



NEWS & VIEWS

from the Benefice of Cinderford with Littledean

Inside this Month...



Who's on the Trike?



Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

We went to see my Mum on Monday this week (as I write). She lives in Rugeley in Staffordshire, which is a little under 90 miles away by road. We generally travel via the M5 and M6, sometimes using the M50 to avoid Gloucester at busy times. On a good run, the journey takes around an hour and forty minutes. A good run being defined as: no fuel or 'comfort' stops, good weather, light traffic and no road works. Using this definition, we have not had a 'good run' in years! There have been road works on different stretches of the M5 for a long, long time and currently there is a stretch with only one lane open and a section of a few miles with a 30mph limit. The junction where the M5 meets the M6 is busy at the best of times and can often have queues in both directions.

We left my Mum's at about 5.00pm, which was never going to be good as this was going to be a busy time for traffic. Despite this, things went reasonably well until we were on the M6 approaching the M5 junction. The combination of the single lane stretch on the M5 and the amount of traffic meant that there were lengthy queues in the left two lanes as traffic waited to get onto the M5. Even after leaving the M6, things were no better as we waited to merge into the single lane section. It took us a little over two and a half hours to get home, with the mile leading up to the road works on the M5 taking about half an hour. I did not enjoy this. I really don't like being stuck in traffic. I don't suppose anybody does, but I certainly don't. It drives me crazy.

When we got home, I had to pop and get some milk (for Tuesday morning at Bethel Tea Room). I got it easily enough, but then had to queue to be served. It was fairly late by this point and there weren't many checkouts open. In fairness, there weren't many customers either, but I ended up in a queue of about 5 people and wasn't too thrilled about it! (The queue took less than a minute to be served as most people only had one or two items, but that wasn't the point. There was a queue. I was in it. I didn't want to be. I wasn't happy.)

I thought about this afterwards. Why was I so bothered? I was in no particular hurry to get home. I didn't need to be anywhere for a particular time. The queue to pay for the milk was not even really a wait. I just didn't like the idea that I might have to wait. I felt bad. I feel bad. But I don't think I'm alone. We generally don't like having to wait. We generally don't like being stuck in a queue, either in traffic or in a shop. Or at the Post Office! Or the bank! Or at the Petrol Station! (I'm starting again!!)

Advent is a time of waiting. A time of preparation. A time of looking forward. A time for reflection. I don't think I'm really very good at Advent. I don't think as a society we're really very good at Advent. We need to try to find time in all the busyness as Christmas approaches, to stop, to be quiet, to think, to reflect, to prepare, to wait.

I hope and pray that you manage to engage with Advent this year. Let me know how you get on. Let me know if you struggle.

I hope and pray that, after the waiting, we get to celebrate Christmas together!

God Bless,

Mike



| | Bilson* | St Ethelbert's | St John's | St Stephen's |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---|---|--|
| Sun 3 Dec | | 10.30 am AAW | 9.30 am PE 4.30 pm Advent Carols @ Soudley Village Hall | 11.00 am MW - Christmas Tree Festival Service 3.00 pm Carol Singing |
| Sun 10 Dec | 3.00 pm HC | 10.30 am HC | 9.30 am CBE | 11.00 am MW, JC, WILD 7.00 pm Healing Service |
| Sun 17 Dec | | 10.30 am JS @ URC | 9.30 am PE | 4.00 pm Christingle 6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight |
| Sun 24 Dec Christmas Eve | | 10.30 am MP 11.30 pm Watchnight JS @ URC | 4.00 pm Christingle 10.00 pm Christmas Eve HC | 11.00 am AAW 11.30 pm Christmas Eve HC |
| MON 25 Dec Christmas Day | | 9.30 am Christmas Communion | | 11.00 am All Age Christmas Communion |
| Sun 31 Dec | | | 9.30 am PE | 11.00 am HC, JC, WILD |
| Sun 7 Jan 2018 | | 10.30 am AAW | 9.30 am PE | 11.00 am HC, JC, WILD |

*** All Bilson services are currently taking place at Hanover Court.**

AAW = All Age Worship; CBE = Communion by Extension; HC = Holy Communion; JC = Junior Church (preschool up to Y6); JS = Joint Service; MP = Morning Prayer; MW = Morning Worship; PE = Parish Eucharist; WILD = Youth Group (Y7 - Y13).

