

# Cotswold Edge

April 2024

The Church Newsletter for  
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,  
Tormarton and West Littleton



### Benefice Contacts

For information about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or Pastoral Visits  
please contact the Vicar, The Rev Sally Wheeler  
The Vicarage, Church Lane, Marshfield, SN14 8NT Tel: 01225 892180  
Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Associate Minister: Rev. Lynne Godfrey 01249 446734

Curate: Rev Sharon Roberts 07903 011030 s.roberts5454@outlook.com

<b>Lay Ministers</b>	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392

<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Aurea Hart	01225 891453
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#### **St Mary's Church, Marshfield**

Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Steve Williams	zen323167@zen.co.uk

PCC Treasurer	Kate Brain	01225 892582
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Bell Ringers	Anthony Chiddy	07563 961649
Church Bookings	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com	

#### **Holy Trinity, Cold Ashton**

Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary	Scarlett Wyatt	07432 050503
PCC Treasurer	Georgina Perceval-Maxwell	07771 776290

#### **St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton**

Churchwardens	Richard Lawrence	01454 218730
	Stewart Waters	01454 218393
PCC Secretary	Vacant	
PCC Treasurer	Janet Wells	01454 218549

#### **St James' Church, West Littleton**

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
	Becky Derry-Evans	
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

<b>Marshfield Chapel</b>	David Spence	01225 891115
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<b>Cotswold Edge Items:</b>	godwinluana@gmail.com	
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<b>Tormarton Newsletter:</b>	Janet Wells	01454 218549
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**Benefice website [www.marshfieldchurch.org](http://www.marshfieldchurch.org)**

*To put items on website please contact Richard Shreeve 01225 891169*

Tormarton **[www.tormarton.org](http://www.tormarton.org)** West Littleton **[www.westlittleton.com](http://www.westlittleton.com)**

Bristol Diocese **[www.bristol.anglican.org/](http://www.bristol.anglican.org/)**

Church of England **[www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)**

For information on Christian Faith: [www.christianity.org.uk](http://www.christianity.org.uk).

## Letter from the Ministry Team

### **The penny doesn't exactly drop...it slides into place.**

We have reached one of those 'between' times of the year. Easter has happened – the cross has proved sufficient for forgiveness and life by Jesus' resurrection, and now the disciples are starting their forty days of encounters with their risen Friend and Lord. They are between the biggest event of history and the follow-ons of Ascension and Pentecost. In the between time, they have to try to make sense of it all.

We have the advantage of reading to the end of the story, or like an audience in a game show, we know the answers already, so we enjoy watching the contestants struggle to figure it out.

The disciples, though, had shown (repeatedly) that they hadn't got it sorted, and there is no reason to suppose that the penny had dropped all of a sudden on that first Easter evening.

So Jesus is alive ("He's what?"); that means he's God's special Messiah ("How does that work, then?"); perhaps there's something in the Passover timing to do with forgiveness here ("But that needs priests, temples, offerings doesn't it?"); all that stuff about never leaving us may be true then ("But we've only seen him a couple of times so far.....").

Rather than dropping, the penny must have slowly slid down into place as they pieced together all they had heard, read and experienced.

This 'between' time for them was I am sure a time of wondering about the Old Testament, going over Jesus' teaching again, probably talking together about the stories to get the memories right and likely plenty of prayer to God to help them understand.

Bit by bit, it slots into place – not all at once, but over the next couple of months, and then several decades more of the church forming clear statements of belief. They didn't do this on their own of course – God provided his Spirit to inspire and guide, but it still took them time.

It is fair, then, for us to expect something of a similar journey. We should not think we'll get complete revelation of all life and faith issues in one go. The bits of the jigsaw will be brought into place at a pace we can handle, at a rate that ensures full cooperation of our minds and understanding. If cement, bones or solder set too quickly, they can be brittle, but if allowed to settle at the right rate they will be strong and effective. It is surely the case that like those 'between' disciples, we can understand more fully what God is up to by following the same steps: reviewing what the Bible says, remembering Jesus, talking together with others and asking God to send his Holy Spirit (roll on, Pentecost!) to guide us into all truth (John 16:13) at a pace we can handle, with our full cooperation.

