

FROM THE VICAR

We've plenty happening in our churches in the next few weeks, and I hope very much that you'll join us for some of our services and other events. Everything we do is open to all, and we're delighted to welcome people to join us occasionally rather than often if that suits you better. And if there are things you think we might organize in addition to what's already happening – just tell us!

This month we've our annual look at next year's Gospel – that written by Mark (details are on page 2.) Why not come and dig a bit deeper with us into that earliest record of Jesus' life and teaching? And then the following week we start a series of three discussions about the Reformation (see page 3). It was an era that shaped western civilisation to this day: have you perhaps seen some of the programmes on television recently about it?

There are special times of worship on Remembrance Sunday and then at Advent and on the Sunday before (see page 9), including the first of an exciting new series of services for children and their families (page 5).

We hope each month to have extra times of worship, prayer, fellowship and recreation throughout next year – something different each month. We begin with a Day of Reflection, led by our own inimitable Ron Lloyd, on January 11th – numbers are limited: please let Jane Kidd know if you'd like to attend. The following month we're holding a Quiet Day at the Harnhill Centre (page 3) – we'd love to have good turn-out for that!

Behind the scenes we've been continuing to have a lot of discussion about staffing and funding the churches in our twenty-two church Team. The future looks encouraging for our five churches, but there's a constant need to resource our activities: our western church-members will be getting a letter about this during the month, and the services in CHQ on the 19th will include an explanation of our current financial situation and needs.

We live in uncertain times politically and economically at present – leaving the European Union for example is the biggest upheaval many of us will have experienced in our lifetimes. The Christian gospel contains both encouragement and challenge as we find our way forward as a society, and as we do so the week-by-week call to worship and serve God in the world is something we're privileged to respond to and to share in our five villages.

John Partington

E-PRAYERS

When people are facing troubles for themselves, their family or friends, many – churchgoers or not – turn to prayer. There is so much evidence of its powers to bring healing and wholeness, although not necessarily a cure, and also of its effectiveness when more people are praying.

From the beginnings of the Christian faith there have been groups that pray for those who ask for this to be done and for other areas of suffering or need.

In these days of the internet and of pressures on time it is hard to get groups together and so a modern alternative is spreading all over the Christian world: E-Prayers, whereby individuals of faith offer to pray in their own homes for those who ask for it. We are gathering a small group together to do just this.

We've set up a confidential email system amongst those willing to pray in this way. So if you would like prayer for yourself or for anyone else, email prayer@cheqs.church with a brief indication of what, or who, you would like prayed for. Feedback about any outcomes would be much welcomed.

We also plan to set up boards in our churches where prayers can be requested; and of course personal requests for prayers are always welcome. If anyone would like to be one of those who pray for others in this way please contact Jane Kidd on jane@colnstaldwyns.com.

LEARNING FROM MARK

Next month we move from Matthew's to Mark's gospel for the majority of our Sunday readings. As in previous years, John Partington will be teaching about the distinctiveness and the themes of the gospel in three sessions (identical – just choose one to come to!): 2.00 pm on Monday 6th in Coln Vicarage, 11.00 am on Tuesday 7th in Ampney Crucis Vicarage, and 7.30 pm on Wednesday 8th in Fairford Community Centre.

HATHEROP VILLAGE TRAVELLING SUPPER

Is taking place on Saturday 11th November 2017. Further details will be sent out soon so please put the date in your diaries.

COUNTY AIR AMBULANCE TRUST CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Friday 1 December at 7.30 pm at Cirencester Parish Church. Guest Readers include Pam Ayres MBE, Jilly Cooper OBE and John Francombe MBE. Also Tewkesbury Abbey Schola Cantorum, soloist Steve Winwood, trumpeter Dr Peter Medland, soprano Nicki Kennedy and contralto Kate Hicks Beach. To book call 01922 618 058 or info@helpappeal.org.uk or go to www.helpappeal.org.uk

QUIET DAY

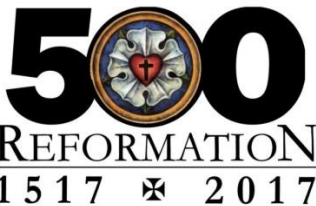
Many of you will remember Rev Michael Hand, who led such a warmly appreciated Good Friday meditation last year. We're very pleased that he's agreed to come and lead a Quiet Day for us next February. Fuller details will be given in the next couple of CHEQS magazines, but please note the following, make and put it in your new 2018 diaries!

QUIET DAY on Tuesday 6 February at Harnhill, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm; cost £10. Liquid refreshment provided, but bring your own lunch – book with Jane Kidd at jane@colnstaldwyns.com.

