Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



January 2024

Village Diary

Saturday 6^{th} January from 6.30pm Thursday 11^{th} January 1-1.30pm

Saturday 20th January Thursday 22nd February

Tuesdays at 10-11am Wednesdays at 10.30am

Fridays at 10.00am

Pub Night in the Village Hall

Library Van at the crossroads

Quiz and Chips in the Village Hall

Music Night – details later

Boogie Tuesday at the Village Hall

Village Hall Coffee Morning

Pilates at the Village Hall

Wheelie bin collection dates

Thursday 4th January Thursday 11th January

Thursday 18th January

Thursday 25th January
Thursday 1st February

Blue bin only

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue bin only

Editorial

I'm writing this mid-December with all the fun and festivities still to come. But by the time you read this, it will be time to wish you all a Happy New Year. And at this time of resolutions and reflection, I hope we all experience a happy 2024.

It was so nice to have the church roof works completed in time for all Christmas festivities. Special thanks to all who worked so hard doing the cleanup in early December ready for the Dec 9 re-opening.

And finally. don't forget about Quiz and Chips in the Village Hall on 20 Jan. A good way to get out and socialise during the (still) dark nights.

Miki Ellar miki.ellar7@gmail.com 07568 706106

Cover photo courtesy of Heather Ginn

Vicar's Letter:

'Peace in our time'

Trying to anticipate content for a simple article that might be helpful to readers a few weeks hence has felt harder than usual this time! I had to stir myself to get beyond just putting something down to get the Editor's deadline met! My mind wandered, randomly, to that well-documented declaration made by the UK Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain at the end of September 1938 thinking a political deal he was party to had prevented war in Europe. He was wrong.

It often seems we spend a lot of time trying to ignore some important issues, using the palliative of temporary distractions, trying to live for the next thing or to damp down the next big threat; and failing to live in the moment. It may be the impact of widespread consumerism affecting our perspective or that we have forgotten the art and discipline of being content and suitably penitent which is part and parcel of being realistic.

In my view, there are some things that should not be pushed to one side by a willingness to be more passive and accepting of the status quo. I am thinking (to name just a couple) of the terrible wars continuing in different parts of the world, the scourge of poverty affecting so many, threats over whether our schools and NHS will have the resources they need to do the job teachers and healthcare workers feel called to. As a Christian I know there is a healthy tension to be held between being content with what God has surely given me at this point and restless to see change in the ways we have conspired to spoil so much that is good and entrusted to our care or stewardship.

I have been struck recently by some of the moments when God's people have been exhorted to be at peace. For example, it was part of the message angels gave to some shepherds when announcing the birth of Jesus – surely an experience so strange it may have felt more like the world was about to end! Years later, in the days following his death and as his disciples were grappling with perceived threats to their own well-being amidst reports of the resurrection, the words 'Peace be with you ...' were some of the first Jesus said to them as their risen Lord. There is something about this understanding of PEACE that does not change the immediate circumstances but can impact the way we see and live with them. For the shepherds it was a message that triggered their decision to go and seek out the promised Christ—child; 30 or so years later it was the backcloth to Jesus' disciples beginning to grasp the import of what they had witnessed and how those events should shape their future.

Speaking personally, some important and life-changing events happened to me in the past year; nothing out of the ordinary but not on my horizon at the start of 2023.

12 months on I hope I am getting a bit better at allowing for uncertainty, the not-yet and other surprises to come out of the blue. I know also it is more of God's peace I will need in the year now breaking upon us. For me this is keeping my focus day-by-day on the one who Christians call the prince of peace.

I wish you a very happy and peaceful journey through 2024.

Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector

Church Services for January

Sunday 7th January Holy Communion 8.30am Sunday 21st January Family Service 10.30am

Papworth Team Services

The website **papworthteamchurches.org** has up to date service information for all churches in the team. It also has the Zoom link for the Morning Prayer.

ZOOM Chapel Morning Prayer (Mon – Sat) at 8.15am (Zoom) **Telephone service** on Mondays at 5.00pm

Christmas 2023

Many thanks indeed to all who turned up to clean and prepare the church for Christmas, following the completion of the church repairs. This was a major effort. Thank you James, Janet and Sam Clear; Kay Forsythe; Donal and Monica O'Donnell; Linda Rimmer; Torrie Smith; Lee Steele; and Peter and Suzy Stokes. The church was well and truly decked throughout with holly and ivy this year and we are as always indebted to Linda Smith and the flower arranging team.

