



# contact

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

## A lot going on!

There seems to be a lot going on at the moment, as you'll see inside this issue. It's good to have two concerts coming up in the next few weeks. We haven't been able to do much fund-raising this year and miss not only the income, but also the opportunities to socialize and have fun. One reason why we haven't had many events is that we haven't had enough people to organise them. Could you be part of a group that organises fundraising and social events? Or perhaps you could just organise a fundraiser yourself. It doesn't have to be on a large scale as smaller events are just as effective. If you could help in this way, I'd love to hear from you.

As we go into winter, the cost of heating is a matter of concern to many of us, and the church is no exception. In line with our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, we've been looking at ways we can reduce our electricity and gas usage.

We've recently replaced the lights in the nave of St Mary's and the main hall in the Guildhall with LED units, which should be much more efficient and last longer. The experts often advise that we should concentrate on heating the person, not the whole building and, with this in mind, last winter we had blankets available to people sitting in church. This was welcomed by many, so if you could help us by knitting or crocheting more blankets, it would be much appreciated. Please speak to Wendy for more details.

Finally, October is the time of year when the PCC looks at its finances and plans its budgets for the following year. We don't know yet whether we will be facing a deficit, but I would like to ask you to consider whether there might be a way you could support the church financially. A separate letter gives more details. Thank you for sharing in our life together.

**Eleanor Williams**

**NEW CAMBRIDGE SINGERS**

**Re-imagined**  
Vaughan Williams and the Tudor revival

James Potter  
conductor

Will Mason  
organ

Vaughan Williams Mass in G minor  
Bax Mater ora filium  
and music by Byrd, Holst,  
Howells, and Roderick Williams

**St Mary's Burwell Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm**

**Tickets £15 (Under 18s free)** available from Burwell Post Office, CentrePeace, online via the church website and on the door

### From the Parish Registers

#### Wedding

*Congratulations*

Sarah Perkins and Shion Jefferson

#### Funerals

*Rest in peace*

Lesley Webb

Lyn Massey

Clive Collins

Jean Estall



With our love and prayers for Sarah and Shion



A fond farewell to Peter Amirthalingam, Christin and Benjamin, who have been with us on attachment from Ridley Hall for two years and have now moved to a different church for Peter's final year. We are very grateful for all they have brought to us and we will miss them very much!

### Congratulations!



To Kevin Powell, who was licensed as a Reader/Licensed Lay Minister in Ely diocese on 5<sup>th</sup> October in the Cathedral, pictured here with Jo Proctor, LLM. Kevin was admitted as a Reader in Bury St Edmunds Cathedral in September.



To Helen McMenamin-Smith awarded The Bishop's Commendation for Outstanding Service at Ely Cathedral on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 for her dedication to MAGPAS Air Ambulance and for her enthusiasm for local environmental projects

**Light a Candle  
To Remember a Loved One**



**A Service for  
Thanksgiving & Remembering  
Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**3 pm  
St Mary's Church, Burwell  
Followed by Refreshments**

**A simple service of hymns  
readings & prayers  
to bring comfort to those  
who have been bereaved**

*Stars will be available to write on  
for the Christmas Remembering Tree*

*Let us know if you can't come,  
but would like a name written on a star*

**BURWELL and REACH  
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY  
10<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**REACH**

**10.50am Act of Remembrance  
at Reach War Memorial  
11.05am Service continues  
in St Etheldreda's, Reach**

**BURWELL**

**2.30pm Act of Remembrance  
at Burwell War Memorial  
3.00pm Churches Together  
Service of Remembrance  
at St Mary's, Burwell**



**CentrePeace**



**38a The Causeway, Burwell**

This month, from November 6<sup>th</sup>, we are making a slight change to our opening times and will be now be open every morning except Sunday and Monday. We will still be open Wednesday afternoon as well, but we won't be open on Thursday afternoon.

**New Opening Times**

Tuesday	10.00am—12.30pm
Wednesday	10.00am—12.30pm 2.00pm—4.00pm
Thursday	10.00am—12.30pm
Friday	10.00am—12.30pm
Saturday	10.00am—12.30pm

**SAFEGUARDING.  
LET'S TALK  
ABOUT IT!**



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November  
10.00am St Mary's Burwell  
An opportunity to listen and talk  
together about how we can create  
places that are safer for everyone**

**Preparing for Advent and Christmas**

**Come & Sing!**

Anybody interested in joining St Mary's choir for the Christmas carol service would be very welcome! Practices will be starting soon on Fridays from 7:30-8.30pm. Please contact Kathy for updates  
 kathy.ogilvie@gmail.com  
 or in person at church.



