

# NOTICES & NEWS

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## Worship in Church and Online Preachers and readings for Sunday 2nd November

Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2:1-4

Psalms 119: 137-144;

2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12;

Luke 19: 1-10

**Worship in Church: 10.30am**

*(Sunday Fun sessions are on the 2nd & 4th  
 Sunday each month at 10.30am)*

2nd Nov Rev Heather Upton  
 (Holy Communion/ Church Anniversary)

9th Nov Rev Carrie Seaton  
 (Remembrance Sunday)

16th Nov Chris Law

16th Nov 3pm A Special Service of  
 remembrance

23rd Nov Rev John McNeill

**Flowers in church** this week have  
 been arranged for the  
 Church Anniversary

## Weekly Programme

### Monday:

**Badminton Club** 9.30-11.30am

**Carers Coffee Morning** 10.30-11.30am  
 (3rd Mon)

**Friendship Club** (2nd Mon) 2.30pm

**BB&GA Anchors/Juniors** 5.30-8.00pm  
 (termtime)

**Welcome Cafe** (termtime) 5.30-8.15pm

**Monday Makers** 7.30-9.30pm

### Tuesday:

**JellyTots** 10-11.30am

Parents & Toddlers (termtime)

**Men's Social** (2nd Tue) 10-12noon

**The Chosen** (Study Group) 2-4pm

**Step'n'Style** (termtime) 4-8.30pm

### Wednesday:

**Welcome Cafe** 10-12noon

**Welcome Garden** 10-12noon

**Supastrikers** (termtime) 1.30-2.15pm

### Thursday:

**Welcome Cafe** 10 - 12noon

**Craft Group** 10 - 12noon

**BB&GA Company** 7-10.00pm  
 (termtime)

### Friday:

**Friday Lunch Club** 2nd&4th Fri

### Saturday:

**Welcome Cafe** 10-12noon  
 (1st & 3rd of month)

**Foodbank** – The collection crate is  
 available in the church entrance every  
 week.

## Church & PFA Events 2025

Nov 8<sup>th</sup>

Church Jumble Sale

Nov 15<sup>th</sup>

Craft Group Christmas Fayre

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>

PFA Christmas Fayre 12-2pm

(proceeds for BB&GA)

Nov 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

Church Open Weekend

Lonsdale Road MC

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> Carols (Cotswold Clarinet Choir) & mince pies

## Sunday 2nd Nov – Church Anniversary

Please join us on Sunday at 10.30am as we celebrate our church anniversary. The service will be led by Rev Heather Upton and will include Holy Communion where all are welcome to the table.

## Sun 16th Nov 3pm – A Service of Remembrance

As in past years, we will be holding a special service in the afternoon, led by Rev. John McNeill.

All are welcome to attend and reflect on the lives of those who have passed away in recent times or in years gone by.

## Remembrance Parade – 9th November

Our annual parade will start from the Royal Oak in Hucclecote at 10.30am and will be led by the Band of the 5th Gloucester Boys Brigade and Girls Association. The remainder of the BB&GA Company will follow, accompanied by other uniformed groups and members of the public. A short service will be held at the War Memorial, at the end of Green Lane, which will conclude with the Last Post.

The parade will then proceed into Carisbrooke Road and conclude with a short service in Hucclecote Methodist Church.

If you are unable to join the parade, there will be a period of reflection and prayers from 10.30am in the church before the parade arrives.

**5th Gloucester Boys Brigade & Girls Association would like to extend a warm invitation for ALL to join us in the hall afterwards for Coffee/Tea/Refreshments and fellowship.**



## Church Heating

Many of you will know that at our Church Council in June, the decision was made to stay in the church for worship until after the Covenant service (4<sup>th</sup> Jan). There was some further discussion at our recent Church Council. Rev. John posed a question about how people had coped with the cold conditions in church in the past. This set me thinking and he has asked me to share my thoughts here.

Those of you who come from the Midlands or further North will, like me, doubtless remember ice on the inside of your bedroom window in the depths of winter (or perhaps all winter long in Yorkshire or Scotland!). 60 years ago most of us were very fortunate if we had anything resembling central heating in our homes so we were used to wrapping up warm, both at home and when we went to church. Most churchgoers wore a hat (not a knitted one – a smart one). The men took them off on entering the church but the women kept them on. (My Dad worked at Dunn and Co – other men's outfitters were available – and he encouraged everyone to wear a hat, insisting that most heat is lost from the body through the head. Apparently, this has since been disproven but it worked well for hat sales!) Women wore woollen coats and skirts - *not* trousers - and lots of layers underneath and men wore winter weight suits *underneath* their winter coats. Church was pretty full in those days so the number of bodies was also a help.

Fast forward to 2025 and many of us come to church wearing clothes that would have been considered inappropriate before the 70s. Nowadays we all dress less formally. Coats are shorter because they are designed for going out in cars. Churchgoers are more likely to wear a padded jacket than a wool coat because we don't need one the rest of the week, when we move from centrally heated home to another centrally heated building. We may have some warmer clothes for outdoor activities, like walking and gardening, but would probably still not wear our fleece lined trousers to church unless there was snow on the ground. We are used to efficient central heating at home and in most public buildings and shops and this has raised our expectations of church heating. Unfortunately, HMC heating and insulation is not up to the same standard, with a very old boiler, no radiators and no double glazing. And diminishing numbers in the congregation means we don't generate as much body heat as we used to.

