

GRASS

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

Rector's Letter

At the end of this month, 31 March, we celebrate the major Christian festival of the year—the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Easter day. Easter can fall any time between 22 March and 25 April, depending on when the first Sunday falls after the first full moon after the spring equinox. It means that March, if not all of the month, is always during the season of Lent, which means this month is a time set aside to look deeper within us.

This year, we have been holding our Lent course on three different days of the week and times to give as many people as possible the opportunity to attend. It has been very encouraging to see that the numbers have increased from previous years.

When I sit and reflect on some of the characters in the bible who gathered around Jesus during Holy Week, we can see that they are no different to us, they have their faults and strengths. When we approach Good Friday, we can see that all but Our Lord's mother turned away through fear and returned to their old ways of life. This encourages us, as we also know that we are not perfect. If we are honest with ourselves, we know we have our faults but still Our Lord comes and asks each of us to be part of His body here in these communities.

On 25 February in Saint Margaret's Church, Alderton, we held our nearly almost mothering Sunday service for the second time. Seeing so many people from the village attend this remarkable service was encouraging. We talked about the uniqueness of creation and the uniqueness of every one of us. Each one of us needs to be part of God's body here on earth so that we can form societies where EVERYONE is welcome, treasured and seen as our equal because we are all valued individuals in the eyes of Our Lord, all the colours of the rainbow that make brighter and more dynamic healthier communities, where our young and mature in life can flourish.

We gather for the start of Holy Week on 24 March with a benefice service at St Mary the Virgin Grafton Regis at 10.00 a m to celebrate Palm Sunday and once again listen to dramatised Gospel reading; on Maundy Thursday, we celebrate the Last Supper at 7.00 p m in St John The Baptist, Blisworth, and then we move into Good Friday for the liturgy of the Cross in St Mary's Stoke Bruerne at 2.00 p m, then we wait in silence through Holy Saturday and meet to gather at dawn on Easter day at St Margaret's Alderton at 6.00 a m for the first celebration of Easter with a short service starting outside around a fire as the sun rises in the east before moving into the church; the service is followed by breakfast. There are the two further celebrations on Easter Sunday, one at Holy Cross Milton Malsor at 9.30 a m and the other at St John the Baptist Church, Blisworth at 11.00 a m.

Holy Week is the most sacred week of the Christian calendar. Our ancestors followed the same traditions that we follow today. Please come and journey with us through this one week in the year. It is central to our Christian faith, where we learn much about what Jesus was willing to do for us.

May I wish you a happy and blessed Easter.

Richard



Useful Telephone Numbers for the United Benefice of Blisworth and Stoke Bruerne with Grafton Regis, Alderton and Milton Malsor

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 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

Service Schedule for March 2024

Sunday 3 March, Lent 3

9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Milton Malsor

11.00 a m: Family Eucharist, Blisworth

Sunday 10 March, Mothering Sunday

9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Stoke Bruerne

9.30 a m: Family service, Milton Malsor

11.00 a m: Family Eucharist, Blisworth

Thursday 14 March

9.30 a m: Morning prayer, followed by coffee, St Anne's Chapel Shutlanger

Sunday 17 March, Lent 5

9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Milton Malsor

11.00 a m: Family service, Blisworth

Sunday 24 March, Palm Sunday

10.00 a m: Grafton Regis, Benefice service

(it would be good to have people act out the Gospel reading with members from across the Benefice)

Thursday 28 March, Maundy Thursday

7.00 p m, Blisworth

Friday 29 March, Good Friday

2.00 p m: The Liturgy of the Cross, Stoke Bruerne

Sunday 31 March, Easter Sunday

6.00 a m: Sunrise service, Alderton followed by breakfast

9.30 a m: Family Eucharist, Milton Malsor

11.00 a m: Family Eucharist, Blisworth

VILLAGE NEWS



STOKE BRUERNE

St Mary the Virgin Church for Stoke Bruerne and Shutlanger Churchyard Working Party

We are planning to hold our first churchyard tidy for 2024 on Saturday 16 March between 9.30 a m and 12.00 noon. Those of us who have been involved in the regular sessions to maintain and improve the state of the churchyard have found the results of our labour very satisfying; it makes a real difference. We are always grateful for offers of help with a variety of tasks, so please join us if you have any time to spare. Refreshments will be available during the morning.

