

FROM THE VICAR

If you had to sum up our world in a word, 'peaceful' would probably not be a popular answer. We are aware of tensions and conflict in all manner of situations and contexts- personal relationships, families, neighbourhoods, whole nations. As we move towards another Christmas season it is worth reminding ourselves that the origin of this Christian festival is the birth of a little baby in a squalid backwater of the Roman Empire. Centuries before, the prophet Isaiah had told of a child to be born who would have the title 'Prince of Peace'. Jesus of Nazareth would share a message of love and forgiveness. It was also a message of trusting in him to have peace with God. His apostles would carry that message to the four corners of the earth. As we celebrate with friends and family in this beautiful part of the Cotswolds, may we spare a moment to give thanks to God for all the good things he has provided. May we also remember the coming of the Prince of Peace into this messy world, to live as one of us. Have a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

Andrew



CHEQS MAGAZINE THE FUTURE

On November 7th, 29 people met together in the recently re-furnished and incredibly smart and warm Southrop Village Hall.

The future of the magazine was the reason for the meeting and was marvellous to have so many there who expressed their appreciation and value for the magazine. There was no doubt that there was a great desire to secure its future.

The background to the first CHEQS magazine was that it would be a means of communication for the five churches in these villages. It also had the aim of serving the wider community with useful information and giving a place for other activities to be published.

The meeting considered the way forward for the magazine and agreed that, for a variety of reasons, it was now time to evolve magazine into more of a Community magazine with input from Parish Councils and other groups so far not represented.

It was agreed that the editorial responsibility for the magazine's compilation, design and accuracy needed to be shared, and that the way ahead was for the production of the magazine to pass into the hands of a representative group of volunteers. Whilst this group would initially use the current format having a group managing the magazine would also enable change and progress to happen and they would also be able to tackle the problem of an insecure financial base.

It is rather splendid that six people came forward to be that initial working party/editorial board. Between them they represent the 5 different villages. Some are church people some are not. Some are on Parish Councils and all are gifted and enthusiastic.

SOUTHROP NEWS

Village Hall: Significant improvements have recently been completed, including a new acoustic ceiling, heating and lighting. This work was organised by the Village Hall Committee and has largely been funded by Southrop Parish Council. Huge thanks are due to all concerned. Further improvements are planned.

Overgrown Vegetation: Please check your boundaries and cut back any vegetation that overhangs the footpaths forcing pedestrians to walk on the road. This is dangerous with the darker evenings.

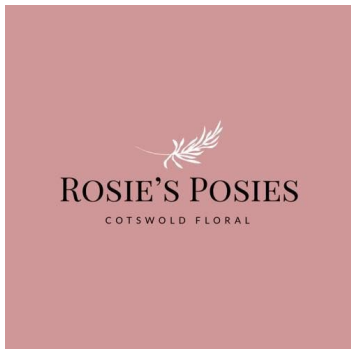
Speeding: Southrop Parish Council regularly receives complaints about speeding in the village. Please drive carefully and stick to the 20 mph speed limit.

Rosie's Posies Christmas Wreath Workshop

12th December Quenington Village Hall 7pm start, £45pp.

An evening with friends to create your own bespoke door wreath and kick off the festive season. All materials are provided along with a warming mulled wine and mince pie.

Book online at rosies-posies.co.uk or email rosies.posies.cf@gmail.com



**Fairford & District Choral Society's
Christmas concert**

St Mary's Church, Fairford

Saturday 7th December 2019 at 7.30 p.m.



The choir will sing Poulenc's *Gloria*, Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and an assortment of advent and Christmas carols. The conductor will be Jessi Pywell, and the concert will be accompanied on the organ by Sam Bayliss and Evie Perfect Cello; the soloists will be Jack Bowtell (baritone) and Lucy Mellors (soprano). Tickets will be on sale in November from Fairford Opticians.

