

THE WATERSHED MAGAZINE



St Peter's, Rodmarton

May 2022

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RODMARTON AND TARLTON (Chapel of Ease)

Church Wardens

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841462

Tarlton

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770230

Flower Team Leader

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Simon Biddulph

841462

THAMESHEAD BENEFICE

For those with access to the internet the following links will take you to our website pages:

The calendar: <http://thamesheadchurches.org.uk/calendar/>

An outline of all our Sunday services:

<http://www.thamesheadchurches.org.uk/services/>

VIEW FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends

The last letter I wrote was for the March magazine and back in February the war had not started. Now Ukraine has been resisting the Russian forces with remarkable courage and fortitude for some time. They say that today Mariupol will most likely fall to the invading armies though from what little we see there is not much left of the city. Further north there are many reports of atrocities committed against the Ukrainian people and they will undoubtedly have been repeated in the southern cities too. Whatever the real reasons for the invasion it certainly was not to free the people of Ukraine from oppression.

Estimates suggest, I believe, that roughly a quarter of the Ukrainian population has been displaced by the war and of course that is getting worse as more people flee their homes in the eastern regions of the country. The majority of those people have been displaced within Ukraine and may yet need to move into Europe to find safety but already over 3.5 million are refugees in other countries. As you know Jesus and his family were refugees from the violence of Herod. He was a proud and arrogant man and to try and protect his inheritance, had all the children killed in Bethlehem because he did not know God or God's promises. Years later when they returned from Egypt they found a new home in Nazareth. Such persecution has always been common in our world but God calls his people to be salt and light in the world. That is they are to bring life and hope. They are to deal honestly with everyone, they are to stand up for the oppressed, the downtrodden, the dispossessed. You will find many passages in the Old Testament that are instructions on how to treat everyone (even those who have been enemies) with kindness and generosity and justice. Just before his own arrest, which was followed by a sham trial and an abandonment of justice followed by his crucifixion, Jesus talked about judgement to come and justice. He said when I was hungry you gave me food and when I was naked you gave me clothing. We don't literally give these things to God but he says when we have compassion and generosity for others it is as if we did it for him.

Today the people of Ukraine are refugees in need of clothing and support but somehow by incompetence or design we seem incapable of matching the tremendous generosity and kindness of so many people in our nation with a sensible system to help those in such need and distress. It is, I think, damaging our reputation as a country that we seem able to facilitate the movement of armaments to Ukraine but not of Ukrainians to the UK. We need to continue to pray for peace, for

governments that act rightly and justly and not out of fear or a desire to hold power over others. We need to pray for all who have been wounded and all who grieve and for all who are called to find the courage to take up arms or endure the fighting.

As Christians we need to seek peace and reconciliation that is just and preserves people's freedom and we need to hold to account those who fall under the spell of unjust powers. Our churches are run by human beings and it is easy to find historical examples of the church supporting unchristian regimes such as apartheid. It is for me particularly sad that the leadership of the Russian Orthodox community instead of speaking against war, seems to be finding ways to justify it for their own benefit and their own power. This is not the way of Christ but the way of the world. It takes great courage to stand up to a dictator but Jesus called us to collect our cross and follow him. It was costly for him so why would it not be costly for us? While we were on pilgrimage recently we visited Caesarea, capitol of the Roman forces in the Holy land. A great many Christians were martyred there for holding true to their faith. We should pray that the church in Russia might be able to have the same courage to stand for truth and justice.

With love and prayers

Trevor Kemp

Rector



Wild and Messy

Fun, games, craft and worship both indoors and outdoors. Sharing God's love with everyone.

Sunday 15 May

Venue to be decided

Sunday 19 June (Father's Day)

Picnic? Venue to be decided

Sunday 17 July

Summer activity bag

We usually meet at 2.30pm. During these uncertain times, it would be really helpful if you could let us know if you are hoping to join us so that we can contact you if we need to make changes.

e.collins@farming.co.uk

tel: 07774 104990

Bringing the light and joy of Christ into our communities; that all may flourish

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE THIS MONTH

1 May 3rd Sunday of Easter

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 9.30 | Coates | Holy Communion |
| 10.00 | Kemble | Morning Prayer (streamed) |
| 10.00 | Poole Keynes | Morning Prayer |
| 11.00 | Frampton Mansell | Holy Communion |
| 11.00 | Rodmarton | Morning Prayer + APCM |
| 18.00 | Zoom | Informal Evening Source Service |

8 May 4th Sunday of Easter

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10.00 | Kemble | Morning Source + Baptism (streamed) |
| 10.00 | Poole Keynes | Holy Communion |
| 11.00 | Somerford Keynes | Morning Prayer |
| 11.00 | Tarlton | Rogation |

