



Cotswold Edge

June 2026

The Church Newsletter for
Marshfield, Cold Ashton,
Tormarton and West Littleton

Benefice Contacts

For information about baptisms, weddings, funerals or pastoral visits
please contact **the Benefice Curate:**

Rev Sharon Roberts 07903 011030 s.roberts5454@outlook.com

Parish Administrator: Rachel O'Mahony: Monday and Thursday mornings
Email: marshfield.benefice@gmail.com

Lay Ministers	Aurea Hart (LLM)	01225 891453
	Mike Strathdee (LLM)	01225 891001
	Andrew Gammie	01225 892392
	Molly Williams	07882 749950
Safeguarding Officer	Linda Lamb	lfsafeguarding@gmail.com

St Mary the Virgin Church, Marshfield

Churchwardens	Eric Pullin	01225 891351
	Paul White	01225 891765
PCC Secretary	Rachel O'Mahony	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	Kate Brain	01225 892582
Gift Aid/Giving Officer	Peter Brunyate	01225 891508
Bell Tower Captain	Anthony Chiddy	07563 961649
Church Bookings	marshfield.benefice@gmail.com	

Holy Trinity Church, Cold Ashton

Churchwarden	Monica Green	01225 891669
PCC Secretary	Scarlett Wyatt	07432 050503
PCC Treasurer	Georgina Perceval-Maxwell	07771 776290

St Mary Magdalene Church, Tormarton

Churchwardens	Richard Lawrence	01454 218730
	Stewart Waters	01454 218393
PCC Secretary	Vacant	
PCC Treasurer	Janet Wells	01454 218549

St James' Church, West Littleton

Churchwardens	David Adams	01225 891100
	Beccy Derry-Evans	
PCC Treasurer	Michael Horgan	01225 891486

Marshfield Chapel	David Spence	01225 891115
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Cotswold Edge Items:	Peter Woodward	07973 157587
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Tormarton Newsletter:	Janet Wells	01454 218549
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Benefice website www.marshfieldchurch.org

To put items on website please contact Richard Shreeve 01225 891169

Tormarton www.tormarton.org West Littleton www.stjamesmonuments.org

Bristol Diocese www.bristol.anglican.org/

Church of England www.churchofengland.org

For information on Christian Faith: www.christianity.org.uk

Cotswold Edge Ministry Team Letter

150 years of Love in Action

It was in 1876, 150 years ago, that Mary Sumner, a Vicar's wife in Winchester Diocese and a grandmother recognised the need for young mothers to have some guidance in bringing up their children. A group of women in their parish were invited to the vicarage for the first meeting and the movement grew from that small beginning into an international charity. Caring for families was central to the work of this charity as was the belief that prayer was an essential part of transforming lives. MU members are encouraged to pray for the work of MU every day. Today, there are four million members in 84 countries helping communities to transform their lives for the better by working to combat poverty, injustice and violence.

There is a lot to celebrate when we look back over the years and see how women's lives have been changed for the better by the work done by MU members in their local communities. In Bristol, MU members are involved in many projects – supporting parents who spend time with their children in the Bristol Children's Hospital; welcoming visitors to Ashfield Prison; supporting the homeless and a women's night shelter in Bristol; recently we have started to support a project in Swindon feeding the homeless. Every summer we provide coaches to take families to Weston-super-Mare so children get a day at the seaside. As well as helping to fund all these activities we join with MU members all over Britain and Ireland campaigning against gender-based violence, domestic abuse and modern slavery. MU has a voice at the United Nations and also lobbies the government to make changes.

Despite the name, membership is not limited to 'mothers' – the charity now welcomes single women, men as well as women and divorce is no longer a barrier to membership. Mothers' Union is just one way that Christians can act out their faith in loving service to others, alongside the other charities that we support, e.g. The Ripple Effect. This year I would just like everyone to celebrate this grassroot organisation which has been helping to improve women's lives all over the world for 150 years. What started as one woman's vision to support parenting has grown into a mass global movement bringing sustainable change, and seeking a future in which everyone can thrive.

