



for St Mary's, Burwell with St Etheldreda and the Holy Trinity, Reach

A Symbol of God's Presence

From Thursday 1st August, to Wednesday 14th August, in Ely Cathedral Lady Chapel, there will be an exhibition of banners and other memorabilia from across the Ely Diocese to celebrate the work of the Mothers' Union. Mothers' Union banners can be found in many parish churches, including St Mary's, and are often paraded at special services like Lady Day, Mary Sumner Day, and Commissioning Services. Their history goes back decades and the banners feature a skilled quality and variety of needlework.



In advance of the exhibition, the Burwell banner has been cleaned and refurbished by Pauline Miller so that it can be displayed in its full glory. We are very grateful to Pauline for her loving, careful work which has safeguarded the banner for more years ahead.

At the 10.00am service on 28th July, the Burwell banner was rededicated, to continue to be a symbol of God's presence and a reminder of his love and grace. We prayed that those who carry it may be inspired to serve the Lord faithfully and proclaim his name with joy, that all who look upon the banner may be blessed and drawn closer to God.

*With the banner are
Revd Paula Spalding, Diocesan MU Chaplain,
Pauline Miller,
Philip Baker, MU branch leader,
Hazel Williams, Diocesan MU President.*



FUN FRIDAYS

Friday mornings at St Mary's

10.00am - 12.00pm

26th July - 23rd August

Activities for all ages. Refresh Café toddler area

Refreshments including simple sandwich lunch

Free, donations welcome



**From the
Parish Registers
Funerals**
Joan White
Jane Bulleid



**Statement on 15th July 2024
from the Archbishop of Canterbury
on process to appoint next
Bishop of Ely**

Very sadly, at the conclusion of a lengthy process of discernment, culminating in two days of interviews on 11 and 12 July, the Crown Nominations Commission considering the nomination of the next Bishop of Ely has not been able reach the level of consensus required to nominate a new Diocesan Bishop.

Over the course of the next months, the Crown Nominations Commission will need to reflect, and make a decision about which stage it wishes to re-commence the discernment process. This is not likely to be before the Spring of 2025. Together with the Archbishop of York and others, there will also need to be a period of reflection on the implications of this decision on the Church of England more generally.

I will be speaking with Bishop Dagmar Winter, the Bishop of Huntingdon, in order to understand from her the best way of supporting the Diocese of Ely and her episcopal ministry in the coming months. Please continue to hold the Diocese of Ely and the discernment of the Crown Nominations Commission in your prayers.

**A Future Date for your Diary
Re-imagined, Concert
by the New Cambridge Singers**
Featuring music by Vaughan Williams
and the Tudor Revival
Saturday 9th November 2024
7.30pm
St Mary's Church, Burwell

St Vigor's Church, Fulbourn
Sunday 22nd Sep 2024
Rehearsal 4pm/Service 6pm

**Come & Sing
Choral Evensong**
Directed by David Poulter

Stanford, Beati Quorum Via
Ayleward Preces and Responses
Murrill, Evening Service in E
Stanford, Te Deum in Bb

All welcome
Music and Refreshments
provided

Please contact the Choir Administrator for more details and
to reserve your place by 8th September
fulbournchoirs@gmail.com

Gardening Group

Do you enjoy spending time outdoors, in beautiful, peaceful surroundings? Do you have a small amount of time available for volunteering?

We at St Mary's Church would really appreciate some help with a number of gardening job, including maintaining the paths which run through the churchyard. We are seeking to do this without the use of harmful chemicals, so this involves the use of a kneeler and hand tools, to dig out the plants which are seeking to colonise the gravel.

Please contact Caroline Smith on 07923 239934 and we will arrange a small work party in the first instance.



Reflection by Philip Baker

A recent Sunday sermon concerned God’s amazing Grace – how, through the death of His Son, Jesus, on the Cross, we are all eligible for eternal life with Him. I thank God every day that I believe in this incredible gift, given freely to us, and that God knows me by name and is expecting me at some time in the future.

