Parish Link

The Parish Magazine for the Benefice of Bagendon, Baunton, Coberley and Cowley, Colesbourne, Elkstone, North Cerney, Rendcomb and Stratton



November 2021

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Please forward any items for inclusion in the December 2021/January 2022 edition of *Parish Link* to the Editor, Corinna, by 15th November:

<u>editor.parishlink@gmail.com</u> Thank you.

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Pastoral Letter - from the Revd David Minns

I've been reading again the accounts in the Old Testament of the people returning home from exile. I have a fascination with the stories that come from that time when God's people suffered devastating defeat by invaders and saw the best of their people hauled off to live as slaves and forced workers in other lands.

Those years of exile in Babylon and Persia saw them re-examine their faith, their understanding of God and what it meant to be God's people. When, finally, the people of a later generation were released to go back to their homeland they found that the landscape had changed, people treated them with suspicion and there was much work to do rebuilding both the physical city and their own new communities. How would they 'build back better'? The stories of rebuilding recorded in the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah tell of the effort involved in rebuilding a sense of community once it is lost.

In many ways our society has proved strong during the past months of Covid, as neighbours stepped up to look after one another, sharing shopping runs or prescription pick-ups. I'm sure some of us got to know each other better over the garden fence or stopping for a chat while out walking. We had a lot of shared tribulations to discuss, frustrations and sadness to share.

However - meeting together in social groups! Oh no - absolutely not! I shared with many the sense of shock and sadness as we received word in March 2020 that our church buildings must be locked and no-one, not even the parish priest, could enter save for checking on the building structure. It brought home the magnitude of the Pandemic that such action was taken. No-one could think of a time when it had ever happened before! And I still feel a sense of hurt and regret - even though it was for good reasons. We've all been prevented from meeting each other indoors at home; families and friends have been separated, kept in touch only by technology. It has been a deeply unsettling time for our whole nation.

Now we are back worshipping in our lovely buildings once again, gradually at first - to the point now where we are mostly free of restrictions, though still being careful with one another. We do not share the common cup for Holy Communion, and we move around the building less; hand sanitizer is still available and mask wearing is voluntary. We have even returned to having tea and coffee after services with the gentle

socializing that goes with it. How strange it seems, but how welcome. The challenge facing us now is how we come out of this 'exile' and 'build back better'. I believe it is vital that we get our communities up and meeting together again, we need to re-discover social gatherings, being with friends, laughing and enjoying the interaction of all ages that we've missed so much.

And I believe the Church has a big role to play as a significant part of the local community. In years past the church picnic or outing, fetes, holiday clubs, fundraisers, seasonal festivals like Christmas, Easter and Harvest Suppers were big occasions in the life of the community. To a large extent the world has changed, and communities have followed suit, we have better transport which allow us to travel, and the internet has given us a whole world of 'friends' we will never meet physically. And somewhere in all this the church has slipped away from its central community role. But however all those other relationships form it will always be the case that only your 'neighbour' can be there for you when most needed and the best relationships form through our local community.

Jesus was quite clear that relationships are key to Christianity - built on a relationship with God through Jesus, God who lives in the relationship of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus said that the two most important commands are to love God - and to love your neighbour as yourself!

We all have a chance now to 'build back better'. And the church needs to be there at the heart once more. Our new 'Churn Valley Community Choir' now meets regularly in North Cerney Village Hall. It's a friendly bunch, and keen to welcome anyone who might enjoy singing with others. Why not come along? There is a varied repertoire of songs - you don't have to read music or be a great singer!

In the New Year I am determined to begin a new worship service in Stratton School Hall. The school Head-teacher, Mrs Towler, is enthusiastic about the idea of having church in the hall one Sunday morning each month. We already have a blueprint from past successful puppet and craft led services and can't wait to get started. The new service (it hasn't got a name yet) will begin with a proper cooked breakfast and will feature Bible stories, fun songs and the chance to be creative in our craft slot. I think it will be a great place for children and families and all ages to meet on that Sunday morning, where we can get

back to being 'community' again. If successful it could be repeated at other places in the benefice.

MY APPEAL TO YOU

So here is an appeal to you to ask if you could be part of our new venture. We'll need people to help with craft or to set up the room, to help plan and deliver the services, to welcome people and of course to cook and serve breakfast. It's a big team and we can't make it work without. But it is all part of the mission of the church - at the heart of the community once again - and I'd love to welcome you onto the team that makes this work! My contact details are in the Directory at the back of this magazine. In the coming year we have lots of exciting plans and opportunities; let's get back to being community once again.

Best wishes

David.

Thank you!

Harvest at St Peter's, Stratton

We are extremely grateful to all those who so generously donated such an amazing number of tins and dried goods for the *Foodbank*. All donations are weighed when they are received at the storage facilities and our total was 122.26kg, or 19 stone 3 lbs. A truly wonderful response and one which will help so many who will be finding life difficult with the extra bills that winter brings.

A very big thank you also to all who left such a lovely large selection of fruit and vegetables which were used to decorate the church for our Harvest Festival when we were indeed surrounded by all God's good gifts!! The next day the fresh produce was taken across to *The Haven* at Gloucester where the nursery staff busied themselves immediately making a fruit salad for the children's afternoon break and putting up a display table for the children to explore some of the fruit and vegetables. The cook was also immediately thinking of some delicious recipes in which to use the first marrows they had received this year, and for the other vegetables for the hot meals that are served each day.

And last, but by no means least, all who came to the Pop In at the Plough Harvest Lunch are most grateful to Liz for her generosity and hard work

in providing such a delicious meal and for her lovely decorations in the windows. It was a most convivial way to finish our thanksgiving for the bounty of God's creation.

Thank you Gill Keen



From St Margaret's, Bagendon....

Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride - 11th September, 2021

Thanks to everyone who supported this event; those who donated in lieu of walking and those who enjoyed the Picnic Lunch which St. Margaret's, Bagendon, provided for Ride and Stride participants and also the wider community. The sum of £175 was raised which has been boosted by the Just Giving element of £26.25, making a total of £201.25. We were fortunate to welcome the new Ride and Stride Co-ordinator, Ray Singleton, and his fellow cyclists from Down Ampney. We have been privileged to receive a generous Grant from GHCT for repairs to St. Margaret's roof and continued support for the GHCT is essential for the continuance of their work.

Thank you
Pauline Farman

Benefice News and events

Archdeacon to lead Service at Stratton

The Archdeacon of Cheltenham, the Revd Canon Phil Andrew, will be joining David and the Congregation of St Peter's Stratton to lead the 9.30am Service of Holy Communion on Sunday 7th November. Everyone is most welcome at this special service.

Wednesday Prayer Group

Do come along to this friendly group which meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7pm in Stratton Rectory (GL7 2LJ). Revd David will be very pleased to welcome you. If you have any questions about the group, please call David on: 01285 655199.

Churn Valley Community Choir

Numbers for the Choir continue to rise. It's a great opportunity to have a therapeutic sing and to make new friends!

Tuesday 14th December has been pencilled in for an informal concert so now would be a very good time to join to learn all the songs for our very first public performance.

Tuesdays at North Cerney Village Hall (parking opposite)
7.15 - 8.45pm; £5 per week with Refreshments in the break!
Please email churnvalleychoir@gmail.com for further details.

Advent Course - Mark Venn

An Advent course will run for four weeks, starting on Monday 15th November. Last year we looked at the "*Advent Songs*" from Luke's Gospel; these were the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels and Simeon. This year we will be studying "*Long Expected*", another course from the same series. This is based on the popular Wesley hymn: "*Come, thou long expected Jesus*".

At the time of writing, it is uncertain whether we will be able to run the course "meeting in person", or whether it will need to be via Zoom again. Please check the website or the "Week Ahead" for full details and times. Introductory material will be available on the website shortly.

If you intend to join, please contact Mark Venn (01285 831209, email mark.w.venn@btinternet.com). It would help if you could indicate whether you would prefer "meeting in person" or Zoom.

News from around the Benefice

Coberley's latest - Amanda Morgans

Mary and Ian Hayward very kindly hosted the Coberley and Cowley Harvest Supper at Slacks Barn in September. The barn was beautifully decorated and the food delicious, particularly the lamb tagine and the sticky toffee puddings! It was good to see so many people in a large social setting.





Funds raised from the evening are being put towards the repair of the

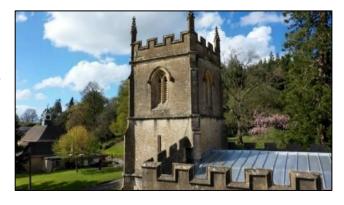
Lady Chapel Wall at St Giles. Work is due to start later this month. We are very grateful to Michael Dykes for arranging all the logistics with the contractors and to Mrs Janet Codner for allowing us access.

Earlier this year we were delighted to hear that we were successful in being awarded funding for this project from <u>Gloucestershire Historic</u> <u>Churches Trust</u> and the <u>Allchurches Trust</u>. However, fundraising for this project started in 2019 with the launch of the Coberley Bond. We were very pleased with how many local residents supported this.

Marcus Green will be coming to photograph the work taking place. You can follow him on Twitter: @Hellofrommarcus and @ChurchbyMarcus.

Update from Rendcomb - Ruth Edy

The College term started on an optimistic note but unfortunately, in the second week or so, a few students tested positive on their Lateral Flow Tests. So extra precautions were then put in place, including having Chapel talks filmed and beamed into the



students' tutor rooms once a week in tutor time. In other ways the term has started well with the good weather a boon for the sports staff and students!

Both the College and the parish celebrated Harvest during September, culminating in a Harvest Thanksgiving service in a wonderfully decorated church on Sunday, September 26th, complete with an amazing display of donations of food and toiletries for *CHYPs* and *Cirencester Foodbank*. In the afternoon of the same day, some of Rendcomb Church congregation walked (or drove!) to Bagendon Church for a cream tea.

Work has continued on the up-keep of the churchyard - repairs to walls and gates - and quotes are being gathered for the repairs to church walls, both inside and outside. The repairs to the organ are hampered by the world shortage of electronic chips! The appearance of the NW corner of the churchyard has been enhanced by the gift of a bench from the family of the late Lesley Ann Gardner who died December 23rd, 2001.

We are now looking forward to the traditional autumn and winter events - a Remembrance event in the College at 11am on *Thursday, November 11th*, followed by the Remembrance Day service in church on *Sunday, November 14th*, beginning at 10.45am. In December there will be a Christingle evening on *Friday, December 17th*, at 6pm, followed by Christmas festive food (bring and share!) in the village hall.

Update from Baunton - Amanda Woodd

Baunton's Remembrance service will be led by the Revd David Minns on Sunday 14th November at 9.30am, followed by tea and coffee before the 11am silence. All are very welcome to join us.



Dates for your diary:

Sunday 5th December - Holy Communion at 9.30am Sunday 19th December - Carols by Candlelight at 4.30pm

Cashless giving to Baunton now available

Good news! As with many of the other churches in the Churn Valley Benefice, there are now some easy ways for you to make a donation to the Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Baunton. Please see below.

Visit the Website:

http://easydonate.org/BAUNTON

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St Peter's Church, Stratton

Would you like to be a part of the Advent Journey 2021?