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING – with stalls for Xmas presents

The next coffee morning will be held on Saturday 11th 10.30 am - 12.00 noon. We will have the normal cakes and raffle etc, but we also have three extra stalls, Bunny's Beads; Neal's Yard Remedies; and Liz Partington will be offering 'mini-makeovers' with her new range of Colour Me Beautiful make-up! An ideal time to start your Christmas shopping or just to treat yourself!

Anyone wishing to contribute cakes, please bring them along – costs will be reimbursed! Contact Janet Goddard, 01285 750323



Learning from the Reformation – a series of three discussions on Tuesday afternoons in the CHEQS group of churches.

All welcome!

NOVEMBER 14

What happened? An overview of the Reformation in church and state, in England and in Europe.

NOVEMBER 21

What was it about? The theology of the Reformation – grace and faith, scripture and authority.

NOVEMBER 28

What are the consequences? How what started then still affects us today – secularism, individualism, humanism. What do you think?

2.00 pm at Coln St Aldwyns Vicarage.

HATHEROP CASTLE SCHOOL

November is a wonderful time to be part of a school community. At the beginning of the month the school, including pupils, families and staff, will gather to celebrate Bonfire Night – a night of spectacular fireworks, raging bonfires and juicy sausages. The sounds of ‘Ooh’s and ‘Ahs’ will fill the air as children and adults gather around the bonfire. A week later we will again gather as a community to take part in our Remembrance Evensong, thinking about those men and woman in the armed forces who have died in the service of our country. As we gather in St Nicholas’ Church we will quietly and respectfully remember the fallen. These two occasions will quite rightly differ in tone and mood; however what they have in common is that we will share the occasion as a community.

Since arriving at Hatherop Castle this September, I have been struck by the community feel, not just at the school but also in the local villages and towns. It is vital that children see themselves as part of a larger, supportive community. As I write, I am thinking about all the opportunities that the children have to work and live together; from the Boarding House, to the choir, to the range of sports teams, as well as the way they learn both inside and outside the classroom. However, learning to be part of a community is not always easy and at times it is important to remind children how to live and work successfully with other people.

Each week the children are asked to think about a different value, which will not only help them develop as an individual but also as a member of the wider community. During November, the pupils have been asked to reflect on what it means to be considerate and appreciative. They have also considered what it means to persevere and be resilient. Values such as this are key to building thoughtful, respectful young people who contribute to the wider community.

As we move towards the excitement of Christmas, we hope that we all remember the value of living as part of a wider community.

John Bond, Deputy Head (Academic) – Hatherop Castle School

HATHEROP WELCOMES

Liz Campbell Winton to Old Post Office; Charles & Janie Phillips to Park Lodge.

LECHLADE HISTORY SOCIETY.

Monday 20th at 7.15pm for 7.30pm in the Pavilion. Fairford Park – A Lost Treasure. The site of an American military hospital during WW11 and then a Polish resettlement camp, Fairford Park was purchased in 1945 by Ernest Cook, grandson of Thomas Cook. Subsequently acquired by Gloucestershire County Council, the house was demolished in 1955 and the site is now occupied by Farmor’s School. Our speaker, Chris Hobson, is a local historian and a committee member of Fairford History Society. Guests very welcome £4. Contact Marian Winckles on 01367 252851 or visit www.lechladehistory.co.uk.

FAIRFORD AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT

Fairford and District Choral Society's winter concert is on Saturday 2 December at St Mary's Church, Fairford. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Wine and soft drinks will be available at the interval. Along with professional soloists, they are performing Vivaldi's Gloria and Haydn's St Nicholas Mass, as well as some shorter pieces.

They will be accompanied by Alison Howell, who will play the magnificent church organ. The concert will be conducted by the society's music director, Marysia Gorska-Saj.

'When we sang Haydn's The Creation this year,' said Carole Noble, the society's Chair, 'it was lovely to read the feedback from a critic, Andrew Wicker. He wrote: "The standard achieved by the choral society was ... impressive" with "great dynamic contrasts". A huge boost for us all. The society enjoys coming together to learn, perform and share beautiful choral music, so we hope the audience really enjoys the programme we have put together for our December concert. Marysia's input is incredible, and we are very lucky to have her as our music director, mentor and conductor.'

Tickets are £15 (£5 for under 18s from Fairford Opticians - 11 High Street, Fairford GL7 4AD, or via www.fairford.org/choralsociety or 01285 713681.