Church Service on Good Friday

A special service for Good Friday is to be held at St Mary's at 2.00 p m on 29 March. We look forward to welcoming you at this most significant time of commemoration.

Parish Council

There will be a Parish Council meeting on 19 March and the Annual Parish Meeting will be on 9 April at 7.30 p m in the village hall.

SHUTLANGER AND STOKE BRUERNE (Combined)

Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club

Fun, Flowers and Friendship

The club's 2024 programme kicks off with a flower arranging demonstration on Wednesday afternoon, 13 March, at 2.30 p m, presented by Jackie Page.

The venue is Roade village hall. If you love anything to do with flowers, it is a very entertaining couple of hours. Guests are most welcome and entry fee is £6. The magnificent floral arrangements produced are also raffled off at the end of the session.



You might even like to consider joining the club. As well as demonstrations, the club also holds workshops where you can have a go at making arrangements yourself. Outings to wonderful gardens are also on the annual programme. For more information, please contact Christine Sears on 01604 863563

IWA NORTHAMPTON
Annual General Meeting
&
Waterways Quiz
Quizmaster: John Pomfret

Tuesday 12th March 2024 @ 19.30pm
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.

INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

SHUTLANGER



Shutlanger Village Hall

Website: www.shutlangervillagehall.org.uk, 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 15 February, 10.00 a m until 12.00 noon. The coffee morning was preceded by a short prayer service which started at 9.30 a m. The next coffee morning will be on Thursday 21 March; the bacon rolls are always a hit and we have free wi-fi and contactless payments.

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 and we gave out two prizes of £100 so congratulations to this month's winners.

The tote has raised over £5,000 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

Our lovely fundraising and social working party met recently and planned a whole year's worth of events for the hall; a busy year awaits us!

We will be having a garden party on 12 May as part of our 140th celebrations. There will be celebration cake, cream teas and a bouncy castle for the kids. See www.shutlangervillagehall.org.uk/gardenparty for more information.

Will your garden be blooming in June? Would you like to open your garden to visitors on 9 June? Yes? Then Shutlanger Open Gardens needs you! We like to have about 10 gardens open and offer bacon rolls and cream teas at the hall. Speak to one of the committee members if you would like to join us for the third year of our open gardens. More information on the website www.shutlangervillagehall.org.uk/opengardens



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' in the lobby at the entrance to the hall, 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!

And finally! The plant and crop swap will be back this month. Either bring some surplus plants from your garden and take home something new or pick up a plant you like the look of a leave a donation in the post box at the hall.

Barbara Stanbridge, Secretary Shutlanger Village Hall Management Committee



GRAFTON REGIS

Grafton Village Hall Lunch

Thursday 15 February saw another good turn out for the monthly lunch. These lunches are a great opportunity to meet up and enjoy good food, great company and catch up on all the news. This month, one of our stalwarts was absent having her knee sorted out, but to Don's great joy, she sent along her usual meringue, so he had a big smile and two helpings!! Thank you, Linda.

This month's menu started with vegetable soup followed by the choice of sausage bake with lovely sauce, Bolognese pasta bake with garlic bread, two vegetables and followed by choice of lovely desserts, cheese board and tea and coffee and the usual basket of sweets. We all have our favourite sweets so revert to childhood dipping in for our choice.



A big thank you to the team in the kitchen and all who help behind the scenes in setting up

the village hall which is always warm and welcoming and to all who clear up at the end. It is a lovely monthly event and very much looked forward to. The next lunch will be on 14 March.