Mary and Joseph will once again set out with their donkey on their Advent Journey round Stratton, beginning at St Peter's on Advent Sunday, 28th November at the 11am service. The family will be welcomed into homes as well as Stratton School and other venues. As a host you will provide space in your home, overnight, for these figures, beautifully made by

Chris & Ron Rodgers. You may, perhaps, light a candle (safely) and place them in a window to welcome the next hosts who will then take them onto a new place to rest for the night.

Following their journey throughout Advent, the Holy Family will then be brought, by their final hosts, back to St Peter's for the Christmas Eve Nativity Service.

If you would like to host the Family, please email or call/message:



Jane Trotter: janeyt.ciren@hotmail.com 07941 313569 or 01285 655156

Every effort will be made to make the transfer of the family Covid-safe.



The photograph above shows the 'Open the Book' team in action at Stratton School! Chris and Alison, acting the parts of Adam and Eve, are telling the children the Story of Creation and Fall in the garden of Eden. If anyone would like to join this happy crew please contact: The Revd Jan Moore: therevjan@qmail.com 01285 640077.

Article of the month - Mark Venn

Readings from Job

For the past few weeks, the Old Testament Lectionary reading has been from the book of *Job*. While many Scriptural passages can be considered in isolation, some books, such as Ruth and Esther, are perhaps best treated and read as a whole; I would put *Job* in this category. By reading it as one would a novel, one can get a much better understanding and feel for Job, his suffering and his thinking. Having lost his wealth, family and health, he demands answers from God – "Why?", "Why me, when I have led a good life?".

We know that there is widespread suffering throughout the world, much of it unmerited. "Why does God allow it?" is a question frequently asked, but very difficult to answer. While not offering an explanation, John Stott provided an alternative viewpoint in his playlet "The Long Silence".

At the end of time, billions of people were scattered on a great plain before God's throne.

Most shrank back from the brilliant light before them. But some groups near the front talked heatedly - not with cringing shame, but with belligerence.

'Can God judge us? How can he know about suffering?' snapped a young brunette. She ripped open a sleeve to reveal a tattooed number from a Nazi concentration camp. 'We endured terror . . . beatings . . . torture . . . death!'

In another group a young man lowered his collar. 'What about this?' he demanded, showing an ugly rope burn. 'Lynched . . . for no crime but being black!'

In another crowd, a pregnant schoolgirl with sullen eyes. 'Why should I suffer?' she murmured. 'It wasn't my fault.'

Far out across the plain there were hundreds of such groups. Each had a complaint against God for the evil and suffering he permitted in his world. How lucky God was to live in heaven where all was sweetness and light, where there was no weeping or fear, no hunger or hatred. What did God know of all that man had been forced to endure in this world? For God leads a pretty sheltered life, they said.

So, each of these groups sent forth their leader, chosen because he had suffered the most. A Jew, a young black man, a person from Hiroshima, a horribly deformed arthritic, a thalidomide child. In the centre of the plain they consulted with each other. At last they were ready to present their case. It was rather clever.

Before God could be qualified to be their judge, he must endure what they had endured. Their decision was that God should be sentenced to live on earth - as a man!

'Let him be born a Jew. Let the legitimacy of his birth be doubted. Give him a work so difficult that even his family will think him out of his mind when he tries to do it. Let him be betrayed by his closest friends. Let him face false charges, be tried by a

prejudiced jury and convicted by a cowardly judge. Let him be tortured.

'At the last, let him see what it means to be terribly alone. Then let him die. Let him die so that there can be no doubt that he died. Let there be a great host of witnesses to verify it.'

As each leader announced his portion of the sentence, loud murmurs of approval went up from the throng of people assembled.

And when the last had finished pronouncing sentence, there was a long silence. No-one uttered another word. No-one moved. For suddenly all knew that God had already served his sentence. [*]

The knowledge of God's suffering removes what has been called the 'suffering in suffering'. We are not alone in our pain. When we suffer, God suffers with us.

[*] John Stott, The Cross of Christ (IVP 1986), pp 336-7

Articles on Cowley and Coberley continued

Online studies of the history of Coberley and Cowley: Part 3 By Alan Jordan

Below is the third excerpt from Alan Jordan's online research findings about the history of Coberley and Cowley, which he conducted during the Covid lockdown of early 2021. [The key sources he used included: the national censuses, which took place every ten years from 1841 to 1911, and the mini-census made in September 1939; Coberley parish records of births, marriages and death; Gloucestershire electoral registers; British History Online and Coberley Tourist Information.]

Many thanks again to Alan for allowing us to publish his findings in *Parish Link*.

Coberley Church and its Rectors

After the Revd George Beresford Verity stepped down in 1941, the next Rector of Coberley was the **Revd Mackenzie James Eland.** Born in Barnstaple, Devon in 1891 he married Joan Mary Quinlan in September 1928 in Brompton, London. He was living at Finningley Rectory in Doncaster at the time^{xxvi}. In 1939 they were living in Henley, Oxfordshire. He first signed the burial register at Coberley in June 1941. They had two children.

The Revd Mackenzie James Eland was attached to the Royal Army Chaplains' Department in November 1916**xviii. He served in France from June 1917 with the rank of Squadron Leader**xviiii. He died in Coberley in July 1949, aged 57. His wife died in County Cork, Ireland in November 1976, aged 68.

The **Revd George Vivian Syer**, born in Caterham, Surrey in 1911, was Rector of Coberley from 1949 to 1955. He married Patricia Ann Caldwell in August 1943 in Westminster. In 1939 he was a clerk in holy orders, living with his parents in Caterham. He enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in 1940. In 1941 he piloted a Hudson bomber which broke the Atlantic crossing record^{xxix}. (*Photo on right shows Pilot Officer Vivian Syer in WWII*).

