

Thoughts from the Vicar

As I write this there is still much speculation over what restrictions may still be in place over the summer. We are beginning to hear the term 'personal responsibility' used as opposed to government restrictions. It appears there may still be guidance but it may not be enforceable by law as it currently is. For some people this is a welcome relief, for others an area of concern and for others a burden they would rather not have to bear. Much easier to have someone else tell us what to do. How we negotiate the next few months could be tricky as we realise that not everyone thinks like we do or understands 'personal responsibility' to mean the same thing.

The Church has lived with the concept of personal responsibility from the beginning of creation. Adam and Eve were given guidance in the Garden of Eden but allowed the freedom as to whether or not they chose to follow it. We have been living with the consequences ever since. But being a Christian is not just a personal relationship with God but about our response to one another. Together Christians make up the vast human family called the Church which St Paul called the Body of Christ. Paul used this imagery to show that although different parts of the body have their own unique functions none of them can exist in isolation. "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it." (1 Corinthians 12: 26)

What we as Christians believe must have implications for how we behave towards others and the world we live in. Our Five Marks of Mission are:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Here in Bodicote, we are delighted that we have been able to leave the church open daily for private prayer and reflection as well as provide a library service and jigsaw exchange. Public worship remains a challenge and we are looking forward to re-introducing singing and after service fellowship. This may prove difficult as we negotiate the guidelines with individuals fears and concerns, impatience and desires. There are new opportunities but also harsh realities to face and we may not get it right all the time. We continue to consider how we can best serve the needs of our ever-growing parish with the limited resources we have whilst giving thanks for the generosity of spirit shown by so many during the pandemic. We have achieved our bronze eco church award and are working towards out silver as we take seriously the effects of climate change, biodiversity and pollution in our world.

I hope that as we continue to learn to live with the effects of Covid in our lives the Church will be there for you. We do not have a crystal ball to anticipate everyone's needs but give us a chance. If you think there is something we can do for you, please ask.

May God bless you.

Sarah Sharp

01295 250282



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Pause for Prayer...

Last Friday of every month

As Christian we are called to both action and prayer: action to help create a fairer, kinder and more peaceable world; prayer to ask for God's help in guiding our actions and the actions of those in positions of power and responsibility.

At 12 noon on the last Friday of most months we come together in the parish church for 30 minutes as we pray for the needs of the world and our part in it. We usually focus on topics of particular concern at the time, using a mix of said prayer and short silences for personal thoughts and prayers.

The next dates are: 27th August, 24th September and 29th October.

All are welcome.

We believe that prayer really can make a difference to our world!

The cover photograph was kindly provided by Keith Davies from the Volunteer Driver Service - Please see their advert on p.15

2021 Fundraising results to date

The Easter raffle raised £1,000, £250 of which went to the Barnardo's Centre in Banbury Online Spring Auction raised £878

Christian Aid Week collection totalled £1,035 which includes Gift Aid

Sarah's sponsored swim, at the time of writing, has just topped £4,435, 25% of which will be going to Friends of Bishop Loveday School.

A huge thank you to all who have organised and taken part in these fundraising events and to all of you who have been so generous with your financial support!

Some future dates for your diary

We have some provisional dates for future fundraising and social events.

Full details will be publicised nearer the time on our weekly newsletter, website and Facebook page. If you are unable to access these, please email office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com or speak to Sarah or Nick and we will be happy to let you have more details as they become available.

Sunday 22nd August	Summer celebration at Longford Park Community
	Contro soo poster alsowhere in magazine

Centre – see poster elsewhere in magazine.

Saturday 11th September Annual Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust **Ride &**

Stride

Friday 1st October Quiz night hosted by Pete Gardner, with bar. Teams

of up to 6 will need to be booked in advance.

Thursday 14th October Autumn Lunch in Church House

Saturday 1st November Bingo afternoon

Saturday 19th November Christmas Bazaar

Sunday 28th November Advent Tea

Sunday 5th December Christingle with collection for the Children's Society

Sunday 12th December Carols at Longford Park in the Community Centre

at 6pm

Saturday 18th December Charity Christmas Tree Event in the parish church

We will also be organising a 2022 Bodicote calendar and a Christmas Raffle to boost our fundraising efforts for this year.

