

AROUND THE SPIRE



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**Issue 110
April 2025**

**Saint James' Church *FREE* magazine for
the parishioners of
Quedgeley & Kingsway**



From your Editor - Fr. Hugh Broad

Dear Reader,

This month we see the season of Lent coming to its close with the joyful celebration of Easter.

Holy week is always eventful with lots going on. Our worship and events feature on this page below. Our Messy Easter for the youngsters is always very popular and like last year we shall be focusing on our environment, with crafts, activities and snacks. We have two forms of worship on Good Friday running from 12noon - 3pm. The Next Steps working group have been busy and there is an update from them in the magazine. Don't forget that if you have an article that you would like to share with us then please get in touch, contact details in the magazine.

Enjoy the read and I wish you a very joyful and blessed Easter.

Fr. Hugh

HOLY WEEK AT SAINT JAMES' QUEDGELEY

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

10am Parish Eucharist with the procession of palms and the dramatic reading of the Gospel.

11.30am STJ's Worship and Praise - make your own Palm Sunday Cross

Tuesday 15th April - Eco-Messy Easter, 1-3pm, crafts, activities and snacks

Thursday 17th April - Maundy Thursday, Holy Eucharist with Anointing, 7.30pm

Friday 18th April - Good Friday

12noon, the liturgy of Good Friday 2pm, the last hour using the Quedgeley Stations of the Cross

Sunday 20th April

Easter Day

Meet at 5.15 am Robinswood Hill car park to climb Robinswood Hill for dawn

10.00am, Parish Eucharist

11.30am, STJ's Easter Worship and Praise - the JOY of Easter!

Church Notice Board

SAINT JAMES' CHURCH

Quedgeley & Kingsway

Morning Prayer
9.15am daily
during term
time

Holy Communion
Wednesday
10.00am

Holy Communion
Sunday
10.00am

Tea/Coffee—served from
11.30am

EVERY SUNDAY

11.30am —
STJ's Family Service

FREE
ENTRY

SATURDAY 17TH MAY
12NOON TO 4.00PM

HAVE FUN AT YOUR CHURCH SPRING FAIR

SPRING FAIR

SAINT JAMES' CHURCHYARD
SCHOOL LANE QUEDGELEY

STREET FOOD,
RAFFLES, STALLS, LIVE MUSIC
AND ACTIVITIES FOR
EVERYONE

Out and about with Revd Mark



I want this month to note what joy we have had over the last year hosting concerts and sing-alongs from various choirs and bands. We have hosted in the last year Gloucester Charter Concert Band, Gloucester Police Male Voice Choir and Love2Sing and most recently a joint sing-a-long from Gloucester Strings Ukelele Orchestra and Twyver Ladies Choir. Each event is local, great fun and raises funds for the hard work of St James Church in our community. While the concerts are all of a very high standard, they are also full of humour with a real human touch. There is always something warm to drink and tasty to eat at the interval when there is usually a raffle. Gloucester Strings Ukelele Orchestra and Twyver Ladies Choir came for St David's day and so there were home made welsh cakes. The event was really family friendly and Dan has been wanting to buy a Ukelele of his own ever since! Thank you so much for all who have sung and played at St James in the last year and if you have not been to a concert at St James yet then come along to the next one for a great value, really enjoyable evening.



What I am praying about

Like so many others I am finding the power play of politics, war and money difficult to understand. It feels like we are all talking at cross purposes almost all the time. At times though, in prayer I make something of a breakthrough and realise where my own preconceptions and understanding have been misplaced. This leads me to reflect that despite huge differences God even works through those we struggle to understand and get along with. In humility we all need to accept that we do not have all the answers and simply pray, as we are called to in the Lord's prayer:

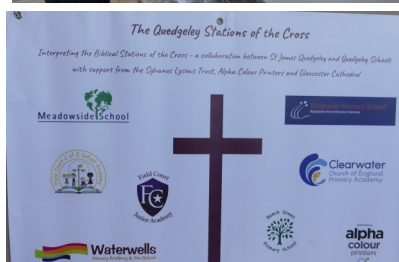
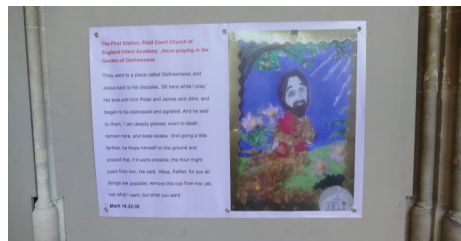
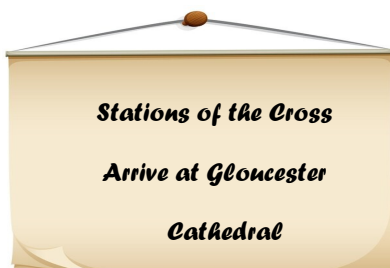
Lord, Your Kingdom come. AMEN

Uniting Gloucester in prayer

2025 is the year for every street in Gloucester to be united in prayer. Pray for Gloucester is an ecumenical, Gloucester city-wide initiative, with a free app to track physical and virtual prayer walks.

The Revd Jo Pestell, Vicar at St Catharine's, formed this initiative to bring churches together in prayer for all of Gloucester. If you aren't keen on using an app, you can use a paper map to track your route and have someone log it for you.

Be part of this mission. Download the app and start prayer walking today at www.pray4gloucester.uk or start your own local prayer walk in your home area.





From the Editor's desk

WHAT MAKES US TICK ... continued

Why are some people left-handed?

Google says...

People are left-handed because of a complex interplay between genetics and development, where variations in brain lateralization during early development can lead to a preference for using the left hand, although the exact mechanisms are not fully understood; essentially, it's thought to be a result of genetic factors that influence which side of the brain controls motor functions, with a small percentage of the population naturally developing a dominant right brain hemisphere, leading to left-handedness.

A STORY BEHIND THE REASON

This concerns me when I started school at the age of five. After a few days my parents saw that I was coming home with bruises on my hands specially on my left fingers. My Dad went round to school to investigate. It appeared that the teacher rapped the fingers on the left hand to make them use the right hand as this was the correct way. It soon became clear that this was having a bad effect on me and the process ceased. It was then clear that my school days became happy.

Since this question was aired I have discovered that quite a number of people had a similar experience when they were young.

SO NOW ON TO THE QUESTIONS WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED IN TIME FOR THIS APRIL EDITION.

Just two -had expected far more – perhaps they are still on the way??

WHY ARE HORSES MEASURED IN HANDS?

Answers please.

WHY DO CLERGY WEAR A PIECE OF PLASTIC INSTEAD OF A PROPER COLLAR?

Again answers please.

As we have a short break please try to think up some more questions!

Fr. Hugh



The Church's Healing Ministry (2)

By Fr. Gordon



The Healing Ministry is full of hope, it is exciting, it is visionary, it is prophetic and it is dynamic.

Through the ages the Church has responded by caring for the sick and troubled in many different ways - through pastoral care, prayer, the sacraments, spiritual gifts, practical friendship, and so on.

The Healing Ministry is Visionary ... because it beckons each one of us towards the future and a glimpse of the Kingdom, where the hope of creation is renewed in perfect health and wholeness.

It's visionary because every single member of the congregation has a role in it, by understanding its purpose and expression through prayer, each one of us can be helped to discern how our particular gifts from God may be most effectively used.

A prayer attributed to St Teresa of Avila reminds us of our own individual responsibility in this ministry.

***Christ has no body now but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion must look out on this world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now.***

The Healing Ministry is Prophetic ... because it calls us all to reconsider our own relationships with God, with each other and with the world and to seek forgiveness and a new start in each of our lives.

The Healing Ministry is Dynamic ... because our Lord Jesus is with us to the end of time: when we pray for his help, he comforts, he strengthens and he heals us, He responds to our deepest needs.

