



Culworth Newsletter

April and May 2025



Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 3rd April

This is NOT a Parish Council Meeting! It is open to all Culworth residents, but only those who are registered electors may speak or vote. The agenda typically includes reports from the Parish Council, District Councillors, and local community groups, and it provides an opportunity for residents to raise issues. It is more informal than a Parish Council Meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place at the Village Hall at 7pm, and will be followed by a Parish Council Meeting, beginning at around 7.30pm, at which formal Council matters are discussed, with only notified agenda items included in the business.

Sunday 22nd June, 2 – 6pm

Village Fun Day



☀ Village Fun Day Extravaganza! ☀

Get ready for a day packed with excitement! We've got thrilling games, friendly competitions, and a fantastic raffle waiting for you!

Scarecrow Showdown!

Our team of highly respected scarecrow experts will be making their rounds in the village on the morning of the event, checking out all the creative, quirky, and downright hilarious scarecrow designs! Want to join in? Look out for more details to come. 🏆

🍰 Cake & Bake Bonanza 🍰

Calling all bakers and cake enthusiasts – it's time to show off your skills! Bring your showstopping

cakes and delicious treats to the village hall on the morning of **June 22nd**. Paul Hollywood (or one of his trusty assistants!) will be there to sample and judge your creations. Get ready for prizes and certificates for the prettiest, the most unique, and the most mouth-watering masterpieces!

🌸 Garden on a plate 🌸

Any budding garden designers young and old, put your green fingers to the test. Create a garden on a plate and bring it along on the morning of **June 22nd**. Local gardening experts will be awarding prizes for the most imaginative and splendid gardens.

👏 We need your help! 👏

If you'd like to help with preparations or on the day, please do get in touch. Nearer the time, we'll be putting a request out for any raffle prize donations. We're also on the hunt for a BBQ (gas or charcoal) that we can borrow for the day. If you can help, please e-mail: **catherine@ruffley.net**

This is going to be a day of laughs, friendly rivalry, and fun for all ages. We can't wait to see you there!

Culworth Village Café

There will be a village café on **Saturday 5th April** from 10.30 till 12 in the Village Hall. Refreshments are free but donations are invited towards Village Hall upkeep. The following one will be on **Saturday 3rd May**. Please come along and meet your fellow villagers.



Bell Rope Guide for St Mary's Church

For some time now the five bells at Culworth Church have had a somewhat undeserved reputation for being difficult to handle. The reason for this is that they have a long draught. In simple terminology this means that it is a long distance from the floor in the tower where the bell ringers stand to the point where the ropes disappear through the holes in the ceiling above their heads. With such an unrestrained length of rope it is easier to miss catching the sally - the woolly part of the bellrope - as it descends.

The remedy for the problem is to fit bell rope guides at a point about 15 feet (4.575m) above the floor. This creates a virtual ceiling through which the ropes can pass and reduces the length of unrestrained rope thus making them easier to control.

A voluntary team drawn from the bellringing fraternity has drilled the holes in the wall for the main cross member of the frame with two subframes attached to it. Making sure that the 'jugs' on the subframes, through which the ropes pass are in exactly the correct position has then taken quite a deal of care.

It is to be hoped that the improved handling of the bells will increase the numbers of ringers wishing to ring "the bells of St Mary's". In this area there is a shortage of bellringers. Anybody wishing to take up the pastime would be most welcome and could be put in contact with a suitable person to teach them. It really is never too late to learn a new skill!

Martin Rowling



Lily's Easter Cake Bake



Saturday 19th April 11am - 2pm

Culworth Village Hall

Hot Cross Buns

Afternoon Tea

Cakes

Cookies

Raising money for



Culworth Cricket Club



Culworth Junior Cricket Club

SIGN UP NOW FOR THE NEW SEASON



- BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 5 TO 16 YEARS OLD
- FANTASTIC FUN PLACE TO LEARN
- WE CATER FOR ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE
- IT'S A GREAT CLUB FOR KIDS AND PARENTS
- MAKE LOADS OF FRIENDS

The season starts on Tuesday 22nd April at 6pm on the cricket field (opposite the church) - weather permitting

For more information contact Jim Powell on 07860 638557, or jpowell@jspmanagement.co.uk

We are also looking for adults to play for our Culworth Casuals team playing friendlies on a Sunday afternoon

It is currently sunny as I write this report so thoughts drift to the sound of ball on willow. Our junior training nights start on Tuesday April 22nd at 6pm at the Cricket Field (weather permitting). Our first senior Culworth Casuals match is on Sunday April 27th. Before play can begin a Spring Clean is needed, so please come along to help prepare the nets, wicket & outfield, and pavilion on Sunday 6th April at 10am.

