



THE ROMAN ROAD PARISHES: COPFORD, EASTHORPE, FEERING & KELVEDON

THE ROMAN ROAD PARISHES NEWSLETTER

United Benefice of Kelvedon & Feering website: <http://www.kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk/>

St Michael & All Angels Website: <https://copfordchurch.org.uk>

St Mary's Easthorpe – A Church Near You: <https://achurchnearyou.com/church/6261>

SUNDAY 5TH JULY 2026 – Trinity 5

ST MARY'S KELVEDON 8.00 am – Said Holy Communion (*Prayer Book*)
ALL SAINTS' FEERING 9.30 am – Sung Holy Communion
ST MARY'S KELVEDON 11.00 am – Worship for All Service
All taken by Simon

NO SERVICES at COPFORD or EASTHORPE TODAY

Sarah Openshaw writes:

I'm guest editor this week as Fleur is away. It's been a while since I did this, and with our ever-growing benefice there have been many changes, so please forgive me if I get the odd thing wrong.

ST MARY'S KELVEDON SUMMER FETE, SATURDAY 4TH JULY at 2-5 pm

The main event in Kelvedon this week, of course! It's something I know a little about, having been involved for more years than I care to remember.

I've seen blisteringly hot fête days when handmade candles on the tombola melted in the sunshine, and days of torrential rain when we've been either in the school or church. At one time the fête filled both the (old) Vicarage garden & the churchyard, although my tombola—despite being the biggest money-spinner—wasn't allowed in the churchyard, because it was considered gambling! Many will also remember Col.

Yule, in his striped blazer and boater, running "Bowl for the Pig". A prisoner-of-war in Colditz, he famously played the piano to disguise the sound of escape tunnels being dug beneath the castle.

Much has changed, but at its heart the Fête remains the same: Cakes, Plants, Children's Games, Tombola, Teas and the Raffle, with the Beer Tent, Wandering Spirit & BBQ now firm favourites too.

Whatever the weather, we'll be here. Apart from Covid, the fête has never been cancelled. This year we're adding a colourful Hawaiian theme, so do come along and join us for a wonderful afternoon of fun and fellowship. It's one of our main fundraisers and we look forward to welcoming you. *Sarah*

A FAIRTRADE KITCHEN at St Mary's Kelvedon

The Church of England strongly supports **FAIRTRADE** as a practical way of living out the Christian calling to "love your neighbour" and to work for global justice.

At St Mary's, we play our small part by serving only Fairtrade tea, coffee & sugar at church events. We also use environmentally friendly washing-up liquid, kitchen towels, dishcloths and J-cloths wherever possible.

The donations given after Sunday services towards tea and coffee mean that our church kitchen is entirely self-funding, so we never have to draw on general church funds. Every contribution placed in the bowl by the hatch helps to keep this going and is greatly appreciated. *Robert Lines*





TIPTREE FOOD BANK – [Tiptree Food Bank](#) | [Tiptree](#) | [Facebook](#)

The Food Bank needs: Soup (basic flavours) Pasta, Baked Beans, Hand Soap, Female Deodorant, Washing Detergent and large sturdy bags please.

All donations for the Food Bank can be left at St Mary's Kelvedon or All Saints' Feering. Very many thanks.

SUNDAY 5TH JULY – WORSHIP FOR ALL SERVICE at St Mary's Kelvedon at 11.00 am

'Listening for God': We'll be exploring the great Old Testament story of the boy Samuel hearing at night a voice calling him in the Temple (1 Samuel 3.1-10). He thinks it's the old priest Eli... Our usual interactive, informal and fun service, with craft bags to take home. If your child would like a craft bag, please let [Geraldine](#) know by Saturday. NB no refreshments this Sunday due to the Fete.

FREE 2-HOUR TRAINING FOR LOCAL LAY WORSHIP TEAMS

The Waterside Parishes have 2 training sessions for worship teams with Revd. Canon Phil Ritchie – anyone in our new Benefice is welcome to attend. Includes leading services, practical tips on reading & leading prayers, plus resources to support you. Whether you've been serving for years or feel God may be calling you now, you're very welcome to come along. Details in the Diary on pg.3 below.

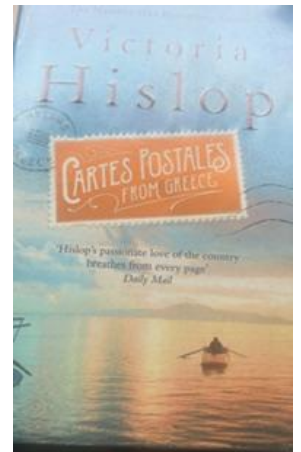
ST MARY'S BOOK GROUP

Members brought along a recent read of their choice to our June meeting.