15 May 5th Sunday of Easter

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 10.00 | Kemble | Morning Prayer (streamed) |
| 11.00 | Somerford Keynes | Holy Communion + APCM |
| 11.00 | Frampton Mansell | Morning Prayer |
| 11.00 | Rodmarton | Holy Communion |
| 14.30 | Somerford Keynes | Wild and Messy Church |

22 May 6th Sunday of Easter

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---|
| 8.00 | Tarlton | Holy Communion BCP |
| 10.00 | Coates Village Hall | Benefice Service |
| | | This will be the first in a series of sessions for the whole Benefice looking at the Pastoral Principles (with croissants...) |
| 18.00 | Rodmarton | Evening Prayer |

29 May 7th Sunday of Easter

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 10.00 | Kemble | Holy Communion (streamed) |
| 11.00 | Rodmarton | Morning Prayer |
| 18.00 | Zoom | Informal Evening Source Service |

5 June Pentecost

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|--|
| 10.00 | Kemble | Gathering together followed by a procession to The Tavern for the main service |
| 11.00 | Sapperton | Holy Communion |
| 11.00 | Rodmarton | Holy Communion |
| 11.00 | Somerford Keynes | Morning Prayer |

NEWS FROM COATES

We are open on a Friday and Saturday evening (8pm-11pm). Everyone is welcome to come down and have a drink with friends and neighbours.

The Village Club
— COATES —

We have local craft ales and a lovely new selection of fine wines and non alcoholic drinks.

The Easter event was a great success with lots of fun and games for children; thanks a lot Amy and your family. This was followed by the new quiz for everyone to take part in organised by Bob Allen. We hope to have a quiz on the first Friday of the month, no teams involved. Next Quiz 7 May at 8pm so why not come a long and have some fun.

Future events: Boules on 17 July, Produce Show on 3 September and Halloween.

The village club is committed to offering something for everyone in our community. If you can help, or would like to know a bit more, please email coatesvillageclub@gmail.com

Coates Jubilee Weekend

Saturday 4 June

- 6.30pm Bar opens
- 7.30pm Argentinian BBQ
- 8pm Live Music from The Rhythm Slingers

Sunday 5 June

The Big Jubilee Lunch

- 12pm Bar opens
- 1pm Bring & share lunch
- 2pm Tea and coffee by Coates Kitchen

Children's games (parent volunteers needed please).

Competition! Decorate a Jubilee cake, cupcake or biscuit.

Don a crown or tiara and join friends and neighbours for a vibrant village celebration. Everyone is welcome!

Check Coates Village Facebook page for more details or call PJ on 07794 678 928 or 01285 770596



RIP

Audrey Smith. A funeral was held in Coates church on Friday 29 April for Audrey who died on 8 April. Audrey had lived in Coates all her life until she moved in to Ashley House just over two years ago. She was a great asset to the village and I personally remember all her years of organising the delivery of the Watershed magazine around Coates. Our thoughts are with Ron, Ashley, Lyndon and her grandchildren.



Coffee Cake Chat

Tuesday 17 May

Coates Village Hall

10.30am – 12 noon Cost £3

Coffee/Tea with Home Baked Cake/Slice



Look forward to seeing you then!

Take away of home bakes available if any left!



The Zebedee Nursery School has been running in London for nearly 40 years. We have had the opportunity to start another Nursery School in Tetbury Gloucestershire.

We are a traditional nursery school open 8.55am-3.15pm Monday to Thursday and 8.55am-12.10pm. We also have an early drop off at 8.30am.

We welcome children from 2-4 years old.

In the morning we have a mix of adult led learning and child initiated learning. We are located on beautiful gated estate in Tetbury Upton, We have lovely outside space and in the afternoons we have forest adventures.

We have spaces for April and September. Come and meet us, we can answer any questions you may have about the Nursery school.

We would be very pleased to see you. Please contact us at Zebedee.nurseryschool@gmail.com



NEWS FROM SAPPERTON AND FRAMPTON MANSELL

ANNIVERSARIES AND REMEMBRANCES

Not only is each new day an opportunity for gratitude and celebration of life through memories and friendships, but anniversaries are important because they are opportunities to reflect and remember, both for happy recollections and to avoid repeating errors of the past.

Like most villages in the benefice, Frampton Mansell has been preparing for the anniversary celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth.

At Frampton Mansell, the jubilee celebration preparations have involved volunteers tidying-up the green around the large chestnut tree in the village centre as well as verge clearance to reveal the ancient spring-filled water-trough on one of the lanes. There has also been an upgrade of facilities at the village hall made possible by a successful local lottery and the dedication of volunteers. These jubilee celebrations over the Bank Holiday weekend of 2nd to 5th June will be a time for sharing memories and enjoying each other's company. Such opportunities add to the meaning of life which is to be found in positive relationships.

