

THE NEWSLETTER AT THE ROOTS OF THE GRAND UNION BENEFICE OF BLISWORTH AND STOKE BRUERNE/ SHUTLANGER, WITH GRAFTON REGIS, ALDERTON AND MILTON MALSOR

Rector's Letter

The Church's liturgical year is coming to a close and starts afresh on the first Sunday of Advent. Over a three-year cycle, we follow a different Gospel each year, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Next year we follow Mark's Gospel, which is the first-hand account of Peter, a close companion of Jesus, who witnessed the ministry of Christ. Advent is a time we step aside from our busy lives and spend it in contemplation, a time of waiting as we examine our lives in anticipation of the birth of Our Lord. During this time, we hear the voice of John the Baptist calling out in the desert to prepare ourselves for the arrival of Jesus. Advent is a time when we once again make an effort to attend worship during the four weeks of the season; if you haven't been to church in a while it is the ideal opportunity to come along and join in the time of waiting.

Advent is a time of new beginnings for us all; within the benefice we are offering new ways to explore the Christian faith. On the first Saturday of the month, in Holy Cross Milton Malsor, starting at 9.30 a m, there is the opportunity for our younger members to attend Messy Church through the coming year. Messy church is church for young children, to learn about the Christian faith through stories and arts and crafts and is open to all from across the five parishes. Whilst the children explore the theme for the day, adults can relax and enjoy coffee with their friends.

May Our Lord walk with you through the coming month.

Richard

Service Schedule for November 2023

Sunday 5 November, 4th before Advent
9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Milton Malsor
11.00 a m: Family Eucharist, Blisworth (All Souls)
3.00 p m: Family service (All Souls)
Saturday 11 November, Remembrance Day
11.00 a m: Short service of remembrance, Alderton
Sunday 12 November, Remembrance Sunday
9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Stoke Bruerne
10.00 a m: Remembrance Sunday, Milton Malsor
11.00 a m: Remembrance Sunday, Blisworth
11.00 a m: Remembrance Sunday, Grafton Regis

Thursday 17 November 9.30 a m: Morning prayer, Shutlanger **Sunday 19 November, 2nd before Advent** 9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Milton Malsor 11.00 a m: Family service, Blisworth

Sunday 26 November, Christ the King 9.30 a m: Family service, Milton Malsor 9.30 a m: Family service, Stoke Bruerne 11.00 a m: Family Eucharist, Blisworth

<u>NB the Benefice service on 29 October in St Margaret's Church, Alderton is to mark All Souls' Day. If you would like the name of a departed loved one to be read out during this service, could you please contact Linda Dards, linda@dards.net_or 07932 693726/01327 811265.</u>

<u>Useful Telephone Numbers for the United Benefice of Blisworth and Stoke Bruerne with Grafton Regis, Alderton and Milton Malsor</u> Rector: Rev'd Canon Richard Stainer, The Rectory, 37 High Street, Blisworth NN7 3BJ, tel 01604 857619. Churchwardens of Blisworth: Mrs Fiona McKenzie, tel 01604 859541 and Mrs Angela Cheesbrough, tel 01604 858059.

Churchwardens of Blisworth: Mrs Fiona McKenzie, tel 01604 859541 and Mrs Angela Cheesbrough, tel 01604 858059. Churchwardens of Stoke Bruerne: Mrs Christine Frost, tel 01604 862561 and Mr John Brough, tel 01604 862646/07768 181598 Churchwardens of Grafton Regis: Mrs Jean Glanville, tel 01908 543463 and Mr Nieldre Laubscher, tel 01908 542979. Churchwardens of Alderton: Mrs Margaret Hall-Townley, tel 01327 811307 and Mrs Linda Dards, tel 01327 811265.

Churchwarden of Milton Malsor: Mrs Sue Bell, tel 01327 351043.

VILLAGE NEWS



STOKE BRUERNE

<u>St Mary the Virgin Church for Stoke Bruerne and Shutlanger</u> <u>Harvest Festival</u>

Members of the congregation gave generously to the collection of food items at our Harvest Festival on Sunday 24 September Many thanks to you all and to Roger and Jackie Evans who kindly

delivered the produce to Towcester Community Larder.

