WHEATLAND NEWS

September 2020



As the deer longs for the water brooks, so longs my soul for you, O God. [Psalm 42:1]

News from the Diocese of Hereford and the 17
Parishes around Stottesdon, Ditton Priors and
Highley

Editorial

VJ Day 75

On Saturday 15th August 2020 at the National Memorial Arboretum, the Royal British Legion brought together veterans and people of all ages and nationalities in beautiful surroundings, to remember their comrades in words and music, and to commemorate the end of World War II in the Far East. It was a most moving tribute. If you missed it, then it is still on YouTube.

That evening, BBC screened <u>A Nation Remembers</u>, a spectacular event held on Horseguards Parade, London. A real treat in personal reminiscences, music and dance, and another moving experience.

To watch these tributes, follow the links above.

Are you enjoying your Wheatland News?

February was the last time we printed and distributed the 550 paper copies of WN across the 17 parishes. It seems a very long time ago now. Previously, the WN was packed with news of forthcoming events, and each month the Wheatland Diary was a full page. We were busy! Then suddenly everything stopped......

The role of the WN changed from a 'what's going on' in our parishes to a mixture of sources of help, support with shopping and day-to-day essentials, and items which we hope cheered and encouraged. It certainly has been a treat for us, as conditions have eased, to be able to include so many super colour pictures over the last 6 months.

We don't know how many existing readers are able to receive the electronic copies – maybe we have a whole new readership thanks to the electronic format, but maybe, too, there are those who don't 'do digital', or have enjoyed the paper versions for years, and now miss them.

The Committee, consisting of two members from each Benefice, will soon have to consider and decide how best to move forward. Will there be a mix of electronic and paper versions? How can we maximise our readership? Most important, how can WN best serve the needs of the parishes and their inhabitants?

So we need to ask all the stalwart WN collators to canvass opinions, please. It would be helpful if all our readers gave feedback to their collator over the next few weeks.

- ✓ Do readers want to go back to a black and white hard copy, when it is possible to do so?
- ✓ Would they prefer to continue to download from the various Benefice websites?
- Or would they like to receive their copy by email?

Please tell us, so that we can get the balance right for everyone, as conditions permit.

Wheatland Diary

Fri	4	Sept	Provisional – guided walk from Billingsley Church to Chelmarsh and back, 5.30 pm. Bring your tea to eat en route!
Sat	12	Sept	Ride and Stride
Sat	12	Sept	Bishop Richard's pilgrimage visit to St Mary's Church Highley, 12.00 noon, leading up to the Diocesan Gift Day September 20 th .
Tues	13	Oct	Burwarton WI – talk about an author's book and writing
Tues	10	Nov	Burwarton WI - AGM

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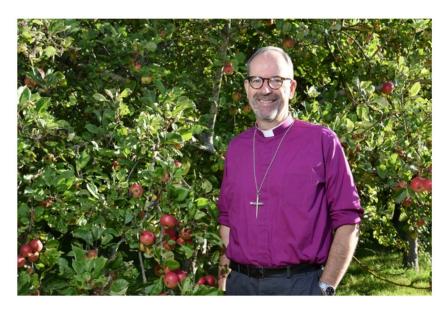
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Diocese of Hereford

September message from the Bishop of Hereford

Dear Friends

I hope that as you read this you will have had a good summer. For the last few months I have spent a lot of time indoors! However, I'm delighted that as lockdown restrictions have eased a bit I shall be hitting the road around the Diocese on the <u>four Saturdays</u> leading up to our Diocesan Gift



<u>Day</u> on September 20th. My plan is to visit every benefice around the diocesan land boundary over those four days and lead whoever joins me in prayer for the life of our diocesan family. The <u>times and venues</u> <u>can be found on the diocesan website</u> or from your parish priest.

All that we do as Christians is based in prayer. However, the focus of this praying is particularly towards our gift day. Churches throughout the Diocese have faced unprecedented financial challenges due to COVID-19. Fundraising events have ground to a halt and fee income has dried up. Yet ministry still needs to be funded. In all of our churches what is given is received back in the form of clergy ministry and support. For most churches this doesn't cover the actual cost, so the gap is funded either through the generosity of other parishes giving over and above their own provision, or through our historic reserves.

I hope our Gift Day will be an opportunity to give thanks to God for His love and generosity towards us. I hope that it will enable us to contribute over and above our normal giving to the life changing ministry that is transforming lives all across our Diocese.

The importance of the four days of prayer leading up to September 20 is to reinforce that giving is part of our discipleship. Even if you can't join us at one of the venues, I hope you wold be able to join us in prayer at home or in your parish. As someone once said, "prayer moves the hand that moves the world." As we face the effects of this crisis together, it can also move our hearts to sacrificial generosity and love.

I so look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks.

With every blessing





Bishop Richard's weekly video messages

Bishop Richard and other members of the Hereford team, continue to give weekly video messages – find the latest on the home-page-of-the-Hereford Diocese website.

Transcripts of each of message, together with many other items, are on the <u>Diocese Talking Points</u> page. The videos themselves are on YouTube – just search for Bishops of Hereford.