**Andrew Gammie**

## FROM THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

Rory Driver & Bonnie Driver 10th March at St James' West Littleton  
Flynn Mathews 17th March at St Mary's Marshfield

### Weddings

There were no weddings in March

### Funerals in March

Michael Tye 6th March in St Mary's Marshfield  
William (Ted) Tolfree 7th March in St Mary's Marshfield  
William Abell 18th March at Westerleigh Crematorium  
Kirstie Long 20th March at Haycombe Crematorium

**Village Communion** 9th April at St Mary's

**Tuesday morning - Village Prayer Group**, 10.00 to 10.30am, at the Chapel. Every week except the 2nd Tuesday of the month, when there is Village Communion instead, at alternating venues. In April it is at St Mary's.

### Sunday Services & Events for All Ages

**Breakfast Church** - no breakfast church this month

**Church @4pm** - on Sunday 21st April in Cold Ashton Church, a short service for all ages followed by crafts, tea and snacks

**Kids Club** - held in Marshfield during the 10.30am services on Sundays April 21st & 28th. Activities for children aged 4-11. Creche & toddler toys for younger children at every service and activity table for older children weekly.

**Teenagers Thrive** will meet in the Church Hall on Sunday 28th April at 7pm for 12-16s

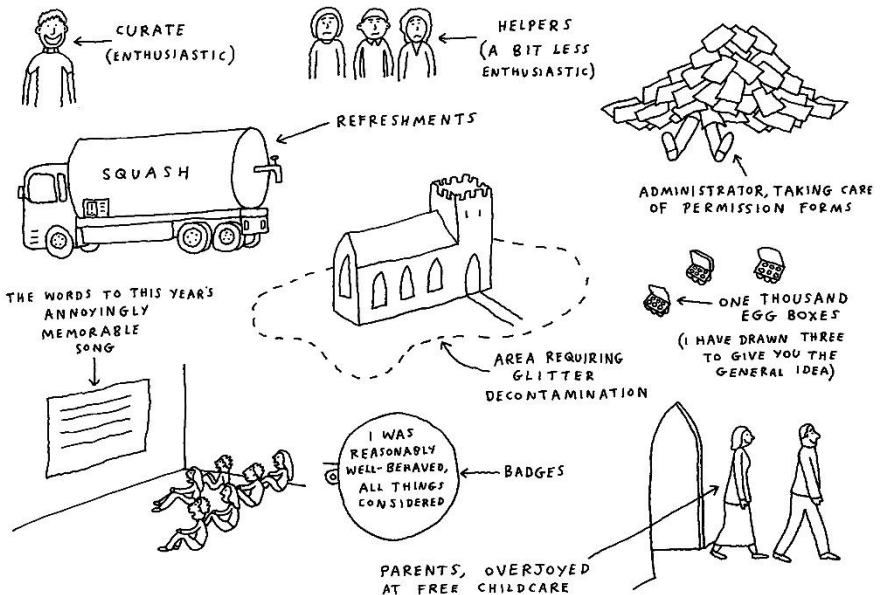
**Cafe Church**: Monday 8th April 12.30-2pm. All welcome for a light lunch, warm venue and company along with a 'Thought for the Day'. Contacts for transport or more information: Rev Lynne Godfrey [lynne.rev@sky.com](mailto:lynne.rev@sky.com), Tel 01249 446734; Aurea Hart [aurea.hart@gmail.com](mailto:aurea.hart@gmail.com) Tel 01225 891453

## Special Event

On Sunday 28th April there will be a special quarter peal before the 6pm Evensong Service in thanks for the contributions to our community of Pam Mills, Doug Bond and Aurea Hart (in her role as PSO)

**A Parish Safeguarding Officer** will be required for the Benefice from 1st May 2024 to support the PCCs and Incumbent with reviewing the Benefice safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring their implementation. This is an essential role for the Benefice but good systems are already in place, and support will be available. Please contact Aurea Hart or Rev Sally Wheeler for more information.

# THE HOLIDAY CLUB



CartoonChurch.com

## **Holiday Club Summer 2024** August 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

This year our theme is Deep Sea Divers!

Holiday Club will run in Marshfield at our Primary School from Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup> to Thursday August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The sessions will run from 9am – 12 noon and are for all Primary aged children. As usual, the club is organised by Marshfield Churches Together and in partnership with Trevor Ranger who provides a wonderful mix of fun, craft, games, songs and reflections on Bible stories. Children will know Trevor as he often leads school assemblies in Marshfield. We will reveal the theme for the club later in the Spring!

