



Vicar's Letter

With Summer well and truly upon us, many are enjoying the various sports events that are happening around the world, including the Euros, Wimbledon, the Open championships, Olympics and Paralympics. The competitors and athletes have been training for months (some for years) to be at the top of their game and hopefully win medals.

Sport competitions have been around for centuries. The apostle Paul, for example, used the analogy of the games to encourage the Christian believers to have a zealous faith in Jesus. He chose to speak the language of sports to the Corinthians, as this would have captured their interest. They were great lovers of sports. Every two or three years, the city of Corinth hosted the Isthmian Games.

In these games, the prize was a "crown" or wreath of green leaves. It was highly prized. The great athletes went through a lot of training, suffering, effort and sacrifice to obtain a perishable crown. But Paul then spoke of "an imperishable" crown that Christians would receive from Christ. This one would be eternal. He wrote:

"All run in a race, but only one receives the prize. They do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown."

(1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

He describes one of the greatest needs we have as Christians today, that is an attitude of earnestness in our commitment to live the Christian life in the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ calls each one of us, to live for Him with the same sort of determination and commitment that a world-class athlete would exhibit in running a race in the games.

Let us bring that same sort of athlete's discipline into the manner with which we live our Christian lives. May we be ready and willing to be trained by God in the advancement of His kingdom in the lives of others.

Can there be any greater prize than to receive an imperishable crown? When we have reached the finish line of our Christian life, what better prize can there be than to hear the Lord Jesus say to us: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." (Matthew 25:21, 23).

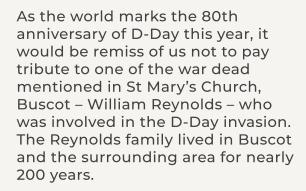
May God's blessing be upon you.

Maureen



The 80th Anniversary of D-Day

By Maggie Burrows



On the night of 5th June 1944, six gliders took off from RAF Tarrent Rushton in Dorset. On board were 181 men of the Oxford and Berks Light Infantry 2nd Battalion. Among those men was Corporal William Reynolds.

William had left behind his wife, Winifred, and a young son. His parents were William and Sarah Reynolds. They were all living in Buscot.

William's Battalion were given the task of taking Pegasus Bridge over the River Orne in France. Taking this bridge would stop the German army from getting reinforcements to Sword Beach, which was where British and French troops were landing as part of D-Day.



Five of the gliders landed in the dark less than 47 yards from the bridge taking the Germans by surprise. Within 10 minutes they had secured the bridge only losing two men. Half an hour later they were reinforced by the 7th Parachute Battalion and linked up with the beach landing forces during the day.

Their next task was to take Caen, the region centre. It was a battle that lasted six weeks and took the lives of 30,000 people, including many civilians. During one of the skirmishes William and four of his colleagues were tragically killed on the 25th June, 1944.

William was only 33 years old. He was laid to rest in a small cemetery in Herouvillette. His headstone gives his name, details of his Battalion and words from his family: "Life is eternal. Our love will always remain until the day we meet again."

We will remember them.



By Anne Hamling

The unusually wet Spring has led to lush growth. We are seeing a big increase in perennial wildflowers, a flush of Oxeye Daisies, and an increase in Pyramidal Orchid numbers from 3 or 4 last year to more than 20 today. The Yellow Rattle sown in the winter of 2022 is spreading rapidly. This plant will parasitise the ranker grasses to create space for perennials to self-seed into the meadow areas.

Three of our nest boxes were successfully used this year including the one that was raided by a Spotted Woodpecker last year and repaired in time to make a home for a family of Great Tits. One of our boxes was used as a cosy winter roost by a Wood Mouse.

We welcome our new gardener, Alan O'Connor, following Matt Appleton's decision to work nearer his home near Abingdon. The paths and seating areas will continue to be mowed through the summer before the wildflower meadows have their annual cut in early September.

A vintage sundial has been donated by sisters Theodora and Poppy Beckett of London, who fell in love with the garden during a visit earlier this year. A book listing all donors will soon be deposited in the church.

Our doughty volunteers will be ready for a work party morning in December or February again this year to sow some more flower seed, level the hedges and prepare the nest boxes for another spring.

Do be in touch with Pat our Churchwarden (phemes43@gmail.com) if you would like to help us or donate funds. We aim to commission some tree work to clear the Ivy from the Hawthorns and maintain the view to White Horse Hill.



Camino Walking

By Jan Hall

Jan Hall and her friends walked part of the Camino Way recently and many of us followed them on their journey via WhatsApp.

Camino is a Spanish word meaning, "The Way". It is often used to describe the traditional ways that pilgrims walked for centuries to reach Santiago de Compostela.

Tradition says that the body of James the Apostle, after he was beheaded in Jerusalem, was brought to northern Spain and buried there. Nowadays, Santiago is a city with a magnificent cathedral, which is visited by hundreds of people that have walked or cycled along these routes.

The route from St John Pied de Port in the French Pyrenees to Santiago is the most popular route, but there are many other ones. This year we started walking from Salamanca and passed through Zamora and Ourense and lots of small villages. We were very well looked after all the way.

If you get the opportunity to walk or cycle one of these routes, do try it. I think that you will come back with lots of good memories.

Essential Fundraising

It is becoming apparent that each Church in our Benefice needs to raise money to pay for essential repairs. Each PCC/congregation is responsible for maintaining the buildings in good order.