The Church's healing ministry is a continuation of the earthly ministry of Jesus. We seek to fulfill it in the power of the same Holy Spirit who anointed Jesus at his baptism in the Jordan.

Christians have always been called to have a special concern for those sick in mind, body and spirit. The Church's ministry can be described as one of healing - the healing of ourselves, and of the healing of our relationships with God, with one another and with our environment.

The healing ministry is an integral part of our relationships and fellowship in the Christian community and beyond. It is where Jesus meets us at our point of greatest need through each other.

The Eucharist is, of course, the healing service par excellence. It's in that service that the word of God is read and expounded; where sins are confessed and forgiven; where intercessions are made for the needs of the Church and the world, including the sick; and that the mighty acts of God in Christ are recalled and we partake of the sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

When the Peace is exchanged during the Eucharist, it is a sign which impressively reminds us that what we are engaged in is a service for the healing of relationships through the grace of God.



Gordon

Your invitation to Baptism and Confirmation at St James Quedgeley

On Sunday 22nd June there will be worship with Confirmation and full immersion baptism for Year 6 and older children, teens and adults.

If you or anyone you know anyone are seeking baptism and/or confirmation and want to find out more, then please contact Revd Mark:

drmarksid@gmail.com, 01452 722916

Infant baptism is always available, just contact Revd Mark.



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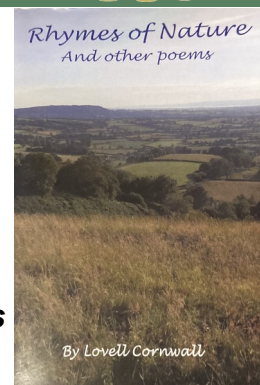
ask us for the logo to add to your print



Happy Birthday Lovell



Lovell Cornwall is well known for his thoughtful and sometimes comical poems. He has written two books. The most recent called 'The Rhymes of Nature and other poems,' was published a few years ago. All the proceeds from the sales of the book were donated to Saint James' Church. Over the years Lovell has helped, supported and taken part in many of the church activities, as the photos on the left will show. This year Lovell celebrates his 87th birthday. He tells us that people ask him 'How did you come to be called Lovell?' The poem below tells it all...



Christmas at Tesco



...selling his poems



Supporting BBC Children in Need



Collecting funds

I never knew my father's Dad, or how or where he lost his life,
Like thousands more he went to war, amid the turmoil, death and strife.
He left his wife and children three, a daughter and two sons,
And no doubt suffered torment as he faced the enemy's guns.
Those men who fought for freedom through the evil that is war,
Couldn't know when the end would be, or the burden that they bore.
He would have thought of going home to the family that he cherished,
But sadly that was not to be for in some foreign field he perished.
His eldest son was Lovell, who was the apple of his eye.,
But back in deepest Gloucestershire, where the Severn meets the Wye,
There's an Army base, where many trucks came from and went to war,
They'd cross the Severn by ferry, and for Lovell and his mates it was sure
To bring them to the jetty, to see this great exercise,
Of the manoeuvrings on to the ferry, because of the huge size.
Drivers reversed back to their limits, and the youngsters would really think
If they went back much further they may end up in the drink.
Alas one lad fell into the river, there was panic all around,
Lovell dived into save him but sadly they both were drowned.
My Grandma was devastated, but having lost her husband too,
And said to George, her younger son, "There's something I'll ask you".
"When you grow up and marry, and if you should produce a boy"
"Would you please call him Lovell, which would be such joy".
Now I've been to the jetty and prayed at the place where Lovell passed away,
He was just a teenager at the time, and I've stood by the grave where he lay.
So I suppose that's possible if Lovell hadn't died in the way he did,
When I was born all those years later, they may well have just called me Sid!

"Times and Seasons" - the Christian Year

A look at the various seasons of the Church Calendar:

At the beginning of April we shall enter the short season PASSIONTIDE



Modern English language might lead us to misunderstand the title which we give to the last two weeks of Lent; it becomes clearer when we see that the word "passion" comes from Latin - "Patio - I suffer". St Luke's gospel tells us that Jesus "Set his face to go to Jerusalem" to confront those who opposed him and to complete the work his Father had given him to do.

