Around the Spire







parishioners of Quedgeley & Kingsway





Dr. Bike makes a visit page 9

Issue 102 June 2024





From your Editor—Fr. Hugh Broad



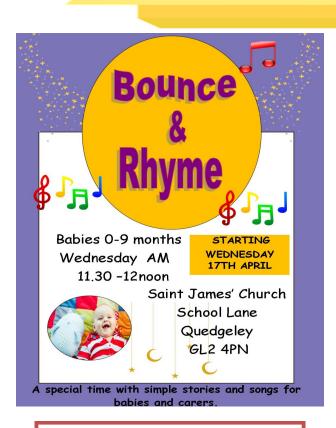
e have been experiencing a considerable increase in numbers at the Sunday Eucharist. It is a good challenge to ensure that those who do join us in this way are made special and at home.

We can believe that this growth is in part due to the lively and enjoyable atmosphere in our worship, but it can also be seen as the work of the Spirit of God in the world.

As they sing at Taize - " Ubi caritas et amor, deus ibi est" -

WHEREVER THERE IS CHARITY AND LOVE, THERE GOD IS PRESENT.

Fr. Hugh



Tea@2 is closed until
11th September.

We are taking a well
earned break!

Have a lovely summer
and see you in
September



Saturday 14th September



Contact Paul Bridges at lesponts45@gmail.com for further details



Afternoon Tea & Garden Party

Saturday 22nd June
At the Old Mill House
Moreton Valence.

Admission by ticket only due to limited space.

Contact Lu Pearce on 07922115062 for a ticket or for more information

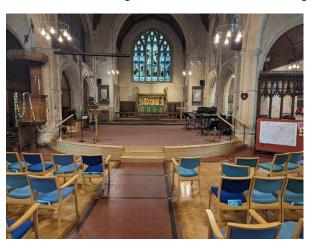
Out and about with the Revd Mark

As a Christian and Church of England Priest, I am part of a bigger team across the Diocese of Gloucester and also the Gloucester City Deanery, which is the collection of CoE churches within Gloucester. We coordinate between denominations and enjoy the encouragement and help from the challenge of working together. This team effort really pays off and over the last months the Next Steps team along with members of the PCC have been visiting other church building projects across the Diocese and Deanery.

These projects have involved creating accessible toilets, church annexes and kitchens alongside thoughtful conservation work. New approaches to heating and lighting churches are now commonplace, as are new, flexible approaches to church seating and table arrangements. We have learnt from these other churches about different approaches to conserving and

adapting church buildings, how projects have been managed and funded, and about successes, challenges and solutions.

Most of all we have seen that with hard work, prayer, vision, and careful reflective thought, much can be achieved when we get out and about and work together.







What I am praying about...

Quedgeley is a wonderful place where we live together in our joys and struggles. Since the initial developments of new housing in the 1950s, it has more or less doubled in size every decade, which has taken the population to nearly 29 000, including a great number of young families.

St James' Church building tells the story of these changes and at each stage of its history parishioners have responded by adapting the church to meet the needs of each current generation. The recent changes in the parish mean that our lovely Church needs that attention once again. We need a church building which has capacity, accessibility, flexibility and sustainability for now and for the coming years.



The Parochial Church Council has formed the Next Steps Team to address this need for both conservation and renewal. Please join me in praying for wisdom, competence, listening and attentiveness in these next steps. Jesus, lead us forwards together, AMEN.



From the Editor's Desk by our Editor Fr. Hugh Broad



TRYING TO CREATE A SENSE OF BALANCE!

Now that summer seems to have arrived at last, many of us are thinking of holidays as a welcome break from the usual routine of our lives.

For some it may be a trip to find more sunshine in another country, a cruise perhaps or some other venture. For some however it may be a trip near to home; There are, of course so many places in our British Isles which are so worthy of a visit.

All this is of course a time which will bring us a period of enjoyment and help to face the rest of the year feeling so much the better for it.

However it is virtually impossible there days to ignore the circumstances in so many parts of the world which are so, so different. Modern forms of media ensure that we are made aware of what so many of our brothers and sisters have to endure, day after day, week after week our television screens bring these issues into our homes. I usually watch 'Ten o'clock News,' and although the programme planners obviously endeavour to make sure the programme is a balanced one it is inevitable that the slot is dominated by all that goes on in our world which saddens us all.