Shropshire Historic Churches Trust

Ride & Stride - Guidance for Participants

The Shropshire Historic Churches Trust organises Ride & Stride every year on the second Saturday of September to raise money both for the Trust and for the participating churches, with half of the sponsorship money going to each. This year, we are keen for this event to continue, as it is especially important for churches to be able to raise revenue. Churches have lost income from services and other fundraising events and the upkeep of the buildings can be costly even when they are not in use.

There will be a few changes this year.

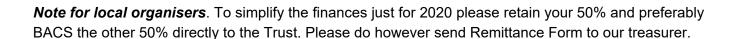
Although churches are allowed to open, it is necessary to avoid large numbers of people entering any building in a short space of time because of the pandemic. Therefore, this year:

- > Churches may not be open
- > There will be no-one to welcome you
- > There will be no refreshments
- > Toilets may not be available
- > You will need to sign your own sponsor form, with your own pen
- You may wish to take a photo of the churches you visit

People of all ages are encouraged to take part, either alone or in small groups. Please take extra care and adhere to the following guidelines:

Follow the latest Government guidance

- If you enter a church, touch as little as possible and wear your face mask.
- > Take hand sanitiser
- > Take your own refreshments
- > Remember the Highway Code
- > Use off road routes where possible
- > All the forms are available on this Web site.
- No packs will be sent out this year.



Stay safe and enjoy Ride & Stride!



The United Benefice of Brown Clee

Rector: Revd Terry Mason The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire, WV16 6SQ Telephone 01746-712636					
St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and Holy Trinity, Wheathill & St Michael & All A Botterell CHURCHWARDENS St Michael & All A Botterell CHURCHWARDEN					
Carole Smith: 01746-712474	Anne Preece: 01746-787237				
Mark Smith: 01746-712394					
St Giles, Chetton	SS Peter & Paul, Cleobury North	All Saints, Neenton			
CHURCHWARDENS	CHURCHWARDENS				
Sheila Millington: 01746-789443	Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093				
June Preece: 01746-789211	Jane Bufton: 01746-787298	Sue Hale: 01746-787650			

Brown Clee Group News

The Church Service rota for September is on page 7.

Benefice website

Don't forget to look at the Benefice website to see what is going on in all the parishes too. http://www.browncleechurches.org.uk/

Copy for Wheatlands News page by 21st September to: Jutta Langham Telephone: 01746 712 551; email rll.langham@btinternet.com

Ditton Priors News

St John the Baptist 100 Club

- £20 Richard Jones
- £10 Gordon Ireson
- £5 each Marion Garratt, Ken Jones, Peter Rowland

Getting out and about again!

.... from Ditton Priors correspondent, Sally (Brambles)

Hello again and thank you for reading my plea last month, to 'phone a friend' with news of any opportunities we've discovered for our beautiful, rural community to return to some kind of safe normality, out of doors and socially distanced, whilst the weather is still kind to us ... at least it has been so for the past SIX Thursday mornings on Ditton Priors playing field and I, for one, have discovered a fascinating little public woodland there, with local history, thanks to our Swans and their husbands! Before Covid, and the gift of Time to Explore, through conversations with folk who were born, lived (and married!) in this area, those of us who were welcomed here more recently were unaware of such secret treasures ... now we are so grateful to have them shared with us. Thank you and keep 'paying it forward'!

Come and join us on Thursday mornings

BROWN CLEE CHURCH SERVICES ROTA

All services are subject to Government guidance re Corona Virus

August 30th Group Service

10.15am Neenton Church

September 6th

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Aston Botterell

September 13th

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Chetton

September 20th

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Neenton

2.30pm Wheathill Church

September 27th

8.30am Ditton Priors

11.30am Chetton - HARVEST 6pm Cleobury North - HARVEST

October 4th

11.30am Ditton Priors - HARVEST

6pm Loughton - HARVEST

October 11th

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Chetton

6pm Aston Botterell - HARVEST

October 18th

9.45am Ditton Priors

6pm Neenton - HARVEST

October 25th

8.30am Ditton Priors

9.45am Chetton

11.30am Cleobury North

November 1st

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Aston Botterell

November 8th -

Remembrance Day

10am Cleobury North

3pm Ditton Priors

November 15th

9.45am Ditton Priors

11.30am Neenton

2.30pm Wheathill (Evening prayer)

November 22nd

8.30am Ditton Priors

9.45am Chetton

11.30am Cleobury North

November 29th - Advent

Group Service

10.15am Aston Botterell

5pm Ditton Priors Church

(Turning on the Christmas Lights)

December 6th

9.45am Ditton Priors

6.30pm Loughton Carol Service

FOOD BANK COLLECTION AT DITTON CHURCH

Following the easing of lock-down we are now able to collect food again for the food bank in Ditton Priors Church.

The church will be open on <u>Sunday Mornings</u> for tinned food and other items to be left in the Food Box between 9am-1pm.

(Church services are at 9.45am)

PLEASE DO HELP US TO SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED IF YOU CAN

100 years ago in Ditton Priors and Burwarton

Imagine Ditton Priors, Burwarton and the surrounding villages 100 years ago in 1920. Everyone was reeling from the horrors and sad losses of the First World War which had ended the year before and they were facing and dealing with the devastating impact of Spanish Flu. Life was tough and it was difficult to provide good healthy food and clothing for the family.