<u>Remembrance Day Coffee Morning at St Mary's</u>

We look forward to welcoming you to this special coffee morning on Saturday 11 November. We hope you will come promptly at 10.00 a m to allow time to enjoy

coffee, cake and a chat before we hold a minute's silence at 11.00 a m. This will be followed by a 30-minute performance by 'Random Notes'. They will be singing popular songs from the war years and no doubt there will be an opportunity for audience participation. All this will take place amongst arrangements of beautiful lilies displayed in memory of lost loved ones, alongside the scroll of names.

Please note we shall also be holding a special Remembrance Service at St Mary the Virgin Church at 9.30 a m on 12 November.

Churchyard Conservation Awards

Deborah Mbofana and I represented St Mary the Virgin Church at the Annual Conservation Churchyard Award Ceremony on Monday 23 October at Newton Bromswold Memorial Hall in Rushden. We joined a large number of other worthy candidates and waited with anticipation while the awards were handed out. We were delighted to receive a bronze award. Following the ceremony, we were treated to a walk round the churchyard at Newton Bromswold which has already earned a gold award. It was very impressive and well worth a visit. Lynne Wild

Parish Council

There will be a Stoke Bruerne Parish Council meeting on

Tuesday 28 November at 7.30 in the village hall.

Village Hall Christmas Bazaar

The bazaar will be held on Saturday 18 November at 1.00 p m.

There will be various Christmas and craft stalls, mulled wine, mince pies, a tombola, spinning Jenny and a raffle.

If you would like to book a table to sell from, it will cost £5 per table; please contact Judy on 01604 862825 or Pam 01604 864275.

Village Hall Management Committee



SHUTLANGER

Website: <u>www.shutlangervillagehall.org.uk</u>, phone number: 01327640547, Twitter: @ShutlangerVHall

Facebook: Shutlanger Village Hall,

Instagram: shutlangervillagehall, What3words:

confetti.freely.exacts Coffee Morning

Our monthly coffee, cake and chat morning was on Thursday 19 October from 10.00 a m until 12.00 noon.

The coffee morning was preceded by a short prayer service.

The next coffee morning will be on Thursday 16 November. We have free wi-fi and contactless payments. We serve excellent coffee and delicious homemade cakes. The bacon rolls are very popular too.

Our coffee mornings are always on the third Thursday of the month; put a note in your diary so you don't miss it. A very warm welcome awaits you.

Tote Draw

The latest draw was, as always, during the coffee morning. This month we achieved something special and gave out two prizes of $\pounds 100$ each. We have 80 people contributing to

supporting the hall through the tote. Congratulations to this month's winners.







Please contact <u>bursar@stokebruerne.northants-ecl.gov.uk</u>





The tote has raised over £4,000 towards keeping our hall as a centre for community and celebration and we have given out a similar amount in prizes. Thank you for your continued support; it is making a real difference.

It's easy to join the tote, it costs just £5 a month; half the money goes to help the village hall and the other half to two lucky prize winners. The odds are much better than the national lottery! There are application forms in the hall; you can call 01327 640547 or email secretary@shutlangervillagehall.org.uk; any of these make it easy for you to join our ever-growing band of supporters. Events

I will report back next month on the Hallowe'en trail and the Angels' Share concert. In the meantime, our next event is a bingo night on 17 November - tickets will be £15 to include food and all game cards. There will be a bar too. Tickets are available at www.shutlangervillagehall.org.uk/events.

Fundraising

As ever, we continue to raise funds to renovate the excellent facilities within our most important community asset. There are several opportunities to get involved: direct donations via the website homepage and by using QR codes in the hall and at events. The 'donation station' is in the lobby at the entrance to the hall and lets you put a cash donation in the box or use your phone to scan the QR code.

You can also recycle your old ink cartridges in the hall. We are members of Easyfundraising where you can easily make donations. Don't forget to join the tote too!

Thank you for all your support. Your help matters to us. EVERY penny counts!

