

MARCH 2026

THE FORERUNNER

The monthly newsletter for the Kingscote parish
including Bagpath, Newington and Kingscote



Paula Pinkney

Please note that any items of interest for next month's magazine should be sent to this email address:

brianmctear@btinternet.com (Pauline McTear) by noon on the 20th of the month (01453 861311).

To join the mailing list for parish email alerts and the monthly Forerunner please go to the [Kingscote online website](#) and scroll down to join the mailing list.

WELCOME to the
March 2026
edition of
The Forerunner

In this month's magazine:

Village Hall:

- Bar Night will be held on **Friday 6th March.**
- Coffee Morning will be held on **Tuesday 10th March.**
- Film Club will be showing 'Babette's Feast' on **Tuesday 24th March.**

Events at Matara and the Tetbury Goods Shed Arts Centre are detailed.

VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

The season and message of Lent is upon us once again. Spring is arriving, life is budding from the ground and it feels like a turning point in the year.

Lent was early this year beginning on 22nd February. Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday have been eaten, Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the lent time of reflection on how we live our lives and our relationship with God has begun.

Lent is about clearing up! It is about reflecting on all that clutters and distracts us from the important things in life. It is probably true for all of us that life has many times of hurrying from one thing to another, that sometimes feelings of fear and anxiety mean that we are distracted and unable to focus on the good things in life.

Jesus says – I come that you may have life and have life in all its fullness. There are times when situations and circumstances make life difficult and painful, when it is difficult to focus on the good things and those words of Jesus seem a long way off.

The church is a place, more than a building or a Sunday Service. It is about ordinary people, meeting together, supporting and showing the love of Jesus to one another. It is a place where conversations take place, coffee or sharing of a lunch – a place where everyone is welcome. It is a place of belonging, where people learn to love as Christ loves us, with patience, generosity and grace.

Lent is a time of reflection, but also a time to find that space, to reflect on the important things in life, and also to receive support and love in times that are difficult and painful. It is somewhere where, as Jesus says people find 'Life in all its fullness'

As we travel through lent may it be a time to clear away the things that distract us from what is important in life and look honestly at our own hearts. Maybe it is the time to come and join in with what's going on in the local church and discover more about God's love or perhaps just spending more time just reflecting on your life.

Wishing you a fruitful Lenten season,

With blessings,

Reverend Caroline

Tel: 01453 836536

rev.carolinebland@gmail.com

www.thenailsworthbenefice.co.uk

KEY DATES

 <p>The Nailsworth Benefice Nailsworth, Horsley & Kingscote</p> <p><u>NAILSWORTH BENEFICE</u></p> <p>The Anglican churches of St George, Nailsworth, St Martin, Horsley and St John the Baptist, Kingscote</p> <p><u>WORSHIP – MARCH 2026</u></p>			
SUNDAY 1st	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT		
	Kingscote	9.30am	Holy Communion
	Nailsworth	11.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday 4 th	Nailsworth	10.00am	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 8th	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT		
	Nailsworth	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 11 th	Nailsworth	10.00am	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 15th	4th SUNDAY OF LENT/MOTHERING SUNDAY		
	Kingscote	9.30am	Morning Worship
	Horsley	9.30am	Morning Worship
	Nailsworth	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 18 th	Nailsworth	10.00am	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 22nd	5th SUNDAY OF LENT		
	Nailsworth	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 25 th	Nailsworth	10.00am	Holy Communion
SUNDAY 29th	HOLY WEEK – PALM SUNDAY		
	Nailsworth	11.00am	Holy Communion

KEY DATES

Church flowers

Thank you to those who are on the flowers rota to supply one flower arrangement in the church per year. We would love to have a few more people join the team, so if you feel you could do this, please contact Lorna Reynolds (telephone - 01453 860231).



As it is Lent, there will be no church flowers in March.

KEY DATES

Book Club

We will now meet at 1.30pm and mostly meet on a Wednesday.

Wednesday 18th March at the **Village Hall**.

Book to be discussed:
'Unruly' by **David Mitchell**.

Please bring some cash for the hall hire. Angela will bring tea/coffee and Pauline will bring cake.