Building costs and related fees are expensive, so we do need to organise fundraising events throughout the year to enable these costs to be met, and keep our churches open.

We are grateful to all who fundraise on behalf of the churches, and look forward to more events soon.

Next Events:

Tea and Cake Fundraising EventSaturday 13th July, 2:30pm-5pm
The Vicarage, Great Coxwell
(Reading Room if wet)

Stonevale ConcertsSee page 6 for full listings





Communion Community

Every Holy Communion service in the Benefice is followed by coffee and biscuits. It is a great time of fellowship and catching up with our friends. Recently, we had a beautiful sunny day at Eaton Hastings, and were treated to refreshments by the River Thames.

Stonevale Concert Dates

St. Giles Church in Great Coxwell is now hosting regular classical concerts that, for many years, were held in the front room of villager Lynette Stulting's home. The first concert started in 2006 and was supposed to be a one-off fundraising event. But due to its success and popularity, the concerts kept going. Lynette hosted over 150 concerts!

St. Giles is a larger venue, seating up to 100 and has great acoustics. Many successful musicians have performed at Stonevale, including Ben Schoeman, Mami Shikimori, Manus Noble, Emmanuel Salvador and Stephanie Childress.

- Sunday, 7th July at 4pm
 Torriano Ensemble
 - Saturday, 28th September at 7pm
- Sebastian Mueller (violin) and Lynette Stulting (piano)
- Sunday, 22nd October at 4pm
 Derek de la Bernardie (cello)
- Sunday, 10th November at 4pm
 Ben Schoeman (piano)

Please purchase your tickets in advance (though walk-ins on the day will be welcomed). Advance ticket sales allow us to gauge the number of attendees. Tickets can be purchased from www.whitehorseconcerts.co.uk/stonevaleconcerts



From the Church Registers

All Saints Church, Coleshill

Ian Homersham was laid to rest in Coleshill cemetery following a service at the church on 18th April, 2024.

St Giles' Church, Great Coxwell lan Burn was laid to rest in St. Giles' Churchyard following a service at the church on 29th April, 2024

"May they rest in peace and rise in glory."

St Michael and All Angels, Eaton Hastings

Congratulations to Frederick Donger who was baptized 18th February 2024. We welcome him into the church family.

Congratulations to those getting married this year:

Great Coxwell, 20th July, 2024James Chamberlain and Amy Joy Bohm

Buscot, 17th August, 2024George Henderson and Georgie
Hamilton-Briscoe

Children's Word Search

R 0 0 т S W R Е C Е Е Е K S Z 0 Е 0 Е S

Princess Nile Egypt Pharaoh Moses Goshen Hebrew Canaan Plague

Complete the Scripture!

"When the ____ had grown some, she brought him to ____ daughter; and she began to raise him as her ___." (Ex 2:10)

Badbury Parish Calendar of Services Summer/Autumn 2024



| Summer/Autumn 20 | 24 | U OF LIV | ICLAIND |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------|
| JULY | | | |
| DATE | SERVICE | CHURCH | TIME |
| 7 TRINITY 6 | Holy Communion BCP | Eaton Hastings | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Buscot | 5:00pm |
| 14 TRINITY 7 | Morning Prayer | Coleshill | 9:00am |
| | Holy Communion | Great Coxwell | 10:30am |
| 21 MARY MAGDALENE | Holy Communion | Buscot | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Eaton Hastings | 6:00pm |
| 28 TRINITY 9 | Holy Communion | Coleshill | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Great Coxwell | 6:00pm |
| AUGUST | | | |
| DATE | SERVICE | CHURCH | TIME |
| 4 TRINITY 10 | Holy Communion BCP | Eaton Hastings | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Buscot | 5:00pm |
| 11 TRINITY 11 | Morning Prayer | Coleshill | 9:00am |
| | Holy Communion | Great Coxwell | 10:30am |
| 18 BLESSED VIRGIN MARY | Patronal Festival HC | Buscot | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Eaton Hastings | 6:00pm |
| 25 TRINITY 13 | Holy Communion | Coleshill | 10:30am |
| | Patronal Songs of Praise | Great Coxwell | 6:00pm |
| SEPTEMBER | | | |
| DATE | SERVICE | CHURCH | TIME |
| 1 TRINITY 14 | Holy Communion BCP | Eaton Hastings | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Buscot | 5:00pm |
| 8 TRINITY 15 | Morning Prayer | Coleshill | 9:00am |
| | Harvest Holy Communion | Great Coxwell | 10:30am |
| 15 TRINITY 16 | Holy Communion | Buscot | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Eaton Hastings | 6:00pm |
| 22 TRINITY 17 | Harvest Holy Communion | Coleshill | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Great Coxwell | 6:00pm |
| 29 MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS | Patronal Festival HC BCP | Eaton Hastings | 10:30am |
| OCTOBER | | | |
| DATE | SERVICE | CHURCH | TIME |
| 6 TRINITY 19 | Harvest HC BCP | Eaton Hastings | 10:30am |
| | Harvest Songs of Praise | Buscot | 5:00pm |
| 13 TRINITY 20 | Morning Prayer | Coleshill | 9:00am |
| | Holy Communion | Great Coxwell | 10:30am |
| 20 ST LUKE | Holy Communion | Buscot | 10:30am |
| | Evensong | Eaton Hastings | 6:00pm |

Patronal Festival HC

Evensong

27 ALL SAINTS

Coleshill

Great Coxwell

10:30am

5:00pm