Barbara Stanbridge, Secretary Shutlanger Village Hall Management Committee



GRAFTON REGIS

Progress on the Medieval Tomb Restoration

After a year of preparation, we are near to starting the first stage of the renovation of the two medieval tombs which are squeezed into a corner at the back of the church. We first have to obtain a condition and conservation report before we know how bad the condition of the tombs is before we can agree the way forward. We have obtained quotes for the report from two conservators and obtained a grant towards the cost of the report.

Our chosen company will be visiting the church in mid-November and will produce the report later in the month. The renovation of the tombs will be our second phase in a 5-stage church renovation plan, the first stage being the replacement of the roofs on the tower and south porch and the renovation of the tower internally. Jean Glanville





ALDERTON

Church Cleaning Rota Pergola for the Village Field

We are very late in acknowledging the fact that a grant from the National Lottery

Community Fund, which was applied for by Katie some time ago, was used to install a pergola for the village field. This was erected during August by Marlake Landscaping, together with several villagers, and a celebratory inauguration party was held on the August Bank Holiday weekend, which about 40 people attended. There were games in the afternoon and a barbecue later on. Many thanks to all those involved - the pergola will mean that the field is useable even if the weather is inclement. Short Service on Remembrance Day

We will be holding a very short service on Saturday 11

Vanessa and Annie

November:



November at 10.45 a m to mark Remembrance Day and to thank all those people who gave their lives and lived through various wars, and to think about those still involved in war and the armed services. Please do come and join us - we have a lot to be thankful for! There will be tea, coffee and cake after the service. Margaret and Linda

Sale for the Knight

We will be holding a sale for the knight on Saturday 18 November from 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon in St Margaret's Church, Alderton. There will be the usual array of pretty and useful things to buy as well as delicious cakes and biscuits, together with some preserves. Do come in and see us -a free cup of tea or coffee is always available and it's a great opportunity to sit for a while in our lovely church and have a chat with people you perhaps don't see every day.

We will also be at the Milton Malsor Christmas Tree festival on 2 and 3 December when there will be Christmas items for sale in addition to our normal offerings. Margaret and Linda



BLISWORTH

Short Mat Bowls Club

The Blisworth short mat bowls club meets every Monday and Wednesday afternoon at 1.45 p m until 4.00 Stanley Tyrrell p m every week.

Art Trail

At the beginning of October, it was a pleasure to welcome artists exhibiting their work during the Northampton Art Trail. We always look forward to this annual event; there is so much talent, displayed in paintings, ceramics and photography and also workshops gave visitors a chance to explore their own talent.

Big Churchyard Tidy Up

This will take place on Saturday 4 November from 2.00 p m to 4.00 p m, and all help is welcome. If you can, please bring the garden implements you would prefer to use. Among other things, we are looking to establish a new area for burial of ashes. Refreshments will be available in church during the afternoon.

Christmas Bazaar

St. John's annual Christmas bazaar and coffee morning will be held on Saturday 25 November from 10.00 a m to 1.00 p m. Do come along to enjoy refreshments, a chat, and browse the stalls. These will include Christmas goods, gifts and toiletries, tombola, cakes and produce, children's ideas and more.

Setting up for the bazaar will be on Friday 24 November from 2.00 p m. and we would welcome as much help as possible.



MILTON MALSOR

Christmas Tree Festival

The Christmas Tree Festival on 2 and 3 December in Holy Cross Church, along with the monthly coffee morning, will be open from 10.00 a m until 4.00 p m on the Saturday and will follow the Sunday service on Sunday, at about 10.30 a m until 4.00 p m. The village Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are due to entertain

us at 2.30 p m on the Saturday and on Sunday our benefice choir and friends, the Blisworth and Hunsbury Choir, are due to entertain us on the Sunday, again at 2.30 p m.

There will be refreshments available on both days - homemade cakes and scones with soup and fresh bread at lunch time. And of course, there will be good company whilst enjoying the decorated trees of festive style from organisations of the village and The Grand Union Benefice.

Children are being invited to decorate a stone on the theme of 'what makes you smile'. We will ask visitors to place a penny by their favourite stone and the winner will receive a small prize. All participants will be able to dip in my chocolate box if they are allowed to.

