

Heartbeat May 2020

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, services at all Heart of England Group churches have been suspended until further notice.

It has also been decided that printing and distributing paper copies of Heartbeat is not strictly in keeping with the Government's instruction that only essential activity should continue, but we hope that you will find this somewhat shorter electronic version interesting.

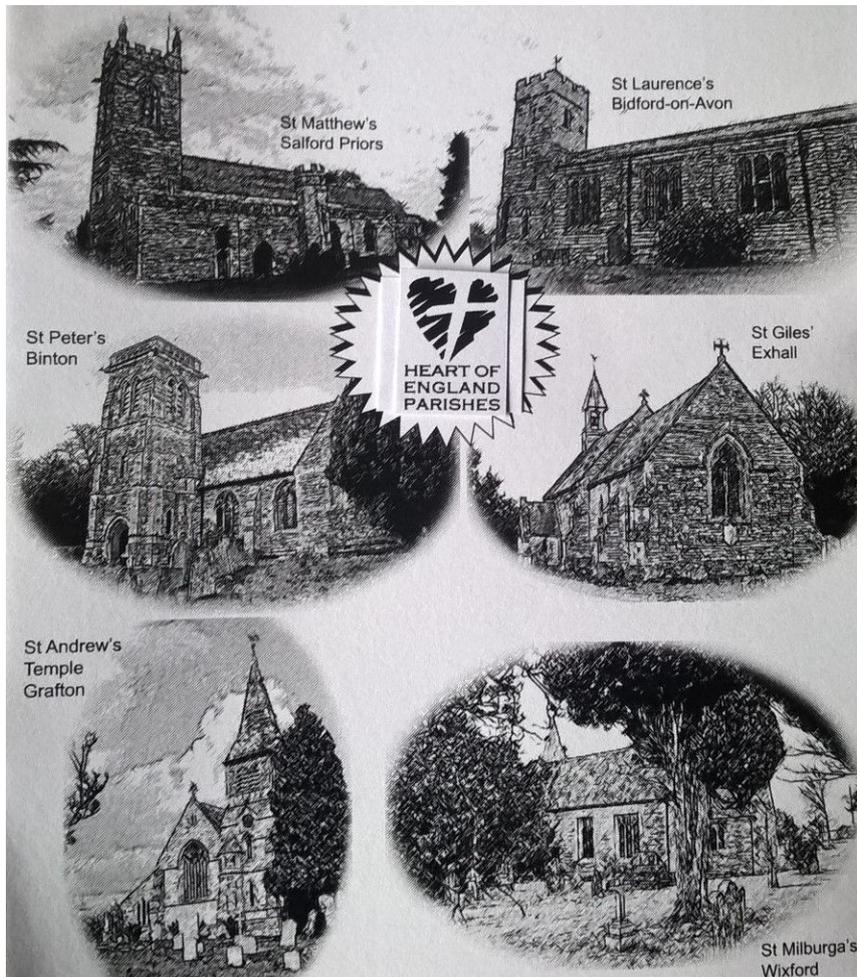
We aim to produce another one in early June, and around the start of each month thereafter until things return to normal. Please send us any articles that might be of interest to our readers!

Subscriptions for 'missing' copies of the paper magazine will be offset against next year's rates – we do hope that you will stay with us.

If you need any practical help or assistance in the coming days, please contact the Parish Office on 01386 872758 or email admin@heartparishes.org.uk

Finally, we hope that you and your loved ones are, and remain, safe at this difficult time.

Editor



(Page 2)

'The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."' (Matthew 25:40 - NIV)

A new section has been uploaded onto the Diocese of Coventry website called [Social Needs](#). Archdeacon Missioner, the Venerable Barry Dugmore, introduces it:

In His earthly ministry, Jesus met the spiritual and social needs of those He met and encountered - He saved souls but He also fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, and healed the sick. Loving and serving those around us, whether they be our friends, our neighbours, or even our enemies, is part of our worship as followers of Christ. When we show love to one another, for example by meeting each other's social needs, we demonstrate our love for God and reflect His love for us.