We are now looking to build a team of volunteers to help run the club this year. There are lots of different jobs we need support with, from helping with refreshments, helping children with craft, and greeting parents. There is no expectation that you would have to or want to lead a session. Our Safeguarding policy applies to this activity.

If you would like further details about the club or are thinking of offering to help, please speak to Revd Sharon or email her at [s.roberts5454@outlook.com](mailto:s.roberts5454@outlook.com).

The text 'Deep Sea Divers' is written in a large, rounded, teal-colored font. The words are arranged in two lines: 'Deep Sea' on the top line and 'Divers' on the bottom line. The letters are thick and have a slightly irregular, hand-drawn appearance.

**Benefice Prayer Diary April 2024**  
**Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton**  
*A Benefice Prayer*

*Gracious God, we bring before you the life of the churches in our Benefice. Watch over all of those who live in the Parishes and give succour to all those who are sick or in need; Lord, help us to grow in faith, in fellowship and service.*

**Week 1: 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> April.** During the week, please pray for:-

- The parishes of Marshfield and Tormarton its PCC's, and churchwardens.
- For other Christians in our communities who worship elsewhere. We think especially of the Chapel and their Pastor David Spence

**Week 2: 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> April.** During the week, please pray for:-

- The parish of West Littleton, its PCC, and churchwardens and for the community of which you are a part.
- Pray also for our School in Marshfield, its staff, parents and Governors.

**Week 3: 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April.** During the week, please pray for:-

- The people of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwardens
- For the work of "chaplains" – in the Services, in hospitals and prisons, and in places where people work.
- For The Lord's Creation; help us to look after our natural world for the common good, so generations to come may enjoy what we enjoy.

**Week 4: 22<sup>nd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> April.** During the Easter season, please pray for:

- Peace in the World, that all people in conflict find ways to solve their differences. We pray that leaders of all nations at war (and we think especially of Russia, Ukraine, Israel and Gaza), follow the path of peace and reconciliation.
- We pray also for our linked CMS mission partner Katia Rocks and her family Joanna and Davi as she continues to develop a ministry of outreach in Brazil.
- For the Benefice Ministry Team - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Sharon Roberts, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart and Mike Strathdee - and their ministry to us.

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact:

Paul White. 138 High Street. 0789 4429811 paulbswhite@outlook.com

### Benefice Services for April 2024

Please note: 10.30am services can be joined on Zoom [marshfieldchurch.org](https://marshfieldchurch.org)

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

9:00am Holy Communion	<b>Holy Trinity Cold Ashton</b>	Rev S. Wheeler
10.30am Family Service	<b>St Mary's Tormarton</b>	Rev S. Roberts
10:30am Morning Worship	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	M. Strathdee
6:00pm Evensong	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev S. Wheeler

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April

9:00am Holy Communion	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev S. Wheeler
10:30am Mattins	<b>St James' West Littleton</b>	A. Hart
10:30am Family Service	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev S. Roberts

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

9:00am Holy Communion	<b>St Mary's Tormarton</b>	Rev S. Wheeler
10:30am Morning Worship	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev S. Wheeler
4:00pm Together@4	<b>Holy Trinity Cold Ashton</b>	Rev S. Wheeler
6:00pm Holy Communion	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev SW/SR

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April

9:00am Holy Communion	<b>St James' West Littleton</b>	Rev SW/MS
10:30am Holy Communion	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev SW/MS
6:00pm Cel Evensong	<b>St Mary's Marshfield</b>	Rev S. Wheeler

### April 2024 Marshfield Chapel Diary

<b>Sun 07</b> 10.30am	<b>John Schofield *</b> (John 21)
6.00pm	<b>Robert Simpkins</b> (John 20:19-29)
<b>Sun 14</b> 10.30am	<b>Join with St Mary's</b>
6.00pm	<b>Rev Lynne Godfrey</b> (Luke 24:13-34)
<b>Sun 21</b> 10.30am	<b>Café Church with Samaritan Purse</b>
6.00pm	<b>David Spence*</b> (Phil 4:2-4)
<b>Sun 28</b> 10.30am	<b>Graham Bennett</b> (Matt 28:16-20)
6.00pm	<b>Andrew Gammie</b> (Eph 4:1-3)

(\*Communion services – the offerings will go to Tear Fund)

<b>Tues 9</b> 10.00am	<b>Village Communion at St Mary's</b>
<b>Sat 27</b> 10.30 -12	<b>Morning Coffee at Chapel</b>