**Carols by Candlelight  
 December 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.30pm**



**Messy Advent Family Event**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**4.00 - 5.30pm**  
**at St Mary's Burwell**

*Join us for games, crafts and a meal as we prepare for Advent & Christmas  
 No set charge but make a donation if you can*

**CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING**  
**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**  
**3.30 - 5.00pm**



**Come and help us decorate the Church Christmas Tree**

**All welcome to come and help Refreshments**  
**Make your own decorations to take away**

This year at St Mary's Church we are planning a Christmas Tree Festival and are asking individuals and everyone who belongs to a community group or has a local business if they would like to take part. The trees or decorations will be displayed in the church in the lead up to Christmas for anyone to come in to have a look and admire the creations; the church will be open everyday in daylight hours. Contact Angela Bellis for information about taking part.  
 Angelajd.bellis@ntlworld.com  
 07812 318240.

As part of the Christmas Tree Festival, Lucy Bunce, harpist and singer will be joining us on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December for 'Songs for Christmas'. The evening will begin with mulled wine and time to view the trees and decorations before the concert. More about Lucy on her website [www.lucybunce.com](http://www.lucybunce.com).

## Environment Matters



This month's Eco Living tips from Kathy were first published in October 2020.

*As winter approaches, this is a good time to check for any draughts coming through gaps around windows and doors. Fill the gaps, put a draught excluder on your letter box, use a 'sausage dog' along the bottom of your front door and along inside doors (cover a roll of newspaper with some old fabric, or knit or crochet a cover – you could add embroidery or applique and make a stylish design to match your room decor). Use a chimney balloon (or an old pillow case filled with scrunched up newspapers) to stop draughts coming down the chimney. Tie a piece of string to the pillow case so that it hangs down into the fireplace after you have pushed the balloon into the chimney. Then you will see that there is something to remove before next lighting a fire.*

*Replace lightbulbs with low energy bulbs such as LEDs. They should last longer than the older bulbs, so are more convenient too. And then don't forget to turn off the lights you don't need when you leave the room.*

*If you haven't already done so, switch your energy provider to one which provides renewably produced electricity.*

*Choose to eat seasonally and locally grown vegetables. As well as tasting delicious, plant-based foods are better for the planet!*

If you have Eco tips or ideas you'd like to share, please send them to [pat@patchtcs.co.uk](mailto:pat@patchtcs.co.uk)

### **Prayer for the COP29 climate summit -11-22 November 2024, Azerbaijan**

God of blessings, the universe sings of your glory. Deepen our gratitude for all you have made and awoken in us a renewed commitment to care for the earth and each other.

Inspire world leaders at COP29 with openness to listen to those most affected by climate change and with courage to act urgently and wisely,  
so that our common home may be healed and restored,  
and all people, and generations to come, may delight in it. Amen.

### **Planting of tree in memory of Don Kyte**

Family and friends of Don Kyte gathered with trustees of **St Mary's Preservation Trust** on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October for the planting of a Sorbus Aria Lutescens tree, in memory of **Don Kyte**, acknowledging his long dedicated service to St Mary's, as a founder member and treasurer of the Trust. For information about supporting the Trust, please contact Philip Baker.



**Reflection by Philip Baker**

Out of curiosity, I recently checked on-line for which “Awareness Days” were coming up in November and I was genuinely astonished at the range of contenders: everything from a World Kindness Day to a World Vegan Day; there is an Apple Day, a Brush Day (!), there is even a Social Media Awareness month, a National Spa week and a National Sandwich Day (honestly, these are all listed on-line, I am not making it up). Unsurprisingly perhaps, among the vast range of special days, weeks or months there is no mention of any need of “being prepared for God to come”.

Whilst it is no doubt good to bring many of these causes to mind, Luke 12:40 reminds us that “*you must also be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.*” The one thing foremost in our minds should be “are we ready?”. How many times have we parted from someone and almost immediately thought of something we had intended to say or do – but it is now too late. We do not want to be in a similar position should we find ourselves face to face with our Lord, because what we have not done will no longer be possible.