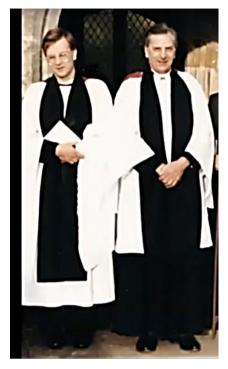


Later in the Second World War he was a chaplain with the rank of Squadron Leader.

George and Patricia Syer had two children. He died in Dorset in 1995, aged 84.

The next Rector was the **Revd Frederick Thomas Paton**, who was born in 1891^{xxx}. He married Florence Lucy Pead in December 1924 in Dulwich, London. Before moving to Coberley, he lived in Northleach^{xxxi}. He lived at Coberley Rectory from at least 1956 to 1958^{xxxii}. As far as I am aware, they had no children. He died in 1968 in Cheltenham, aged 78. His wife died in January 1970 in Cheltenham, also aged 78. She had been living at the Cotswold Lodge Hotel, Pittville.

From 1958 to 1994 the Rector of Coberley was the **Revd Canon Stephen Ian Pulford**. He was born in Penzance, Cornwall in 1925. He married Hilda Field in Cirencester in 1956. He died in June 2018.

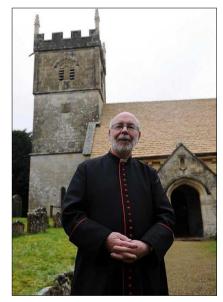


The photograph on the left shows the Revd Canon Ian Pulford (Rector of Coberley 1958 - 1994) with his son Christopher.xxxiii

I have been unable to obtain any detailed information about the next two Rectors of Coberley. They were the **Revd Stephen B Thatcher** in 1995 **xxiv* and the **Revd David N Green** who served from 1996 to 2004**xxv*.

The **Revd Canon John W Holder** became Rector of Coberley in 2005***. He married Shirley A Williams in Cheltenham in 1962. An article in the *Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard* on 27th January 2013 included the photo on the right and the following text:

'A well-respected Vicar is retiring after more than six years serving congregations in the Cotswolds. Revd Canon John Holder has been working with the parishes of Cowley, Coberley, Colesbourne and Elkstone since 2006 when he



was appointed chaplain of the National Star College in Ullenwood. He is stepping down next month to enjoy his retirement. Revd Holder thanked all the "super people" who had supported him during his time in the area. He will be moving to Devon with his wife Shirley to be closer to their family'.

After his retirement there was a reorganisation of the parishes to form the group of nine parishes known as the Churn Valley Benefice.

(continued on page 20).



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There was a vacancy until January 2014 when the Bishop of Gloucester appointed the **Revd Arthur Champion**, born in 1951 in the USA, with pastoral responsibility for Coberley and three other nearby churches. He married Margaret Bates in Sheffield in 1980. The Revd Arthur retired to the Derbyshire Dales in June 2021.

In February 2016 the **Revd David L K Minns** was appointed with overall responsibility for the Churn Valley Benefice.

Sources:

- xxvi Marriage Register.
- xxvii Supplement to the London Gazette, 16 December 1916.
- xxviii British Army WW1 Medal Rolls Index Cards.
- xxix From the Syer family tree on ancestry. Its owner is George Vivian Syer's grandson.
- xxx I have not been able to discover where.
- xxxi Electoral Registers.
- xxxii Electoral Registers.
- xxxiii Appears in the Rev Arthur Champion's walks.
- xxxiv From a list of Rectors in Coberley Church.
- xxxv From a list of Rectors in Coberley Church.
- xxxvi From a list of Rectors in Coberley Church.

To be continued...

Cowley Rectory and Manor

As you may recall from the close of the last excerpt about Cowley in the October edition of *Parish Link*, the **Revd John Hardinge Leigh Giffard** was resident in Cowley Rectory from 1894 to 1931. A few years after his departure - from 1934 to 1937 - it appears that The Rectory was occupied by a farmer - **John Barnett** - born in 1873, and his family. From 1938 to 1957, when it was known as The Old Rectory, **William Rickards**, born in 1891, also a farmer, lived there with his family^{xiv}.

Cowley Manor xv

In 1630 Cowley Manor was granted to the royalist **Henry Brett** and remained in the Brett family until 1721. After passing through several hands, **James Hutchinson**, a London stockbroker, became lord farmer of the manor about 1852. He purchased the freehold in 1860 and enlarged the estate by purchasing land in Brimpsfield, Elkstone, and Coberley. In about 1855 he built an Italianate house on the site of Henry



Brett's 1674 house. He laid out the terraces south of the Manor and formed cascades and lakes along the River Churn^{xvi}.

In the 1861 census James Hutchinson, widower, his 3 daughters and 4 servants were living at 2 Lansdown Villas, Cheltenham. He gave his occupation as "landowner". He was born in Bury, Lancashire in 1786. James Hutchinson Esq, J.P. appears in the 1863 Post Office Directory with the address of Cowley Manor.

James Hutchinson died in Cheltenham in December 1861. In 1874 the estate was sold to **Robert Richardson-Gardner**, MP for Windsor^{xvii}.

In the 1881 census Henry Mason was living at Cowley Manor. He was described as "stone mason (in charge)".

In 1882 it was purchased by William Baring-Bingham.xviii

In the 1891 census William A B Bingham, his wife Annie and 10 servants were living at Cowley Manor. He gave his occupation as "living on own means". He was born in Canterbury, Kent in 1859. William Baring-Bingham Esq appears in the 1894 *Kelly's Gloucestershire Directory* in the Court Directory section with the address of Cowley Manor.

In 1895 Cowley Manor was bought by **James Horlick** (created baronet 1914, died 1921), the founder of Horlick's Malted Milk Company, who much augmented the house and built most of the cottages in the village^{xix}.