Church cleaning

1st Sunday vacant

2nd Sunday Donal and Monica O'Donnell

3rd Sunday Peter Reynolds 4th Sunday Janet Clear 5th Sunday Linda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

7th January Annabel Diggle
14th January Christine Stone
21st January Lee Steele
28th January Kay Forsythe

Church opening

The church is once again open every day. Many thanks to Linda Rimmer for organising the rota for unlocking and locking up and to all who help with this.

9th December Reopening of church following completion of church repairs

In 2017 the collapse of part of the church's nave ceiling and leaks in the south aisle roof made long-needed repairs to the fabric a matter of urgency. Indeed, the building was placed on the Heritage At Risk Register by Historic England in January 2020, not least because the integrity of our nationally important wall paintings was under threat. The works were specified by Archangel of Impington in 2018, and Bakers of Danbury's quotation was accepted. It then took the best part of five years to raise the funding for the project. We can now record that the certificate of practical completion was issued by our architect, Alexandros Michalitsianos, on the 8th December, about a month later than planned. this for two reasons: adverse weather conditions in November and the fact that additional work was added as the



New ceiling Image: Torrie Smith

project evolved. Having the scaffolding in situ represented a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Some fifty parishioners and other friends gathered in the church on Saturday 9th December to celebrate the reopening of the church, closed since July 17th for the most extensive programme of repairs since 1930, and to thank the contractors involved and all those who had provided the funds. Mulled wine and mince pies were served.

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council Peter Reynolds thanked all the specialist subcontractors involved. For the record these were as follows:

External works

Rodells Ltd, steeplejacks of St Albans – nave roof and ridge repairs Auravisions of Saffron Walden – glazing repairs and glass cleaning White Roofing Services of Haslingfield – south aisle roofing The Cambridgeshire Brick and Tile Company Ltd of Burwell – clay peg tiles

Internal works

DGS Plastering of Shimpling, Bury St Edmunds – ceiling plastering

Mike Wye Ltd of Beaworthy, Devon – chestnut laths and lime plaster Doc Decorating of Church Langley, Harlow – redecoration of ceiling and nave arcade

Rose of Jericho, Dorchester – limewash and casein distemper paint

Consultants

Wright CDM of Swaffham Bulbeck– health, safety and welfare greenwillows associates ltd, ecological consultants of Warboys – bat survey

The Principal Contractor for the works was Bakers of Danbury Ltd and we were delighted that their project manager, Adrian Ward, was able to attend. Dave Lilywhite was Bakers' contract supervisor. The architect was Alexandros Michalitsianos, also present, of Archangel Architects of Impington.



Image: Torrie Smith

We are greatly indebted to these three and the Bakers team. The work was carried out to the highest standards.

The total cost of the project amounts to £135,000 (+ VAT), about £10,000 over budget. The major part of the funding – £57,000 - came from Thalia WB Community Fund (formerly Amey), part of the national Landfill Communities Fund Scheme: this was arranged under the auspices of the Cambridgeshire Community Fund. Substantial grants were also awarded by the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, Garfield Weston. The National Churches Trust, the Wolfson Foundation. the Benefact Trust, the Prince of Wales Charitable Trust (now the



L to R Nigel Walter of the National Churches
Trust; Alexandros Michalitsianos of Archangel,
the project architect; Adrian Ward, project
manager for Bakers of Danbury; Peter
Reynolds of Kingston Parochial Church Council;
Gareth Thomas, Chair of Thalia W B
Community Fund and a Trustee of the
Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.
Image: Torrie Smith

King Charles III Trust), and the Jack Patson Trust.

Gareth Thomas, the Chair of Thalia, and also a trustee of the Cambridge Community Foundation, gave a brief outline of the work of his charity; and Nigel Walter, spoke



Gareth Thomas of Thalia with Neil and Holly Robinson Image: Torrie Smith

on behalf of the National Churches Trust. Also attending were the Revd Dr Lynn Broughton, representing the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust, who provided a (vital) £20,000 loan in addition to a grant, and Holly Robinson, the Diocese of Ely's Historic Church Buildings Support Officer. Holly provided invaluable help with securing grants over the last three years.

