



AROUND THE SPIRE



SAINT JAMES' CHURCH FREE MAGAZINE FOR
THE PARISHIONERS OF QUEDGELEY & KINGSWAY

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ISSUE NO 95
OCTOBER 2023

Editorial
October 2023
Fr. Hugh Broad



WHAT MAKES YOU TICK?

Those readers of Around the Spire for some time may well have read my Memoirs - "ORDINARY AND EXTRAORDINARY **". If so you will have read that Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, a long term friend of mine, in the Foreword to this little book describes it as an explanation of -WHAT MAKES ME TICK'. I am grateful to the Archbishop for his observations of me flattering though they are!

So now seems a good time to pass this question on to you, dear readers, to ask yourself this same question! Do you ever ponder over the ways in which your personality differs from those around you? Whoever we are, regardless of age, status, background, there are bound to be ways to ensure that each of us is - UNIQUE!

Having said that, there are ways in which our personality and make up draw us together in various ways. Members of clubs and other pastimes - cricket for me - show that in one way or another we do sometimes 'tick together'!

This is very true in many ways of the Christian Church. In this Parish Church of St James we have many groups - for example, readers, servers, singers, and so on. The activities of each group vary in the way they conduct it, but it is a part of the 'whole' . Perhaps the best examples of all in Christian worship is when we join together in singing hymns.

The work and witness of the life of the Church is when we can be seen to be a Team - the production of 'Around the Spire' is a classic example. In your hands or on your screen as you read, you will have several contributors (and we are keen to make it more). WHAT MAKES US TICK therefore varies from person to person and subject to subject.

So let us rejoice in what all this means and be thankful for it!

*** The Memoirs referred to here in book form were produced a few years ago to mark my own part in this process. Most of the 200 copies were sold in support of St James Church.*

There are some who missed out on this first edition and it is being repeated with some additions It will appear very soon to mark Fr Hugh's 55th Anniversary as a priest.

Fr. Hugh

Out & About with Creation Care Revd. Mark



This month gives me a chance to combine two of my regular columns for *Around the Spire* - 'Creation Care' and 'Out and About'. I am sure that some, but perhaps not that many, know that the Orchard named at the Orchard junction, home to Molto Bene pizza, the Roastery coffee shop and Jane's Pantry was an actual orchard. More to the point a substantial portion of that orchard still exists and is accessible to us all as a community orchard. If you head along Sims Lane towards the canal then it is on your left with several footpaths to access it. You can also access it by heading North East along the southern bank of the canal for just under a mile. The orchard is host to a whole host of fruit and different varieties which are available to anyone to pick. In October we are still able to pick the end of the blackberries, pears and apples. It is just full of fruit trees and I probably haven't spotted them all so wait for some nice Autumn sun and get down there. The fruits of God's good earth, good for us and good for the planet. Bring bags or baskets to fill!

What I am praying about

As I write, we are in the aftermath of a summer of natural disaster with the Moroccan earthquake and human-made disasters from Climate Change caused by Greenhouse gases, including flooding, landslides, hurricanes and one of the worst seasons of wildfires on record. I am praying for all those affected, those who have died, whose lives have been torn apart all around the world and in our own country. The number of those affected by human made disasters must be in the millions and the cost this year alone in the trillions of pounds. We have gained a lot from technological progress, much of which has been underpinned by fossil fuels. However, at this point there is so much more to lose, financially and in every other way. I pray that we will learn to work together to accept and find effective and workable responses to address human made Climate Change.



This autumn, the Revd Dr Mark Siddall, is leading a series of seminars to help clergy, ministers and readers understand the scriptural, theological and missional imperative to care for God's Creation.

Mark says, "I see part of my role in ministry as helping people develop a love for God's creation and to understand that it's literally every breath we take, every glass of water we drink – that caring for creation is part of everything we do."

Before being ordained in 2018, Mark had an international career in climate research and completed extensive scientific study of the climate, focusing on the impact on our world's oceans.

For more information click on the link below:-

<https://gloucester.anglican.org/2023/climate-change-is-a-together-problem-the-revd-mark-siddall/>



Revd. Mark outside St. James' Church—a keen cyclist



Do you have a child due to start school, or know of a child starting school, in September 2024? If so, please come along to one of our Open Days.

You do not need to book in advance. We look forward to welcoming you!

Monday 9th October at 10.30am

Tuesday 7th November at 2pm

Tuesday 21st November at 10.30am

Friday 1st December at 10.30am

Is your child due to start school in September 2024?

We are delighted to be able to invite you to look around our happy and vibrant school where the children are at the heart of everything we do.