If anyone else would like to come and join the Book Club, please contact Angela Wooldridge on 860697.

Kerbside Waste & Recycling Collections

Food waste – Friday 6th March and weekly thereafter.

Recycling, garden waste and black bin – Friday 13th March and Friday 27th March.

The 2025-26 calendar is available on the CDC website:
<https://community.cotswold.gov.uk/s/waste-collection-enquiry>

Recycling Centre

Pyke Quarry (Horsley tip) is open for pre-booked appointments. It is usually open in the winter from 10am to 4pm on all days except Wednesdays.

Book your visit [here](#). Phone bookings are possible only for those without internet access- phone 01452 596 626.

Post Office

The mobile post office will be at Kingscote Village Hall from 9am to 10am every Monday and Thursday except bank holidays.



KINGSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

1. Safety at Hunters Hall junctions

There was another serious road accident at Hunters Hall on 23 January 2026 which was caused by a vehicle exiting Hunters Hall and turning right. Two serious accidents occurred in October and November 2025 involving vehicles on the A4135 turning into Kingscote village from the Tetbury direction. This location is clearly dangerous, and we are asking Highways to explore all options for improving safety. Initial proposals include:

- Installing a distance plate at the existing staggered crossroad warning signs,
- SLOW road markings on the carriageway close to the warning signs,
- Verge marker posts close to the side road junctions to make them more obvious at night

We have also asked Highways to consider:

- Yellow backgrounds on the junction warning signs,
- Rumble strips,
- Deployment of speed monitoring equipment,
- A reduction in the speed limit.

Safety at Hunters Hall junctions (cont)

Hunters Hall and the Matara Centre will also be asked to cut back any vegetation which reduces visibility at the junctions.

In the meantime we ask that all road users take extra care at these junctions and please also avoid parking near the junctions.

2. GCC Highways: potholes

A serious pothole on the road from Hunters Hall to Windy Corner was repaired promptly by Highways soon after it had been reported. This shows the importance of reporting bad potholes which we should all do using FixmyStreet [fixmystreet](#)

3. Village Hall broadband

We have arranged with Gigaclear for fibre broadband in the village hall, and with the extra node in the Reynolds Room, the signal strength is good throughout the premises.

4. Next meeting

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Tuesday 10th March at 7.30pm in Kingscote village hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

KINGSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Current Planning Applications

1. Structural repairs to tower roof. Repairs to nave and chancel roofs including installation of thermal insulation and associated works. Works to tower render and windows. Works to nave window and Norman doorway (part retrospective).

St Bartholomews Church Newington
Bagpath Kingscote Tetbury
Gloucestershire GL8 8UE.

Ref. No: 25/04049/LBC | Validated: Tue
13 Jan 2026 | Status: Awaiting decision.

2. Compliance with conditions 3 (Bat mitigation strategy), 4 (Drainage), 7 (Sample materials) and 8 (Sample panel - stonework) of permission 25/00333/FUL - Erection of replacement self-build dwelling.

Upper Hazelcote Cottage Hazlecote
Farm Lane Kingscote Tetbury
Gloucestershire GL8 8XX.

Ref. No: 25/03167/COMPLY | Validated:
Tue 21 Oct 2025 | Status: Awaiting
decision.

3. Two yew trees marked 1 and 2 in the rear garden of Kenelm House require pruning as they have grown and overshadow the lawn and the drive.

Kenelm House Kingscote Tetbury
Gloucestershire GL8 8XY

Ref. No: 26/00360/TCONR | Validated:
Wed 04 Feb 2026 | Status: Awaiting
decision.

VILLAGE HALL

Events This Month

Bar Night

Friday 6th March

7.00 – 10.00 p.m.

Alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages at reasonable prices. Enjoy time with your neighbours. This event is to raise money for Village Hall maintenance. Everyone welcome.

NEW: Cash OR Card.



Coffee Morning

Tuesday 10th March

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Homemade cakes, coffee or tea, £3.00.

Everyone very welcome.