Doris Knights

1,000 Years in 100 Minutes

The first of Grafton's 2024 historical walk is on Saturday 11 May at 2.30 p m, so book now to discover why such a small village has such an amazing history. You'll meet many famous and infamous characters who have links with Grafton and have lived here. These include members of the Woodville family, whose most famous daughter, Elizabeth, married Edward IV in the village, Richard III, and other kings, queens and people of influence.

Why did Henry VIII build a palace here, and when was it destroyed? Who created the dukedom of Grafton, and why does the village have links with William Shakespeare and with Charles Darwin? To find the answers, book by contacting Kathy on 0791 009 2132 or email keith.harry@btinternet.com. Booking is essential! The cost is £9.50 per head for adults including refreshments, £1.00 for under 16s, and under 5s free. All profits are divided between funds for the maintenance of the village hall and of the church.

If you can't make 11 May, we're also planning walks on 22 June and 21 September. There's a lot of history, a lot of fun, and a lot of tea and cakes!

Keith Harry



Snowdrops in the Churchyard



There has been a spectacular show of snowdrops in and around the churchyard again this year along with celandines, primroses, Lenten roses and daffodils in the last week. Buds are showing on all the bushes, time for some quick pruning and tidying up before all the branches have time to sprout another couple of feet.

Jean Glanville



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 p m every week.

Stanley Tyrrell

Lent Lunch

All are invited to a Lent lunch on 24 March at 2, Towcester Road Blisworth from 12.00 noon until 3.00 p m. We will be serving soup, bread, cheese and fruit. Donations in aid of Ukraine and those displaced by the war in Gaza. Some of the soups will be Ukrainian.

Hilary Spurrier

WI

The AGM and recipe swap will take place on 14 March at 7.30 p m in Blisworth village hall.

Lent Course

The Lent course still has a few weeks to go. It is proving interesting, and raises much discussion. Full details will be found elsewhere but the Blisworth venue is at Helen's home, 37 Buttmead, on Thursdays at 2.00 p m.

Easter Services

Easter services in Blisworth are Maundy Thursday, 28 March at 7.00 p m and Easter Sunday, 31 March at 11.00 a m.

Just a reminder that on Palm Sunday, 24 March, there will not be a service at Blisworth – it is a Benefice service at Grafton Regis at 10.00 a m.

Coffee Morning

Please note that the coffee morning will be on 22 March, not 29 March as previously published. P Masterman



ALDERTON

Church Cleaning Rota

March

Anna and Emily

An Evening of Short Story Readings

We are very excited to announce that we will be holding an evening of readings. As you may know, our Curate, Rev'd Graham Brack is a writer of crime novels and he has also written several short stories so we thought it would be a nice idea if he could come and read some of them to us while raising money for the church.

This will take place on Saturday 27 April at 6.30 p m at Moorend, Alderton. We will start the evening with a glass of wine or soft drink, then settle down to listen to Graham. Halfway through, we will stop for more refreshments – more drinks and some nibbles. He will then finish off the evening with another short story.

In view of space and to ensure everyone's comfort, places for this are going to be limited, so if you are interested, please let either Margaret or Linda know in good time. More details will be available in due course. We are going to be asking for donations for this event, all money going towards the toilet/servery project in the church.
Margaret and Linda

Almost Mothering Sunday

We were delighted to see so many village people in church to celebrate Almost Mothering Sunday. Historically, people have been unable to make a service on the actual day so this is the second year we have celebrated it prior to Mothering Sunday.

Over 40 people were seated around tables in church enjoying a cup of tea while Richard conducted his very gentle and relevant service, and two hymns were sung. Afterwards, there was a full-scale afternoon tea with savoury pastries, sandwiches, cake and more tea. It was really wonderful that the whole PCC was out in force to ensure the afternoon went smoothly and efficiently and lots of people left with 'doggy bags'. The ladies left with a posy of spring flowers. We are very grateful to everybody who helped; we were really pleased that the bellringers came out in force to ring prior to the service, and we would like to thank Mel Gavan for preparing the posies of flowers, which looked wonderful.