James Horlick (right) was born in Ruardean, near Cinderford, Gloucestershire in 1844, the son of a saddler.

He was educated in Andover, Hampshire, and, having to look outside the small family concern for a career, in 1862 became an assistant to a homoeopathic chemist in London, qualifying as a pharmacist seven years later. In 1873 he married Margaret Adelaide (died in 1925), eldest daughter of William Burford, a builder from Leicester.



He and his wife soon emigrated to the United States, where his younger brother William had been an accountant since 1869. While working for the *Mellin Company* in Chicago, makers of a powdered malt and bran baby food, Horlick devised an improved version. In 1874 he and William patented this as a 'new food' for infants and invalids (especially dyspeptics). Two years later they built a factory in Racine, Wisconsin. William oversaw production and the accounting side, while James took charge of marketing.

Their preparation rapidly became popular throughout North America and was exported to Britain. By 1882, when the brothers enlarged the factory, William was developing a new variety of the product, a malt extract with a milk base. Although it secured a number of strong medical recommendations, James was dubious, and William patented the process on his own. In fact, it was such a triumph that in 1885 the *Horlicks Food Company* was incorporated, with James as president and William as the company secretary^{xx}.

In the 1901 census James Horlick and his son Ernest were staying at the Queen's Hotel in Cheltenham. They were both described as "living on own means".

In the 1911 census James Horlick and his wife Margaret Adelaide were living at Cowley Manor with their granddaughter Roma Ernestine Horlick, grandson Peter James Cunliffe Horlick and 16 servants. The latter included a lady's maid, 2 footmen, a governess, 3 nurses, a cook and assorted house and kitchen maids.

Sir James Horlick died in London in May 1921, aged 77. He was succeeded in the baronetcy by his son Sir Ernest Burford Horlick, who died in 1934, aged 46^{xxi}.

Sir James Horlick, his wife Margaret Adelaide Horlick and their son Sir Ernest are all buried in Cowley churchyard^{xxii}.

Sources:

- xiv Gloucestershire Electoral Registers
- xv cowleymanor.com
- xvi historicengland.org.uk
- xvii historicengland.org.uk
- xviii historicengland.org.uk
- xix historicengland.org.uk.
- xx Photograph and text from Find a Grave on ancestry.co.uk
- xxi historicengland.org.uk

To be continued...

From the Benefice Registers

Funerals:		
2 nd October '21	Mary Organ	St Giles, Coberley Interment of Ashes
4 th October '21	Carol Jane Pratt	St Mary Magdalene, Baunton - Ashes burial
Baptisms:		
3 rd October '21	Annabelle Elizabeth - Ashley Hammond	St Peter's, Stratton
9 th October '21 17 th October '21	Wilder Beau Banks Alfie William Ellis	St Mary's, Cowley St Peter's, Stratton

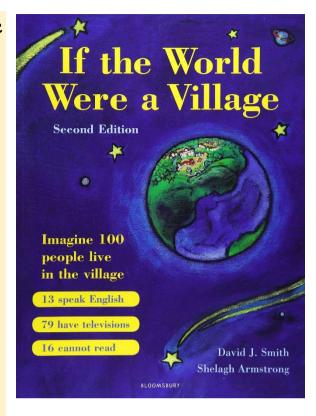
xxii Survey of St Mary the Virgin, Cowley, churchyard headstones by the Revd Arthur and Mrs Margaret Champion (media.acny.uk)

Schools' News

Stratton C of E Primary School

In Class 5 we have been learning about the Global Village concept. This is a way of thinking about our world. It imagines that the world is made up of just 100 people and they all live together in one community. We learnt that only 25 of these people have a roof, a bed, a fridge, and a place to keep their clothes! This has highlighted how lucky we are. In computing we have been learning how to refine our searches and check our information is reliable.

We used these skills to research the Harvest festival. Our research showed



that there are people who live in poverty all over the world. We learnt what the Harvest festival is all about and who is important at this time of year. We decided on different ways that we might be able to help these people. We could donate food to food banks or money to charities like Global Care who help people less fortunate all around the world.

With thanks to Miss Danielle Bird

Community News and Events

'A Bit of a Do'

On *Friday, 19th November, 12 noon - 4pm* you are invited to a 'Bit of a Do' at The Fleece Hotel, Cirencester, to celebrate the life of our wonderful, late PCSO Andrea Shutt. She died on the 11th November, 2020 and this is the first opportunity there has been to get together to celebrate and share stories of how Andrea impacted the lives of so many in the communities along the Churn Valley and beyond. Andrea's family look forward to meeting as many as possible, so if you have a few minutes (or longer) to spare, please join them and others who have

reason to say 'Thank You' for all this beautiful lady did for so many. Thank you.

The Tuesday Group

It was lovely to see so many people attending our group on Tuesday 5th October, when Liz Davenport gave a very informative talk about Woodchester Mansion. She told the story of how William Leigh and Benjamin Bucknall started to build the Gothic mansion in the beautiful Woodchester Valley and explained why the Mansion has never been finished.

On **Tuesday 2nd November** Dan Bannister is coming to give a talk on how the village of Slimbridge commemorated the ending of the Second World War with its Wire Soldiers. We do hope you will be able to join us for what promises to be a very interesting talk.

Another date for your diary is **7**th **December** when we will start to celebrate Christmas with a Dickensian themed talk by Phil Collins and Mike Bottomley, plus festive nibbles and drinks.

Do join us on Tuesday 2nd November at Stratton Village Hall 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Admission: £2.00 Everyone is welcome.

Judith Wood

Cirencester Street Pastors - Appeal for new Recruits

In February 2011 the first patrol of Cirencester Street Pastors went out on the streets of central Cirencester. Patrols continued every Saturday night/Sunday morning as a very visible and successful initiative supported by the churches in Cirencester.