A time of worship and activities in church at 4.00 pm on the 4th Sunday of each month, followed by refreshments.

Nov 26 ~ Hatherop
Dec 24 ~ Quenington
Jan 28 ~ Hatherop
Feb 25 ~ Meysey Hampton
Mar 25 ~ Down Ampney
Apr 22 ~ Hatherop
May 27 ~ Meysey Hampton
Jun 24 ~ Down Ampney
Jul 22 ~ Hatherop

SOUTH COTSWOLDS TEAM MINISTRY

The next CHEQS Family Service will be in Hatherop church at 4.00 pm on November 26th (the 'Feast of Christ the King').



SUNDAY

A time of worship and craft activities will be followed by refreshments.

This is one of a monthly series of '4Families' services in the South Cotswold Team of churches - see overleaf for the next few months' dates, including our Christmas Eve crib service.

HATHEROP C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have just finished Term 1. Harvest Festival was celebrated at Hatherop Church with all children taking part with songs, *Jesus didn't make our sandwiches*, prayers, poems and our traditional gifts from the school garden for the harvest table given by our new Reception. It was rounded off with *We plough the fields and scatter* and a blessing from Revd John Partington.

The Year 6 pupils were treated to a day at Rendcomb College and took part in a Body Percussion Workshop with 160 primary-aged children. Class 1 have been to Lea Wood with the Ernest Cook Trust to look at the autumn colours and make dens. Some children were lucky enough to spot a deer and a hare before they disappeared into the woodland.

We also entered our first sporting event of the year, the Team Cross-Country event at Kingshill where twelve schools competed. Our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils competed with enthusiasm and determination. All teams did really well especially the Year 4 boys' team.

Our Open Morning for prospective parents with children who will start school in September 2018 is on Friday 10th from 9 – 10.30 am. Please ring the school, 01285 750318, if you wish to come.

To stay up to date with the latest news from our school, please look at our website, www.hatherop.gloucs.sch.uk.

QUENINGTON FIREWORKS

Quenington Bulldogs will once again be holding a spectacular Fireworks Night in aid of local causes on Sunday 5th in Godwins Field opposite the village green. Gates open at 6.15 pm, Bonfire lit at 6.45 pm, fireworks after the Archers! Admission and/or exit is by donation; please give as generously as possible. Andrew Butler hot dogs and home-made soup will be sold from the food tent, cash only please.

Please note if coming by car that you should come early and park on the Village Green as efficiently as possible, not just park on the edges. Once the green is full, there is stubble field overflow parking, so please obey stewards directions. DO NOT double park along roads; you will prevent cars arriving and in particular obstruct Emergency Services vehicle routes.

We hope you have an enjoyable evening! No sparklers please, and please observe instructions from stewards at all times.

COLN CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

All members of Coln St Aldwyns congregation are warmly invited to come to the Vicarage for coffee after the (shortened) morning service on Sunday 5th for half an hour's planning of our church's life over the coming months.

WILLIAMSTRIP CRICKET CLUB

The season drew to a close in dramatic fashion with the Home game against Ashton Keynes CC. To the victor go the spoils, the league title and also promotion, to the loser third place and another season in Division 2. Despite the best efforts of the bowling attack (Fred Bayliss 25-1, 8 overs and Steve Reeves 37-2, 8 overs) Ashton Keynes CC set a big total of 236-5 from their 40 overs. Williamstrip CC were chasing the total nicely, with notable scores from Dave Ryland (48) and Steve Reeves (81), before a flurry of wickets put a halt on progress. By the close Williamstrip CC had sadly fallen short of the total by 14 runs (222-9) and the win belonged to Ashton Keynes CC.

Overall it has been a great season and we were unlucky to just miss out on the promotion places. Special mention should go to Steve Reeves who combined not only captaining the side but also winning the league's "Batsmen of the Year" award. Steve and John Reeves also did a brilliant job of making sure we had an excellent wicket to play on each game and special thanks should be given in recognition of their dedication.

With the core of the team all coming from within the CHEQS villages we are a rarity and very lucky to be so well supported and that makes for a good atmosphere both in the dressing room and at the Keeper's Arms after the game. With the club's Family Day being such a success and seeing lots of new faces it is something we hope to repeat in the coming years, with possibly some 6-a-side games or Rounders to try and get you all playing! Thanks again to everyone for all their support and good wishes throughout this season.

ST MARY'S, FAIRFORD – Sunday: 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP), 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Family Service on last of the month), 6.00 pm Choral Evensong (BCP). 'Funday Sunday' 4.00 - 6.00 pm on second Sundays – crafts, games, worship & a cooked tea.

