

News and views from the Parishes of Radgeworth,
Shurdington and Witcombe with Bentham

Three in One



October 2026

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Three in One Magazine

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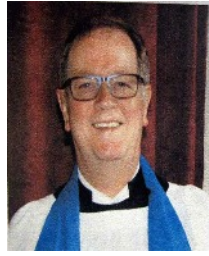


Contributors please note: material for the
November 2026 issue to
John Cummins at editor3in1@gmail.com
by Wednesday 7th October 2026



Pastoral Letter

Robert writes



October
2026

My dear friends

Robert Louis Stevenson once wrote, "Little do ye know your own blessedness; for to travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive, and the true success is to labour."

Often this quote is shortened to simply "to travel in hope is better than to arrive" This completely alters the meaning of the original quote to your hopes and dreams are likely to be shattered by the reality of what you experience at the end of your journey.

That, of course, is NOT the true meaning of the quote. This is that the journey itself offers opportunities for enjoyment, education, fun and laughter that are often equal or better than those offered by the final destination. In short, do not view any journey merely as a means to an end, there is much valuable experience to be had along the way.

As I write this my wife and I have not long returned from a river cruise along the Danube, a holiday meant to celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary. There were complications along the way such as the long delay at Birmingham airport, the extended transfer from airport to ship due to the low water levels in the Danube forcing a different docking place, and finally a coach transfer from one ship to another for the final night - again due to a sudden drop in water level at the place we were meant to dock.

Yet the holiday itself went off very well and we experienced much and learned much on each and every day. Those who have been on similar cruises, be they sea or river, or travelled on special

train journeys such as the Orient Express (preferably without any murders!) will have experienced much the same.

It is, I believe, important to see for oneself, the differences and similarities between our culture and those of our geographical neighbours. This gives us the opportunity to enhance our own by adopting bits of what we have learned and changing our own habits and customs at home for a better way of living – especially where it concerns food delicacies such as Chimney Cakes!

For me a journey is a lengthy series of stages, not a quick “pop round to the shop” excursion. For those about to embark on their holidays I hope that you have as much joy and fun discovering new places, people and ways of living as we did. For those who have already had your annual holiday I hope it was a great experience for you and that you returned refreshed and inspired.

Robert Poole

Reader.

Hall availability

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

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 to make a booking or to arrange to see the hall.

<https://www.badgeworthvillagehall.org.uk/> Telephone 07518137635

Benefice Diary

October

Saturday	3	Coffee and Chat	24
Sunday	4	Harvest Festivals	
		Memorial service for Richard Mitchell	
Friday	9	Books and Banter	15
Saturday	10	Harvest Supper	28
Monday	12	Open Monday	14
Thursday	15	Gardening Society Fish/Chips	32
Friday	16	The Witcombe Quiz	36
Saturday	17	Coffee Morning	8
Wednesday	28	Julian Meeting	11
Thursday	22	Holy Communion	29
Saturday	24	Coffee Morning	23
Monday	26	Open Monday	14