If anyone wants more information, please do speak to me or visit our website <https://www.mubristol.co.uk/>

Aurea Hart

FROM THE BENEFICE REGISTERS

Weddings: *William Geffen and Ella Trigwell* on 23 May in Marshfield

Baptisms: There were none in May

Funerals: *Philip Tye* on 15 May at St Mary's Marshfield

Trevor Greenhill RIP A message from Andy Witts: The funeral of Trevor Greenhill took place on 13 May at Weston Super Mare Crematorium, operated by Dignity Funeral Service. Trevor who lived at 54 Withymead Road, wished for a non-attended funeral with his Simplicity Cremation Plan so sadly I wasn't there to see him on his way. He was a Marshfield boy and passed away on Wednesday 1 April.

Benefice Events this month

Update on the Vacancy

Many will now know that there has been a delay in our process to recruit a new vicar. It now looks as if we will be advertising in July/August with a closing date in mid-September. This would mean that we would interview in October and, if we are able to appoint, that a new vicar might start in our benefice in January 2027.

We are so grateful to all those who are stepping up to help cover the vacancy. Please pray for the ministry team and church wardens as they meet with the Area Dean on June 2 to talk more about how we move forward during this time and together consider our call to 'Share the presence of Christ within our communities'.

Breakfast Church: Sunday 7 and Sunday 21 June.

Due to the popularity of this service, we now meet twice a month from 08.30 - 09.15am. Come and enjoy a 'thought for the day', a Bible reading, activity and songs, accompanied by proper coffee, pains au chocolat and bacon rolls to fuel you for the activities ahead!

Village Prayer Group Tuesday mornings, 10.00 to 10.30am at the Chapel (except the 2nd Tuesday of the month, when there is Village Communion instead - see below)

Village Midweek Communion for Church and Chapel together: 10am Tuesday 9 June May at Chapel.

Coffee mornings are held at Cold Ashton on Thursday mornings in the Village Hall and in Tormarton on Mondays at The Compass Inn from 10.30am. You are welcome to join from all four parishes.

On June 27 from 10.30-12.00 Katia Rocks will be joining us to talk about her work in Brazil that we support at the Chapel coffee morning,.

Marshfield Mini Larder The mini larder in the porch of St Mary's Church is still being used regularly. Donations are most welcome.

APCMs The Annual Church Meetings are over for another year, thank you to everyone who attended. Thanks also go to all our church officers (Church wardens, treasurers, secretaries and PCC members) who help the churches in our Benefice continue to offer services, support and safe buildings to meet in, as well as all the volunteers who offer their time and gifts for the life and worship of the church and in service of God and others.

Diocesan Pilgrimage Thank you to all who helped with hosting for the diocesan pilgrimage which passed through Marshfield in May.

Pilgrims walked across the Diocese between the 15th and 23rd May, with some joining for a day or two and others doing the whole walk. They were specifically praying for the places, churches and communities that they passed through, and it was a particular privilege that our benefice was on their route.

Those who walked the whole pilgrimage spent a night in St Mary's before walking on to West Littleton where they also stopped briefly as part of their route for that day. Thank you to the members of our church community who provided an evening meal and breakfast, and the use of showers that evening.

Summer Events in June

Thursday 4 June Join us at 10.30am at St Mary's when we will be hosting representatives from Ripple Effect including Africa Director, Melesse. It will be a chance to learn more about how our partner charity supports communities in Africa establishing sustainable agriculture schemes in areas especially impacted by damaging climate change. To be followed by a light lunch.

Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 June The ever-popular Open Gardens of West Littleton from 2.00pm- 5.30pm. Entry £5.

With music, teas and cakes, plant sale and central parking. A quintessentially English afternoon to enjoy the smallest village in our Benefice. On Sunday June 14, the afternoon ends with a 6.00pm Evensong in the beautiful church of St James'.

Sunday 21 June Our church in Cold Ashton will be celebrating their patronal festival (Holy Trinity) with a 'Songs of Praise' service with hymns especially chosen by members of the congregation. This is a lovely way to spend a summer evening and will also include some light refreshments in celebration. We would love to see you!

Benefice Prayer Diary June 2026

Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton

A Benefice Prayer

Gracious God, we bring before you the life of the churches in our Benefice. Watch over all of those who live in the Parishes and give succour to all those who are sick or in need; Lord, help us to grow in faith, in fellowship and service.