Everything stopped because of the Lockdown restrictions during which time a number of Street Pastors resigned, and others remain unavailable due to health reasons. As a result, there are only eleven Street Pastors available for duty, which means a team of four can only be sent out twice a month, to avoid individuals patrolling more than once a month. Trial patrols over the last two weekends of August convinced the trustees that there is still a need for Street Pastors in Cirencester and there is therefore an obvious need to recruit new Street Pastors.

We are hoping to arrange another special *Churches Together* service, with an invitation to Les Isaac, the founder of the Ascension Trust's Street Pastors initiative, to return and speak again, with a view to recruiting members of our congregations to volunteer to train as Street Pastors. This will probably be in mid-2022 at the earliest, but in the meantime, we need to shout out for recruits right now.

If you would like to volunteer or find out more about what is involved, please speak to Peter Ewart on 07748 760519 or email him at: peter@ewart.uk.com.

Thank you.

Winstone and District WI - Moira Cima



Well, I don't know if it was something in the air, but

in October was one of the best we've had and exemplified just what the WI is about.

Firstly, we had an inspiring talk from an excellent speaker (thanks to Duntisbourne Abbots WI for the recommendation) who told us about her fascinating and varied career as an engineer in the army. Mandie Cran's story was worthy of a book or film, with so many exciting twists and turns, culminating (to date) in a role in

the health care industry following her daughter's serious illness.

But then the fun really started. We had delicious cakes from Marion and Lye and sat down for

our "business" meeting. Every topic on the agenda provoked lighthearted discussion, and giggles turned into laughter that eventually brought tears to our eyes (mainly thanks to Lye!). Another member had brought beautiful bookmarks she'd made during lockdown (see picture on right) and



gave one to each of us as a gift. The conversation flowed, even after chairs and tables were cleared away, and it was only when the lights were turned out by the key holder wanting to get to bed that we finally left the village hall. We all remarked that it felt so long since we'd laughed and joked so freely - nearly two years, in fact.

In towns and cities there seems to be a less "ageist" attitude to the WI and groups are made up of women crossing the generations. But in rural communities we often hear comments such as, "Oh, I'm not old enough for the WI" or "I'm not interested in making jam or singing Jerusalem". Well, some of us do make jam, but we don't

sing Jerusalem and formalities are kept to a minimum, and this year Winstone and District WI actually submitted a proposal for a national resolution which, if accepted, will hopefully go forward to help improve our society.

That night in October was full of fun and friendship and the knowledge that if women of all ages join together then good can come out of it. I went to bed with a smile on my face, feeling that this is what I joined the WI for.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30pm in the village hall. More information from our Secretary, Chris Whitaker, on: 01285 821261.

Scrubditch Care Farm - Emma Costley White

Christmas Fair - Saturday 4th December - 10am to 2pm! - We are definitely going ahead with our very popular Christmas Fair again this year and will operate the same one-way system through the Ark to avoid congestion. We will have lots of interesting stalls, along with our usual Care Farm Festive Treats! There will be plenty for everyone, and lots of refreshments too! See the flyer for further information / email Jo Church for stall enquiries: johannerich@yahoo.com

Autumn Quiz cancelled - Sadly we had to cancel our quiz again, due to a lack of quizzers. Let's hope that by Springtime everyone will feel happier about being together in one place.

Sheep News - We decided to keep Dennis our lovely ram for another year, and he will be going in with the ewes during half term. He has

thrown such lovely lambs these last two years. We are selling the four shearling ewe lambs we had left from last year. We will have lambs ready to go off to the butcher in early November. If you would like a ½ or whole lamb for the freezer do get in touch: emma@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

Pig News - Very sad news - *none* of our gilts or sows are pregnant. I'm afraid Rollo the Boar, is not performing....so we won't have any piglets due in the foreseeable future - very upsetting. We will be looking for another Boar soonest to put with them all.

Eggs - We have some hen, bantam and duck eggs for sale, although the weather is playing havoc with regular laying! Ring/text Emma on 07966 255 631 if you would like a regular order each week/fortnightly.

Visiting volunteer groups - We are very lucky to have 3 groups of volunteers from St James's Wealth Management who have spent the day with us recently. The first group put fencing up around a 15-acre field for the ewes and cleared pathways into woodland. The second group, coming next week, are planting hundreds of spring narcissi and daffodil bulbs for us. The third group are going to be working in the woodland, making seating for us. We are extremely grateful to these volunteers for helping us with jobs that are sometimes difficult to do with students, and we hope they enjoy their contribution too! If you would like to know more about corporate volunteering days do get in touch with us via: www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

'Growing Well Together' - With the clocks changing at the end of this month and Winter approaching, people can start to feel their wellbeing and health dipping; if you know anyone who is struggling, feeling depressed, isolated or in need of a confidence boost, please get in touch. We meet every Tuesday afternoon, and no referral is needed. You can use our contacts on the website: www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk or email Gerry - gerry@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk - for more information. Our dementia sessions run every Tuesday morning from 11am to 1pm. Both sessions are very informal and are an opportunity to get out in the fresh air with likeminded people in small groups. Please get in touch if you would like to know more about these sessions:

info@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk or see: www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

Talks via Zoom - If you know a group that would like to hear one of our talks, they last about 40 minutes, and we give a fun, informative overview of the Care Farm. To find out more e: info@scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

Dates for the diary:

October Half Term: Children's holiday activities (please see website) Monday 1st November - Friday 17th December. Second half of term. Saturday 4th December, 10am - 2pm: Christmas Fair. Friday 17th December - end of term. Monday 3rd January 2022 - new term starts.