We are an ageing congregation and we should celebrate the numbers of people in their 80s and 90s who regularly make the effort to worship in church. This is in spite of increasing health and mobility challenges that make it harder to get to church and to keep warm. There is no quick solution to our church heating issues. However, the good news is that, now that the hole in the roof is about to be fixed, we have started the process. The Eco Church group is currently completing an application form to the district for a grant to pay for an energy survey of all of our buildings. In response to the climate change emergency, the Methodist Church set a target to reach Net Zero by 2030. Once we have some advice we can start applying for grants to install a new climate friendly heating system and insulation. This will help us towards the Net Zero goal *as well as* increasing our comfort in church.

In the meantime we will all need to keep adding layers of clothing as the temperature drops and making use of the crocheted blankets at the back of church. Church Council invites you to listen to the service in the Welcome, where it is warmer, if you prefer. And now there's even more reason to invite a friend (or two) to church – so you can huddle together to keep warm!

Elaine

## Junior Church Activity – Sunday 26th



### The Restore Campaign - Christian Aid

Join us in calling on the UK Government to take on greedy lenders and reckless polluters.

[www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

'God can Restore what is broken' was the theme for the young people this Sunday. We thought about how God can mend people who feel broken, and also the world if we stop hurting it, and pray for justice and restoration.

Taking inspiration from the Christian aid 'Restore campaign' in the style the Japanese art of Kentsugi, we made beautiful flower holders from broken crockery, and added our messages to those in power for restoring our world.

We took photos and will send these in to be added to the messages as part of the giant kentsugi pot Christian Aid are creating to send to Parliament and tour the country.

You can read more via this link

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/restore-campaign>

15:46



## Jumble Sale – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November

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### Second-hand, bric-a-brac and jumble sale

Commencing at 2pm

All the proceeds are for Church Funds.

Please will you bring your saleable items to the hall either:

- Between 6pm and 8pm on the Friday (day before) or
- Between 9am to 12noon on the Saturday.

**HELP please.** We also need helpers to sell the items.

We are usually very short of helpers,  
so even if you have not taken part previously,  
please come along to help.

**Clearing up** after the sale is always a big task,  
so if you are able to help us after 3.30pm to clear away and sweep up,  
please come along.

Many thanks to all who support us.

## Messy Church – StP & StJ

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**MESSY CHURCH** at St Philip & St James Church, Larkhay Road meet again on Saturday 8th November, 4:00pm - 5:30pm. We are continuing our series on Love with “Love Your Neighbour” and the story of the Good Samaritan. Come and join us for lots of craft activities, fun and food! Everyone is welcome.

Please pray for us and encourage families to come. Thank you.

# Christmas Craft Fayre

Hucclecote Craft Group  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
2025

10am to 12am

Christmas Decorations

Craft Items

Raffle

Tea and coffee available



Saturday 22nd November 2025  
12-2pm at Hucclecote Methodist Church Hall



Visit Father Christmas in his grotto £3 per child



We are joined this year by **THE B FLATS**, an alternative guitar band from Gloucestershire.



### Jingle Bells Cafe Open

Hot turkey rolls  
Cakes  
Tea and Coffee



Entry -  
Adults £1  
Children free

### Things to do -

Children's crafts  
Games & Tombolas  
Raffle  
Stalls

All proceeds will go towards the Boys Brigade and Girls Association



## Christmas Shoe Boxes

### CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX PRESENTS FOR THE UNDER PRIVILEGED CHILDREN OF GLOUCESTER AGED 0 – 14 years

As you know we have for some years organised shoe box presents for the under privileged children in Gloucester. The Salvation Army very kindly distribute them, because they are able to identify children in need.

If you would like to help with this, please can your contributions be brought to Church before 15<sup>th</sup> November. The boxes will be blessed in Church on the 16<sup>th</sup> November and forwarded to The Salvation Army in time for distribution for Christmas.

Shoe boxes (**not** boot/trainers/lge men's please) should be labelled Boy or Girl and approx age. Some boxes will go to the Refugee Centres, so items such as toiletries and underwear will be very useful.

**This is a Christmas present**, so please include some toys and/or other items of fun including sweets. (Avoid chocolate because it can melt and spoil box contents).

Other suggested items could include:

Hat/Gloves/Scarf, hairbrush/comb, toothbrush/paste (age appropriate), bubble bath/soap, flannel/wash sponge/scrunchie. Colouring book/colouring pencils, magic painting book/paintbrush, reading books & puzzles. Plain paper pads/pencils, diaries, calculators, fancy key rings, hair slides etc. are all good for older children.

For baby boxes, please check suitability, especially toys and do not include sweets. However, baby clothes, nappies and baby toiletries are good choices.

If possible, the box should be wrapped in Christmas paper and secured with an elastic band. It must be able to be opened for checking contents to ensure everything is appropriate. If you are unable to do this, please leave the box unwrapped and just secure it with an elastic band.

If you are unable to supply/fill a box, we would be glad to receive items which we can add to boxes.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting this worthwhile venture.

Dawn

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