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SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

*The Benefice of the Guitings, Cutsdean, Farmcote, Upper and Lower
Slaughter with Eyford and Naunton*

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AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2026



Our Benefice Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the many blessings of our Benefice life together,
and pray that we may always be a blessing to one another.

We pray for all whom you call to worship and serve amongst us.

Grant us vision, courage and love.

Grant us open hearts to welcome, include and work alongside one another

That together we may serve your kingdom faithfully,

to share your steadfast love with all.

In this place and in this time.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Priest-in-Charge: Revd Anne Curtis

Email: revannecurtis@gmail.com

Tel: 01451 821777 or 07928 275932

Day off: Friday

*Churches and School working together to share
God's love in our communities*

KEY PARISH CONTACTS

Lower Slaughter (GL54 2HR)

Lay Chair: Marion Marshall
01451 810294

*Safeguarding Officer: Marion
Marshall*

Naunton (GL54 3AX)

PCC Secretary: Judy Hill
Safeguarding Officer: Jane Pickup

Temple Guiting (GL54 5RW) and Cutsdean (GL54 5RX)

Churchwardens:

Ruth Waller 01451 850611
Sheila Woods 01451 850328

Chapel Warden:

Ros Hartnell 07967 127581
Safeguarding Officer: Sheila Woods

Upper Slaughter (GL54 2JF)

PCC Secretary: David South
Safeguarding Officer:
Kate Trenaman 07506 685494

Guiting Power (GL54 5TX) and Farmcote (GL54 5AU)

Churchwarden:

Simon Wallis 01451 851806

Chapel Warden:

Peter Eayrs 07854 873803
Safeguarding Officer: Tracy Formby

SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN

Joint Editor: Revd Anne Curtis

Joint Editor/Advertising/

Production:

Karen Randles 01451 821964

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**DEADLINE for the next issue
20 SEPTEMBER 2026.**

TEMPLE GUITING C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mrs Ann Barry

Tel: 01451 850304

www.templeguiting.gloucs.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING

For any safeguarding concerns please speak to your Parish Safeguarding Officer, or Revd Anne, or the Benefice Lay Safeguarding Lead, Kate Trenaman: 07506 685494

SERVICES IN AUGUST 2026

Sunday 2 August

- 11am Holy Communion at Guiting Power
- 3pm Dedication of Windows at Temple Guiting – Bishop Robert

Sunday 9 August

- 9am Holy Communion at Farmcote
- 11am Morning Praise at Lower Slaughter
- 11am Holy Communion at Naunton

Sunday 16 August

- 9am Holy Communion at Cutsdean
- 11am Holy Communion BCP at Upper Slaughter

Sunday 23 August

- 9am Matins BCP at Naunton
- 9am Family Holy Communion at Temple Guiting
- 11am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter
- 3pm **Naunton PCC members** Tea & Cake at the Rectory
- 6pm Iona Evening Service at Guiting Power

Sunday 30 August

- 11am Benefice Holy Communion at Upper Slaughter

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday 6 September

- 9am Zoom Morning Prayer
- 11am Holy Communion at Guiting Power
- 11am Matins BCP at Upper Slaughter
- 3pm Wild Worship at Temple Guiting Churchyard
- 6pm Evening Service at Temple Guiting

Sunday 13 September

- 9am Holy Communion at Farmcote
- 11am Holy Communion at Naunton
- 6pm Harvest Festival at Lower Slaughter

Sunday 20 September

11am Harvest Holy Communion at Cutsdean

11am Holy Communion BCP at Upper Slaughter

Sunday 27 September

9am Matins BCP at Naunton

9am Harvest Holy Communion at Temple Guiting

11am Holy Communion at Lower Slaughter

3pm **Temple Guiting PCC members** Tea & Cake at the Rectory

6pm Patronal and Harvest Holy Communion at Guiting Power

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday 4 October

9am Zoom Morning Prayer

11am Holy Communion at Guiting Power

11am Matins BCP at Upper Slaughter

3pm Wild Worship at Temple Guiting Churchyard

6pm Evening Service at Temple Guiting

** Do sign up to receive our Weekly Newsletter email for the latest details and information about our services and events across our Benefice**

Contact Revd Anne Curtis at revannecurtis@gmail.com

REVD ANNE WRITES ...