PATTERN OF WORSHIP

From 8th August 2021

Sunday: 8.00am Communion in Church (Book of Common Prayer)

9.45am Parish Communion in Church

Occasional 6.00pm services in Church as advertised on our website and Facebook page

Monday: 8.30am Morning Prayer via Zoom ◆ 5.00pm Evening Prayer in Church

Wednesday: 9.30am Morning Worship via Zoom ♦
10.30am Communion in Church
5.00pm Evening Prayer in Church

Thursday: 8.30am Morning Prayer in Church 5.00pm Evening Prayer in Church

Friday: 8.30am Morning Prayer in Church 4.00pm Evening Prayer via Zoom ◆

♦ please ask for the log-in details

We wish to ensure everyone is as safe as possible so we will continue to follow guidelines and requirements given by the government and the Church of England

Please follow any guidance given on the day

The church will continue to be open for private prayer between 9.00am and 4.00pm daily except when there is a service

Recycling for Good Causes

If you have been in the church recently, you may have spotted a rather large box behind the door. We have joined another recycling scheme, both to help our environment and to raise additional funds for our church. As with many other charities, we have had to explore alternatives to our usual methods of fundraising during the pandemic - this is another way we have found where you can support us at no cost to yourselves!

Please see the poster, which explains what we can now recycle, or their website www.recyclingforgoodcauses.org

The box will be in church for a limited time, but may well reappear in the future if this is successful. Please also feel free to bring along any items you may have to any of our events.

Churchyard working parties

We are very grateful to our small band of volunteers who turn up each month, and also at other times, in all but the worst of weathers, to keep our churchyard looking tidy and well cared for.

They meet on the 1st Saturday of each month (apart from January and February) from 9.30am for a couple of hours. We would welcome any new helpers, either regularly or as a 'one-off.' Please bring along suitable gardening tools. And please remember that we usually carry out our regular testing of our roof alarm during this time.

Inkjet Cartridge Recycling

Despite the current situation, we are continuing to collect your inkjet cartridges for this scheme. Not only are we doing our bit for the environment by making sure they are properly recycled, but, so far, we have raised £499.35 for church funds.

There will still be collection boxes in church and church house but, unfortunately, after the end of this year they will no longer be accepting the envelopes.

However, to compensate for this a little, they have increased the range of acceptable cartridges which now includes some remanufactured ones. Please check their website for the accepted types - unfortunately, we just have to dispose of any not on the list.

https://www.recycle4charity.co.uk/InkjetCartridges





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Donors: Please place your items into the sack provided at your designated drop off point.

Drop off point representative: Call Recycling For Good Causes on 0800 633 5323 (freephone) when your sack is full or weighs over 10kg for your free collection.

New curate for our parish!

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Nick Fielden and his wife, Vikki, to our parish. He was recently ordained as a deacon and will be serving his curacy with us for the next 3 years. They are living on Longford Park so please do welcome them and introduce yourself if you see them out walking with their dog, Nelson.

This is what Nick has to say about himself:

"Before training to become a priest, I worked as an IT manager, enjoying a 27- year career in IT Support, having worked in a mix of small private companies and a large public scientific research organisation in South Oxfordshire. Born in 1970 (I'll leave you to do the *maths!*), I spent the majority of my formative years growing up in West Yorkshire, until I left home to study Physiology at Southampton University in 1989. I married my wonderful wife, Vikki, the same year I graduated, having met her during those studious(!) years. It's hard to believe that we'll be celebrating our 29th anniversary this August - where does the time go?! Vikki is an accountant, and we have two grown up children in their twenties, Sam and Catherine,



who are now forging their own careers and lives, having fled the nest.

My calling to the priesthood came in late 2016. I've always had a strong faith since early childhood, which has been strengthened and matured through life's challenges. These have deepened my trust in God, but it was still a shock when he started calling me in this totally new direction! It took me a while to be sure and the long journey to ordination has been one of deep listening and obedience to God. It was scary at first to give up a career I'd long since become comfortable in, but God does have a real habit of shaking you out of your comfort zone from time to time! But nevertheless, it's also been an exhilarating journey, and even though the reality of my future ministry is simultaneously daunting and exciting, I know that this is the path God has set me upon and Bodicote is where he's calling me to be now, as I enter the next phase of my training.