Week 1: 1-7 June. During the week, please pray for:

- The parish of Tormarton its PCC, and churchwardens.
- For the congregation at the Chapel and their Pastor David
- For this time of Vacancy in the Benefice

Week 2: 8-14 June. During the week, please pray for:

- The parish of West Littleton, its PCC, and churchwardens.
- For our School in Marshfield, its staff, parents and Governors.
- For all in the Parish who are sick and those grieving departed loved ones

Week 3: 15-21 June During the week, please pray for:

- The people of Cold Ashton, its PCC and churchwarden.
- The Lord's Creation; help us to look after our natural world for the common good.
- For the underprivileged in our country and throughout the world

Week 4: 22-30 June Please pray for:

- Leaders of all nations at war, thinking especially of Ukraine, Israel, USA, Russia, Gaza and Iran,
- For our linked CMS mission partners, the Rocks family as they continue to develop a ministry of outreach in Brazil.
- For the Benefice Ministry Team - Rev Sharon Roberts, Rev Jon, Aurea, Andrew, Mike and Molly- and their ministry to us.
- For the Parish of Marshfield, its PCC and Churchwardens
- Our Royal Family, and all in Authority

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact:

Paul White, 138 High Street,(0789 4429811 or paulbswhite@outlook.com)

Benefice Services for June 2026

Sunday 7 June *Trinity 1*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	Marshfield	Andrew Gammie
9.00am	Communion	Cold Ashton	Francis Miles
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Aurea Hart
6.00pm	Evensong	Marshfield	Andrew Gammie

Sunday 14 June *Trinity 2*

9.00am	Communion	Marshfield	Sharon Roberts
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Andrew Gammie/ Sharon Roberts
6.00pm	Evensong	West Littleton	Francis Miles

Sunday 21 June *Trinity 3*

8.30am	Breakfast Church	Marshfield	Molly Williams
9.00am	Communion	Tormarton	John Hoffmann
10.30am	Morning Worship	Marshfield	Mike Strathdee
6.00pm	Songs of Praise	Cold Ashton	Sharon Roberts
6.00pm	Communion	Marshfield	Francis Miles

Sunday 28 June *Trinity 4*

9.00am	Communion	West Littleton	Sharon Roberts
10.30am	Communion	Marshfield	Sharon Roberts
6.00pm	Evensong	Marshfield	Congregation led

(10.30am services at St Mary's Marshfield can be joined on Zoom at marshfieldchurches.org)

Chapel Programme June 2026

Sun 07	10.30am	James Alsop* (Acts 4: 1-12)
	6.00pm	Praise and worship
Sun 14	10.30am	Joint service at St Mary's
	6.00pm	John Schofield (Acts 4:13-22)
Sun 21	10.30am	Café Church with Innovista
	6.00pm	David Spence *(Acts 4: 23-31)
Sun 28	10.30am	Rev Jon Hoffman (John 16:1-15)
	6.00pm	Andrew Gammie (Acts 4:32-37)

*(*Communion services – the offerings will go to 4H - supporting churches in Hungary)*

Every Tuesday 10.00am Village prayer at Chapel
except Tues 9 10.00am Village Communion at Chapel

Sat 27 10.30 -12noon Morning Coffee at Chapel with a talk from
 Katia Rocks about her work in Brazil that we support



Inspiring communities in Africa to achieve a sustainable future

**JOIN US at St Mary's, Marshfield,
10.30am, Thursday 4 June 2026**

We are delighted to host representatives from Ripple Effect including Africa Director, Melesse Berhanu. It will be a chance to learn more about how our partner charity supports communities in Africa who are establishing sustainable agriculture schemes in areas especially impacted by damaging climate change.

10.30 – short tour of Eco Church activities at St Mary's

11.00 - Presentation and conversation with Ripple Effect representatives

12.00 - Light lunch

All welcome! No charge – Donations to Ripple Effect

WEST LITTLETON
**OPEN
GARDENS**

Off A46 near Dyrham Park, or off A420 Marshfield by-pass



**TEA & HOMEMADE CAKES
PLANT SALE**

Followed on Sunday at 6.00pm
by Choral Evensong in the
Parish Church of St James.
All proceeds to the church.

**SATURDAY 13th &
SUNDAY 14th JUNE**
2.00PM-5.30PM
ENTRY £5
CHILDREN FREE

A colorful banner with triangular flags in blue, green, yellow, and red, hanging across the top of the Summer Fête poster.

Summer Fête

**St Mary's Marshfield
Saturday 11th July**

**Join us for
stalls, children's activities,
music, cake & refreshments!**