There will be a few stalls, space allowing. So do come along; put the date on your calendar and enjoy the start of Advent with a visit to Holy Cross church the first weekend of December. Jane Trehane

Harvest Festival

At Holy Cross Church we had an enjoyable Harvest Festival with village children taking part with the readings, and enjoying the bring and share lunch; Graham and Sorcha took the service, which included well-known hymns for us to enjoy singing. <u>Coffee Morning</u>

At our regular November coffee morning, members will be joining to learn to make a fabric doll ready for the Christmas tree with Erica.

Parachute Jump

Later in the month our intrepid Estelle takes to the sky to do her sponsored dual parachute jump in aid of our lovely Holy Cross church funds. She hates heights. She has two knee replacements, so we wish her well. We will still take sponsors for this brave lady. Jane Trehane

Milton Parochial Primary School

We were delighted to feature in the Northampton Chronicle recently with a lovely photograph of pupils celebrating our good Ofsted rating. We're also enjoying being back in the swing of the school routine with our pupils having settled into their new year groups well.

All classes are looking forward to their school trips planned over the course of this term; Holdenby House for Delpare Class to experience Victorian life, a trip to conkers for Stanwick Class to get a feel for life in the Stone Age and a trip to our capital city for Brixworth Class to supplement their learning about the Tower of London.

The Friends of Milton School

FOMS hosted a Macmillan coffee event at the end of September, which was lovely and raised a fantastic £212.27 for the worthy cause. Thank you to all who supported us through donating cakes and joining us on the day. Our next event is our annual wreath making workshop on Saturday 18 November which enables you to make your own unique festive wreath (please see poster for more details). It's such a relaxing and enjoyable couple of hours whether it be with friends or on your own and we've been so lucky to have great support for this event in previous years with such lovely feedback too.

Wreath workshop spaces are starting to get booked up this year, so please contact us as soon as possible if you'd like to join us: the friends of miltonschool@gmail.com Laurie Brinkman: 07793 001638

Short Mat Bowls Club

The Milton Malsor Short Mat Bowls Club meets every Tuesday from 1.45 p m until 4.00 p m every week. Stanley Tyrrell



GENERAL NEWS

<u>Christmas Market</u>

There will be a Christmas market at St James Church, Paulerspury on Friday, 24 November, from 6.30 p m to 8.30 p m. There will be craft and trade stalls, ideas for Christmas, mulled wine and hot dogs. Do come and join us. Diana Dawson

<u>News from The Old Mail</u>

For events and happenings in the nearby villages: Cosgrove, Potterspury and Yardley Gobion, see the newsletter, The Old Mail, is available online at various websites: www.cosgrovevillage.co.uk; www.potterspurypc.wordpress.com; www.yardleygobionparishcouncil.gov.uk



Joules Outlet Sale - Wednesday 29 November 2023 at Roade Village Hall 6.00 p m until 8.00 p m

We are pleased to announce the first Joules seconds sale in Roade. The event is being run by local residents volunteering their time to raise money for their local charities which include The Roade & Quinton Old Folks Fund, The Sunflower Cafe, St Mary's Church and others TBC.

Tickets need to be purchased to attend the event. 100% of the ticket proceeds go to the local charities nominated. Please look out for posters around the village and Facebook groups etc to purchase your tickets on a first come first served basis. roadejoulessale@gmail.com



SNIPPETS:

Stop worrying about what you have to lose and start focussing on what you have to gain.

Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

When you give joy to other people, you get more joy in return.



Both Windows 7 and 8 have reached end of life, and will no longer receive security updates; it is time to change.

I can upgrade them to Windows 10; all your documents, pictures and programs will transfer as well. If your computer is slow I can make it faster. Looking for a laptop? I have a number

of refurbished laptops, prices starting from £150. I repair laptops down to component level; ask for a free quote.

Contact Paul Dards on 07540 000844 or 01327 811265 or paul@dards.co.uk

> PDC, Moorend, Spring Lane Alderton, NN12 7LW www.dards.co.uk

Charlotte Morris

Police Community Support Officer PCSO 7029 Neighbourhood Policing Team – Towcester Northamptonshire Police Telephone: 101 Ext: 348069 (03000 111222 if outside Northamptonshire) Mobile: 07557776333 Northamptonshire NN12 6DE



Address: Towcester Police Station Watling Street Towcester

Do you use WhatsApp?



