

News and views from the Parishes of Badgeworth,  
Churdington and Dilton Combe with  
Bertham

# Three in One



March 2026

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£1

# Three in One Magazine

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## THREE IN ONE MAGAZINE

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***Greenway Benefice - Badgeworth, Shurdington and Witcombe with Bentham.***

***"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" Mark 16:15***

***2025 Benefice Worship Pattern***

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month**

8am	St Paul's	BCP* Holy Communion
9:30	St Paul's	Worship
11am	Holy Trinity	Worship
11am	St Mary's	Worship

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month**

8am	St Mary's	BCP* Holy Communion
9:30	St Paul's	Worship
11am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion
11am	St Mary's	All-age Worship

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**

9:30	St Paul's	Holy Communion
11am	Holy Trinity	BCP* Morning Worship
11am	St Mary's	Holy Communion

***\*These are services using the Book of Common Prayer***

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion**

***January, April, July, October at Holy Trinity Badgeworth  
February, May, August, November at St Mary's Great Witcombe***

***March, June, September, December at St Paul's Shurdington***

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Benefice Service at 10am "Let's Worship"**

**usually in Shurdington Church of England Primary School**

***DON'T FORGET TO LOOK AT OUR NOTICEBOARDS AND ONLINE FOR SEASONAL SERVICES SUCH AS CHRISTMAS, EASTER, HARVEST ETC.***

**Find us on social media on Facebook:**

**@GreenwayChurches**

## SHURDINGTON CHURCH HALL

School Lane, Shurdington

Lettings for groups and private functions.

Rates £25 large room, £20 small room per session

Further details from the church administrator by  
emailing [greenway.bswb.office@gmail.com](mailto:greenway.bswb.office@gmail.com)

## WITCOMBE & BENTHAM VILLAGE HALL

Enquiries should be made to the Custodian

07518 137635

[witcombevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:witcombevillagehall@gmail.com)

[www.witcombevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.witcombevillagehall.co.uk)

## BADGEWORTH VILLAGE HALL

Our lovely old school hall is an excellent venue for meetings, rehearsals, receptions and small parties, seating a maximum of 50 people.

Reception hall, main hall, fully fitted kitchen with crockery and cutlery for 50.

Car park opposite the hall for hall users.

Hire charge £25 per session

(8am-1pm, 1-6pm, 6-11pm).

For enquiries and bookings, please email

[badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com)

or call 07895 764947.

Badgeworth Village Hall Management Committee

## SHURDINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre consists of two spacious halls, a room which links both, and a grassed open space.

Events may be booked by following the 'Bookings' link

on our website : [shurdingtoncomcentre.net](http://shurdingtoncomcentre.net)

Email: [bookings@shurdingtoncomcentre.net](mailto:bookings@shurdingtoncomcentre.net)

Tel: 07483 303190

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Contributors please note: material for the  
April 2026 issue to  
John Cummins at [editor3in1@gmail.com](mailto:editor3in1@gmail.com)  
by Wednesday 18th March 2026



# Pastoral Letter

Robert writes



March  
2026

My dear friends

One might feel utterly saddened by the state of the world at the moment. Every country, every society seems to be in conflict with others and within themselves in one way or another.

Our political leaders and media are currently obsessed with those that might have some association with a particular American financier. Apologies are demanded for the victims of a vile trade in underage girls no matter the context or limitations of that association. Simply being mentioned in certain documents is enough to create a demand for public protestation against the individual and declaration of sympathy for the victims. Some may think that such pronouncements are enough to assuage the trauma of those that suffered, I personally do not.

In my role as Funeral Minister I encounter many grieving people and I know that the sense of loss, of sorrow, of guilt – however unfounded – never fully leaves; that the most innocent of phrases, the most abstract trigger, such as a scent of flowers or aroma of something being cooked can easily force those subdued emotions powerfully back to the surface.

Victims of criminal activity need justice in some form or other simply to know that their pain and horror have been recognised and dealt with as best as mere human beings are able. Meaningless words and denial of due process makes things worse. The perception that guilty people are able to simply buy their way out of trouble, use ethnicity to deflect investigation, or delay the days of reckoning by legal means almost indefinitely, adds to and multiplies that sense of injustice.

