I bet some eagle eyed readers will be wondering where the capital letter is on the word ‘church’! Well, I left it out on purpose.

Lots of people think that the Church is the pointy building in the middle of the village. Well, it is in one way - that building is where the church meets.

The church is actually all of us – the people who worship there and the people who live in the community surrounding the building. The church is the people, the beings that can be active in the world. It is the hands and feet, hearts and minds that work for Jesus Christ in the 21st century.

Jesus didn’t live in a Church. His ministry happened outside, in streets, in the hills, in boats, in people’s houses. It involved food and drink, and plenty of sharing. It involved being there when people were ill or troubled. It reached outside his own family and community to anyone who needed God. That’s the example we the people of the church should be following.

And we do! If you take a look at what the church does in our villages these days, you will find that it is at the heart of them. It is in the village schools, the Church having set them up in the 19th century, walking with the future generations. It is there holding events like coffee mornings, Harvest suppers, fetes, ‘Soup and Puds’, Parish lunches... The list goes on.

Some of those events are to raise funds for the maintenance of those pointy buildings, but most are for the maintenance of the church – the body of Christ. They are social activities, often with no charge, offered to all comers. They are supported by wonderful people who generously donate things to make them happen – especially their time.

The church is also there in the people who call on isolated neighbours, who look out for the elderly or frail, who walk dogs, feed cats and generally engage with others in their community. It is there in the way we pull together in the face of tragedy or triumph.

If you take a look at your own Church, you will find that its people are not just following Christ on Sunday. They are living the Gospel every day in their relationships with others. They don’t always realise that they are doing that – but they

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<th>What's On - October</th>
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The copy deadline for the November issue is Thursday 13th October
Please send news items, by the copy date, to: news@avonswift.org.uk
Copies of the current and previous newsletters are also available to view online at: www.avonswift.org.uk
The inaugural meeting of the Swinford Sky Blue Supporters Club will be 1st October. We plan to travel with the Sky Blue Army to Port Vale, kick off 3pm. If you wish to travel with us please leave a message with our honorary life time chairman, Brian Priest, at Sky Blue corner, the Chequers. We expect interest to be high, so we will allocate seats on a first come first served basis. So please come and support your local team, PUSB.

Raphael Devine

**Swinford Sky Blue Supporters**

The inaugural meeting of the Swinford Sky Blue Supporters Club will be 1st October. We plan to travel with the Sky Blue Army to Port Vale, kick off 3pm. If you wish to travel with us please leave a message with our honorary life time chairman, Brian Priest, at Sky Blue corner, the Chequers. We expect interest to be high, so we will allocate seats on a first come first served basis. So please come and support your local team, PUSB.

Raphael Devine

**Soup and Puds**

What a wonderful turn out on Saturday 26th August at Swinford Village Hall. There were over 50 people there all enjoying delicious home made soup and puds for only £5.00 a head. It was such a lively and friendly atmosphere and everyone seemed to be having a really good time.

Well done to the team, I'm looking forward to the next one!

Kath Britton
SODS 2016 Pantomime

Sheer Luck Holmes

Written by Bob Heather & Cheryl Barrett

Directed by Simon Ragsdale

Swinford Village Hall
Friday 18th, 25th November 7.30pm
Saturday 19th, 26th November, 3pm & 7.30pm
Doors 6.45pm & 3pm

Tickets from Anne 01788 860722 & The Chequers, Swinford
Adults £7 Under 14 £4 Family 2 + 2 £20
**October 2016**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

Please can you pick your dog mess up after you as it took me all afternoon to clean my daughter’s wheelchair and clothes after a walk in Swinford.

**SWINFORD WI**

The guest speaker for the meeting on 8th September was Paul of the Air Ambulance. We began with Paul’s presentation on the way the Air Ambulance works from day to day: the preparation of the helicopters, the staffing involved in the running of such an important life-saving service and the airport bases used for helicopters, our nearest one being Coventry. The pilots, doctors and paramedics are all volunteers. Many others are involved in organising fundraising events and talks. It costs at least £1,700 for each call out, so funds are always in demand.

Paul was thanked for his very informative talk which left us in awe of the wonderful work this service does.