Midweek Service Times

Wed 6 Dec, 10.00 am HC at St Stephen's
7.30 pm **Shalom Christmas Service**

Wed 13 Dec, 10.00 am HC at St John's
7.00 pm **"Looking for the Light"
Service** at St Stephen's

Fri 15 Dec, 10.00 am **Littledean School
Carol Concert** at St Eth's

Sat 16 Dec, 6.00 pm Bellringing Celebration
& Service, St Ethelbert's

Wed 20 Dec, 10.00 am HC at St Stephen's

Wed 27 Dec, 10.00 am CBE at St John's

Wed 3 Jan, 10.00 am CBE at St Stephen's

Christingle Services

St Stephen's and St John's would love to welcome you to their Christingle services on Sunday 17 December at 4.00 pm and Sunday 24 December at 4.00 pm, respectively.

Carols will be sung, Christingles lit, the nativity story revisited and money raised for The Children's Society, who support vulnerable children here in the UK.



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Our Churches



St Ethelbert's, Littledean, GL14 3NL

Holds a range of services at 10.30 am.
On the 3rd Sunday of each month a joint service is held at Littledean URC.

St John's, Cinderford, GL14 3EX

9.30 am services in the moderate catholic tradition with a Eucharistic and sacramental focus.



St Stephen's, Cinderford, GL14 2AA



Different worship styles at 11 am and 3 pm. 11 am services reflect an evangelical tradition with a worship band & children's and youth activities; 3.00 pm services are traditional (BCP) with organ. Various midweek services.

Bilson Mission, Cinderford, GL14 2TQ

Bilson services are currently taking place at Hanover Court, whilst essential maintenance work is being assessed.



Mothers' Union Report

Our November meeting was very well attended, with Di Martin, along with her colleagues from GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service), speaking to members about their work in and around the Forest of Dean. The talk was inspiring, moving and a bit disturbing in varying parts. It was wonderful to know that women (and men) are being ably supported by the team, although prayer is always much appreciated. The three visitors were very willing to answer questions after which refreshments were enjoyed by all.



The October Deanery Coffee/ Lunch morning raised £248 for Away from it All Holidays which helps with holidays for families who otherwise would be unable to get away for a break.

Our December meeting is the Deanery Advent Carol Service taking place at Holy Trinity Church, Drybrook on Tuesday 5 Dec. at 2.00 pm, with refreshments served afterwards. All are welcome

A reminder for members who have booked: the Christmas Lunch is at The Belfry Littledean on Thursday 7 Dec. at 12 noon for 12.30 pm.

- Nikola Poole
News & Views

From the Registers

Baptisms

25 November Marnie Grace Hale St John's

Weddings

10 November Dennis Pearce & Janet Meredith St Eth's

Funerals

2 November Sheila Lee FoD Crem

10 November Robert Standen FoD Crem

Seen walking around the I'm a church around the Benefice, but where? Diocese, but where?



Answers can be found on page 11.

Answers can be found on page 11.



Our Partner Churches

Salvation Army
Forest of Dean
01594 839106
Littledean URC
01452 760271

Our Lady of Victories
Roman Catholic
01594 833173
www.forestrc.co.uk

Cinderford
Methodist Church
01594 825662

Cinderford
Baptist Church
01594 822618

Forest of Dean
Community Church
07975 994224
www.fodcc.org

Putting a Bit Back into the Community

We retired last year and bought a cottage in Cinderford.

We have started a blog at
<https://vandaandeddie.uk/>

We wanted to put something back into the community here and have created a free directory for any Forest of Dean business or organisation and an event calendar.

There are no charges at all, so why not take a look?

Vanda & Eddie

Children In Need Sponsored Walk

At the request of Mike's mum, a sponsored walk to raise money for Children in Need took place on Saturday 11 November. A group of 37 willing volunteers and 6 canine friends set off in slightly drizzly weather from St Michael's. We walked a collective total of 99 miles, raising £1000!



A message from Mike's mum: I was so impressed that over 30 people took

part in the Children in Need ramble. I gather that it wasn't very good weather, but you all braved it for a good cause.

I really feel most grateful for your support in this way.

You will be pleased to know that together with donations your party raised over £1,000. How impressive is that? Thank you so much. I'm sure it will be well used.

God Bless.
Margaret
Barnsley



OCC Update

After the 98 shoeboxes that were packed at St Stephen's made the first step of their journey to Lydney, over 50 more have passed through St Stephen's, which is acting as a shoebox drop off point this year. These boxes will also make their way to children overseas via Lydney, where they will be checked to ensure they match the needs of the receiving country's customs requirements.

