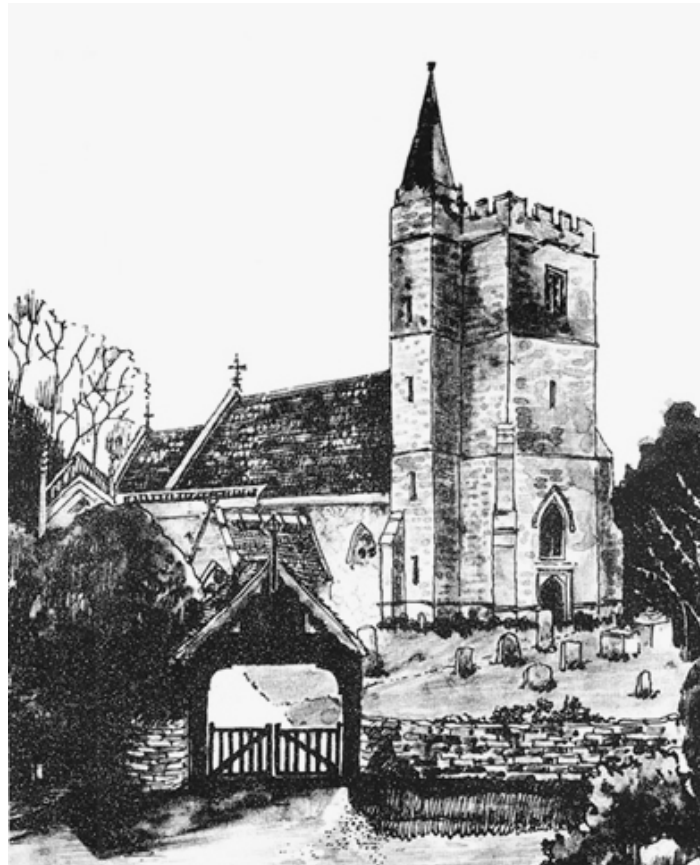


The Forerunner

*The Magazine for the Parish of
Newington Bagpath with
Kingscote*

June

2017



Service Calendar for June 2017

Sunday <i>Pentecost</i>	4th	Kingscote Nailsworth Nailsworth Horsley Nailsworth	9.30 am 8.00 am 11.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Morning Prayer BCP Holy Communion BCP Family Service Holy Communion Forest Green United service at Nailsworth School.
Wednesday	7th	Nailsworth	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	11th	Kingscote Nailsworth	9.30 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion BCP Holy Communion
Wednesday	14th	Nailsworth	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	18th	Kingscote Nailsworth	9.30 am 11.00 am	Family Service Family Communion
Wednesday	21st	Nailsworth	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	25th	Kingscote Nailsworth Horsley	9.30 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm	Holy Communion CW Holy Communion Evensong
Wednesday	28th	Nailsworth	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday	29th	Horsley	3.15 pm	Messy Church

The **Next PCC Meeting** will take place on Tuesday **11 July** at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Diocesan News	www.gloucester.anglican.org/news/publications www.gloucester.anglican.org/news/blog
Nailsworth Benefice	www.thenailsworthbenefice.co.uk
Kingscote Community	www.kingscoteonline.co.uk

For your diary:

Coffee Morning in Aid of Cure Parkinsons Trust

Saturday **8 July**, 10.30 am to 12.30 at 19 Kingscote, near the telephone kiosk.

Sheena

The Vicar's Letter

June begins on Sunday 4th with one of the major Christian Festivals - Whitsunday or Pentecost.

For Christians, Pentecost is a special day on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called 'the church'. So from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Pentecost is the church's birthday - and we all love a birthday party !

The English word 'Pentecost' is simply a transliteration of a Greek word which means 'fifty'. It comes from the ancient Christian expression which means the 'fiftieth day', marking seven weeks since the resurrection of Jesus.

So that explains Pentecost. But what about Whitsunday ?

Historically, some churches receive new members on Pentecost, commemorating the first 'new members class' that joined the church after Peter's Pentecost sermon. Centuries ago in Britain, those joining the church wore white for baptism. Thus, the Sunday was called 'White Sunday' or 'Whitsunday'.

So that explains Whitsunday but what about today ?

For Christians today, the Holy Spirit is the living presence of Jesus with us on earth that enables us to live our lives and fulfil the mission God has given us. It is the power of God's love at work within us - the greatest birthday present anyone could ever receive.

Come and celebrate with us ! Best wishes, Mike.

Confirmation

We have managed to secure a date for a Confirmation Service on **Sunday 10 September** at 11.00 am at St George's Church Nailsworth, when Bishop Robert of Tewkesbury is booked to come. Confirmation is a significant step as people take up for themselves the promises made for them at Baptism.

We shall be holding some group sessions for those interested to explore the Christian faith together before taking this step (all ages welcome). Those interested in being involved please get in touch on Tel. 01453 836 536 or on e-mail at:

mike.davica@sky.com

Rev.Mike Smith

Flower Rota

4 June	Jane Nichols
11 and 18 June	Angela Wooldridge
25 June and 2 July	Annabella Lucy

Weddings: There will not be any weddings in June.