We then enjoyed drinks and biscuits and chatted about things enjoyed during our summer break. Hazel Gardner, our president, read the WI business.

Swinford Skirts have been invited to join us for our next meeting at the Village Hall on Thursday 13th October. This will be an evening demonstration of Boots No 7 by Rehan Mistry at 7:30 pm. Entrance is £5 which includes tea/coffee, cakes, biscuits and a raffle. Everyone is welcome. Please come along and join us for an enjoyable evening.

*Joan Vickers*

**SODS**

See our full page ad on page 3 of this newsletter. Tickets go on sale on 23rd October; buy yours before they sell out! Oh yes they will!!!

---

**YOGA IN NORTH KILWORTH**

This is the time of year when the changing season makes itself felt. Yoga can be a therapeutic activity to lift the mood, calm the nerves and boost the feeling of well being as the dark evenings approach.

Why not come along to Belgrave Village Hall North Kilworth for Yoga Sessions on Wednesdays 7pm to 8:30 (£6pw or £33 for 6 weeks) or Mondays 11am – 12:00 (£5pw or £26 for 6 weeks). Un-used weeks roll over in to next term.

Autumn yoga runs from 26th September. Places must be booked, so please get in touch.

07769 805588
fran.ritson@gmail.com

Fran Ritson
Yoga Teacher (British School of Yoga)
BGI Insured
October 2016

MESSY@MISTERTON

On Sunday 11th September, the Messy@Misterton team welcomed about twenty people to their second Messy Church. Although some had been to the service in June, a number were experiencing Messy Church for the first time, so now over thirty local people have tried and enjoyed what we have to offer. For the occasion, all our activities were harvest themed, from making bread, through creating boxes for harvest gifts, to decorating biscuits with seeds and dried fruit. Brian provided music for harvest songs, while Alison shared the story of Ruth and looked at the tradition of sharing God’s gifts generously, so even the poorest could have food to eat. Then we all enjoyed refreshments, even welcoming extra passers-by to share tea, coffee and cake.

Our next Messy@Misterton in December will be preparing to celebrate Christmas and we hope everyone who has already tried Messy Church will be back again, whilst those who haven’t yet ‘given it a go’ will consider joining us for more fun and food.

Liz Marsh

MANOR FARM SHOP NEWS

Manor Farm Shop and Kitchen in Catthorpe are holding our annual Halloween Fest on Saturday 29th October 10am – 3pm and would like to invite all our customers old and new to come and enjoy a fun day out.

Our pumpkins will be going on sale soon and please remember a pumpkin is not just for Halloween but can be made into tasty treats, see our website for some ideas.

Just coming into season are our own potatoes, with varieties for every occasion along with our home-grown and locally sourced apples, pears and plums.

Don’t forget the Sunday Lunch, either eat it at leisure in our farmhouse kitchen, freshly prepared by our hardworking chefs or diy with a joint of our home-bred rare breed beef, lamb or pork always available fresh or frozen.

Last but not least, we are fast approaching the fes-
October 2016

CONFIRMATION SERVICE ON 6TH OCTOBER AT GILMORTON

On Thursday 6th October at 7pm Bishop Christopher will lead a Confirmation service in Gilmorton Church for seven candidates from our benefice along with others from Countesthorpe. It is really wonderful that people, young and old, are coming to faith in our midst and preparing to take the significant step of being confirmed. A Confirmation service is always a special event and we warmly invite anyone from across our parishes to come along to support the candidates and to welcome Bishop Christopher once again into our benefice. It will be lovely to see you!

Rev’d Emma Davies on behalf of the Clergy Team

‘BEING DISCIPLES’

is the title of a super new 86-page book, the latest in a series by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, written in a popular and accessible style and ideal for home groups. You are invited to Swinford Rectory to look at this together, over five evenings in November and December. This will be from 7.30 to 9 pm on Wednesdays 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th November and 7th & 14th December.

The book is quite an easy read, so the idea is that each week we concentrate on just one chapter, gradually working through the book. This is more like a reading-group—people will have the chance to share what has emerged from them just from that chapter, not listening to the Vicar telling them what it means!!!