A big thank you to all who have joined in in some way, we look forward to the photographs in the new year of children receiving their boxes and hopefully we will be able to report on where around the world, those packed at St Stephen's went.



All Souls' Service

In the afternoon of Sunday 5 November we gathered at St John's Church to remember, give thanks and pray for those from across the benefice who have gone from us over years past. We remembered too in prayer and hymn those left behind and asked God to continue to support them according to their need. It is a thoughtful reflective service in which anyone can join and have their loved ones commemorated. Do think about taking part in a future year especially if you have lost a relative.



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Christmas Tree Festival

St Stephen's is hosting a Christmas Tree Festival from Friday 1 December to Sunday 3 December. There will be a special service on the Sunday at 11.00 am taking place amongst the trees and celebrating the first Sunday of Advent.

The church will be open on Friday 1 December from 10 am - 7 pm, Saturday (2 December) 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday (3 December) at 11 am for the special service and then afterwards until 5 pm.

There is no charge for entry and refreshments will be available throughout.

The festival will be a wonderful opportunity to really kick start your Christmas preparations and the season of Advent with an absolutely wonderful selection of decorated trees from community groups, schools, businesses and local craftspeople; various groups playing or singing carols including Forest View choir, Forest Sensory Services handbells, the Belle Vue Choir and Bella Musica; lots of decorations for sale or make some of your own; delicious refreshments; teas/coffees and a raffle. Plus you can vote for your favourite tree!



Please pray for:

- Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert
- those who have recently been bereaved
- anyone who is unwell
- others around the Benefice who need prayer
- those who have recently been baptised (Marnie), her parents and godparents
- Dennis & Janet, married in November
- Mike; in his ministry around the Benefice
- Anthea; in her ministry as priest
- Chris, Linda, Lynne and Richard; our licensed readers
- Jim and Adalia Fisher, in the Philippines
- Felipe and Sarah Yanez (CMS partners in Spain) and their sons Sam and Aaron - currently in the UK for six months
- Cinderford Street Pastors
- children, young people and their leaders
- comfort for those remembering lost loved ones
- Di Martin and her colleagues at GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service)
- all caught up in natural disasters around the world
- for all aid workers working to assist in rescue and rebuilding
- all those around the world facing persecution, homelessness or hunger

Movie Night with CTiC - Sun 26 Nov

Together with our friends at Churches Together in Cinderford, St Stephen's is hosting a movie night on Sunday 26 November at 6.00 pm. Entry is free and refreshments will be available.

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Christmas Tree Festival at St Stephen's

Churches Together Carol Singing in the Coop

Christmas Concert at St John's

Carol Concert at Hanover Court

BoB Breakfast at St Stephen's

"A Celebration of Christmas" Concert at St Eth's

Boxing Day Fellowship Lunch at St Stephen's

Friday 1 December, 10.00 am - 7.00 pm

Saturday 2 December, 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Sunday 3 December, 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Saturday 2 December, 10.30 am - 11.30 am

Sunday 10 December, 3.00 pm

Friday 15 December, 7.00 pm

Saturday 16 December, 9.00 am - 10.00 am

Wednesday 20 December, 7.30 pm

Tuesday 26 December, 1.00 pm

ADVENT SERVICE

Soudley Village Hall

SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2017

AT 4.30 PM

All are welcome

Benefice of Cinderford with Littledean

Weekly Activities

Monday: 7.00 pm - 8.45 pm Bellringing, St Ethelbert's Church
(not on the first Monday of the month)

- Group to practice ringing for Sunday services. (Bells rung on a Sunday from 9.45 am - 10.30 am)

Tuesday: 1.00 pm - 5.00 pm Craft & A Cuppa, St Stephen's Church
(meets during term time, not on the first Tuesday of the month)

- Craft group where members bring along their own craft and share fellowship

Friday: 10.00 am - 11.15 am Coffee Morning, St Stephen's Church

- Chance to meet for fellowship and enjoy some Fairtrade tea and coffee

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm IF (boys, Year 7+), St Stephen's Church

(meets during term time; not on December 1, last one this year December 15)

- Youth group for boys in secondary school with food, games and activities

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Messy Church Launch

On Sunday 14 January, St Stephen's will host a "Messy Church" around the theme of Epiphany, when we celebrate the visit of the three kings.



