



The Hummingbird Hawk-Moth; usually a rare sight, but the hot weather, strong winds and possibly a lack of food has brought them northwards – keep your eyes peeled!



South Cotswold Team Ministry Sunday 9th August 2026

Clergy

Vicar: Rev'd Caroline Symcox – 01285 712467

Curate: Rev'd Vicky Falvey – 07356 234248

Priest – Pastoral: Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde
01285 713285

carolinesymcox@googlemail.com

revvickyfalvey@gmail.com

denisehyde15@gmail.com

SERVICES

Sunday 9th August – 10th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Sidespeople: Jill Connell and Kim Sutton

Offertory: Wendy Close and Alison Cohoon

Prayer: Ann Nicholls and Michelle Harris

Readings: Fiona Gilroy Intercessions: Meg Ralph

Coffee: Amanda and Mervyn Cully

12.00noon Baptism of Theodore Charlie Danford

Thursday 13th August

10.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 16th August – 11th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Sidespeople: Michelle Harris and Heather Gorton

Offertory: David and Sally Salter

Prayer: Denise Hyde and Val Trafford

Readings: Val Trafford Intercessions: Janet Edwards

Coffee: Janet Edwards and Beth Bruce-Gardner

From Rev'd Caroline Symcox – 01285 712467 – carolinesymcox@googlemail.com
Readings for Sunday: 1 Kings 19.9-18; Romans 10.5-15; Matthew 14.22-33

Silence is an interesting thing. 'Silence is golden' the old saying goes, although I do think that that saying is often more about telling children to stop making an annoying racket than anything else. Nevertheless, for some of us, silence is something we enjoy and look for. For others, it's the exact opposite. When I was training at Ripon College Cuddesdon it was always interesting seeing how people responded to the regular Quiet Days – where true silence was demanded throughout the college. Some loved it, others genuinely struggled.

Difficulty with silence seems to be very common in our modern world. Noise and distractions are everywhere by design. Music or voices are continually in our ears, filling up our senses. And that's even before we get into the growing occurrence of people inflicting their sound of choice upon the general public – phones on speaker on the bus spring to mind! Even in places where you would have thought that quiet would be embraced by everyone simply by the nature of that place – the theatre, the cinema – we find that people can't bring themselves to put aside their phones, their conversations. Now I don't bring this up because it's rude, although of course it is, but because it highlights something about our modern culture. People find it incredibly hard to reduce the sensory input around them. Their senses must be filled, at all times, multiple screens on the go, because what is the alternative? Silence. Thought. Being alone with your thoughts, or even in a place where thoughts are reduced, can be incredibly strange and scary.

When Elijah encountered the Lord on the mountain, it wasn't in noise and fanfare and ostentatious force – fire, earthquake, storm – it was in silence. A terrifying silence, full of poised power. Silence is when the Lord speaks. And hearing the Lord speak can be one of the scariest things we can imagine. What might he say? What might he force us to confront about ourselves?

But this is how the Lord works, laying hold on the maelstrom and pulling us into his quiet, where the real work is done. Yes, this is scary. Truly. Thinking is always scary, especially if we are reflecting deeply and honestly on ourselves and our journey. Yet if it is scary, we must also realise that this where real, powerful, positive change can come. Because Jesus doesn't just pull us into his calm, he pulls us into his embrace. Peter's failure, which could have been so terrible, instead shows us once again Jesus' power and his heart. Peter doesn't sink – he is caught up into Jesus' arms in the calm in the midst of that storm.

We need not be alone with our thoughts in the silence, when noise and distractions are put aside. Because in that space, we can realise the truth – we are not alone, because Christ is with us.

This week, let's do our best to find moments of silence, when we deliberately lay aside the things we usually use to fill our eyes and ears, and seek instead the presence of our Lord.