- *A Hymn for Life* – Gisele Pelicot's account of her horrendous ordeals, and courage to speak out on behalf of all victims of sexual assault.
- *The Nine Lives of Annie Besant, a Victorian Rebel*, who broke all the rules.
- *Blythe Spirit* – A Biography of Ronald Blythe by Ian Collins
- John Ruskin Biography – with specific reference to his ceramic artistry
- *The Collage of God* by Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark Cathedral, a talented storyteller of the Gospels.

An interesting evening.

Next month's read is *Cartes Postale from Greece* by Victoria Hislop. Sue Barham



STRAWBERRY TEAS in COPFORD CHURCHYARD, SUNDAY 12TH JULY 12.30-4.00 pm, with Church Tours, Talks & a Cricket Match too!

Enjoy delicious local strawberries, freshly baked home-made scones and cream with a nice cuppa in our glorious family-friendly churchyard, plus farming chats for all who'd like to know more about what's growing in our local fields and how it's being farmed. Also Church tours & talks about the colourful characters linked with the Church. There'll be family-friendly activities, and well-behaved pets are welcome too! The Cricket Club

Bar opens at 1pm for the fiercely contested annual Village Cricket Match: The Alma Pub vs. Copford Cricket Club. A real afternoon's entertainment - we look forward to seeing you there! Anne Whistler

EILEEN WALMSLEY'S FUNERAL at All Saints', Tuesday 28th July at 2.30 pm

Eileen passed away peacefully in her sleep on 15th June, having suffered poor health for a long time. She made her 100th birthday though, which the family celebrated with her on 17th May. We will be holding a **Celebration of her Life at All Saints' Feering on Tuesday 28th July at 2.30 pm, followed by refreshments in The Bell.** There will be a cremation service for the family at 1 pm in Colchester Crem. Eileen loved bright colours, so please wear these to the service. Sue Barham

ST MARY'S PASTORAL LINKS TEAM

Thank you, St Mary's, for your patience as we seem to be forever asking you to sign cards for folk in our congregation. We like to think it is a sign that the Pastoral Link Team is doing its job well, with lots of people letting us know when someone would appreciate a birthday, get well, sympathy or congratulations card. The most memorable request so far came from New Zealand, via our social pages. We had message from the daughter of Anna in St Mary's Choir, that her mum was celebrating a special birthday, so could we mark it please? Of course we could, so we sent a video of the choir singing Happy Birthday to Anna to her daughter on the other side of the world. Sarah Openshaw

BENEFICE DIARY: SATURDAY 4TH JULY to SUNDAY 12TH JULY 2026

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2.00-5.00 pm St Mary's Kelvedon Fête – *see pg.1 above!*

SUNDAY 5TH JULY *DETAILS OF SERVICES AT THE TOP OF PAGE 1*

Tuesday 7th July 7 for 7.30 pm Deanery Synod at St Stephen's Little Wigborough

Wednesday 8th ***NO TEDDY BEAR CLUB TODAY*** – sorry, Simon is unavailable for family reasons.
TBC will be back for its final session of the summer on Wednesday 15th July.

4.45 pm St Mary's Kelvedon Junior Christian Club

Thursday 9th 8.30 am St Mary's Kelvedon Morning Prayer with Simon

Saturday 11th 10 am–12 noon Lay Worship Training St John the Baptist, Layer de la Haye
Also: 7-9 pm Tuesday 14th July St Mary's Tollesbury

For more details or to book a place please contact Waterside Parishes Administrator Rosie Pollock at:

office.blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com or Revd. Jo Wood: 01621 503802 & josephine.h.wood@btinternet.com

SUNDAY 12TH JULY	10.00 am	All Saints' Feering	All-Age Service	Taken by Simon
TRINITY 6	11.00 am	St Mary's Kelvedon	Sung Holy Communion	Taken by Wendy
	11.00 am	St Michael's Copford	All-Age Service	Taken by Simon
	12.30–4.00 pm	St Michael's Copford	Strawberry Teas, Church Tours, Farming Talks & Annual Pub-Club Cricket Match (from 1 pm)	
	3.00 pm	St Mary's Kelvedon	Holy Baptism	Taken by Simon

ADVANCED NOTICE

Thursday 16th July 8 for 8.15 pm St Mary's Kelvedon PCC Meeting in the Church Rooms

SUNDAY 19TH JULY 8.00 am St Mary's Kelvedon Said Holy Communion (BCP) Taken by Simon
9.30 am All Saints' Feering Sung Holy Communion Taken by Trevor
11.00 am St Mary's Kelvedon Sung Holy Communion Taken by Christine Newmarch
6.00 pm St Mary's Easthorpe Sung Evensong with the Revd. Chris Garland

Chris was Rector of Copford, Easthorpe, Messing & Inworth for over 20 years, then retired to Australia. He is visiting the UK, so a **Welcome Tea will be served in Church from 4.00 pm** before the service. Everyone who knew Chris is warmly invited to come.

Tuesday 28th July 2.30 pm All Saints' Feering Celebration of Life for Eileen Walmsley
Following a Funeral Service in Colchester Crematorium for Eileen's family at 1.00 pm

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