You can either buy the book yourself, or let me know by 27th October at the latest and then I will put in a bulk order. It costs £8.99. I am sure you would want to keep it and go back to it or pass it on to a friend—I’ve read it twice already!

The recent mini-series on St. Paul, linked with the Hunger Lunches based at Swinford Rectory, raised another £60 for Christian Aid’s support of refugees.

For further details, contact Canon Chris Oxley on chrisandpaula@canonoxley.co.uk or on 01788 860445
**TEAMS4U CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL**

We are once again asking for your support for this charity and we would appreciate gifts of completed shoeboxes or suitable items to send as gifts to the children in the shanty towns of Romania.

Box categories are boys 2-7 years and 8-14 years; girls 2-7 years and 8-14 years.

Impoverished Romanian children are most in need of educational and hygiene items such as toothbrush and toothpaste; hairbrush and comb; facecloth and soap; pens, pencils, paper; gloves, hat, scarf; soft toy; ball; puzzle, stickers, balloons.

For the HOMECARE shoebox items most needed are cooking utensils; candles; plastic plates, bowls, cutlery; saucepan (small, to fit in shoebox); teacloth; plastic containers; washing up cloth; clothes pegs; small Christmas decoration; small decorative item.

Please bring your gifts on or before noon on Saturday 12th November to South Kilworth church.

Further details, or collection of gifts, from Natalie Keaney, 07970 749471 or Jacky Harrison 01858 575257

THANK YOU for your generosity

**SHAWELL POORS PLOTS**

This small charity exists for the benefit of people of state pensionable age that are resident in the parish of Shawell, providing help towards winter fuel bills.

If you wish to receive a grant, and you are currently of state pensionable age or will be by the 30th November 2016, please contact John Kelly, Hill Farm, Shawell, 01788 860294.

There is no need to make contact if you have received a grant in previous years.

*John Kelly*
*Trustee*
*01788 860294*
October 2016

Avon-Swift Group Services

every week.....
Tuesdays at 12 noon quiet reflective **Midday Prayer** (15 mins) at North Kilworth
Wednesdays at 9am **simple said Eucharist** (approx. half an hour) at South Kilworth
Thursdays at 5pm quiet said **Evening Prayer** (20 mins) at Gilmorton

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday 2nd October</strong></td>
<td>19th Sunday after Trinity [Green]</td>
<td>8.30 am</td>
<td>North Kilworth</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP) The Rev’d Alison Iliffe</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Kimcote</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Stanford on Avon</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Misterton</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Jane Kennedy</td>
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<td>Harvest Festival Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Gilmorton</td>
<td>Harvest Festival for all ages The Rev’d Alison Iliffe</td>
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<td>6.00 pm</td>
<td>Peatling Parva</td>
<td>Harvest Festival The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 6th October</strong></td>
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<td>Confirmation at Gilmorton with Bishop Christopher at 7.00 pm</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 9th October</strong></td>
<td>20th Sunday after Trinity [Green]</td>
<td>8.30 am</td>
<td>Kimcote</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP) The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Ashby Magna</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Alison Iliffe</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Swinford</td>
<td>All-age service PCC members</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>South Kilworth</td>
<td>Family Service Beth Rogers</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>North Kilworth</td>
<td>Harvest Festival Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td>followed by Harvest Lunch in Village Hall 12.30pm</td>
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<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Gilmorton</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td>4.00 pm</td>
<td>Misterton</td>
<td>All-age worship Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday 16th October</strong></td>
<td>21st Sunday after Trinity [Green]</td>
<td>8.30 am</td>
<td>Gilmorton</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>North Kilworth</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) The Rev’d Jane Kennedy</td>
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<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Ashby Magna</td>
<td>All-age Worship The Rev’d Alison Iliffe</td>
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<td>9.45 am</td>
<td>South Kilworth</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP) Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td>Catthorpe</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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<td>11.00 am</td>
<td>Peatling Parva</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP) The Rev’d Emma Davies</td>
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<td>4.00 pm</td>
<td>Shawell</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) All-age Canon Brian Davis</td>
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<td>4.00 pm</td>
<td>Swinford</td>
<td>Holy Communion (CW) Canon Chris Oxley</td>
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October 2016