But I could not help but contrast this generous gift, this joy, with the state of the world today; how some people can reject all that is on offer to satisfy some personal need to do things which are so totally at odds with the nature of our loving God. There is hatred for those who do not share our thoughts, intolerance for anyone not conforming to our view. There is oppression by totalitarian regimes, a “leader takes all” mentality. Everywhere there is violence by the strong over the weak. Thoughts which culminated in the moment that someone attempted to assassinate Donald Trump – not a nice man (in my view) but not deserving of murder. Even within our mother church there is an inability to find a will to meet and compromise in other views, such that no Bishop could be appointed to Ely. Where, in all this, is evidence that the words of Jesus in John’s account chapter 13:34 - “A new command I give you: Love

one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”?

This disparity between the ideals of love and tolerance versus the actions we see seem too great for us to overcome. But if we all, individually, reject these views then collectively we can make a difference. The big issues will take time, but we can straightaway make adjustments to our own lives as a start. We can forgive that driver who is discourteous instead of feeling annoyed by him (or her). In our daily lives we can ignore those who seek to provoke disharmony – like all such people they will soon give up if their efforts meet with no response. We can work to recognise that people are truly diverse in every conceivable way – God made us that way – and that everyone has a God-given right to be what they are and not be a copy of what we are.

Best of all, we can hold an image in our minds of how Jesus would have responded in any given situation and follow the command He gave us – “As I have loved you, so you must love one another”.

PS – your homework this month is to read the prayer ascribed to St Francis. Speak to me if you cannot find a copy.

Philip Baker



Burwell Branch Update

Unusually the Burwell Branch has not met since the last copy of Contact, as we have postponed our July meeting to August 9th, when we will be going to the Cathedral to view the Exhibition of Banners (including ours, newly rededicated on Sunday 28th July) and join in the service for our founder, Mary Sumner. On Wednesday 7th August we will be attending the morning service of Holy Communion and then going on to the Day Centre for lunch. Doing this in July was so successful that it is being introduced as a regular item in our calendar. I remind all members of our church community that they are welcome to join us, just let me know in advance if possible (I need to know if you wish to come to the Day Centre lunch as we need to pre-order).
Philip Baker

Environment Advocate

We are very grateful to Kathy Ogilvie for all that she has contributed as the parish Environment Advocate. Kathy is taking a step back, so we are looking for someone else to take over this role. Kathy has written an article for Contact each issue (about 10 per year) and makes displays of posters and discussion points at events at St Mary’s. She has also helped with applications for Eco Church awards. Please contact Eleanor to find out more.



Memories of Joan White

Joan Lilian White was born on 25 August, 1925. She died 10 July, 2024, aged 98. We are very grateful to her family for allowing us to use this account of Joan's life, with our other memories of a very special lady.

Joan Lilian White, born and raised in Burwell, peacefully passed away on July 10, 2024, in her remarkable 99th year of life. She was a loving mother to Marian, Julie and Nigel, a grandma to Barrie, Jason, William and Sarah and a great-grandma to Cory. Her passing truly brings the end of an era. She was faithful to Burwell, a familiar face at church, and was known all around, from her kindness and peaceful presence to her signature sponges and pies.

Born in 1925 to the Clarks, Joan was the youngest of eight brothers and sisters. She remembered her childhood years as always being outside and having plenty of freedom in the fields of Gravel Pit Farm. 'We all had a happy childhood', she wrote, 'we didn't have much money but we were always fed well.' Joan would say that it was her 'daily 1 ½ mile walk to school, in all weathers', that made her so fit and strong in older age. In a time of no TV and little entertainment, she would often say, 'we had to make do in those days', and that everyone 'made their own fun!'

Joan left school at the advent of World War II in 1939. Her first job was on the Clark farm, growing vegetables and rearing rabbits, chickens and pheasants for the family meals. By Christmas time the same year, it was clear the war was not over and would continue for another five years. Yet, as Joan would recall, there was always space for fond moments, such as the friendships she formed with the children evacuated from London. Life at this time presented many obstacles, with one being food rationing, but Joan kept up her family's years of resilience and home-cooked meals. When the government issued a clothes ration, Joan's delicate handmade creations came to prove one of



the most useful skills, and from then on she'd knit, sew and crochet through her life. She said, 'I always liked dressmaking, I made my own wedding dress and bridesmaid's by lamp light.' Joan had made most of her children's clothes, and continued this tradition up until the end, knitting bonnets, boots and cardigans for new-borns at the Rosie Maternity Hospital.