It's a great honour to be called to serve you all and to be a part of God's exciting mission in the parish of Bodicote, and I'm really looking forward to it. It will also be an honour to support the Revd Sarah Sharp in her ministry and to learn under her oversight and guidance."

Nick can be contacted at curate.bodicotechurch@gmail.com His phone number is $01295\ 574650$.

Want to stay in touch?

Lheck out any changes to services and events?



Why not 'like' our Facebook page? https://www.facebook.com/BodicoteParishChurch/

We keep this updated with news of services and what we are doing as well as daily posts of prayers and perhaps a 'thought for the day,' relevant painting or sculpture, piece of music and so on.

For those of you particularly interested in our fundraising and charitable giving, we also have a dedicated Bodicote Church Fundraising group which you are welcome to join: https://www.facebook.com/groups/255936438824026

More detailed information about the church, its people, history, services and events, as well as links to the weekly newsletters and readings can be found on our website: www.bodicotechurch.org.

If you are unable to access any if these, our vicar will always be pleased to help, or you can email the administrator on **office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com**

Volunteers needed!

Church Cleaner - We are currently looking for someone who would be happy to come in once a week to clean our church which will involve some polishing, vacuuming, mopping of floors etc - all equipment provided. This would take around 1-2 hours per week at a time of you choosing (fitting around any services happening in church)

Organist - Although government restrictions have been lifted. the PCC have agreed that this Church will continue to follow our current practices until the 7th August when Sarah has returned from her holiday. And we will also need to follow any future guidance given by the Church of England/Diocese. But presuming the go ahead is given for singing during services to resume, would anyone be willing to come along and play the organ on a Sunday morning? Sadly, our current organist moved away during lockdown, so we are looking for a replacement!



Bishop Loveday School News

10

What a year it has been! Despite the many difficulties arising from a global pandemic, I finish the school year with such a sense of pride for both the staff and children at Bishop Loveday. Thanks to the unwavering dedication of the staff, the children have remained positive and focussed throughout.

We have been fortunate to be able to continue to provide extra-curricular clubs, with our Spanish Club running virtually and with sports' clubs for each 'bubble' of children in Key Stage Two. During the summer term, the children have also enjoyed lessons with tennis coaches and cricket coaches and enjoyed a Pentathalon Event, during which they honed their skills in athletics. As the year draws to a close

we are preparing for our annual sports' day, our year 6 production and the year 6 leavers' service.

I have been updating our local community on 'school news' for the last seven years, during which I have had the privilege to be the Headteacher at Bishop Loveday. This is my final update! In September 2021, I will be leaving my current post to take on the role of Head of Primary Education for the Warriner Trust. I am excited that this new role will include working alongside the new Headteacher at Bishop Loveday.

Our new Head of School, Dee Loader, brings a wealth of experience to Bishop Loveday and will continue to keep you abreast of our school news.

Jane Ridley

Hello, my name is Dee Loader and I live in Shipton under Wychwood with my two daughters, husband and very old dog! I completed a music degree before training to become a teacher, and I am a firm believer in raising the status of music and all of the arts within the curriculum. During my initial teacher training, I specialised in

primary languages, as well as this I am also

passionate about sport and computing.

I believe you never stop learning and it is this belief that led me to complete

Masters in Education and Educational

Research. I truly believe that there should be no glass ceiling when it comes to children's learning and that the values instilled in them at a primary level set them up for life. I am delighted to be taking the reins as Head of School in September and look forward to meeting you all in due course.



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Please do come and borrow or exchange books and jigsaws: we have an excellent selection for you to choose from

The church is open daily 9.00am to 4.00pm

Please avoid service times

Sunday: 8.00am Communion (BCP); 9.45am Parish Communion Monday: 5.00pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday: 10.30am Communion; 5.00pm Evening Prayer
Thursday: 8.30am Morning Prayer; 5.00pm Evening Prayer
Friday: 8.30am Morning Prayer
There may be services (eg baptisms, weddings, funerals) at other times



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General enquiries can be made to **office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com**

Mothers' Union, Bodicote Branch

For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Since the beginning of 2021 we have not been able to meet as a Branch and we have all missed the fellowship that attendance at our Mothers' Union meetings brings us but we are very hopeful that we will be able to meet together again in September. Earlier this year members were asked to make the posies for the Mothering Day Services and we pleased to be able to continue this annual tradition. After the Services members of the congregation were then invited to take a posy from the baskets for themselves and one or two for neighbours and friends.