So the mood in church changes and takes on a more sombre note as we focus on the climax to our Lord's earthly ministry. All the four gospels regard the last week of Jesus' earthly life as supremely important; a third of St Luke's work is taken up with the events of what we now call Holy Week, while for Matthew, Mark, and John the same events fill a third of their records.



As early as the fourth century AD the church in Jerusalem marked Palm Sunday with a procession of palms and the reading of the Passion Gospel, which anticipates all the events of the week ahead.

Monday in Holy Week is regarded as the day when Jesus cleansed the Temple in Jerusalem by driving out all those who were buying and selling within the precincts. On

Tuesday and Wednesday he taught in the Temple, while the local council leaders planned to remove him. St John tells us that Judas Iscariot already had it in mind to betray Jesus and arranged with the council a time and place when the betrayal could happen.



Maundy Thursday gets its name from another Latin word: "Mandatum" - a commandment: John 13.34 "A new commandment I give you..." and the day contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ's washing of his disciples' feet; the institution of the Eucharist; the perfection of Christ's loving obedience through the agony on the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus challenged the disciples: "Could you not watch with me one brief hour?" so we keep vigil in a darkened church for one hour as we remember his great acts of love.



On the morning of Good Friday Jesus was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor of Palestine. His orders were to keep the peace at all costs, and so, to placate an angry mob, Jesus was handed over to be crucified. The Cross now becomes the focus of our attention in church and are invited to come and stand at the foot of the cross and in silence offer to God all our sins - which were the reason and the cause of his Passion. His great love for all Creation led to his suffering and death. The bread and wine which is consecrated on Maundy Thursday is given in Holy Communion on Good Friday to remind us that Jesus died for us, so that we might be forgiven and welcomed into his kingdom.

The church remains bare and empty through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Silence and stillness are the only ways in which we can adequately recall the death of our Saviour and his rest in the tomb. Within the silence, a sense of peace and completion may grow as we prepare for the great miracle of Easter.

Down the centuries, there have often been misunderstandings of certain Holy Week readings - particularly those which refer to "The Jews". We must remember this expression was a form of shorthand used by the evangelists to describe a small, embittered, jealous group of Jewish scholars who for various reasons could not accept Jesus and his life-giving message. It is incumbent on all of us who turn to Christ to be ready to acknowledge that it was the sins of all humanity that were the cause of Jesus' passion, suffering, and death. His great, passionate, love for all of us led him to the cross, so that we might be forgiven.

"There was no other good enough to pay the price of sin..."



Fr. Ian

Sunday 20th April

Easter Day

Meet at 5.15 am Robinswood Hill car park to climb Robinswood Hill for dawn

10.00am, Parish Eucharist

11.30am, STJ's Easter Worship and Praise - the JOY of Easter!

Creation Care - Where are you?



Lent and Easter are a time for reflection, repentance, forgiveness and moving on or 'turning a new page' as we accept the promise of new life in the resurrection of Jesus.

Something I notice with talking with folk about the climate crisis and creation care is that for some of us it is immediately obvious while for others it can feel like we are talking at cross purposes and it just doesn't make sense. Now I am not thinking about the extreme conspiracy theorists here but I am thinking about the different ways we relate to the world around us.

Some of us see the world as a complex series of interactions of which we are an equal part and our purpose is to play our part. Some of us see the world around us as there only to serve human need. Between these two understandings sit those who perceive a self-interest in caring for the world around us as long as it serves humanity on the one hand and finally those who acknowledge our place in the web of interactions, acknowledge and accept that we occasionally do harm but seek God's Kingdom of peace and justice in it all.

As we move through Lent, where are you in Creation - master, slave, self-seeker or willing servant? As you repent and seek forgiveness over Lent and Easter, what does your new life in Christ mean for where you are in Creation?

PRAYING WITH THE SENSES.