ST LAWRENCE, LECHLADE – Sunday: 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP), 10.00 am Morning Worship with children's activities (HC 1st, 3rd, 5th; Informal 4th, All-Age 2nd); 6.00 am Evening Worship (Evensong 1st, 3rd, 4th; Holy Communion 2nd; Healing 5th). For weekday activities see www.stlawrencelechlade.org.uk

St Lawrence's Lechlade & St Mary's Fairford both celebrate Holy Communion on Thursdays: at 10.00 & 10.30 am respectively. CHEQS residents are warmly welcome!

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY (ROMAN CATHOLIC), FAIRFORD (Horcott Road) – Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil Mass, Sunday 11.00 am Mass (Children's Liturgy of the Word offered whenever possible). For details of other activities, see www.stthomasparish.plus.com or contact Fr Michael Robertson on 01285 712586 or michael.robertson@priest.cliftondiocese.com

FAIRFORD UNITED CHURCH (CONGREGATIONAL/METHODIST) – Sunday: 10.30 am Morning Worship & children's activities. Fairly-traded goods for sale. NB – Sunday 27 August 11.30 am Café Church (more relaxed worship for families).

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH – Sunday 10:30 am Morning Worship (with prayer from 9.45 am); 6:00 pm Evening Worship (2nd & 3rd Sundays) For weekday activities etc see www.lechladebaptistchurch.org

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Sunday 5

8.30 am	Holy Communion	Hatherop	<i>LH</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Southrop	<i>AK</i>
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Coln	<i>JP</i>
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	Eastleach	<i>GL</i>

Sunday 12

10.50 am	Remembrance Service	Hatherop	<i>JP</i>
10.50 am	Remembrance Service	Eastleach	<i>RL</i>
10.50 am	Remembrance Service	Southrop	<i>JE</i>
6.00 pm	Holy Communion	Coln	<i>JP</i>

Sunday 19

8.30 am	Holy Communion	Hatherop	<i>JP</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	Southrop	<i>RS</i>
11.00 am	Holy Communion	Coln	<i>JP</i>
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	Eastleach	<i>JE</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Quenington	<i>MS & JP</i>

Sunday 26 *Christ the King*

11.00 am	Holy Communion	Quenington	<i>JP</i>
11.00 am	Morning Prayer	Eastleach	<i>AC</i>
4.00 pm	Family Service	Hatherop	<i>JP</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Southrop	<i>AC</i>

On the December 3rd our services will be as follows: 8.30 am Holy Communion at Hatherop (JP & RS); 9.30 am Holy Communion at Southrop (AK); 11.00 am Morning Prayer at Eastleach (JE); 6.00 pm Advent Carols at Coln (JP)

KEY TO WORSHIP LEADERS

AC – Andrew Cinnamond; AK – Andrew Kirk; JE – John Exelby; JC – Jonathan Clark;
JP – John Partington; MB – Margaret Bettis; MS – Mike Stranks; RL – Ron Lloyd

SPECIAL SERVICES THIS MONTH

We mark **Remembrance Sunday**, Sunday 12th, in four of our churches, and in three of them the service times are different from usual: there are services of Remembrance at Eastleach, Hatherop and Southrop at 10.50 am, and a service of Holy Communion at Coln at 6.00 pm.

Sunday 26th, the feast of **Christ the King**, is the occasion for a shared Communion service at 11.00 am in Quenington, and then in the afternoon we have the first of our new 4Families Service at Hatherop – 4.00 pm on the 4th Sunday of each month (see details on page 5).

December 3rd is **Advent Sunday**, and we're holding our traditional Advent Carol Service at Coln at 6.00 pm, with the Coln choir providing the music – an occasion not to be missed!

There will be no evening service at Quenington on November 5th on account of the village firework evening, and no morning service on the 12th because of the shared Remembrance Service at Hatherop.

Be sure to look in next month's magazine for details of our Christmas and New Year services!

READINGS, PSALMS, HYMNS & COLOURS

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 5 | (4 Advent) Psalm 43; Hymns 149, 177, 336
1 Thessalonians 2. 1-13; Matthew 24. 1-14 | <i>red</i> |
| 12 | (3 Advent) Psalm 70; Hymns 99, 440, 361
Wisdom 6. 12-16; Matthew 25. 1-13 | <i>red</i> |
| 19 | (2 Advent) Psalm 90. 1-12; Hymns 209, 217, 219
1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11; Matthew 25. 14-30 | <i>red</i> |
| 26 | (Christ the King) Psalm 95. 1-7a; Hymns 148, 433, 139
Ephesians 1. 15-23; Matthew 25. 31-46 | <i>red</i> |
| 3 | (Advent) Psalm 80. 1-7; Hymns 342, 26, 147
1 Corinthians 1. 3-9; Mark 13. 24-37 | <i>purple</i> |

QUENINGTON SOCIETY TALK

The Photographs of Horace W. Nicholls. Earlier this year David Mallinson presented a slide-show of photographs by his grandfather Horace W Nicholls, who is ranked amongst the most important of early English photographers. Such was the response, we are offering a second chance to see these remarkable images.