We all have our own experiences in life that, in one way or another, haunt us from within for all our lives. Most of them are quite trivial in nature, others less so. The vast majority are easily and quickly dealt with when memories resurface unexpectedly. A few are less easily dismissed and might need, at the very least, a sympathetic and listening ear that is in no way connected to an immediate verbal outpouring of “helpful advice”.

We are now in the period of Lent a time of spiritual reflection that leads to Holy Week and Easter. A time when many look back on their lives and ask themselves in what ways can they improve them in the immediate future. I am not thinking here of major changes in financial status, though that might possibly be useful. I am thinking in terms of amending personal attitudes, preferences and priorities.

Lent should be about forward-looking hope and improvement, not backwards-looking sorrow and perpetual self-condemnation. Some things we must simply “let go” in order to “move on” or we become stagnated in the past and allow it to determine the future.

I know “letting go” is never easy, that we all, to some extent, have a perverse desire to hang on to negatives, to grudges, to perceived injustices. Yet when we do, the sense of lightness, of positivity, of freedom, of joy is every bit as powerful, as pleasurable, if not more so, than that which went before.

Easter is about that sense of release for individuals and for entire groups of people. Jesus took upon Himself ALL of our inadequacies, All of our guilt, ALL of our iniquities and, as a much-loved hymn puts it “paid the price of sin”. God’s love for us is unconditional, infinite and freely given. The cross gives us the chance of a fresh start with all the negatives of the past washed away. We simply need to accept that freely given gift and “move on”.

Robert Poole  
Reader.

# Benefice Diary

## March

Thursday	5	Anna Chaplaincy Coffee	6
Saturday	7	Coffee and Chat	26
Monday	9	Open Monday	13
Tuesday	10	Mothers' Union	24
Friday	13	Book Club	14
Saturday	14	Benefice Away Day	21
Saturday	21	Gardening Society Spring Show	23
	21	Flavours of India	23
Sunday	22	Lent Course begins	8
Wednesday	25	Julian meeting	10
		MU Lady Day/Lent lunch	24
Saturday	28	Coffee morning	25
Sunday	29	Palm Sunday	5
Monday	30	Holy Week begins	5

## April

Thursday	2	Anna Chaplaincy Coffee	6
Saturday	4	Coffee and Chat	26
Monday	13	Open Monday	13
Tuesday	14	MU Easter Celebration	24
Thursday	16	Gardening Society	23
Saturday	25	Coffee Morning	25
Monday	27	Open Monday	13

Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) Greenway Gifts  
Every Thursday in term-time Community Choir

# Holy Week in the Greenway Benefice

Sunday 29/03/2026 9:30am Palm Sunday  
Shurdington Church of England school

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Monday 30/03/2026 6pm Musical Reflection  
Holy Trinity Church, Badgeworth

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Tuesday 31/03/2026 6pm Artistic Reflections  
St Paul's Church, Shurdington

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Wednesday 1/04/2026 6pm Evening Prayer  
St Mary's Church, Great Witcombe

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Thursday 02/04/2026 9am Maundy Thursday Prayer  
St Paul's Church, Shurdington

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Thursday 02/04/2026 6pm Maundy Thursday  
Holy Communion St Paul's Church, Shurdington

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Friday 03/04/2026 9am Good Friday  
Morning Prayer St Paul's Church, Shurdington

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Friday 03/04/2026 11am Good Friday  
Holy Trinity Church, Badgeworth

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Friday 03/04/2026 6:15pm & 7pm  
Walk of Witness followed by Taizé Worship  
St Mary's Church, Great Witcombe

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Saturday 04/04/2026 8pm Easter Eve  
St Paul's Church, Shurdington

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Sunday 05/04/2026 9:30am or 11am Easter  
Holy Communion All Churches





# The Welcome Table

for older people

Do you enjoy going out for a coffee but would like to have the opportunity to talk with others while you are out and about?