For some years now a small group of members of St James Church have been organising a PRAYER CELL.

The idea is that the six of us are committed to share issues which concern one or more of us, and we use them with a strict code of confidence - this enables us to be free to express what we may feel in a given situation.

There is, however another side to our meetings, and in this we feel free to speak about various aspects of the life of prayer as we experience and share it.

Thinking of the ways in which we may approach and use our prayer time I felt it useful I thought it might be useful to use each of the following senses and how we might use them in our own prayer time.

TOUCH:

SIGHT;

SMELL;

SPEECH;

HEARING.

This led in each case to a most worthwhile discussion and many and varied ideas were put forward and how they might be used.

So these five topics were suggested and thought to be well worth sharing. Each of us took on theme each for readers to consider and these will appear one month at a time.

Do please use them as you wish and we would be very pleased to hear how you found them - all of us as we pray may use a different approach!

You may of course have other senses to these.

THE USE OF TOUCH

One of the ways in which I find touch is of real meaning is when it is dark.

Some years ago I experienced what it is really like to be in complete darkness - we were in the catacombs in some ruins in a part of Greece - we went in with lamps and then our guide switched them off one by one. Many of us including me were frightened to say the least. He made the point what it would be like without no light at all.

He asked us what we would do - and one of the group said nervously - PRAY! This reminded me that some time ago my spiritual director taught me how to pray with a Rosary. In case you are not familiar with this, it is a string of beads threaded in a particular way, each one representing a particular subject to pray for. This is mainly used by Roman Catholics but increasingly by other Christians as well. I have been one of those for many years now, and one example is when I pray for members of my extended family.

Rosaries are readily available now - I have one which was given to me from Prinknash Abbey.

So this is just one example how the magic of touch is a real part of our lives.

When we discussed this in our Prayer Cell there were several ideas put forward. Perhaps you can think of some?



FR HUGH

Next Steps April Update



Meetings and meetings but it all points to progress.

Recently we have meetings with the Diocesan Grants specialist Rory Wilson who has put us in touch with his contact at the National Lottery, also the Architect and Surveyors at Arnold Bartosh, the Wood dating specialist Andy Moir who will be doing the ring dating, the Historian Paul Butler who writing part of our statement of significance, and by the time you read this, also the Diocese Heating and energy specialist Matt Fullford.

They are all 'work in progress and consultation' type meetings which do not result in any reportable decisions. The Next Steps group simply collates the information which is then appropriately referred to the PCC for decision of course.

We are delighted that one of our Next Steps group has very generously indeed, offered one of his team to work for St James for one day a week in order to take some of the burden of administration. This really is a gift and a half, and demonstrates just how God provides in unexpected ways through the generosity of local people, for which we thank him time and again. It is true that God loves a cheerful giver, and makes good use of them too!

In the meantime we await eagerly for the weather to improve and stabilise a little so that the work can start on re-ordering the porch; it is just a matter of being sensible in relation to both rain and temperature to protect the precious oak from harm.

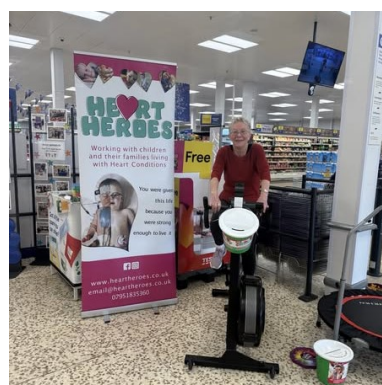
An outline brief has been given to our Architects for their comments and suggestions, and we shall be calling a special meeting of the PCC, after they are re-elected at the ACPM, in order to study and agree the detail of the brief for formal submission as it goes out for tender. It will then take a few months for some plans to be developed, at which stage we shall have something to show the congregation and invite comment as part of the continuing consultation process.

On the financial side, the first major stage of the National Lottery funding is the submission of an 'Expression of interest' which is being developed, following which we shall have a better idea of their thoughts in relation to our specific plans. Alongside this major funding stream, we are looking at other grant providers who may invest in specific specialist areas, and help the overall process along.