**CHEQS CHARITABLE TRUST
(Formerly The Bazley Charitable Trust)**

The CHEQS Charitable Trust was set up by the Bazley Family in 1986 to help local village organisations with projects that benefit the communities in the surrounding villages where they lived. This Charitable Trust has now been renamed The CHEQS Charitable Trust at the Bazley family's request.

Last year the organisations that benefited from this charity were:

Noah's Ark Children's Venture
Eastleach Village Centre
Southrop Village Hall
Fairford Primary School
Fairford First Scout Group
Cirencester Foodbank
Cirencester's Housing for Young People

If you are a local organisation and would like to apply for funding please send a written application to :

Mrs Anne Smith, The Nurseries, Milton Street, Fairford Glos GL7 4BW
or email: anne.amorsmith@gmail.com

Closing date for applications is 31st December 2019

Free prize draw at Coln Stores

.....a luxury hamper could be yours!

Look out for Loyalty cards next time you are in the Stores. Pick one up, write your contact details on, get it stamped each time you buy a hot drink, and when you have collected 5 stamps it will be entered into the draw, which will take place on Friday 20th December. You can enter more than one card! The hamper will have a generous selection of goodies including: Champagne, red and white wine, beer, gin, Christmas pud, chocolates, biscuits, crisps, peanuts, cheeses, deluxe cheese crackers, marmalade, Cacklebean eggsand a chocolate Santa!!!!

We are, as always, on the look-out for new volunteers to join our team, so if you are interested and have some spare time, call in and have a chat.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support of our Community Store...it couldn't exist without this support , and that of the wonderful team of volunteers.

Coln Stores Post Office and cafe.Current opening hours

SHOP		POST OFFICE	
Monday- Friday	7.00-17.30	Monda-Friday	9.00-16.45
Saturday	8.00-14.00	Saturday	9.00-12.30
Sunday	9.00-13.00	Sunday	Closed
CAFE			
Monday-Friday	7.00-16.00		
Saturday	8.00-13.00		
Sunday	9.00-12.00		

Southrop C of E Primary School

Together we can fly

At Southrop we believe that many great learning opportunities are to be gained by getting out of the classroom to learn in hands on way. To this end the Reception children have started their weekly trip to the Ernest Cook Trust forest school – with the current weather there has been much mud involved. Additionally, the whole school enjoyed a trip together to see Francesca Simon and Cressida Cowell talk, back in October. Jonty’s recount of the trip should give you a feel for the levels of enthusiasm on the day!

Our trip to the Cheltenham Literature Festival by Jonty

Walking out of school was a nightmare, why did everyone have to walk so slowly?! Stepping onto the bus I was full of excitement, we were going to see Cressida Cowell, the Cressida Cowell! The bus ride was boring and dreary, but when we finally got there. I thought I was going to burst with excitement. Walking towards the Literature Festival I could hear my heart pounding in my chest.

The leader of my group was Mrs G. First we went to buy our books. I bought Knock Three Times, it was one of Cressida Cowell’s newest books. After that we did an activity called Secret Seven, we had to go and find posters and do the things that it told us to. When we had finished we went to have lunch, it had started to rain at that point. I had to rush my lunch because we didn’t have that much time to get to the tent. It was agony waiting for her to come on stage, but finally she came on. It was awesome. She told us about her books and growing up. I didn’t want to leave.

When we came out there was a huge jostle for the book tent. When we finally got in line people were still coming out of the other tent. It took ages and ages to get to the front, but when we did it was worth it. Cressida Cowell signed all of our books, we also got a group photo.

After a long and tiring day we all tramped back to the bus. On the way home a couple of us fell asleep.

The new Swan teacher, Mrs Dawson, brings with her music skills and a love of music. She has set up a new school choir and has inspired the School Council

to organise a music afternoon for the children at the end of term, where they shared instruments from home, teaching each other and performing.