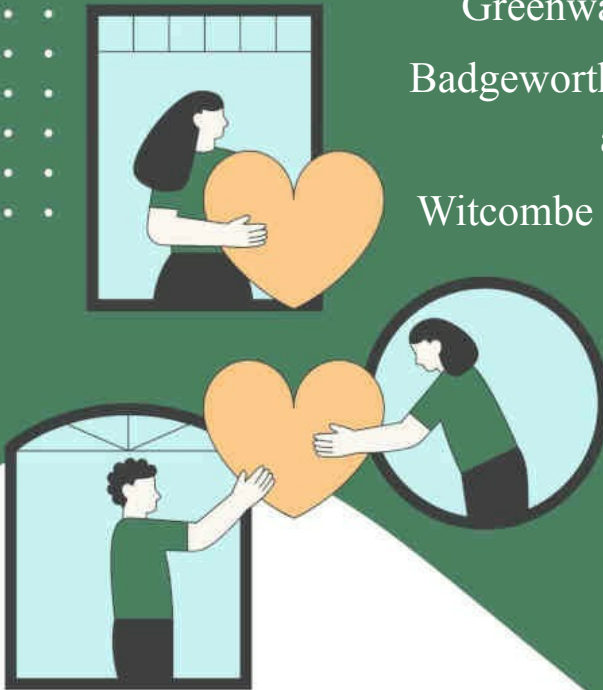
November

Saturday	7	Coffee and Chat	24
Monday	9	Open Monday	14
Friday	13	Book and Banter	15
Saturday`	14	Quiz Night	35
Thursday	19	Gardening Club AGM	32
Saturday	21	Coffee Morning	23
Wednesday	25	Julian Meeting	11
Thursday	26	Holy Communion	29
Saturday	28	Bingo and Fish'nChips	36
Monday	30	Open Monday	14

Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) Greenway Gifts

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday Community Choir

Greenway Benefice
Badgeworth, Shurdington
and
Witcombe with Bentham



LISTENING TEAM

Do you need someone to talk to?

Someone to pray with or for you?

We have a small, dedicated team of people ready to listen, and if you would like, we can pray with you or for you.

Our support is for anyone, if you go to church regularly, occasionally, used to or have never been. We are here to help. Please contact our Churchwardens to arrange a visit.

Holy Trinity, Badgeworth - Paul Stanfield 01242 512926

St Mary's, Witcombe - Sue Padfield 01452 862509

St Paul's, Shurdington - Rev'd Susan Cooke

COFFEE MORNING
at
St Paul's Church Hall,
Shurdington
on
Saturday 17th October
10-12 noon

Raffle, Cakes, Books

MU ENTERPRISES

St Mary's Church 100 Club

The club was set up to raise money for the Church, the incentive being four prize draws plus a Christmas draw annually.

Each draw comprises three winning share numbers with a first prize of £100 and two runners up of £25. The Christmas draw has an additional £100 prize. That's 13 winners in a year!

This year's draws will take place at community events in June, September, December and March '26.

You are now invited to renew your shares, or to join, for the current year beginning 1st April, 2026.

Existing share holders wishing to renew their shares for another year (£12 per share) need only to pay by BACS* or by cheque* or cash sent to Sue Padfield (Churchwarden) Woodview Cottage, Birdlip Hill, Witcombe, GL34SN.

For new applicants, forms are available from Sue Padfield (01452862509 suepadfield@btinternet.com) or in church. The purchase price is £12 per share; multiple share purchases are possible.

*Cheques should be made payable to St Mary's Church 100 Club. Payments by BACS to *St Mary's Church 100 Club* 40-22-09 a/c 72514125 ref 100 Club.

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	999
(emergency only)	
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 &	0800 783 4444
Emergencies	
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 October 28th

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 Sue Padfield (01452) 862509.

Three in One Magazine

Editor John Cummins

07795849688

e-mail address: editor3in1@gmail.com

Business Manager Ian Davies tel (01242) 861293

email: ilandavies@pobox.com



Witcombe & Bentham church and village organisations

Churchwardens	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
	Mrs Lynne Cooper	07747 630047
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
PCC Treasurer/Gift Aid Officer	Mr Jon Frewin	07808 912217
Verger	Mrs Jane Bell	(01452) 862558
Captain of Bells		Vacancy
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Lynne Cooper	07747 630047
Magazine Coordinator	Mrs Sue Padfield	(01452) 862509
Village Hall Enquiries Custodian		07518 137635
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	07771882475
	Mr Paul Stanfield	(01242) 463626
PCC Secretary	Mrs Antoinette Wilson	(01452) 856907
PCC Treasurer		
Gift Aid Officer	Mr Roger Brown	07771882475
Sacristan		
Verger	Mrs Rachel Cottell	(01452) 715034
Captain of Bells	Mr David Turner	(01452) 712302
Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Roger Brown	07771882475
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	07887791230

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.