The fields around us are turning golden as this year's crops begin to be harvested. The combine harvesters and the tractors pulling trailers loaded with grain and straw are already trundling up and down our country lanes, trailing clouds of dust and bits of grain behind them, so please do drive slowly; you never know what might be around the next bend.

Harvest is often used as a symbol for endings and for celebrations. for instance, in this Benefice, at St Mary's Church in Temple Guiting, we are celebrating the installation of the new stained glass windows, given in loving memory of members of the Butterworth family. Bishop Robert is coming to lead our Dedication service, do come along and join us as we celebrate the ending of a big project. In September we begin our annual cycle of Harvest services; moments to stop and to thank God for the many blessings we receive each day. As we count our blessings, we are keen to remember those who have fallen on hard times, and all our churches will be collecting for the Foodbank.

Jesus used harvest imagery to encourage us to risk taking spiritual opportunities when we encounter them. Speaking to his disciples near a Samaritan village, Jesus pointed out that people were already receptive to the message of salvation. He said, 'Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting'. This suggests that we don't need to wait for a good moment in order to reach out to others to offer them our prayers, encouragement and help.

At Harvest, we offer to God our thanks, and along with our gifts we bring ourselves, offering our time, energy and money in the Harvest prayer 'All things come from You, and of your own do we give You'. If you live here or visit here regularly, do come along to a service, a warm welcome awaits you.

In Christ
Anne

MORNING PRAYER AROUND THE BENEFICE

Monday:	St Mary's, Lower Slaughter at 9.15am
Tuesday:	St Michael and All Angels, Guiting Power at 9.15am
Wednesday:	St Andrew's, Naunton at 9.15am
Thursday:	St Mary's, Temple Guiting at 9.30am

Second Tuesdays of the Month: St Peter's, Upper Slaughter **at 10.30am**

COMMUNITY MINISTRY - we have shared in these services

Baptisms

"May God guide and protect them"

Ava Ellam at Lower Slaughter on 11 July 2026

Lanny Barnett at Naunton on 26 July 2026



Weddings

"May God bless them"

Angus and Jenny Berryman at Lower Slaughter on 29 May 2026

Will and Rachael Abram at Temple Guiting on 20 June 2026

Peter and Natalie Wright at Guiting Power on 18 July 2026



Funerals

"May they rest in peace and rise in glory"

Gordon Joynes, Funeral Service and Burial of Ashes at Guiting Power
on 16 June 2026

Adrian Morris, Burial of Ashes at Lower Slaughter on 27 June 2026

Mary James, Funeral at Naunton on 24 July 2026

WHO TO CONTACT

Weddings – Revd Anne at revannecurtis@gmail.com

Funerals, Ashes and Memorials –

Revd Anne at revannecurtis@gmail.com

Baptisms – Moira Anderson at moira@andersonpage.com

Home Communion - Revd Anne at revannecurtis@gmail.com

Benefice Magazine (70x7) –

Karen Randles at k.e.randles@btinternet.com

Weekly Newsletter Email – for latest service and events information -

Revd Anne Curtis at revannecurtis@gmail.com

ZOOM ACTIVITIES AND LINK

We continue to offer worship on Zoom for all who would like to join us. The Sunday services continue with a 9.00am Morning Prayer on Sundays 6 September and 4 October; please see full schedules for details.

Our services and events are hosted through this link:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/8274429787?pwd=BvUqbV6RABNceznMoY3P2RMIAsbYwc.1&omn=87099750241>

Meeting ID: 827 442 9787

Passcode: Happy2

SEEKING ASSISTANCE

As I get settled in, there are some one-off tasks and some more ongoing administrative tasks which I would appreciate help with. If you have a few hours to spare and you are interested in getting involved, please let me know and we can have a chat.

Revd Anne.

CHRISTENING: PREPARATION COURSE

If you would like your baby or child to be baptised, do sign up for our next Christening course. New Enquiries: please contact Moira Anderson at moira@andersonpage.com, or Revd Anne.

BISHOP ROBERT – SUNDAY 2 AUGUST, 3pm SERVICE OF DEDICATION, TEMPLE GUITING



All are most warmly invited to attend our Service of Dedication of both beautiful Tom Denny stained glass windows in St Mary, Temple Guiting. This service of Window Dedication with Holy Communion will be led by Bishop Robert, and our Preacher will be Revd Canon Peter Moger of Christchurch College Oxford, the Patron of St Mary's.