Our open mornings continue over the next few months. We would love you to come and see our small and nurturing Christian school, if you have a child due to start in Reception in September 2019. 9.30 – 10.30 Mon 18th Nov, Mon 2nd Dec, Fri 13th Dec. Please email or call school to reserve a place admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk or 01367 850246. Alternatively contact us if you are not able to attend any of these slots.

FAIRFORD ART SOCIETY

December 5th Christmas Lunch for Members only

Get-together Tuesdays 3rd and 10th only, Fairford Community Centre
1.30pm . Subject “Christmas” Visitors welcome £3.00 per session

January 2020 No demo Get together Thursdays 16th and 23rd (weather permitting) Fairford Community Centre 1.30pm Visitors welcome £3.00 per session, subject “ Snow”

Info Sallie Seymour 01367850385 www.fairfordartsociety

Hatherop Church of England Primary School

One of the highlights so far this year was our whole school festival celebrating the Jewish festival of Sukkot. Also known as the festival of tabernacles, Sukkot is a popular Jewish festival and originally considered a thanksgiving for the fruit harvest. It is a festival that commemorates the time the Israelites spent in the wilderness after they were freed from slavery in Egypt. Traditionally, sukkahs are simple tents or basic structures and the children made shelters in their classrooms since the weather was too rainy to be outside. Each class also made a Jewish dish including Challah bread and Bourekas, and these were shared in their shelters. It was a great way to learn more about Judaism and their traditions and it was certainly a highlight of the term.

We are now busy preparing for Christmas starting with our Posada, a tradition started in Hispanic countries to celebrate the nativity story. Families are encouraged to become hosts to our beautifully knitted nativity scene. We are also looking forward to our annual pantomime visit this year to see Sleeping Beauty at the Wyvern Theatre and our Christmas Concert on Friday 13th December in Hatherop Church with our traditional Nativity tableau played by our youngest pupils.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas from everyone at Hatherop CofE Primary School.

To stay up to date with the latest news from our school, please look at our website, www.hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk.

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 14th December from 10.30am until midday

Come and enjoy some Christmas festivities! As well as our usual drinks, cakes and chat, we'll finish off with mince pies and mulled wine - and some lovely prizes in our Christmas raffle. Everyone is welcome. If you've not been before, come and see what goes on.

DECEMBER 2019

Sunday 1st

Holy Communion 8.30 am
St Nicholas', Hatherop

Advent Carol Service 6.00 pm
St John the Baptist, Coln

Sunday 8th

United Holy Communion 11.00 am
St Swithin's, Quenington

Sunday 15th

Holy Communion 8.30 am
St Nicholas', Hatherop

Christmas Carol Service 6.00 pm
St John the Baptist, Coln

Sunday 22nd

United Holy Communion 11.00 am
St John the Baptist, Coln

Christmas Eve

Crib Service 4.00 pm
St Swithin's, Quenington
Mainly for younger children

Crib Service 5.30 pm
St Swithin's, Quenington
Mainly for older children

Holy Communion 11.15 pm
St Swithin's, Quenington

Christmas Day

Christmas Communion 9.30 am
St Nicholas', Hatherop

Family Communion 11.00 am
St John the Baptist, Coln

Sunday 29th

United Holy Communion 11.00 am
St Swithin's, Quenington

Please see 'Christmas Services' Leaflet for details of other events



EASTLEACH CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE
VILLAGE CHRISTMAS DRINKS PARTY

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER AT 6.00PM

Please come and sing all your favourite carols at our joyful, traditional Village Candlelit Carol Service at St Andrew's Eastleach on Saturday 14th December at 6.00pm. There will be a retiring collection for St Andrew's Church.