Members of the Cheltenham and Bishop's Cleeve Chaplaincy (CaBiC) team are great at engaging with residents in care homes but we are very aware that there are many older people, living independently, who would like to meet others for a cup of coffee and a casual catch up.

We would like to spread our wings and meet you!

From February, we are starting a new project, **The Welcome Table**, to be held in different coffee shops across Cheltenham.

To start with, come and catch up with Rachel on the:

**1st Thursday in the month 10.30am-12noon at the Fioro Lounge at the top of the Bath Road**

**(starting on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb)**

We will have a table reserved for us and a couple of our Anna Chaplaincy volunteers will be there, already chatting! All you need to do is order and pay for a coffee (and cake!) and join us at the table. It will be very casual and very friendly!

Other venues and days in the week are in the pipeline?

Why not suggest a coffee shop to us!

[info@cabic.co.uk](mailto:info@cabic.co.uk)



# PALM SUNDAY

## Let's Worship

9:30am Procession  
10:15am Worship  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Everyone is Welcome**

The procession starts and finishes in the school playground.

Shurdington Church of England school  
Badgeworth Lane  
Shurdington  
GL51 4UQ

# Lent Course 2026

Greenway  
Benefice  
Badgeworth,  
Shurdington and  
Witcombe with  
Bentham

Brothers and Sisters of the book: Judaism,  
Islam and Christianity.

Understanding perspectives and building  
bridges

ST PAUL'S CHURCH HALL, SHURDINGTON

We will be meeting for the 6 Sundays of Lent.

22/02/26 - 29/03/26 at 6pm

This will be a safe space, where any  
questions can be asked and answers  
explored together

For more information please contact Rev  
Daniel Newman, Assistant Curate

[rev.daniel.newman@gmail.com](mailto:rev.daniel.newman@gmail.com)

## Alan Pilbeam Talk

Tuesday March 31st

This talk starts at 7pm at Shurdington Chapel

An illustrated talk on local geography and history. This one is about  
William Tyndale who grew up locally.

# Greenway Benefice Churches

*How to find us:*

Holy Trinity Badgeworth  
*Church Lane*  
*Badgeworth*  
*Gloucester*  
*GL51 4UL*

(Registered Charity number 1209315)

St Paul's Shurdington  
*School Lane*  
*Shurdington*  
*Cheltenham*  
*GL51 4TF*

St Mary\* the Virgin Witcombe with Bentham  
*Great Witcombe*  
*Gloucester*  
*GL3 4TS\**

*\*turnings off Ermin Way or Birdlip Hill*

*You can also see more information on A Church Near You.*

*Simply type "A Church Near You Badgeworth" or "A Church Near You Shurdington" or "A Church Near You Witcombe" into your search engine.*



## Useful Phone Numbers:



Furniture Recycling Warehouse	01452 331333
Removal of Bulky Waste	01684 295010
Glos Highways	0800 0 514 514
Faulty Streetlights	0800 0 514 514
Police (non-emergency)	101
101 is 15p, the local call number is	01452 726920
Fire/Police/Ambulance (emergency only)	999
NHS 'Out of Hours'	08454 220220
NHS Help line	111
Adult social services and District nurses	01452 328224
Samaritans	116123
Citizens Advice	01452 527202
Children's social services	01452 328213
CARE direct	0800 444000
Electricity Power Loss	0800 328 1111
Water Services & Emergencies	0800 783 4444
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Emmaus*	01452 413095

\*at Chequers Road, Gloucester:

Collections and Sale of furniture, electrical goods etc.

*\*at Chequers Road, Gloucester:*

*Collections and Sale of furniture, electrical goods etc.*

# Julian Meeting

Meeting in silence with God

Please do join us for 30 minutes of silent prayer followed  
by a cup of tea together.