Rev'd Caroline Symcox

Please note: there will be no Morning Prayer broadcasts in the week commencing 10th August, as Rev'd Caroline will be away on holiday across that week. Usual service resumes in the w/c 17th August.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Community Prayers

All are welcome to come and pray together for the world, the nation and our community along with any prayer requests that are placed in our prayer box. We meet every Monday at 5pm for 30 minutes in the Chancel. Please use the north door. *(Please also note we do not always meet on Bank Holidays, please check the notice above for clarification).*

For further details please contact Rev'd Denise on 01285 713285 or denisehyde15@gmail.com.

Prayer Requests

Would you like us to pray for you? If you have a particular need or concern, please complete a prayer request slip and place it in our prayer request box it will then be included in our Community Prayers every Monday for a month.

Both the prayer request box and prayer request slips can be found on our new prayer table by the pulpit in the Nave or contact Rev'd Denise.

From Ann Nicholls

Rest in my love, relax in my care and know that my promise will always be there.

God, I know that in this world I will have many troubles, but I also know that you are with me. I'm grateful that I can trust you to guide and protect me... no matter what I face.

Please give me peace in times of trials and challenges and allow me to rest in the promises you've made.

Thank you that you meet with me in all sorts of ways, and that you want to walk with me today. I pray in Jesus's name. AMEN.

o0o

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Those being baptised: Theodore Charlie Danford

Those who are ill: Sheila Hughes, Grace Slack, Hannah, Tabi Berry

Those who have died: Maureen Partington, Richard Black, Dawn Dodds, Sheila Benfield

NOTICES

Vicar on Holiday

Rev'd Caroline will be taking some time away on annual leave from 10th to the 15th August, heading up to the beautiful North East and the dark skies of Northumbria. For any urgent matters in her absence, please contact Rev'd Vicky for clergy-specific concerns, or our wonderful churchwardens, David and Meg.

From Lechlade with Fairford Mothers' Union – *via Denise Hyde*

Steve Hutchinson from Scripture Union has produced a booklet to encourage parents to share with their children before they start their school life. It is called GET READY TO GO.

We have brought some copies for our branch to give to the September reception classes at Fairford, Lechlade and Southrop Church of England primary schools, a card will be put inside to say that the books were bought by Lechlade with Fairford Mothers' Union.

FAIRFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Bridge is a friendly and absorbing game.

Our local club, Fairford Bridge Club, offers a whole range of opportunities from absolute beginners through to competitive Duplicate Bridge.

Starting in October we will run another course for absolute beginners. These lessons are extremely friendly, and no prior experience is needed. All equipment is provided.

For more experienced players we offer online competitions every Tuesday and Friday evening. Details can be found by looking for Fairford Bridge Club on the internet and new experienced players are always welcome.

We also run twice weekly face-to-face Improvers Groups, which meet in Fairford Community Centre each Monday afternoon and Wednesday evenings. These are aimed at those with some Bridge experience, looking for tips to improve and to play some social face-to-face Bridge.

If you are tempted to give any of these sessions a try, please contact:

Steve Love at mallards.quenington@gmail.com Tel 01285 750359, or
margaretbishop308095@gmail.com

WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL

Minister Support Worker

Can you:

- Provide pastoral care for the congregation & others including visiting in times of need such as at home or in hospital?
- Attend outreach & fundraising events, providing help & support?
- Be a representative at Churches Together meetings?
- Help grow our mission, encouraging relationships with other churches & the community?
- Help discover new mission ventures & opportunities?
- Work alongside colleagues supporting exciting new projects?
- Listen, support & communicate well?
- Demonstrate sensitivity & an awareness of Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity issues?

Find out more here:

www.gloucestershiremethodist.org.uk





The Eco Church Bug Hunt was a wonderful success, with 59 children joining us to explore the amazing wildlife in our churchyard.

Families enjoyed searching for bugs and discovering the many different creatures that make their home in this special green space.

The morning was packed with fun activities, including Bug Olympics, bug-themed crafts, and fascinating bug facts.

We rounded off the event with a bug story time and some relaxing bug yoga.

It was a fantastic opportunity for children to connect with nature, learn about caring for the environment, and enjoy spending time together outdoors.