This extraordinary time for the world is also an extraordinary opportunity for the Church to reveal the love of God in our communities. The new pages contain information on how churches and Christian organisations are working in diverse ways to alleviate the social impacts of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in different parts of the Diocese of Coventry - in Nuneaton and North Warwickshire, South Warwickshire and rural communities, and in the city of Coventry.

These pages have three main objectives: to raise awareness of the ways the church is responding, to inform people about how they can volunteer in their own communities, and to signpost people in need to where they can find support.

Whatever situation you find yourself in, whether in a position to give or receive support, I pray that you will find these pages helpful and that God will bless you through the projects they contain.

Barry Dugmore, Archdeacon Missioner

FUNERALS

St Matthew's	31 st March	Reginal Arthur Lomas MBE
St Andrew's	2 nd April	Cedric Roy Chisholm
St Matthew's	7 th April	Mary Anita Righton
St Matthew's	21 st April	Leslie John Hunt
St Matthew's	13 th May	Cherry Stanley
St Giles'	15 th May	Margaret Morris

There are no Weddings, Thanksgivings or Baptisms to report this month.

(Pages 3, 4 and 5)
BIDFORD ON AVON

BIDFORD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 200 CLUB MARCH WINNERS

March's 200 Club winners were:

1 st prize (£60)	Number 106	Ann Large
2 nd prize (£45)	Number 446	Sonia King
3 rd prize (£25)	Number 158	Fritha Middlemiss
4 th prize (£15)	Number 407	Owen & Faye Pritchard
5 th prize (£15)	Number 54	David Fisher
6 th prize (£15)	Number 401	Colin Martin

Congratulations to our March winners.

Peter Batacanin

BIDFORD ON AVON & DISTRICT GARDENING SOCIETY

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

by

RUDYARD KIPLING

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the *Glory of the Garden* lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You'll find the tool and potting sheds which are the heart of all,
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, dungpits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys,
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise;
For, except where seeds are planted and we shout to scare the
birds,

The *Glory of the Garden* it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the *Glory of the Garden* occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden and such gardens and not made
By singing, "Oh, how beautiful" and sitting in the shade,
While better men than we go out and start their working lives,
At grubbing weeds from gravel paths with broken dinner knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, not yet a heart so sick,
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the *Glory of the Garden* glorifieth everyone.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner in the *Glory of the Garden*.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the *Glory of the Garden* that it may not pass away.
And the *Glory of the Garden* it shall never pass away!

Thanks to Janice Ferguson for sharing this poem

A MEMORY OF VE DAY

I was born on 22nd September 1940. The Battle of Britain was at its height and during an air raid I was born at home under a grand piano because the doctor attending thought it would be the safest place!

1945, I was 4. My mother took myself, my elder sister and younger brother to stay with Granny in Broadstairs, we had all had measles and sea air was thought to be good for us. We travelled in an Austin 7 and stopped to have a picnic in a gateway. To our delight a large army convoy passed us with soldiers all waving and calling to us!

One evening in Broadstairs we were told to come down, with slippers and dressing gowns. We went outside and the most amazing sight I had ever seen was all over the sky. I had lived with "Blackout" all my short life and suddenly there were lights everywhere. We were in sight of the Dover Channel with searchlights lighting up the sky. I remember bells ringing, car horns blaring and people shouting. I had no idea what was happening or why but it has been a memory I have always kept.

The other meaningful memory was more sinister. I had to wear a gas mask if there was an air raid in case of a gas attack. It terrified me. It looked sinister, it smelt revolting, I can recall the smell even after 75 years and it was so claustrophobic.

We have after the war had to live and cope with severe rationing, polio, TB, smallpox, measles, whooping cough, mumps all of which killed many, many people. Panic not, we will survive.

Jane Reed

LAND GIRLS

In 1947 I moved to a farm in Surrey. By the age of 9/10 during school holidays, had breakfast and was then thrown out of the house until lunch to be with my pony or go down to the farm. There were still Land Girls working there because not enough men had come back from the war. An education...! I recognised the clothes in the photo - the hair styles and of course the black and white photos. They gave me my first Woodbine (Google it)! Disgusting, but I never flinched!

