

APRIL 2026

THE FORERUNNER

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



WELCOME to the
April 2026
edition of
The Forerunner

Pauline McTear is taking a break from editorship of the Forerunner and we thank her for her contribution to its growth and production.

If anyone is interested in helping curate Forerunner content, please write to webmaster@kingscoteonline.co.uk.

In the meantime, items of interest for next month's magazine should be sent by email to webmaster@kingscoteonline.co.uk (Andrew Adamson) by noon on the 20th of the month.

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.

In this month's magazine:

Village Hall:

- Bar Night will be held on **Friday 10th April**.
- Coffee Morning will be held on **Tuesday 14th April**.
- Book Club will be held on **Wednesday 22nd April**.

Events at Matarra and the Tetbury Goods Shed are detailed.

VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

April is a time when we see renewal all around us. The signs of nature are clear—green shoots are appearing on shrubs and trees, and early flowers like daffodils and tulips have brought colour back into our gardens.

This month, we journey through Holy Week and into the joy of Easter—a movement from darkness to light, from loss into hope, and from death to life.

Holy Week remembers the final days of Jesus' life on earth. We recall his arrival in Jerusalem, when he was welcomed by crowds waving palm branches. This moment of celebration marked the beginning of the journey that would lead to his death on the cross.

Jesus' journey reminds us that faith does not avoid difficulty or suffering. Instead, it walks honestly through it. The events of Good Friday, when Jesus was nailed to the cross, show us a God who does not stand at a distance from pain, but enters fully into it.

During Holy Week, we also remember that Jesus shared a meal with his closest friends. He told them to remember him by sharing bread and wine—and the Church continues to do this in Holy Communion.

The story of Holy Week continues as we remember Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday. But why is it called "Good" Friday? It is because Jesus' death was not the end of the story. Without Good Friday, there would be no Easter Day—no resurrection, and no celebration of new life, hope, and new beginnings.

VICAR'S LETTER

The story of Holy Week reassures us that even in the most uncertain or challenging moments of our lives, God is at work, bringing renewal in ways we may not yet see.

Our church community will gather to mark the events of Holy Week and celebrate Easter through reflection, prayer, and worship. Whether you come regularly or only occasionally, you are warmly invited to be part of this journey.

The Easter morning service at Kingscote will be at the usual time of 9:30. Please come and join us as we celebrate new life. We will also be making an Easter garden, and there will be an Easter egg hunt!

May this season bring you peace, encouragement, and a renewed sense of hope.

With blessings,

Reverend Caroline

Tel: 01453 836536

rev.carolinebland@gmail.com

www.thenailsworthbenefice.co.uk

ST JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH
INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

You are warmly invited to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 8th April, 6pm at the church.

The APCM is an important occasion in the life of our parish. It offers an opportunity to hear about all that has been happening in our church community over the past year—both the joys and the challenges. It is also a time to give thanks to all who contribute to the running of the church.

At the meeting, we will:

- Review parish finances
- Hear reports on the events and activities of 2025
- Elect church officers, including Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- Discuss ideas for engraving on a new chalice, to make it personal to Kingscote, as we replace the one that was stolen
- Consider the major repair work needed for the church, along with ideas for possible fundraising events.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in the life of the church, we warmly encourage you to consider joining the PCC or taking on another role. Please speak to me or any PCC member if you would like to find out more.

If you are able to attend, do stay afterwards for refreshments and conversation.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Reverend Caroline

KEY DATES

St John the Baptist
Sunday 5th April 2026

**EASTER
COMMUNION**

**SERVICE BEGINS
AT 9-30am**



 **Come and help build a
resurrection garden**

Join in an easter egg hunt!



Holy Week & Easter
St George's, Nailsworth

Palm Sunday - 29th March
11.00am – Holy Communion



Mundy Thursday - 2nd April
7.30pm - Holy Communion
followed by the Watch

*The watch is a time of reflection as we recall the time Jesus spent
in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest,
trial and crucifixion.*

Good Friday - 3rd April
2.00pm – Reflection on the last hour



Easter Sunday - 5th April
11.00am - Easter Day 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).