Time: 2:30pm Wednesday March 25th

Place: 52 Lambert Avenue, Shurdington. GL51 4ST

Ian & Wendy Davies (01242 861293)



## Shurdington church and village organisations

Churchwarden	Mr Andrew Spence	(01242) 862101
PCC Secretary	Mrs Lisa Pearson	(01242) 862538
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Christine Langham	(01242) 861218
Gift Aid Officer		
Sacristan	Mr Andrew Spence	(01242) 862101
Church Flowers	Mrs Helen King	(01242) 862505
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Lisa Pearson	(01242) 862538
Mothers' Union	Mrs Janet Holmes	(01242) 862989
Church Hall Lettings		
Verger		
Parish Council Clerk	John Kay	07841204404
Shurdington Pre School	Kelly Clifford	07867813627
Gardening Society	Mr. G. Woodruffe	07792269353
Scout Group	Mrs Louise Slee	
	15thcheltenhamscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Shurdington Sports Club	Mr J Barnfield	(01242) 862826
Friendship Club	Mrs Maureen West	(01242) 863991
Children's Society	Mrs Helen King	(01242) 862505

In time of illness if you would like a visit and / or to be remembered in prayer please contact Clare Stewart (01242) 862598, Sue Padfield (01452) 862509.

Three in One Magazine

Editor John Cummins

07795849688

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Business Manager Ian Davies tel (01242) 861293

email: [iandavies@pobox.com](mailto:iandavies@pobox.com)



## Witcombe & Bentham church and village organisations

Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
	Mrs Lynne Cooper	07582036001
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
PCC Treasurer/Gift Aid Officer	Mr Jon Frewin	07808912217
Verger	Mrs Jane Bell	(01452) 862558
Captain of Bells		
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Lynne Cooper	07582036001
Magazine Coordinator	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
Village Hall Enquiries Custodian		07518137635
Witcombe Social Fundraisers	Mrs Christine Dyer	(01452) 862399
Witcombe Under 5s	Kyla Hill	thevictoria@btinternet.com



## Badgeworth church and Village organisations

Churchwardens	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
	Mr Paul Stanfield	(01242) 463626
PCC Secretary	Mrs Antoinette Wilson	(01452) 856907
PCC Treasurer		
Gift Aid Officer	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
Sacristan	Mrs Sue Avery	(01242) 520388
Verger	Mrs Rachel Cottell	(01452) 715034
Captain of Bells	Mr David Turner	(01452) 712302
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Roger Brown	(01242) 239179
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs H.L. Jones	07840073143
Village Hall	Mrs Rachel Cottell	(01452) 715034
Friends of Church	Mrs Beverly Pickering	(01452) 712907
Church Flowers	Mrs Diana Brown	(01242) 239179

# Open Mondays at Shurdington Community Centre

Century Hall from 11am – 4pm  
Second and last Monday of the month.

Refreshments

No charge and all are welcome.

Newspapers, jigsaws, table tennis, charge your phone or just have a chat.

Between 2pm and 4pm, there will be a family film showing on our cinema system.

Play facilities for children and on the last Monday of the month, an **NHS run Baby Hub**.

## All welcome



Supported by: **Shurdington Parish Council, Tewkesbury  
Warm Spaces**

**Community Fund, Gloucester Thriving Communities,  
National Grid Community Matters  
Gloucestershire Community Foundation**



# BOOKS & BANTER

## Shurdington book club

Where: in Beauty and the Teacup

When: 6pm

Next Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March

**2026 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays of the month**

*NO MEETING IN APRIL*

*8th May                      12th June*

*10th July*

*NO MEETING IN AUGUST*

*11th September    9th October*

*13th November    11th December*

*New members are always welcome.*

If you'd like to join, please email  
[revsusancooke@gmail.com](mailto:revsusancooke@gmail.com)

or ask Wendy Lovett in Beauty and the Teacup  
or just come along!

**All welcome! Susan & Wendy.**

## **Caring for Creation together**

**Over the past 18 months, the Church House team has taken important steps towards caring more faithfully for God's creation. This has included understanding our carbon footprint, strengthening net zero carbon governance, and connecting long-term ambitions with the everyday life of churches, offices, and communities.**

The next stage is about turning these plans into practical, visible action. Across the Church of England, one of the main ways this happens is through the Eco Church and Eco Diocese awards. The Diocese of Gloucester achieved Bronze Eco Diocese in 2021 and is now working towards Silver Eco Diocese, aiming to reach it this year. A key part of this process is encouraging more churches, schools and diocesan teams to engage with Eco Church.