We see his first assignments in Chile in 1887, turn-of-the-century South Africa and the Boer War, in England the great Edwardian society and sporting occasions and his unique coverage of WW1 on the home front. The pictures are selected from the collections of the Royal Photographic Society at the V&A, the Imperial War Museum and the Horace Nicholls estate.

Quenington Village Hall. Friday 17th 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start. Entrance £3. Refreshments

!! A HUGE THANK YOU !!

The Biggest Coffee Morning in the world event, Macmillan Cancer Support, was held at Quenington on Saturday. We raised **£530**, absolutely fantastic. This could not have been achieved without the many donations of cake, raffle prizes, the massive amount of help we received from friends and of course, you coming on the day and giving. Bunny and Jan thank you all and hope to see you next year!

QUENINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Volunteers needed to help with Parish Plan: the Quenington Parish Plan is due for review and volunteers are needed to help with this process, which involves working with councillors to refresh the existing plan and to prepare a new consultation for residents to have their say. The current Plan is available on www.queningtonpc.com: please contact the clerk on queningtonpc@gmail.com or 01285 750000 if you would like to be involved.

New Speed Indicator Device: A second 'smily SID' device has been bought for use in Quenington and Honeycombe Leaze. It is hoped that this will encourage drivers to slow down when entering the village and has been part-funded by a grant from the Police Commissioner's Fund.

QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

September Winners: 1st No 61 C Huckle 2nd No 14 A Goddard 3rd No 25 S Lawrence.

New members are always welcome. Numbers cost £12 for the year (pro rata if joining half way through the year) and all profits go towards the Village Hall funds. Contact David Bostock on 01285 750456 for more information.

COTSWOLD WAY CENTURY RACE

Over the weekend of 23/24 September, Coln St Aldwyns' Rob Forbes shattered the record for running the Cotswold Way. Often seen out pushing a buggy while pounding the streets of CHEQS, all those miles of preparation certainly paid off as he finished the grueling 102-mile footpath in an astonishing 17hrs 34mins. Setting off from Chipping Campden at 12 noon, Rob started at a blistering pace and was reaching the race checkpoints, dotted along the route, before volunteers had even arrived to open them. On reaching Bath, Rob was accompanied for the last few miles by his wife Helen and arrived at Bath Abbey still in darkness with the rest of the 130-strong field many hours behind.

With Richard Hurdle coming 9th and James White 14th, both achieving a much coveted sub-24hr time, it was a great performance by our small collection of villagers over our local National Trail.

PRE-CHRISTMAS CEILIDH AND BARN DANCE

Saturday 25th at 7.00 pm in Southrop Village Hall.

Dancing to BANSHEE, a brilliant ceilidh / barn-dance band with expert guidance for beginners and the more experienced. For examples of their music and more info about them, see www.banshee.org.uk. Open to adults and children old enough to join in, but book early as space will be limited. Doors open at 7.00 pm, Dancing from 7.30 to 11.30 pm. Cash Bar and The Cotswold Chippy will be there so you can buy a Fish & Chip Supper. Entry £7.00 Adults, £4.00 16 yrs and under. All proceeds to the Southrop Village Hall 2025 renovation project. For tickets contact Caroline Simmons 01367 850171 or Hugh Elford 01367 850048 or email southropvillagehall@gmail.com. Thanks for your support.

COLN CINEMA

invites you to a showing “*Their Finest*” –Vicarage Cottage Barn, Friday 3rd at 7.30 pm. (doors open 7.00 pm.)

The year is 1940, London. With the nation bowed down by war, the British ministry turns to propaganda films to boost morale at home. Realising their films could use “a woman’s touch”, the ministry hires Catrin Cole (Gemma Arterton) as a scriptwriter in charge of writing the female dialogue. Although her artist husband looks down on her job, Catrin’s natural flair quickly gets her noticed by cynical, witty lead scriptwriter Buckley (Sam Claflin). Catrin and Buckley set out to make an epic feature film based on the Dunkirk rescue starring the gloriously vain, former matinee idol Ambrose Hilliard (Bill Nighy). As bombs are dropping all around them, Catrin, Buckley and their colourful cast and crew work furiously. *Cert 12A 117 mins.*



The League of Friends of Fairford Hospital *News and Information*

Members of the League have voted to change their name and upgrade their charitable status to reflect their work better.