Sunday 23rd October

Bible Sunday [Green]
Isaiah 45: 22-end; Romans 15: 1-6; Luke 4: 16-24

10.30 am Misterton
Group Service
Holy Communion (CW)
(Food Bank Collection)
The Ministry Team
Special Guest Preacher:
Mark Mair, The Gideons

Saturday 29th October

4.00pm Peatling Parva
Group Service to remember loved ones who have died
The Ministry Team

Sunday 30th October

All Saints Sunday [White]
Daniel 7; 1-3, 15-18; Ephes. 1; 11-end; Luke 6: 20-31

9.30 am South Kilworth
Holy Communion (CW)
Canon Chris Oxley
(Joint Service with North Kilworth)

10.30 am Kimcote
Holy Communion (CW)
The Rev’d Emma Davies

11.00 am Ashby Magna
Holy Communion (BCP)
The Rev’d Jane Kennedy
3.00 pm Catthorpe
Remembering the Departed
Joint Service with the Latvian Lutheran community
Canon Chris Oxley
The Rev’d Viesturs Vavere

4.00pm Gilmorton
Evening Service
The Rev’d Emma Davies
4.00 pm Swinford
Evening Prayer
The Rev’d Alison Iliffe

Sunday 6th November

3rd Sunday before Advent [Green]

8.30 am North Kilworth
Holy Communion (BCP)
The Rev’d Emma Davies

9.30 am Kimcote
Holy Communion (CW)
The Rev’d Jane Kennedy

9.30 am Stanford on Avon
Holy Communion (CW)
Canon Chris Oxley

11.00 am Misterton
Holy Communion (CW)
Canon Chris Oxley

11.00 am Gilmorton
Family Service
The Rev’d Emma Davies

4.00 pm Peatling Parva
Songs of Praise
The Rev’d Emma Davies

4.00 pm Swinford
Holy Communion (CW)
Canon Chris Oxley

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (1662) - traditional language
CW = Common Worship (2000) - contemporary language

All enquiries regarding Church matters should be directed to:-

The Revd Canon Chris Oxley, The Rectory, Kilworth Road, Swinford.
Telephone: 01788 860445; email chrisandpaula@canonoxley.co.uk

The Revd Emma Davies, The Vicarage, 5 Church Lane, Gilmorton.
Telephone: 01455 556573; email emma.davies1@sky.com

The Rev’d Jane Kennedy, 17 Cromwell Close, Walcote.
Telephone: 01455 554065; email jane@kennedy47.orangehome.co.uk

The Rev’d Alison Iliffe, The Rectory, Dag lane, North Kilworth.
Telephone: 01858 881248; email ajiliffe@gmail.com

For Shawell:

The Revd Canon Brian Davis, Telephone: 01858 431843; email Revbdavis@aol.com

9
The Linden Tree
Restaurant & Bar

An Exquisite New Dining Destination on your Doorstep

New Terrace Menu Available Now.
With delicious home-made dishes from just £9.00, Whether it's a soggy September or an Indian Summer, enjoy a leisurely lunch or supper this month at Catthorpe Manor Estate, with beautiful dining spaces both indoors or out.

The Linden Tree is open daily and, with a la carte dining, afternoon tea, private dining, Sunday lunch and mid-week specials, there's a menu for every occasion at this beautiful country Manor hotel.
Contact 01788 860599 reservations.

Special Event:
Fungi Foraging with Geoff Dann
Sunday 16th October, 10am – 4pm

Fascinated by fungi?
Expert Geoff Dann will show you how to find and identify some of Britain’s varied fungi and other autumnal edibles during a foraging expedition around the beautiful grounds. Places are limited to 20.