So the women of the community decided to set up and run one of the recently launched Women's Institutes.

The Women's Institute movement is based on the spiritual ideals of fellowship, truth, tolerance and justice.

The main purpose of the Institute movement is to improve and develop conditions of rural life and to give all country women the opportunity of working together through the organisation and for putting into practice the ideals for which it stands. It all began in 1897 when a Mrs Adelaide Hoodless, a Canadian farmer's wife, lost her first baby – as a result, she believed, of her own ignorance of hygiene and infant feeding. She gave a talk to about 100 women and she urged that all kinds of information about homecrafts should be made available to women. This lead to a worldwide organisation being formed.

The first in this country was in Llanfair PG in Anglesey but Shropshire followed soon after.

Ditton Priors and Burwarton WI began life in conjunction but two years later the group had grown so much that it was decided that each village should have its own WI. But the link has been maintained and in July 1970 there was a joint dinner at the Long Mynd Hotel in church Stretton to celebrate the Golden anniversary and in 1980 there was a service in Wheathill led by Rev.Jervis followed by a party to celebrate the Diamond anniversary.



The minutes of the early years' meetings show all sorts of interesting events were organised. In 1923 there was a carnival with races and parades for the best decorated pram and bicycle, the best tableau and fancy costume. DPWI made a profit of 12 shillings and 10 pence. There was a concert in December and the profits were used to put on a Christmas party for the village children. In November 1924 an American

dance was arranged with the Ditton Priors Jazz Band – pity we don't have one of those now! The records also show some of the debates which took place; 'Men versus Women', 'Should men help in the kitchen?', 'Long skirts versus short skirts', topics which have stood the test of time and could be debated today.

Both Ditton Priors and Burwarton WI's are still meeting monthly and arranging events, speakers and outings. And every member is proud to be carrying on the wonderful 100-year history which has brought help and pleasure to many women and their families over the years. Incidentally, in case you did not know, the clock in the Ditton Priors Church is a war memorial to the young lives live in War: we are reminded of them every time we hear the chimes.

100 years on and we are fighting another pandemic and although WI meetings can't take place at the moment, members still enjoy friendship and support from each other.

With grateful thanks to the past members of the WI who throughout the years have recorded and kept the detail in this article enabling us to enjoy the history of our surroundings. Lizzie Mathews Secretary DPWI

Aston Botterell News

Church Service

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for the next three months.

Burwarton and Cleobury North News

Church Services

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for the next three months.

Burwarton WI

Burwarton WI meetings will resume in October 2020. Meetings are on Tuesdays at 2.30pm in Cleobury North Village Hall.

- 13th October talk about an author's book and writing
- > 10th November AGM

For any further information, please ring Helen on 01746-712466.

Cleobury North and District Village Hall

The village hall is now open for small, socially distance gatherings.

Hirers and users of the hall will be required to be responsible for adhering to the Government guidelines. Booking details are published on the final page of this magazine.

Wheathill & Loughton

Church Service

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for the next three months.

Copy for Wheatlands News page by 21st September to: Alison Greenan, telephone 01746-787032 greenan6qx@btinternet.com

Three glorious skies – and a smile! – from Ruthall





<u>Seenager</u>

I JUST discovered my age group! I am a Seenager (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant, they aren't scared of anything, they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared? And I don't have acne. Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a Seenager. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends, too.

shared by Silversurfers.com



Chetton News

From Pam Downing

Services in September

- Sunday 13th September, 11.30 am
- Sunday 27th September, 11.30 am Harvest Festival

Flowers & cleaning

Sheila and Jill.

100 Club

- £15.00 Howard Mottershead
- £10.00 Jenny Rowland

Chetton Village Hall

We are hoping to open the hall in a small way during August, providing things remain stable locally.

Hand sanitizer will be placed around the hall and in the entrance, where there will be a **visitor book**. It is essential that anyone entering the hall leave their **contact details**, which will be removed after 21 days.

Small socially distanced gatherings may take place: I am sure it will be sometime before any functions will be allowed. The hall is spacious and we have plenty of room to allow a safe environment, the room will be cleaned after every use.

Please telephone 789239 if you have any concerns.

Amazon Smile

If you are purchasing from Amazon, please remember to use the Amazon Smile scheme, which will give a benefit to our Village Hall funds!



I hope everyone remains well, and hope for more normal times in the future. More details next month.

Copy for Wheatlands News page by 21st September to: Pamdowning61@gmail.com

Neenton News

Tom Colebatch

We remember this well-known local farmer from The Birches Farm, Neenton. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Audrey and his family.

All Saints Church

As we go to print we are preparing for the Group Service on Sunday 30th August at 10.15am when we shall be joined by a small number of the benefice choir and will enjoy hearing the singing of hymns for the first time since services have recommenced. Social distancing will be observed and masks will be mandatory.