There are also other anniversaries which are important to remember; in particular, the many instances of genocide that have occurred throughout history. If we fail to recognise such events, we are bound to repeat them. To paraphrase the 'golden rule' in Matthew 7:12, we all need to remember to do to others whatever we would like them to do to us. But, as we know from the present awful happenings in Ukraine, sadly there are some powerful leaders who have the hubris to believe that they are exempt from this 'golden rule'. As Lord Acton wrote in 1887, "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." Any man, such as Putin, who has come to imagine he is God, may be unaware of it himself but he very soon starts to behave in a way that makes it obvious to others. One minor symptom, for example, is a refusal to listen to or tolerate the presence of others unless they say what he wishes to hear. And it is not long before he develops a paranoid suspicion of everyone else combined with a cynical contempt for them. In all our celebrations then, let us think of those who are in need, and remember the words of St Matthew, "By their fruits you shall know them" [Matthew 12:33].

Adrian R Hill

RIP

Vivien Workman. A memorial service with cremation was held for Vivien on 5 April at Oak Chapel, Cheltenham Crematorium. For many years Vivien and her husband John lived in Frampton Mansell at Oxstalls Farm before moving to Sapperton. Sadly within a year of their move John died but Vivien stayed in the village until, due to illness, she had to move into a home. She is now at peace with John again. Our love and prayers go to her family; four children, six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

SERVICE AND COFFEE

We hold a said communion service, followed by coffee on the first Tuesday of the month. The next one will be on **Tuesday 3 May** at Woodstock in Frampton Mansell. The service will start at 11am with coffee and a natter at 11.30am. We would love to see you for either or both. Want to know more?

Need a lift? Phone Pepita or Paul on 760211

Frampton Mansell Community Lottery

The Winners of the Draw held: 19th April 2022



◇ 1st Prize	£50	No.04	Mike Cameron-Davies
◇ 2nd Prize	£25	No.72	Mary Dignan
◇ 3rd Prize	£15	No.44	David Cleverly
◇ 4th Prize	£10	No.34	Zoe Fletcher

Next Draw will take place: 7pm Tuesday 17th May
at The Crown Inn

Lottery Coordinator: Lucy Cameron-Davies T: 07866 447725 E: lucy@camerondavies.me

Frampton Mansell Village Hall... Building Community



Frampton Mansell Village Hall Needle-craft Group

10am - 12pm every 2nd Wednesday of the Month



Whatever your craft: Knitting - Crochet - Embroidery - Felting - Tapestry - Sewing

Whatever your skill level - From beginners to professional crafters

Do please come along with your crafting project and join us. Share ideas and knowledge, and have a chat and a laugh over a cup of tea or coffee with home-made cakes and biscuits... and hopefully make some new friends and progress on your project too!

Cost: £3 - Includes refreshments

Contact Teresa by email: thowes51@gmail.com for more information





The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Frampton Mansell

Schedule of Events

WHEN...		WHAT...	WHERE...
Thu 2nd June - Sun 5th June		Grand Flower Display	The Church
Thu 2nd June - Sun 5th June		Village History & Photography Display	Village Hall
Thu 2nd June	10 - 11:30am	Over 70's Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Thu 2nd June	12:30pm	Dog Show	Tuck's Field
Thu 2nd June	1:30pm	Village Picnic & Jubilee Games	Jones' Field
Fri 3rd June		Treasure Hunt	
Fri 3rd June	11:30am	Whole Village Photo.	The Crown Inn
Sat 4th June	10am	Village "Loops of Fury" Run	Phonebox
Sat 4th June	2:30 - 4:30pm	Jubilee Afternoon Tea	Village Hall
Sun 5th June	11am	Church Service	Sapperton
Sun 5th June	1 - 5pm	Frampton Mansell Community Lottery sponsored Hog Roast with Live Music & Ent. and "Bake Off" Competition	Village Hall

**Full details will be available around the village nearer the time.
To get involved or offer help, please contact Andy Green
E: andygreen321@gmail.com M: 07376 124719**

SAPPERTON SCHOOL

As we welcome in the summer term, it's lovely to look back at all the things we have achieved at Sapperton in the last couple of months.