Finally, sincere thanks were given to all those in Kingston, and other friends, who have so generously made donations to the Restoration Fund – large and small – and participated in our fund raising events over the last five years. More than £40,000 was raised in Kingston and there were some exceptionally munificent donors. To conclude the proceedings, the Revd Nigel Pearson lit the advent candles and gave a blessing. The PCC now has about 2,000 reclaimed peg tiles and a substantial amount of limewash (suitable for external or internal use) to sell: is anyone interested?

Peter Reynolds

Wise men wear pants

Setting up Kingston's nativity set for Christmas I noticed for the first time in nearly forty years that most of our figures are wearing underpants! These have been concealed by tissue paper stuffed into their robes to prevent the fabric creasing. The pants are as beautifully made as the rest of their clothing, with every edge fully seamed in miniscule stitches. These figures and their costumes, now about fifty years old but as good as new, were made by Margaret Mellor, and the stable by her husband Charles, a churchwarden. They lived at Tollfields in Crane's Lane from 1967 to 1985, when they removed to Highbury Fields. Both were adept in various arts and crafts and they were devoted servants of our church. Charles designed and Margaret coordinated



Wise man shows pants

the making of our heraldic altar kneelers (Charles was a Fellow of the Heraldry Society). They were also responsible for establishing our monthly Parish and Church Magazine.

Peter Reynolds

Concerts in church 2024

Two concerts are already being planned by Hartmut and Gwen Owen for 2024. Subscribe to www.harcamlow-music.org for updates.

Better Buses Consultation

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is consulting on a proposed rise in the Mayoral Precept to enhance bus routes. To find out more visit https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/better-buses/#questionnaire

New chalice and paten

From Jonny Stokes and Alewijn Tertius:

Merry Christmas all at the PCC from myself and Alewijn. We hope all is well with the church roof and that you are all keeping warm as we head towards a new year. Just a quick email to provide some process pictures of the chalice and paten. I will explain a couple of the processes in case they are of interest:

The chalice cup is being raised from a single sheet of sterling silver, which means many rounds of hammering and annealing (softening by heating) to contract the disc into a form similar to that of the finished piece. We use templates to make sure the work is progressing correctly as we proceed. Currently I am engaged in designing and making tools to create the facets in the cup, as specially shaped 'stakes' are used to move the metal in from its round

profile.

The silver comes from our supplier with a thin blue plastic coating to protect it as pictured. The Paten was cut from one sheet and hammered into wooden formers before being planished (which I am pictured doing), an operation which essentially trues the shape and creates a uniform tension, resulting in a more sturdy form. The process involves producing thousands of fine, slightly overlapping hammer blows, and is both very loud and very



The chalice bowl taking shape



Jonny planishing

meditative in its own way. This project has been so much fun this far and more updates will appear along the way.

Best wishes, Jonny

News Update from Bourn Primary

The Autumn term at Bourn Primary was a busy one! We welcomed our new 'Acorn' children into reception and they have settled in really well. Their production of 'Oops-A- Daisy Angel' in December was fantastic, especially considering they had only been in school just over 3 months! The children in Year 1 and 2 also put on a Christmas play, 'Hay You!', which was enjoyed by everyone.

We now have a new choir, run by Jo, one of our parents. Despite only being together for less than a term, they performed beautifully in our Christmas service in the Church, and also visited the Merrybourn Club to sing carols, which everyone loved. We have plans to visit more often.

We have also continued with our Gardening Club, which is run by Julie and Ailsa, who come every Tuesday lunchtime to teach the children all about how to plant and grow many different vegetables. The children absolutely love it when they harvest their produce and take it to the kitchen to be cooked later on in the week! Huge thanks to the Bourn Allotment Society and Bourn Gardening Club for all the help and support you have given us, with people coming to tend our flower gardens, donating bulbs and helping mend our greenhouse.

The school has also taken part in the Break Charity's Standing Tall project, where we designed and decorated a 3d giraffe, which will be displayed in the Lion Yard Shopping Centre in the Spring.

We were also visited by Ofsted in September and we were pleased that they identified so many of the great things about our school, including it being a 'friendly and respectful school' which is 'calm', 'welcoming' and 'purposeful'. They noted the 'warm and kind culture where all pupils feel safe and included' and recognised our diversity and inclusivity, where 'pupils celebrate the differences between people and cultures.' We are especially pleased that inspectors highlighted that 'children trust in school staff to help and support them.' The strong relationship between the school, parents and the community was noted, and it is clear that this partnership enhances the experiences of our pupils. The subjects we teach were inspected in detail, and inspectors recognised that our curriculum is firmly established and carefully considered. As a result, children at Bourn achieve well academically. The needs of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) were seen to be met well, and that 'appropriate adaptations are made to the curriculum to ensure that all pupils can work at the same level.' There has been a significant increase in the number of pupils with SEN in recent years, and it is reassuring to have Ofsted recognise the work we do to support all of our pupils. The strong relationship between the school, parents and the

community was noted, and it is clear that this partnership enhances the experiences of our pupils. I am sure the next term will be just as busy, and we will continue to do our best to make the children's learning and other experiences as interesting and exciting as we can.

