



**St Columba, Iona Abbey**

It has been a gloriously hot summer but as I sit here, on holiday, and write this in the rain soaked Highlands of Scotland, I am reminded that we live in a diverse country with huge varieties of landscape and climate. And the last day of my Scotland holiday captured that perfectly!

Nevertheless, to most of us, wherever it is that we choose to go and visit, we are all captivated by that particular landscape and culture. I love the Scottish Highlands, indeed I love anything that is reminiscent of my Celtic ancestry and its associated spirituality.

On my most recent holiday I took a trip to the Mull of Kintyre (of Paul McCartney fame!) and looked over to the coast of Northern Ireland.

I was awed by it.

It is a wild, rugged terrain with cliffs and you have to take a steep single track road (very scary!) to get to the small lighthouse which is the most

southerly point of the Kintyre peninsula.

The Atlantic Ocean stretches out in front and Ireland is almost within touching distance.

As I stood looking at Ireland, I could imagine Saint Columba making his journey to Scotland with his twelve companions. He landed on the Kintyre peninsula in 563 before making his way further up to Iona to settle and establish the monastery there.

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## UPTON'S ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING

Come and support the world's biggest coffee morning and make it the biggest yet!

Coffee, Cakes, Raffle, Bring & Buy.

**SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**UPTON VILLAGE HALL 10 am to Noon**

**Test Your Willpower Against Our Cakes!**  
**(not that you stand much chance).**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**WORLD'S BIGGEST**  
**COFFEE**  
**MORNING**

**MACMILLAN**  
**CANCER SUPPORT**



Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales(261017)

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The isle of Iona, to me, is a deeply spiritual place and has a pervading atmosphere that reminds you that you stand on land that has been trod by Christian people for centuries. It is a place where God is.

Land and place are important in our lives and I do hope one day to visit the Holy Lands and see the places where Jesus walked, lived, preached and died.

Nearer to home, we live in villages that have much history and significance and our places in these villages are dear to us. So, in a few months time, we will be commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War and, as part of our Benefice and Christian witness. I hope we will be able to come together and remember specifically, those who went from our villages to the Front Line.

As you will read further on in this edition of The Parishioner, we are intending to have a united service in Alconbury on the 11<sup>th</sup> November in which we will all join in the Act of Remembrance at 11.00 am, before reading out the names of those who went from our parishes. In their memory, we shall lay six wreaths on the Altar.

I am sure it will be a moving occasion where we reflect on the ultimate sacrifice echoed in the words from John's gospel 'Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends'. Our Saviour paved the way for such sacrifice which He gave for all of us.

In our villages, there are many who could tell stories of people who have lived here and their imprint, like Saint Columba, gives our parishes a shape that is unique and worth preserving.

### **Prayer of St Columba**

Be, O Lord, a guiding star above me,  
a smooth path below me,  
a kindly shepherd behind me  
and a bright flame before me;  
today, tonight and forever.

Amen.

Every blessing

**Mandy**

# The Methodist Church

## in Alconbury

Things have changed for the Methodist Church in Alconbury as at the end of August we said goodbye to our Minister, Revd Alan Taylor who has retired. We wish Alan and Dorothy all blessings as they start a very slightly less hectic life in their retirement.

We welcome Revd James Bamber, who is the Circuit Superintendent Minister, as our new Minister and look forward to getting to know him over the coming months.

At Alan's last service on the 19th August he brought with him the new hymn books, which replace our old and rather tired ones. We hope these will be enjoyed by all.

### Great Gidding Baptist Church

10 Main Street, Great Gidding

#### NEW SERVICE DAY & TIME.

We now meet on

**Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30**

to enjoy a time of discussion and fellowship - Living Room Style.

**Do come along and join us.**

### Little Gidding Poetry Group

at Ferrar House

#### Autumn Programme

Thursday Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Peter J. Larke	East Anglian Tales in Dialect
Saturday Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	George Szirtes	Man Booker nominated poet
Tuesday Nov 13 <sup>th</sup>	Raymond Garfoot	Luis Borges and Labyrinths

You can read about George Szirtes and his work on [georgeszirtes.blogspot.com](http://georgeszirtes.blogspot.com)

**The meeting will be held in Ferrar House Library at 7.30pm,  
Visitors are welcome. £4 including refreshments.**



# NEWS

## FROM THE PARISHES

### All Saints' Church WINWICK

#### Cake & Coffee Morning

The next get-togethers, with Book Sale, are on **8<sup>th</sup> September** and **13<sup>th</sup> October** in the Church, from 10.00am until 11.30am.

Come along and enjoy a slice of cake, a cup of coffee and a chat – and we've got a good selection of books too!. Thank you to everyone who supports this every month.

#### Barbecue and Fete

Once again we were blessed with good weather. Alison and David were unable to do the BBQ at the last minute, but the food was up to the expected standard and raised over £1000 alone.