SO JUST HOW CAN WE RESPOND TO IT ALL?

To try to pray about it seems to be the obvious answer for us all is to Pray, and this we are clearly called to do.

But are there further responses we can make! I know of a church group where activity seems right, and for them a weekly work party ensures that they have a special link with those on the battle field.

It may be possible to go further and make and provide medical needs - i.e. bandages, dressings etc.

WHAT ABOUT YOU? It may be the case that YOU have your own response to make! If so do let us know because this may prove to be just what is needed!

SO - DO PLEASE MAKE YOUR PART!

FR Hugh

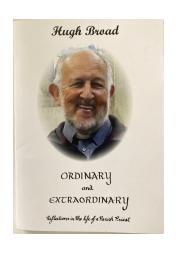
ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY

Many readers will remember this! It is the title of my Memoirs which I published few years ago.

This ran to 200 copies, and since then some folk have asked for a copy.

I now have a few more for anyone interested. Please ask me - as before no charge but any donations will find their way into the church coffers!





History in the church yard

Our church yard is full of history. As we look at some of the names and dates on many of the tomb and grave stones it's not surprising we sometimes wonder what sort of lives the people lived and who exactly were they? Here is a short account of one such individual.

10649 Sergeant Harry Leonard Squibb

Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment

Quedgeley (St. James) Church yard

Died 28th July 1920

Harry Squibb was born in 1890 the son of William and Rosina Squibb of Dorchester. He was one of six children. His dad was a bricklayer and became a widower in 1902, when his wife Rosina died, aged only 53.

In 1911 Harry Squibb had moved to Decon and was living in lodgings at 5 Clifton Terrace, Torquay, a single man, who worked as a grocer's assistant.

As with so many men from the Great War, his Army Service Record did not survive the bombing in London in 1940. The only clues we have as to his service career are contained in his Medal Index Card and those held by the Commonwealth Graves Commission.

We know from those records that he served with the Wiltshire Regiment and that he achieved the rank of Sergeant.

His medal card indicates that he embarked for France on 11th December 1914. A search of casualties with service numbers near to his in *Soldiers Died in the Great War* suggests that he probably served with the 1st Battalion. As this battalion went to France early in the war, he was probably in an early re-enforcement draft, and he may well have joined the Army shortly before the outbreak of war.

It is possible that he went through the war unscathed, or at least without any significant visible injury, but in the absence of any confirming papers this cannot be verified. He evidently rose to the rank of Sergeant which indicates that by the time of the Armistice he was very much a 'verteran'. He possibly stayed on in the Army beyond 1918/19.

The circumstances of his tragic death are contained in a report in the Gloucester Journal of 7th August 1920. The report concerns an inquest held at Manor Farm Quedgeley in late July 1920.

Manor Farm was a training centre for discharged soldiers, such as Sergeant Squibb who was a trainee there. Evidently he had suffered from unspecified medical problems probably relating to his time in the army.

Shortly after 10pm on 28th July 1920 he visited the Reverend E J Bartleet at St. James Rectory. He told the Reverend that he was in trouble and then went on to ask him if it was a sin to commit suicide.

The Reverend accompanied him back to Manor Farm where they went to see the superintendent of the training centre. Whilst they were talking Harry Squibb ran away.

A search was carried out and he was later found dead in a poultry run on the farm, having taken his own life. The coroner recorded a verdict of suicide, whilst of an unsound mind.

Harry Squibb is buried in the church yard of St. James where a standard Commonwealth War Gravestone marks his grave. His name is also inscribed on the Quedgeley War Memorial, although there appears to be no direct connection, other than with the Manor Farm Training Centre.

Harry Squibb fought in the Great War and survived to come home, unlike so many of his contemporaries who are buried in a foreign field. Harry Squibb is a reminder that not all of our fallen die during conflict and some conflict continues once they are home.



