



# The Edgehill Churches

## Parish Link

Loving  
God,  
Serving  
People,  
Growing  
Community

May 2019

## Let water make you stop and think

The River Dene runs along the bottom of our garden and is quite deep opposite our house.

In Winter, most of the time it's dark and still, though on a few notable occasions, it has overflowed its banks and flooded the gardens of houses down our road and beyond.

In Summer, the water clears enough to see shoals of fish (possibly roach or chub) sunning themselves. Three times we've seen the glorious electric blue of a king-

fisher darting up river, looking to catch fish in the clear water. But we wouldn't drink it, because it's not pure enough for human consumption.

Fresh, clean, drinkable water is a precious resource, one which we are privileged to receive on tap in much of the developed world today. Water refreshes us; it is life-giving.

Recently, it was reported that the River Chew in Somerset had started to flow again for the first time in 70 years. It had been cut off by a dam, and many varieties of wildlife had been lost. But now, the 'dramatic re-engineering of reservoir overflows', (*The Guardian*, 12/4/19) means that water is flowing along the river channel again, and it is hoped that fish, water voles, and other wild creatures will recolonise it.

Water provides a home, an environment for living creatures. And it will shape and form the banks of the River Chew as it flows. In some parts of Scotland and Wales, flowing water is used to provide hydroelectric power; it produces around 21% of renewable electricity for us.

We don't normally have water shortages in our country, and plentiful water means that from April onwards, we are able to have a fountain running in our garden, as some of you may have seen when walking round the Big Field between Kinton and Radway. We enjoy the calming sound of water features, with water trickling, pouring, and gurgling in our gardens in the UK.

In many parts of the world, however, fresh water is not only in short supply, but is already scarce, and the situation is likely to get worse. By 2030, the UN expects that



24 million to 700 million people in the drier areas of our planet will experience such water scarcity that they will be displaced. Mass migration due to lack of water, drought and crop failure is a recognised impact of climate change.

Long ago, in a time of water scarcity in Israel, Jesus used the idea of living water as a metaphor for the Spirit of God. During one of the great Jewish festivals, he stood

in the temple and cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink." Then he said that "rivers of living water will brim and spill out of the innermost being" of all who believe in him. He was speaking about the Holy Spirit, who was to be poured out on Jesus' followers after his death, resurrection, and return to heaven, on the day called Pentecost.

Still today, the Holy Spirit fills and flows out of the followers of Jesus, helping us to know God's life-giving presence with us in everyday life. And the Holy Spirit, like water, works in our world to refresh and bless people, working wherever love and goodness are found. Christians believe that the living water of the Spirit empowers people to make a difference in our world.

So next time you have a glass of water with a meal, you may like to think not just of the wonderful resource we have and all who work to keep it fresh and pure, but also of the Holy Spirit, making God's presence real to us.

Rev Beren Hartless

### Churches' Contact Details:

**Rector:** Rev Barry Jackson Tel: 01926 640248

Email: [barry@edgehillchurches.org](mailto:barry@edgehillchurches.org)

### Associate Ministers

(Curate) Rev Alexandra Williams Tel: 01926 259743

Email: [alexwilliams66@gmail.com](mailto:alexwilliams66@gmail.com)

Rev Dr Richard Cooke Tel: 07952 544820

Email: [richard.cooke@covcofe.org](mailto:richard.cooke@covcofe.org)

Revd Dr Beren Hartless Tel: 01926 642975

Email: [beren.hartless@btinternet.com](mailto:beren.hartless@btinternet.com)

**Benefice Web Site** [www.edgehillchurches.org](http://www.edgehillchurches.org)

## MAY SERVICES IN THE EDGEHILL PARISHES

	Kineton		Combroke	Radway	Ratley	Warmington	Shotteswell
5th	8.30am BCP Comm	10.00am Simply Celebrate		8.30am Communion	10.30am Communion		8:30am BCP Comm
12th		10.30am Communion	9.00am Communion		5.40 pm Compline	10.30am Communion	8.30am Communion
19th		10.30am Morning Worship		10.30am Communion	6.30pm Communion	10.30am Communion	8.30am Communion
26th		10.30am Communion			10.30am Morning Worship		8.30am Communion

## Meet & Eat

Tuesday 7th May at 12 noon  
in Kineton Methodist Hall

More info: Diana 07749 599211 or Chris 01926 640904

### BIG BREKKIE FOR CHRISTIAN AID

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30–11.30 am,  
St Peter's Church A fun opportunity  
for breakfast with friends and raise  
money for Christian Aid.



### MIDWEEK ECUMENICAL SERVICE

Thursday 2nd May at 11am

at St Peter's Church Kineton

A monthly ecumenical communion service with  
traditional hymns on the organ



## TEA & CHAT

Friday 3rd May 3pm-5pm  
in Ratley Village Hall

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

Everyone welcome. No need to book, just turn up!



## Simply... Sweaty FA Cup Final Special!

Church... but not sitting still

Sunday 19th May at 4pm,  
at Kineton Primary School

Football style games, challenges, activities and fun for all  
the family plus a hot meal together.

More info from Contact Bez on 01926 640466 or  
simplystpeters@gmail.com

## SHOTTESWELL LUNCH

Saturday 4th May, 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 on 01295  
730687\_ or [pauline.tarrant@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pauline.tarrant@hotmail.co.uk)

### SIMPLY CELEBRATE

Sunday 5th May 10am  
St Peter's Kineton



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

Next Meeting: Sun 5th May 6 to 7:30pm

More details Sarah 07801 303641



## PINTS OF VIEW

The Swan, Kineton Sun 26th May at 6pm  
Whatever your **pint of choice**, come &  
share your **point of view**.

Each month we explore a theme or story from the news.

**THE BIG ?**

## The Big Question

Exploring questions about life and faith  
Thursday 23rd May at 7:00pm in  
The Swan, Kineton

**This time we will be exploring:**  
**Creation vs Evolution**

*Can a Christian believe in evolution?  
Can Genesis be reconciled with science?*

A multimedia presentation and informal discussion  
all washed down with some drinks from the bar

**Everyone Welcome**

## Ascension Day Communion



Thursday 30th May at 10.30am

at St Laurence's Church Shotteswell

A special service for Ascension Day

**Toddle in** Wednesdays from 9-10.30am in  
Kineton Methodist Church Hall

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



## RADWAY'S TEA, CHAT & PLAY

Every Wednesday 2pm -4pm in the Village Hall

All ages are welcome from babies to  
grandpas!