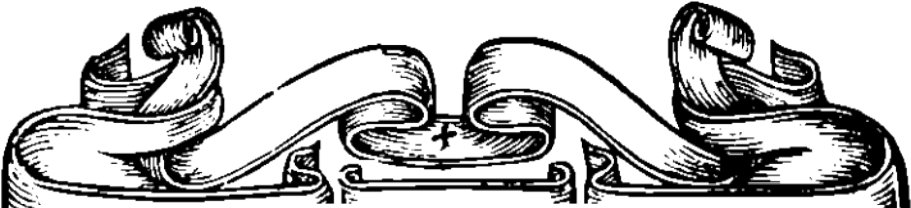
Play facilities for children and on the last Monday of the month, an **NHS run Baby Hub**.

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

SECOND Friday of the month

9th October

13th November 11th December

New members are always welcome.

If you'd like to join, please email
revsusancooke@gmail.com
or ask Wendy Lovett in Beauty and the
Teacup
or just come along!

All welcome! Susan & Wendy.



Black History Month 2026 resources

October is Black History Month, a chance to celebrate the stories, achievements and contributions of Black and Brown people within our communities, our nation and our Church.

This year's theme, "Dig Deeper. Look Closer. Think Bigger.", encourages us to listen, learn and reflect more deeply. It invites us to discover stories that may be unfamiliar, challenge assumptions, and celebrate the rich diversity of God's people.

The Diocese of Gloucester's Racial Justice Action Group (RJAG) is encouraging every parish to get involved. Whether through worship, conversation, creative activities, community events or simply taking time to learn together, every church can play a part.

There are several opportunities to take part across the diocese. Celebration worship takes place at Gloucester Cathedral on 25 October at 6.30pm.

Children and young people are invited to enter a creative competition exploring the stories of inspiring Black and Brown people. Bishop Rachel will present the prizes on 5 November at 6pm at St James' Church, Barton and Tredworth. Winning art and poetry will be exhibited at St Mary De Crypt, Gloucester, from 11 November.

Churches are encouraged to explore racial justice throughout the year, with resources available to support worship, learning and community activities. Funding of up to £1,500 is also available through the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative for projects tackling racism and exclusion.

The Black History Month website provides a pack of materials for £84.45 with content for schools, workplaces, local authorities, charities, libraries etc. Their 2026 theme is Honouring Our

Communities.

Racial Justice Sunday takes place on the second Sunday of February every year. The Church of England provides liturgy that you can use to support your worship and to commit to end racism and acts of discrimination. If your worshipping community didn't use the resources this year, you could use the 2026 liturgy during Black History Month or at another time that suits your context.

Read the full feature and explore all the resources and website links at <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2026/black-history-month-2026-resources/>

A message from Bishop Rachel for Prisons Week

In Prisons Week (11-17 Oct) I am particularly giving thanks for our fabulous prison chaplains who share Christ's hope and live out their belief in redemption and transformation.

There has been much in the news about the early release of prisoners due to overflowing prisons, yet if we asked searching questions about why prisons are overcrowded, we would focus on building stronger communities, not more prisons.

As Anglican Bishop for HM Prisons, I can confidently say that the evidence does not support the myth that we will be safer if we lock up more people and for longer. We have the largest prison population in Western Europe, and approximately half of all those leaving custody go on to reoffend within a year of release, yet our expenditure on perpetuating a system which is failing, is vast: approximately £60k per prisoner per year, plus billions of pounds on the social and economic cost of reoffending.

I never condone crime, and perpetrators need to face the consequences, and some people need to be locked up for public safety. Yet, we need to ask what prisons are for and what sort of society we wish to inhabit. Over two thirds of people in prison are there for nonviolent offences, and you don't have to spend long with prisoners to realise that poverty, deprivation and trauma feature highly in their stories.

In Judeo-Christian tradition, justice is not synonymous with vengeance and punishment but challengingly resides alongside mercy, love and restoration.