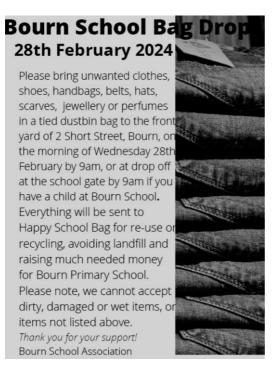
Merry Christmas to you all! Best wishes,

Laura Latham, Headteacher, Bourn Primary Academy



Libraries offer help to stay connected

Following the success of a pilot scheme offering free mobile SIM cards to those unable to afford internet access, the scheme is being rolled out to Arbury Court, Barnwell Road, Cambourne, Ely, Huntingdon, March and St Neots libraries.



Afternoon Tea

Longstowe Village Hall

everyone welcome

following Fridays: 2.00 to 4.00

26 Jan **`**24

23 Feb '24

22 Mar '24



Village Hall AGM

The AGM will be held in the village hall on Thursday 8 February at 8.0 pm and all are welcome.

Paul Wright (Chairman)

Mob: 07803 237751

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair raised the amazing sum of £1033 towards Village Hall Funds. Very many thanks are due to all those who helped out before and on the day: Suzy and Peter Stokes, Pat Draper, Miki Ellar, Jill Coleman, Sarah Wright, Kay Forsyth, Anna Martin, Linda Rimmer and Mark Stalham.

We must also thank those who provided items for sale and those who purchased them.

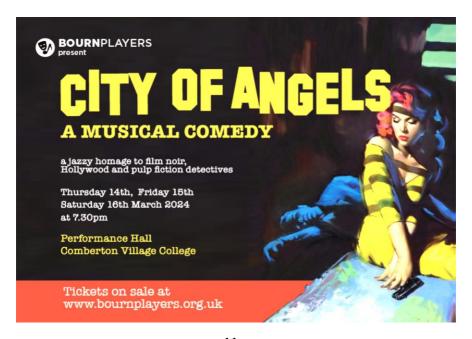
It is fund raising events like this that enable us keep down our hire charges to residents, to the benefit of the whole community.

Paul Wright (Chair of Kingston Village Hall Management Committee)





Santa makes a visit to Kingston



Parking Enforcement Changes Across South Cambridgeshire

New Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) powers in South Cambridgeshire have been given to Cambridgeshire County Council following a decision by Parliament.

Following an application to the Department for Transport (DfT), Council Civil Enforcement Officers (CEOs) can issue Penalty Charge Notices for the majority of on-street offences such as parking on double or single yellow lines. Previously only the Police could do this. Highways officers have worked closely with South Cambridgeshire District Council on the development of the scheme.

Benefits are expected to include increased compliance with parking restrictions which

in turn should improve traffic flow, road safety and lead to a reduction in obstructive and dangerous parking.

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The CPE scheme in South Cambridgeshire came into effect on 19 December. A Warning Notice will be issued to people who continue to park where there are restrictions throughout January – this looks like a parking ticket but there is no fine attached. Penalty Charge Notices will be issued from 1 February which will mean a fine of between £50 and £70, depending on the severity of the offence.

Drivers will be far more likely to receive a fine for parking incorrectly where there are restrictions, such as single or double yellow lines, now that this application has been approved so check the lines and signs or other notices in the area where you are planning to park.

Restrictions such as dangerous parking, obstruction of the footway and moving traffic offences will continue to be enforced by the Police.



Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

Lower Pendrill Court Ermine Street North Papworth Everard CB23 3UY

Email:

papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Revd. Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

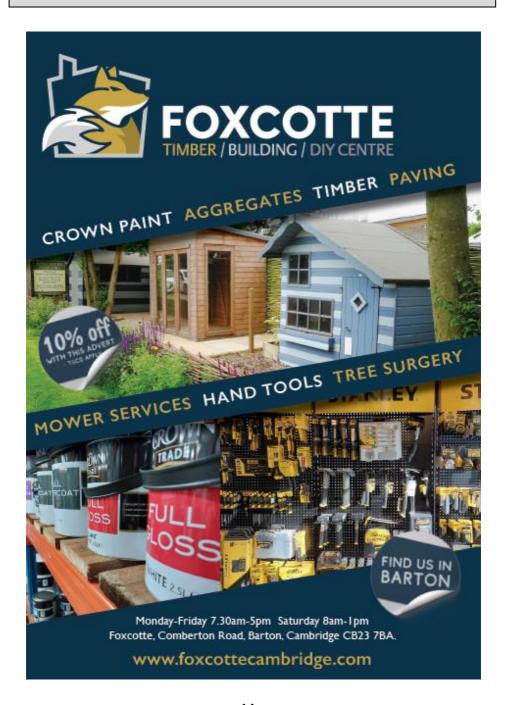
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Commercial advertising rates in this magazine:

Full page: £10 (£90 for 12 issues)
Half page: £7 (£70 for 12 issues)
Quarter page: £5 (£50 for 12 issues)

Other sizes by arrangement. Reduced rates for Kingston residents

Telephone numbers

Addenbrooke's A&E		01223 217118
Addenbrooke's switchboard		01223 245151
Age UK (Information and Advice line)		0800 1696565
Anglian Water (sewage)		08457 145145
Ashcroft Vet Surgery 169 St. Neots Rd, Hardwick		01954 210250
Cambridge Rail Station general inquiries		0845 7484950
Cambridge Water		01223 706050
Councillor Michael Atkins (Cambridgeshire County Council)		07968 264637
Councillor Tumi Hawkins (SC District Council)		01954 210840
Camdoc (out of hours)		01223 464242
Chinese, Fish and Chips 2 High St. Toft		01223 263337
Citizens Advice Bureau		01223 222660
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reporting)		0800 555111
Comberton Surgery		
58 Green End, Comberton	appointments	01223 262500
	prescriptions	01223 262399
Dr. Redwood & Partners, Bourn Surgery		
	Appointments	01954 719469
	Emergencies	01954 719313
Electricity (emergency)	J	0800 3163 105
Health-Child & Family Team (Community Health Office)		
Comberton Road, Toft		01223 264460
Indian, The Hoops Gt.Eversden		01223 264443
Italian, The Pergola, Harlton		01223 260005
Jetlink (to Stansted, Heathrow, Luton, Gatwick)		08705 747757
Magazine Editor (Miki Ellar)		01223 262887
National Rail Enquiries		08457 484950
Neighbourhood Watch (Peter Stokes)		01223 262207
NHS 24hr health Advice Line (talk to a nurse/doctor)		111
Parish Council Chairman (Sue Dalgleish)		07799 602103
Parish Council Clerk	kingstonpc.cambri	dge@gmail.com
Park and Ride		01223 845561
Police non-emergency (our PCS	SO)	101
Road repair		01223 833717
Rosie Maternity Hospital		01223 217617
Samaritans		01223 364455
South Cambridgeshire District Council		01954 713000
Stagecoach (Cambus) information 8am to 8pm		0870 6082608
Stansted Airport		0870 0000303
Streetlight failure reporting		0800 7838247
0		

Papworth Team

Rev Nigel di Castiglione (Team Rector)01954 267241nigel.dicastiglione@gmail.comor 07770 697240Rev Nigel Pearson01954 719637

Churchwarden

PCC Kay Forsythe (Treasurer) 01223 848742

Kay4cy@gmail.com

Peter Reynolds (Secretary) 01223 262094

peterreynolds299@btinternet.com

Linda Rimmer Lee Steele

Parish Council Sue Dalgleish (Chair) 07799 602103

chair@kingstonvillage.org.uk

Julie Conder (Vice-Chair, Finance & Website)

julie@kingstonvillage.org.uk

Parish Clerk (Rachel Marsh)
kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com

Miki Ellar (Councillor,

Village Hall Management Committee representative)

Mark Nicholls (Councillor, Open Spaces)

Paul Wheeler (Councillor)

Village Hall MC Paul Wright (Chair) 07803 237751

Chris Reid (Treasurer)

Sarah Wright (Vice Chair and Secretary) 01223 263500 kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com 07879 991068

Committee members: Brett Barnes, Pat Draper, Louise Gaffney

Isabelle Nett, Mark Stalham, Peter Stokes, Suzy Stokes.

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