Our Open Days are:

- Monday 9th October 2023 at 10:30am
- Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 2pm
- Tuesday 21st November 2023 at 10:30am
- Friday 1st December 2023 at 10:30am

Pre-booking is not required.

Testimonials:

- "Pupils love coming to school" -Ofsted 2022
- "Pupils thrive at this welcoming school" -Ofsted 2022
- "Leaders are successfully growing a community of compassionate and responsible young citizens" -Ofsted 2022
- "This is a safe and happy place for pupils to learn"-Ofsted 2022

St James' Church
Christmas Fair
Saturday 25th November
2.00pm - 4.00pm
Quedegeley Community Centre
School Lane
Quedegeley GL2 4PN
See you there!

Don't forget to put the date of the Christmas Fair in your diaries. We've a variety of stalls - yummy cakes to buy and tombola to try your luck! There's a chance on the Christmas Raffle to win £100. Finally, why not treat yourself to a cuppa and mince pie in our refreshment area. Look forward to seeing you there!

All proceeds towards St. James' Church fund.

Pop in for a snack at the local Q Club in School Lane Quedegeley. They are open most days and always very welcoming!

Q CLUB

We are open today from 9.15am-2.00pm

Why not drop in and see us for a bite to eat!

“Lights in their Own Generation”

A series celebrating, month by month, some of those who left a special mark on the history of the worldwide Christian Church.

***“Lights” that shine in October by
Fr. Ian Robb***



4th: Francis of Assisi: having turned his back on the prospect of a prosperous career in the family fabrics business, Francis believed that God was calling him “to repair my church”. He began by working among the sick and the poor; other men joined him and he compiled a gospel-based rule of life for them to follow. His basic creed was that all creation – plants, animals, people, the heavens above – were all part of God's one family. The Franciscan Order has, since his death in 1226, spread throughout western Christendom.

6th: William Tyndale, Translator of the Scriptures: born in Gloucestershire, William studied at Oxford & Cambridge universities, where he became determined to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed by the then bishop of London so he moved to Germany in 1524, never to return. He completed his task before being arrested and murdered in 1535, but his life's work was later found good enough to form the basic text of what is now known as the Authorised (King James) Version.

10th: Paulinus, bishop & missionary: a member of the second group of monks to be sent to England by Pope Gregory I. He travelled to the north of England and oversaw the building of the first church in York and was made its first bishop. Having escaped persecution, he fled to Rochester and became bishop there.

11th: Ethelburga, Abbess: Sister of Erkenwald, bishop of London, she was the patron & abbess of the shared abbey of Barking. Bede, the church historian, links a number of miracles to her time at Barking. She died in 675.

12th: Wilfrid of Ripon, bishop: Educated on Lindisfarne, & tutored in Canterbury, Rome, & Lyons, he became a monk, eventually becoming abbot of Ripon. He played a major part in the Synod of Whitby, reconciling the Roman & Celtic factions in the English Church. He served as bishop of York and later bishop of Hexham before retiring to the monastery at Ripon.

12th: Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer: a minister in the Society of Friends (the Quakers), she became aware of the appalling state of the prisons and so devoted much of here time caring for the welfare of female prisoners in Newgate. She travelled widely through Europe in the cause of prison reform.

12th Edith Cavell, nurse: in 1907 she joined the Red Cross in Belgium. When war broke out in 1914, she was involved with caring for the injured on both sides. Having refused repatriation, she was involved with smuggling British soldiers from Belgium into Holland. She was arrested & executed and calmly forgave the members of the firing squad, believing that she had done her Christian duty.

18th: Luke the Evangelist: “the beloved physician” & companion of St Paul. He is the author of the gospel which bears his name, and also of the Acts of the Apostles. He details the life of Jesus from the Annunciation of his impending birth to his death and resurrection, and describes the earliest days of the infant Church.

26th: Alfred the Great: king of the West Saxons, peacemaker in both church and state. He used his own income to establish religious houses which acted as Christian centres for education, care of the sick, & respite for travellers. He was a daily communicant and he evolved a legal code based on the principles of Christian mercy and the compassion of Christ. He died in 899.

music-chat-laughter-faith

JAM SESSIONS

If you like Pizza followed by Ice Cream then Saint James' was the place to be when a group of youngsters joined in the fun at the 'End of Summer Party'

The Jam sessions take place every Sunday in St. James' Church School Lane Quedgeley GL2 4PN at 4pm. Led by Revd. Mark they are aimed at young people who are about to enter secondary school. In a safe environment the young people are able to learn about the Christian faith through music, dance, conversations and FOOD!





Do you have a favourite Hymn or Song?