We know that good community alternatives to prison result in more transformation and reduction in reoffending, so we need yet more imaginative alternatives as well as focusing on the underlying issues of offending. This will be better not only for perpetrators but also for victims of crime (and many people are both). Please join me in praying for those whose lives are impacted by crime; all who work within the criminal justice system; and all who work for change.

Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Bowie by candlelight concert, Gloucester Cathedral, Friday 2 October, 7pm and 9pm showings A night of David Bowie anthems, including Let's Dance, Starman, Life on Mars and Rebel Rebel, performed live by candlelight by David Live. www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/bowie-by-candlelight-concert

The Apple Snatchers Live, St Catharine's Church, London Road, Gloucester, GL2 0RR, Saturday 10 October, 8pm to 10pm. An evening of live folk music, storytelling and food in support of GARAS, featuring Gloucester-based folk band The Apple Snatchers. www.eventbrite.com/e/the-apple-snatchers-live-tickets-1995496706366

Harvest festival, St Laurence Barnwood, 32 Church Lane, Gloucester, GL4 3JB, Sunday 11 October, 12.30pm Harvest festival, followed by lunch.

www.stlawrencebarnwood.uk.eu.org/whats-on_1/events

Wildlife gardening evening with Chris Baines, St Philip and St James, Leckhampton, Cheltenham, GL50 2DD,

Wednesday 14 October, 7pm to 9.30pm. A talk by Chris Baines, wildlife gardening pioneer, TV broadcaster and author of the RHS Companion to Wildlife Gardening.
www.pipandjims.churchsuite.com/events/jo3oahek

Have your say

Visit Facebook **f/Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website **gloucester.anglican.org**

Murphy's Church Laws

Nothing is so bad that it can't be made worse by changing vicars.

The shorter the agenda the longer the meeting.

No matter how many show up for choir practice, you need one more copy of the music.

Arguments for tabling a motion are always better than those for taking a vote.

Church furnaces and air conditioners rest on Sunday.

Absent choir members all sing the same part.

Concern for needy people increases with distance.

Car problems, overtime traffic, and sick headaches increase on visitation night.

Door-to-door visitation is most enjoyed when no one is home.

St Paul's Shurdington

your Parish Church

Here for everyone for over 700 years.

The church is usually open daily as a place for quiet reflection. Whether it's just an escape from the busy world, or somewhere to feel closer to God, *everyone is welcome*. Services are held at least three Sundays every month, more during special seasons. Whether you attend regularly or not, the church is here for all your big events in life - **Weddings, christenings and funerals**. **The churchyard is open to all**. As well as a sacred space for burials, it is a haven for wildlife, and a quiet place to enjoy nature. It's more than just the building – **people are important too** - we try to be a **welcoming** community, and a source of **support** for all. We still organise regular coffee mornings, a **community choir**, and other **social events**, open to everyone. Our clergy and some members of the congregation provide a **Listening Team** for anyone who needs it. As a benefice (with Witcombe and Badgeworth churches) we set up a weekly non-referral **foodbank** during Covid which is still needed by local people. St Paul's provides the hall and storage space for this at no cost, so all donations and grants can be spent on food.

But now St Paul's needs your help.

Our regular congregation is small, and we are no longer able to meet our annual costs – **last year we made a loss of over £10,000** on running the church and churchyard, and we have only limited reserves – our auditor has warned that these will be exhausted in a very few years. We are part of the **Church of England**, but they **do not provide us with financial support** -on the contrary, we are asked annually to contribute substantially towards the cost of the

diocese as well as paying for the maintenance and running cost of the church itself.

Last year the cost of keeping the church open and running was £38,336 – an average of £105 per day.

How can you help?

At the last census there were just under 1000 households in the village - just £10 extra *per year* from each of those would go a long way towards solving our problem, though we recognise that many people may be already giving as much as they can afford

We would also value your help in other ways. Many of the maintenance tasks that used to be carried out by volunteers now have to be paid for, as our main congregation is getting older.