These windows have been generously given by Lady Doris Butterworth in loving and tender memory of her husband and her son.

Do please come along.

Parking at the Village Hall.

Further details from Ruth Waller or Sheila Woods.

BENEFICE JOINT PCC MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 September 2026 at 7.00pm and Temple Guiting have kindly offered to host at the West End, St Mary's Church. All PCC members are encouraged to attend.

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY

Temple Guiting Church of England Primary School have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor; if you are a regular churchgoer and a communicant and might be interested, or know someone who you think might be interested, do please speak to Revd Anne for more details.

SPREAD THE WORD ASSEMBLIES

Most of you will know that a team of us, a mixture of clergy and lay people, lead an assembly each week in Temple Guiting School. You will also know that we have great fun and that the children are an immense inspiration to us.

If you would like to join in with the team, we would love to have you. No special giftings or acting skills are required – just a sense of wanting to share the Bible with children. We will provide you with necessary safeguarding training. You are most welcome to join us. Please contact Moira Anderson at moira@andersonpage.com

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

All of these activities are for everyone, and with no charge:

Coffee Morning at Lords of the Manor Hotel – On the second Tuesday of each month in Upper Slaughter from 11am-12noon. Come along for free coffee, tea and biscuits and spend time together in a warm, lovely space (**Tuesdays 11 August and 8 September**).

St Andrew's Coffee Shop – Every Thursday from 10.30am-12.30pm, come along to share drinks and biscuits and chat in the church in Naunton.

Coffee and Cake in the West End, St Mary's Church, Temple Guiting

Come and join friends and neighbours for real coffee and homemade cake at **10.00am** on the **first Friday of the month – 7 August and 4 September**.

No charge, but donations welcome.

'VILLAGE VOICES'

A very informal group of singers from local villages who meet on alternate Mondays, mainly in St Mary's Temple Guiting. We're in search of altos, tenors and basses. Call Ali Clifton Barnard on 07583 415065 if you'd like to join us.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS AND VILLAGE EVENTS

CUTSDEAN and TEMPLE GUITING

The 25th July marks the feast day of St James to whom our church is dedicated. In the Catholic tradition, St James is the patron saint of Spain, and according to tradition his remains are held Santiago de Compostela in Galicia. The traditional pilgrimage to the grave of the saint, known as the 'Way of St James' has been and has become the most popular pilgrimage for all Christians. The routes that cross western Europe to Santiago are marked with scallop shells and pilgrims often have shells dangling from their backpacks to indicate their intention. So imagine the confusion shown by a foreign visitor yesterday (Sunday – after our service) who was part of a walking group when he spotted the scallop shell which forms part of the wrought iron church gate! No, he was told, the church is not on an obscure route to Santiago de Compostela but is dedicated to St James. The confusion was cleared up and the group continued on their 'pilgrimage' to Broadway.

Stanway fete was held on Saturday 11th July in the grounds of Stanway House. Cutsdean Church and Orchard Group once again had a stall to raise funds. The stall was groaning with bric a brac, plants, cakes and preserves and despite the hot weather the number of attendees was up on last year and we did very well.



It is a major fund raiser both the church and community orchard so we are very grateful to everyone who was involved with organisation and planning providing cakes and preserves, plants and the enormous amount of bric a brac which sold very well and swelled the takings.

The combine harvesters and balers have been working

overtime to get the harvest in. Soon the countryside will change colour from golden to brown as the fields are ploughed and sown with next year's crop. We shall be celebrating this cycle and the work of the farmers with our Harvest Festivals.

Ros Hartnell

As the Safari Lunch will not go ahead this year, we plan instead to hold a fundraising Afternoon Tea Party on Sunday 30th August in the Churchyard at St Mary's Church Temple Guiting at 3.00pm (indoors in the West End if raining). Full details and ticket information to follow.

Arrangements for this year's Annual Temple Guiting Quiz to be confirmed and advertised in due course.

Sheila Woods

FARMCOTE

In the weeks since I wrote the last notes, we have had a mere 6.5mm or ¼ inch of rain. This has been another challenging year for gardeners, allotment holders and farmers, and it seems to me that the general public are a little more aware of the problems faced by farmers, due in no small part to Jeremy Clarkson's TV programme.