Ride & Stride – calling all sponsors! (see page 5 for further details)

This will be held on Saturday 12th September 2020 under the current government guidelines. Churches are not being asked to open and refreshments will not be available, however, participants can be sponsored for the number of churches they visit and can sign their own record of churches



visited. Sponsors can contact Dot Cartwright on 07854559474 to donate as she will be visiting various churches in the area. If anyone is up to the challenge of cycling, driving or indeed walking to any of the churches and are able to obtain sponsors, forms are available from Bobbie on 01746 787093.

Tote

Subscriptions are now due for the next 12 months and the first draw will be at the end of August 2020.

Team Type 1 Diabetes - One Million Steps

Update on the article in August WN. Will Buxton, a former resident of Neenton, will have completed 1 million steps by the end of August. He wishes to thank all those who have supported him and generously donated to this important challenge.

One Million Steps continues to the end of September. This is a fantastic challenge to raise funds for research into Type 1 Diabetes which affects many people when they are young and is with them for the rest of their lives. To support Will and other members of the team you can sponsor them on: https://step.diabetes.org.uk/pages/team-type-1

Congratulations

We send our congratulations to the young people in the village who have received their examination results and are now venturing forth on their chosen paths to further their future careers. We also send best wishes to the young people who have been gaining valuable work experience at the Pheasant and are now going to university for the first time or are returning to continue the work for their degrees. And to Beatrice, who achieved a IIi in Politics, very best wishes for a great future.

The Pheasant at Neenton.

- ✓ Bank Holiday Monday 31st August open 12 5pm for food, close at 8pm September opening times are:-
- ✓ Wednesday/Thursday -12 noon to 3.30pm, 6pm to 11pm
- ✓ Friday/Saturday 12 noon to 11pm
- ✓ Sunday 12 noon to 5pm

Booking essential for all days.

Severn Valley Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Mike Harris

The Rectory, Highley,
Day off – THURSDAY

Revd David Poyner, Curate

Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work);
email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk

St Mary, BillingsleySt Peter, ChelmarshSt Bartholomew, GlazeleyCHURCHWARDENCHURCHWARDENSVacantDerek Arnold: 07956-844854Vacant

September Services	Sunday 6 th	Saturday 12 th	Sunday 13 th	Sunday 2	.O th	Thursday 24 th	Sunday 27th	
Highley at Church	HC 10.00am	Bishop Richard at Church 12.00 noon					FS 10.00am	
Highley Severn Centre	-	-	-	-		-	-	
Dillingslav			HF				НС	
Billingsley			6.00pm				8.00am	
Chelmarsh			HC 10.00am			HF 7.00pm Guest speaker?		
Glazeley				HF				
Glazeley				10.00ar	n			
	НС		HF			FS		
Holy (Communion		Harvest Festival			Family Service		

Highley News

The Revd Mike Harris writes:

Please check on <u>A Church Near You</u> for details, and / or <u>Stmaryshighley.co.uk</u> where virtual services can be found each week.

In addition we now have a dedicated phone line in order for you to be able to access services on the phone. Please call 01746 573024 and choose from the options available. Calls are charged at local rate.

Billingsley News

Rev David Poyner writes:

Our August evening service took the theme "God and the sound of the Sixties", looking at how the music of that decade can help us reach out to God (whatever the intention of the original writers!). We listened to classic songs from Simon and Garfunkel (The Sound of Silence), The Hollies (He ain't heavy) and The Byrds (Turn, turn, turn) as well as others and heard people tell us why they liked their choices. I learnt that Elvis was inspired by Gospel music. We had a larger than usual congregation; possibly the music appeals to those of a certain age... Look out for similar services in future!

We have also been taking advantage of the fine evenings by going on a number of walks. In July we explored footpaths around Cover Lane and Billingsley Hall farm; on Thursday 13th August we went on tour to visit Sidbury with its Saxo-Norman church and the earthworks from the adjacent medieval village. We hope to fit one more walk in, provisionally for Friday 4th September, starting at 5.30pm from Billingsley Church; bring your tea to eat en-route!



Members of Team Billingsley inspect Sidbury Church

I am writing the day before VJ Day and the 75th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War. Our ringers, Sue and Phil Bates will be sounding our bells at 11.00am, as part of a national commemoration and thanksgiving for the bravery of those who fought in this momentous conflict.

Our next evening service will be at 6.00pm on Sunday 13th September. This will be our Harvest Festival.

Billingsley 100 club

Our 100 Club has now got over 50 members! Our first draw will be on Friday 4th September, but there are still plenty of spare numbers so do get in touch with either myself or Sue Bates if you would like to join. Membership is £1 a week and we hold monthly draws, with half the money going in prizes and the other half going to the church.

David Poyner, assistant curate, Severn Valley Benefice. Tel 01562 68638; email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk Follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/ or our websites, www.st-marys-billingsley.org.uk, https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/

Chelmarsh News

Eleanor Haddon writes:

First Service

On Sunday 9th August, St Peter's Church opened its doors for the first worship after the lockdown was imposed to keep us all safe during the Covid crisis.

The service of Holy Communion was led by Rev. Rose Lawley, assisted by Angie Forster, for the combined congregations of Chelmarsh and Highley. In line with social distancing rules, 29 people and 2 children attended the service of praise, thanksgiving, patience and promise inspired by the story of Noah and the Ark.