Could you:

- Join a cleaning rota for the church
- Be part of a regular maintenance work party for the churchyard
- Organise fundraising events with us
- Other ideas welcome!

Please get in touch if you'd like to help us:

email greenway.bswb.office@gmail.com

Have a word with Revd Susan
or Revd Daniel (contact numbers
in the parish magazine and on our
achurchnearyou pages)

Scan this barcode to make
a one off or regular donation:



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.



**4th SATURDAY
COFFEE
MORNINGS
SHURDINGTON CHURCH
HALL**

10am to Noon

**24th OCTOBER,
21st NOVEMBER**

**RAFFLE, BOOKS, PLANTS,
COFFEE, CAKE, BRIC-A-
BRAC**





Sat 5th September

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

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

Please bring items for the
Foodbank box.



**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 3rd 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!



GREENWAY COMMUNITY CHOIR



If you enjoy singing and would like to sing with others, why not come along to this local choir?

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7pm, for one hour, in the Church Hall, School Lane, Shurdington

There is no charge, although donations towards running the choir would be welcome, if you feel able.

This choir is for everyone and anyone, whether you can sing or not, whether you can read music or not, all voices. Singing is great for our physical and mental health, and a lovely way to make new friends. Under 18s are welcome, but they must be accompanied by an adult. Enquiries to revsusancooke@gmail.com, or just come along!

MEETING DATES FROM SEPTEMBER 2026:
10th Sep, 24th Sep, 8th Oct, 22nd Oct, 12th Nov, 26th Nov, 10th Dec, AND 17th Dec - choir bring a friend carols party!

BENTHAM CHURCHYARD

CAN YOU HELP?

The PCC of St Mary's Church is responsible for the upkeep of the Churchyard at Bentham, where many local people have relatives buried, and it is important to keep it looking good.

We should be very grateful for some help with mowing – we have a rota with some generous volunteers, but we could do with more to lighten their load. If you think you could help or would like more information, please contact Sue Padfield (Churchwarden) on 01452 862509 or suepadfield@btinternet.com

Harvest Supper

St Paul's Church Hall

10th October

6.00pm for 6.30pm

£15 to include

**Cottage Pie, pudding, a glass
of something and a raffle
ticket**

more details to follow

please contact

Lisa Pearson 01242 862538 or

Helen King 01242 862505

Simple Holy Communion

We will be offering a simple
Holy Communion service
On the 4th Thursday of the
Month
2pm at St Paul's church,
Shurdington

Everyone is welcome



Greenway Benefice,
Holy Trinity, Badgeworth
St Paul's, Shurdington
St Mary's, Witcombe with Bentham

Vicar:
Rev'd Susan Cooke,
Mobile: 07510227854
Email: revsusancooke@gmail.com

Assistant Curate:
Rev'd Daniel Newman,
Mobile: 07928299244
Email: rev.daniel.newman@gmail.com

BEING ECO CHURCH – Green your home for Autumn

This month A Rocha has challenged us to look at making our homes greener in readiness for the winter weather.

There are of course large-scale projects, such as installing solar panels or heat pumps, but there are many smaller, more affordable actions we can take to reduce our energy footprint this winter. Here are some suggestions from The Renewable Energy Institute and the Energy Saving Trust.

Adjust your heating settings

Turning down your thermostat by just 1 degree can reduce your heating bills by up to 10%, making it one of the simplest and most effective energy-saving measures in the home.

You might also save money by ensuring the heating is only on when you need it and turning down radiators in rooms you use less often. If funds allow, consider installing a smart thermostat that you can easily control from your phone.

Draught proof your home

Draught proofing your home is one of the simplest and most effective ways to save energy and reduce heating costs.

Professional draught proofing, which includes sealing gaps around windows, doors, and floors, can cost around £250 but may save up to £45 annually on your energy bills. For a more affordable option, DIY draught proofing using products like foam strips, secondary glazing film, or draft excluders can also improve insulation, keeping your home warmer.