Find out more at www.catthorpemanor.co.uk

W: catthorpemanor.co.uk  E: enquiries@catthorpemanor.co.uk  T: 01788 860599
Catthorpe Manor, Lilbourne Lane, Catthorpe, Nr. Lutterworth, Leics, LE17 6DF
October 2016

From the Parish Registers

Baptism—we welcome into God’s family

Jacob Adam Geens  
Gilmorton  
21st August

Thomas Alexander Herbert  
Gilmorton  
4th September

Weddings: we wish every blessing on their marriage:

Sam Taylor and Alicia Nunn  
Peatling Parva  
3rd September

Thomas Christian Bernard Wex & Sharne Natalie Drewitt  
Swinford  
3rd September

Mark Philip Mattock & Joanna Michelle Bradley  
North Kilworth  
3rd September

Leslie Charles Robottom & Julie Babette O’Reardon  
Swinford  
10th September

Ryan Booth and Melissa Stewart  
Kimbote  
10th September

Jason Wright and Emma Heyes  
North Kilworth  
16th September

Nicholas Shelbourne and Jemma Colbourne  
North Kilworth  
17th September

Funerals - we say farewell and commit to Almighty God:

Bryan Short  
aged 83  
Swinford  
7th June

Lawrence Frederick Dayton  
aged 73  
Swinford  
12th September

Thomas Tyler  
aged 37  
Peatling Parva  
15th September

Elizabeth Sherratt  
aged 55  
North Kilworth  
19th September

Anthony Charles Turney  
aged 65  
Swinford  
23rd September

ALL SAINTS’ SWINFORD

Many thanks to those who joined in the fun at our recent fund raising event - Musical Bingo - at the Chequers. You helped us raise £485 toward the funds needed for our church repairs. Mary and myself were overwhelmed by the number of people who came up to us at the end to say how much they had enjoyed themselves. Thanks to Brian, James, Tracey and her team at the pub.

The Harvest Lunch takes place on Sunday 2nd October in the Village Hall. Mary may still have some tickets, contact her on 01788 860411.

We have had superb support at our Soup and Pud lunches this year. Due to the panto and Christmas, we do not hold these lunches in November and December. So our last Soup and Pud lunch for 2016 will be on Saturday 29th October, noon until 2pm. We shall be back in the New Year.

Carole Smith

BUGGY SERVICE

at ALL SAINTS’ CHURCH GILMORTON

Short service, play and chat with a cuppa for all pre-school children, parents and carers

ALL WELCOME!

Every 2 weeks on Thursdays in term time at 9.15am
(finished in time to go to Toddler Group at the Pavilion)

29 Sept 13 October 27 October
10 November 24 November 8 December

More details from Rev’d Emma:
emma.davies1@sky.com
01455 556573

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Our new academic year is in full swing with everyone refreshed and raring to go after a lovely summer break.

Our Harvest Festival Service will be taking place in the Church at 2pm on Monday 3rd October. This year our new School Council will be organising a ‘Big Bake & Cake Sale’ during the week beginning 10th October, with all proceeds going to support the Tearfund (a Christian charity to help people out of poverty).

Nineteen children from Years 2 and 3 represented our school in a Tag Rugby Festival. This event was organised as ‘non-competitive’ and it provided a gentle introduction for the younger children to experience an away-team sporting occasion. We were very proud of how our team performed, supporting one another and with a great team spirit. Although scores were not officially recorded, we are delighted that our two teams each won 3 matches and drew 1 match with them scoring 25 tries in total – well done!

All of our children are experiencing a variety of educational visits this term. Already the children in Years 5 and 6 enjoyed an amazing five day residential at Boreatton Park, Shrewsbury. The children in Years 3 and 4 went on a trip to Cadbury World, linked to their topic ‘Chocolate’. Our Years 1 and 2 are attending a workshop with the author Benji Davies – who wrote and illustrated ‘The Storm Whale’ and the children in Reception will be visiting the Botanical Gardens, Leicester where they will take part in an interactive activity based on the book ‘Elmer and the Lost Teddy’.

We are already in the process of contacting parents and carers of children who are due to start school in September 2017. If you know of anyone who would like a place at our school, please get in touch as soon as possible. It looks like there will be a few places available to families out of catchment next year, so do encourage anyone who may be interested to contact me. To help us to plan ahead, if you know a child who is due to start at Swinford School over the next few years, please send us their details.

October 2016

News from Swinford School

David Sleight Conservation

Specialists in the conservation and repair of traditional and listed buildings
Sympathetic repairs to brickwork, stone masonry, plasterwork and cob.
Ex-English Heritage craftsman
sleightconservation.co.uk
01858 571006 - 07980 702121

Thornhill Stud Riding School

Established 1974
Riding lessons & hacking for children
Occasional riders welcome
Tel. 01455 554206
Swinford Road, Walcote, Lutterworth LE17 4JZ
October 2016

(contact information as shown below). If you would like to come and visit us, we would love to meet you and show you our school.