Film Night

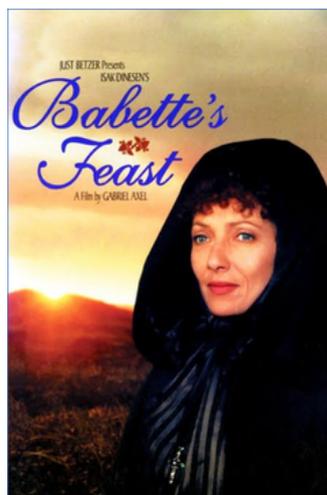
Tuesday 24th March

7:30 p.m. Entry free, with pay bar.

Screening - **Babette's Feast.**

A sensuous celebration of the pleasures of good food and drink, won 1987's Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.

"The film has a positive centre as a story about choices but the joy of Axel's film is its lightness of touch," found Victoria Mather in The Daily Telegraph. "He presents the mysteries and subtleties so gracefully and, while tempering Dinesen's sly humour with kindness, never loses the incisive edge that allows us to know the characters."



COMMUNITY CORNER

We welcome your contributions to this, our parish newsletter, in whatever format—photographs, puzzles, recipes, poems and stories and will try to publish a selection each month. Please send them to

Pauline McTear brianmctear@btinternet.com

On Friday 20th February, a packed (standing room only) Village Hall was treated to an evening of fascinating facts and funny anecdotes of the history of Kingscote from Roman to recent times.

Many thanks to Tim and Irene Sage for organising and running the event, and to Tim, Anne Riley and Rosemary Sims for sharing their memories of people and places.

Thanks also to Naomi and Steve Teague for keeping everybody ‘refreshed’.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Many thanks to Paula Pinkney for beautiful reminders of the winter now past.



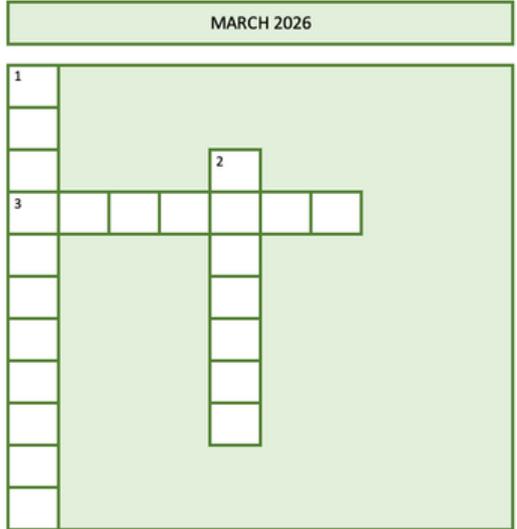
COMMUNITY CORNER

A Puzzle

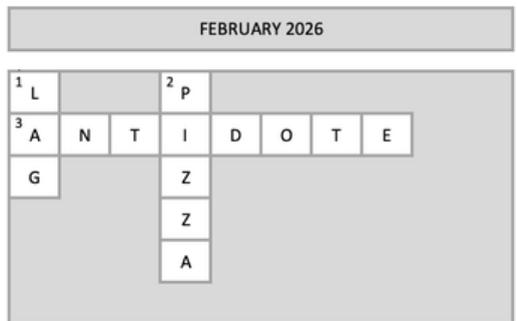
Three cryptic clues to challenge the little grey cells (no prizes!)

Answers published next month.

1. Sounds like Elle and Norman will drink here (7, 4)
2. It's obtained from conifer (3, 4)
3. Dull like a mountain lake (7)



1. He's in jail again (3)
2. Naples marketplace without a Neapolitan (5)
3. Cure for love-sickness (8)



COMMUNITY CORNER

Cirencester Foodbank

Cirencester Foodbank, which supports communities throughout the South Cotswolds, is actively looking to recruit additional voluntary Trustees to our Board.



Volunteer Trustees needed at Cirencester Foodbank

Bring your passion and make real impact as a Trustee at Cirencester Foodbank! Be at the heart of our ambitious mission to end local hunger. You'll use your skills to shape strategy, champion your community, and help people in crisis—all while developing your leadership and charity experience in a supportive team.

- Join a positive, values-led board changing lives in the South Cotswolds.
- Commitment: 4 board meetings per year plus supporting activities (expenses reimbursed).
- No prior trustee experience needed—diverse backgrounds and fresh ideas welcome!
- We're especially keen to hear from people with insight into food poverty or charity sector, but passion and commitment matter most.