A huge amount of behind-the-scenes preparation went into the event, as well as a team of people clearing up afterwards, so thank you to everyone who contributed in whatever way, and thank you to those who took the time to come to the service and celebrate with us. We loved having you with us. Margaret and Linda

Dawn Service on Easter Sunday, 31 March

We are delighted to say that we will be having our third Easter morning dawn service. We will gather together in the churchyard of St Margaret's Church at 6.00 a.m. and sit, facing eastwards towards the rising sun, around a fire pit. Part of the service will be conducted in the churchyard and then we will complete the service inside the church.

A full English breakfast will be served afterwards; if you are planning on coming, it would be lovely if you could let us know (for catering purposes). Booking is not essential – if you find at the last minute that you can come, then please do so – no doubt there will be plenty of food to go around knowing Alderton! There will be vegan and gluten free options available.

Do come – this is a truly magical event and well worth getting up early for. You will be home before many people even rise from their beds, so will have the rest of the day to do other things. Everyone is really welcome to come along. Margaret and Linda



MILTON MALSOR

1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor Scout Group Triumph in the Totem Pole Challenge

On Saturday 27 January, 1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor Cub Scout pack achieved an impressive victory in the highly anticipated Totem Pole Challenge, a thrilling competition that brought together Cub Scouts from across the Scouting district. The Totem Pole Challenge served as a platform for Cub Scouts to demonstrate their proficiency in a variety of scouting skills while fostering camaraderie and sportsmanship. Throughout the day, our young scouts showcased their talents and teamwork, conquering a series of challenges that tested their map skills, knot tying abilities, and even their prowess in paper plane making.

After a day filled with spirited competition and camaraderie, the Cub Scouts of 1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor emerged victorious in the Totem Pole Challenge, their exemplary teamwork and skilful execution earning them the admiration of their peers and leaders alike.

As they stood proudly alongside their fellow scouts, clutching their hard-earned trophy, it was evident that the true prize lay not in victory alone but in the invaluable lessons learned, friendships forged, and memories made along the way. As leaders, we are immensely proud of their accomplishments and look forward to many more adventures and triumphs in the future.



Beaver Scout Adventure: Splashing through Mud and Fun

On Saturday 10 February, 1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor Beaver Scouts embarked on a circular walk from Stoke Bruerne, covering a distance of four and a half miles. One of the defining features of our walk was the abundance of muddy puddles that dotted our path. Rather than avoiding them, the Beaver scouts embraced the opportunity to splash and play, revelling in the joy of getting dirty. With infectious enthusiasm, they leaped into the puddles with abandon, their laughter echoing through the woods as they competed to create the biggest splashes.

The Beaver Scout walk was an unforgettable adventure, filled with laughter, splashing, and great fun. Through their resilience and unwavering enthusiasm, the Beaver scouts demonstrated the true spirit of scouting, turning obstacles into opportunities and forging lasting memories along the way.

On return to Stoke Bruerne they were treated to hot chocolate and cake and had the opportunity to empty their wellies of water!



Neither of these activities would have been possible without our amazing leaders and parent helpers, volunteering with our scout group is not only a rewarding experience but also an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of young people. If you have a passion for the outdoors, a knack for teaching essential life skills, or simply a desire to give back to your community, there is a place for you in our Scout family. By volunteering your time and talents, you will not only help us expand our reach and impact but also create lasting memories and friendships that will endure a lifetime. Whether you can spare a few hours a week or a month, your contribution, no matter how big or small, will make a world of difference to the young people in our scout group.

For more information or to get involved, please contact: gsl.1cmm@gmail.com

Yours in Scouting, Carol Fraser, Group Scout Leader – 1st Collingtree and Milton Malsor Scout Group

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

Friends of Milton School

Milton Parochial Primary School

The children have been enjoying taking part in various events this term, which include fun games for NSPCC number day, bikeability for year 5 and multi-school tournaments such as The Cube, Boccia and multiskills games.