As a Church, we shall have to concentrate our thoughts on project fundraising in the near and medium future to gain access to some grants which look for match funding, but we must also recognise that the Church also needs to function on a weekly basis, and events such as coffee mornings are an essential part of keeping us ticking.

As and when it becomes necessary, and we are expecting this fairly soon, we shall be asking for extra meetings of Next Steps and PCC to ensure we keep the project rolling along at a sensible speed. The next 'Next Steps' meeting will be completed by the time this goes into print.

Andrew Wakely



This month ...

It was the turn of Heart Heroes. Well done to Theresa and her team who rode or bounced their way to raising £511 for this worthwhile charity. If you would like to know more then click the link to their webpages <https://heartheroes.co.uk/>

Jesus' Jester

**The Venerable
David Sutch
TD**



A Preacher decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Easter sermon.

Four worms were placed in four separate jars.

The first worm was placed in a container of alcohol.

The second was put into a container of cigarette smoke.

The third worm was put into a jar of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Preacher reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol.....dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke.....dead.

The third in chocolate syrup.....dead.

The fourth in good clean soil...ALIVE.

The preacher asked the congregation "What did you learn from this demonstration?"

Maxine was sitting at the back, quickly she raised her hand and said " If you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms."

That pretty much ended the service!



Gloucester Strings Ukulele Club joined with the Twyver Ladies Choir for a Spring Sing-A-Long in Saint James' Church Quedgeley on Saturday March 1st. Everyone enjoyed themselves. The club and choir kindly donated the proceeds from the evening to Saint James' Church. Thank you to everyone who helped.



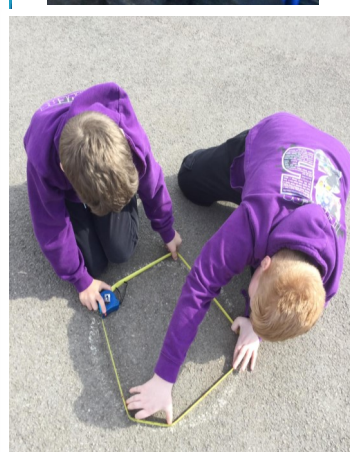
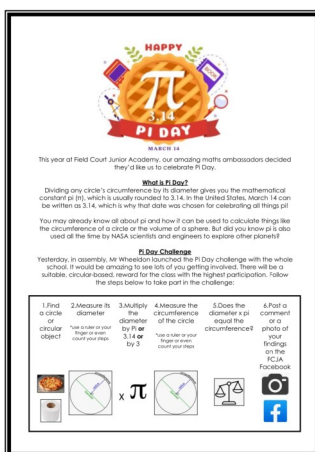
Out and about in our Community



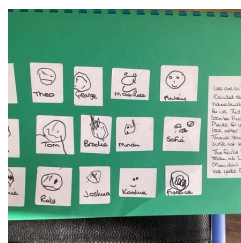
Field Court Infants hosted its own Reading Festival. A book sale, always popular, took place and 'A Book for Breakfast' was introduced. Each day a 'Book for Bedtime' was read and recorded by a member of staff. Parents and Carers could log in to the site with their children and listen to the stories. The school also had visits from some favourite storybook characters. The festival proved to be a success.



Clearwater Academy held a 'Science Week'. The younger year groups and the KS2 Nature Club enjoyed a visit from Roaming Reptiles.



Friday 14th March was National Pi Day! Mr Wheeldon –the maths lead– challenged the children to see if they could find circles anywhere, measure the diameter however they liked and then apply the theory to calculate the circumference... Needless to say the children rose to the challenge -even choosing to do it at playtimes!



Kingsway & Quedgeley Mens Shed

The Mens shed have been busy again. This time they delivered these four planters to Little Meadows Playgroup in Quedgeley. They were handed this delightful thank you card. Well done Kingsway & Quedgeley Mens Shed!