The war still left its deeper marks on the Clark family. As Burwell's men began to leave, Joan was the last to see her brother, Albert, before he left with the Royal Cambridgeshire Regiment. With the fall of Singapore in 1942, they were captured by the Japanese and taken as prisoners of war, where Albert worked on the Burma Railway Project in Thailand. Eight months later, he sadly died. Personal peace made its way to Joan, as some sixty years later, she travelled to Thailand to find Albert's grave. She made her way by taxi to Kanchanaburi, near to the Burma border and famous for its bridge over the river Kwai. On a sunlit evening, Joan is seen by photo sitting beside Albert's grave, with a few young local girls she had made friends with along the way. We hope these girls remember the day an elderly lady travelled a very long way to see her brother's resting place. Since she was the last to see Albert, she was the first to return to him.

After her first job on the farm, an 18 year-old Joan was called up for active service, and began her nursing years as an Auxiliary Nurse in Brampton Hospital. She used to confidently say that on her days off, she would hitch-hike between Burwell and Brampton a distance of twenty miles! After her training, Joan transferred to the Newmarket White Lodge and continued as an Auxiliary Nurse, helping to care for the British and American soldiers, and German and Italian prisoners of war.

Lighter times eventually came, and as the war ended in 1945, Joan left her nursing to work at the iconic Chivers Jam Factory in Histon. Here, she worked in its administration department and became an expert jam jar opener!

One day on a trip to Great Yarmouth, Joan met the love of her life, Leslie Claude White. He was a dashing young man from London, travelling to visit his parents who had been evacuated to Burwell during the war. Leslie, a true cockney, was a former intelligence officer and had been severely wounded from the 1942 Battle of El Alamein. Having missed a gun-shot wound to his heart by inches, he saw the opportunity and it was love at first sight; after only a letter and a date, 'he was the one.' The courtship blossomed and the summer of '47 was spent walking the fields around Burwell and going to the cinema. Leslie soon proposed after one year and the marriage was sealed on a hot July's day in 1948 at St Mary's Church. They spent their honeymoon in Hastings, and, from then on, Leslie would eventually concede to whatever Joan wanted after a day spent sulking in the shed!

It was the swinging sixties, and, best of all, the White family was the first in their street to get a TV (they became very popular down that street, and it would later become Joan's favourite pastime, ever!) The effects of rationing were still there, as well as a housing shortage, but Joan was a success at building up a home for her family. She won people's hearts with her Sunday lunches and having many weekly visitors. As a mum, she was always there when needed and kept a never-ending supply of food on the table, just as she

remembered her own mother did.

Joan never stopped, and always showed that it was better late than never. At 52, she passed her driving test after eight attempts, and kept up her love of driving well into her nineties. She learnt how to swim and line dance and was a member of the Burwell Women's Institute and Mother's Union. She loved Knit and Natter on a Friday and avidly supported the Cambridge organisations in helping the fellow hard of hearing. Joan's 'never say never' attitude saw her travel the world to visit family, from Hong Kong to Dubai – and, of course, she never missed out on a Gredley coach trip.

One special memory of Joan is about her cake making. She always made a superb sponge cake for monthly Mothers' Union meetings and I remember her saying it always went into a cold oven to bake. This was against everything I was ever taught but worked!
Hazel Williams

To me she was a real gentlewoman – a lady in the old-fashioned sense. Always calm, willing and friendly.
Philip Baker

I recall the occasion when Joan asked if I was attending the Reach Dementia Choir evening and, if so, could I take her and her friend Pat along. I hadn't planned to go however having given it some thought I phoned Joan and said I would pick up her and Pat and we would go over to Reach for a girls Saturday night out! It was a lovely evening and I know Joan had a wonderful time joining in with the songs and chatting with friends. Joan brought a smile to everyone she met and enjoyed life to its fullest.
Sarah Wingate

Words that come to mind about Joan are faithful, generous, brave. During the Covid lockdowns, Joan mastered 'Zoom' so that she could still attend our online services.. Sometimes it was just the top of her head, but she was there!
Eleanor Williams

