



# The Window

September 2019



## Bells and Organ Resound

The repairs to the bells and bell-frames and the overhaul of the organ at Ipsden church have both been completed. They were rededicated by the Bishop of Dorchester at a special service of Evening Prayer held in church on Sunday 4th August, attended

by a full congregation from Ipsden and the surrounding churches.

During the service, the bells were rung in celebration and the choir sang the anthem "O how glorious is the Kingdom", composed by



Basil Harwood, who also gave the opening recital on the organ in 1897. The anthem includes a substantial organ introduction and accompaniment, which was played by Anthony Gowing. This was one of the last services to be accompanied by Anthony who is moving away from the area. We are very fortunate to have had the benefit of his expertise and experience as a former cathedral organist in playing for us over the last two years. **Gary Magill**

## From the Vicarage

As promised, Bishop Colin arrived on Sunday 4th August and duly rededicated our newly refurbished bells and organ; the bells were rung in celebration and the choir sang an anthem to the intricate accompaniment of the organ. That same morning Bishop Colin had blessed a recently installed loo on the other side of the county and has promised to return to bless ours in the New Year. It has been good to see these two projects through to completion and to know that the long awaited loo will soon be installed.

It's been a month of goodbyes. Goodbye to the folks who meet each month for coffee over in North Stoke, likewise at Ipsden. Goodbye too to the families that I have ministered to at baptisms, weddings and funerals. Some all three. Goodbye to the people I meet when I'm leaflet dropping. It's surprising how many conversations and acquaintances have begun just as I have stuffed a leaflet through a letterbox. Goodbye to three lovely congregations. And so it goes. One of my favourite Bob Dylan songs is, "Don't think twice". It's a rather sad song about a lover leaving, but the lyrics are quite poetic. I suppose they should be from a guy who was offered the Nobel Prize in Literature. One of the lines runs like this; "Goodbye is too good a word, babe, so I just say fare thee well". The hope is, of course that the lover will return.

Most languages have a way of expressing a hope that goodbye is not for ever; in German it is Auf Wiedersehen, Spanish Hasta Luego

and French Au revoir. The Scots might say, "See you" and the English BFN "Bye for now". Margaret and I are only moving down river a few miles so the likelihood is that our paths will cross at some time in the future so BFN.

This month has been particularly busy for me with six funerals and several services for the burial of ashes. Although funerals are sad occasions a Christian funeral should be laced through with hope and what most of us want for our dear departed is that we shall one day meet again. The Bible reading that I most often use at a funeral is John 14:1-6. In this Jesus promises eternal life for those who believe to be lived in his Father's house, a place with many rooms. The implication is that there will be a reunion with our loved ones, exactly how we do not know but we can trust in the promises of Jesus that all will be well.

Margaret and I thank you for your friendship and look forward to bumping into you now and again, perhaps at the doctors, Lidl, The Blue Tin or who knows where.

Sincerely,  
**Alan.**

PS. Living in Crabtree Corner has re-established my belief in the Easter Bunny and the Christmas Fairy. Each Easter and Christmas a small gift of chocolate has been placed on the doorstep of every house in Crabtree Corner; by whom I do not know but whoever it is thank you for the joy and delight those small gifts have brought to us and others.

## An Autumn of Afternoon Tea Recitals

It's September and time to start thinking of Afternoon Tea Recitals again. The autumn series starts on 22nd September with the return of the traditional folk group, The Three Pressed Men, who are hugely entertaining. Then on 27th October Raymond Burley brings us the joy of classical guitar. Raymond performs all over the world and has a vast repertoire in his head and at his fingertips. There is no point in announcing his programme, because he adapts to circumstance, but his choice is always varied and beautiful - he also enjoys interacting with the audience and answering questions, which makes for a happy informality. Lastly, on 24th November Andrew Darke, accompanied by Mary Daniels on the piano, will be performing, among other things, the Three Baby Songs by his grandfather, the composer Harold Darke. This marks the centenary of their composition on the birth of Andrew's own father.

All recitals are in Ipsden Church, beginning at 3.30pm and followed by tea and delicious cakes. Everything is free; there is a retiring collection for expenses. Children over the age of eight are very welcome. **Gillian Kelley**

## Church Services September

**Ipsden 9.30am. North Stoke 11am.**

<b>Sunday 1st September</b>	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 8th September</b>	All Age Worship	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 15th September</b>	Holy Communion	All Age Worship
<b>Sunday 22nd September</b>	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 29th September</b>	<b>Langtree Team Service at Woodcote 10.30am</b>	

During September all services in Ipsden and North Stoke will be led by members of the Langtree Team. Please give them your support as they take on these extra duties.

# *Ipsden Church Coffee Morning*

*Wednesday 11th September*

*Ipsden Village Hall 10am*

*Do come along and bring a friend!*

*This month's Bring & Buy sale and*

*raffle will be in aid of the*

*Macmillan Coffee Morning appeal.*

**Cholsey Repair Café** offers repairs to many kinds of domestic items, advice on getting things fixed, a sharpening service and more at its regular sessions on the third Saturday of odd-numbered months. You can even drop off those plastic shopping bags that are no longer so welcome in our green bins. The next event will be at the Cholsey Pavilion on Saturday 21st September, opening from 11.00 to 13.45. More helpful information can be found at

[www.cholseyrepaircafe.com](http://www.cholseyrepaircafe.com)

## **Ipsden bonus ball lottery winners**

**Mark Pictet 22/6**

**Hamish Cassels 29/6**

**Lottie Rundall 6/6**

**Janet Thompson 20/7**

**Shirley Baker 27/7**

**Jane Penney 3/8**

**Juliet Noel 17/8**

**Copy deadline for**

**October**

**20th September**

## **Diary Dates September**

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|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Wednesday 4th September</b>  | <b>Wallingford U3A</b><br>2pm. Crowmarsh Village Hall                      |
| <b>Saturday 7th September</b>   | <b>Ipsden Rocks Ipsden Farm Barn.</b><br>Gates open 4pm.                   |
| <b>Wednesday 11th September</b> | <b>Ipsden Church Coffee Morning<br/>and Macmillan Bring &amp; Buy 10am</b> |
| <b>Saturday 21st September</b>  | <b>Cholsey Repair Cafe 11am-1.45pm.</b>                                    |
| <b>Sunday 22nd September</b>    | <b>Afternoon Tea Recital</b><br>3.30pm Ipsden Church                       |