We're so proud of how our pupils conduct themselves and always give their all at the tournaments. They have already achieved some amazing results this year and some of our pupils have even been awarded 'Player of the Tournament' to recognise their individual achievements throughout the event - well done Team Milton!

Friends of Milton School

The children have recently enjoyed a pyjama day to coincide with storytime for book and biscuit Friday. They also had fun at their first disco this year and have lots of events to look forward to over the next few weeks.



Come and make a Bunny for Spring or Mothering Sunday !

Fun workshop with

Erica from Wilderstitch

On Saturday 9th March 10am -1pm at Holy Cross Church, Milton Malsor

£28 which includes tea/coffee, cake and materials.

In order to secure your place or for further enquiries, please contact:

Loredana Harley, 23 High Street, Milton Malsor NN7 3AS

email: loredanaharley@googlemail.com Mobile: 07974842163

In aid of Holy Cross Church

News from The Old Mail

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

GENERAL NEWS

Towcester Heartbeats

WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IF YOU CAME ACROSS SOMEONE SUFFERING A HEART ATTACK? - Well at the latest meeting of the Rotary Club of Towcester, members were given a presentation on the application of CPR and the use of a defibrillator. However, prior to the main presentation, there was a preamble by Annie Simpson who is a founder of a local community support group called 'HEARTBEATS'. This is a support group for people who have been affected by heart related conditions and in many cases, the mental trauma that follows heart operations. Partners, parents and carers of cardiac patients are also made welcome, as they can also be impacted by the patients' health issues.

This was followed by a presentation by Wayne, a fully qualified paramedic, on the application of CPR and the use of a defibrillator. Wayne explained the myths surrounding CPR and the fear most people face when having to make those decisions that could mean the difference between life and death for the patient.

Everyone should learn the basics of CPR and the use of a defibrillator. They could be lifesavers.



News from the Bellingers

We are delighted that we have some new members in our bellringing band. A very warm welcome to Bob and Cassie Lorrimore, who have moved into Blisworth from the Leighton Buzzard area. They have saved our churches from being silent on some Sunday mornings, due to our band being depleted by injury and age.

We are also pleased to tell you that we have some ladies learning to ring. Sam, Kate and Rachel are being taught by Chris Bulleid and other members of the Towcester branch. They are all progressing well and it will not be too long before they will be ringing on Sundays.

Mark Rogers has injured his shoulder; unfortunately, it will be some time before he can return to ringing but his advice to the rest of the band during this period is invaluable.

Chris Lea

From the Police

Residents in North and West Northamptonshire are being encouraged to apply early to vote by post for the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Elections this spring. On Thursday, 2 May, voters across North and West Northamptonshire will go to the polls to elect the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

The Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) is elected to oversee local policing and fire and rescue services, manage the police & fire and rescue budget, set council tax rates for policing, and ensure transparent communication about police activities in the community. They will also make key appointments of the Chief Constable and the Chief Fire Officer for the Northamptonshire area. People are urged to apply for postal votes as early as possible ahead of the deadline of 5.00 p m on Wednesday, 17 April and those wishing to vote by proxy (when someone votes on your behalf) can also do this in advance of the deadline of 5.00 p m on Wednesday, 24 April. Anyone who is not yet registered to vote must do so by Tuesday, 16 April in order to take part in this spring's election. You can register to vote on the gov.uk website.

West Northants Council

Notes from a Local Farmer

Well, here we are on 18 February and it's still raining. On the weekend of the 12th, we had the worst flood I have seen for a long while with over 120 acres under water. We have the sheep on stubble turnips at the moment apart from the ewes having singles which graze on their own. The advantage on turnips is we do not have to feed expensive food until they come in to lamb. The first 400 are lambing at the moment, producing some very good-sized lambs. The weather is unusually warm for the time of year so although it's wet, we are able to turn lambs out quickly as the grass is beginning to grow. This week we mowed the lawns for the first time this year.