Since becoming Organist at St James's following the untimely passing of Liz Baxter some years ago, I have been blessed to accompany worship with clergy and congregation. Your catholic taste in music manifests itself as you sing along with such gusto and faith!

Chatting with members of our congregation, I am often asked about how I arrive at hymn and song choices, particularly for our sung Eucharist services.

For Seasons of the Church Year such as Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and other special times including Harvest Festival and feast days of Saints, for example, our hymn book, 'Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New' contains a wealth of familiar hymns, as well as some more modern songs.

To help in choosing hymns and songs for ordinary Sundays, I can refer to books that indicate hymns suitable to complement the readings set out in the Common Worship Lectionary. The Lectionary provides readings for all Sundays in the Church's Year, based on a three-year cycle. I am also grateful to Canon Michael whose encyclopaedic knowledge of authors and composers is very helpful in choosing hymns to supplement worship.

However, there are other times in the Church's Year, for some Sundays in Trinity for example, where there is plenty of opportunity to choose hymns that are more general in nature and perhaps not so well known.

This is where you come in! I welcome all in our community, especially who have particular hymns or songs that they like, to suggest hymns and songs with a view to using them during some of our regular Sunday services. They don't necessarily have to be part of our regular repertoire. It would be good to include some of your ideas for hymns or worship songs in future services.

So, please let me have your ideas. You can chat with me in church or hand me a list of your favourites at any time!

Chris Baldwin—Organist



Gloucester Cathedral

'Stones and Bones' family trail, running from Saturday 15 October to Saturday 5 November. Hunt for clues around the Cathedral, learning more about the many tombs, statues and carvings as you go.

A great family activity!



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers



Jesus' Jester

The Venerable David Sutch TD



Having just moved here, I was sorting through my papers and found my grandfather's (The Venerable Ronald Sutch, Vicar of Cirencester and Archdeacon of Cheltenham -AT THE SAME TIME!)-book of Religious Jokes and this was on a piece of paper within the book

At an interdenominational school in North London, a little Catholic boy was arguing with a Jewish kid.

"I bet my priest knows a lot more than your rabbi" he said.

"Well of course he does" answered the Jewish boy, "You tell him everything."

"Oh, I'm sorry vicar – are you busy?"

"No, do come in – I'm just rehearsing one of my sermons."

"Ah – practising what you preach!"

In his own handwriting:

A visitor to an old man of the village aged 92 –

"have you lived here all your life?"

"Not yet !"

1 Corinthians 4. Verse 10 'We are fools (clowns/jesters) for Christ's sake'

Laughter is the best medicine

Saturday 14 October — Gloucester Cathedral

Join us for a Library Tour in October and explore the natural world within the pages of an 18th century encyclopaedia and more. Located up a winding spiral staircase, the medieval library contains a wonderful collection of books and manuscripts dating back to the 11th century.



Library Tours will be taking place on **Saturday 14 October 2023** at the following times:
10.45am -11.45am - 1.45pm - 2.45pm

Please note:

- Library Tours last around 60 minutes
- Library Tours involve climbing 38 spiral steps

Please book your ticket on this page of the website. <https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/library-tour-14-oct-23>

Bookings will close 24 hours before the date of the event.

Any remaining tickets will be available to purchase at the Welcome Desk on the day, subject to availability.

RIDE AND STRIDE 2nd SEP 2023

Ride and Stride is an annual event taking place in September each year. Paul Bridges led the team from Saint James'. Here he tells us about the event



Ten adults, four junior riders and Biddie met at St James Church at 10:00 hours on a cloudy but dry Saturday morning to endeavour to visit five local churches and complete the 20-mile circuit route in order to contribute to Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust.

We set off as an excited group to initially ride to St Nicholas at Hardwicke where we were greeted by a huge dog whose owner was having difficulty handling it! I think we may have excited the dog, but Biddie showed no fear. We moved on towards the Pilot over the canal to turn next left to our second church of St Peters at Upper Framilode but disappointingly we were diverted from our route by road resurfacing and forced to continue towards Elmore and the stiff but short climb which took its toll on some. Cars were advised to keep to 20 mph on the newly tarmaced and gritted road surface which was horrendous!

However, we recovered having hydrated, ate some snacks at St John the Baptist and then rode to our next destination of St Laurence at Longney where we took another breather. The boys and Emily were doing exceptionally well and really enjoying themselves, some taking advantage of Revd Mark's bike box and increasing his payload!