There was a very popular cake stall; and tea and cakes for those not wanting a mid-day meal.

The usual side shows were as popular as ever with plenty of winners – too numerous to mention by name.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped, in whatever capacity. The overall profit on the day was £2,346.82, to be shared by the Church and the Village Hall.

#### Annual Sponsored 'Ride, Drive and Stride'



This will take part on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept, between 10am and 6pm. Sponsorship Forms for anyone wishing to take part are available from Jenny Endersby.

#### Cleaning and Flower Rota

9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September  
6<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October  
11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November

Jenny Endersby and Nicki Juggins  
Lynn Garner and Denise Johnson  
Glyn Popeley and Val

## All Saints' Church BUCKWORTH

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### Quinquennial Review - What's That?

By the time you read this, All Saints church will have received its long awaited and welcome Quinquennial Review. This is a mandatory, detailed inspection of the church building by a specialist architect, held every four years; this allows us to identify the future maintenance and repair work inside and outside the church. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

### Parish Giving Scheme

You will be aware that we are unable to raise enough basic income to sustain the upkeep of the church and ensure it remains open. We are always under pressure to use fund raising income to subsidise these annual costs. We are now a registered member of a national Parish Giving Scheme and hope that you will consider joining (it is like a national charity giving scheme).

Please contact Diane Simmonds PCC Secretary if you would like further information.

### Fundraising

As usual we are busy planning for future fund raising events. The most imminent is:

### Buckworth Flower Festival – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 11 - 4 pm** In the Church - A glorious floral display and workshops. In the Cricket Club homemade teas and stalls.

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 7 pm** In the Church - An evening of Light Music featuring the Alconbury Community Choir. £10.00 (includes a glass of wine and canapes)

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 11 am** In the church - Harvest Festival Service. The church will remain open until 3.00pm

### Dates for Your Diaries

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018 - Harvest Supper** – 7 pm at Cricket Club.

### Planning for 2019

**January Burns Night Supper** Cricket Club - date to be confirmed

**Sat 6 July Jazz Evening**

In the church – details from Denise Bream Foster 01480 896 602

**Wed 13 Feb Banjo Player Evening**

7 pm onwards in the Cricket Club - details from Denise Bream Foster

## All Saints' Church HAMERTON

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### Hamerton and Steeple Gidding Parish Meeting and Village Hall AGM

At the AGM on 9 July, a new Committee was voted in, as follows

Chair - Kate Tojeiro

Vice Chair - Jules Taylor

Treasurer - Ruth Berry

Thank you to them for stepping up and to Brian Dutton and Gillian Thorpe for their past service.

### Harvest Festival

This will take place on **Sunday, 16 September at 11 am** in the church, followed by a ploughman's lunch.

As we did last year, we are asking for donations of dry food goods (packets, bottles or tins) for the Medway Food Bank in Huntingdon.

Toiletries are also welcomed. Please bring items to the service or if you can't be there, please leave your donations in the church porch.

Lunch will be a **Bring and Share Ploughman's Lunch**, so please bring whatever you would like, along with something for you to drink.

If you have any spare garden produce, please bring that too, for a "Harvest bring and buy".

### Dates for your diaries

Mon 3 Sept Bell ringing from 7:30pm to 9.00pm

Sun 16 Sept Harvest Festival service at 11.00am followed by bring and share lunch (please see details above)

Wed 19 Sept PCC Meeting at 6.30pm in the village hall

Sat 24 Nov Christmas Fair in the village hall

Sun 16 Dec Christingle and Carol Service - from 2.30pm. More details next time.

### Patronal Festival

The Patronal Festival afternoon tea enjoyed by all who came.

The church was filled with people sharing a chat and eating a *delicious* cream tea supplied by our band of bakers.

A huge thank you to Alconbury Community Choir who filled the church with their beautiful voices, their varied programme appealing to all.

Poppies were made with details of the men from our two villages who gave their lives in the First World War. These will decorate our church as we come to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the war.

The Patronal Service celebrated our patron saints, St Peter and St Paul. Mandy's sermon looked at their lives and examples and the Community Choir sang the anthem – Elgar's Ave Verum Corpus.

### Historic Churches

On a very hot Sunday 20 visitors came with Historic Churches to learn more about our church, enjoy afternoon tea, thank you team, and partake in an evensong service.

### Leavers' Service

A lovely service where the Year 6 children told of their time at Alconbury School in varied poetic forms.

### Chancel Repairs

The chancel is now encased in scaffolding which will enable work to be done to eliminate the damp.

### Alan Taylor

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to our Methodist Minister, Alan Taylor. He has led us over the past two years. We have enjoyed his wisdom, spirituality, friendship, gripping sermons and leadership. Enjoy your retirement again!

### Quizzes

Kim organises monthly quizzes which are much enjoyed. The next one is on 29 September. Look out for posters.