Whilst Covid has still lingered in our community, we've battled through it and the children have continued to have fun and work hard throughout. We've celebrated Ash Wednesday and Mothering Sunday, with The Friends organising a Mother's Day sale that raised £137.50. Rowan class put on a lovely play about the Easter story that they worked hard to produce, and we were happy to be able to welcome parents in to watch. The infants had a great trip to Cotswold Forest School where they built bug hotels, toasted marshmallows, and had a picnic in the woods. We've also had a special geography day, a visit from Marie from the Churches Conservation Trust and Ben from Sportily joined us at St Kenelm's church for an Easter experience where the children learnt about the Easter story through physical activities. The after-school club have built a beautiful Easter Garden which has prompted other children to build magnificent stone sculptures in our adventure playground.

We held a cake sale in March and raised £126.50 for Red Nose Day, and for World book Day the children and teachers enjoyed dressing up as their favourite Roald Dahl characters.

Our new playground markings have been installed along with a new climbing rope in the adventure play area which the children are enjoying using.

admin@sapperton.gloucs.sch.uk www.sappertonschool.org

To nurture faith; to inspire success

CIRENCESTER EATING DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP

The next meetings in Coates village hall will be on Wednesday 4 May at 7.30pm.

The Stuart Singers and guests concert at the Sundial Theatre (Cirencester College) is on Friday 13 May at 7.30pm. tickets £16.50.

Please do support and buy your tickets www.sundial-theatre.co.uk

Proceeds will go towards the national helpline and the various running costs of breakout chat rooms that BEAT offer.

Further details can be obtained from Pat in confidence on 770385 or email ayrescares50@gmail.com



Frampton Mansell Village Choir

A fun community choir for all those who just love to sing!



7pm MONDAYS
at The Village Hall
&

10:30am THURSDAYS
outside The Crown Inn

£5 per week or £15 per month
(either or both sessions)

No previous experience necessary
Open to ALL ages and voices

Be Part of it... get in touch with Lucy!

W:www.camerondavies.me

E:lucy@camerondavies.me

M:07866 447725



Adult Beginner Piano Lessons

It really is NEVER too late...
Whatever your age,
if you have ever wanted to learn to
play piano, give it a try,
the first lesson
is FREE!



Frampton
Mansell
Film Club

3rd Tuesday of the Month at Frampton Mansell Village Hall
Doors open 7pm, Film starts 7:30pm
Tickets: £4 on the door - Refreshments available
Contact: dacandjme@yahoo.co.uk



Join us for a friendly, fun
Parent & Toddler Group every Thursday
at Sapperton Village Hall (Term Time Only)
10am – 11.30am Everyone welcome
£2 per family
(up to 2 adults, 2 children, £1 per additional child)
Includes Refreshments
Join us on Facebook
Or Contact: Sophie Moss 07867785387
Michelle Hugh 07814427839



Entry Schedule

Saturday 3rd September

Entries to hall 11am - 12noon

Produce Show from 3pm onwards
with stalls, bar, refreshments,
games, raffle and BBQ

ENTRIES

Entries are free and can be made in writing to Tara, 24 May Tree Close, Coates *or by email to tara@tarajaneceramics.com* stating your name and section numbers you wish to enter.

Please submit your entries by Saturday 27 August.

RULES

1. All exhibits with the exception of flower arranging **must have been made or grown by the exhibitor.**
2. All exhibits are to be put in place between 11am and 12 noon.
3. No exhibitor is allowed more than one entry in any section.
4. Exhibitor's names must not be visible on the exhibits.
5. Children must enter their entire section to be eligible for a prize.
6. In section 8, children's ages and school year must be displayed on all exhibits.
7. If children compete in adult sections 1-7, then ages must not appear on exhibits. *(Points from these entries will not count towards the Family Cup.)*
8. No exhibits to be removed before 4.30pm
9. The judge's decision is final.
- 10.

TROPHIES

Family Cup	most points in show by one family (parents and children). Please refer to rule 6.
Flower Cup	most points in section 1
Fruit/Veg Cup	most points in section 2
Domestic Cup	most points in section 3
Art/Craft Cup	most points in section 4 - 7
Reception – year 2	most points in section 8a
Years 3-6	most points in section 8b
Years 7-11	most points in section 8c

Section 1 - Flowers

1. One single stemmed rose
2. Vase of 6 dahlias
3. Vase of garden flowers – 6 of one variety
4. A sunflower head
5. A flowering pot plant, max pot size 10” diameter

Section 2- Fruit/Vegetables

1. 3 carrots
2. 5 tomatoes with stalks
3. 4 potatoes of one variety
4. 6 runner beans
5. Longest runner bean
6. Largest marrow
7. A plate of 5 different vegetables, one of each.
8. 3 apples of the same variety
9. Soft fruit - single variety displayed on a plate

Section 3 – Domestic

1. A jar of homemade jam
2. A jar of homemade chutney
3. A lemon drizzle loaf
4. 4 cheese scones
5. 6 shortbread biscuits
6. Muffins – 4 of the best (men-only recipe as per schedule)
7. 1 bottle of homemade liqueur
8. 1 bottle of homemade beer

Section 4 – Flower arranging

1. An arrangement in an unusual container – max width 6”.
2. An arrangement for a table centre

Section 5 – Crafts

Any item of craft using any method e.g. knitting, card making, patchwork, tapestry, cross stitch, ceramics, stone carving, leatherwork, sugar craft, woodwork, pyrography, felting, ...