Throughout Lent, we will be sharing reflections on the recent move to the new Church House premises, including the challenges and opportunities involved in working towards an Eco Office Silver award for our building. There is much to celebrate in the environmental features built into the refurbishment, as well as opportunities to continue improving.

Each week we'll take a look at one of the five Eco Church categories: worship and teaching, land, buildings, community, and lifestyle. Each week will also include a simple three-level challenge, offering ideas for what can be done with just five minutes, half an hour, or half a day. These are small, practical invitations to pause, notice, and take part in caring for creation, and to discover the joy and encouragement that often comes with it.

Sometimes 'Eco Church' can sound like an extra project, but it is often about noticing and building on what is already happening. Caring for creation shows younger generations that the Church takes its responsibility seriously, and for Christians, it is embedded in worship, teaching, and everyday discipleship.

Here are some tips for getting started:

- Work together: A small group of people with varied interests is enough to share ideas, plan actions, and encourage one another.
- Track progress first: The Eco Church survey shows what is already in place. Celebrate current achievements and focus on next steps without pressure to do everything at once.

Five-minute challenge: Be still and thank God for the ways nature supports life.

30-minute challenge: Take a gratitude walk in a garden or park, noticing five things you see, four you hear, three you feel, two you smell, and one you taste.

Half a day challenge: Join a friend for a litter pick, taking time to observe the beauty of creation.

## **Rory's faith story**

**We spoke to Rory Wilson, Church Buildings Support Officer for the Diocese of Gloucester about his journey to faith.**

In 2004, just after his mother had died, Rory was sitting in her empty home and noticed a Bible. He opened it, started turning the pages and found that all the words that previously felt irrelevant suddenly made sense. Tears appeared in Rory's eyes as he remembered the sudden peace and understanding that came over him.

"It was a moment of euphoria, when everything changed. I didn't know what to do but I had to speak to someone about it. I picked

up the phone and called my mother's neighbour, Richard who I knew was a Christian. It's hard to grasp how different life was before I came to know God. I was reborn as a different person."

Rory now keeps a small cross in his pocket, made of New Zealand jade as a reminder that God is always with him. "It helps me to reframe my thinking and to prompt me to take moments of quiet in the day for prayer."

Read Rory's full story at  
<https://gloucester.anglican.org/2026/faith-stories-rory-wilson/>

## **Easter services near you**

Looking for a church to celebrate Easter? There are many opportunities across the Diocese of Gloucester to join worship. Use AChurchNearYou.com to find a service in your local area, see times, and plan your visit.

## **Events and training**

More details for all these events at  
[gloucester.anglican.org/events](https://gloucester.anglican.org/events)

**Living Christ's mercy, justice and hope, Abbey Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BU, 10 March** Join Bishop Rachel for an in-person event for organisations, churches and individuals wanting to deepen their involvement or develop a Christian response to people in prison and those leaving prison.  
<https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/save-the-date-living-christs-mercy-justice-and-hope/>

Cheltenham Bach Choir: Spring concert, Tewkesbury Abbey, Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RZ, 14 March. A concert from one of the leading amateur choral societies in south-west England.  
<https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/whats-on/>

Riding Lights Theatre Company – Night Falls, St Catharine's, London

Road, Gloucester, GL2 0RR, 18 March

A new passion play that retells the Easter story, blending music and drama alongside space for worship and reflection.

<https://www.stcatharine.org.uk/events/riding-lights-theatre-company-night-falls>

**Chrism Eucharist 2026, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, 2 April**

A special service where ministers and congregations gather from across the diocese to renew their commitments to God. The service starts at 11am on Maundy Thursday, a day Christians remember for the last supper Jesus and his disciples shared on the night before he was crucified. <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/chrism-eucharist-2026/>

# Hall availability

Are you looking for a lovely village hall for your meeting or activity session?

From Easter, we have availability at **Badgeworth Village Hall** for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 8am -1pm, for the bargain hire charge of £25. We also have current availability for Wednesday and Thursday afternoons each week (1-6pm), again at £25 per session.

The hire charge includes use of the car park, all kitchen facilities, heat and light.