Thank you Rose and Angie for starting us off in this positive way for future services.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Hundred Club draw - Wednesday August 19th

After the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 5.30pm at the church, the first Draw of the revived 100 Club will take place, and the winners will be published in the next issue of Wheatland News.

Church Cleaning

Due to the present guidelines, our usual cleaning rota has to change, so if you are under 70 and do not have an underlying health condition, please would you consider volunteering? We know it's not glamorous, but it is an important and necessary ministry! Please contact Derek, Churchwarden on **07956-844854**.

From the Register

Holy Matrimony 15th August 2020 Nicola Price and Arron Hinsull. We wish this couple every happiness in their future together.

Chelmarsh Friends

Chelmarsh Friends committee are looking at whether it is safe and feasible to recommence meetings again before the end of the year. A notice will be posted on Chelmarsh Parish Hall Website with details.

Chelmarsh Walking for Health

Information has now been received from Ramblers Association and Walking for Health that *group walks can recommence* with a limit of 30 walkers.

Chelmarsh Walking for Health resumed on Monday 24 August 2020 at 10am. We are trying to limit the walks to 1½ hours. However, as the hall is currently closed there are no toilet or refreshment facilities available – it is hoped the hall will reopen in late September. For details contact Eleanor Haddon on 01746 862884.

Glazeley with Deuxhill News

Services at St Bartholomew's

Glazeley church has now held two services - adhering to government rules - and its worked very well.

We are holding our Harvest Festival on Sunday 20th September at 10am. Look forward to seeing our regular & new parishioners. Marion Corfield is making face masks with all donations going to Glazeley church.

Marion Corfield -

01746-764585 marion.corfield@talktalk.net

Guided walk

Rev David Poyner writes:

On Friday 4th September, there will be a guided walk, starting at Glazeley Church and going to Chelmarsh and back. Distance about 4 miles. Bring along your tea to eat en-route! The walk will take around 2 hours.

More on Winwood Pumps

From the Rev David Poyner, following on from his article in the July edition of WN

Recently, I wrote about the Winwood family of Horsford Mill (and then Sidbury), miners and well-sinkers. The business was established by Samuel Winwood around 1880 after he moved to Horsford and was continued by John his son after Samuel's death in 1893.



I mentioned that some pumps survived marked with the name "Winwood" and I have now been sent two photos showing one of these; the owner has kindly given me permission to share them. The pump is a standard cast iron hand pump, with a decorative fluted top and spout. On the barrel is cast "John Winwood/Bridgnorth". The fact that the name is that of John not Samuel indicates that the pump dates from the period when John was running the business, perhaps in the 1890s. I imagine the iron founder who supplied the pumps used one of his existing patterns so the only extra would be to include John's name. The foundry that cast the pump is unknown. However, the fluted spout is a feature found in pumps cast in Worcestershire. I contacted Richard Williams, an expert on hand pumps and got these comments from him:

"The pump has very great similarities to a model made by Thomas & Son of Worcester –

seehttp://www.villagepumps.org.uk/ripple1Abig.htm . But I can't completely discount Thomas & Wilks of Kidderminster –

see http://www.villagepumps.org.uk/mamble1Abig.htm, where the spout and bucket hook are also quite similar."

If any reader has a pump with a name cast in it, I would be interested to hear about it.



David Poyner (01562 68639, d.r.poyner@aston.ac.uk)



Local Colour

76 year old gardener Graham Tranter from Glazeley, near Bridgnorth created this display to celebrate the 72nd anniversary and as a thank you to all the hard working staff of our NHS.

The 40ft display is filled with nearly 400 geraniums and lobelia.

Graham is a keen gardener and has previously held Guinness Book of Records for his tomatoes. He usually concentrates on showing his vegetables at various shows throughout the country, but during our current lockdown decided instead to concentrate on his tribute, spending many hours weeding!



Shropshire Virtual Show – update from August WN

The show was officially opened on Saturday 22nd and runs all of this week (and possibly longer) online at ShropshireVirtualShow. Caspar Gabb and his fellow judges completed the judging and the results are on the show website after each of the categories. There are also the Dog show tents, the horse arena, trade tent, cooking demos etc. etc.

We had plenty of really great garden entries into the three categories and there were some garden demos (including one from Caspar walking and talking around his garden!). They have raised just over half of what they were hoping for so far, any further donations would be hugely appreciated.

The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Mark Daborn

The Rectory, Stottesdon, Shropshire, DY14 8UE
Telephone 01746-718127. Email <u>mark.daborn@hotmail.co.uk</u>
Day off – FRIDAY

September Message

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'

[Psalm 122:1]

It's 'Ride and Stride' season again. On September 12th I shall be doing the pilgrimage walk around our six churches with anyone who would like to share all or part of that journey. The object is to raise funds for our churches and for the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, which offers grants for the maintenance of historic church buildings. We won't, this year, be able to go into all the churches, nor will there be a coffee morning at Middleton Scriven to start us on our way or a School Fête at Farlow village hall to stop at for refreshments of Pimm's or tea, according to taste. This is a fundraising sponsored walk, but also a walk of unity between the six parishes of Middleton Scriven, Sidbury, Stottesdon, Farlow, Cleeton St Mary and Silvington.