(This is not a complete list. If in doubt, please ask if your entry will be suitable)

Section 6 – Art

Any piece of artwork, a pen, pencil or pastel drawing or a painting in any medium.

Section 7 – Photography

A photograph of 'Wild birds' max 7"x5"

Section 8 – Children: Reception to School Year 11

8 a) Reception to School Year 2

1. Bake and decorate 5 homemade cookies.
2. Make a person from veg and/or fruit.
3. Decorate a stone – maximum size 4 inches

8 b) School Years 3-6

1. A handmade greetings card
2. Bake 5 homemade brownies
3. A photograph of 'Garden Animal' - max 7"x5"

8 c) School Years 7-11

1. A photograph of 'Trees' - max 7"x5"
2. Bake and decorate 5 homemade cupcakes
3. A poem about 'Things that make me happy... or smile'

Section 3.6 Men-only Recipe

Muffins

12 oz self-raising Flour	2½ oz butter melted
6 oz caster sugar	2 oz chocolate chips
1 egg beaten into ½ a pint of milk	1½ oz demerara sugar

Method:

1. Preheat oven to 200°C (170°C fan)
2. Put 12 muffin cases in a muffin tin.
3. Sift flour into large bowl.
4. Stir in egg and milk mixture with melted butter. Mix until all flour is wet but mixture is still lumpy. DO NOT BEAT.
5. Gently fold in chocolate chips.
6. Spoon mixture into the 12 muffin cases.
7. Sprinkle with demerara sugar.
8. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes until golden brown and firm to the touch.
9. Pick 4 of the best to display on a plate.

Cotswold Highland Games & Dog Show

12-3
Saturday
21st May 2022
Park Corner Farm



Sapperton with Frampton
Mansell PCC



little squirrels

STAY, PLAY & MAKE SESSIONS

Every Monday (term time only)
9am to 10.15am
at Rodmarton Village Hall

£2 per child (£1 for siblings) and under 1s are free.
Includes tea/coffee for adults and juice/water for
children. Open to all preschool age children.

art & craft • outdoor & indoor activities
gardening • messy play • friendly & fun

**FRIENDS OF
RODMARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

FRAMPTON MANSELL VILLAGE HALL – NOTICE OF AGM

We will be holding the 2022 AGM in the village hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 May. We invite everyone in the community along to catch up with what's been happening over the past year and have their say for the coming year. Refreshments will be provided.

This year we will be looking to bring several new members to the committee, with positions including Chairperson being up for re-election. If you are interested in being on the committee do come along and put yourself forward. If you wish to know more about being a committee member, please do discuss with any of the current committee members beforehand – contact details on the website.

It's great that we are now fully up and running in the hall with all the regular events – Film club, Choir, Zumba, Craft group, Kung Fu and many more. We have also been getting bookings for weddings, professional bodies, presentations etc. so if you need a venue for an event, please do bear us in mind.

Full details for the hall can be found on the website

www.framptonmansell.uk

Planning for the massive, four day Queens Jubilee party is also in full swing, so if you want to get involved, please contact Andy Green – andygreen321@gmail.com, 07376 124719

NEWS FROM RODMARTON, TARLTON, CULKERTON AND HAZLETON

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AT RODMARTON & TARLTON

- 1 May at 11am Morning Prayer, followed by APCM
- 8 May at 11am Rogation Procession at Tarlton
- 15 May at 11 am Holy Communion by Extension at Rodmarton
- 22 May at 8am Holy Communion at Tarlton
- 22 May at 6pm Evensong at Rodmarton
- 29 May at 11am Morning Prayer at Rodmarton
- 5 June at 11am Whitsun celebration with children's choir at Rodmarton

St Peter's, Rodmarton and St Osmund's, Tarlton are open daily from 10am to 4pm.

RODMARTON - HM THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACON

As part of the national Jubilee Beacon event a beacon will be lit in Rodmarton (location tbc) to coincide with around 1500 other beacons around the country. The lighting will take place at 9.45pm on Thursday 2 June. Please save the date in your diaries – All welcome to join the event from 9.15pm.

CIRENCESTER PARKRUN

....is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate. Every Saturday at 9am.

