday 2 November at 7pm by which time I am sure the firework display in Naunton will be over! Tickets at £15 available from Peter or Lorna Eayrs 0780 1960904

Lorna Eayrs

UPPER SLAUGHTER

As we feel the first crisp chill in the air, the changing colours of the trees remind us that autumn is upon us. It's a season of reflection and gathering, and there is much to share from our parish community as we enter this time of year.

Wedding of Melissa and Jonathan Martin

On 27th August, we had the joy of celebrating the marriage of Melissa Martin and Jonathan Martin with a beautiful service held in St Peter's. Melissa, the daughter of Ann and niece of Liz Gibson (née Woodley), has deep roots in our village, with her grandparents Mr and Mrs Woodley having moved here in 1961. We wish the newlyweds a life filled with happiness.

A Fond Farewell to Tony and May Collett

After living in the village for over 90 years, Tony Collett, and his wife May, have moved to a retirement home in Bourton due to declining health. The Collett family have been part of Upper Slaughter for over 500 years, marking this as the end of an era for the village. We hold them both in our prayers as they settle into their new home and thank them for their lifelong presence and contribution to our community.

Farewell to Catherine

Like all the parishes in our benefice we want to thank Catherine for all she has done for our parish. Her farewell service in Guiting Power, reflected the deep affection and respect so many have for her. Catherine's wisdom, kindness, and gentleness will be missed, and we wish her all the best as she embarks on the next chapter of her journey.

Harvest Festival and Lunch

As we give thanks for the bounty of the season, please join us for our annual Harvest Festival. The service will take place on Sunday, 6th October, at 11:00 am in the Church, followed by our village Harvest Festival Lunch in the Village Hall. It promises to be a wonderful opportunity for the village to come together as a community in gratitude for all that we have been given.

Village Hall Renovations

Renovations at the Village Hall are progressing well, and we are already beginning to host community events. Fundraising efforts continue as we work towards further improvements, including the installation of soundproof and fireproof curtains, as well as brand-new multifunctional ceiling lights. These upgrades will ensure that our Village Hall remains a welcoming and practical space for all sorts of gatherings in the years to come.

As autumn unfolds, we look forward to gathering together for upcoming village events and sharing in the warmth of our community.

Charlotte Van Rooyen

CUTSDEAN

The rhythmic rumble of combine harvesters and balers has given way to continuing sound of tractors ploughing, harrowing and planting next year's crop often late into the evening, if conditions allow, to get ahead of worsening autumn weather. The sooner the seed is sown the better, in theory, will be next year's harvest. It is the time of year when we look both forwards to next year and backwards to the harvest which has been 'safely gathered in' by our hard working farmers whom we acknowledge with our Harvest Festival services when we thank God for all his gifts. This year the decision has been taken across the Benefice that all Harvest Festival service collections will be donated to the North Cotswold food bank and in lieu of donations of fruit, veg etc, donations of tins, snacks, sweets, cleaning materials, toiletries etc would be much appreciated as stocks are low so please give generously. Our Harvest Festival service is on Sunday 29th September at 3pm.

Many across the Benefice attended Catherine's lovely farewell service in St Michael and all Angel's Church Guiting Power on the 8th September. The church looked beautiful with so many stunning flower arrangements on the window sills, any available ledge or corner that would accommodate an arrangement, lots of them with a lily included which is Catherine's favourite flower. It was a truly family affair with Catherine assisted throughout by either 5 year old Alan with his toy tractor and trailer or one and a half year old Artemis vociferously demanding mummy or both children contributing at the same time with husband Alex hovering in the background allowing Catherine to carry on which she calmly did! Catherine and her family will be much missed but we wish her all the very best of luck in her new role at Beaulieu Abbey.

One of former Cutsdean residents, Nina Gatward, sadly passed away at the end of August. Nina moved to The Old Manse with her partner in 1993 and lived in the village for 15 years until she moved to Seaford in Sussex with her mother. She contributed hugely to the life of the village during her time here especially writing a history of the village, instigating significant repairs to the church and designing the wrought iron entrance gate which includes a scallop shell to signify St James. Nina was a bright and intelligent woman with a great sense of humour and has been much missed since she moved from Cutsdean but she requested that her ashes should be brought back to St James' Church in Cutsdean to be buried in the churchyard. We look forward to welcoming the family back later in the year.

The nights are getting longer and the mornings chillier but there are lots of events happening throughout the Benefice to look forward to and enjoy during the autumn months.

Ros Hartnell

LOWER SLAUGHTER

Autumn is upon us. With the nights rapidly drawing in and a chill in the air, it's a time for warmer jumpers and relaxation.