Use household appliances more efficiently

An estimated 40% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions come from households. It stands to reason, then, that our appliances – and how we use them – play a big role in the quest to reduce our climate impact, not to mention their effect on our energy bills.

A small number of household appliances account for a large share of home electricity use, mainly those that heat, cool or run constantly.

Washing machines, dishwashers, tumble dryers, fridges and freezers are among the biggest energy users in most homes. Choosing energy-efficient models and using appliances well can significantly cut electricity use and lower bills.

Washing machines – use lower temperatures, avoid half loads, and only wash items when necessary.

Tumble driers - avoid using a tumble dryer for your clothes. Line drying your clothes in warmer weather, or on racks inside the house, can save you £50 a year.

Dishwashers - only run your dishwasher when it's full so you don't have to run it as often.

Fridges and freezers – these need to run all the time, so consider replacing older models with more energy-efficient ones to reduce your annual costs. Don't keep the freezer half-empty, as a lot of heat enters every time the door is opened. Use cheap but bulky items such as ice cubes or bread to fill empty shelves.

The little items all add up

Both lighting and small electrical appliances use little energy individually, but these can all add up over a year. Switching lights off when not needed, and not keeping appliances on standby could save up to £50 a year. If you haven't already, switching to energy-efficient LED bulbs can reduce your lighting costs considerably.

Find more details at:

<https://www.checkatrade.com/blog/cost-guides/draught-proofing-cost/>

https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/?gad_source=1

<https://www.renewableinstitute.org/inspiring-ideas-for-a-greener-home-top-tips-to-boost-energy-efficiency/>



SHURDINGTON & BADGEWORTH GARDENING SOCIETY



Autumn is now upon us, and it is a time to reflect on the summer we've just had. The grass is growing back, some things in the garden survived the harsh weather but some appear to be burnt by the summer sun. If this was to be a typical summer we will have to rethink the type of plants we grow. It is more important than ever we save rain water.

Our next meeting is on 15th October with our fish and chip supper, this is our only booked meet.

Our November meeting is on the 19th and is our AGM followed by a Colour and Texture in the garden talk by Duncan Coombs.

Stay safe keep gardening

Janette Willis (Secretary)

MEMORIES of 1976

The Long Hot Summer and Heatwave

The year 1976 was defined by the historic long hot summer when, for 15 consecutive days, between 23 June and 7 July, the temperature reached 32.2C somewhere in England. On five days, the temperature exceeded 35C. Parts of south-west England had no rain for 45 days in July and August.

The hottest day was 3rd July, when temperatures reached a peak of 35.9°C (96.6°F). This maximum temperature was recorded in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

A large high-pressure area dominated most of Europe for all of

the summer months which moved into place in late May and remained until the first traces of rain were recorded on 27th August. The summer saw a 16-week dry spell, the then longest recorded over England and Wales since 1727 !

Outcome of all this heat

There are vivid memories of tarmac melting on roads and pavements, ruining shoes and forcing pedestrians to stick to the shade. One online comment - "I remember walking to school in new sandals and they got ruined from melted tarmac. It was hard to walk - like being velcroed to the road. "

There were also sun bathers using way too much Ambre Solaire coconut oil as a sun tan lotion which these days would be used to cook and fry things! I think it might have changed a bit since then as it is still for sale!

The intense dry heat caused aphid populations to collapse, resulting in billions of starving ladybirds swarming and biting people especially along coastal towns.

There were no heat health alerts then! Children still went to school in old buildings, no air conditioning, just huge picture windows. No outside shade, no sunscreen and no sun hats either!

Over £500 million worth of crops failed, causing food prices to spike sharply by 12%.

Severe drought led to hosepipe bans, dried-up reservoirs, and water rationing via street standpipes, where families queued to collect water. Is this a foretaste of future years with climate change ?