The event takes place at the Royal Agricultural University,
Stroud Road, Cirencester, GL7 6JS.

Free parking, cafe, and toilets available.

More information at www.parkrun.org.uk/cirencester/ or contact cirencester@parkrun.com

Come and join Blue Notes for a concert

At St Michael and All Angels Church, Poole Keynes

Sunday 8 May at 4pm

Afterwards, enjoy afternoon tea in the Village Hall

Tickets £10 each

Available from:

Liz 770698/Margaret 770889/John 770271

Blue Notes are a female Jazz Group from South Cerney,
founded in 2007 by local musician Annie Perry.

The saying goes that all good things must come to an end, and so it is that the Governors at Rodmarton have, reluctantly, accepted the resignation of our brilliant headteacher Caroline Musty.



Mrs Musty arrived at Rodmarton in January 2015 and, alongside her equally brilliant team of dedicated staff, has transformed the school into the fantastic place it is today. She is as sad as we all are to be leaving but is it time for her to take on a new challenge as well as spend some very overdue time enjoying life with her own family, rather than helping us all with ours!

She will leave Rodmarton at the end of the summer term and the process of recruiting a replacement (some pretty big shoes to fill!) has already started. I know I speak for all the parents, and staff, when I say that we will all be incredibly sad to see her go but we know that she will keep in touch and we are so very grateful to her, and her team, for all they have done for all our children.

So, back to this term! Friday 29 April saw the much-anticipated return of Rodmarton's Got Talent where Rodmarton School dancers, singers, jokers, and all manner of other entertainers, took to the stage in Rodmarton Village Hall. All the acts were wonderful and it was so nice to be able to hold the event again after a two year Covid-enforced absence. A huge thank you to The Friends Co-Chair Rachel Brennen and Rodmarton's Alex Bransby, for organising a fantastic evening.

On Thursday 26 May, the school will be holding a traditional tea party for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Organised by the School Council, there will be all sorts of events and stalls and everyone is welcome so please do come and join us on the school field, anytime from 1.30pm.

Also in May, years 3 and 4 will be taking part in a Quad Kids Sports event and years 3 to 6 will be competing in District Sports track and field.

Oak class is off to Birmingham to take part in the postponed Young Voices concert and we wish good luck to year 4 pupils - Coates's Charlie Norrie and Tarlton's Arthur Grimes - who will be taking part in the final of the KNEX challenge.

Finally, our Little Squirrels Stay and Play for preschool children is back! Every Monday morning from 9-10.15am at Rodmarton Village Hall.

Nutty <https://www.rodmartonschool.co.uk/>

01285 841284

NOTES FROM CULKERTON

GARDENING TIPS FOR MAY

The month of transition from spring to summer, as daylight lengthens and temperatures improve, the changes in visible flowers and growing vegetables is remarkable.

One quiet Sunday morning in mid-April while hand weeding flower beds, an accompanying Hedge Sparrow collected moss and dry bits and bobs for her nest, filling her beak with suitable material again and again. The direction of her flight indicated the nest building location; this will become a quiet undisturbed area while the bird incubates her eggs and then raises the young. A Robin is nesting a few metres away, there are other secret nests of Goldfinches, Blue Tits, Great Tits, Long Tailed Tits, and Blackbirds.

In the same ways the garden birds lay eggs in advance of the better May weather and an abundance of food for their young, savvy gardeners have sown seeds under cover ready to plant now. Good sized seedlings have a better chance of growing away vigorously, 4 to 6 cm tall seem best. Also keep an eye on the bottom of seed trays and seedling pots for roots; pot on or plant out if these protrude. The most important point to remember is to acclimatise seedlings to cooler outside growing conditions over a few days. Leave planting out tender plants until very late May or June.

Cold frames, low tunnels, greenhouses all provide a more controlled growing space and are excellent as a halfway stage to planting outside. All provide a little extra protection from late frosts. Gardeners follow the weather forecasts for a warning of frost and cover plants with horticultural fleece or even inverted pots or newspaper for the night. Cold frames can be moved around to cover crops giving an extra boost of growth by warming the soil. Watering is important, so check progress regularly.

Low tunnels are very easy to assemble. These are good shelter from wind and allow rain to get to the plants keeping moisture in. Just as importantly fine mesh will keep most insects out as well as pesky pigeons!

Greenhouses can heat up very quickly, so ventilation is key. If possible open vents and windows on the leeward side to winds to prevent chilling draughts and on still sunny days open all the windows and doors.