Years ago when she was 64, I asked Joan if she would like to read in church. She was delighted and said: "no-one has ever asked me that before". She became an excellent reader, continuing on the rota for many years.
John Hooper

CentrePeace



38a The Causeway, Burwell

It's still amazing to think that some people aren't aware of CentrePeace, as we've been in the little shop next to Charlie's Chippy for 18 years now! Set up by St Mary's church and run entirely by volunteers, we sell good quality second hand books and jigsaws and a range of greetings cards. We also provide a place for people to drop in for a chat and to get to know each other. We can offer you a free cup of tea or coffee and our wonderful volunteers will make you very welcome. You don't have to buy anything, but if you do, the books are just £1, or 50p for children's books.

Over the years, many firm friendships have started in CentrePeace, between volunteers who work together and also between the volunteers and regular customers. We all get together a couple of times a year as you can see in the picture below, taken at our recent summer party. If you'd like to volunteer, please call in at the shop for an application form.



CentrePeace Opening Times

| | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 10.00am—12.30pm |
| Wednesday | 2.00pm—4.00pm |
| Thursday | 10.00am—12.30pm 1.00pm—3.00pm |
| Friday | 10.00am—12.30pm |
| Saturday | 10.00am—12.30pm |



Summer Holiday Offer!

2 free books every week for all children

All children are invited to collect a voucher from CentrePeace that entitles them to 2 free books every week during the school holidays.

After you have read the books you are welcome to keep them, or you can bring them back for someone else to read.

Recommendations welcome!

If you or your child would like to recommend a book bought in CentrePeace, particularly if you've now returned it for others to read, please write a short review about it and send it to pat@patchtcs.co.uk, we'll try to include it in the next edition of Contact.

World of Books Saving books from Landfill

We always welcome donations of books, no matter what condition. We only sell those in good condition, but those we can't sell are passed on to World of Books.

This organization buys books from charities like us, and sells many of them online, raising funds to support literacy projects around the world and to save books from going to landfill. Last year they saved over 36,000 tonnes of books from going to waste, of which we contribute over 100kg every week! It's worth visiting their website, <https://www.wob.com/>, to read their Impact report—and also to buy any books you can't find in CentrePeace.

Burwell Food Support Group
Pop-up Pantry & Ely Foodbank
working together
to support our local community
at Burwell Day Centre
Fridays 2.00 - 3.00pm

Pop-up Pantry is working towards reducing waste and offers short life food and more as is available.

Donations towards the Pantry are gratefully received and can be dropped off at the Day Centre.

A voluntary contribution of £2 is helpful towards running costs.

Ely Foodbank provides food for 3 days and can help with issues such as benefit changes, low incomes and more.

Citizen Advice join the team on 1st Friday of month.

If you require help from the Foodbank please ring 01353 468626

or email info@ely.foodbank.org.uk

Burwell Food Support Group links individuals and groups working to support those in need in our community, and includes Burwell Help Group, Open Arms, St Mary's Church, Burwell Baptist Church, Burwell & District Day Centre, Burwell Co-op



Burwell Food Support Group
Pop-Up Pantry & Ely Foodbank
working together to support
our local community



Calling gardeners and allotment holders!

Have you got a glut of produce?
 Would you like to share it, rather than see it go to waste?

Please drop off on **Fridays** before 1pm at St Mary's or before 2pm at Burwell Day Centre
THANK YOU!

OPENING OF OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS

Both of our churches are open to the public every day, except when there is another event, such as a wedding or a funeral.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

We have a number of small groups meeting during the week. Ask Eleanor for details.

Thursday 9.00am Morning Prayer in St Mary's

Fridays 10.00am Refresh Café in St Mary's *For pre-school children with their parents & carers*

Saturday 9.00am The Green Prayer Group (at Village Green Coffee Shop)

More information in our regular emails to families and on our Messy Church and Refresh


Facebook page: www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell. Join the mailing list via with

our Keeping in Touch online form. St Mary's Burwell with St Etheldreda's Reach |

[Keeping in Touch \(stmarysburwell.org.uk\)](http://Keeping in Touch (stmarysburwell.org.uk))

WORSHIP AT HOME ONLINE *Join us to pray, to worship, to share together*

Most weeks, we aim to live stream the 10am service on Facebook, apart from Café Church and when there is a baptism.