The Wave of Prayer was able to go ahead in Church (in line with Covid precautions) on 21st April – the Committee members read the Readings and Prayers and Pauline Edes offered to play the organ. Though we were unable to sing it was lovely to be able to listen to the hymns selected for the service.

The Committee, though unable to meet, managed to hold a meeting by Zoom to make some tentative plans for future meetings.

Our Harvest Service will go ahead on Wednesday 15th September at 7.00 pm and it is hoped that we will be able to meet up in Church House to have a Harvest Supper! However, at this stage we are not sure what form the supper will take - either in the usual format or an alternative - more news will follow!

This will be a wonderful occasion to catch up and exchange our experiences over the past 18

months.

But before this we celebrate Mary Sumner Day.

Mary Sumner founded the Mothers' Union in 1876 when, reminded how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood when her eldest daughter gave birth, she called a meeting of mothers to offer mutual support in the parish of Old Aylesford, Winchester, where her husband was Rector. Her plan was quite radical for its day as it involved calling women of all social classes to support one another and to see motherhood as a profession as important as those of men, if not more so. Her message struck a chord and within nine years the Mothers' Union concept spread around the United Kingdom and by the turn of the century it had grown to 169,000 members. There are now 8 million members worldwide.

Mary Sumner Day is celebrated on 9th August, the anniversary of her death. This year is extra special as it is the centenary of her death. For the past few years we have held a commemorative service in Bodicote on the Sunday closest to the 9th August and this year it will be at **6.00 pm on 8th August**.

Everyone is most welcome – it is not just for MU members!

If you would like further information about our Branch then please contact either Lynne Philpot on 01295 256982 or Claire Roberts on 01295 254597.

COVID GUIDANCE UPDATE

From 8th August the Church will be following the new government and Church guidelines around Covid. We are hoping that this will allow us to sit where we want, sing at our 9.45am service and leave our face masks behind if we choose. The new 10.30am communion service beginning on 11th August will be less busy and may be a good first step if you are feeling anxious. Please do get in touch if you want to know more.

Summer Celebration

Date/Time: Sunday 22nd August, 2pm until 4pm **Venue: Longford Park Community Centre**

We will be holding a summer fete at Longford Park Community Centre. There will be refreshments, food, tombola, children's tombola, children's games and a chance to win a summer hamper.

Admission to the event is free of charge for both adults and children.

We will follow all relevant COVID-19 guidelines in place at the time. Weather permitting, the event will be held almost entirely outside. Face coverings are strongly encouraged for indoor spaces.

In order to reduce the handling of cash, we will operate a token system. Cash will be exchanged for tokens in multiples of £5 on entry, with the option to cash-in unused tokens of any amount as you leave.

We would appreciate any donations of bottles or tombola items, including those suitable for a children's tombola. Items can be left in Church.

If this proves popular, we would hope to hold similar events in future.



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OPEN TIMES

Monday 10pm - 2pm by appointment only at the Advice Centre

Tuesday 10pm - 2pm by appointment and drop in Hanwell Fields Community Centre, Rotary Way, Banbury, OX16 1ER

Thursday 10.30am - 2pm by appointment at the Pheonix office, Suite 5, Borough House, Marlborough Road, Banbury (Thursday only tel. 01295 257974)

The charity was founded by Andy Willis BCAv.

Andy Willis is the holder of the National Honour, The People's Honour.

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14 15

Bodicote Church

Summer Celebration

Sunday 22nd August, 2 – 4pm

Longford Park Community Centre (West Wing)

Free admission

Refreshments, afternoon teas, burgers & hot dogs Children's games Tombola & Children's Tombola Win a Summer Hamper

Appropriate COVID guidelines at time of the event will be followed

Further information can be found on Facebook and Bodicote Church website

In aid of St John the Baptist Parish Church, Bodicote serving the communities of Bodicote, Cherwell Heights, Cotefield and Longford Park