

## NOTICES

**Coffee Stop in Colmworth Church Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September.** Come and join us for a coffee and a chat - 10.30 a.m to noon. All welcome.

**Colmworth** guided walks will continue at 10 a.m. on **Wednesday mornings**, meeting at the triangle near the church. All welcome.

**Bike and Hike:** There are riders from our Benefice signed up to ride their bicycles to raise funds for their churches and the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. They need your sponsor support so please help. The Bike and Hike takes place on **September 9<sup>th</sup>**.

**Wilden 3<sup>rd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Sept. Scarecrow Competition** Entry £15 per family (includes prize giving tea 3 p.m. on the 10th) Contact Jane 771326 or Susie 771534 for details.

**Wilden Harvest Supper and Auction** takes place on Friday **6<sup>th</sup> October** at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. in Wilden Village Hall. Tickets £10. available from Jane 771326 and Di 772170.

**Ravensden Community Cuppa** on Tuesday **5<sup>th</sup> September** from 2-4pm in the village hall. £2 for tea and cake. Everyone welcome.

**Coffee Morning** in aid of the Primrose Unit Appeal, for replacement vehicles to take patients to Addenbrookes, will be at Ravensden Village Hall on Saturday **16<sup>th</sup> September** from 10am -12 noon. Entry £5 ( children £2) to include multiple cups of tea/coffee, a piece of cake and a raffle ticket. There will also be a sales table of books, plants, produce and new items.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September** 7.30pm Recital Hall, Bedford School (entrance and parking off De Parys Avenue) I'm delighted to launch Bedford's new professional chamber choir, **Gaude**. Our inaugural concert is on 16th September - it would be wonderful if you could join us to experience the freshness and power of some of the UK's finest singers. **Jeremy**. Tickets £15 (<18 £5) [www.gaude.org.uk](http://www.gaude.org.uk) or on the door.

**Colmworth and Neighbours History Society** meet at Colmworth Village Hall on **September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** for the A.G.M. and entertainment from the Palace of Curiosities with a meal (please order in advance). Contact Chris Walker 771536.

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# Colmworth, Ravensden & Colmworth Newsletter

**September 2017**

It seems that finally, after a few weeks of wet (and very cold) weather, that the harvest has finally managed to recommence which will be a weight off many people's minds. The unseasonal weather this August is a reminder to us all that, despite the best laid plans that we have, whether a holiday by the sea, a picnic or a bike ride or a day's work in the garden or a specific weather dependent job, that we cannot control everything that goes on.

And we will be aware of this in our own lives, where events have happened that we can't control or resolve easily, maybe causing us to face our own mortality or vulnerability. And in some respects this leads us to think about the fragility of our lives and what we depend upon.

And how much more so when whole communities are affected; for example those people whose lives have been affected by the devastating mudslide in Sierra Leone, lives, homes and livelihoods lost or those caught up in the floods in Bangladesh, or those in East Africa where they are experiencing a drought creating the worst crisis since 1945. Suddenly life and things that we take for granted become much more precarious and hopefully more precious. Where do we turn for help?

We've been thinking about the parables in Church throughout August. One of the stories that Jesus told was about the wise man who built his house on the rock. That rock is Jesus himself, the foundation of our faith.

What are the rocks that we build our lives on in difficult times? Christians believe that Jesus is the big rock, the foundation stone. Building our lives on this rock, Jesus, doesn't mean that everything is easy or things are suddenly simple, but it gives us a sure and certain hope that, even in the face of difficulty, our trust can be placed in him.

Of course, this doesn't stop us from having a responsibility to help others who are in precarious situations, whether near or far, (and if you want to support some of the communities I mentioned who are having particularly challenging times you may want to donate at [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk)) and it doesn't stop us from having other rocks in our lives like family and friends but, as life can seem fragile and things that we can't control rear their heads, it's good to come back and remember that our foundation can be the rock who is Jesus himself.

I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121. 1-2

Madeleine

## SERVICES FOR September 2017

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Colmworth	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Holy Communion
Wilden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All together Service

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September

Colmworth	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Morning Worship
Ravensden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All together Service
Wilden	6.00 p.m.	Benefice Evensong

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September

Ravensden	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Morning Worship
Wilden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All Together service with communion

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Ravensden	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Holy Communion
Colmworth	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All Together service
Wilden	6.00 p.m.	Benefice Evensong

## Readings

3rd Sept	Jeremiah 15.15-21	Romans 12.9-end	Matthew 16.21-end
10th Sept	Ezekiel 33.7-11	Romans 13.8-end	Matthew 18.15-20
17th Sept	Genesis 50.15-21	Romans 14.1-12	Matthew 18.15-20
24th Sept	Jonah 3.10-end of 4	Philippians 1.21-end	Matthew 20.1-16

## Bible reading notes

Do you use Bible study notes like Living Daylight or Every day with Jesus? Or would you like to start using some Bible study notes? If they are unfamiliar to you, these are a little booklet that has a reading from the Bible, a reflection and a prayer for each day. Would you like to use these notes on a daily basis? Over the next few weeks, we will be having a think about which booklet might be best for us to use and there will be examples available at Church. The cost is about £15-£17 for a year's supply. Keep a look out for more info in Church and, if you would like to sign up to receive the booklets, please let Madeleine know. We are also looking for someone to take on the role of organising the ordering and distribution of the booklets, so have a think and let Madeleine know if you could do that!

## Benefice Harvest Festival 2017

Harvest is a time to say thank you to God for all his provision for us. It is a time to be aware that all that we have belongs to God and to celebrate the beauty and wonder of creation. It's a joyful festival so this year we are going to be celebrating harvest with a service at Colmworth Church followed by pulled pork sandwiches (veggie option available!), mulled cider, a firepit, and a bouncy castle. The service will be suitable for all ages so come along and join us!

**Colmworth Church, 4pm, Sunday 1st October. Everybody welcome.**

## Flowers and Brasses

Colmworth	September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Maria Marsh
	September 10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup>	Kate Abrahams
	September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest – Help please
	September 30 <sup>th</sup>	Kate Abrahams & Heather Smith
Ravensden	September 10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>	Margaret Bright
Wilden	September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Louise Mardlin
	September 10 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup>	Di Parkin
	September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Elizabeth Wootton

## From the Registers

30th June Funeral of **Len Baggott** at Ravensden Church

30th June Blessing of the marriage of **Claire and Chris Pell** at Wilden Church

23rd July Baptism of **Lily Elisabeth Anne Abrahams** along with **Tamora Helen Burford** and **Mark Robert Bateman** at Colmworth Church

29th July **Sallyanne Smith and Rowland Gilbey** married at Ravensden Church

## Notice

**The Friends of St Denys Colmworth** are holding a Barn Dance on Saturday **23rd September 2017**, 7.00pm to 11.30pm in Colmworth Village Hall, featuring the music of **PARSON'S NOSE** with caller Patti Pitt. Tickets £12.50 (under 16s £6.00) to include a Ploughman's Supper. Licenced Bar. For tickets or further information contact Felicity and Steve Evans on 01234 376887. In aid of the Church Restoration Fund.