They were amazing and have never really been recognised, most had never been in the countryside before and it was hard labour but without them farms would have failed and we would not have been able to feed our people. It is amazing what we can do when it is needed. Hang on to that fact.

Jane Reed



(Pages 6 and 7)
SALFORD PRIORS

NEWS FROM SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH

May Peace Be With You

Whilst we are not currently meeting in person, Messy Church continues at St Matthew's via YouTube. Each week there is an online video service to watch, featuring lively songs performed by our fantastic worship group, a craft activity to join in with, a bible memory verse, a talk, jokes and games with local celebrity Peter the Puppet. If you haven't yet done so, do check them out on the Saint Matthew's website - <http://www.stmatthewssalfordpriors.org.uk> They last about 25 minutes each and, whilst primarily aimed at children, hopefully offer something for everyone to enjoy.

During May, our services will focus upon Peace:

- 3rd May - Peace in the World
- 10th May - Inner Peace
- 17th May - Peace in the Storm
- 24th May - Sharing Peace
- 31st May - Party Peace (Pentecost)

We warmly welcome contributions of any kind. My children love seeing familiar faces on screen, and it is great to hear what people have been up to. If you would like to participate you can:

- 1) Record yourself, or someone else in your household, explaining what you have been up to, or sharing a bible verse or prayer, or joke;
- 2) Email me a written update or message which can be relayed during the notices part of the service.

Additionally, we are trying to 'share the peace' during May. If you can help, please send me a clip of you pretending to catch something, saying "Peace be with you", and then throwing it on.

Video clips need not be of any particular image quality, and I can edit them where required. If using a mobile phone to record, it is better used horizontally / in landscape.

Please send any contributions or queries to timothyjacques@gmail.com

Thanks!

Sunday Coffee

Each Sunday, St Matthew's is re-enacting post-service coffee and fellowship via Zoom. Whilst not quite the same as meeting face to face, and requiring participants to make their own hot drink beforehand, it has proved a successful way of keeping in touch. If you would be interested in joining in, let

me know and I will send you a link - timothyjacques@gmail.com All you need is an internet connection and a device with a screen (mobile phone, tablet or computer). You need some sort of camera if you are going to provide video of yourself, but this is not necessary - you can still see others without.

Friday Quiz

Lockdown has also seen the birth of a fortnightly Church Quiz via Zoom. They take place at 8pm on alternate Fridays, and are scheduled for 15th and 29th May at 8pm.

They aren't high-brow or particularly competitive, and anyone is very welcome to take part. You can participate with others in your household or alone. If you might be interested, please let me know - timothyjacques@gmail.com

See below the *First, Smallest, Biggest, Last* round from last month's quiz as a taster (answers on page 20).

1. What is the first word of the song *Bohemian Rhapsody*?
2. Which US state has fewest syllables in its name?
3. Which James Bond film has the most letters in its title?
4. Which is the longest river in the UK?
5. Where is the smallest bone in the human body?
6. Which southern city has the cathedral with the tallest spire in the UK?
7. Which species of bird migrates furthest?
8. Which of the seven dwarves' names would score highest in Scrabble?
9. The last verse of which nursery rhyme begins "*Up and down the city road, in and out the Eagle?*"
10. Who are the three British monarchs who boast the longest reigns?

Tim Jacques

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(This is a translation of a poster found in a church in France)

When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear 'the call of God'.
However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile.

Thank you for turning off your phones.

If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him.

If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving away.

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Perkins' Educational Foundation Awards for the Academic Year 2020-2021

The Governors of this charity, founded in 1656 by William Perkins of Salford Priors and London, invite applications for awards from young people under the age of 25. Grants are available to help with expenses in courses of study in further and higher education, vocational training such as apprenticeships, and in some circumstances, structured programmes of personal development such as overseas visits. Awards are not normally given to those under 17 years of age.

Applicants must have been resident in one of the following parishes – Salford Priors, Bidford, Kings Broom, Cleeve Prior or Harvington –for not less than two years immediately prior to their application.