We will be running three junior teams this year- under 9s, under 11s and under 13s.

For more details, please visit the club website <https://culworth.play-cricket.com/home> or contact Jim Powell on 07860 638557 or jpowell@jspmanagement.co.uk

Culworth Film Nights

The next Film Night at the Village Hall is on Thursday 10th April, showing **Unforgiven**, as a tribute to the late Gene Hackman. Tickets £15 to include a meal, or £7.50 film only.

Doors open at 6.30pm. Contact Julie to book on 0776 973 0668 – jules.tinn@gmail.com

Obituary

We send our sympathy to the following:-

- Jenny, Christopher, Jonathan and the family on the death of Terry Howse . Terry loved travelling the world. He was a great quizzer and excellent company.
- Judith, Dawn and the family on the death of Margaret Claridge. She was the school cook for many years. No fete was complete without her teas and cakes.
- The family of Mrs Patricia Ruck Keene who died at the remarkable age of 103, having recently celebrated that milestone with a party.

We celebrate Terry, Margaret, and Patricia's lives and give thanks for their contribution to village life.

Village Litter Pick - Martin thanks all those who kindly picked up the litter. WNC collected a large pile on the following Monday morning. Sadly, no volunteers came forward for the hedge planting on the Cricket Field perimeter.

Terry Howse

Jenny, Chris, Kate and Jonathan would like to thank everyone who sent such kind and thoughtful messages, cards and flowers and enormous thanks for the support shown by coming to Terry's Thanksgiving service on February 14th. It has meant so much to all the family. Thank You.

West Northamptonshire Council is the single unitary council responsible for providing a range of public services to residents and businesses in the areas of Daventry, Northampton and South Northamptonshire. These services include:

- collection of your household waste
- maintenance of parks and open spaces
- street cleaning
- environmental health
- planning services



WNC also delivers the ex-NCC services of Education, Highways, Adult Social Care and Libraries. Culworth is in Silverstone Ward, represented by Councillor Alison Eastwood. Please contact her for WNC issues on alison.eastwood@westnorthyants.gov.uk or 07967867726.



Culworth Christmas Shopping Trail – December 6th, 2025



Would you like a stall at this exciting festive event?

We'd love to hear from you—whether you're ready to book or just want to chat and find out more. It's a fantastic opportunity to showcase your work, connect with the community, and be part of a special day. Interested? Simply drop me an email at ginnystaniford@gmail.com. We can't wait to make this event even better with more Culworth villagers involved.

Many thanks
Ginny Staniford

Culworth Snappers



The February meeting at Forge Coffee saw a great selection of images on the topic of Two Colours. The photograph on the left is from this topic, but do check out the Culworth Snappers Facebook page, where a selection of images from our latest subject is regularly updated. The March photos were related to Abstract Architecture, with a fantastic spread of imaginative interpretations in evidence.

A twilight visit to the newly restored Chesterton Windmill is planned for April. The topic for April is Long Exposure – we watched a short video with some helpful tips at the March meeting, so fingers crossed we can all produce a great image or two! If you are interested in joining us or just want to come along and see what it's all about, we generally meet on the last Thursday of the month.