Mr Edy O’Connor (Head Teacher)
01788 860404
admin@swinford.leics.sch.uk
www.swinford.leics.sch.uk

Swinford Skirts

Our August meeting was kindly organised by Chloe Gowling with help from Stuart! It was a car treasure hunt. We met in Gowling’s farmyard where we were given our instructions and cryptic clues! Our travels took us to Stanford, Claycoton, Lilbourne, Shawell and back to the Chequers for food and drink. A really planned out and enjoyable evening. Thanks again, Chloe.

During September we went to see thoroughly Modern Millie at the delightful Kilworth House Theatre. We had a warm sunny evening which always makes the evening so much more special.

On Thursday 13th October Swinford Skirts have been kindly asked to join Swinford WI at their meeting which is being held at Swinford Village Hall at 7:30pm. It’s a make up demonstration by Boots number 7. Light refreshments and a raffle ticket are included in the admission price of £5. Pay on the door but the WI would like a rough idea of numbers a week in advance, so if you could let me know please. Following the make up demonstration it will be off to the Chequers for a couple of drinks.

At the time of writing thirty four people are coming to the Skirts Christmas Party at Ullestorpe Court on Friday 2nd December. There is a festive three course menu followed by a disco. £22.50 per person. There will be transport home on the community bus. Partners are allowed so please join us for a fab night.

Julie Morris
07765 148335
BUMPER HARVEST AT SHAWELL

I have always believed that for a Harvest Festival to be genuinely Christian we should not just thank God for our food, but do something about feeding the hungry and caring for those whose crops have failed, refugees from war, and the many millions who go to bed hungry most days. So it was good at Shawell that we had a wonderful Harvest celebration on 18th September, with a congregation of fifty-two adults and nine children. As well as the collection for church expenses of £274 we had a brilliant auction of harvest produce conducted by the wonderful John Kelly. The auction (cakes were going for £20, and a jar of my jam fetched £7!) raised with donations £1153 - all for 'Mary's Meals' which provides over one million children with a nutritious daily meal at school - in twelve countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. £12.20 will feed one child at school for a whole year! So well done to Churchwardens Mary Galbraith and Barbara Coles who put so much effort into the event and everyone else who contributed in any way. Praise God for signs of joy and generosity!

Canon Brian Davis

A REQUEST FOR HELP

Do you work anywhere near Southam? Would you be prepared to pick up copies of the Five Parishes Newsletter from the printer there and drop them back to Shawell once a month?

Or would you be willing to compile the newsletter itself?

Currently there are only a few of us involved in getting the publication to you and it would be great to get more help.

If you can help, please get in contact via news@avonswift.org.uk.

Many thanks in advance!

ORDINATION AT SOUTH KILWORTH

On August 26th, Bank Holiday Monday, a unique event took place at Saint Nicholas’ Church, South Kilworth.

Under the Porvoo Communion (which includes, among others, the Latvian Lutheran Church and the Church of England) Daira Vavere was ordained Pastor by The Most Rev’d Lauma Zusevica, Archbishop of the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad. The Archbishop was attended by The Very Rev’d Dr. Andris Abakuks, Dean of the
October 2016


Daira, who studied theology at St. John’s College Nottingham, spent a year with the Avon Swift Benefice attending services, learning and preaching. She proved to be very popular in many of our eleven parishes.

A congregation of some sixty five was present with congregation members from Misterton and South Kilworth attending. A large contingent of Latvian lay representatives was mostly from the Latvian Centre in Catthorpe and from London.

For those present, the service (mostly in Latvian) was both moving and glorious and one still retains a feeling of great privilege to have hosted and participated in such an event in our small village church. With so few Latvian clergy in this country this must be unique and we feel that we are indeed blessed.

Sam Lloyd (churchwarden)
“I look back on the day I had dreaded, with pleasure at the memory of Dan and his burial.”

Ann Lenox

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