Leaving Longney we continued towards Upper Framilode on the old tarmaced road – what a pleasure which made easier riding for the whole group. Arriving at St Peters we were greeted by three delightful ladies who were hosting their Saturday Coffee Morning for visitors, serving drinks and cake which we were forced to take advantage of! The boys and Emily enjoyed the biscuits. On leaving Revd Mark said a prayer before we moved on to St Mary the Virgin at Fretherne known as the Little Cathedral. During this part of the ride Biddie was becoming overexcited and Erica decided to take her home. However, Erica re-joined us later to finish the ride.



Now for a bite to eat at Frampton on Severn and a well-earned rest. Two of the riders enjoyed a pint at the Three Horseshoes watching locals play Boule outside the pub. They didn't eat as the pub was packed and re-joined the team at the local shop where they enjoyed a pasty each.

Next stop Saul and the return home but, expecting to retrace our footsteps (or pedals) to taste the delights of gelato at the Wholly Cow we were rerouted to take our original road to the canal. Bitter disappointment all round, especially the younger members of the team but we all made it safely back to St James satisfied with our day in the countryside.

Well done all but particularly the younger members and let's hope it encourages more next year which should be Saturday 14 Sep 24. Please put it in your diaries.



Ploughman's Lunch

On Saturday 9th September, Val Harris along with her team of helpers raised a whopping £750.00 towards church funds. The weather was glorious and many chose to sit outside. The Raffle, Guess the weight of Biddie and the Ukulele entertainment from Revd. David Sutch added to the fun of the day. Also a very 'Happy Birthday' to Richard Westwood who celebrated his birthday on the same day as the lunch.



The STJ family service held on Sunday 3rd September was a little different to the normal day to day service held at St. James'. The theme for this month is The Season of Creation and what better way of caring for God's big planet than by helping to ensure it's clean and protected. With this in mind a Litter pick of the church yard was arranged. Our thanks go to our local Councillor, Hannah Norman for arranging most of the protected equipment and to Quedgeley Town Council who were happy to lend a number of litter picking tools.

The congregation picked up a huge amount of litter from the church yard - it's such a shame that it has been dropped in the first place and that people can't take their litter home with them.

StJ's

The Season of
CREATION



**CHURCHYARD LITTER PICK
(BRING GLOVES)**

Sunday 3 September, 10.30 until 11.15am
St James' Church, School Lane, GL2 4PN

Family fun, laughter and worship,
snacks, coffee/tea after



Ode to Richard

The following verses are from a poem created by Jean McCarty to celebrate Richard Westwood's 75th birthday. Unfortunately, due to a shortage of space we are unable to print the poem in full. If you would like to read the completed poem please contact Pam Westwood.



You have reached the age of seventy five,
Isn't it great to be alive.
On your bike you no longer race,
But pedal along at a more gentle pace.

If along the canal you are taking a hike,
You may well be stopped by a man on his bike.
He will ask you to listen to sounds all around,
His knowledge of wildlife has no bounds.

So here's to you Richard,
Or should I say Spider,
The name you were given when you were a rider.
Time taking its toll you no longer compete,
It was then you had to take a back seat.
But your interest in cycling is still going strong,
Although you were never a Lance Armstrong.
Now you can relax sit back in your chair,
And watch on TV how these new riders fair.

Happy Birthday Richard



Aid for the Ukraine

The war in Ukraine still continues and is just as acute. Items of warm clothing, candles, batteries, and medical equipment are still needed. If you can help by supplying any of the items mentioned please contact Laura Bullivant on 07841901547 or contact the Ukrainian Church on Derby Road.

Laura tells us that she will be visiting Ukraine in November with around 200-300 Christmas presents. We'll hear all about her trip in our New Year edition of the parish magazine.

Our main needs are

Medical & First aid
-First aid items -medical items - incontinence products - catheters - OTC pain killers & cold/flu products - hay-fever products - mosquito repellent - fortisp/Nutricia/Ensure.

Power & Light
-candles, including battery, USB, also part used candles as we have several groups of ladies making these into trench candles for us.
-Handwarmers (disposable, reusable & rechargeable) - power banks - solar chargers - batteries - generators.

Warmth
NEW Socks, NEW underwear, NEW thermal baselayers. Also water purification tablets, lifestraws, water purification filters.

Plus, toiletries, toothpaste, toothbrushes & nappies

We collect from the Ukrainian Church on Derby Road, Gloucester, GL1 4AE on a Friday from 1pm to 5pm or we can arrange to collect from you.

Quedgeley Town Council



Welcome to October's update from Quedgeley Town Council.



We are pleased to announce that we will be very shortly commencing work at Druids Oak Playpark in Quedgeley, providing a very long overdue revamp. The first phase will involve a brand new multicoloured surfact, followed by all of the playpark equipment being repainted, including the railings and bench. This is a very costly project, however careful budgeting this year has meant that the council feel confident now to invest in this project. This is a very well used playpark and is enjoyed by many young children, especially those either on their way or returning from Fieldcourt Infants or Juniors. We ask you to be patient whilst work takes place, however we hope that by choosing the autumn months, disruption will be limited, compared to the summer months. So, watch this space because very soon this playpark will enjoy a brand new facelift!