This will be followed at around 7.00pm by a festive drink and some nibbles up at the Village Hall. The party proceeds will be in aid of the essential and urgent repairs needed for our beloved hall. Entry £4 (children free)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Come and join us at 11am for Morning Prayer

CHRISTMAS SERVICES at St. Peter's SOUTHROP

Sunday 8th Dec at 6.30pm CAROL SERVICE

Friday 20th Dec at 1pm SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

Tuesday 24th Dec at 4pm CRIB SERVICE

All children welcome and especially in costume

Wednesday 25th at 10.30am CHRISTMAS DAY FAMILY SERVICE. Collection for "Signpost"

Other Services in December Eastleach and Southrop

	EASTLEACH	SOUTHROP
1st Dec	Morning Prayer 11am	Holy Communion 9.30.
8th Dec	Holy Communion 11am	Carols 6.30pm
15th Dec	Morning Prayer 11am	Holy Communion 9.30am
22nd Dec	Holy Communion 11am	No Service
29th Dec	Morning Prayer 11am	No Service

LOCAL CHURCHES

ST MARY'S, FAIRFORD – Sunday: 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP), 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Family Service on last of the month), 6.00 pm Choral Evensong (BCP). ‘Funday Sunday’ 4.00 - 6.00 pm on second Sundays – crafts, games, worship & a cooked tea.

ST LAWRENCE, LECHLADE – Sunday: 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP), 10.00 am Morning Worship with children’s activities (HC 1st, 3rd, 5th; Informal 4th, All-Age 2nd); 6.00 am Evening Worship (Evensong 1st, 3rd, 4th; Holy Communion 2nd; Healing 5th). For weekday activities see www.stlawrencelechlade.org.uk

St Lawrence’s Lechlade & St Mary’s Fairford both celebrate Holy Communion on Thursdays: at 10.00 & 10.30 am respectively. CHEQS residents are warmly welcome!

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY (ROMAN CATHOLIC), FAIRFORD (Horcott Road) – Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 11.00 am Mass (Children’s Liturgy of the Word offered whenever possible). For details of other activities, see www.stthomasparish.plus.com or contact Fr Michael Robertson on 01285 712586 or michael.robertson@priest.cliftondiocese.com

FAIRFORD UNITED CHURCH (CONGREGATIONAL/METHODIST)

Sunday services start at 10.30 a.m. each week.

On Sundays when there is no All Age Worship, there is Sunday School provision for children.

Our monthly Contact Group meetings Friday 4th October, Friday 1st November - 12.30p.m. – 2.30p.m. – meet friends old and new over tea/coffee and light refreshments.

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH – Sunday 10:30 am Morning Worship (with prayer from 9.45 am); 6:00 pm Evening Worship (2nd & 3rd Sundays) For weekday activities etc see www.lechladebaptistchurch.org

OUR LADY’S CHAPEL-Williamstrip: Mass 9.30 Sunday.

2020 St. Peter’s NEW YEAR PARTY

In Southrop Village Hall 17th Jan. 6.30 to 8.30pm



CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND SHARE

In case you were wondering how to share some of those delicious Christmas goodies with others not so fortunate, the churches of Coln Hatherop and Quenington will each have a large container marked Food Bank for any donations during December.

The two Crib and Carol services will not be too late!

Tinned or packaged goods with a reasonable shelf life will all be most welcome.

Singing for Syrians

Hands Up Foundation

A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

with the Coln Choir and guest
musicians, singers & readers at

St Mary's Church, BIBURY GL7 5NR

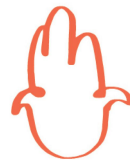
Friday 13 December 2019

6.30 wine & canapés

7.00 - 8.15 concert

Tickets £12.50 from:

- * Bibury Post Office
- * Coln Stores, Coln St Aldwyns
- * jackiecolburn@me.com &
- * on the door on the night