If you are interested, please email

[badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:badgeworthvillagehall@gmail.com) to make a booking or to arrange to see the hall.

<https://www.badgeworthvillagehall.org.uk/>

Telephone 07518137635

# BEING ECO CHURCH - ENCOURAGING NATIVE WILDLIFE

Watchers of Springwatch, or David Attenborough programmes, will know that wildlife around the world is in trouble, and that includes native wildlife in the UK. Exponential population growth and increasing consumption means that we, as a species, have taken land away from habitat for wildlife and into cultivation for food or other uses. The result, a major loss of biodiversity, is not only poor stewardship of God's creation, but also contributes to loss of ecosystems which ultimately affect our own ability to breathe, eat and drink clean water.

## **How can we help?**

*Make sure that there is always something flowering.* On a warm day in February or March some bees may be enticed out of hibernation and will urgently need nectar to survive. In the autumn, birds and mammals need seeds, berries and nuts, whilst bees, butterflies and moths need plants that have pollen or nectar they can access throughout the year.

*Grow plants with simple pollen bearing flowers* that insects can access. There are many beautiful flowers which are so multi-layered with tightly packed petals that insects can't get into the food which may be there. (e.g. some roses, chrysanthemums)

*Don't be too tidy!* Twigs and fallen leaves provide nesting materials and shelter for birds and small creatures like our

seriously endangered native hedgehog. Leaving a pile of twigs and small branches at the back of a flower bed or in a hidden corner will encourage a variety of wood-boring beetles and other invertebrates. They will then be dragged by worms into the soil for food, where they also improve the condition of the soil.

*Maintain natural boundaries* like mixed hedges, where birds and other creatures can find shelter and food. If you have solid fences, consider cutting a hedgehog hole, as urban hedgehogs visit up to 20 gardens a night to find enough food.

*Water.* However small an offering, providing water is the best thing you can do to support wildlife. You could go for a full-blown pond. If that is not feasible, then just sink an old washing up bowl into the ground and fill it with rain-water, a bit of gravel, some stones and a few small aquatic plants. Larger stones are useful near the edge to act as a ramp for mammals and amphibians. You will be amazed how quickly it will attract a range of amphibians and insects.

Provide clean water for drinking all year too, and if possible somewhere for birds to bathe. Keep bird baths clean to prevent disease spread.

***For more details of planting look at the RSPB, RHS and the Wildlife Trust websites.***

*This article is based on A Rocha UK's eco church article on the same subject*

# Greenway Benefice Away Day

Join us as we reflect on the Seven Sacred Spaces and our vocation as Church. The day will include time for prayer and reflection and a celebration of Holy Communion

Saturday 14/03/2026

10:00am Arrival from 09:30

Prinknash Abbey

Cranham

GL4 8EX

Greenway Benefice

Holy Trinity, Badgeworth

St Paul's, Shurdington

St Mary's, Witcombe with Bentham

# St Paul's, Shurdington

## Churchyard

In order to protect this important and beautiful churchyard we politely request that everyone adhere to the following principles.

- All waste should be disposed of in the bins provided.
- Kerb stones, fencing, stone chippings and statues are not permitted.
- Artificial flowers are not permitted.
- Flowers may only be placed in a non-glass removable container that has been sunk into the ground.
- Trees, shrubs, or bushes are not permitted to be planted in any grave.
- The Parish priest, Churchwardens or whoever is authorised by the PCC to look after the churchyard is permitted to remove unsightly flowers and any items not permitted.

**Please be aware that we will have to remove items that are not permitted under these regulations.**

**If you have any of these items in the churchyard please could you collect when you are able.**

**We will be clearing any remaining items on 25/07/2026.**

**They will be stored for collection until 09/01/2027**

Thank you

Churchwardens & P.C.C.



A full copy of churchyard regulations can be obtained by application to the Churchwardens or the Benefice office.

They are also available on the Diocese of Gloucester website or by following the QR code.



SHURDINGTON  
&  
BADGEWORTH  
GARDENING  
SOCIETY



Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month (unless it is a show month), at 7.30 in the Millennium Hall.