Bishop Richard is also doing a pilgrimage in September. On the first three Saturdays he is travelling around churches on the boundaries of the diocese to spend time in prayer before a Generous Giving day on Sunday 20th. Not being on the boundary of the diocese, none of our parishes will be receiving the episcopal visit: the nearest he will get will be Bridgnorth and Highley! The purpose of this pilgrimage is also fundraising – but based on prayerful giving.

With the churches closed for five months and no fundraising events possible over the summer, many of the opportunities for supporting them have simply disappeared. Our churches depend on the giving of those who use them and value their presence in our communities. Apart from some grants to help with restoration work, there is no other source of money for maintaining the buildings or maintaining ministry across the diocese. So Bishop Richard is making an initiative of prayer for generous giving to make up for the time of lockdown.

This is a time when there are many calls on our generosity. The Food Bank in Bridgnorth has needed plenty of support, as have many other charities caring for those who are hardest hit by the pandemic – both in this country and abroad. At the same time, many people have had their income hit – or devastated – by the necessary lockdown measures. But anyone who can spare a little for the churches, this is our September focus. Keep an eye on the website at 'A church near you: Stottesdon Benefice' and on 'Facebook: Stottesdon Benefice' where we will publish information about online giving in due course.

One final really important thing: a big thank you to everyone who has been giving so generously already in time and money, not just to the churches, but to those who have been in sore need in this time.

Mark Daborn

Stottesdon Benefice Group News

St Mary, Stottesdon	St Giles, Farlow	Holy Trinity, Sidbury	
CHURCHWARDEN	CHURCHWARDENS	CHURCHWARDEN	
Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007	Joan Evans (01746-718619)	Andrew Sierkowski	
	Nigel Savage-Bailey (07989-308599)		
St Mary, Cleeton St Mary	St John, Middleton Scriven	St Michael, Silvington	
CHURCHWARDENS	CHURCHWARDEN	CHURCHWARDENS	
Sue Dolphin: 01584 890583	vacant – so for now your contact is	George Millichamp: 01584-891030	
Gill Jordan: 01584 891082	Rev Mark Daborn (01746-718127)	Annette Metcalfe: 01584 890161	

Mark Daborn writes:

Church Services in lockdown

Opening up the churches cautiously has been going well through August, and we are going to continue the pattern of two Sunday services in churches and a recorded service throughout September. The services for September will be mirror images of those for August: where there was a morning service of Holy Communion in August, the September service will be an Evening Prayer – see the rota below!

This must be said again, exactly as last month: it is really important that nobody feels they must go to church if they feel the slightest bit nervous of going out amongst other people. The online services will continue through the email list, on the Facebook page (Facebook: Stottesdon Benefice) and the website ('A church near you' and your parish name).

There will in any case be restricted numbers in churches according to the size of the church and fitting folks in at 2 metre distancing. Please note that it is now mandatory for face masks to be worn for public worship.

	6 th Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity		fourteenth Sunday after Trinity		20 th Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity		27th Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	
Sunday Services for September								
Cleeton St Mary					НС	09.00		
Farlow	EP	18.30						
Middleton Scriven					EP	18.30		
Sidbury							НС	10.30
Silvington			НС	10.30				
Stottesdon	НС	10.30	EP	18.30			EP	18.30

Churches open for Private Prayer

Each of our churches is also open specially 10.00-18.00 one day each week for private, individual prayer – Mondays: Middleton Scriven; Tuesdays: Cleeton St Mary; Wednesdays: Sidbury; Thursdays: Silvington; Saturdays: Farlow; Sundays: Stottesdon.

If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer or a visit or Communion at home or elsewhere, then please contact Mark direct, or ask your churchwardens to help you to arrange this.

Benefice 'Ride and Stride' Pilgrimage Saturday 12th September

Mark and other pilgrims will be walking the six churches again this year and, as set out in his September message, one objective is to raise funds through your generous sponsorship (half of which we retain for our churches).

The main point of the pilgrimage will be, as ever, to link our six churches in a journey between them, to emphasise our unity of faith and of purpose.

Please join us for some or all of this fabulous walk – and please dig deep to sponsor the pilgrimage. However if you'd like to take part, please contact Mark direct.

From The Stottesdon Benefice Registers:

Stottesdon St Mary 28th August Burial Peter Colin Phillips R.I.P.

Lectionary for September 2020

Sunday 6 th	Sunday 13 th	Sunday 20 th	Sunday 27 th
Thirteenth after Trinity	Fourteenth after Trinity	Fifteenth after Trinity	Sixteenth after Trinity
Green	Green	Green	Green
Exodus 12:1-14	Exodus 14:19-end	Exodus 16:2-15	Exodus17:1-7
Psalm 149	Psalm 114	Psalm 105:37-end	Psalm 78:1-7
Romans 13:8-end	Romans 14:1-12	Philippians 1:21-end	Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 18:15-20	Matthew 18:21-35	Matthew 20:1-16	Matthew 21:23-32

The **Deadline for the September edition (**Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing **Monday 21st September.** Thanks!