The crisis got so intense that Prime Minister James Callaghan appointed Denis Howell as the "Minister for Drought". In a stroke of classic British irony, it rained heavily almost immediately after his appointment, and he was swiftly reassigned to handle the subsequent floods !

Some 1976 deaths:

Agatha Christie on 12th January

Artist L S Lowrie on 23rd February

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein on 24th March

Actress Sybil Thorndyke on 9th June

Benjamin Britten on 4th December.

Other 1976 items :

The average house price was £12,704

The average wage was £72 a week.

A pint of milk cost 32p.

A loaf of bread was 19p.

A pint of beer ranged from 24p to 35p.

Litre of petrol was 17p.

A Mini 850 was £1,248, a Range Rover was £4,618 while a Rolls Royce Camargue was £37,539 (approx. £350,734.76 today) and held the title of the world's most expensive production car at launch.

However, a Moskvitch was only £899 (if you wanted one !)

Half the population owned a telephone (meaning a landline) sometimes on a shared basis with another household.

On 21st January, the first commercial supersonic Concorde flight took off. British Airways flew from London Heathrow to Bahrain, while Air France flew from Paris to Rio de Janeiro. London to New York took just 3 1/2 hours. Concorde fares rose drastically over its 27-year operational lifespan to offset extreme fuel and maintenance costs. In 1977 a one-way ticket from London to Washington cost £431 (approx. £2,600 today). In 1996 a standard round-trip ticket between London and New York rose to approx. £4,200 (about £39,240 today !!).

Underdogs Southampton FC beat Manchester United 1-0 in the

FA Cup Final. It was the first time Southampton won a major trophy and the last time that Elizabeth II attended a final and presented the trophy to the winners.

John Curry won a gold medal for figure skating at the Winter Olympics in Innsbruck in February 1976. He was European, World and Olympic Champion that year. This was Britain's only medal at these Olympics.

The Summer Olympic Games were held in Montreal, Canada in July 1976. 29 African nations boycotted the Games to protest New Zealand's rugby ties with apartheid-era South Africa. The initial budget of \$310 million ballooned to \$1.5 billion, taking 30 years for Montreal to pay off the debt ! *Nothing much changes* Britain managed to win 3 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze medals.

The top 3 grossing films in the UK in this year were 1. Jaws, 2. One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest. 3. Disney's The Jungle Book.

UK inflation stayed high, averaging 16.5% over the year, with retail price inflation peaking near 24%.

Fashion & Music

Days were filled with glam rock, pop, and soul music on the radio while bands like the Sex Pistols and The Clash helped ignite the British punk rock revolution during the latter half of the year.

The Brotherhood of Man won the Eurovision Song Contest for the UK on 3rd April with "Save Your Kisses for Me" which became the biggest-selling single of the year. ABBA also heavily dominated the UK charts, while underground, the foundations of British punk rock were laid with the rise of bands like the Sex Pistol. Trouser flares were popular and knotted handkerchiefs on heads ward off the sun and apparently there was heavy use of Brut 33 !

Geoff Pilgrim-Morris.



Quiz Night and Raffle
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7.30pm
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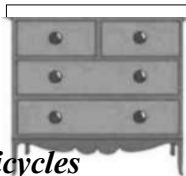
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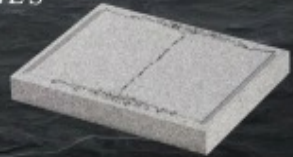
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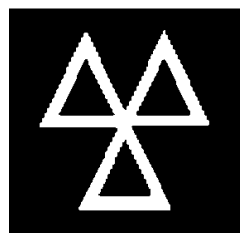
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2026 Benefice Worship Pattern

1st 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

2nd 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

3rd Sunday of the month

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

**These services use the Book of Common Prayer as their basis*

4th 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

4th Thursday at 2pm Said Holy Communion at St Paul's

5th Sunday Benefice Service at 10am "Let's Worship"

usually in Shurdington Church of England Primary School

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