As we move now into October, preparations really start to commence regarding the annual Fireworks Display which this year is due to take place at Fisher's Meadow on Saturday 11th November. Last year was the biggest yet with many people queuing to get in at the last minute. We really do urge those of you who are looking to attend to purchase tickets in advance. Not only is it cheaper but it gains you a faster entry on the night. If you are a large family then it really does pay to get your tickets in advance because this could save you quite a lot of money. We work together with Danter's fun fair to provide a safe, enjoyable and cheap night out so save this date if you are a fireworks fan! If you are not a fan then please save the date to make sure that you can put into place any arrangements you need to for pets etc. The display always starts at 7pm and only continues for 20 minutes.

Day to day work continues, including supporting the community with initiatives such as litter picking.



Pictured here are a group of young volunteers, arranged by St James' Church who borrowed the Town Council's equipment to pick up an extraordinary amount of litter. Well done to everyone involved and a reminder that this equipment is available to anyone wanting to undertake litter picking, either as a community or as an individual or even as part of the Duke of Edinburgh award which we actively support.



Saturday surgeries continue in both Asda and Tesco with your town councillors being present to talk to about any concerns you might have about your local community. They always prove successful and whilst your councillors don't always have the answers, they will certainly know people who can help and will be able to direct your enquiries forward.

And finally, we are in the process of reapplying for Quality Gold Status under the Local Council Award scheme. This was awarded to us in 2019 and remains valid for 4 years. We are confident that we will once again achieve this status and are submitting the application the next couple of months.

A reminder to everyone that your Town Council Office is situated in the same retail park as Matalan. We are open Mondays – Fridays, 9.30am – 2.30pm. We are also available on email, Office@quedgeley-tc.gov.uk up until 5pm. You can also follow us on Facebook on www.facebook.com/qtccouncillors

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things to her. The following verse, written by C Austin Miles, is based on the above. John 20 v 18.

I came to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses,
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me that I am His own,
And the joy we share, as we tarry there, no other has ever known.

Lovell Cornwall



Stop Press

Dates for your diary:-

Blessing of the Animals— St. James' Church 2pm Sunday October 8th

Coffee Morning — Saturday October 21st 10.00am

Look out for our 'Songs of Praise' evening

music-chat-laughter-faith

JAMSESSIONS

music-chat-laughter-faith

SUNDAY'S AT 4PM



Light Eternal by Luxmuralis

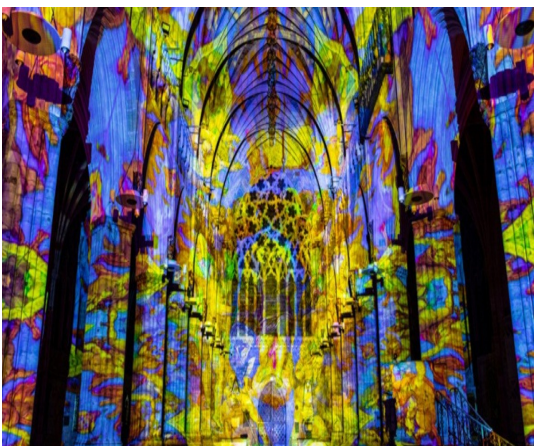
Thursday 19th –Saturday 28th October 2023

Light Eternal: Yesterday, Today, Forever,

This autumn you're invited to come and experience Gloucester Cathedral like never before. Light Eternal will take visitors on a journey that delves into the Cathedral's 1,000 year long history.

Entry to the event is by 15minutes slots. You will need to book your tickets Find out more by contacting 01452528095 / emailing visits@gloucestercathedral.org.uk or visiting

<https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/light-eternal-by-luxmuralis>



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

JAM - Every Sunday at 4pm – 5pm



A warm welcome awaits you!

at

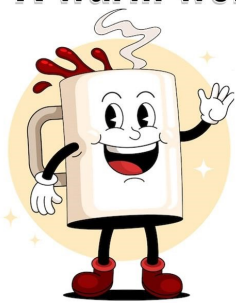
Tea@2

Wednesday

2.00pm- 4.00pm

Tea/Coffee **Bingo**
Home made cake **Quiz**
Assortment of refreshments

£3.00 per person



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design • pre-print • litho digital large format
finishing • packing • storage • distribution



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Who's Who in the Parish Church

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www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

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