Application forms are available, upon written request, from the Clerk to the Governors, email info@williamperkinscharity.org.

Alternatively, an application form can be downloaded from the website: www.williamperkinscharity.org

Forms can be submitted by post to the address below, or by email.

Completed forms should be returned to the Clerk not later than 15th October, 2020. Please note that first time applicants also require a written testimonial from a teacher or employer.

No applications received after that date can be accepted for consideration by the Governors for the academic year 2020-2021.

Applicants may be required to attend before the Governors for an interview at a time and place to be notified in due course by the Clerk.

Dated this 1st day of May, 2020.

The Clerk to the Governors

Perkins' Educational Foundation

10 Elm Court

Arden St

Stratford-upon-Avon

Warwickshire CV37 6PA

Registered Charity No: 528678

(Pages 9, 10 and 11)

ARCHBISHOP LAUNCHES FREE DIAL-IN WORSHIP PHONE LINE

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has launched a free national 'phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. Daily Hope, which has been available from late April, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

The service is supported by the Church of England nationally as well as through the Connections group based at Holy Trinity Claygate in Surrey and the Christian charity Faith in Later Life.

Although thousands of churches across the country are now running services and prayer groups online while public worship remains suspended, many people – especially older people – do not have access to the internet.

The line also recognises the impact of social distancing restrictions and self-isolation measures on those suffering from loneliness.

Statistics from Age UK suggest that 49% of older people believe the TV or a pet to be their daily source of comfort and interaction. While many organisations are encouraging people to use better use of technology, ONS figures also state that 2.5 million people aged 75 and above have never used the internet.

Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19.

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as 'Prayer During the Day' and 'Night Prayer', updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service.

A section called Hymn Line offers callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides a hymn and reflection and is based on an initiative by the Connections group/

Archbishop Justin said: "With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are. The Daily Hope service will allow people to hear hymns, prayers and words that offer comfort and hope, especially in this Easter season.

“I want to urge people to spread the news about this service. If there is someone you know who is particularly struggling, give them a call and let them know about the Daily Hope. I’m going to phone a friend; will you join me?”

Carl Knightly, chief executive of Faith in Later Life, added: “The Church must be those who offer hope to our nation at this time, and I am delighted that Faith in Later Life is able to be part of this project.

“We know as an organisation of the challenges for older people in our society in normal times and these are not those, so I want to add our voice to that of the Archbishop and get people sharing this number with whoever they know who would most benefit.”

Pippa Cramer, founder of Connections, said: “At Connections we have found that well-loved hymns are a source of comfort and hope to our seniors. Hymns we Love has proved to be an accessible and popular way to explore the story and meaning behind some of our favourite hymns.”

From the Diocese of Coventry website

BISHOP SIMON BARRINGTON-WARD

The Right Reverend Simon Barrington-Ward, former Bishop of Coventry, has died at the age of 89.

The current Bishop of Coventry, the Right Reverend Christopher Cocksworth said:

"Today, Holy Saturday, Bishop Simon Barrington-Ward died. Simon was Bishop of Coventry from 1985 to 1997, and was dearly loved. Indeed, he remains in people's hearts across the Diocese. Many people across the Diocese of Coventry were ordained or first licensed or confirmed by him. Bishop John worked closely with Simon during his curacy and, like many of us, has many stories to tell of Bishop Simon's faithful and loving ministry.

"Before coming to Coventry, Bishop Simon was my Spiritual Director and, throughout my time as one of his successors, Simon's example has been an inspiration. I learnt so much from him and I join with the Diocese of Coventry as a whole in being indebted to this kind and holy Father-in-God.

Bishop Simon taught me to pray a very simple prayer, called "The Jesus Prayer". He told me that, like him, I would need to use it during the day as bishop, "to come up for air". We give thanks for this person of prayer who knew how to dwell in the presence of God, and who will now breathe the sweet and pure air of the new creation. And we pray for his dear wife Jean, for their daughters, Helen and Mary and for the whole family."

Simon Barrington-Ward studied at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and Westcott House, before being ordained in 1956.

