

# The Edgehill Churches

# Parish Link



## **Building Stronger Communities**

March 2023

We are very blessed to have some strong communities in our area, communities where many people invest time in serving and helping the people in their village and the wider area.

At a time when so much of the world seems to be becoming more protectionist and inward-looking, it's encouraging to see so many outward-looking local people who want to make a difference for others.

Last November, I wrote about the great team of volunteers and generous donations that allow the Foodbank to operate over a wide rural area, but many other community projects operate in our villages. Some build community by creating spaces for people to make new friendships and strengthen old ones, and some are focused on helping people facing a crisis.

Across the villages in the area, there are monthly meals (breakfasts and lunches), regular gathering spaces for tea/ coffee and chat, youth groups, scouting and guiding

groups, events groups, arts and craft groups, many sports teams, and so many more. Many of these have restarted in this last year as COVID concerns have receded, and some of them are new; like the weekly Cosy Café in Kineton.

Alongside all the events that bring people together, many projects and charities in our villages offer support to people in need. They include things like Carers4carers, the Bereavement Café and the GIFT project.

GIFT is a project run by Kineton church that looks to help local people in need to make a fresh start.

We operate in Kineton and the surrounding area of South Warwickshire, providing holistic wrap-around sup-

port for people experiencing problems due to isolation, poverty, mental health and other challenges.

We work with families escaping abusive relationships, people with mental health problems, and people so overwhelmed by circumstances that they stop looking after themselves/their accommodation, etc.

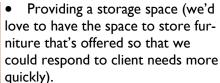
We help people make a fresh start by providing practical support for people in their homes, sourcing furniture and appliances, basic DIY, clearing out, cleaning and decorating, help with budgeting, mentoring support, grief counselling, and more.

We have links with local tradespeople who are generous with their time and skills, and we have great connections with Orbit Housing and statutory agencies to help push for support when needed.

The GIFT project has been run by a small team of volunteers from local churches for many years. However, the number of people needing help is increasing. In the first two months of this year, we've supported 4 major projects, including decorating, major house clearing/cleaning, and helping furnish a home for a single parent that has moved into one of our villages.

If you would like to help by...

- Volunteering time to help with moving furniture, cleaning, befriending, DIY, admin support, etc.
- Making a donation or running a fundraising event
- Donating furniture or white goods (we don't have any storage space, so we usually only take furniture when we can pass it on directly)



...then please contact barry@edgehillchurches.org

A huge thank you to everyone who gives their time, energy, talents and finances to invest in the many groups and organisations in our area. It's thanks to your generosity that we have such strong communities. I hope we can all continue working together to make them even

stronger.

Rev Barry Jackson





### **Churches' Contact Details:**

Rector: Rev Barry Jackson Tel: 01926 640248 email: barry@edgehillchurches.org

### **Associate Ministers**

Revd Dr Beren Hartless Tel: 01926 642975 email: beren.hartless@btinternet.com Rev Alison Abbott (curate) tel: 07923 442970 email: rev.alisonabbott@gmail.com

#### **Administrator:**

Katie Hartless Rose Tel 01926 641401 email: edgehilloffice@gmail.com

Benefice Web Site www.edgehillchurches.org

MARCH SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL PARISHES						
	Kineton	Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
5th	10.00am		8.30am	10.30am		8:30am
	Simply Celebrate		Communion	Communion		BCP Comm
I2th	10.30am	9:00am			10.30am	
	Communion	Communion			Communion	
19th	10.00am		10.30am	6.30pm		8.30am
	Morning Worship		Communion	Communion		Communion
26th	10.30am				10.30am	8.30am
	Communion				Communion	Communion

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Fri 3rd March, 2.30pm at Hornton Methodist Church.

This year the service. Has been put together by women in Taiwan. All are welcome



### SHOTTESWELL LUNCH

Saturday 4th Mar 12.30 - 2pm, Shotteswell Village Hall

Come and join us for some good company over a light lunch. Small raffle with proceeds



in aid of St Laurence Church, Shotteswell. Details from Pauline 01295 730687 or pauline.tarrant@hotmail.co.uk

# SIMPLY CELEBRATE

Sunday 5th Mar 10am St Peter's Kineton



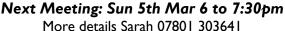
Come for breakfast to begin the service. A time with God for everyone. Our young people help lead the service with Bible readings, leading prayers, acting in dramas,

leading the actions in songs, and more

# CONNECT

A life group for 12-15 year olds on

Films, video clips, pizza, chill & chat about God, life, the universe and everything.



St Peter's invite you to join us for

MOTHER'S DAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Next meeting on Sunday 19th March



In March we're meeting in Kineton church for a Mother's Day Breakfast

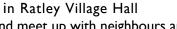
from 10am.

There will be crafts, games and activities and a special service to thank our Mums.

We hope you can join us

## TEA & CHAT

### Friday 24th Mar 3pm-4.30pm



Come and meet up with neighbours and friends for a chat and catch up. Cost £1.00





### THE BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ A weekly drop-in group

### Mondays 2-3pm Scout Hut, Kineton

Grief and loss of any type is painful and isolating. Come and join us in a safe, gentle environment for tea/coffee and a chat. More info from Dr Helen Gunton on helengunton1@gmail.com