Ruth - The Cost and Reward of Loyalty By Fr. Gordon

Ruth is the heroine of the book named after her. She was young Moabite woman who stayed faithful to her Israelite mother-in-law through every sort of trouble and was rewarded for her loyalty when the mother-in-law, Naomi, showed her how to win a rich and loving husband, Boaz.



From 'The Story of Ruth' Thomas Matthews Rooke, 1876

Naomi and her husband Elimelech were refugees. They were from Bethlehem in Judah. A famine struck the land so they went to stay in the enemy land of Moab, taking with them their two sons.

They made their home there, but Elimelech died, leaving Naomi alone with her two sons who had taken as their wives two Moabite women - Ruth and Orpah - but then the two sons also died.

Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem with her daughters-in-law when she had heard that the famine was at an end. The three women set off for Judah, but along the way Naomi told her Moabite daughters-in-law to return to their family homes returned to her own people.

However, Ruth stayed with her, saying, 'Do not beg me to leave you or to stop following you; for wherever you go, I will go; wherever you dwell, I will dwell. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Where you die, I will die and there I will be buried.'

At Bethlehem Ruth met Boaz, a rich land-owner and relative of Naomi. It seems to have been love at first sight for him, he turned to her and said, 'Listen, do not leave this field or go gleaning in any other, stay close to my young women.

Work in whichever part of the field they are working in. And when you are thirsty, drink from the pitchers my servants have filled.'

'I have heard about everything you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and how you left your mother and father and the country of your birth to come and live among a people about whom you knew nothing.

May God repay you for what you have done, and may you be richly rewarded by God under whose wings you have come to take refuge!'

Naomi saw immediately the wind was blowing, encouraged Ruth to keep on working in Boaz's fields and advised Ruth how to catch her man. Ruth approached Boaz during the night at the threshing floor, and the story, suggests that there may have been some sexual hanky-panky as Ruth seduced Boaz.

The next morning, Ruth suggested that they marry, reminding Boaz of his obligation to her as her nearest male kin. There were certain legalities to be ironed out and Boaz promised to do all he could to sort them out.

He proved as good as his word, and he and Ruth were married. She had a son called Obed, who was the father of Jesse. Ruth, a Moabite – a foreigner, became great-grand mother to the great King David.

The story of Ruth is a simple story about the cost and value of loyalty. It provides a glimpse into the lives of ordinary people who show care and loyalty for each other that reflects God's character.

Next time we'll look at the story of the ambitious Bathsheba. It can be found in second Book of Samuel Chapters 7 and 11 and the first Book of Kings, Chapters 1 and 2.

Gordon



"Lights in their own generation"

Christian men & women who helped to build the Church throughout history - Fr. Ian Robb

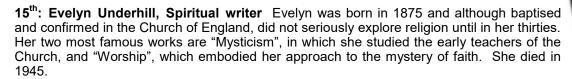
Here are a few of the saints of the Church we shall be remembering with thanks in the month of June:

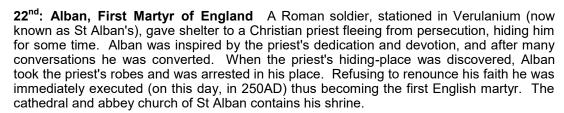


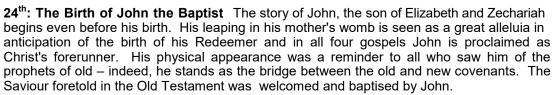
- 1st: Justin, Martyr at Rome. Born in Palestine at the beginning of the 2nd century, Justin became a teacher of philosophy and became a Christian at the age of thirty. He taught Christianity in Ephesus and eventually in Rome, where he and some of his pupils were denounced as Christians and beheaded. He is surnamed "Martyr" because of his unfailing witness to Christ through his writings and the manner of his death.
- **5**th: Boniface of Crediton Born in Devon in 675, Boniface entered the monastery at Exeter as a young man, studying Latin and poetry before offering himself for ordination. He became a missionary in what is now Germany where he had to contend with a variety of pagan religions. He established a string of monasteries across the country, making sure they were places of Christian learning and establishing the Rule of St Benedict as their way of life.