Ready to lead change?

Apply now: Visit <https://cirencester.foodbank.org.uk/support-us/become-a-trustee> or email recruitment@cirencester.foodbank.org.uk to find out more.

Let's end hunger together—become a Cirencester Foodbank Trustee!

Matara Pizza Pop-Up

Our next pizza pop-up is happening on Friday 27th February from 5pm to 8pm!

Join us every month and indulge in Chef's mouth-watering pizzas.

Take-away or enjoy in our front courtyard with a drink from our bar.



THE MENU

13 Inch Pizzas

MAIN MENU

Margarita | £12

Truffle mushroom, grilled peppers | £13

Pepperoni and Nduja with red onion | £14

CHEF'S SPECIAL

Pesto Parmesan white base with grilled garlic
chicken | £15

A LITTLE EXTRA

Homemade Garlic roasted aioli
or Hot Honey | £2

VE and GF Available

Matara Coffee and Cake

Join us on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, for a relaxed morning of coffee, homemade cakes, and friendly company. Each month brings something new to enjoy in our gardens.

Cash Donations ONLY



COFFEE AND CAKE

at
The Palm House

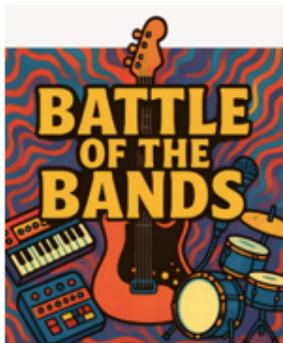
2nd Wednesday of each month
9 am – 12 noon

Enjoy coffee, cake, and the changing
beauty of our gardens, with something
new to enjoy each month



TETBURY GOODS SHED

A R T S C E N T R E



March 7

Martin James Bartlett Piano Recital: A concert by a young pianist who is forging an international career. Recently he has toured with the Sinfonia of London and performed Philip Glass's Tirol piano concerto in Berlin, Hamburg and Vienna. Tickets in advance £30. 7.30pm

March 8

Battle of the Bands: A contest between Gloucestershire's best young garage bands. Hand-pick bands fight for a place in our annual family Off The Rails thanks to our sponsors. Tickets in advance £10. 3-7pm

March 24

The Magnificent AKS: Capable of raising a laugh and lowering the tone simultaneously you will hear music from across the spectrum. And see a very different style of hats and costumes. Tickets in advance £14. 7.30pm

March 27

Forever Billy Joel: Authentic, soulful and brilliantly performed tonight is the ultimate celebration of the Piano Man and his timeless catalogue. Tickets in advance £25. 7.30pm

March 28

Out of the Box Family Circus Show: An unlikely character and his box of tricks brings families together to celebrate play through skilful silliness – and watch out for the toothbrush! Tickets in advance £12. 2pm.

For more details of our other events including film, talks, exhibitions, and afternoon tea concerts and to book tickets visit our website: www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

PARISH DIRECTORY

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Pauline McTear

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Reverend Caroline Bland

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Rev.carolinebland@gmail.com

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www.thenailsworthbenefice.co.uk

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Vestry Silver and Brass Team

Teresa Day, Angela Wooldridge, Liz Widdows, Pauline McTear

Nailsworth Mothers' Union

Trissa Jones, 01453 832551

Church Flowers Rota

Lorna Reynolds, 01453 860231

Organist

Rosemary Sims, 15 Badger's Way, Forest Green, Nailsworth, GL6 0HE. 01453 832446

Sidespersons

Jane Nichols, Chris Alford, Jacqui Crew, Elin Tattersall

Church Electoral Roll

Elin Tattersall

Churchyard mowing and hedge trimming

Kingscote: Rick Bond, Sebastian Cooper, Charlie Knights, Brian McTear, Rich Lukes, John Moore, Steve Tattersall, Tony Wooldridge, Matt Wookey. Coordinator -Chris Alford. Bagpath: Alex Stephens.

Village Hall

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The Forerunner is published by an editing team of volunteers from the parish and we welcome copy from parishioners, however opinions and views expressed by other contributors are not necessarily those of the editors.