



The Edgehill Churches

Parish Link

Loving
God,
Serving
People,
Growing
Community

Why would you do that?

June 2018

Since moving to Kineton and driving between the six churches in the Benefice I have encountered an awful lot of cyclists. At first I was puzzled that there seem to be far more than anywhere else I have lived, and whilst I recognise the importance of exercise and the joy of being out in the fresh air in beautiful countryside, I have found myself asking 'why would you do that?' Why would you put on all that lycra and the helmet and the shoes which attach you to the pedals and then venture out onto roads where so many cars drive so perilously close to you? And most of all, why on earth would you want to cycle up Sunrising Hill especially as there's no immediate downhill after it to stick your feet out and go 'wheeeee' all the way down.

Why would you do that?

Why do we do the things that we do?

Recently some of us have been attending a course called 'Living Well' when we have looked at how we might reduce stress in our lives and build resilience. One of the questions we have explored is 'what are the things we do which we find energising, uplifting, life-giving?'

And then we have been encouraged to try and build more of those activities or moments into our day to day lives. We've also given some thought to how we might reduce the activities which leave us feeling drained or stressed.

It's well worth taking some time every so often to ask yourself those questions.

Almost seven years ago I took the first steps towards ordained ministry. For many, many years I had tried to ignore the nudging by God. I was too busy, it was inconvenient, not at all sensible, completely ridiculous even! But eventually I dared to stop and reflect, and I chose to give up a job I loved as a Speech and Language Therapist and really listen to that 'call'.

When I first told my wider family one of them said 'why on earth would you want to do that? Why would you want to give up what you are doing now and join something which is dying?'

It was a bit of a shocking question and one that came back to me during my years of training at college and at times still does. I'm sure there are many people who still think 'why would anyone do that?'

So this is my answer

Because its lifegiving and uplifting and where I feel that I am meant to be. And that's really to do with the people I encounter and the glimpses of God I see in them – yes

even in you! The kindness, generosity, hospitality, compassion, tears and laughter, rejoicing and celebrating.

Like Sunrising Hill at times it's a hard slog, sometimes like the cyclists I wear curious clothes, and there have been moments which feel like near misses. But there are also plenty of glorious times when I get the sticking out your feet 'wheeeee' moments.

Whether that's a smile and a nod of greeting in the street, a joyous school assembly, time in a nursing home, singing at 'toddle-in', the privilege of taking a funeral or baptising a baby, a chat in the shops or the pub or simply sitting quietly in a church and recalling the people I have met that day.

All these moments are, even if only in a very small way, life changing and life-giving and shape who I am as I continue my training as curate here in the Edgehill Churches.

Last year I was ordained as a Deacon and, in the Church of England, that's a little bit like a probationary year. There's lots I can do, but some things I can't. In July that changes when I will be ordained in Coventry cathedral as a priest. I will continue here in my training, but with a wider range of ministries where I can serve.

I don't expect I will look different or sound different and probably most people won't notice anything different about me at all, but the joy is that not only will I be doing what I feel called or even compelled to do, I will be doing it in a Church which is certainly not dying, but very much alive and offering life in all it's fullness to the communities and people it serves.

Perhaps the next time we see a group of cyclists or even follow them up a hill or along winding roads we can take that moment to ask ourselves

Are we doing the things we find lifegiving and uplifting and are we helping others to do the same?

Rev Alex Williams

SOMETIMES, YOU NEED TO STEP
OUTSIDE, GET SOME AIR, AND REMIND
YOURSELF OF WHO YOU ARE AND WHO
YOU WANT TO BE.



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Benefice Web Site www.edgehillchurches.org

JUNE SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL CHURCHES

	Kineton		Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
3 rd	8.30am BCP Comm	10.30am Simply Celebrate		8.30am Communion	10.30am Communion		8:30am BCP Comm
10 th		10.30am Benefice Com	9.00am Communion		5.40pm Compline		8.30am Communion
17 th	8.30am BCP Comm	10.00am Messy Father's day		10.30am Morning Worship	6.30pm Communion	10.30am Communion	8.30am Communion
24 th		10.30am Communion			6.30pm Evensong	4.30pm Pint's of View	8.30am Communion

Meet & Eat

Tuesday 5th June 12 'til 2pm
in Kineton Methodist Church Hall

More info: Diana 07749 599211 or Chris 01926 640904



MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICE

Thursday 7th June at 11am
at St Peter's Church, Kineton

With traditional hymns played on the organ.



Father's Day!



Sunday 17th June at 10am,
at St Peter's Kineton

Join us for a bacon buttie
breakfast plus games, activities
and fun for all the family.

SIMPLY CELEBRATE

Sunday 3rd June 10am
St Peter's Kineton



Come for *breakfast* to begin the service.
A time with God for everyone, with drama,
puppets, activities, fun, songs and more.

CONNECT

A group for 12-15 year olds

Sunday 3rd June from 6 to 7:30pm at the Vicarage
Films, video clips, pizza, chill & chat about God, life, the
universe and everything.



THRIVE

A group for young people from
9-12 years old

Meeting on Sunday 17th June

from 6:00-7.30pm at St Peters Church, Kineton

Have fun with friends and learn more about God!

Contact Tanita tanita@edgehillchurches.org or 07707
926978, or Eira on 07837 064081, eirahale@gmail.com

MEDITATION SERVICE

Sunday 24th June at 6pm
St Peter's Kineton

Exploring ways of knowing God through
contemplative prayer



SHOTTESWELL LUNCH

Saturday 2nd June 12.30pm
Shotteswell Village Hall

Come and join us for good company over a light lunch.
Details from Pauline Tarrant 01295 730687



PINTS OF VIEW

Rose & Crown, Ratley Sun 10th June at 6pm
Plough, Warmington Sun 24th June at 4.30pm

Whatever your *pint of choice*, come & share your *point of view*.
Each month we explore a theme or story from the news

Priesting of Rev Alex Williams

Alex has been with us for almost a year.
On 1st July she will be ordained as a
priest in Coventry Cathedral at
10.30am. We hope you can join us.
She will be presiding at her first com-
munion service at St Peter's Kineton at
6pm on the evening of the 1st July.
Everyone welcome



SIMPLY SING

Tuesdays, 3.30 pm, St Peter's Kineton

Simply Sing is a young people's choir
run by the Edgehill Churches. We meet on each Tuesday
in term time from 3.30 -4.30 in St Peter's Kineton.

Info from Alex Williams alexwilliams66@gmail.com



SHOTTESWELL VILLAGE FETE

Saturday 7th July 1 – 5pm
Shotteswell Playing Field

Stalls, Teas, Bar, Side Shows, Competitions,
and more Details from Linda or Terry 01295 738143 or
lindamargaretclark@hotmail.com



Toddle in

Wednesdays from 9-10.30am in
Kineton Methodist Church Hall

A time of singing, stories and fun for parents
and children aged 0-preschool.



MEET AND EAT HOLIDAY AT HOME

Kineton Methodist Church Hall

Monday 30th July to Friday 3rd August

A whole week of lunches with afternoon activities called
"Holiday at Home" More info: Diana 07749 599211