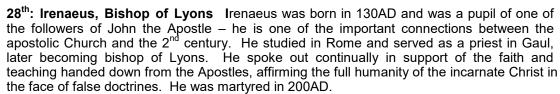


- **9**th: **Columba of Iona** Born in Ireland in 521, Columba was trained as a monk by St Finnian and went on to found several monasteries himself, before moving to Scotland with a group of twelve monks to establish the Community on Iona, which eventually became the base for the evangelising of the west of Scotland.
- 11th: Barnabas the Apostle Although not named in the gospels as one of the twelve Apostles, Barnabas emerges in the Acts of the Apostles as one of the most significant of their number. He was a Cypriot by birth and befriended Paul when others were still wary of the former persecutor of the Church. Tradition tells of Barnabas' martyrdom in Cyprus in 61AD.









29th: Peter & Paul, Apostles Peter and Paul are remembered jointly on this day since the very early days of the Church, it being regarded as the anniversary of their martyrdom in 64AD. Simon was given the name "Peter" by Jesus: "On this rock (Petros) I will build my

О СІ ЯП ВН О С О,

Church." While they came to be seen as having different roles of leadership within the Church – Peter as being a witness to the ministry of Jesus, Paul had the complimentary role of developing an understanding of what it meant to be a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ.



The Venerable Jesus' Jester **David Sutch**





1 Corinthians 4. Verse 10 "We are fools (clowns/jesters) for Christ's sake. Laughter is the best medicine

TD

A young novice in a silent convent is reminded that she can only say three words to the Mother Superior every three months. At her first meeting she says "Bed too hard", the second time "Food too cold", and the third time "I'm off". The Mother Superiors replies, "Well I'm not surprised as all you've done since you've been here is complain."

A Mother Superior calls her nuns together and says "Sisters I have to announce that we have a case of gonhorrea in the convent." "Praise the Lord," says an old nun at the back, "I was getting fed up with the Chardonnay".

When the Mother Superior was dying, her nuns gathered around her waiting for her last words. As they waited, the mug of milk from their cow, was getting cold and a novice was sent to the kitchen to warm it up. She remembered that at the last Christmas they had been given a bottle of Irish Cream. So she added some to the warm milk and took it to the bedroom, where the Mother Superior drank it, and sighed and lay back and her last words were "Don't sell that cow!"

APPOINTMENT FOR YOUR EDITOR.

Father Hugh has been invited by Bishop Rachel to be a Member of the Company of St Kyneburga. This is a Company which recognises and honours service to the Diocese of Gloucester by people who have served the Diocese by a long period of time. Members receive a badge of Membership at a service in Gloucester Cathedral.

On this occasion the service will be held on Monday 17th June at 5.30p.m. conducted by the Bishop of Tewkesbury with refreshments following. Fr Hugh hopes that members of St James Church will be able to support him at this service.

Who was St Kyneburga?

She was co-foundress and abbess in the eighth century of the first religious community at what is now Gloucester Cathedral. This association is a reminder that those who are honoured in this way are the latest in a long line going back thirteen hundred years of those who have built up, maintained and enriched the life of the Church in Gloucestershire. More than 150 people have been admitted to the Company since it was first formed in 2013



"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (WORDS OF JESUS FROM JOHN 10:10)

Open Garden & Dr. Bike

Thanks to our kind hosts, Diane and Andy, some 40 members and friends of St James enjoyed these wonderful gardens based in sunshine and chance to meet up with the warm fellowship which these occasions bring.







There were approximately 36 people who attended the Dr. Bike event. The mechanics were busy checking over bikes and advising their owners on maintaining them. The afternoon came to a close with a blessing of the bikes at 4pm.













Creation Care - Creature Comforts by Revd. Mark

It is sometimes said that Caring for Creation is only for those who wear 'hair shirts'. This couldn't be farther from the truth. Caring for Creation is really about being truly at home in Creation and that means really seeking Creature Comforts and not fighting the tide when it comes to the ways Creation works. For example, as levels of sunlight increase and our homes overheat, simply let cool air into the house in the early morning and late evening on the shady side of the house and close the curtains or blinds on the sunny side. You will save money on air conditioning and really find that Creature Comfort we all seek. Walking and biking is very often more enjoyable than driving in a traffic jam and yet we often drive even when there are easier, cheaper and more comfortable options. In these summer months time outside in parks and gardens is free, healthy and one of the greatest Creature Comforts there is. Enjoy!



