

Welcome to the September edition of our Newsletter

Changing seasons

Julie Leefe writes:

If you're as old as me you'll remember a song with the lyrics *"To everything, turn, turn, turn, there is a season! And a time for every purpose under heaven"* (And here's a link to the version by The Byrds on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcrddV5N9Xs>). I'm sure you already know that the song was written by Pete Seager who took the words from the Bible (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). The writer, assumed to be Solomon, muses about all the changes we face in our human existence and the necessity to accept that there are seasons in our lives when things go well and seasons when they do not. Our consolation is to know that God doesn't change and that he is always with us no matter what.

It's a bit of a cliché to talk about changing seasons at this time of year – but bear with me. I love this time of year (my birthday is in September) and I always enjoy Autumn particularly as my favourite season. It might be the end of the summer, but it signals the start of the church year (and school year) as we all come back together after the summer break. And this year it's the beginning of "life after lockdown". Whether your lockdown was fairly benign or absolutely horrible, we're all having to adapt yet again to changes in routine and circumstances. And many of us will be adjusting to some big changes – new schools for some of our children – new jobs – transitioning to retirement – loss of friends and loved ones – loss of independence and mobility.

It is some comfort to know that God doesn't change and that he's always with us – but let's be authentically, God's hands, arms, feet, eyes, and ears – let's make this change of season even more special than normal - going into this new season together, watching out for one another – the neighbour and the stranger – making God's love known and experienced wherever we can.

Feedback

We would very much appreciate your comments and feedback which can be sent to Julie Leefe at Cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com.

Printing copies for friends and family

If you know of a neighbour or a family member that doesn't use email, why not print them a copy of this newsletter (the PDF version is best) so they don't miss out on news and church information?

Sparklers Toddler group

Rev Anthony Oram writes:

We are thinking about re-starting our Benefice toddler group (Sparklers) which happens in Cottesmore. We need to add to the team some people who would be willing to help for two hours a week on a weekday morning. There are various roles in addition to welcoming the children and their carers such as setting up, packing away, and providing refreshments.

Are you interested in helping to welcome young families into the churches? For more details, contact Rev Anthony Oram by email: revanthonyoram@gmail.com.

What's coming up soon!

Greetham

A new morning service is starting up in Greetham (9:30 AM) on the first Sunday of each month. Entitled "One World Service" the focus will be on ministries addressing all sorts of Global interests. The first one on September 5th will highlight the work of Tearfund.

Also in Greetham, the breakfast services will be restarting on September 12 and continuing on the second Sunday of each month. Come at 9:00 AM for breakfast and expect something a little different.

Stretton update

Just to update you on the reordering progress at Stretton church:

- the new wooden floor is laid, and new electric heaters installed
- still to be completed – the toilet, servery, decorating and cleaning, external making good.

We are hoping to hold the October benefice service (October 31) in Stretton.

Monthly afternoon tea at Cottesmore church

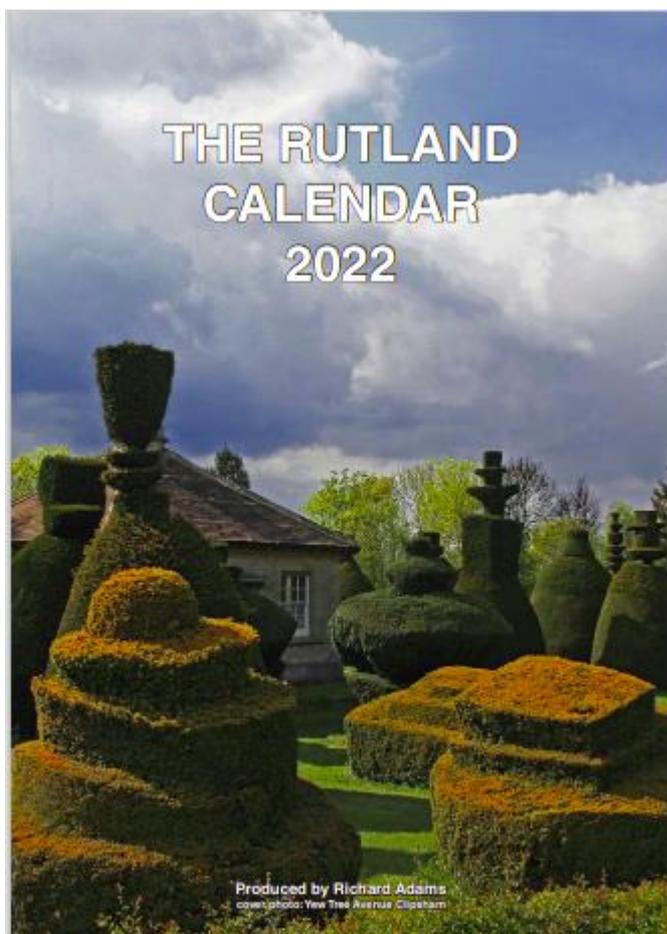
Don't forget our monthly Afternoon Teas at St Nicholas church, Cottesmore on the third Thursday each month. The next one is on 16th September, 2pm to 4pm. Everyone is welcome to enjoy delicious sandwiches, cakes, scones, and good company. Pam