Lorna Reynolds

Cleaning Team

The next silver and brass cleaning team meeting will be on Monday 5 June at 2.30 pm.

Teresa Day

Village Hall Programme

Coffee Morning - Wednesday 7 June, 10.30 to 11.30 am, coffee and cake £2, all welcome.

A date for your diary in **July**: **BBQ** Friday 7 July 7.00 pm. Bangers, burgers and a pudding, adults £8, children £4, family of four £20. Pay Bar.

Village Hall Committee AGM

Carol Paton has retired as secretary to the VHC and will be moving to Tetbury. We thank her for her hard work on the committee and for her communication service to the community. Pauline McTear will act as temporary secretary until a new Appointment is made. We are looking for new members on the committee to contribute to its important role in the community.

Pauline McTear

Grumbolds Ash

On Wednesday 14 June we visit Brodbury House and Garden near Hereford HR3 6BS. Admission is £5 but there are no tea rooms on site. It is situated 10 miles west of Hereford, turning south off the A438 signed for Brewardine and Brodbury Garden; continuing 1 mile, on the LHS before the bridge.

We meet at 9.00 am at the VH to share driving.

Jutta Tubbs

The Kingscote Singers

We meet again on Monday 5 June between 7.00 and 9.00 pm at Angela's House. All will be welcome at this informal singing session.

Angela Wooldridge

Book Club at 8.00 pm

- Wednesday 7 June 'Golden Hill' by Francis Spufford at Angela's.

Angela Wooldridge

Kingscote Parish Council

The Parish Council thanks the retiring Chairman Graham Nichols and welcomes Sebastian Cooper as Chairman elected at the recent PC AGM.

The next PC meeting will be on Tuesday 4 July at 8.00 pm at the Hunters Hall.

Planning Applications

- Spring Cottage, Binley Farm - erection of two storey and single storey rear extension.
- Lasborough Park, Tetbury - minor changes to approved scheme for glass-house.
- Bagpath Court Cottage - compliance with remaining conditions.

Planning Approvals

- Bagpath Court Cottage - minor changes to approved scheme for replacement dwelling.

Vegetation overhanging public footpaths

Now that trees and shrubs are coming into leaf, weighing down the branches, it is necessary to check that the public footpaths are not obstructed either from above or from the side. Serious accidents can occur when pedestrians step unexpectedly into the roadway to avoid them.

If property owners do not trim such growth, the GCC Highways Department may do so in a more drastic manner.

Anna Davison, Tel. 860 244

Free-range eggs for sale

Mrs Pat Cooksley of 2 The Windmill normally has some free-range eggs for sale at £1 for six. Best call afternoons.

Mobile Post Office

The mobile Post Office parks at the Village Hall between 12.45 and 1.45 pm on Mondays and Thursdays (except on Bank Holidays). It stocks a wide range of mailing materials, and can dispatch all mail and moderate sized parcels.

It also stocks most generally used pro-forma/application forms for government services, and provides financial services for all major banks and currencies, including cheque payments as well as PO savings accounts and insurance.

Mobile Library

The next visit will be on **Friday 9 June** when the van will park in front of The Walled Garden between 10.30 am and 12 noon.

Weekly Recycling - Green food boxes and wheelie bins

All current collection points - from 7.30 am on Thursdays.

Fortnightly Recycling - Black boxes, White Bags and Blue bags

All current collection points - from 7.30 am on Thursdays 1, 15 and 29 June.

Fortnightly Waste - Grey wheelie bins to landfill

All current collection points - from 7.30 am on Thursdays 1, 15 and 29 June.

Magazine

Any material which may be of interest for the next issue of the Forerunner should be sent by 20 June to H. Tubbs, 3 The Walled Garden, Tel. 860 194.

Churchyard Working Party on 10 May

On behalf of the PCC, Jane Nichols and Harry Tubbs thank the splendid team of village volunteers who gave an afternoon of their time and a lot of horsepower to spreading and sorting the large pile of trenching waste from the footpath excavation. The weather could not have been more favourable.

The heroes were: Graham Nichols, Philip Nichols, Rick Bond, Sebastian Cooper, Brian McTear and John Moore - not to mention the trusty Home Farm JCB.

There is still some hand sorting and raking to do before we put down some grass seed and allow the graves to slumber again in peace.

The PCC

Richard Dawkins Again

In an interview with Tom Whipple reported in The Times on Saturday 13 May 2017 Richard Dawkins expresses his views on several things including, inevitably, God.

Following a public debate in 2013 with the former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Williams, he commented "He's a delightful man. So nice it's almost impossible to argue with him. It was never actually clear to me why he disagreed with me."