Mark

Services at Saint James' Church Quedgeley

You are warmly invited to...

Morning Prayer - 9.15am daily during term time

Holy Communion - Wednesday 10.00am

Holy Communion - Sunday 10.30AM except for the first Sunday in the month when said

Communion is at 9.15am.

STJ'S Family Service - First

Sunday in the month 10.30am







Pause for Prayer

Every morning at 9.15am

During term time.

Pop in after the school run

Join Revd. Mark in Morning Prayer

Community News

Our Tesco Champion Theresa Fisher has had a busy few months. Theresa's Knit and Natter team go from strength to strength. A couple of months ago they raised funds for Dementia Uk. Cuppa and cake was on the table and a game of bingo. Everyone enjoyed themselves as well as raising money for this worthwhile cause. At the end of April Theresa was invited to the Civic Service in Gloucester Cathedral. Theresa says 'It was so nice to hear the Ukrainian choir and to meet up with some familiar faces from the community'.













What's on in and around your area...









The Forest of Dean Sculpture Trail is a good way of exercising, whilst seeing some interesting sculptures. It can be a little hilly for little ones and there are some short cuts. However, be warned that by taking the short cuts you could miss out on some of the sculptures. There is a playground for children and a coffee shop should you require sustenance after the walk. The tree is not a sculpture it's 150 years old with branches that spread everywhere so be careful you don't trip over them!













If you would like to submit an article or poem to be included in the parish magazine please send via email to Fr. Hugh at hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk



Change of Hours

Please note our new Cafe and Soft Play opening hours

Monday - open 9:15am - 12:00pm Tuesday - open 9.15am-2.00pm Wednesday - open 9.15am - 2.00pm Saturday - Open 9.00-12.30pm



Find out about some of the things we can help with including mental health, disability, multiple births & money management: www.home-start.org.uk/help

Home-Start staff and volunteers support families with young children through challenging times. We are there for parents when they need us the most #BecaseChildhoodCantWait

QUEDGELEY WOMENS' INSTITUTE



It was a pleasant sunny evening for our May meeting, with members sitting at tables ready for the Quiz and social evening we would be having after the usual business. May for the WIs means Resolutions when members choose and vote on important issues that they want to campaign on. This year the Resolution was Dental Health Matters and after a brief summary of the details we voted in favour.

We welcomed two new faces as anyone can come along, either as a visitor or new member. We are still looking forward to the theatre trip to see the Frankie Vallie tribute act, the Group Party Afternoon Tea and our fund raising afternoon on 22nd June in Quedgeley Village Hall when we will be serving refreshments and cakes as well as a raffle and book stall.

In June our speaker will be the Rev'd Mark Siddall from St. James Church with his talk "A life as a scientist and a Priest". Before being ordained Mark had an international career in climate research and completed scientific studies that focussed on the impact on our world's oceans so perhaps he will be covering this interesting subject in his talk. If anyone would like to come along to this meeting or any others they will be made very welcome.





Year 2 had a lovely trip to Cadbury World. Here is their account of the day's events



"Year 2 had an amazing trip to Cadbury World learning about all things chocolate! When we arrived we went on a journey through the history of chocolate and Cadbury World. On our way around the factory, we were treated to a delicious pot of melted chocolate which we were able to add 2 flavours too! After we filled our tummies, we went on a new exciting ride where we had to collect as much milk and as many cocoa beans as we could to make a bar of chocolate. Not only that but we were also able to enjoy the incredible 4D cinema at Cadbury World! We had to

wear special glasses which made the screen pop out at us, and the chairs would shake as we went on the roller coaster through the Cadbury Village. We had so much fun! To finish the day off, we had a special talk from a Cadbury Worker about the history of chocolate and how Cadbury became what it is today. Some of us were even lucky enough to dress up as Cadbury workers from the past and present and even John Cadbury himself! We had lots of fun and to top it off, we were given 2 tasty chocolate bars to take home"







Quedgeley Town Council





Our first Annual Council Meeting took place on Monday 13th May where 14 elected and very enthusiastic councillors came to together to form a new council and get to know each other and we have a new Chair and Vice Chair. Steve Wilcox is the Chair of the Council and Julian Powell, Vice Chair. Both long term and well experience councillors so we are sure they will enjoy their new roles.