Bucket collection at TESCO, Brockworth on Saturday 5th April -- please get involved, you are needed.

VE plus 80 at The Thatch on Monday 5th May. Food, drink and fun from 1.00pm-5.00pm. Details from this email address, Limited numbers admitted.

VE plus 80 Service at the Quedgeley War memorial on Thursday 8th May starting at 10.40 am..everyone welcome.. afterwards at The Thatch for tea and coffee.

Annual visit to the Western Front in Belgium 16/17/18 May.

Table Top Sale at Severn Vale School (indoors) on Saturday 7th June from 2.00pm-4.00pm (set up from 1.15pm).

Annual visit to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Tuesday 10th June.

Quedgeley Show - all day on Sunday 17th August at Severn Vale School.

LAST NIGHT of the PROMS in planning for NOVEMBER 7th and visit to NORMANDY in MASY 2026. Already booking.

Steve Smith bulldog.smith@btinternet.com

Details from 01452 725343 (office hours)



Severnvalle WI

Following the business side of the meeting our speaker for February was the Gloucester Diamonds who entertained us with a variety of amusing folk songs and shanties. March Speaker was Pamela Holland with Tales of a Travel Rep, an excellent and amusing talk enjoyed by all. Ann, our Social Secretary is in the process of booking trips for the year. In March there is an outing to the Air Museum in Bristol, which will incorporate a Mystery Tour.

Iris our Pub Meals Host finds interesting Pubs for our group to enjoy a Lunchtime meal on the last Friday of each month.

Our WI meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month, (apart from August) from 10:00 to 12:00 at Quedgeley Community Centre on School Lane. Come along and see what the WI is all about, meet new people and make new friends. It's not just Jam and Jerusalem.

We also hold a Craft Club on the second Tuesday of the month at the same place, which is open to non-members. In February we made a felt heart. There was no craft in March. If you would like to join in the fun at our craft sessions, please text Jilly on 07368222065 or email jillyhw.290355@gmail.com to let us know of your intentions to join us. We need to know numbers of attendees as the Craft Teacher prepares the relevant amount of craft packs per attendee. Anyone interested in coming to either the WI meeting or the Craft Club would be more than welcome. The cost of craft sessions is usually between £4 and £5, which covers the cost of the hall and craft materials.

QUEDGELEY WI

The February meeting had been our 100th Birthday Party with a 1920's theme but this month, in a very crowded village hall, we heard the usual business and the competition results were announced, with a trophy and cash given as prizes. We are looking forward to the theatre trip in April and Quedgeley WI will be hosting the Group Party in August and the theme will again be the 1920s.

Our speaker was Chris Edwards with his talk and slides on the history of the RNLI. So many people had been losing their lives to the sea and rivers and the idea of a rescue organisation began in 1824. The first lifeboats were rowed by the crew and launched into the sea by a team of horses, very different from the sleek and speedy boats that are used today. There are 5,200 volunteers who all give their time and risk their lives for no payment. The RNLI have their Headquarters and a Training College overlooking Poole Harbour which acts as a Conference and Events Centre with hotel rooms for anyone to use when they are in the area. The talk ended with a short film showing how the many boats are used and the different situations when the RNLI rescues and helps anyone who needs it. The speaker did not charge a fee so many donations were given towards this very worthy cause. Next month will be a talk on Fraud Awareness and if anyone would like to come along to this or any other meetings they will be made very welcome.