<u>Don't forget to follow us on Instagram, Facebook & Twitter and look at our website www. scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk</u>

Scrubditch Care Farm





Christmas Fair

Saturday, 4th December 2021

10am - 2pm

Lots of Lovely Stalls selling Christmas Trees, Wreaths, Christmas Decorations, Cheese, Festive food, <u>Beautiful</u> scarves, Hedgehog boxes, gifts and more.

Refreshments and delicious cake

Free Entry, Free parking

Hope you can come

(If you are interested in having a stall then please contact Jo Church on johannerich@yahoo.com)

Archie Manners Magic Evening

Sat 13th November. 8pm - 10pm at the Royal Agricultural University. Please come along to this evening of fun, food and magic and support the work of the mental health charity the Charlie Waller Trust The Trust seeks to help young people by improving their understanding of mental health and wellbeing, by giving those around them the knowledge and skills to support them, and by arming young people with greater confidence to talk openly about the subject. Tickets at £40 a head are available via Eventbrite

Crossword

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD BW75 (October 2021)

ACROSS:

1	SPECK	10	TOWN	16	ABLE	24	LARGE
4	TACKLES	11	CUB	18	COVE	25	SPECIAL
8	RABBITS	12	PURR	19	COB	26	YIELDED
9	SKIMP	15	RUIN	20	KIWI	27	KITTY

DOWN:

1	STRATEGICALLY	6	LEISURE	17	POISED
2	ELBOW	7	SUPERFICIALLY	21	IDIOT
3	KNIT	13	RIB	22	FEED
4	TISSUE	14	EBB	23	DECK
5	CASK	15	REVERSE		

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD: BW76 - by Ben Woods

CLUES ACROSS:

1 FRENCH LOAF (8); 14 NOT MOVING (6);

7 HAYSTACKS (5); 17 ISLAMIC SOVEREIGN (6);

8 SCHEDULE (9); 18 OFFENDED (4);

9 MISCHIEVOUS CHILD (3); 20 BONCE (3);

10 EXTINCT BIRD (4); 22 MISERABLE (9);

11 IMPASSIVE (6); 23 BEST (5);

13 FRAGRANCES (6); 24 GROUPS (8).

CLUES DOWN:

1 HAVING TWO FEET (5); 12 EMPLOY (7);

2 NEWCASTLE PERSON (7); 13 ASTOUNDED (7);

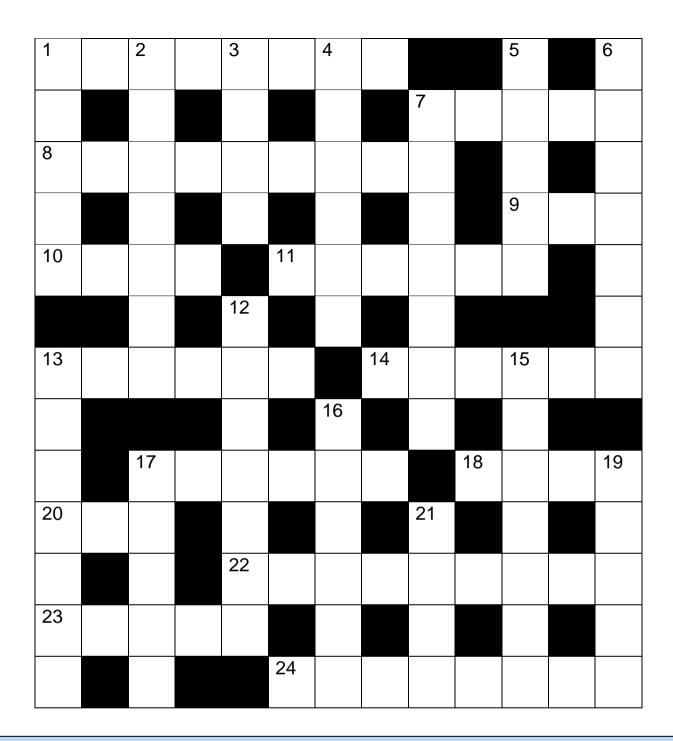
3 MERIT (4); 15 UNDERGROUND FUNGUS (7);

4 SALAD FRUIT (6); 16 CASK (6);

5 BITTER (5); 17 SMEAR (5);

6 STERILE (7); 19 STORIES (5);

7 ACTUALITY (7); 21 PANS (4).



Services in November

Key to Ministers: CVB Licensed Ministers:

DM = Revd David Minns (Rector) (Day off: Friday)

T: 01285 655199 E: <u>dlkminns@gmail.com</u>

BE = Revd Bob Edy (Chaplain, Rendcomb College)

T: 01285 831391 E: bobedy21@gmail.com **MG** = Mr Martin Green (Licensed Reader)

T: 01666 577532 E: mgreen282@btinternet.com

RE = Mrs Ruth Edy (Licensed Reader)

T: 01285 831391 E: <u>ruth_edy6@hotmail.com</u>

MV = Mr Mark Venn (Licensed Reader)

T: 01285 831209 E: mark.w.venn@btinternet.com



Additional Ministers: JM = Revd Jan Moore T: 01285 640077

therevjan@gmail.com

CP = Revd Cliff Pooley T: 01242 243981

cliff.pooley@btinternet.com

There will usually be a Service of either *Holy Communion or Morning Prayer* at St Peter's, Stratton, at 10am on a Wednesday morning.