Thank you to everyone who came along and to all the volunteers who helped make the day such a memorable success

Don't forget to have a look in the children's area of the church, where you can see some of the wonderful bug artwork created by the children during the event!



CELEBRITIES AT FAIRFORD'S BIGGEST 2026 EVENT

The organisers of the annual Fairford Steam Show, which promises to be the biggest event in the area this year, are thrilled to welcome several 'celebrity' vehicles to the show.

Attending this year will be the original gleaming white Volvo car driven by Roger Moore as the TV sleuth, 'The Saint'. This iconic sports car with the registration number ST1 made its debut on our TV screens over 50 years ago.

Lovers of the late 1970s and early 1980s American television series, 'The Dukes of Hazzard', will remember 'The General Lee'. This famous car – straight off the film set – is a 1969 Dodge Charger driven by Bo and Luke Duke and named after Robert E Lee, general of the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. It bears a Confederate battle flag on its roof and has a horn that plays the first 12 notes of the song 'Dixie'.

Other famous cars include a 1956 Morris Commercial affectionately known as 'Mandy Morris' from the TV series, 'Heartbeat'; a 1972 MGB Roadster, which was previously owned by HRH Prince Philip's personal pilot; plus, a 1926 six-wheeler recovery truck featured in the TV programme 'Bangers & Cash'.

For football fans, the Fairford Steam Show can offer you the chance to take a close-up look at the 1983 red Ferrari 308, originally owned by Liverpool Football Club and bearing the registration number 308 LFC! During the early 1980s, Liverpool FC was an unstoppable force, securing multiple First Division titles, League Cups and the European Cup. This specific Ferrari 308 is one of the most recognizable and highly prized sports cars of the 1980s.

Last but in no way least, is the Volvo truck that was used by rock legends, 'The Who' in the 1970s. The specific model used by the band was the heavy-duty Volvo F88 290 and was highly prized by 'The Who' and other touring acts – such as Elton John, Fleetwood Mac and Kate Bush – for its reliability, power and comfort on long-haul European routes. It is now fully restored and makes only occasional appearances at vintage commercial vehicle events. If this vehicle could talk, it would certainly have a story to tell!

A full procession of American vehicles will also take place to celebrate the 250th anniversary of American Independence Day and will be led by a beautiful 1971 Plymouth Roadrunner used by Tennessee State Troopers.

Children are also well catered for with a large fairground, Lego marquee and – new for 2026 – a Duck Hunt! Hunt the Rally Field for the hidden yellow ducks and win a prize!

All this takes place over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday August 15 and 16 in the Lake Field, Fairford GL7 4BT.

If you want a taster of what is to come over the weekend, the popular Steam-in-the-Square event will be back on the Friday night from 5pm. The Bull Hotel's inside bar will be open in addition to an outside bar in Fairford's Market Place and featuring real ale. Burgers and hot dogs will also be available to refuel those hungry steam engine drivers!

To book your tickets or find out more about this popular annual community event, please visit: <https://fairfordsteamshow.co.uk/>.

Photo collage of Celebrity Vehicles

For more information, please contact: Chris Roberts MBE: 01285 712150, 0744 350 0744,



The 1969 Dodge Charger 'The General Lee' driven by 'The Dukes of Hazzard'



The iconic Volvo driven by Roger Moore 'The Saint'



Tennessee State Trooper that will lead the American Vehicle Parade



Mandy Morris from TV's 'Heartbeat'



Volvo truck used by The Who in the 1970s

MUSIC
• AT ST MARY'S •

CONCERT

ADRIAN PARTINGTON - PIANO
LEORA COHEN - VIOLIN



Church of St Mary the Virgin Fairford
3pm Saturday 19th September 2026

Timeless masterpieces for violin and piano from Bach,
Beethoven, Elgar and Gershwin
tickets £25/£20 (includes tea and cake)
via [eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) (fees apply)
or cash at Fairford opticians from 1st August (01285 713313)

5th September from 10am



**The
BIG RAKE
and the
BIG CAKE**



Help!