August saw us host our annual Village Fete which was very successful once again and raised much-needed Church and village funds. At the beginning of September we enjoyed a lovely service at Guiting Power as we said farewell to Catherine. She will be much-missed, but we wish her and her family every happiness in this new chapter of their lives.

Little time for relaxation here as we continue our fundraising events, starting on Saturday 12 October with a Refreshments and Sales day from 10am to 4pm. Any donations of homemade cakes/tray bakes/scones will be gratefully received from 9am at the Village Hall on the day. So come along for a cuppa, chat or to bag a bargain – we'll have all sorts on sale!

Our Harvest Festival Service will be held at 11am on Sunday 27 October when, as is now customary, we will collect non-perishable items for our local Food Bank. Our church will be decorated in harvest colours and we will have harvest hymns and readings. This will be followed at 12.30pm by a bring and share lunch in the Village Hall. Do join us for the service, or lunch, or both – everyone very welcome.

Then on Saturday 30 November we will be holding a Christmas Fayre from 10am to 4pm in the Village Hall, with Christmas refreshments. There will be a chance to win Paddington Bear ... what a super present he would make ... or to grab a Christmas gift or two from the stalls. We'd love to see you.

Sunday 1 December marks the start of Advent, a period of preparation for Christmas. This year St Mary's will host the Benefice Advent Service at 11am with wine and seasonal refreshments to follow and we look forward to welcoming you all to this lovely service.

Enjoy your autumn and looking forward to seeing you at our up-coming events.

Marion Marshall

TEMPLE GUITING

This summer there was a new approach to our normal "Safari Supper" and we enjoyed instead a "Safari Lunch". Our grateful thanks go to the hosts at Colmans, Temple Guiting House and Wells Head Barn and the many who cooked, served,

washed up and shifted tables and chairs. We were blessed with dry weather so that we were able to enjoy eating together outside and appreciate the wonderful gardens.

'Soup and a Story' returns to St Mary's this autumn. On Friday October 25th, the popular Michael Edwards will be entertaining us on the subject of John Buchan (Author of 39 steps). Soup and a roll will be included free of charge, but donations are welcomed.

This year's Harvest Service is planned for the evening of Saturday October 5th and will be followed by a "bowl" supper.

Many of you will know David Trinder who sadly has decided to step down from his role as Verger due to mobility issues. He was Sidesman for 8 years and 20 years as Verger. His service to the church and dedication to both roles has been much appreciated and we wish him well.

Val Littlewood

QUITTING POWER

What a splendid service we all enjoyed for Catherine's farewell, even though tinged with sadness at her leaving. The church looked resplendent with flower arrangements provided by each of our seven Benefice churches, likewise the delicious refreshments in perfect number for the nearly ninety who attended. My very appreciative thanks to all those who contributed so generously, and to Katrina and Sue, and to Catherine who we now wish every blessing upon in her new parishes in Hampshire.

'Change is the necessary condition of life', and as the season changes we now look forward to our Harvest Festival which this year will be held on Sunday 6th October at 4pm, refreshments afterwards. Do come and join us! It is so joyful to give thanks for all the blessings of where we live and for our farming community. Harvest Gifts brought to the service will be afterwards donated to the Cotswold Food Bank along with the collection money.

Later in the month on Saturday 19th there will be a Soup & Sale in the Village Hall for church funds from 12-3pm. Any contributions for sale gratefully received and can be brought along on the day or left in church beforehand.

November brings time to pause and reflect with the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial on The Green on Armistice Day, Monday 11th, beginning at 10.50am.

How much we have always to be thankful for.....

Simon Wallis

NAUNTON

It's a glorious sunshiney day in Naunton as I write. The days are definitely getting noticeably shorter, there's a nip in the air early in the morning. Fruit trees and veg plots are positively groaning with bounty, generously shared around our village. Constant reminders of the many blessings we are bestowed here.

The late summer months have been and continue to be busy. On Bank Holiday Monday at the Dovecote, there was an outdoor performance of 'The Importance of Being Ernest' from the Rain or Shine theatre company. Picnics were shared before we settled down to watch the play. A proper farce in every way! Such a beautiful setting and fine weather too. The Dovecote precinct also hosted a fun afternoon of (plastic) duck racing in aid of the upkeep of this ancient building. Once again, a popular multigenerational event with BBQ, picnics and fun for all the family.

The Naunton Music series has as usual been an excellent offering over the spring and summer months, showcasing the exceptional talents of musicians. The final concert for the year will be on 27th September; Quatuor Agate (a String Quartet) will perform in the peaceful evening setting of St Andrews Church. There is usually an offering taken at these concerts; this year the collections so far have raised £2050 inclusive of Gift Aid. This sum and any additional will be shared equally between the relief funds of Ukraine and Gaza.