So, what are we supposed to have done? A recent Sunday sermon in my parish church gave the answer to that in a consideration of Mark 10:35-45. If you read that section, you will see that we are expected to be humble, be a servant and serve all. This is where the passage “*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve*” appears. Matthew 6:19 refers to the need for us not to seek our reward on earth but in heaven “where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal” – in other words, a reward which is durable and lasting. It is a guide we would do well to follow: be humble, act like Jesus, serving others without expecting any reward, other than God’s. Perhaps the World Kindness Day is not so far off the mark after all!



**“Empower Her” Literacy Campaign**

As a women-led movement with a passion for transforming and improving family and community life, the Mothers Union is deeply concerned about the number of people globally who cannot read or write, many of whom are women. Knowing that there are so many women around the world who lack the ability to read or write, I have added my voice to the MU ‘Empower Her’ Literacy campaign, and I am encouraging others to do the same.

Since launching this campaign, on International Literacy Day, nearly 1,000 people have signed up! Our goal is to put women’s education on the global agenda for the UK government, and we are well on our way. There is still time to add your voice. Go to [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) and the front page takes you to signing up. If you have not yet signed up, please do so and encourage everyone around you to get involved; your friends, neighbours and even the person in front of you in the queue at the shop. Each signature brings us closer to a world where every woman has the tools to shape her future.

Together, we can give more women the chance to read, to lead, and to uplift their communities. Literacy truly does change lives! Let us make a difference, one signature at a time!

As the saying goes, “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing.” Let us not be silent. Let us speak up by signing up!

**Hazel Williams**  
Diocesan MU President



## What's on in our churches this month

Date	St Mary's Burwell	St Etheldreda's Reach
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch	
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November All Saints 4 <sup>th</sup> before Advent	10.00am Café Church 3.00pm Service for those who have been bereaved	8.30am Holy Communion
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch	
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	7.30pm Re-Imagined Concert by New Cambridge Singers	
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> before Advent	8.30am Holy Communion 2.30pm Burwell War Memorial 3.00pm Remembrance Service	10.50am War Memorial 11.00am Remembrance Service in church
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch	
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2 <sup>nd</sup> before Advent Safeguarding Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am Holy Communion at Ness Court	10.30am Holy Communion
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> November Next before Advent Christ the King	10.00am Holy Communion 4.00pm Messy Church	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	10.30am Holy Communion	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Morning Prayer	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am Refresh Café and Lunch	
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December Advent Sunday	10.00am Café Church + Baptism 4.30pm Christingle Service	8.30am Holy Communion

Please check the weekly news sheet for updates or our website. Refreshments are served after the 10.00am 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.

**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, including **Saturday 9.00am** The Green Prayer Group (at Village Green Coffee Shop).

**WORSHIP AT HOME ONLINE:** *Join us to pray, to worship, to share together.* Most weeks, we aim to live stream the Sunday 10.00am service on Facebook, apart from Café Church and when there is a baptism.

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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of month. If you require help from the Foodbank please ring 01353 468626 or email [info@ely.foodbank.org.uk](mailto: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



**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](http://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](mailto:administrator@stmarysburwell.org.uk)

**Vicar**  
**Rev'd Canon Dr Eleanor Williams**  
 22 Isaacson Road 01638 741262  
[vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarysburwell.org.uk)  
**Associate Priest**  
 Rev'd Paula Spalding 07849 936085  
[associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk](mailto:associatepriest@stmarysburwell.org.uk)  
 Duty days Wednesday, Friday and Sunday  
**Curate**  
 Rev'd Virginia Moggridge 07566 773020  
[curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk](mailto:curate@stmarysburwell.org.uk)  
 Day off Tuesday  
**Priests in retirement**  
 Rev'd David King  
 Rev'd Dr Roger Williams  
**Licensed Lay Minister**  
 Jo Proctor  
**Churchwarden**  
 Wendy Smith 01638 741888  
**Churchwardens' Assistants**  
 Stephen Martin 01638 742667  
 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](http://www.stmarysburwell.org.uk)" 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](mailto:pat@patchtcs.co.uk)

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