News from St Mary's Culworth

Easter 2025

Palm Sunday 13th April 11am Family Service

Easter Day 20th April 11am Holy Communion

Church Wardens

Martin Rowling – 01295 760571 josephine.rowling@gmail.com)

Jenny Howse- 01295 768110 (jenny_howse@hotmail.com)

During the interregnum, please contact the church wardens or the Rural Dean for any information on christenings, weddings and funerals etc. Rural Dean; Father Matthew Robinson- 01295 811364 (fathermatthew.r@icloud.com) The Vicarage, Church Avenue, Kings Sutton OX17 3RJ



The pattern of services in Culworth is as follows:

1st Sunday of the month 10am Benefice Holy Communion – alternating churches in the benefice

6pm Evensong at Culworth

2nd Sunday 11am Family Service

3rd Sunday 10am Mattins

4th Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion

Church Electoral Roll - In every parish there must be a church electoral roll. A new roll is prepared every 6 years and ours must be revised in 2025 in time for the Annual Meeting (4th May). A form is available on the table in the church if you would like to be on that roll.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - In every parish the annual parochial church meeting (APCM) must be held before 31st May. At this meeting the P.C.C. and the church wardens are elected by those on the church's electoral roll. This year our APCM will be after Evensong on **Sunday 4th May at about 6.40**. It is the PCC's responsibility among other things to maintain the church buildings and 'other assets'. We do need some more people on the PCC who can help steer us through uncertain times. Please first fill in the form to be on the electoral roll and then come along to the APCM.

Thank You

Help Needed - Have you noticed the magnificent display of snowdrops and especially this year, the primroses? Please walk through the churchyard and admire them. We try very hard to keep our churchyard not only neat and tidy but a place for flora and fauna. Over the years we have succeeded in producing a wonderful display of Spring flowers. Church and churchyard do however rely on volunteers to keep both clean and beautiful. Could you spare some time to help? A list is on the table in the church. If you could help with the cleaning and/or churchyard mowing we would be most grateful. The mower is kept at the forge and the areas to be mown are on a map in the porch. Much of the churchyard is left for the flowers to set seed, and it is not cut until late July/early August. Please fill in any times you could help or contact me, jenny_howse@hotmail.com, 01295 768110.

Spring Clean - Every year we have a Church Spring Clean to welcome Easter. This year the Spring Clean will take place on **Monday 14th April between 10 and 12**. If you've got a spare hour please come and help us clean the church. Dusters and polish provided or bring your own! We will start about 10am. If you would like to help but can't come on that Monday, or feel you would rather do something on your own, there is a list of jobs to do on the table inside the church. Anyone at any time is very welcome. For more information, please ring Jenny (01295 768110).

Lent Quiz - Thank you to all who came to our Annual Lent Quiz held on 4th March. The money raised was divided between the Village Hall and St Mary's Church.

Lent Lunch in Culworth - The Lent Lunch this year was held on Thursday 20th March. Thank you to everyone who came and those who cooked the soups and puddings. Diana will be sending £200 to The Red Cross.

Church Pews - Have you noticed that the church pews at the back of the church are much narrower and much more uncomfortable than the other ones? It was suggested when a group from the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) came round earlier this month that they were the

pews for the children. I wonder if they were right? Some of the pew ends are mediaeval, some are Victorian. It's quite easy to tell the difference.

Culworth Benefice Services

April 2025

6th April 10am Benefice Holy Communion
Chipping Warden (EC)
6pm Evensong Culworth

13th April Palm Sunday
9.30am Holy Communion Chipping Warden (PB)
9.30am Morning Prayer Moreton Pinkney
11am Family Service Culworth

20th April Easter Day
9am Holy Communion Moreton Pinkney (G.S.)
9.30am Holy Communion Chipping Warden (E.C.)
11am Holy Communion Culworth (P.B.)
11am Holy Communion Edgcote (E.C.)

27th April
9.30am Holy Communion Culworth (GS)
10am Mattins Chipping Warden
11am Mattins Edgcote (James Hewison)
4pm Evensong Moreton Pinkney followed by Annual Meeting

4th May
10am Benefice Holy Communion Moreton Pinkney (E.C.)

6pm Evensong Culworth

11th May
9.30am Holy Communion Chipping Warden (G.S.)
9.30am Morning Prayer Moreton Pinkney
11am Family Service Culworth

18th May
9.30am Holy Communion Moreton Pinkney (G.S.)
10am Mattins Culworth

25th May
9.30am Holy Communion Culworth (GS)
9.30am Café Church Moreton Pinkney
10am Mattins Chipping Warden
11am Holy Communion Edgcote (R.O.)