### Dates

- 15 Sept Felting Workshop run by Vanessa Watson
- 17 Oct Alconbury School Harvest Service
- 20 Oct Harvest Supper
- 21 Oct Harvest Festival
- 9 Nov Friends of Alconbury Church Film and Supper evening
- 11 Nov Remembrance Service

### Advance date for your diary

1st & 2nd December Christmas Tree Festival

### Sunday Rocks

All age café worship on the 1st Sunday of the month – breakfast from 9:00 am with short service at 9:30 - all welcome

### Coffee Plus

Mondays during term time 9-11 -in the church. Coffee, cake, toys, chat - for all ages.

### \* NEW SERVICE \* Midweek Communion with Lunch

12:30 on 3rd Wednesday of the month.

## Harvest Celebrations



### St Margaret's Church, Upton

#### HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

Service at 11.30 am

After the service, at **1 pm** there will be a  
**Ploughman's Lunch for only £5**  
in the Village Hall

### St Michael's Church, Great Gidding

#### HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Service at 11 am

After the service, there will be a "Bring and Share" Lunch  
at Churchside House (by kind invitation of John DeVal)

Offers of food, please, to Jane Edwards (01832 293 555)



## St Michael's Church GREAT GIDDING

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### Church's Birthday Party

Our church is dedicated to St Michael and the church commemorates this saint on September 29<sup>th</sup> each year – to give it its proper title, it's the Feast of St Michael and All Angels. Why our church was not given the adjunct of "and All Angels" is lost in the mysteries of time!!

This year, to celebrate this,(or to give it its official title, the church's Patronal Festival), we will be holding a service of **Choral Evensong on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September** starting at 4pm.



We are delighted that the St Peter's Singers will be making their first visit to St Michael's to lead our worship. They will sing music by Walton, Moore, Bairstow and Thalben-Ball.

We also welcome back to Great Gidding, the Reverend Laura Jørgensen (aka Laura Burgess before her marriage) as our preacher.

**Rev'd Laura Jørgensen** After the service, starting at 5.30 pm, there will be a 45 minute organ recital given by Eleanor Carter, Senior Organ Scholar, Clare College, Cambridge. She will be playing music by J.S. Bach.

This is the first time the organ has been put through its paces since the additional work carried out last year, in memory of Lois Jordan.

Following the recital, refreshments will be served (in true Gidding style that includes a glass of wine) to celebrate what can be called Great Gidding Church's birthday. Please do come along and share in the celebrations.



**Eleanor Carter**

### Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival, this year, takes place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

The service starts at 11am, and, be assured, we shall be singing all the favourite harvest hymns.

After the service, there will be a "Bring & Share" lunch at Churchside House (by kind invitation of John DeVal). If you can provide food for the

lunch, please contact Jane Edwards ( 01832 293 555 or email jane.edwards5@outlook.com).

This should ensure we don't end up with numerous bowls of potato salad!!

Again, please do come along and join in the celebration.

### Church Rotas

<b>Flowers</b>	Mrs M Crook (Sept)	Jane Edwards (Oct)
<b>Cleaning</b>	Burton Family (Sept)	Julie Morrison (Oct)

ST MICHAEL'S  GREAT GIDDING

# Choral Evensong

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 4 pm**

with **St Peter's Singers**

Preacher: Revd Laura Jørgensen  
(Rector, St Botolph without Aldgate, London)

followed by

# Organ Recital

**beginning at 5.30 pm**

with  
**Eleanor Carter**

*Sir William McKie Senior Organ Scholar  
Clare College Cambridge*

Free admission with retiring collection

**Benefice**  
**NORTH LEIGHTONSTONE**

NORMAL SERVICES

**St Peter & St Paul, Alconbury**

1st Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am	Sunday Rocks (Worship, Crafts and Café for All God's Family)
2nd Sunday	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Methodist)
3rd Sunday	9.30 am	Service of the Word
4th Sunday	9.30 am	Family Communion
Wed (except 3rd Wed)	7.30 pm	Midweek Communion
3rd Wednesday	12.30 pm	Communion (followed by lunch)
Morning Prayer	8.30 am	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs Only

**All Saints', Buckworth**

1st Sunday	6.00 pm	Evensong
3rd Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion

**St Michael's, Great Gidding**

1st Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday	6.00 pm	Evensong
Tuesdays	8.00 am	Morning Prayer
Except 3rd Tuesday	8.00 am	Holy Communion

**St John's, Little Gidding**

2nd Friday	12.00 noon	Holy Communion (For more information contact Richard Scott 01480 890 286)
5th Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion

**All Saints', Hamerton**

1st Sunday	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
3rd Sunday	9.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP)

**St Margaret's, Upton**

4th Sunday	6.00 pm	Evensong
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**All Saints', Winwick**

2nd Sunday	9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
4th Sunday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer (BCP)