It has been identified that criminals are now targeting churchgoers and faith or community groups who use WhatsApp, to hack into and take over their accounts.

This prevents the legitimate owner from using or accessing their account. Criminals then send messages that appear to be from the owner, containing scams, investment frauds and links to malicious websites or fake logon pages. Any personal information, photos, contacts, etc. obtained are then used to enable further criminal activity.

Criminals also impersonate the account owner to request onscreen authentication codes from others in the same WhatsApp group. If successful, this then allows the criminals to takeover these additional accounts too.

Never share onscreen or account access (OTP) codes with anybody, even if the person calling or messaging you appears to be genuine.

Turn on two step verification (2SV) in your WhatsApp and Email accounts (in security settings) to add an extra layer of protection.

If you are a victim of an account hack or any other cybercrime or fraud, report it to: Action Fraud via actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040.

If possible, forward suspicious emails to: report@phishing.gov.uk Forward scam text message to: 7726





Northamptonshire Police Fighting crime, protecting people

Make your accounts SUPERHERO SECURE



Facebook app

by enabling 2SV

1. Tap = (menu) then 🌣 (settings)

- 2. Tap Password and security then two-factor authentication
- 3. Choose Authentication app or Text message (SMS)

Instagram app O

- 1. Tap = (menu) then O Settings
- 2. Tap Security then Two-factor authentication
- 3. Tap Get Started (Get Started button)
- 4. Enable Authentication app or Text message

Snapchat app

- 1. Tap () (profile menu) then CONTINUE (Continue button)
- 2. Tap Let's do it! (Let's do it! button)
- 3. Choose Authentication App or SMS Text message

TikTok app

- 2. Tap Settings and privacy then Security and login
- 3. Tap 2-step verification
- 4. Tap Turn on to enable 2SV
- 5. Verify by tapping Send code then enter the code you received



- 1. Tap 🕕 (user) then Manage your Google Account
- 2. Tap Security then Signing in to Google
- 3. Choose 2-Step Verification then GET STARTED (Get started button)
- 4. Follow on-screen instructions to enable two-factor authentication

Microsoft Outlook webmail / Hotmail (via a browser)

- 1. Tap 🚥 (user) then My Microsoft account
- 2. Tap Security then More security options
- 3. Choose two-step verification

Apple ID / iCloud (via an iPhone, iPad or Mac)

- 1. Open the B Settings app then tap your () (Apple ID icon)
- 2. Tap Password & Security
- 3. Tap Turn On Two-Factor Authentication

Yahoo webmail (via a browser)

- 1. Tap 🕖 (your user icon) then Settings
 - 2. Tap Account security
 - 3. Enable Two-step verification
 - 4. Choose required two-step verification method

All your other online accounts

- 1. Log in to your account or check the available app settings
- 2. Find the Security setting or Log-in options
- 3. Enable Two-step Authentication sometimes called 2FA or 2SV

CyberProtect@northants.police.uk







At the heart of the 1923 boatmen's strike: A century on

Speaker: Kate Saffin (Alarum Productions)

August the 13th,1923 saw the start of a 14 week strike by FMC boatmen threatened with a pay cut. There have been lots of articles written about the strike, but Alarum Productions have come at it from a different angle – researching and performing the stories of the women and children at the heart of the strike. Come and hear about the research they undertook, the original material they unearthed, and how they created new work

Tuesday 14th November @ 14.30pm The Conference Room, The Boat Inn, Stoke Bruerne, NN12 7SB

All are welcome. You don't have to be a member. Full bar service and food available. A small donation of £2 would be appreciated to help cover expenses.



MARK SHETTLE

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Owner: Mark Shettle Tel: 07585 113271 <u>mark.shettle1@btinternet.com</u> facebook: Mark.Shettle

"Based in Whittlebury, I am a trained internal and external painter & decorator, this includes hanging wallpaper - if you have a wall, a room, or rooms that need my attention, call or message me for a competitive quote."