The Friends, who are to become known as the Friends of Fairford & Lechlade Communities, provide health and social care within Fairford, Lechlade and the surrounding villages. This includes a Home Nursing Team providing end-of-life care, patients' transport and a range of other services and funding that supports the local community. Members consider that the present name does not reflect accurately the widespread work that they do.

“There is still a perception by a large number of people that our services are mainly associated with supporting Fairford Hospital,” said League Chairman Graham Hewitt. “This does not help promote the work that is actually being done. Ninety-five percent of our work is focused on the community and only five percent within Fairford Hospital, which is now an Outpatients Clinic.

“A name change will reflect better the work we do, will reduce confusion and should further strengthen the support we have in the community” said Graham. The League will continue to strongly support Fairford Hospital, as it is an extremely valuable facility. They aim to introduce the name change next year.

At the same time as changing its name the League will change its charitable status. At present it is an Unincorporated Organisation. With the responsibilities that the League has the Charity Commission recommend operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, providing a better platform for delivering the services.

Further information from Graham Hewitt 01285 851022; graham.hewitt@yahoo.co.uk

Our communities raised a magnificent total of £20,379, including Gift Aid, during this year's **House-to-House** event. Thank you to all our volunteer co-ordinators, collectors and supporters.

DIARY DATE: CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Saturday 18 November at Fairford Community Centre 10.00am - 12.00 noon. Christmas cards, raffle tickets, cake sales, books, bottle and gift stalls. Refreshments will be available. (**Raffle tickets** can also be bought at our Charity Shop in Lechlade with a first prize of £100 cash and many more prizes from local businesses. League of Friends Christmas Cards are also available to purchase from the shop in Lechlade.)

If you need further information about The League of Friends please contact Christine Barker on 07767 408409 or email fairford.lof@hotmail.co.uk.

Your continued support is very much appreciated

COLN COMMUNITY STORES – A PLEA AND A PARTY

Friends, Cheqers, Countrymen, lend me your ears! I come not to bury the Coln Community Stores but to praise them (“they were all of them fond of quotations”). The Stores are a tremendous asset, not only to the villagers to whom this is addressed, but to many who come from much further afield on bicycles or on foot as well, as the lunch-seekers working locally. Not only can you buy your paper, your magazines, your bread, your vegetables, your cold meats, even fresh fish once a fortnight, but you can indulge in an array of sweets, crisps, nuts and ice creams to satisfy any child coming out of school (and if you disapprove of that, let me say that there are a large number who don’t) not to mention alcoholic refreshment for the last-minute party-goer. For the discriminating there are about seventeen different flavours of water to tempt you. I haven’t even mentioned the Post Office: I can attest to the weight of sacks carried out to the postman’s van. The Café is hugely popular: mother’s meetings; committee meetings; the Tour de France regularly calls.

While interment is not imminent the future of the Stores hangs in a delicate balance. It is a non-profit-making organisation whose income is calculated to keep the enterprise afloat. The only paid staff are the Manager (on Maternity leave) and three assistant managers (one currently off sick) who are all obliged to work longer hours than they are paid for. What makes it possible is the contribution of **volunteers**. These characters – you may have spotted one or two – regularly or intermittently turn up to serve at the counter, help in the café, prepare food for the café – the profits from which are crucial to the whole operation’s viability – look after the garden, even run the Post Office. Without them *the shop would close*. The trouble is: **there are not enough of them**.

So, please, would you think about offering to help? You don’t have to make a regular commitment or go on a rota; you can choose to work for as long or as briefly as you like (I sometimes go in to buy something and spend twenty minutes behind the till when I can see things are busy.) I understand someone recently said “Oh I can do invoices”: perfect. None of it is difficult (if you can’t understand the till you can always hit it or burst into tears; no one will mind) and it is fun, and it will keep the Stores alive.

Actually, don’t just think about it; decide to give it a go! To this end, anyone who would like to learn more, come to our Volunteers’ Party at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 21st (in Nigel Hugh-Smith’s barn) and hear from those of us who do volunteer what it’s like and maybe, just maybe, join us. If there are enough people we might have a sandwich-making competition, a stamp-licking relay or even a stocking-the-milk-fridge 100-yard dash. Whatever: it will be bonhomie – and *might keep the Coln Community Stores open*.