Starting at 3.00 pm and finishing at 5.00 pm, Messy Church is an opportunity for the whole family to come and join in craft activities, games, an interactive service and enjoy a meal. Prepare to get messy!

As the idea is for family groups to attend together, children and young people need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For more information, please see our website or contact the vicar, Mike Barnsley on 822286 / mike@cinderford-churches.org.uk.

A Celebration of Christmas - Wed 20 Dec

St Ethelbert's Celebration of Christmas concert once again promises to be a feast of musical entertainment.

Katherine is collating an eclectic mixture of performers, some already regular attendees and other new ones, including a trumpeter and a recorder troupe! There will be something for everyone's taste, so make a date of Wednesday 20 December 2017 at 7.30pm prompt and enjoy what promises to be an uplifting and free concert all on behalf of an aid charity- Jim Duffin

Wreath Making Workshop - Tues 12 Dec

If you'd like to make a festive wreath for your door or a loved one's grave, come along to a workshop on Tuesday 12 December at St Stephen's from 1 pm - 5 pm. You can also make a floral centrepiece for your table, complete with a candle, if you don't fancy a wreath!

£5 to cover cost of materials.

Trust 130

All three of our Parish Churches are insured through Ecclesiastical Insurance Company, based in Gloucester. They are celebrating their 130th Anniversary this year and as part of their celebrations they have set up a scheme called "Trust130" whereby anyone who switches to an Ecclesiastical Home Insurance policy during the next 12 months and quotes TRUST130 along with the name of the participating church, Ecclesiastical will donate £130 to the church on your behalf. You must get the quote directly from them.

If you are interested in finding out more, please either look at their website: www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130 or ring 0800 783 0130 and mention TRUST130.

Remember you will also need to give the church's name in order for the church to benefit. All three of our Parish churches are participating in the scheme:

- St Ethelbert's,
Littledean
- St John's, Cinderford
- St Stephen's,
Cinderford

News & Views

Mike's Question:

Without looking at a Bible: which of the following words appear in the Bible passages telling the Christmas story? (In NIV, NRSV, ESV)

Camels, singing, donkey, kings, innkeeper, lamb, archangel, hay / straw, "no crying", Orient, oxen, winter, snow, cold, stable, cherubim, seraphim, sheep.

Mike's Challenge:

Read through the Biblical accounts of the Nativity in Matthew and Luke. Note the differences between them, and also the differences between them both and the story as we would generally hear it told today.

Answers will be in next month's "News & Views" but please do discuss with Mike in the meantime!

Answers to last month's ?'s:

How many Psalms did (King) David write?

David is generally understood to have written 75 of the 150 Psalms. He is noted as the author in 73 Psalms and is referred to as the author of two other Psalms in the New Testament (Acts 4:25, Hebrews 4:7). It is, of course, possible that David wrote more than 75. There are 50 Psalms that do not mention an author, and we know that David wrote two of these, so it is perfectly possible that he wrote more of them. (The Greek translation of the Old Testament credits David with writing 85 Psalms).

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Getting to Know You ... with Nan Gretton



Member of St Stephen's

Favourite ice-cream?

Vanilla

Favourite actor? Judi Dench.

Favourite colour? Pale Blue.

Favourite film?

Paddington 2.

Favourite season?

Spring.

Favourite food & drink?

Chinese & a cup of tea.

Worst job you've ever done? Tidying up after having a new bathroom fitted.

Favourite flower or tree? Roses.

Favourite item of clothing? Nice thick warm wooly jumper.

Favourite TV programme? DIY SOS.

What would be your ideal holiday? Always wanted to go to Scotland; all being well, I'm going next year.

Favourite book? A Streetcat Named Bob.

Would you prefer to live in a big city or small village? Small village.

Favourite hymn or church song? How Great Thou Art!

First car (and did it have a name)? DAF car.

What was your best holiday? Lake Maggiore (in Italy), our hotel was right by the water.

Favourite Church building? St Stephen's, obviously.

Are you a cat person or a dog person? Both, I love all animals.

Where would you most like to be right now? Somewhere nice and sunny and warm.

Favourite family memory? My grandson's wedding.

What four people (dead or alive) would you invite to a dinner party? Daughter, son-in-law, and two of my close friends.

First Job? Worked in a biscuit factory.

Earliest memory? Living by the River Severn as a child, which was a very idyllic childhood living area; lots of happy memories playing there & picking blackberries in the field.

Best job you've ever had? Helping my husband in our little corner store in Ruspidge.