Recently I have been busy interplanting vegetable seedlings as space on the plot is quickly used up. Radish is sown in small quantities as

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

short rows or patches next to slower growing broad beans, cauliflowers or cabbages which gives a succession for use in salads. The young cabbage plants have been interplanted with an Asian green mustard which will be cropped allowing more growing space as the cabbages increase in size. An autumn crop of broad beans has suffered from wind damage, so gaps have now been interplanted with cauliflowers and lettuce. Lettuce plants are very useful as they are quick to grow and do better in partial shade.

What to sow next! More of the same, succession sowings of carrots, coriander, radish and salad greens. After the middle of May I start more tender seeds like courgettes, squashes, and climbing beans, at this stage there never seems to be enough space. It takes practice to get this right.

Sally Oates

FROM THE PARISH LANES

A couple of years back I took up cycling in earnest, using an ebike, partly to green my credentials and partly to arrest severe osteoarthritis of the knee (medical term). Weather permitting, I now do as many local journeys as I can by bike, though our busier main roads are uncyclable.

Lyra and I are seriously incompatible, and I dislike drop handlebars. However, the mirror on my right handlebar has saved me from serious injury or worse on at least three occasions, when vans have chosen to overtake me as I'm turning right off a main road. Advice to all cyclists: get a mirror. Advice to white van man: don't do it.

I'm not sure how much carbon usage I've saved or how much good it has done my recalcitrant knee, but it has reinvigorated my relationship with farmland and hedgerow birds. Above all, it has taught me how little we see whilst driving. In a vehicle, the countryside becomes something we hurtle through, and nature something we glimpse through a screen when not concentrating fully on the road.

The number of less common birds I've noticed whilst bumbling along our lane system is heartening. One positive find is that Stonechats overwinter in low numbers throughout our district, though I'd never noticed one from a car. This winter, pairs overwintered near Jolly Nice just north of Rodmarton, and several singletons were seen elsewhere. Lane cycling is the best way to follow our roaming Fieldfare and Redwing flocks, though you have to walk the woods to find Brambling. All three did well around here this last winter.

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

I had thought that our Common Whitethroats were seriously on the wane, but discovered that it's just that we just don't see them hedge hopping whilst driving; by bike, they jump in and out of our less flail-maddened hedges as of yore, and scold you. Best, there are more Skylarks in our cereal fields than I'd feared, though the obligatory modern cycle helmets prevent wearers from hearing larks, or anything other than wind rush (this partly explains why cyclists seem so deaf; the other reason is that many cyclists are plugged into headsets). I keep a record of the number of larks counted along my regular cycle routes. Yellowhammers, though, are rare, and Corn Bunting all but absent – these overwinter in small flocks along some farm conservation headlands, where they are joined by sizeable flocks of Goldfinch and Linnet, and some of the Cotswold Water Park's Reed Buntings.

Matthew Oates

KEMBLE AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION AND WOMEN'S SECTION.

Please note - an invitation to visitors as well as legion members but please let me know if you intend coming along for catering purposes. We welcome Mrs Jane Tuffnell who has just completed her year as High Sherriff of Gloucestershire to our meeting in Kemble village hall on 5 May at 2.30pm.

Enjoy some delicious afternoon treats; a raffle will be held.

Pat Ayres chair/sec RBLWS

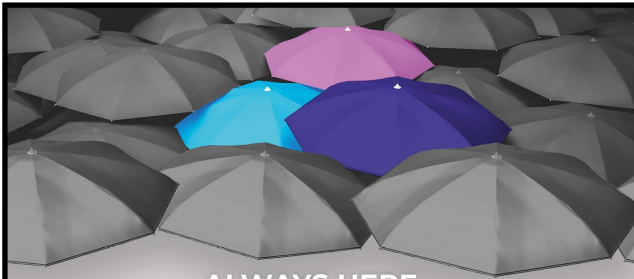
WALK FOR LONGFIELD

Longfield Community Hospice will be hosting a spring walk at 10.30am on Sunday 15 May and encourages locals to sign up for the perfect family day out.

The 'Walk for Longfield' will offer a choice of 5 or 10K routes, setting off from Longfield's beautiful hospice grounds in Minchinhampton and crossing Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons. Having taken in the stunning views, a cuppa and home-baked cakes will await you on your return. This is a great family event, which caters for adults, children and pets - dogs are welcome too!

All walkers will have the chance to hang a message in memory of their loved ones in Longfield's picturesque grounds.

Register your interest at longfield.org.uk/event/walk-for-longfield.



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KEMBLE & EWEN WOMENS' INSTITUTE



Our May meeting in the function room at The Tavern Kemble at 3pm will be on the Thursday 19. Please note it will be a members only meeting as it involves discussing this year's annual resolutions. We shall be having an afternoon tea party with plenty of natter.