He served as chaplain at Magdalene College; then spent three years lecturing at Ibadan University (Nigeria), before returning to Magdalene in 1963, this time as a Fellow and Dean.

He was the General Secretary of Church Missionary Society (CMS) from 1975 to 1985, and was also Chaplain to the Queen from 1984 to 1985.

From 1985 to 1997, he served as the seventh Bishop of Coventry. He was consecrated a bishop by Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, on All Saints' Day 1985 (1st November) at Westminster Abbey.

After his retirement from Coventry, he continued as a bishop with pastoral care of the University of Cambridge, and an honorary assistant bishop in the Diocese of Ely.

Bishop Simon returned as an honorary assistant chaplain of Magdalene College, where he was an honorary fellow since 1987, and a chaplain to the staff of Ridley Hall, Cambridge.

He was knighted as a Knight Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in 2001.

From the Diocese of Coventry website

(Pages 12 and 13)
EXHALL and WIXFORD

**NEWS FROM ST GILES' CHURCH, EXHALL
Coronavirus and St. Giles**

Little did we realise, when we were listening to Judith at 8 o'clock on Sunday 15th March, that that would be our last service for some time.

During the following week we were told that there would be no further services in our Churches. We put a notice in St. Giles that it would remain open to give everyone the opportunity to sit in the peaceful building away from the problem. Each evening of the following week, we put the lights on until 10pm. Then we were informed that all Churches must be closed.

St. Giles had not been closed for many, many, years. Mr. Bernard Willis lived in our village and was a great worker on the P.C.C. During his time with us, the locking of the Church was discussed but no one knew the whereabouts of the key. Bernard organised the making of a new key. I have looked through the old cash books and I have found this entry:

27.8.1978. Mr. E.B.Willis. New Key. £6.50.

It is a magnificent large key and it has been sitting in a drawer in John's bungalow ever since, never having been used-until now.

When John took it into the Church following the closure order, there was a certain amount of trepidation that after so many years the lock would be rusted up. However, with a little persuasion and a spray of WD40 it worked. St. Giles is now locked after all those years.

On 17th April 1989 we gave Bernard a leaving present as he moved away to live nearer his family.

As we ring the Church bell every Thursday evening at 8pm, the villagers come into the street to join with us to applaud, and Adam Read joins in by firing his cannon, as we say thank you to NHS workers to carers and in fact to all who selflessly give their time and share their talents to fight this terrible disease.

I am writing this report on Good Friday and thinking ahead to Easter Day - we are reassured that we shall overcome this terrible problem.

JOHN HORSEMAN

POEM ABOUT CORONAVIRUS

We're fighting an enemy we've not seen before
and it feels like we're fighting an invisible war.
The enemy's a virus and it wants to harm you
but coming to our rescue are the angels in blue.
These angels are nurses and doctors too,
It's our NHS and they're all there for you.
They're there by your side all day and all night
helping their patients to fight for their life
They work very hard, and never expect praise,
they're just doing their job, or so everyone says.

There are also the cleaners, all part of the team
killing the virus, keeping hospital wards clean
There are also our ambulance staff fighting the fight,
they respond to "999" calls all day and all night.
There are angels in care homes and some visit our homes
helping the elderly and those who live alone
The sacrifice they make is above and beyond
but it's not always possible to wave a magic wand.
They're doing their best to save people's lives
but this virus is still killing our husbands and wives
So this is a message to everyone else,
you must stay at home, it's a small sacrifice
We're allowed out for exercise and for our shopping
and if we follow the rules we will soon see this stopping
Keep 6 feet away from others we meet
and we'll soon see an end to this terrible tragedy
Think of others as well as yourself,
and respect all the key workers who continue to help.

This virus is deadly and we must do what we're asked
and if we all pull together, this "nightmare" will pass
So remember this, next time you go out
and don't flout the rules when you're out and about
Please think of others who may lose a life
it could be their child or their husband or wife.

The village of Eyam had a plague just like this,
happening so quickly in 1665/66
It came to the village in a bundle of cloth
imported from London and it needed to stop.
The Reverend Mompesson had a brilliant idea,
he put the village in quarantine, to allay people's fear
The quarantine worked and it saved many lives
But it went on for months and you could hear all their cries
but the plague didn't spread any further than there
and it was due to the Reverend, his wisdom and care.