What do you owe your parents? Everything really, they were kind and loving; we didn't have a lot but I had everything I needed.

If you could be any animal, what would it be and why? A cat, because I could sleep all day.

Favourite building? Gloucester Cathedral.

News & Views



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Lectionary

3 December (1st Sunday of Advent)

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Isaiah 64:1-9 | Psalm 80:1-8 |
| 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Mark 13:24-end |

10 December (2nd Sunday of Advent)

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Isaiah 40:1-11 | Psalm 85:8-end |
| 2 Peter 3:8-15a | Mark 1:1-8 |

17 December (3rd Sunday of Advent)

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-end | Magnificat |
| 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 | John 1:6-8, 19-28 |

24 December (4th Sunday of Advent)

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 | Psalm 89:1-8 |
| Romans 16:25-end | Luke 1:26-38 |

24 December (Christmas Eve)

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Isaiah 9:2-7 | Psalm 96 |
| Titus 2:11-14 | Luke 2:1-14, 15-20 |

31 December (1st Sunday of Christmas)

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3 | Psalm 148:7-end |
| Galatians 4:4-7 | Luke 2:15-21 |

7 January 2018 (Epiphany)

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalm 72:10-15 |
| Ephesians 3:1-12 | Matthew 2:1-12 |

Littledean Church of England Primary School



Rock Steady

We had a fantastic start to our week with an assembly led by Rock Steady. Jamie came and showed us a number of different instruments and we had the opportunity to sing along with some well-known rock and pop songs. It was greatly enjoyed by staff and children alike!!



Operation Christmas Child

This year we donated over 30 filled shoe boxes to this very worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Holly Leaves

Holly Leaves have been enjoying making use of the outside area.



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CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

1-3 DECEMBER AT ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH

Friday 10am - 7pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 1pm - 5pm

A wonderful variety of fantastically decorated trees from community groups, businesses and individuals. Come and kick start your festive season with twinkly lights, Christmas music, delicious refreshments and lots of decorations to buy or a chance to make your own!



Fairtrade Focus

If you fancy giving a gift with a difference this year, the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's might have the answer. If you want it to be Fairtrade, but with a homemade twist, try this homemade mincemeat:

Mincemeat

Makes approximately 3 x 500g jars

Ingredients

- 500 g (18 oz) dried mixed fruit*
- 300 g (10.5 oz) other dried fruit of choice* - apricots, mango, pineapple, etc
- 250 g (9 oz) cooking apples, peeled and finely chopped
- 125 g (4.5 oz) slivered almonds*
- 125 g (4.5 oz) suet
- grated zest of 1 lemon[#]
- grated zest of 1 orange[#]
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon[#]
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg[#]
- 1/4 tsp mixed spice[#]
- 250 g (9 oz) dark brown soft sugar*
- 250 ml (9 fl oz) brandy, dark rum or apple juice[#]



All starred (*) ingredients are Traidcraft products available at the Fairtrade stall at St Stephen's (or can be ordered); ingredients marked with a hashtag (#) are available as Fairtrade but not from church - speak to Rachel for advice on where to purchase if needed - rachel@cinderford-churches.org.uk / 01594 719438.

Method

1. Make sure all of the dried fruits are finely chopped to around the same size.
2. In a large bowl, mix the first ten ingredients together until well combined. (It is easiest to do this with your hands).
3. Dissolve the sugar in the brandy, rum or apple juice and add to the mixture.
4. Cover and leave in a cool place overnight.
5. Stir the mixture thoroughly before packing into sterile jars.
6. Allow to mature (for about a month) before using.

Pavarti Jadhav is one of the farmers growing the vine fruits that become Traidcraft organic and Fairtrade sultanas. She has been a farmer for over 25 years and is a board member for her local grower's association in India. She is currently only one of four women in the organisation of 100 farmers, and is working hard to encourage other women to join her.



Pavarti reports on the difference working under fairtrade terms makes: "With fair trade we have hygienic conditions, there is no child labour and, for the same job, the same salary for men and women. Fair business."

News & Views

Looking for the Light

Do you find Christmas a difficult time? Perhaps you have lost a loved one or are just feeling lonely. Or maybe you would just like some quiet time amongst all the hustle and bustle of preparing for Christmas.