21<sup>st</sup> March – This is our Spring show. We have various classes of Daffodil/Narcissus, as well as tulips, pot plants, rhubarb etc. If you wish to enter please come along between 12 and 1pm, you do not have to be a member. Viewing is between 3pm and 4pm. Admission is 50p (free if exhibitor), there are refreshments, raffle and plant stall.

Our April meeting is on 16<sup>th</sup> and is a talk (with practical demonstration) of propagation of plants from seeds, cutting and division by Philip Aubury.

Look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings.

Stay safe keep gardening

Janette Willis (Secretary)

ANOTHER FUN THEME EVENING at WITCOMBE!

*FLAVOURS of INDIA*

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30pm

at Witcombe & Bentham Village Hall

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RAFFLE★

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Our AGM began promptly at 2.30 pm on a very dull, damp afternoon but we all agreed it was good to be together again. Chris Nation led the opening Prayers including the Wave of Prayer and then went on with the Secretary's Report reviewing the 2025 Branch Meetings. Janet Holmes then gave detailed and beautifully produced accounts in the Treasurer's Report which balanced to the last 1p.

In her Branch Leader's report Janet thanked everyone who had contributed not only with their time but with refreshments and Prayers helping to make our Branch full of friendship and Love which we all agreed was the core of our meetings. She also challenged all members to consider being part of the committee and perhaps training with her help to become Treasurer in the future.

The AGM part of the afternoon was concluded and refreshments served supplied generously by Janet George. Thank you Janet.

While enjoying our tea there was much discussion about Baptismal Teddies, Lady Day/Lent Lunch and possible service high lighting Mothers' Union and our 150th Anniversary Celebrations.

Next Meeting - March 10th 2026 Ruth and Kathy with MM Merchandise

Future Dates. - March 25th 2026 Lady Day/Lent Lunch

April 14th 2026 Celebration of Easter

# **4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY COFFEE MORNINGS**

**SHURDINGTON CHURCH HALL  
10am to Noon**

**28<sup>th</sup> MARCH,                      25<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**23<sup>rd</sup> MAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 25<sup>th</sup> JULY**

**22<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST, 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**

**RAFFLE, BOOKS, PLANTS, COF-  
FEE, CAKE, BRIC-A-BRAC**

**IN AID OF THE REFURBISHMENT OF  
THE CHURCH HALL**



**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March**

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April**

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am-12noon**  
**Badgeworth Village Hall**

Coffee and home-made cakes, good company,  
a raffle & the morning papers.

Please bring items for the  
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**A community event**

**organized by**  
**Holy Trinity Church**  
**and sponsored by**  
**Badgeworth Village Hall**



## Greenway Gifts



# Food Bank

If you need some help with groceries, please come along to our non-referral food bank, every Monday, **except Bank Holidays**, between 9am and 10am, at St Paul's Church Hall. This is for Shurdington, Witcombe, Bentham and Badgeworth, and those associated with Shurdington School and Shurdington Preschool.



## Cake and Chat

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month we have cake and chat. Free & all welcome!

If you would like to support the Food Bank, you can offer long dated items by leaving them in our churches, dropping in on a Monday morning, or you can donate directly to Shurdington Parochial Church Council using the QR code below. Please use the references GIFTS. Thank you!



## **The 1591 Commandments Board: A Rediscovered Treasure at Holy Trinity, Badgeworth**

The Parochial Church Council has come to recognise that Holy Trinity Church is home to a remarkable treasure (after many years of being quietly overlooked): namely, an Elizabethan Commandments Board, dating from 1591.

At first glance, the Board is rather modest in appearance. Time has taken its toll, and the Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments, inlaid in Old English, are now difficult to read. Yet beneath this unassuming exterior lies an object of exceptional historical importance. The question soon arose, could this rare artefact be conserved for future generations?

In August 2024, Churchwardens Roger and Paul took the first steps by contacting a Diocese-approved conservator to explore what might be possible. On a sunny August afternoon, Sophie Barton ACR of ICON visited the church, spending nearly two hours carefully examining the Board, taking measurements and photographs, and assessing its condition alongside the church Fabric Officer.