The Rutland Calendar 2022

This lovely calendar, containing photographs of Rutland through the seasons, by Richard Adams, is now available at a price of six pounds.

All proceeds from sales will go to the Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue Trust for the continuing restoration and maintenance of the Avenue.

Please contact Cliff Bacon at email address Clifford_j_bacon@yahoo.co.uk (Clifford J Bacon) or telephone 01780 410382 to secure copies.



Ride and Stride

The Rutland Historic Churches event, 'Ride and Stride', will be taking place on Saturday September 11, 2021. There are 64 churches in Rutland - how many can you visit on the day on foot, by bike or by car (if you have restricted mobility)? All fundraising will help the upkeep of Rutland's historic churches including those in the Cottesmore Benefice. For example, Greetham Church has benefited from grants from the charity. If you don't want to take part actively, you can help your church by hosting visitors and providing welcome refreshments.

Anyone wishing to take part in either cycling or hosting from Greetham Church should contact Sylvia Bland (07519 063803) for more details.

Find out more online at www.rutlandrideandstride.org.uk

CONTACTS

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Web site www.northrutlandchurches.org.uk

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Cottesmorebenefice> - Facebook group
<https://www.facebook.com/North-Rutland-Churches-102279675438456> -
North Rutland Churches Facebook page

September/October 2021		Services in North Rutland Churches	
Sunday September 5	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Morning service One World Service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday September 12	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Breakfast service (from 9 AM) Morning service Holy Communion (BCP)	Cottesmore Greetham Exton Clipsham
Sunday September 19	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Holy Communion Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday September 26	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM 6:00 PM	Morning service (Tearfund) Holy Communion & Harvest Holy Communion & Harvest Holy Communion & Harvest	Cottesmore Greetham Exton Clipsham
Sunday October 3	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Harvest service One World Service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday October 10	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service Breakfast service (from 9 AM) Morning service Holy Communion (BCP)	Cottesmore Greetham Exton Clipsham
Sunday October 17	9:30 AM 9:30 AM	Holy Communion Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham
Sunday October 24	9:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM 11:15 AM	Morning service (Tearfund) Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning service	Cottesmore Greetham Exton Clipsham
Sunday October 31	10:30 AM	Benefice service	Stretton?

	What's on regularly in the North Rutland Churches
Monday 10.30 Weeks 2 & 4	Prayer Meeting (Cottesmore) currently meeting on Zoom For more information, please contact Di Toy on 01572 812355
Monday 14.30 Weekly term time	Monday Home Group meeting at The Willows, Barrow Contact Duncan & Jane Ball, 01572 812428, or email cduncanball@gmail.com
Monday 14.30 Weekly	House group meets every week on Zoom. Contact Jackie Gauntley 01572 868291 or jackiegauntley@hotmail.co.uk
Monday 19.00 Weekly	Hand Bell ringing Cottesmore Church 7pm Contact Pat Hoyles, 01572 813034
Tuesday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Tues 09.30 - 11.00 Term time only	Sparklers toddlers group – Cottesmore – restarting in September? ALL WELCOME
Tuesday 19.30 Weekly	House group meeting on Zoom Contact Steve or Julie Bertuzzi email Steve.bertuzzi@medasun.com or julie.bertuzzi@medasun.com
Thursday 08.30 Weekly	Morning prayer in Cottesmore Church – not meeting at present
Thursday 09.15 Weekly	Morning Prayer (Exton) meeting on Zoom - contact Bernie.wallace@btinternet.com
Thursday 19.30 Weekly term time	Thursday evening home group resumes in September, 7.30 pm. Contact annecadamson@aol.com for details.
Saturday 10.30 – 13.00 Weekly	Saturday café at Thistleton Church

Please let me know if any of these meetings have changed or are changing - cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com. Thanks