HANDS UP
FOUNDATION

charity number 1156491 www.handsupfoundation.org

LOCAL TRADE DIRECTORY – to advertise in this magazine call 01285 750260

<p>ARCHITECT Rural Worshop Ltd, RIBA, Hatherop tim@ruralworkshop.net</p>	<p>07413715276</p>
<p>BARKING MAD Dog sitting, dog holidays in approved sitters homes. Contact Alun Davies www.barkingmad.uk.com</p>	<p>01285 711650</p>
<p>BSR Aboriculture and Garden maintenance. Tree surgery, general garden maintenance- Hedge cutting etc</p>	<p>01285 239411 07802 567452</p>
<p>BUILDERS Michael Rixon Building & Roofing Ltd – Building, roofing, Cotswold stone tiling, property maintenance email: rixbuild@btinternet.com White Monk Ltd. – Building Contractors email: whitemonk@live.co.uk</p>	<p>01285 750034 01285 750017</p>
<p>CARPENTERS AND CABINET MAKERS T J Sallis Carpentry - Fully qualified carpenter/joiner (m) 07973 142948</p>	<p>01285 750438</p>
<p>CHIMNEY SWEEP Simon Bishop – Open fires, Agas, Rayburns, solid fuel appliances, wood-burning stoves. Cows supplied & fitted. Wood burners installed. Gutters cleared.</p>	<p>01367 252617 07931 671674</p>
<p>COLOUR & STYLE CONSULTANCY Liz Partington, Colour Me Beautiful consultant: colour analysis, style consultation, wardrobe edit, personal shopping, bridal consultation, men’s colour. <i>liz@cotswolds.style</i></p>	<p>07800 744787</p>
<p>COMPLEMENTARY THERAPISTS Karen Benbow – Reflexology & The Bowen Technique in Southrop & Fairford. Contact Karen for a discussion or to book a treatment. <i>www.karenbenbow.co.uk</i> Sally Peachey Reiki – Relaxing massage, Reiki or Crystal Therapy treatments: excellent for stress relief, boosting energy levels and helping recover from illness and injuries.</p>	<p>01367 850874 07786 971041 07905 236916</p>
<p>COMPUTER SERVICES Computer Solutions – Iain Atkins – Personal service for all your IT issues</p>	<p>01285 750277</p>
<p>DENTAL SURGEON Dr Oliver Guy BDS (GDC reg79562) – Family dental care, cosmetic and laser-assisted dentistry. Teeth whitening, implant restorations and clear braces. Market Place Dental Practice, Cirencester</p>	<p>01285 652200</p>
<p>DOMESTIC SERVICE Strong’s Oil-fired Boiler and AGA Services, maintenance and repair</p>	<p>01285 750344</p>
<p>DRY STONE WALLING Another Brick In The Wall – Qualified dry stone wallers, mortared walls, archways, paving and slabbing. Ben & Peter Bicknell – <i>peter.bicknell@tiscali.co.uk</i> Mike Harris – dry stone walling Dry stone walling cont’d</p>	<p>01285 711267 07910 244519 01285 750525 07810 888070</p>
<p>FIREWOOD – Will’s Logs – Local sustainably-sourced firewood and kindling for sale. Seasoned hardwood eg oak, thorn, ash delivered in 1 cubic metre bags. Free local delivery</p>	<p>07771 867767</p>
<p>FLOORING Graham Ford Flooring – Carpets / vinyl supplied, own carpets fitted and cleaned</p>	<p>01285 657439</p>