Otherwise, on the arable side, corn prices continue to slide downwards while this year's crop is looking very waterlogged. Livestock prices are very good at the moment; fat cattle can be worth around £2,000 and lambs around £150. Pigs are also a better price than they have been. So, readers can see there are mixed blessings in agriculture but nothing stays the same for very long - a bit like life!

Speak to you again next month. Robert Davy

PDC
Computer Solutions



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

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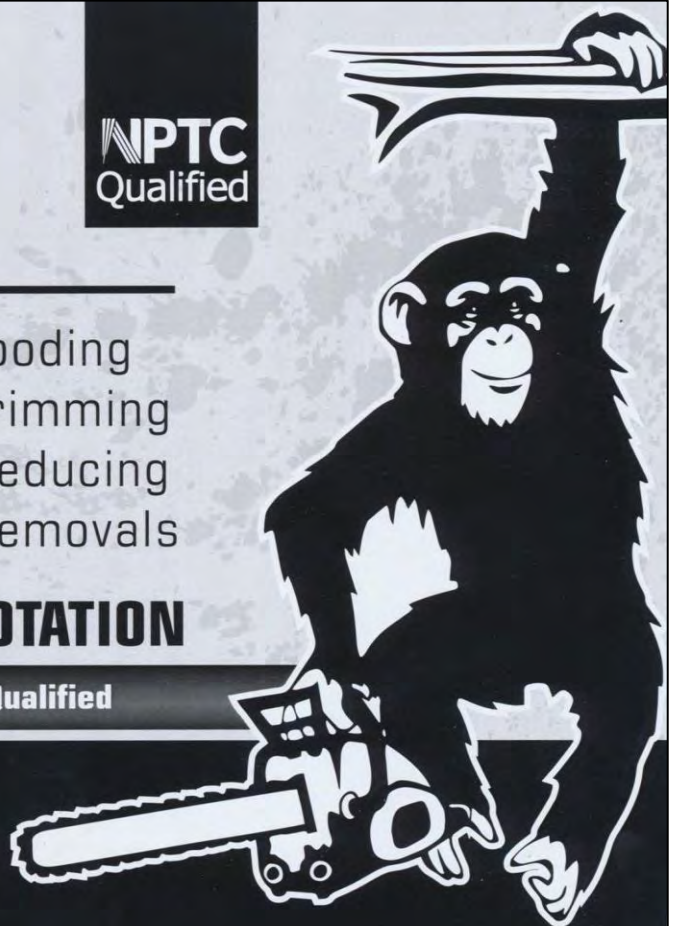
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United Benefice Calendar for 2023

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

March

- 2 Coffee morning, Milton Malsor Church, 10.00 a m
- 4 Monday Club, Milton Malsor, 2.00 p m
- 8 Farmers' market, Towcester, 9.00 a m to 1.00 p m
- 9 Make a bunny workshop, Milton Malsor church, 10.00 a m to 1.00 p m
- 12 Inland Waterways AGM & waterway quiz with John Pomfret, 7.30 p m, The Boat Inn
- 13 Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club, Roade village hall, 2.30 p m
- 14 Grafton lunch club, 12.30 p m, Grafton Regis village hall
- 14 Blisworth WI meeting, AGM and recipe swap, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 16 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 19 Parish Council meeting, Stoke Bruerne, 7.30 p m, village hall
- 21 Coffee morning, Shutlanger village hall, 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon
- 22 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 24 Lent Lunch, Blisworth, 12.00 noon to 3.00 p m
- 27 Beat Bus, Royal Oak car park, Blisworth, 3.00 p m

April

- 9 Inland Waterways Association – Three Men on the Birmingham Canal Navigations, 7.30, the Boat Inn
- 9 Annual Parish gathering, Stoke Bruerne, 7.30 p m, village hall
- 10 Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club, Roade village hall, 2.30 p m
- 11 Blisworth WI meeting, Queen Victoria's wardrobe, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 20 Plant sale, Alderton Churchyard, 10.00 a m
- 20 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 26 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 27 An evening of readings of short stories by Graham Brack, Alderton, 6.30 p m

