

Gulworthy Notes October 2021

Many thanks to Judith Blowey for taking over Gulworthy Notes last month and for being far more up to date with the life of Gulworthy than I could ever be!

John and I have had the joy of seeing family and friends over the summer and of travelling up to Northumberland beyond Hadrian's Wall to an area none of our family party knew at all. There was initially a slight nervousness at attending the wedding in Alnwick of a young man who we have known since he was 8 – far more people in one place than we have seen for a year and so it felt quite strange and a little exposing! It did, however, make us count our blessings yet again, that not only were we able to travel to such a fun event, but that we then had the additional joy of a week spent with our grown children, their partners and our first grandchild. It has been a tough year for those who have been isolated either by necessity or by circumstances beyond their control. There is still a lot of help, care and healing required from those of us who have been luckier.

So saying – we had our first church event for over a year with a Harvest celebration followed by a shared supper in the Parish Hall. The church had been beautifully decorated and the service gave thanks for the glory of the harvest and celebrated all that our farmers provide for us. As I sit writing this, the rain is almost torrential and we can but pray that 'all is safely gathered in.' About 30 people attended the service and it was a great community event, though we greatly missed Peter Blowey auctioning 20 overgrown courgettes. Maybe next year.....? Other church events to follow in the diary below.

Another joy was the Ordination to the priesthood of Rosie Illingworth and Hazel Butland on 25th September and their separate celebrations of their first Communion services at St Eustachius and Brent Tor. God Bless them in their ministry and help us to support them during the Vacancy.

No doubt, we will all try to take the opportunity to say our farewells to Chris Hardwick as he retires from full time ministry. I remember hearing a sermon when someone referred to reTYREment; the shedding of one set of wheels and the taking on of a fresh pair to carry one forward on the next exciting part of the journey. Thank you, Chris and Sarah, for all you have done and for all that you will do in the future. We in Gulworthy wish you much love and exciting new adventures on those refreshed tyres.

Diary Dates

Sunday 10th October – 11.15am. Chris Hardwick's final service at St Paul's. Shared lunch after the service at Colcharton Farm.

Sunday 17th October – No service – we will be joining with all the parishes in the benefice at **9.45am** at St Eustachius for Chris Hardwick's final service before his retirement.

Saturday 23rd October Car boot sale. Venue – Stubberlands. Ring Rosie Steer 01822 833084 for details and to pre-book a slot. Take the opportunity to de-clutter. One man's junk is another's treasure!

Remembrance Day 14th November 10.50am

Christmas Bazaar – Gulworthy Parish Hall. 28th Nov 3-4pm

Monday 6th December – Senior citizens' lunch. Time to be confirmed.

Sunday 19th December – We hope to have a "live" nativity at Morwellham Quay. To be confirmed.