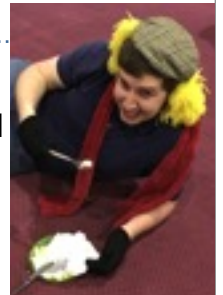
If so then Looking for the Light is a service for you. It is a quiet reflective service, a time to be in God's presence, to bring to Him your feelings and your needs in a warm friendly atmosphere. Do join us on Wednesday 13 December, 7.00 pm in St Stephen's Church.

Light Party and Movie Night



Much fun was had at both the Light Party and the Games & Movie Night at the end of

October. Lots of food was eaten, games were played, chocolate was enjoyed (Fairtrade of course!), tattoos were applied (just washable ones!), sweets were gobbled, s'mores were consumed, crafts were made and generally much fun was had by all!



In fact, so much fun was had at the Games & Movie Night we hope to repeat it

again before October 31 next year. Keep reading for more information!



Seen walking around the Benefice, but where?**I'm a church around the Diocese, but where?**

"The Forest is Defended" Mural, Commercial Street, Cinderford



All Saints Church, Viney Hill.
Currently under repair.

Messy Church Launch

On Sun 14 January - **Messy Church** at St Stephen's from 3 pm - 5 pm

Foodbank Request

Our friends at the Forest Foodbank, run by Trussel Trust, have requested extra supplies to help those in need over the Christmas period. Alongside normally required foods, it would be wonderful if you felt able to donate some items that may normally be considered a luxury to help families celebrate Christmas; such as boxes of biscuits, chocolates, Christmas puddings or cakes, or anything that you would consider to be a 'festive treat'. There are collection boxes at all of our Parish Churches.

If you, or someone you know, require the support of the foodbank at any point, please contact our vicar, Mike Barnsley, in total confidence. (01594 822286).

Home Communion

If you live in the Benefice and would like to receive home communion, please contact the Vicar, Mike Barnsley, (822286) or Linda Blagg (822153).

Who's on the Trike?

Rachel Treweek
Bishop of Gloucester

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Contact Us

Vicar: Mike Barnsley

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mike@cinderford-churches.org.uk

(Mike's regular day off is Monday, if you need to speak to someone urgently on a Monday, please contact someone else from the list below)

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(Anthea has a full-time job and her regular church day off is Saturday. Please phone / email and she will respond as soon as possible)

Readers:

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Richard Blagg - 01594 822153

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Lynne Chaundy - 01594 825997

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Jim Duffin - 01594 510191

Churchwardens at St John's:

Pat Byett - 01594 823713

Evelyn Smith - 01594 822755

Churchwardens at St Stephen's:

Kim Howard - 01594 827933

Chris Witham - 01594 719438

Urgent Prayer Requests -

Sian Barnsley - 07932 193291

Linda Blagg - 01594 822153

Mike Barnsley - 07903 436009

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Karen Jones - 01594 825902

safeguarding@cinderford-churches.org.uk

(If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding anyone who attends church please contact Karen Jones or Mike Barnsley.)

Visit the Benefice Website:

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If you have anything for the next magazine (articles, photographs) or would like to enquire about placing an advert please contact magazine@cinderford-churches.org.uk by Wednesday 27 December.

Comments and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the PCCs or the Vicar of the Benefice.

Craft Fayre

Saturday 4 November saw

St Stephen's filled with a treasure trove of

handmade delights. The

talent on display was overwhelming as Christmas gifts galore were purchased, bacon baps enjoyed, money banks painted, chocolates sampled and cakes savoured.

A big thank you to the wonderful range of stallholders, all who came along to support and

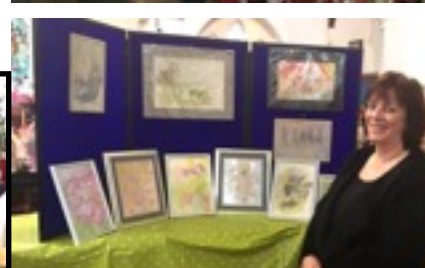
everyone that helped make this

the best Christmas Craft Fayre

yet! Keep your eyes peeled for

dates of next year's Craft

Fayres
coming
soon!



Quiz Night

Once again,

Linda put

together a quiz

to really test all

who attended's

thinking power

and Mike's guest round on 'services' proved to be not quite what everyone was expecting!

Congratulations to the winning team, maybe next time someone will end their streak? 2018 dates to be announced soon!

Thanks to all who supported, £350 was raised for the Vestry Roof Fund; special thanks to Linda, the fabulous quiz master, for all her hard work in setting the questions and to the White Hart



Quiz Team for donating their £50 winnings to help boost the fundraising.