5 th April Easter Sunday	Flower Team Naomi Teague (Pedestal)
12 th April	Naomi Teague
19 th April	Naomi Teague
26 th April	Jane Nichols

KEY DATES

Book Club

At **1:30pm** on **Wednesday 22nd April** in The Reynolds Room at the Village Hall, we will be discussing:

'The Rest of our Lives'

by **Ben Markovitz**.

Do come along if you're interested.

Please bring some cash for the hall hire. For the April meeting Jane is making a cake and Sheila is doing the drinks.

If anyone else would like to come and join the Book Club, please contact Angela Wooldridge on 01453 860697.

Kerbside Waste & Recycling Collections

Food waste – Friday 3rd April and weekly thereafter.

Recycling, garden waste and black bin – Friday 10th and Friday 24th April.

The 2026-27 calendar will be available from 1st April 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 Hunter's 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.

GCC Highways asked Hunters Hall and the Matara Centre to cut back vegetation which was obscuring the view for vehicles joining the A4135 and we are grateful that both have complied promptly. Highways has also offered to provide new junction signs with yellow backgrounds to increase their visibility and to add SLOW signs on the A4135 near the junctions.

To gain evidence of the need for further safety measures we have also asked Highways to deploy speed measuring equipment on the A4135 and we have asked the police for the full accident record during the last three years.

Safety at Hunters Hall junctions (cont)

We know that getting a reduction in the speed limit will not be easy, partly because of the cost of the statutory consultations required. However, if the evidence supports it, and there is community support, we are prepared to take on the challenge. This will be an important topic at the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th May; please try to attend if you can.

In the meantime we ask that all road users take extra care at these junctions, avoid parking near the junctions and be patient when buses stop on the A4135.

2. Local Government Reorganisation

Government has decided to eliminate the District Councils and there are three options for the new unitary council(s). The Parish Council decided to support Option 1 – a single unitary authority for the whole county. However, we did so reluctantly with a comment that “Removing all the District Councils will make it harder to get community engagement. The neighbourhood partnerships are unlikely to replace the local involvement of District Councils and there will be fewer councillors.”

KINGSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

3. Request for support from the Citizens Advice Bureau

The Stroud and Cotswolds branch of Citizens Advice Bureau asked whether we could provide any grant support. Council did not feel able to provide support at this time, but we recognize that CAB is a very valuable organization. If any parishioners would like to support CAB, the link for donations is on their website.

<https://www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/make-a-donation/>

4. Next meetings

On **Tuesday 12th May** there will be two meetings organized by the parish council:

- The Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm
- The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AGM) at 8.00pm

All parishioners are invited to attend.

Kingscote Parish Council

KINGSCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Current Planning Applications

1. Erection of drystone wall, and vehicle and pedestrian gate with associated works

Lower Hazelcote Farm Kingscote
Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8XX

Ref. No: 26/00686/FUL | Validated: Tue
10 Mar 2026 | Status: Awaiting decision.

2. Erection of a single storey side extension, installation of an attached timber pergola, conversion of the garage with creation of a mezzanine level, and roof alterations with associated works

Kingscote Lodge Kingscote Tetbury
Gloucestershire GL8 8YN

Ref. No: 26/00659/FUL | Validated: Mon
09 Mar 2026 | Status: Awaiting
decision.

3. Structural interventions to nave walls and roof

St Bartholomews Church Newington
Bagpath Kingscote Tetbury
Gloucestershire GL8 8UE

Ref. No: 26/00640/LBC | Validated: Thu
12 Mar 2026 | Status: Awaiting decision.

4. 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.

5. 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.

VILLAGE HALL

Events This Month

Bar Night

Friday 10th April

7.00 – 10.00 p.m.

Alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages at reasonable prices (cash or card), helping to raise money for Village Hall maintenance. Enjoy time with your neighbours; everyone welcome.



Coffee Morning

Tuesday 14th April

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Homemade cakes, coffee or tea, £3.00.

Everyone very welcome.



Film Night

The Film Club is held on the third Tuesday of the month through late Autumn, Winter and early Spring.

Details for April, to be confirmed.

VILLAGE HALL

And one for the diary

KINGSCOTE VILLAGE HALL
COFFEE MORNING
AND
PLANT SALE

SUNDAY
10th MAY

10:00 AM
TILL
1:00 PM

DONATIONS OF
CAKES & PLANTS
GRATEFULLY
RECEIVED

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE
UPKEEP OF THE VILLAGE HALL

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 webmaster@kingscoteonline.co.uk (Andrew Adamson).

On Friday 20th February, a packed 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 who worked so hard setting up the event.

Some contributors were unable to come so we are scheduling Part 2 "**More History of Kingscote**" in the autumn.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Among a recent bumper crop of stunning sunset pictures, Sharon Hodgkins captured the following - thanks!



COMMUNITY CORNER

A Local History Request

I'm Andrew Weight and my origins lie within the long-established Gloucestershire family of Weight/Waight/Wight (etc!): my oldest direct ancestor was Robert Weight of Pitchcombe born in 1560 and, for the last 3 years, I've visited your beautiful county as I research the history of our ancient family. The discoveries have been amazing, with connections to Samuel Pepys, William Shakespeare, Newfoundland and the first colonists in America - even, astoundingly, an (illegitimate) uncle to Henry VIII who became Lord Lisle, Governor of Calais! I'm continually adding to my work, but the project can be viewed already at the Gloucestershire Archives Office, reference D17233.

I'm currently researching the Kingscote Wights and I've already been given access to a couple of historical publications which have been tremendously informative. I'm now writing in this magazine to see if there's anybody out there who might be able to add to this information. I'm particularly interested in John Wight, 'Gentleman' who died in 1838. From humble beginnings, how did his family amass so much land and properties? In fact, do you have anything at all relating to old Kingscote? ...Photographs, drawings, maps, momentos, anything at all, no matter how small or insignificant you think they might be.

My genealogical work is pulling together a wealth of information: it will be lodged within the U.K. and, also, a major genealogical library in the U.S. I can be contacted at andrewweight@hotmail.com and also on 07779 159649.



1841 Census

George Blackwell is described as a "Farmer", 40 years of age living with his sister? Jane. Jane Blackwell "Spinster" was named in the will of John Wight of "Windmill Farm" as the beneficiary of income from his property left in trust during the time she remained a "Spinster". There are four servants resident in the Farm House.
There appear to be four farm cottages occupied by agricultural labourers.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Nailsworth Mills Bowling Club

Come and try bowls for FREE!



At Nailsworth Mills Bowling Club our new season opens on Friday 17th April with a ceremonial bowl by our president, and the draw for our grand raffle (tickets available from members).

Through the spring and summer anyone is welcome to come to the club on Friday evenings where you can learn the basics in a friendly environment or just have a go - you'll be sure of a warm welcome.

All you need is flat footwear, and we'll show you the rest - coaching is available if you like what you find and want to learn more. You can find us on the Nailsworth Mills estate near the garden centre - just go straight across the mini-roundabout and we are on the left.

If you want to join, our membership fees are modest as the members run the club (just £60 in the first year), and the bar prices are very attractive.

Watch out for our special event dates, in this publication, on our Facebook page, or check updates at <https://www.nailsworthmillsbowls.club/>



COMMUNITY CORNER

South Cotswold Bridge Club

An Improvers Bridge class is to be held on Wednesday evenings in Cirencester from April 15th onwards.



Want to improve your Bridge play ?