We sadly said goodbye to one of our long term members of staff, Mrs Debbie Hughes who decided that after nearly 25 years, it was time to consider early retirement. The councillors and staff clubbed together to present Debbie with a garden gift voucher and a bouquet of flowers. Debbie will be greatly missed, she was not only an integral part of the office team and well known by those that visit the office regularly, she also had a wealth of knowledge that only comes with time. We wish Debbie all the very best and know that she has certainly earned her retirement. The rest of the team remain in place and look out for some new faces in the next few weeks. Pictured are Debbie with the office staff and also with some of the councillors



We are quickly moving towards Easter and with that comes our Easter Egg Hunt which is always held on the Easter Monday at the local Nature Reserves off Curtis Hayward Drive. The event starts at 10.00am and only lasts until all of the packs have been handed out and the eggs won so be prompt. We have arranged again for the Easter Bunny to be present and there will be a cuddly bunny and chick to win, as well as lots of chocolate to be eaten by both children and adults. This event is targeted towards under 11's. Depending on the weather, we also urge people to consider their footwear because the Nature Reserve does sometimes become very muddy and wet and last year it was actually flooded. We look forward to seeing everyone there, this is a real community event, free to attend, although there will be a cake stall so you might want to bring some cash with you but that's at your discretion.

Have you visited the Quedgeley Community Centre recently? It has been freshly painted in line with our painting schedule for all our buildings and it really does make a difference.

This forms part of our vision as stated in our Spending Plans for 2025/26.

Cllr D Goddard sadly resigned last month and we are hugely grateful for all of his hardwork and commitment over the last year. Being a councillor really can be a full on job sometimes and Cllr Goddard put his all into this roll. We wish him all the best in the future.

Finally, we are working hard to now include some further equipment into Druids Oak Playpark, another promise made within our Spending Plan document. Our Recreation & Amenities committee are moving forward with this initiative and we are looking forward to Druids Oak complete in the next few months.

All of the above is hard work and various projects are split amongst councillors. If this is something that might interest you, we still have some vacancies on the council. If you are concerned about how much time you need to commit, then please feel free to come along to the meetings to observe first. Any information on the role of a councillor can be obtained by contacting the Town Council Office on 01452 721552.

The Town Council Office is situated in the same retail park as Matalan so please do pop in and meet your friendly town council staff. Our normal opening times are Mondays – Fridays, 9.30am – 2.30pm. We are also available on email, Office@quedgeley-tc.gov.uk or you can visit our website on [Quedgeley Town Council \(quedgeley-tc.gov.uk\)](http://quedgeley-tc.gov.uk).

Good Friday 11am outside Gloucester Cathedral—The Way of the Cross, a live re enactment around the streets of Gloucester, of the last hours of Jesus' life



Who's Who in the Parish Church

Priest –in– Charge	Land Line	Mobile	Email address
Revd. Mark Siddall	01452 722916		drmarksid@gmail.com
Assistant Priests			
Revd. Canon Hugh Broad	01452 541078	07928455674	hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk
Revd. Ian Robb	01452 676059	07962469250	irobb925@gmail.com
Revd. G. Ripley	01452 883399		gordon.ripley364@btinternet.com
Revd. Canon M. Garland	01452 720872	07974066929	michaelgarland368@btinternet.com
Revd. Ann Morris			rev.ann@btinternet.com
The Venerable David Sutch	01452 552926	07948370054	vendavid196@gmail.com
Revd. David Humphries	01452 529582		fr.didds@virginmedia.com
CHURCHWARDENS			
Mrs Jackie Broad	01452 541078	07928862976	60jackie60broad@gmail.com
Mr Andrew Wakely	01452 722528	07879883091	andrewmwakely@gmail.com
PCC Secretary			
Mrs Lu Pearce	01452 725178	07922115062	androulapearce@hotmail.co.uk
Safeguarding Officer			
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PCC Treasurer -			
Mr Ian Pearce	01452 725178	07867502469	ianlu123@hotmail.com
Tea@2			
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Organist —Chris Baldwin		07811589867	cpbaldwin359@gmail.com
Bell Ringers —Anne Heron		07365 831182	anneheron@gmail.com
Open the book —Liz Keenan	01452 722320		mrs.e.keenan@btinternet.com
Altar Servers —Angela Hughes		07984265977	angelajeanhughes@hotmail.co.uk

www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

www.facebook.com/saintjameschurchquedgeley

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***Living and loving God, we pray that all of
Quedgeley will live ever closer to your loving
presence and purpose today and always. AMEN***

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