Visitors are charged £5 to attend and there is always a raffle to augment our funds. The usual hot drinks, cakes and biscuits too! Please contact me for information about joining our friendly institute. Pat Ayres secretary 770385

GET YOUR WATERSHED BY EMAIL

If you would like to receive a copy of the parish magazine by email I am very happy to add you to my list of those who do. This would not replace your delivered copy but you would get it earlier and with some colour! Just let me know by email at watershedmag@gmail.com
Bob Merrill

TIME OUT

The Time Out Bible discussion group for mothers of school age children in the benefice is not meeting for the foreseeable future. Julie is looking at the possibility of setting up a virtual meeting.

For more details please contact Julie on 770123 or email julieallen47@btinternet.com or juliepaulmorton@onetel.com

ADVERTISING IN THE WATERSHED

If you wish to advertise in our parish magazine please contact Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Mobile 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Adverts at a third of a page cost £15 for a single issue or £60 for 6 months. Adverts at half a page cost £23 for a single issue or £90 for 6 months. The magazine is published 10 times every year; July/August and December/January are joint editions.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE MAY MAGAZINE

Contributions should be sent to Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Telephone 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Articles should be in Arial font at 11 point with **formatting kept as simple as possible**. The editor reserves the right to edit any articles. **Articles should be submitted by 12 April at the latest for inclusion in the next month's issue.**

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Watershed Editor	Bob Merrill	07866 972389
Watershed Treasurer	Janet Loines	841578

COATES

Coates Parish Council Chair	Gilly Torry-Harris	
Coates Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Coates	770757
Coates Gardening Club	Margaret Reynolds	771354
Coates Social Club secretary	Simon Large	07714 220558
Coates Tree Warden	Simon Large	07714 220558
Coates Village Hall	Lynn Vaughan	770876
Coates Neighbourhood Watch	John Dobson	07808 095553
Coates Snow Warden	Peter Tugwell	

FRAMPTON MANSELL

Frampton Mansell Village Hall	Bookings	07710 878987
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RODMARTON

Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Chair	Mark Grimes	770289
Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Clerk	Susan Hare	ex-dir
Rodmarton School	Mrs Musty	841284
Rodmarton Village Hall	Jasper Biddulph	770230

SAPPERTON

Parish Council Chair	Sarah Osborn Smith	760805
Sapperton and FM PC Clerk	Barbara (Babs) Maloney	760276
Sapperton Snow Warden	Mark Franklin	760226
Sapperton Tree Warden	Paul Dingley	760788
Sapperton Village Hall	Sheila Dingley	760788
Sapperton School		760325

OTHERS

Watershed RDA	Kathy Mottershead	07979 853907
Cirencester Eating Disorder Support Group	Pat Ayres	770385

Cotswold District Councillors

Ermin Ward	Julia Judd	07853 383874
Kemble Ward	Tony Berry	770220
Gloucestershire County Councillor	Stephen Hirst	01666 504213
Member of Parliament	Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	01452 371630
Cirencester Hospital		0300 421 6200
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Police non emergency (24hrs)		101

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Tuesday 3	11am	Service & coffee in Frampton Mansell
Wednesday 4	7.30pm	Coates Parish Council meeting
Wednesday 4	7.30pm	BEAT meeting in Coates Village Hall
Thursday 5	2.30pm	Kemble & District RBL Women's Section
Sunday 8	4pm	Blue Notes concert Poole Keynes
Wednesday 11	10am	Needlecraft Group in Frampton Mansell Village Hall
Tuesday 17	10.30am	Coates Coffee Cake and Chat
Tuesday 17	7pm	Frampton Mansell Film Club
Tuesday 17		Rodmarton & Tarlton Parish Council AGM and ordinary meeting
Thursday 19	3pm	Kemble & Ewen WI meeting
Saturday 21	12noon	Cotswold Highland Games & Dog Show
Wednesday 25	7.30pm	Frampton Mansell Village Hall AGM

JUNE

Wednesday 1	7.30pm	BEAT meeting in Coates Village Hall
Thursday 2	9.15pm	Lighting the Beacon in Rodmarton
Thursday 2 - Sunday 5		Jubilee Celebrations in Frampton Mansell
Saturday 4		Jubilee Party in Coates
Sunday 5		Coates Jubilee Big Lunch
Tuesday 7	11am	Service & coffee in Frampton Mansell
Wednesday 8	10am	Needlecraft Group in Frampton Mansell Village Hall
Tuesday 21	10.30am	Coates Coffee Cake and Chat

JULY

17 July		Coates Boules
19 July		Rodmarton & Tarlton Parish Council meeting
Tuesday 19	10.30am	Coates Coffee Cake and Chat