Am I alone in thinking that the summers of our childhood seemed idyllic, with wall-to-wall sunshine? I am sure that these memories are seen through rose-tinted spectacles but make no mistake, these are

challenging times of climate change. A local market gardener, when asked recently, looking ahead, what changes would she make, said she wouldn't grow brassicas! Bad news for broccoli lovers!

The parched fields are reminiscent of drought conditions experienced in distant lands and the difficulties experienced with little or no drinking water or water for their crops, and we should be grateful that all we have to do is turn a tap.

This year's weather has played havoc with vegetable crops at home and abroad and has led to price increases and shortages. Now school's out, some families are likely to struggle even more to afford even basic foodstuffs so even more demand on food banks. So I urge you when shopping, if you are able, pop an extra item or two in the basket for the Foodbank. It will be very well received.

Lorna Eayrs

UPPER SLAUGHTER

Well... we certainly got our summer! In the last edition of 70x7, I was writing about cold weather, late frosts and the Ice Saints. Since then, we've had weeks of uninterrupted sunshine, multiple heat waves, and very little rain. Whilst it has been lovely to enjoy so many warm days, now everything is incredibly dry, which is a real worry for our farmers and gardeners, especially with the recently introduced hosepipe ban, I never thought I'd be praying for rain!



The glorious weather did give us a favour for this year's Church Fete on 4 July. Set on the banks of the River Eye, it was about as picture-postcard as Upper Slaughter gets. More importantly, it was wonderful to see so many people giving their time, helping on stalls, baking cakes, buying raffle

tickets, cheering on the ducks and simply enjoying each other's company.

We raised just over £5,500, which is a fantastic result. Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen. The village dinner by the river that evening was the perfect way to round off the day, with neighbours, friends and families sitting down together. Days like these remind us how important our fantastic community is.

The wonderful Liz Wills also opened her garden in June, raising over £1000 for the church through the sale of plants and teas. We are enormously grateful to Liz and to everyone who helped or came along to support her.

August will be busy! Teas and cakes at Chastleton House will take place on 5 August, so please do come along and support this great fundraiser for the Benefice. On 20 August at 3.30pm, we will also welcome a visiting group of bell ringers to St Peter's. They come from across the country and meet regularly to ring together, and we look forward to hearing the bells ringing out across the village. On the 30th, St Peter's will hold a Benefice service we hope will be well attended.

We are looking forward to celebrating the baptism of Felix Boone at St Peter's on 15 August. Baptisms are always joyful occasions, and it'll be a very special day for Felix, Joanna, Jack, Lily and Daisy.

Many of you will know that Paul Lockey has recently moved to Jubilee Court. Having lived in Upper Slaughter all his life, Paul has long been part of the fabric of the village, and we will miss seeing him in his garden, tending his vegetables and stopping for a chat over the wall. Paul is one of the last of a generation of true "old villagers". Another is Brian Freeman, who has also lived here all his life and is sadly very unwell, but is facing his illness in his usual style: head-on. By the time you read this, we will have come together for a celebration of his life, organised by Brian himself. We continue to keep Brian, Paul and their families in our thoughts, sending them our prayers and very best wishes.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the summer!

Charlotte Van Rooyen & Paul Trenaman

NAUNTON

High summer is upon us, the 'dog days' as an American Pastor friend used to call them. Days really only fit for rising early to get the best of the day!

As ever, it's been a busy old time in Naunton - never a dull moment it seems. We have enjoyed music in St Andrew's Church twice since I last wrote, as part of the Naunton Music series. It was a joy to listen to Ryan Wang playing Piano; he won the BBC Young Musician of the Year award a couple of years ago. He played with such extraordinary enthusiasm and sensitivity, it felt to me beyond his young years. Definitely 'one to watch'! More recently we were treated to La Serenissima, a Baroque ensemble who transported us through their music to earlier times and faraway places. It's such a privilege to be able to listen to these glories with others in our beautiful little Church on a warm summer's evening. One final concert in the series remains in September.

Our Church is COOL 😎! We're open all day, and there is water provided for the thirsty. There's a bookshelf (bring and swap/donate). Please come along and simply enjoy the peace, have a chat or explore our nooks and crannies and if you're lucky you may catch one of the 'organ scholars' practising!

