NOTICES

Ravensden Community Cuppa is on **Tuesday 5th February at Ravensden Village Hall at 2 p.m.** £2 entrance to include tea and cake. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee Stop in Colmworth Church on Wednesday 13th February. 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.

Colmworth Community Lunch takes place on **27th February** in church at 12 noon. Contact Heather on 376513 to book.

Colmworth & Neighbours History Society – meet on February 15th at Colmworth Village Hall when Les Evans will tell us about Concorde: A Magnificent Aircraft. 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. All welcome.

Blunhan Giant Book Sale – **Saturday 16th February 10 – 3p.m.** Come to our Browse and Buy Second Hand Giant Book Sale at Blunham Parish Church (St. Edmunds or St. James, Park Lane, Blunham. Beds MK44 3NQ). Selection of second hand/nearly new books. Homemade cakes, teas and coffees, homemade soup and a raffle. All proceeds to Blunham Church Fabric Fund.

At the **Wilden Christingle Service** the **Children's Society** boxes raised £334.14. Many thanks to all who have boxes. If anyone is interested in having an annual box please contact wildennews@hotmail.com

Colmworth Crib Service. A big thank you to all those who took part and made it such a special occasion, especially the children.

Friends of Wilden held a very successful social evening in January and have decided to hold another on 22nd February 7 pm to 9 pm at Wilden Village Hall. Come along, meet new neighbours and enjoy pleasant company for a couple of hours.

Editors: Revd. Timothy Wilson Eunice Welbourn eunicewelbourn@btinternet.com



February 2019

New Starts

February isn't usually associated with new starts but for me as I begin as Priest in Charge here it is a very new start. (By the way Rector/Vicar/Priest in charge all mean the same thing in practice – there are just a few technical, legal and historical differences – but most people call me Tim which is the best name for me!)

Most times do mark a new start. February contains 'Candlemas' remembering Jesus being presented in the Temple and the aged Simeon calling Him 'the light to reveal Him to the nations and the glory of God's people, Israel'. Candlemas is 2nd February – 40 days after Christmas day. This marks the end of the 'Christmas Season' – Advent, Christmas and Epiphany – and the turn from celebrating Jesus birth to looking towards and preparing for remembering Jesus' death and celebrating His glorious resurrection. So the Sundays are no longer 'Sundays after Epiphany' but 'Sundays before Lent'. I love the opportunity to have another joyful celebration and candles out again on the Sunday nearest 2nd February. It's a long January since 12th Night when we took our Christmas tree and decorations down – and many do this even sooner – so I hope we'll celebrate Jesus as the Light of the World together this month.

But it is also a time to change from looking back to looking forward. Simeon is thought to be aged as he says 'now I can depart in peace according to Your Word'. He is ready to die, and Lent (an old English word meaning 'Spring') is a time to look forward when we try to make time to focus more on God and what He might mean to us personally. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 6th March – 40 days before Easter which is late this year (21st April) and traditionally a time for God's people to gather together in groups to encourage each other in their personal and corporate journey with Him. Details to be decided but we shall be having some groups across our 3 churches during Lent to read the bible, pray and encourage one another. I hope you will enjoy me as we make this new start together.

And for now I hope soon to be based locally in Ravensden Church room as I continue to live in Bromham. I plan to have a pot of fresh filter coffee on the go most of the time so do call in when you're passing. And I hope also to pray in each of the 3 churches one day a week in the mornings so I hope you will join me there too.

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday 3rd February Candlemass

Colmworth	9.00 a.m.	Benefice Holy Communion
Wilden	10.30 a.m.	Benefice All Age Worship

Sunday 10th February 4th Sunday before Lent

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 17th February 3rd Sunday before Lent Septuagesima

Ravensden	9.00 a.m. Benefice Morning Worship
Wilden	10.30 a.m. Benefice Family service with
	Communion

Sunday 24th February 2nd Sunday before Lent Sexagesima

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

Feb. 3 rd	Malachi 3:1-5	Hebrews 2: 14-18	Luke 2: 22-40
Feb. 10 th	Isaiah 6: 1-8, 9-13	1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	Luke 5: 1-11
Feb. 17 th	Jeremiah 17: 5-10	1 Corinthians 15: 12-20	Luke 6: 17-26
Feb. 24 th	Genesis 2:4b-9 & 15-25	Revelation 4	Luke 8: 22-25

From the Registers

The funeral took place on January 2nd 2019 of **Sheila Dixon** from Wayside Farm Park, Ravensden. A complex person who adopted Wilden Church as her 'spiritual' home. May she now find eternal rest.

It is with sadness we report the death on 17th January of **Joe Howell**, late of Rose Cottage, Hollis Lane, Wilden. May he rest in peace.

Flowers and Brasses

Colmworth	Feb. 3 rd , 10 th & 17 th	Lorraine Knight
	Feb. 24 th	Jenny Nehan
Ravensden	Feb. 10 th , 17 th & 24 th	Helena Walker
Wilden	Feb. 3 rd	Judy Love
	Feb. 10 th /17 th	Christine Sansom
	Feb. 24 th /March 3 rd	Hilary Fisher

Help needed to clear out, clean & paint Ravensden church room in preparation for setting up a base for Tim and a future part time administrator. If you can help please speak to Tim.

Dates for your Diary

On Saturday 2^{nd} March 9.30 - 12.30 there is a Yoga and relaxation morning at Ravensden Village Hall. For further information or to book please contact Audrey Cooper at Ascooper71@gmail.com

Saturday 2nd March 7.30 p.m. Bedford School Chapel – Gaude – Bedford's Professional Chamber Choir will be singing Bach Motets by Candlelight. Contact gaude.org.uk for details.

Monday 6th May is the date that Wilden will be holding the traditional May Day Fayre. The Committee is already hard at work organising and planning so if you feel able to help in any way, contact WildenMayDay@hotmail.com

On the $1^{st}/2^{nd}$ June Ravensden are holding a Flower Festival combined with a Craft display at All Saints Church. The organisers will be seeking sponsors for this event. Call Sue on 771910 if you are able to help.