Stottesdon Countryside – a selection of photographs by Mark Daborn





The Rea at Prescott Mill

Brown Clee and Titterstone Clee from the top of Walton Bank

Field flowers

Lawn flowers







Silvington News

Annette Metcalfe writes:

We are very much looking forward to the first Holy Communion service here since the end of February.

Please note that this service on Sunday 13 September will be at **10.30am** and NOT the "old normal" of 9.00am. This is a temporary alteration, so please watch this space for future timetable announcements. We extend a warm invitation, to friends old and new, to join us.

Also, as recently, St Michael's will be open on Thursdays for private prayer, 10am to 6pm.

100 Club Winners for August – congratulations to:

 James Roberts, Ewart Yapp, Mandy Millichamp, Lizanne Jones, Paul Rutter, Jude Evans.

With very best wishes to ALL from St Michael's.





Thanks to Wendy Etchells for these atmospheric pictures from the local area

Cleeton St Mary News

Gill Jordan writes:

Our service this month will be Holy Communion at 9.00am on Sunday 20th.

Cleeton Church also opens specially for private prayer every Tuesday between 10:00am and 6:00pm. All are welcome – please join us.

August 100 Club Results

Congratulations to our winners this month:

- £20 Diane Broome No 68
- £10 Joyce Price No 107, and Jim & Lyla Robinson No 88
- £10 Ian Jordan No 95
- £5 Jen Harris No 78

Many thanks to everyone for supporting the 100 club over the past year and for continuing to support The Church by rejoining. It is really appreciated.

Farlow News

Our service this month is Evening Prayer at 6:30pm on Sunday 6th September, and the church will be open on the other weekends for private prayer – Saturdays 10am-6pm.

Ruth Downes writes:

I am sorry to say that we have little to report at the moment. Hopefully, there will be something from Melville for next month Hope all is well with you; best wishes to all!

Sidbury News

Jo Laybourne writes:

We were pleased to hold our first service of Holy Communion on Sunday 23 August. The new Sidbury wall hanging was on display (see accompanying photo).

The church will be opened specially for private prayer from 10.00-18.00 every Wednesday.

The APCM was held recently (a bit later than planned) and we have a new church warden - Jo Laybourne and Roz Jones having both stepped down. We are delighted to have Andrew Sierkowski as our new church warden. The second position remains vacant so if anyone is interested please let the Rector know.

That's all from me. It will be Andrew from next month

[Thanks, Jo and Roz, for all you've done for Church and Community over the years! Ed.]



Middleton Scriven News

Ann Constable writes:

August has seen more small steps towards doing things together.

Our socially distanced coffee morning (for a restricted number of people) took place on a sunny morning sitting in the churchyard. Friends had a chance to catch up and share news, Covid-19 experiences and say welcome to our newest village members Alan and Kate Teagle. A chance for lots of chatter of course. We even completed a butterfly count too for the Big Butterfly count as nature was putting on yet another fine display for us.





Brightening up our days

Sunflowers have been one of the highlights of this month as this month's photographs show.... fields of sunflowers bring memories of France, this year we've not needed to travel to see them!





Thank you to everyone who joined our first church service since lockdown.

The next one will be Evening Prayer on Sunday September 20th at 18.30. Our church continues to be open on Mondays 10.00-18.00 for quiet prayer.





Middleton Scriven Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

Monday September 6th at 18.30 in the church.

Ride and Stride: September 12th

Mark and others will be walking between the churches. Please sponsor the pilgrims! (Please note - no churches open, no toilet facilities nor refreshments on offer).

The main point of the pilgrimage will be, as ever, to link our six churches in a journey between them, to emphasise our unity of faith and of purpose. Anyone else who would like to join all or part of the pilgrimage is, of course, more than welcome! To participate please contact Mark direct.

Perhaps for some of us, this could be a pilgrimage-stroll across the fields from Middleton Scriven to Sidbury and back?

Stottesdon Church Parish Notices and News

Clare Tibbits writes:

Firstly, another heartfelt and personal 'thank you' to everyone for the flood of best wishes, and offers of help, during our current time "in isolation". Hopefully, this will now be drawing to a close – after a short course of radiotherapy later this month.

Secondly, news of St Mary's Church 100 Club - Congratulations to our AUGUST winners:

• Rachael Tibbits, Tony and Alison Williams, and Roger & Barbara Simmons.

Please bear with us, we hope that your prize monies will be distributed - along with others since the Lockdown started in March – during September and October.

Penultimately, a reminder that St Mary's is open every Sunday 10.00-17.00* for Private Prayer (*later when there is an Evening Prayer service)

Finally, notice of our *Annual Parochial Church Meeting* – for the formal business of the AGM postponed earlier in the year due to the Pandemic – which will be held after the Evening Service on Sunday 13th September (starting at 19.15 and finishing by 19.45).