The bellringers who normally meet on a Monday evening are delighted to be joined by Rev Anne who for obvious reasons isn't normally able to ring on a Sunday.

In addition to our regular Worship services (the schedule for these can be found on the noticeboard outside St Andrew's) we are looking forward to a baptism this month; these are always special. Our annual Spirit of Naunton pub worship was held on 12th July. A much less formal celebration, we were able to be together outdoors along with some of the village dogs and horses. It's lovely to have prayers and readings delivered by so many village voices. A true celebration of our wonderful community.





Our June Village fun day and dog show had to be postponed due to the heat and is rescheduled for Saturday 25 July. It's always well attended. Tea and cake 🍰 available!

There is an 'Eclipse Picnic' planned on the Village Recreation ground on August 12th. Bring your own picnic and

the Pavilion Bar will be open from 5.30pm.

We also look forward to a hilarious production by Rise and Shine theatre company of Dickens' "Pickwick papers", on the Sunday afternoon of bank holiday weekend 30th August. Few actors and a complicated story, quick costume change and very occasional confusion; what's not to love? Held outdoors at the Dovecote, bring a picnic and a deckchair. There's even a new toilet on site! Tickets from Pat (07887553571).

Naunton Open Gardens event at the end of June was a huge success. We had many visitors to our stunning gardens, which combined with a busy tearoom and plant sales at the village hall, raised a good amount. Takings were split in their entirety equally between the north Cotswolds Foodbank and Kate's Home Nursing. Thanks due to those who baked, gardened, grew plants to donate and also to those who came along.

There are many, many people who work hard to make the Naunton community what it is! Thanks to them all.

Moir Anderson

GUITING POWER

Looking back at my piece in the last issue, we had just begun what would turn out to be our first heatwave of the year and I wrote that I hoped that the "good weather" would last long enough for the enjoyment of our Open Gardens at the Grange. Little did any of us expect that it would be the first of three (and perhaps to that I should add "so far"...?!). That afternoon at the Grange was perfect, the weather, the setting, the attendance, all providing for a great success. Thanks are due to many, as

only by team effort can success be had, but particularly to our host Mrs. Dawson, Christian and the Guiting Grange team (resplendent in their “uniform”) and not least Roland and Richard for their organisation, to all of you who helped and to all of you who attended! As the main annual fundraiser providing the income needed to support our church through another year, it is an important event as well as an enjoyable one.



Our church is often, quietly, at the heart of the changing rhythms of the seasons and our lives.

In June, family and friends bid farewell to Gordon Joynes as he was laid to rest with his family after almost all of his 91 years spent not just in the village but in the same house. In July the joyful celebration of the wedding of Peter Wright and Natalie Rozier on a bright Summer's day surrounded by their family and friends, and the first couple to be married by Revd. Anne at St. Michael's.

We certainly are in 'high Summer' now with all the activity of harvest rapidly taking place around us. Our Harvest Festival will be celebrated at 6pm on Sunday 27th September to coincide with Michaelmas, our Patronal Festival.

In the meantime we have the Guiting Music Festival (just beginning) to enjoy and hopefully time for leisure and pleasure during the rest of the Summer season.

Amongst the many things to enjoy locally is Chastleton House (a National Trust property) with delicious teas provided separately in the church next door by local organisations and charities. As I hope that you will be aware, our Benefice is providing teas



on certain days in support of the Chaplaincy being established at the Cotswold School. Our next afternoon is Wednesday 5th August - do come and join us (donations of cakes also always welcome!). It is certainly an enjoyable experience being part of the team providing the teas, think how much more enjoyable for you to come and drink the tea and eat the cake!

Simon Wallis

LOWER SLAUGHTER

As I write this we are again in the midst of another heat wave; we certainly cannot grumble this summer about the lack of sunshine! Although a bit too warm at times, how it greatly lifts our mood and we all feel better when a bit of sun hits our backs.



Here at St Mary's we've had a busy few weeks with our fundraising day at Chasleton House which helped our maintenance fund along. Now we are preparing for our bank holiday weekend "offerings" on Sunday 30 and Monday 31 August. Refreshments will be served

in the village hall on both days – please contact Karen Randles if you can offer help and/or cakes. On the Monday, I am running a bottle tombola stall from 10am on the green (any bottle donations will be greatly received by myself); Rosie and Bunty are running a bric a brac stall on the green; and Anne Keats is organising a car boot sale in the church precinct (see poster).