Sophie subsequently produced a detailed conservation report, outlining how the Board could be conserved and preserved. The estimated cost for the work, including removal to her workshop, is £20,000. During this period, Roger also consulted a specialist in medieval furniture at the Victoria and Albert Museum, who confirmed that the Board is unique due to its early date and unusual construction.

In light of this expert advice, the PCC unanimously agreed to seek a faculty from the Diocese. With the

invaluable support of Adam Klups, the faculty was granted in October 2025.

While our application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund was unsuccessful, we are delighted to report that the Church of England Central Grants Fund has awarded us £10,000 towards the conservation costs. A further grant application to the Leche Trust is currently under consideration, with a decision expected by mid-March. We hope to proceed with the conservation work in the near future and look forward to being able to share this remarkable piece of our heritage with a wider audience. By conserving the Commandments Board, we aim not only to safeguard an irreplaceable artefact, but also to spark fresh interest and pride within our local community.

Paul Stanfield - Churchwarden

If anyone has a better picture of the board I will publish it ( and a transcription of the content). On a similar theme St Paul's has a board with a list of past vicars. Has

THOMAS de USKE . . . . .	1270	GEORGE ESTCOURT . . . . .	1639	GERVASE ASHTON-SMITH . . . . .	1921
WILLIAM HAYM . . . . .	1311	GERALD PRIOR . . . . .	1647	WILLIAM JOSIAH JOYCE . . . . .	1942
WILLIAM DEMES . . . . .	—	ROBERT LAWRENCE . . . . .	1668	THOMAS W LAMBERT . . . . .	1948
JOHN GORWEY . . . . .	1364	MARK TRINDER . . . . .	1689	WILLIAM S. PROSSER . . . . .	1958
HUGO MOYL . . . . .	1393	THOMAS CLEMENT . . . . .	1720	GORDON DONALD CORDY . . . . .	1968
HENRY PAYNE . . . . .	—	JOHN CHAPONE . . . . .	1746	CLIFFORD D. BRADLEY . . . . .	1971
THOMAS ap JEAN ap GWYN . . . . .	1430	JOHN BAGHOTT de-la-BERE . . . . .	1759	JOHN B. HUNNISSETT . . . . .	1980
WILLIAM DELEN . . . . .	1435	CHARLES BISHOP . . . . .	1779	WILLIAM C. WORSDELL . . . . .	1987
HENRY BOLD . . . . .	—	ANTHONY FREEMAN . . . . .	1780	DAVID PRIMROSE . . . . .	1996
WILLIAM FEREBARON . . . . .	1464	CHARLES COXWELL . . . . .	1789	RICHARD MITCHELL . . . . .	2004
EDWARD BRIGGE . . . . .	1484	THOMAS WELLES . . . . .	1806	SUSAN P. COOKE . . . . .	2017
THOMAS TOMMES . . . . .	1495	THOMAS HULL . . . . .	1821		
EDWARD BENNETT . . . . .	—	JOHN FREDERIC CHRISTIE . . . . .	1836		
RICHARD WARRINT . . . . .	1559	BENJAMIN F. CARLYLE . . . . .	—		
THOMAS BALDWYN . . . . .	1562	WILLIAM A. ELLIS-VINER . . . . .	1849		
THOMAS BOWLES . . . . .	—	WILLIAM PURTON . . . . .	1887		
RICHARD KEE . . . . .	1572	RICHARD BULLOCK . . . . .	1913		
WILLIAM STEDMAN . . . . .	1596	JAMES SWINBURNE-BATESON . . . . .	1918		

anyone information on these?

I have come up with nothing on the web so far.

Also what is the history of the George III panel opposite the vicar list? ... Editor.

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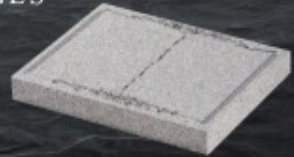
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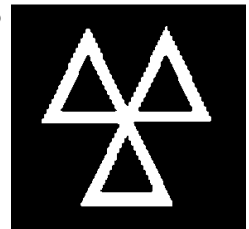
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