SHUTLANGER & STOKE BRUERNE FLOWER CLUB

Fun, Flowers and Friendship

is holding an Evening Demonstration by Emma Remington Flowers



at The Village Hall, Baileys Brook Road, in **Roade** WEDNESDAY 8 November at 7.30pm



Guests are VERY WELCOME

Please pay £8 on the door (Refreshments with home-made biscuits included) All Flower Arrangements demonstrated will be raffled at the end of the evening

Do join us!

United Benefice Calendar for 2023

All groups and organisations within the community are warmly invited to include events here.

November

- 4 Coffee morning, Milton Malsor, 10.00 a m
- 4 Creative workshop make a doll for Christmas, Milton Malsor Church, 10.00 a m to 1.00 p m
- 4 Churchyard tidy up, Blisworth, 2.00 p m to 4.00 p m
- 7 Children's ministry training simply toddlers, Silverstone, 7.00 p m to 9.00 p m
- 6 Monday Club, Milton Malsor, 2.00 p m
- 8 Shutlanger & Stoke Bruerne Flower Club meeting, Roade Village Hall 7.30 p m
- 9 WI meeting, Blisworth village hall, 7.30 p m, 'The Blisworth Tapestry'
- 10 Farmers' market, Towcester, 9.00 a m to 1.00 p m
- 11 Coffee morning, St Mary the Virgin Church, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon, Remembrance weekend
- 14 Inland Waterways Association meeting, 2.30 p m, The Boat Inn At the heart of the 1923 boatmen's strike a century on
- 15 Sponsored Skydive by Estelle Lloyd-Thomas in aid of The Holy Church, Milton Malsor
- 15 Open morning, Stoke Bruerne C of E Primary School, 9.30 a m -10.30 a m
- 16 Coffee morning, Shutlanger, 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon
- 16 Grafton lunch club 12.30 p m
- 17 Bingo night, Shutlanger
- 18 Sale for the knight, St Margaret's Church, Alderton, 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon
- 18 Christmas bazaar, Stoke Bruerne village hall, 1.00 p m
- 18 Christmas wreath making workshops, Milton Malsor Primary School, 1.30 p m, 4.30 p m and 7.30 p m
- 24 Christmas market,6.30 p m to 8.30 p m, Paulerspury village hall
- 25 Christmas bazaar, Blisworth. 10.00 a m to 1.00 p m
- 25 Hearts and Music concert, St Lawrence Church, Towcester, 6.45 p m
- 28 Parish Council meeting, 7.30 p m, Stoke Bruerne village hall
- 29 Joules outlet sale, Roade village hall, 6.00 p m to 8.00 p m

December

- 2 Coffee morning and Christmas tree festival, Milton Malsor, 10.00 a m to 4.00 p m
- 3 Christmas tree festival, Milton Malsor, 10.30 a m to 4.00 p m
- 14 WI meeting, Blisworth village hall, 7.30 p m, Christmas party
- 21 Tree dressing, Alderton, 6.30 p m

<u>January</u>

- 1 New Year's Day walk, Alderton, meet at the bottom of Spring Lane, 10.30 a m
- 9 Inland Waterways Association meeting, 2.30 p m, The Boat Inn, your Waterway videos

February

13 Inland Waterways Association meeting, 2.30 p m, The Boat Inn – Phil Clayton – Curious cuts

The Blisworth short mat bowls club meets every Monday and Wednesday afternoon at 1.45 p m until 4.00 p m The Milton Malsor Short Mat Bowls Club meets every Tuesday from 1.45 p m until 4.00 p m

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GRASS is 19 November 2023

thanks to Jackie Grundon for proof reading

If you can get any copy to us earlier than that it would be very much appreciated

Please send any copy to: Linda Dards, Moorend, Spring Lane, Alderton NN12 7LW tel 01327 811265, e-mail: <u>linda@dards.net</u>. **Could you please include your name & phone number with entries in case we have any problems.** If you would like to add photographs or drawings to your text these are welcome and can be supplied via email or as photos, and returned after scanning. Contributions by email are most welcome, we can accept most formats; please request a response from us on receipt – so you are sure that we have your submission. Word (any version) is preferred.