May

- 4 Sale for the knight, 10.00 a m to 12.00 noon, St Margaret's Church, Alderton
- 9 Blisworth WI meeting, resolutions, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 8 Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club, Roade village hall, 2.30 p m
- 11 Grafton Regis, 1,000 Years in 100 Minutes, 2.30 p m
- 12 Garden party, Shutlanger
- 14 Inland Waterways Association – A heritage walk around Stoke & afternoon tea, 2.30, canal museum
- 18 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 25 Stoke Bruerne coffee morning – plant stall
- 31 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon

June

- 9 Open gardens, Shutlanger
- 13 Blisworth WI meeting, gold work, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 15 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 19 Beat Bus, Royal Oak car park, Blisworth, 3.00 p m#
- 21 Proms and Prosecco, Milton Malsor Church, 7.00 p m
- 22 Grafton Regis, 1,000 Years in 100 Minutes, 2.30 p m
- 28 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon

July

- 11 Blisworth WI meeting, I'm a Poet but not as you know it, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 20 Barn dance, Shutlanger
- 26 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 27 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon

August

- 8 Blisworth WI meeting, outing – Pimms and poetry, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 10 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 17 Stoke Bruerne coffee morning - raffle
- 30 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 31 Alderton Art Festival

September

- 1 Alderton Art Festival
- 8 Dog show, Shutlanger
- 11 Beat Bus, Royal Oak car park, Blisworth, 3.00 p m
- 11 Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club, Roade village hall, 2.30 p m
- 12 Blisworth WI meeting, 'Our Fifth Sense', 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 14 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 21 Grafton Regis, 1,000 Years in 100 Minutes, 2.30 p m
- 27 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon

October

- 10 Blisworth WI meeting, Mata Hari – a spy or a scapegoat, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 19 Stoke Bruerne churchyard working party, 9.30 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 25 Blisworth coffee and cakes, 7 Pond Bank, 10.00 a m to 12. 00 noon
- 26 Hallowe'en trail, Shutlanger

November

- 9 Stoke Bruerne coffee morning – bacon butties
- 13 Shutlanger and Stoke Bruerne Flower Club, Roade village hall, 2.30 p m
- 14 Blisworth WI meeting, Northampton theatres, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 16 Bingo evening, Shutlanger
- 29 Wreath workshop, Shutlanger

December

- 4 Beat Bus, Royal Oak car park, Blisworth, 3.00 p m
- 12 Blisworth WI meeting, Christmas celebration, 7.30 p m, Blisworth village hall
- 21 Tea and carols, Shutlanger

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

SNIPPETS:

*Keep walking through the storm;
your rainbow will be on the other side.*

We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or we can rejoice because the thorn bushes have roses.

Sometimes there's nothing you can do but let it rain and wait for the sunshine.

**SHUTLANGER & STOKE BRUERNE
FLOWER CLUB**

Fun, Flowers and Friendship
is holding an

Afternoon Demonstration

by Bella Flora's

Jackie Page

titled

'The Flower Arranger'

at The Village Hall, Baileys Brook Road, in Roade

WEDNESDAY 13 March at 2.30pm



Guests are VERY WELCOME

Please pay £6 on the door
(Refreshments included)

All Flower Arrangements demonstrated will be raffled at the end of the evening

Do join us!



Tel: 07798 897137

www.facebook.com/dancingfeet10

Email: lucy.dancingfeet@icloud.com



Lucy Westnidge
S.A.C. Dip FHPT S.A.C. Dip FHPP
PRM



An established mobile service now in Roade and neighbouring Villages

Foot Health Care

Nail Cutting & Filling

Removal of Corns and Callus

Cracked Heels

In growing Toenails

Fungal Nail Infections

Athletes Foot

Verruca Management & Cryotherapy

Diabetic Foot Care

Reflexology

Hopi Ear Candles

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GRASS is 18 March

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: linda@dards.net. **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.