The longer grass in the churchyard has given us more insects, birds and bats, now for its annual haircut.

We need to rake up the hay

All ages welcome

Refreshments

Please bring a rake and gloves

Thank you!

St Mary's Eco Church Group





COTSWOLD
FOOD
NETWORK

FREE Family Breakfast & Play Morning

Join us for a fun morning in Fairford!



FREE
Breakfast for
the Whole Family



Story
Time



Craft
Activities



Play & Make
New Friends



Friday
21st



9:00 AM –
11:00 AM



Fairford
Community Centre



In Partnership with St Mary's Church and Volunteers



FREE
to attend!

Booking is
essential.

To book, contact:

Mary ann

☎ 07555 738138





Newsletter

July Recap

What a fantastic month July has been for Working 4 Wellbeing!

🎉 Celebrating 5 Years of W4W!

Our biggest highlight this month was celebrating five incredible years of Working 4 Wellbeing.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the celebrations and to all those who have supported us over the years. Looking back on everything we've achieved together is truly inspiring. From tackling loneliness and isolation to creating opportunities for people of all ages to connect, we couldn't have done it without our amazing community and W4W team.

Here's to the next chapter! 🥂💙

🌸 Our Community Garden

Our beautiful community garden is continuing to flourish.

If you're passing by and have a few spare minutes, we'd be incredibly grateful if you could use the watering can and water butt to give our flowers a drink. Every little bit helps keep the garden looking wonderful for everyone to enjoy.

🙏 Thank You, Quenington Bulldogs

A massive thank you to Quenington Bulldogs for supporting Working 4 Wellbeing with a compassionate support request this July. Their generosity will help us continue supporting local people and families when they need us most.

🎊 A Day to Remember at The Barn Theatre

One of the highlights of the month was our trip to The Barn Theatre where 60 people enjoyed watching Million Dollar Quartet.

There was singing, laughter, dancing in the aisles and plenty of smiles. It truly was a memorable day out!

And the good news is we're doing it again!

🚌 FREE Trip to Yes Prime Minister's 3rd September. Contact us to reserve your place.

🍷 Craft & Chat Continues to Thrive

July saw another fantastic Craft & Chat evenings filled with creativity, friendship and conversation.

We're taking a short break during August while our summer programme is in full swing, but we'll be back in September with an exciting Resin Craft Workshop.

Thank you to our Volunteer Wellbeing Walkers- who have worked around the weather and done two walks this month.

Contact

Mary Ann

Wellbeing Coordinator

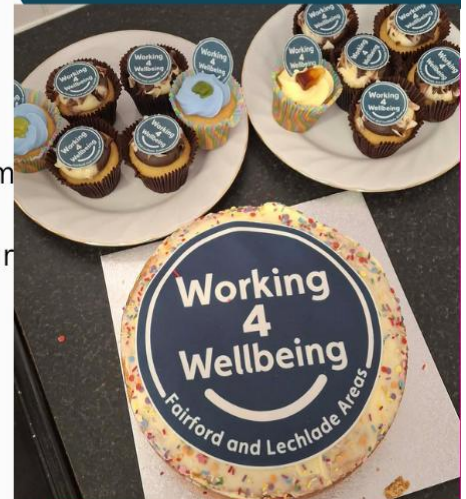
07555 738138

Talking Cafes:

Every Wednesday Fairford
Community Centre 10:30am-

12pm

Every Thursday Lechlade Baptist
Church 10:30am-12pm





Newsletter August

☀️ What's On This August? ☀️

🍏 Free Fruit & Veg Vouchers in partnership with Cotswolds food network

Due to high demand, our free fruit and vegetable vouchers for young people aged 11-18 have changed from £10 to £5.

The vouchers remain available every Wednesday at the market.

NHS outreach team will be at the Talking Cafes on Wednesday 5th and Thursday 13th for health checks 1030am-12pm.