Kingsway Ward	Cllr Laura Bradford Cllr Lisa Goodge Cllr Robyn Roberts Cllr Mike Robinson	
	Cllr Tina Wnukowska	
Fieldcourt Ward	Cllr Shelley Potter	
Severn Vale Ward	Cllr Chris Pearce	
	Cllr Julian Powell	
	Cllr Vicky Ranford	
	Cllr Ben Smith	
Central Ward	Cllr Nick Lee	
	Cllr Jan McAllan	
	Cllr Janet Weston	
	Cllr Steve Wilcox	

All of their details can be found on our surrounding noticeboards, the Tesco Noticeboard and on our website so please familarise yourself in case you ever need to get in touch. Of course, you can still pop into the Town Council Office which remains your one stop shop for complaints, concerns or even compliments. It's exciting and good for the community to have new faces and fresh eyes alongside existing well experienced councillors as this provides a rounded representation of the community. We still have 2 vacancies on the council so if you are interested or even just a little bit tempted then please do contact the office on 01452 721552 where the Clerk will be more than happy to explain the role of a councillor.



REMEMBER our Dog Show is due to take place at Kingsway Sports Pavilion (opposite ASDA) on Sunday 9th June 2024. There is a very small entry fee and registration packs can either be obtained from the office in advance or on the day by just coming along. Registration is from 9am onwards. Every dog is guaranteed a rosette and some will even win a prize which could be anything from a cuddly toy to dog biscuits! Always a very popular event and lots of fun so please make sure you come along with your pooches. Further information can be found on our noticeboards or in our office window.



For more serious news, the financial accounts have now been audited by our independent auditor and are very shortly about to be sent to the external auditor. It is at this stage that we welcome anyone who wishes to come in a view the accounts by appointment. We are committed to being as transparent as possible. The appointment notice will be on our website and in our office window within the next month so please keep a look out



At the time of writing this we are busy preparing for our Annual Parish Assembly which is due to take place on Wednesday 29th May 2024 and is put on annually purely for the benefit of our local residents. This year the subject is Fireworks and we have a supplier attending to answer any questions and to show what they can provide. Unfortunately we were unable to confirm arrangements last month and therefore were unable to publicise this in the previous Around the Spire however we are busy advertising this event as much as possible on our noticeboards,

Facebook and on our website so we are hoping that as many people as possible will attend. It is also a great opportunity to meet our new councillors and some of the staff.

A flavour of some of the concerns that come into this office at the moment are: Grass Cutting
Strimming
Parking
Overgrowth

Our Community Pantry has become pivotal to the local community with many families helped by this scheme. Unfortunately due to demand, we have had to close our membership, however this is always being monitored and when possible we will reopen for new families to join. Moving on from this we are now working hard on our Community Garden Scheme, at the moment in its infancy but Cllr Ranford and Cllr Wilcox are working hard to get this started.

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-tc.gov.uk).



We have served over 70 members in one week (and have over 100) on our books, which is great, and we're so glad to be helping our residents, but due to limited space for stock, we will not be able to accept any new members until we have put our heads together and come up with a way to be able to help more people.

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
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Mr Andrew Wakely	01452 722528	07879883091	andrewmwakely@gmail.com
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Safeguarding Officer			
Liz Keenan	01452 722320		mrs.e.keenan@btinternet.com
PCC Treasurer -			
Mr Ian Pearce	01452 725178	07867502469	ianlu123@hotmail.com
Tea@2			
Mrs Jackie Hall	01452 721062	07853217954	jackiehall1854@gmail.com
Organist—Chris Baldwin		07811589867	cpbaldwin359@gmail.com
Bell Ringers—Anne Heron		07360008632	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 Abundantly - a vision for our church and parish

Jesus says: "I came that you may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Let's pray together this Lent and seek God's vision for the abundant life our community

God of abundant life, give us the faith to journey with you, the hope to believe in your future and the love to make your abundant life real for our parish of St. James