LOCAL TRADE DIRECTORY – to advertise in this magazine call 01285 750260

<p>BUILDERS Michael Rixon & Roofing Ltd - Building, roofing, Cotswold stone tiling, property maintenance email: rixbuild@btinternet.com White Monk Ltd. – Building Contractors</p>	<p>01285 750517 01285 750034</p>
<p>CARPENTERS AND CABINET MAKERS T J Sallis Carpentry - Fully qualified carpenter/joiner (m) 07973 142948</p>	<p>01285 750438</p>
<p>CHIMNEY SWEEP Simon Bishop - Open fires, Agas, Rayburns, solid fuel appliances, wood-burning stoves. Cows supplied & fitted. Wood burners installed. Gutters cleared.</p>	<p>01367 252617 07931 671674</p>
<p>COLOUR & STYLE CONSULTANCY Liz Partington, Colour Me Beautiful consultant: colour analysis, style consultation, wardrobe edit, personal shopping, bridal consultation, men's colour. <i>liz@cotswolds.style</i></p>	<p>07800 744787</p>
<p>COMPLEMENTARY THERAPISTS Karen Benbow – Reflexology & The Bowen Technique in Southrop & Fairford. Contact Karen for a discussion or to book a treatment. <i>www.karenbenbow.co.uk</i> Sally Peachey Reiki – Relaxing massage, Reiki or Crystal Therapy treatments: excellent for stress relief, boosting energy levels and helping recover from illness and injuries.</p>	<p>01367 850874 07786 971041 07905 236916</p>
<p>COMPUTER SERVICES Computer Solutions – Iain Atkins – Personal service for all your IT issues</p>	<p>01285 750277</p>
<p>DENTAL SURGEON Dr Oliver Guy BDS (GDC reg79562) – Family dental care, cosmetic and laser-assisted dentistry. Teeth whitening, implant restorations and clear braces. Market Place Dental Practice, Cirencester</p>	<p>01285 652200</p>
<p>DOMESTIC SERVICE Strong's Oil-fired Boiler and AGA Services, maintenance and repair</p>	<p>01285 750344</p>
<p>DRY STONE WALLING Another Brick In The Wall – Qualified dry stone wallers, mortared walls, archways, paving and slabbing. Ben & Peter Bicknell – <i>peter.bicknell@tiscali.co.uk</i> Mike Harris – dry stone walling</p>	<p>01285 711267 07910 244519 01285 750525 07810 888070</p>
<p>EAST GLOS ENGINEERING is pleased to support CHEQS magazine. Garden machinery repairs, tools, welding, iron goods made to specification etc.</p>	<p>01285 712322</p>
<p>FIREWOOD – Will's Logs - Local sustainably-sourced firewood and kindling for sale. Seasoned hardwood <i>eg</i> oak, thorn, ash delivered in 1 cubic metre bags. Free local delivery</p>	<p>07771 867767</p>
<p>FLOORING Graham Ford Flooring – Carpets and vinyl supplied, own carpets fitted and cleaned</p>	<p>01285 657439</p>
<p>GARDEN SERVICES Keith Ford – ponds, pruning & hedge cutting, sheds re-felted, walls wired for climbers. The Garden & Plant Company –Design & Landscaping. <i>info@gardenandplantco.com</i> AJ Arborists – tree surgery & Arboricultural Consultancy – Alasdair Jeffrey <i>www.ajarborists.co.uk</i> Chris Scotford—Garden Maintenance: Lawn care, strimming, hedgerow cutting, leaf clearance, general handyman work, clearing and tidying -</p>	<p>01285 750406 01285 712663 01285 750874 07541 489582</p>