Sunday 1st June
10am Benefice Holy Communion Edgcote (EC)
6pm Evensong Culworth

E.C. - Rt Rev Ed Condry
G.S. - Rev Greg Shaw
P.B. - Rev Phillip Ball
R.O. - Ven. Richard Ormston

Lions Clubs Message in a Bottle Scheme

Members of the public and other organisations can obtain a Message in a Bottle kit by contacting a local Lions club. Or alternatively, a kit can be ordered using a form on the public website - see: <https://lionsmessageinabottle.co.uk/> More than 6 million Message in a Bottle kits have been distributed by Lions Clubs International (MD105) British Isles to people with conditions such as diabetes, allergies, disabilities and life-threatening illnesses.

Lions Clubs Message in a Bottle is a simple but effective way for people to keep their basic personal and medical details where they can be found in an emergency on a standard form and in a common location – the fridge. Message in a Bottle helps emergency services personnel to save

valuable time in identifying an individual very quickly and knowing if they have any allergies or take special medication.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 3rd April – 7pm Annual Parish Meeting in Village Hall, followed by Parish Council Mtg

Saturday 5th April – 10.30am to 12noon, Village Cafe

Sunday 6th April – 10am Cricket Club Spring Clean

Sunday 6th April – 10am Benefice Holy Communion Chipping Warden, 6pm Culworth Evensong

Thursday 10th April – 6.30pm Film Night in Village Hall – “Unforgiven” starring Gene Hackman

Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday – 11am Family Service Culworth

Saturday 19th April – 11am to 2pm Lily’s Easter Cake Bake in Village Hall

Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday – 11am Holy Communion Culworth

Tuesday 22nd April – 6pm Cricket Training commences

Thursday 24th April – 7.30pm Culworth Snappers at The Forge – “Long Exposure”

Sunday 27th April – 9.30am Holy Communion Culworth

Saturday 3rd May – 10.30am to 12noon, Village Cafe

Sunday 4th May – 10am Benefice Holy Communion at Moreton Pinkney, 6pm Evensong, Culworth

Wednesday 7th May – 8.30am to 6pm, Sale at Manor House

Thursday 8th May – 8.30am to 5pm, Sale at Manor House

Sunday 11th May – 11am Family Service Culworth

Sunday 18th May – 10am Mattins Culworth

Sunday 25th May – 9.30am Holy Communion Culworth

Sunday 1st June – 10am Benefice Holy Communion Edgcote, 6pm Culworth Evensong

Sunday 22nd June – 2pm – 6pm Village Fun Day & Barbeque



Minutes of Parish Council Meetings

These are available on the Culworth Parish Council website (Hover over the link, Press CTRL & click): [Culworth Parish Council](#)

Hard copies can be obtained from the Parish Clerk on request.

Whilst the Parish Council funds the publication of the newsletter, the views expressed in it may not be those of the Parish Council. The editor reserves the right to make adjustments to the text and formatting for readability.

Please send items for the next newsletter to wilbyjoanne@gmail.com

If anyone would like to take on the role of Newsletter Editor, please do get in touch with the Parish Clerk or Joanne Wilby.

Want to know what is happening in the village?

The Parish Council's website (the Culworth Village website) as above

Or search for:

Culworth Facebook
Culworth Community Facebook
Nextdoor Culworth
Red Lion website and Facebook
Forge Coffee website



FORGE COFFEE

Mondays to Fridays 8:45am-4pm
Saturdays 9am-4pm
Sundays 9am-3pm

Thanks for all your support.

Available to rent for events and parties

For all our events, check our website:
<https://www.forgecoffee.co.uk/whats-on> or
follow us on Instagram (@forge_coffee) or on
Facebook
(<https://www.facebook.com/forgecoffeeshop>)

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www.paulwhartonartist.com

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Grown in Culworth



Gifts
Weddings
Events
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Courses in
Growing & Floristry

www.fromgardentovase.co.uk
Instagram Facebook



Pilates Solutions: Julie Russell

Hi everyone - I am a Culworth resident, and I am excited to be returning to Sulgrave Village Hall to teach regular Pilates Classes from the week commencing 3rd June 2024.

For more information you can visit my website
www.pilates-solutions.co.uk

If you are interested in joining or would like to ask me any questions my mobile number is 07778 673677. Email address
julierussell007@gmail.com.

Do you have a local business? Please tell us about it via the village newsletter.