👨‍👩‍👧‍👦 Family Hub Summer Activities

Each Wednesday we'll be hosting a different activity for primary school-aged children:

🖋️ 5th August - Slime Making 🖋️ 12th August - potion making

🎨 19th August - puffy painting. 26th Childrens choice

☀️ Children's Summer Event

📅 17 13th August

Our Summer morning workshop Event has been extremely popular and we're now operating a waiting list.

Please do still add your name. Summer holidays often bring changes to plans and we'd love to ensure every available place is filled.

🐒 Kempsford Family Craft Morning

20th August 2pm-4pm

Join Abby from Arty Crafty Monkey for a FREE two-hour family craft session.

We're hoping for a full house, so please help us spread the word and come along for what promises to be a fun-filled afternoon of creativity. Must Book and Parents must stay.

🍳 Free Family Breakfast

📅 17 21st August

Thanks to funding from Cotswold Food Network, we're delighted to be offering a FREE Family Breakfast.

Please see our event poster for full details and booking information.

🔗 August Changes

To allow us to focus on our busy summer programme:

❌ No Craft & Chat during August ❌ No Shopping Trip during August
Both will return in September.

💙 Thank You

As always, thank you for being part of the Working for Wellbeing family.

Whether you've attended an activity, volunteered your time, donated, shared a post or simply supported us along the way, you are helping make a real difference in our community.





**High Five Project Event - Fundraising for Children's Charities
and supporting St Mary's Church**

'Peekies & Pimms'



Summer Garden Party

*Kindly hosted by Katie and Jeremy
in the lovely floral gardens of*

The White House, London Street, GL7 4AQ

Saturday 22nd August 3.00pm

**Delightful summer food and drink
with music and songs from The Peekies**

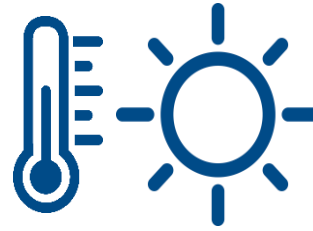
**Tickets £15 from the Church Office,
Community Centre.**

Proceeds in aid of High Five Project 2026 Fundraising for Children's Charities

**The Magic Breakfast Glos Young Carers The Rainbow Trust Smile Train
Home Start Cotswolds**



St Mary's Church
• FAIRFORD •



Summer can be enjoyable, but heatwaves can quickly make your home uncomfortable and even impact your health. **Here are five ways to help you stay cooler:**

1. Let cool air in

Encourage airflow by opening windows on opposite sides of your home, ideally overnight or early morning when outdoor temperatures are lower. This pushes warm air out and brings cooler air in. Opening a loft hatch can also allow heat to escape. If you only have one window, opening internal doors can improve circulation.

2. Keep the heat out

A simple and effective measure is closing curtains or blinds on the sunny side of your home. During the hottest part of the day (typically late morning to early evening), keep windows closed if the air is warmer outside than inside to prevent heat entering.

3. Use a fan effectively

Fans are inexpensive to run (often under 2p per hour). For extra relief, place a bowl of ice or ice packs in front of the fan (at a safe distance) to cool the air being circulated. When it's cooler outside, a fan near an open window can help draw in fresh air.

4. Take a break from the heat

If your home becomes too hot, spend some time in cooler, air-conditioned public spaces such as libraries or leisure centres.

5. Improve insulation

Well-insulated homes stay cooler in summer and warmer in winter. You could consider:

- Upgrading wall and roof insulation or installing energy-efficient windows (e.g. low-emissivity glass)
- Improving ventilation with extractor fans or vents
- Adding shutters or external shading
- Installing solar panels to offset increased cooling costs

Visit the Citizens Advice website for details of available grants and schemes.



**Stroud
& Cotswold
Districts**

Citizens Advice helps with a range of issues. For information and self-help guidance, visit **citizensadvice.org.uk**.

To speak to a local adviser in the Stroud and Cotswold Districts, visit **citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk** to complete our **webform** or call us on **0808 800 0510**.