We continue with our twice-monthly services and we have a few weddings coming up. Our harvest festival weekend is 12-13 of September and our harvest thanksgiving service is 6pm on the 13th when as is customary we will collect non-perishable food for the Foodbank. After the service refreshments will be served. This is an all-age service and it would be lovely to see some children in the congregation.

September is generally a month of change for our young people - some going to new schools, others on a career path to university, and some entering the working world. We pray that they will settle into their new path. A new beginning when a new Chaplain joins the Cotswold School, hopefully the pupils will feel this is an adult they can turn to in times of stress and uncertainty. Our benefice has joined together with other local benefices and the Diocese to enable funding for this.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Marion Marshall

TEMPLE GUITING SCHOOL

As another wonderful school year comes to an end, we have enjoyed celebrating many special milestones together as a school community.

One of the highlights of the term was our annual Leavers' Church Service, where we gathered to celebrate our Year 6 pupils as they prepare to begin an exciting new chapter at secondary school. It was a lovely opportunity to reflect on their time with us, give thanks for all they have achieved, and wish them every blessing for the future. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of our leavers and know they will continue to flourish in their new schools.

During the service, we were delighted to present the prestigious Jean Bird Values Cup to **Imogen Davidson Smith**. This award recognises a pupil who consistently demonstrates our school values through their kindness, respect, perseverance and care for others. Many congratulations to Imogen on this well-deserved achievement.

We would also like to recognise **Jacob** and **Anastasia**, who have served as our Worship Leaders throughout the year. They have faithfully supported our collective worship, helping to lead and inspire others while ensuring that the voices of our children were heard. We thank them for their commitment, enthusiasm and thoughtful leadership.

As we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we are also looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children. They have recently enjoyed their taster sessions, giving them the opportunity to meet their teachers, explore their new classrooms and begin making new friends. We can't

wait to welcome them properly in September as they begin their school journey with us.



To celebrate the end of primary school, our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fantastic limousine journey followed by an exciting paintballing experience. It was a memorable day full of laughter, fun and friendship, providing the perfect way to mark the end of their time at our school.



The final weeks of term also brought some exceptionally hot weather. We are incredibly proud of how well all of our children and staff coped throughout the heatwave, showing resilience, supporting one another and

ensuring everyone stayed safe, well-hydrated and continued to learn and enjoy school despite the challenging temperatures.

As we close another successful year, we would like to thank all our families, governors, our fantastic PTA, our church community, especially our Spread The Word Worship team, Chris Taylor - our wonderful reading volunteer and everyone who has supported our school throughout the year. There are so many people who support us and we appreciate you! Your encouragement, prayers and partnership are greatly appreciated.

We wish all of our families a happy, safe and restful summer break. To our Year 6 leavers, we send our very best wishes as you embark on your exciting new adventures, and we look forward to welcoming both returning pupils and our new Reception class in September for another fantastic year ahead. Have a wonderful summer.

Emily Chester, Class Teacher, Wednesday – Friday

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT **Grateful thanks to everyone who provided lovely photos and gave us their permission to use in this magazine. **



John

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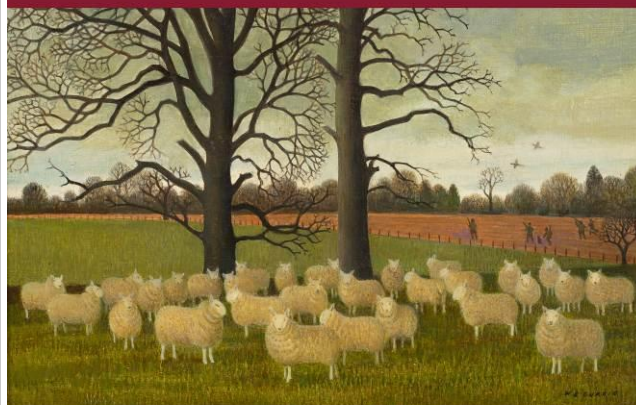
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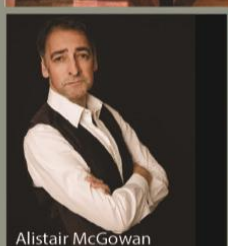
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