GENERAL STORES Coln Stores & Post Office. Mon-Fri 7.00 am - 6.00 pm; Sat 8.00 am - 4.30 pm (2.00 pm in winter); Sunday 9.00 am - 4.00 pm (1.00 pm in winter). Southrop Community Shop & Post Office. Weds 8.30 am-11.30 am in Village Hall.	01285 750294
GROUNDWORKS - SN Complete Groundworks – Drainage, Driveways, Fencing, Patios etc.	01367 850717 07738 937697
HOME DECORATING A. Tilling – Interior and Exterior D J Morley Fairford M Byfield – Interior and Exterior decorator <i>interiorworx@btinternet.com; 07876 558400</i>	01285 810624 01285 713802 01367 850768
HOME HELP – YVONNE LEWIS Jobs in and around the home, pets to vet, help on internet, taking and collecting deliveries	07922 103532
IRONING – IRONED OUT GLOS – Local ironing service, collection and delivery <i>www.facebook.com/ironedoutglos</i>	07718 624228
LAND & ESTATE AGENTS – Moore Allen & Innocent – Property Consultants & Managers, Land and Estate Agents, Auctioneers and Chartered Surveyors	01285 651831 01367 252541
MOLE CONTROL Traditional Molecatcher: no mole, no fee. Qualified and fully insured with references.	01285 770968 07766 132934
OVEN CLEANING Cotswold Oven Valeting Ltd – professional cleaning of all ovens (incl. AGAs), hobs, extractors and microwaves	01367 850522
PERSONAL TRAINER Personal Training Available 7 Days A Week – Lose weight, tone up, get fitter, improve your health and fitness. <i>www.falconhealthandfitness.co.uk</i>	01285 656986 07794 614962
PICTURE FRAMING ALS Picture Framing , Cirencester – established 1987	01285 659416
PLATES-A-PLENTY - Crockery, cutlery, glassware and linen hire	07974 785437
PUBLIC HOUSES AND RESTAURANTS The New Inn, Coln St. Aldwyns , Charlotte Close The Keepers Arms, Quenington , Jon, Verity and Michelle The Swan at Southrop , Lydia Sheehan	01285 750651 01285 750349 01367 850205
SOLICITORS Wilmot & Co , 38 Castle Street, Cirencester	01285 650551
SPORTS AND REMEDIAL MASSAGE - Rachael Rodia ITEC dip, MFHT - Relieve muscular aches and pains, prevent injury and alleviate symptoms from poor posture <i>www.rachaelrodiamassage.co.uk, rachael.rodia@yahoo.co.uk</i>	07769 656932
TV PROBLEMS?? Call Aardvark Aerials & Satellite. TV aerials, Satellite, new TV points. Fully insured. <i>www.aardvarkaerials.co.uk</i>	01285 800041
TENNIS AND FOOTBALL COACH Matt Townsend - LTA Licensed coach, Schools, Clubs and private lessons for adults and children of all ages	07850 043056
WINDOWS Paradise Windows - UPVC Windows and doors, 10 yr guarantee Coln Valley Glazing – Steve Winney, Quenington. Replacement of misted or broken glass units	01367 850188 01285 750553 0776 5780772
YOGA / EXERCISE 1) Contact Anne Sutherland – <i>ann@yogaspring.co.uk</i> for classes at Oxleaze, Langford and Coln Rogers. For more info <i>www.yogaspring.co.uk</i> 2) Tai Chi – phone Heather	01608 643059 01285 750751

CHEQS DIARY

- Nov 3 7.00 pm Coln Cinema
- Nov 5 6.15 pm Quenington Fireworks
- Nov 6 2.00 pm 'Learning from Mark' at Coln Vicarage
- Nov 7 11.00 am 'Learning from Mark' at Ampney Crucis Rectory
- Nov 8 7.30 pm 'Learning from Mark' at Fairford Community Centre
- Nov 10 9.00 am Hatherop C of E Primary School Open Morning
- Nov 11 Hatherop Village Travelling Supper
- Nov 11 10.30 pm Quenington Village Hall Coffee Morning
- Nov 12 Remembrance Sunday – special services
- Nov 17 7.00 pm Quenington Society Talk
- Nov 18 10.00 am Christmas Bazaar at Fairford Community Centre
- Nov 20 7.15 pm Lechlade History Society
- Nov 21 7.00 pm Coln Stores Volunteers Party
- Nov 25 7.00 pm Pre Christmas Ceilidh and Barn Dance – Southrop V/Hall
- Nov 29 6.00 pm CHQ PCC
- Dec 1 7.30 pm County Air Ambulance Trust Christmas Concert
- Dec 2 7.30 pm Fairford and District Choral Society Concert
- Dec 3 6.00 pm Advent Carols at Coln church
- Dec 17 6.00 pm Christmas Carol Service at Coln church
- Dec 24 4.00 pm Crib Service (i) at Quenington church
- 4.00 pm Crib Service at Southrop church
- 5.30 pm Crib Service (ii) at Quenington church
- 11.15 pm Midnight Communion at Coln church
- Dec 25 9.30 am Christmas Communion at Quenington church
- 11.00 am Christmas Communion at Hatherop church
- Feb 6 10.00 am CHQ Parish Quiet Day at Harnhill
- Feb 14 12 noon Ash Wednesday service in Fairford
- 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday service in Lechlade
- Mar 25 *British Summer Time begins*