In a subsequent report on the debate he asked why -

"the architect of the universe, the divine mathematician, deviser of the laws of physics, of quantum mechanics, of the carefully tuned physical constants, this paragon of superhuman intellect, was unable to think of a better way to forgive the sins of one species of African ape than to have himself tortured and killed as a blood sacrifice?"

However he emphasises that he is still convinced that there is no higher power along the lines described above, and reported that he is now trending towards being a vegetarian, but not in a way which would offend polite company.

The Atheism Delusion

Until around 1930 when Hubble detected that the universe was continuously expanding, it had been possible for non-believers to regard the universe as a fixed although evolving material entity. It was convenient for those thus inclined to regard 'creation' as a non-issue, raised by world religions as an intellectual and spiritual concept. Dazzled by the achievements of science, one could behave as one wished without any concern as to whether a God was watching or cared.

By the end of WW2 however scientists had concluded that Hubble was right; and the '*Big Bang*' had arrived, providing a truly 'Biblical Sized' creation model. Back-calculation predicts that it occurred around 13.8 billion years ago. This does not align with the actual Biblical accounts written by the early prophets of Israel, but one could observe that without the scientific insights now available, they did not do a bad job. British Iron-Age thinkers probably did no better.

Obviously the *Being* which /who initiated the Big Bang leading to the creation of the universe was unimaginably clever and powerful. The scientists, who now work to understand creation, sometimes seem to suggest when they have explained one of its mysteries that they could have 'done it themselves'. But the creator (from nothing) of the universe has powers beyond those of any human, and the recorded historical events of the life and resurrection of Christ would, as they say nowadays, be '*No problem*'.

The evolution of living creatures, described by Darwin and Dawkins as being a process of 'random accidents' leading to mutations which then compete in the survival of the fittest, may not be as accidental as they suggest.

Harry Tubbs, Churchwarden

A more authoritative view !

If you wish to have a more authoritative and no doubt more reliable view on the subject of Science and Faith, there is a lecture sponsored by the University of Gloucestershire on Tuesday 13 June at 6.00 pm. This will be given by the very respected Christian theologian Alister McGraith entitled 'Richard Dawkins vs C S Lewis on the meaning of life'.

This will be held in the University Chapel at Francis Close Campus, Swindon Road Cheltenham, GL50 4AZ. Refreshments served from 5.00 pm.

Alister McGrath is Professor of Science and Religion in the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford.

Parish Directory

- Vicar:** Reverend Mike Smith, *3 Vicarage Gardens, Nailsworth, GL6 0QS, Tel. 07840 260 182, 01453 836 536*
- Curate:** Reverend Sue Sobczak, *Horsley, Tel. 01453 833 526*
- Churchwarden:** Harry Tubbs, *3 The Walled Garden, Kingscote, GL8 8YP. Tel: 860 194*
- Hon.Sec.PCC:** Zoe Nichols, *Home Farm, Kingscote, GL8 8YB Tel. 860 254*
- Hon.Treas.PCC:** Jane Nichols, *Asheldown, 3 Ashel Barn Cottages, Kingscote, GL8 8YB Tel. 01453 860 534*
- Members of PCC:** The Churchwarden, The Hon. Secretary, The Hon. Treasurer, Elin Tattersall, Chris Alford.
- Vestry Silver and Brass Team:** Teresa Day, Angela Wooldridge, Pauline McTear.
- Nailsworth MU:** Trissa Jones, *Tel: 832 551*
- Editor of Forerunner:** Harry Tubbs, *3 The Walled Garden, Kingscote, GL8 8YP Tel: 860 194*
- Gift Aid and Envelopes:** Jane Nichols, *3 Ashel Barn Cottages, Kingscote Tel. 860 534.*
- Church Flowers Rota:** Lorna Reynolds, *Tel. 860 231*
- Organist:** Rosemary Sims, *15 Badger's Way, Forest Green, Nailsworth, GL6 0HE Tel: 832 446*
- Sidespersons:** Harry Tubbs, Rod Tibbert, Elin Tattersall, Jane Nichols.
- Electoral Roll:** Elin Tattersall, *3 Boxwood Close, Tel.01453 860 182*
- Mowing Team:** Harry Tubbs, Sebastian Cooper, Rick Bond, Roger Lucy, Ken Davies, Brian McTear, John Moore, Tony Wooldridge.
- Village Hall:** Bookings: Pauline McTear, *Kingscote, Tel. 861 311*
Secretary: Pauline McTear, *Cherry Tree House, 861 311*
- Parish Council Chairman:** Sebastian Cooper, *Kenelm House, Kingscote, GL8 8XY, Tel. 01453 860 811*
- Parish Council Clerk:** Anna Davison, *Bagpath Court, GL8 8YG, Tel. 860 244*
- Village Agent:** Aileen Bendall, *Tel. 07810 630 156 or 01452 426 868*

The Forerunner is published by the P.C.C. who are usually most willing to accept copy from village groups and individuals. However, please note that the opinions and views expressed by the contributors within the Forerunner are not necessarily those of the Church, P.C.C. or Editor.