GARDEN SERVICES Keith Ford – ponds, pruning & hedge cutting, sheds re-felted, walls wired for climbers. The Garden & Plant Company –Design & Landscaping. info@gardenandplantco.com AJ Arborists – tree surgery & Arboricultural Consultancy – Alasdair Jeffrey www.ajarborists.co.uk	01285 750406 01285 712663 01285 750874
GENERAL STORES Coln Stores & Post Office. Mon-Fri 7.00 am – 6.00 pm; Sat 8.00 am – 4.30 pm (2.00 pm in winter); Sunday 9.00 am – 4.00 pm (1.00 pm in winter)	01285 750294
GROUNDWORKS – SN Complete Groundworks – Drainage, Driveways, Fencing, Patios etc.	01367 850717 07738 937697
HOME DECORATING A Tilling – Interior and Exterior D J Morley Fairford M Byfield – Interior and Exterior decorator interiorworx@btinternet.com ; 07876 558400	01285 810624 01285 713802 01367 850768
HOME HELP – YVONNE LEWIS Jobs in and around the home, pets to vet, help on internet, taking and collecting deliveries	07922 103532
IRONING – IRONED OUT GLOS – Local ironing service, collection and delivery www.facebook.com/ironedoutglos	07718 624228
LAND & ESTATE AGENTS – Moore Allen & Innocent – Property Consultants & Managers, Land and Estate Agents, Auctioneers and Chartered Surveyors	01285 651831 01367 252541
MOLE CONTROL Traditional Molecatcher: no mole, no fee. Qualified and fully insured with references.	01285 770968 07766 132934
OVEN CLEANING Cotswold Oven Valeting Ltd – professional cleaning of all ovens (incl. AGAs), hobs, extractors and microwaves	01367 850522
PERSONAL TRAINER Personal Training Available 7 Days A Week – Lose weight, tone up, get fitter, improve your health and fitness. www.falconhealthandfitness.co.uk	01285 656986 07794 614962
PICTURE FRAMING ALS Picture Framing , Cirencester – established 1987	01285 659416
PLATES-A-PLENTY – Crockery, cutlery, glassware and linen hire	07974 785437
PUBLIC HOUSES AND RESTAURANTS The New Inn , Coln St. Aldwyns, Charlotte Close The Keepers Arms , Quenington, Jon, Verity and Michelle The Swan at Southrop , Lydia Sheehan	01285 750651 01285 750349 01367 850205
SOLICITORS Wilmot & Co , 38 Castle Street, Cirencester	01285 650551
SPORTS AND REMEDIAL MASSAGE – Rachael Rodia ITEC dip, MFHT – Relieve muscular aches and pains, prevent injury and alleviate symptoms from poor posture www.rachaelrodiamassage.co.uk , rachael.rodia@yahoo.co.uk	07769 656932
TAXIS BYWAYS – Taxis & Private Hire Services. Local & long distance bookings	Free phone 0800 999 2288

welcome with vehicles to suit most occasions.	01451 844 384
TV PROBLEMS?? Call Aardvark Aerials & Satellite. TV aerials, Satellite, new TV points. Fully insured. www.aardvarkaerials.co.uk	01285 800041
TENNIS AND FOOTBALL COACH Matt Townsend – LTA Licensed coach, Schools, Clubs and private lessons for adults and children of all ages	07850 043056
WINDOWS Coln Valley Glazing – Steve Winney, Quenington. Replacement of misted or broken glass units	01285 750553 0776 5780772
WINDOW CLEANING Commercial and Domestic traditional window cleaning – also pressure washing and gutter cleaning. For more info steve.rix@hotmail.co.uk	01285 752 703 07731 552 250
YOGA / EXERCISE 1) Contact Anne Sutherland – ann@yogaspring.co.uk for classes at Oxleaze, Langford and Coln Rogers. For more info www.yogaspring.co.uk 2) Tai Chi – phone Heather	01608 643059 01285 750751

CHEQS DIARY

7 th Dec	7.30pm	Choral Society Concert St Mary's Fairford
12 th Dec	7pm	Rosies Posie wreath making Quenington village hall
13 th Dec	7pm	Singing for Syrians St Mary's Bibury
14 th Dec	10.30am	Quenington coffee morning village hall
14 th Dec	6pm	Eastleach Carol Service
15 th Dec	6pm	Carol Service Coln
20 th Dec	1pm	School Carol Service Southrop
24 th Dec	4pm	Crib Service Southrop
24 th Dec	4pm	Crib Service Younger children Quenington
	5.50	Crib Service Older children Quenington