In addition to our regular Sunday worship, we have enjoyed some additional services, namely being part of a Benefice-wide farewell Holy Communion presided over by our Curate Rev'd Catherine Cowie. And our annual 'Spirit of Naunton' service, held in the Black Horse Pub. Both joyous, welcoming and well attended, these two celebratory worship events evoked all that is good in our community.



I'm sure that Catherine's farewell service will be reported elsewhere in this magazine; it was held at St Michael's in Guiting Power and the Church looked and smelled incredible. Each church in the Benefice had been invited to decorate a window with flowers for the occasion. We decided that for Naunton, we would take the sustainable approach, using garden and hedgerow flowers, foraged greenery and seed heads with chicken wire to support the flowers. There is so much beauty all around us, and there was no shortage of material to use. Refreshments afterwards were also produced from around the Benefice and what a delicious spread there was. There was hearty singing, a fantastic turnout from all around the area, lots of families and a memorable sermon from Catherine based on a verse from the book of Joshua "Be strong and courageous, do not be terrified, because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go". A wonderful and fitting message to sustain the Cowie family in this time of upheaval and change. And so relevant for us all in our daily lives. Prayers and good wishes go with Catherine, Alexander, Alan

and Rosemary Artemis as they begin a new chapter. Many from Naunton look forward to seeing Catherine and family at her licensing service in her new Diocese.

Our own local Spirit of Naunton service on 15th September at the Pub was also very well attended, with a very informal approach and hearty singing. This worship celebrated all that is good in and definitive of our village; love and care for one another being at the heart of it all. We have so very much to be thankful for, whilst remembering that not all places can enjoy the freedoms, blessings and privileges that we do here. Our prayers and songs reflected these themes. We are as ever thankful for our Clergy, especially the Rev'd Katrina for creativity and willingness to meet folks in a worship context outside the Church building. The generous offering taken at this service (£353 in total, including gift aid) will all go to our local Food Bank, where the need is at its highest level in ten years. We are also thankful to the Landlord & Staff of the Black Horse Pub for hosting this popular service.

Some Naunton PCC members recently attended and enjoyed a joint Benefice wide PCC meeting. Those who went along found the discussions and exchanges to be interesting, constructive and thought provoking; meeting together in such away reminds us that we are all part of 'one church body', each with differing gifts, talents and skills. And better together!

A few people from Naunton have recently become 'Sunday Friends' at Long Lartin prison. This means that we can support Prison Ministry (where Rev'd Nick Scott is Chaplain) by attending Sunday worship with the Prison community, and chatting with the prisoners and officers after worship. So far, it's been a joyful and uplifting experience, and a tiny insight into prison life. I would encourage you to pray for prison life; prisoners and their families, those who take care of them all, and those who consider our justice system. And perhaps consider whether you might like to be a part of this mission?

As another part of our Prison support, St Andrews will support the Angel Tree charity once again this year. This coordinates purchase, wrapping and distribution of gifts on behalf of prisoners to their family members. If you would like to be involved in this (and it's the purchase / wrapping part that we can do) please get in touch with me (Moira Anderson 07881 954104) or speak to Rev'd Katrina.

Finally, we look forward to a talk entitled 'Ancient Rome in 50 Monuments' given by Naunton local Dr Paul Roberts, who has recently written a book of the same title. This promises to be both entertaining and very enlightening. All proceeds from the evening will be donated to St Andrews Church.

We are missing Rev'd Sue who is well on the mend after recent knee surgery. We pray for patience and healing strength for her. We shall look forward to seeing her friendly face and feeling the warmth of her love before much longer.

Moira Anderson



Guided Walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

Details of the walks available are described on the website:

<https://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks/>

Please check details carefully, and if booking is necessary.



Could you be a Home-Start Volunteer?

Being a parent is hard for everyone, for some it can be overwhelming, especially if you don't have family and friends nearby to help. We are a local charity who train volunteers to visit families and provide them with non-judgemental, confidential support.

If you have parenting experience and can spare 2-3 hours per week to visit a family in the North Cotswolds area, we'd love to hear from you. We offer comprehensive training and support and our next FREE training course starts in January 2025. It will run on Thursday mornings for 8 weeks, 9.30am – 1pm in Andoversford.

If you'd like to find out more about volunteering with us, we're holding an Information Morning on:

Thursday 14th November 2024, 10am – 11am

Andoversford Community Church, Station Road GL54 4LA

Please get in touch if you'd like to attend, we'd love to hear from you.

www.home-start-cotswolds.org.uk

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Catherine's Farewell
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