VJ Day "75"

We remembered the end of World War 2 in the Far East

VJ 75 Day – on Saturday 15th August - saw a small socially-distanced group assembled in St Mary's Churchyard at 11.10am, when along with bells all around the UK, John Kingston chimed one bell 75 times in remembrance of all those who suffered in the prolonged war in the Far East.

No-one who heard Harry Kingston's cornet "Last Post" played from the church tower could have failed to be moved in a most poignant moment of tranquility and reflection.

A <u>short video recording of this VJ 75 event</u> is available for everyone to see – search Facebook for "Stottesdon Benefice".

Stottesdon Community Noticeboard

Stottesdon & District WI

Socially distanced Garden Yoga sessions, a countryside picnic, ingenious telephone and mailing contacts with members, and Committee meetings via WhatsApp and Zoom have all helped enable the WI to remain active and engaged through the Lockdown months.

Plans are being laid for a return of the monthly meetings when it is safe and sensible to resume the programme. Meanwhile, check the details with Helena on 01746 718012 or Clare 718007.

Chorley Village Hall and Film Club

Joe Bubb reports that the Village Hall is taking its first tentative steps towards reopening, with new risk assessments and hygiene counter-measures in place shortly.

Film Club Members enjoy monthly big-screen films at 7.30pm on the 'third Thursday' in Chorley Village Hall and have free use of the DVD Library too. Membership is £7pa –for details of the future programme check with Joe (01746 718693).

The Fighting Cocks Inn

Bre and Tori wrote this snippet for us

Opening hours are back to normal:

- Tuesday Friday 5pm-close, serving food 6.30-8.30
- Saturday 12pm-close, serving food 12.30-2pm and 6.30-8.30
- Sunday 12pm close, serving food 12.30-2.30

Booking is essential so give us a call on 01746 718270, we hope to see you here soon!

We're also still offering our takeaway service throughout the week.

Cleobury Mortimer Library

In the Cleobury Country Centre by Lacon Childe School, has now reopened. Call the Centre 01299 272300 to check opening times

Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood

Clair Gittens' Facebook post says it all:

As from Saturday 26th September 2020 Heath Farm Meats will be closing its doors for the final time. Thank you all for your support over the last 23 years. Clive, Clair, Sally and Sid are looking forward to chapters new.

[Many thanks to you all for such amazing service over the years! Ed.]

Useful Community Contacts

Brown Clee Walkers	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
Dumunantan 9 District MI	Meets in Cleobury North Village Hall. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm. Contact
Burwarton & District WI	01746-712466
Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wendy Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
Burwarton & District Garden Club	Meets on the 2 nd Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm. Contact 01584-823723 for details of topic and venue
Burwarton & District Wives Group	Meeting 8pm 1st Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421or Gill Severn 01746-712231
Chelmarsh Crown Green Bowling Club	Welcomes old and new members. Contact Sue Jackman 01746-862850
Chelmarsh Indoor Short Mat Bowling	Welcomes old and new members. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 7.30-10.00pm. Further details Sue Jackman 01746-862850
Chelmarsh Parish Hall	Available for hire - booking@chelmarsh parishhall.co.uk
Chelmarsh Jubilee Club	Parish Hall 01746-86525 Jean Davis
Chelmarsh Walking for Health	Monday 10.00am except Bank Holidays. Parish Hall. Eleanor Haddon 01746-862884. 2 levels of walking available
Chelmarsh Friends	Meet every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Jenny Green 01746-862191
Cleobury North Village Hall	Booking Clerk 07800-883830 CleoburyNorthDistrictVH@gmail.com
Tae kwon-do	Chelmarsh Parish Hall Tuesday evening. Suitable for children & Adults. Neil Morris Thursday 5.45pm. 07969-996055
Chelmarsh Parent & Toddler Group	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
Chetton & Gazeley WI	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
Chetton Folk Dance Club	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
Chorley Village Hall	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact Jenny or Charlie on 01746-718437
Short Mat Bowling	Every Monday & Thursday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Cleeton & Silvington Village Hall, October to end of April. Pam 01584-89261
Cleeton & Silvington V H	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584-890200
Fun & Fitness for 50+	Cleobury North Village Hall - low impact fitness programme working the whole body every Tuesday 10.00 – 11.15am. Contact 01584-823640
Ditton Priors Art Group	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Mrs Denise Davies 01746-712521
Short Mat Bowling	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm except the second Wednesday in the month when it will be Thursday at 8.00 – 10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact 01746-712157
Ditton Priors WI	Meets in Ditton Priors Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7.15pm 01746-712473
Ditton Priors Local History Group	The Local History Centre, next to the Willows Café, opens 12.00-2.00 on Saturdays, and at other times by arrangement. Contact 01746-712850
Ditton Priors Parent & Toddlers Group	Meet in the Pavilion, Playing Fields, Ditton Priors Thursday 9.30 -11.30 am everyone welcome for a coffee and play.
Ditton Priors Book Club	Jenny -01746-712665
Knowle Sports Club	Second hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
Stottesdon Gateway Nursery	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
Stottesdon & District W.I.	Meets in various venues on the 3rd Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746 718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
Stoke St Milborough Dance	Mike 01746-712774 Betty 01746-77515
Domestic Abuse Hotline	Telephone Number 08448-044999