Churches Together in Burwell has a regular slot on Burwell Radio called 'Cross Talk' on Sundays 8.30am and repeated at 4.30pm Sunday and 7.00pm Monday. To listen you can either go to the station's website <https://burwell.radio>, or play via an Amazon Echo smart speaker.

What's on in our churches in July

Please check the weekly news sheet for updates or our website. Refreshments are served after the 10am Sunday service and our Wednesday midweek service. Café Church is usually on first Sunday of month, beginning with refreshments, themed activities for all ages, then a short service.

| Date | St Mary's Burwell | St Etheldreda's Reach |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Wednesday 31st July | 10.30am Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 1st August | 9.00am Morning Prayer | |
| Friday 2nd August | 10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch | |
| Sunday 4th August Trinity 10 | 10.00am Café Church | 8.30am Holy Communion |
| Wednesday 7th August | 10.30am Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 8th August | 9.00am Morning Prayer | |
| Friday 9th August | 10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch | |
| Sunday 11th August Trinity 11 | 10.00am Holy Communion | |
| Wednesday 14th August | <i>10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court</i> | 10.30am Holy Communion |
| Thursday 15th August | 9.00am Morning Prayer | |
| Friday 16th August | 10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch | |
| Sunday 18th August Trinity 12 | 8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion | |
| Wednesday 21st August | 10.30am Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 22nd August | 9.00am Morning Prayer | |
| Friday 23rd August | 10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch | |
| Sunday 25th August Trinity 13 | 10.00am Holy Communion | |
| Wednesday 28th August | 10.30am Holy Communion | |
| Thursday 29th August | 9.00am Morning Prayer | |
| Friday 30th August | *NO REFRESH CAFÉ TODAY* | |
| Sunday 1st September Trinity 14 | 10.00am Café Church | 8.30am Holy Communion |

Activities for Children and Young People and their Families

Sunday Mornings @ St Mary's

Families, children and young people are welcome at all our services. Café Church is once a month.

Refresh Café

Every Friday 10.00-11.45am

For toddlers & babies & their parents and carers. Free play, crafts, refreshments, with nursery rhymes, songs and a short bible story, followed by a simple lunch.

Messy Church and Café

Events for families and children of all ages, often on Sunday afternoons, and sometimes meeting outdoors in the churchyard. Also cafés in school holidays with games and activities, drinks and snacks, for children and families..

Eleanor sends out a regular update email to families. If you'd like to join the mailing list, fill in the Keeping in Touch form on our website.

Supporting St Mary's and St Etheldreda's

Could you support the work of our church by making a donation? There are various ways to do this.

At one of our services or events, you can give cash or a cheque, made payable to 'Burwell PCC' or use the card reader.

Alternatively, go to our website

www.stmarysburwell.org.uk/donate

for information about how to make a single or regular donation by credit or debit card.

You can also download forms to set up a Standing Order or a Gift Aid declaration.

For more details, please see our website or speak to our Gift Aid Officer, Ian Richards or Email:

administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Vicar

Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams

22 Isaacson Road 01638 741262

vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Associate Priest

Rev'd Paula Spalding 07849 936085

associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Duty days Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

Curate

Rev'd Virginia Moggridge 07566 773020

curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk

Day off Monday

Priests in retirement

Rev'd David King

Rev'd Dr Roger Williams

Licensed Lay Minister

Jo Proctor

Churchwardens

Stephen Martin 01638 742667

Wendy Smith 01638 741888

Churchwardens' Assistant

Caroline Smith

We're also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/messychurchburwell>

<https://www.facebook.com/centrepeaceburwell>

Keeping in Touch

During the coronavirus outbreak we started sending the pew sheet by email and phoning and posting information to those without Internet access. Both the pew sheet and Contact are also available to download from our website: "["Contact" Magazine - St Mary's Burwell with St Etheldreda's Reach \(stmarysburwell.org.uk\)](http://www.stmarysburwell.org.uk)

QR code for church website home page



We welcome your contributions to Contact. Please do keep sending them! Send to Pat Chalmers, Contact Editor at pat@patchtcs.co.uk

To join the circulation list please fill in a Keeping in Touch form available in our churches or on our website