Weekly Bridge Improvemers classes start Wed April 15th 7pm for 12 weeks.at Cirencester Baptist Church, Chesterton Lane GL7 1YE

Including :

- ✓ New Conventions
- ✓ Slam bidding
- ✓ Strong No Trump

Contact Us

Visit Our Website www.southcotswoldbridgeclub.co.uk
Or call Jim on 07879 400193



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.

Next Date: Wednesday 8th April, 9am to 12noon.

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



Matara Pizza Pop-Up

Our next pop up pizza night will be on Friday 1st May, 5pm to 8pm.

We are combining April's and May's pizza night into 1 due to private functions taking place.

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

Pop in or ring to pre-order (07359 718811) to ensure you don't miss out.



MAY MENU

13 Inch Pizzas

MAIN MENU

Margarita | £12

Portobello mushrooms on Parmesan truffle
carbonara | £13

Chorizo and roasted pepper | £14

CHEF'S SPECIAL

Chicken shawarma with nduja and caramelised
onion | £15

A LITTLE EXTRA

Homemade buttermilk ranch dressing
or Hot Honey | £2

VE and GF Available

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS FOR TETBURY GOOD SHED



- April 1** **Playtime Theatre:** Play-along session for pre-schoolers from The Last Baguette company – join them for story-telling, music and puppetry. Tickets £5 under ones free. 10-11am
- April 2** **Film: Coppelia:** The Royal Ballet's performance of this much loved classical ballet. Tickets in advance £10. 7pm
- April 11** **Chris Treglown Singing Awards:** A concert featuring 12 up-and-coming young singers competing for the singing awards before a panel of international experts! Tickets in advance £12.50. 7pm
- April 12** **Ninebarrow:** The Dorset folk group are back again for a night of music and storytelling with their songs and stories inspired by British history and landscape. Tickets in advance £18. 6pm
- April 17** **Mitch Benn – The Lehrer Effect:** Songs of the legendary comic songwriter Tom Lehrer are given a twist by satirical song-writer Mitch Benn of Radio 4 fame. Tickets in advance £20. 8pm
- April 18** **This Flight Tonight:** a tribute to singer/songwriter Joni Mitchell's much-loved Blue album from Paul Zervas and Kathryn Pepper and their 5 piece band. Tickets in advance £25. 7.30
- April 19** **Gardening Questions:** your horticultural hassles answered by our panel of experts. Tickets in advance £6.50. 2pm
- April 25** **Jazz – The Transatlantic Hot Club:** Relive the decadent Parisian jazz scene of the 1930s with the Hot Club on their first visit to the Goods Shed. Relive the music of Reinhardt and Grappelli with a bit of bossa nova. Tickets £16 in advance. 7.30pm

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

Forerunner Editor

Andrew Adamson

e-mail webmaster@kingscoteonline.co.uk

Vicar

Reverend Caroline Bland

Vicar of the Benefice of Nailsworth including the parishes of Horsley and Newington Bagpath with Kingscote:

3 Vicarage Gardens, Nailsworth, GL6 0QS

01453 836536

Rev.carolinebland@gmail.com

Nailsworth Benefice website

www.thenailsworthbenefice.co.uk

Members of the Parochial Church Council

Jane Nichols (Treasurer, 01453 860534); Elin Tattersall; Chris Alford, Jacqui Crew

Safeguarding officer for the PCC

Jennifer Tibbert ridingswood@gmail.com

Vestry Silver and Brass Team

Teresa Day, Angela Wooldridge, Liz Widdows,

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

Bookings: Naomi Teague

e-mail naomiteague@hotmail.co.uk

Secretary: Angela Wooldridge, 01453 860697

Treasurer: Richard Dalziel

e-mail richard@rcdsolutions.co.uk

Parish Council Chairman

[Tony Wooldridge](mailto:Tony.Wooldridge), 43-45 Kingscote, GL8 8XY, 01453 860697. Tony.wooldridge1@gmail.com

Parish Council Clerk

Simon Hale,

clerk@kingscoteparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish council website

<https://www.kingscoteparishcouncil.co.uk>

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.