Par	Parish Church of St Margaret's, Bagendon					
Sunday	7 th	9.30am	Matins [BCP] (MG)			
Sunday	14 th	10.15am	Remembrance (Revd Canon Margaret Bettis)			
Sunday	21 st	9.30am	HC [BCP] (MV by extension)			
Sunday	28 th	9.30am	HC [CW] (DM)			

Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Baunton					
Sunday	7 th		No Service		
Sunday	14 th	9.30am	Remembrance (DM)		

Parish Church of St Giles, Coberley					
Sunday	7 th		See Cowley		
Sunday	14 th	10.45am	Remembrance (CP)		
Sunday	21 st		See Cowley		
Sunday	28 th	9.30am	HC [CW] (MV by extension)		

Parish Church of St James, Colesbourne						
Sunday	7 th	10.00am	Matins (Christopher Hall)			
Sunday	14 th		No Service			
Sunday	21 st	9.30am	Matins (CP)			
Sunday	28 th	9.30am	Matins (MG)			

Parish Church of St Mary, Cowley					
Sunday	7 th	11.00am	MP (DM)		
Sunday	14 th		See Coberley		
Sunday	21 st	11.00am	HC (CP)		
Sunday	28 th		See Coberley		

Parish Church of St John the Evangelist, Elkstone						
Sunday	7 th	11.00am	Morning Worship (MV)			
Sunday	14 th	10.45am	Remembrance (MG)			
Sunday	21 st	11.00am	HC (MV by extension)			
Sunday	28 th		Service at Rendcomb			

	Parish Church of All Saints, North Cerney					
Sunday	7 th		No Service			
Sunday	14 th	10.45am	Remembrance (MV)			
Sunday	21 st		No Service			
Sunday	28 th	11.00am	Matins (MG)			

Parish Church of St Peter, Rendcomb					
Sunday	14 th	10.45am	Remembrance with Rendcomb College (BE)		
Sunday	28 th	11.00am	HC (BE)		

Parish Church of St Peter, Stratton						
Sunday	7 th	9.30am	HC [Archdeacon Phil Andrew			
			and DM)			
Sunday	14 th	10.40am	Remembrance. Please meet at			
			the War Memorial (JM)			
Sunday	21 st		No Service			
Sunday	28 th	11.00am	HC (DM)			

Places to enjoy the Lights this winter...

Tewkesbury Festival of Lights: 2^{nd} - 5^{th} November, 6pm to 10pm. An immersive walking journey featuring a spectacular sound and light show at Tewkesbury Abbey. Entrance times are at 20-minute intervals. To book tickets T: 01684 295074 or go to: www.tewkesburyfestivaloflights.co.uk

Spectacle of Light at Sudeley Castle & Grounds - 26th November - 30th December. Visit: https://spectacleoflight.co.uk/sudeley-castle/ or T: 01242 705 555.

Enchanted Christmas at Westonbirt National Arboretum - Friday 26th - Saturday 27th November, 4pm - 9.30pm (and on selected evenings during December). Weather the storm to help reunite Father Christmas with his lost reindeer and experience beautiful light displays and spectacles along the way! Tickets must be booked in advance:

https://www.forestryengland.uk/westonbirt/enchanted-christmas

News from our NHS Trust - Anne Davies

This month starts with good news. The Finance team at Gloucestershire Hospitals have won the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) Southwest Finance Team of the Year 2021 award. In addition to that, working alongside the finance teams of our Integrated Care partners Gloucestershire Health and Care Foundation Trusts Finance Team and Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Finance Team Gloucestershire ICS won the Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Award for their success with Countywide Networking between our Finance teams!

The Trust was one of the first in the country to declare a climate emergency and much is being done to reduce the carbon footprint. Gloucestershire Managed Services (a co-owned company) has secured £13.7 million to carry out a range of environmental projects which will be spread across several developments from heating, lighting, solar panels, and energy efficient measures. Currently, new solar panels are being installed that will offset 25 tons of CO² per year and provide enough renewable energy to power the equivalent of 113 homes.

An exciting day for me this month was that as the result of much work in the Mental Health Working group on which I sit, alongside 'Patients of Experience' a lovely mural was installed in a room in the emergency department which is for patients who come to the department with mental health issues. This room has been transformed from what has been described as a 'prison cell' into a comfortable room where patients can relax, reflect, be safe and feel cared for.

I would like to thank those of you who voted for Bryony, our youth ambassador, in the recent governor elections. Bryony was declared the winner but unfortunately, a few days later, due to a serious error by those overseeing the election, she was declared ineligible to stand as the constitution mandates governors should be over eighteen. All governors are shocked by this oversight and will be seeking some resolution. In the meantime, Bryony and I will continue working together to ensure that young people's voices are heard and considered.

Anne Davies (Public Elected Governor Cotswolds) anne.davies11@nhs.net





CVB Website: http://www.churnvalley.org.uk

Facebook site: 'Churn Valley Benefice'

CVB YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8tFvSwMNjxmX1IK5sb59UA

PCC Secretaries contd			
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		(temporary)	wrensorchtwo@gmail.com
	Stratton	Linda Wilks	wilks1960hlv@gmail.com
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	-	•	martin1943@hotmail.co.uk
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	North Cerney	Peter Knight	01285 831072
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	_		talanlowe@aol.com
Organists	Bagendon	Tony Hymas	01285 831728
	Stratton	Robin Baggs	07796 812945
			rebaggs1@gmail.com
Pastoral Emergency in	Stratton	Revd Jan Moore	01285 640077
	N. a. o		therevjan@gmail.com
Parish Clerk	North Cerney	Elmore Crump	01285 831275
Bell Ringers	North Cerney	Judy Carter	01285 831425
Vulnerable Persons Rep	Rendcomb	Alex Brealy	01285 831213
0 (); (0) ;; (0, ,,	17 'd Al 1	brealya@rendcombcollege.org.uk
Safeguarding/Child	Stratton	Keith Abraham	01285 643320
Protection	Upper Churn	Vacancy	04205 044005
Vulnerable Persons Rep	Benefice	Beth Hamid	01285 644895
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