Poem by Pat Clarke, Bideford, North Devon
Forwarded by Chris Hanson

(Pages 14 and 15)

TEMPLE GRAFTON

NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, TEMPLE GRAFTON An appeal for St Andrew's Church

For the past 38 years, I have looked after the flower borders along the church path and am now getting concerned as I have not been able to attend to them these past few weeks – due to a painful back. Is there anyone who could tidy them up? No digging, just dead-heading and pulling a few weeds up. Please phone or speak to me (six feet away of course!).

While asking for help, is there anyone with a strimmer who would be willing to tidy-up around the old graves on the south side of church? Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Margaret Kibble-White (Phone number 01789 772269)

BITS AND BOBS FROM TEMPLE GRAFTON

I, like many others, am in self-isolation, doing little jobs in and around the house that have been neglected for some time - clearing and tidying up drawers and cupboards, getting into some corners, moving furniture around and some letter-writing and phoning friends. I find it all very strange but I realise we must all play our part, not just for ourselves but for others as well.

Now for a little bit about birds etc. A pair of blackbirds have been regularly coming throughout the day, starting early in the morning, busy feeding their family. I like them, (they are very lucky), treating them to special food, i.e. grapes, sultanas and apple beside their normal bird food. Occasionally another male appears and then of course there is a set-to resulting in the daddy one winning.

Goldfinches are still arriving in large numbers: with three feeders there isn't much squabbling. Blue and great tits have been very piggish, it is so amusing to watch them grabbing a peanut, then taking it to the apple tree to enjoy. I think perhaps they have others to think about, as the number coming to feed is dropping off. My battery box didn't appear to be good enough for a new family, although I had been hoping. Unusual, but a pair of green finches have been around feeding, it seems a long time since I have seen any. A sparrow hawk appears regularly and sits on my fence close to the house and spends a few minutes, looking about. All the other birds have gone when he is in view, so an unlucky sparrow hawk.

Many tadpoles are now in my small pond. No legs yet, but they do appear to be feeding well. Spring-time is wonderful, all the bulbs and daffs, violas and fritillaries are so colourful. I have now some white fritillaries amongst the purple ones and they do really stand out, also hundreds and hundreds of cowslips and bluebells are just opening up. Country life is super if one stops and looks at nature, which at present we can do quite easily.

Buzzards are to be seen most days, circling on a thermal looking for prey. No sign yet of our church swallows; I'm sure they will soon appear. I have plenty of sparrows, they are the first to arrive in the early morning.

Margaret Kibble-White

**SMJ NATURE RESERVE UPDATE
THIS SURREAL WORLD! AND OUR CONSERVATION**

Hello everyone, and this is hoping you are all well and safe. We spend as much time as possible in the outdoors, enjoying the sunshine and amazing blossoms this year, watching the wildlife, and saying how lucky we are.

Whilst David has sown wild-flower seeds, he is now concentrating on finding 'The Lost Vegetable Gardens of Little Haven'! Planting veg again whilst nature looks after itself. The first time in many years. I used to walk down and say to folk "Ignore that garden, it's now part of our wildlife reserve!" With towering burdock, nettles, brambles etc., it truly looked like it. So I took some tools to slash it all down, thinking I do hope this does not affect anything. Well, it hasn't. And now we have two rows of potatoes growing: that's a good start. Lettuce and tomatoes too.

My moth traps have been out regularly (it doesn't matter now that I have fewer things to think about!) With the lovely weather, and everything growing, the moth count results, although very very low compared to previous years, have produced many species so far. Just a few here: Oak Beauty, Streamer, Early Thorn, Purple Thorn, Brindled Beauty, Early Grey, Pale Prominent, Swallow Prominent, Pebble Prominent, Red-green Carpet, Yellow-barred Brindle, Lime Hawk moth.....and last night a Silver Cloud which I was relieved to see. Ordinary looking, but it is a nationally scarce (Nb) moth.

Butterflies: numbers are well down so far. Peacocks, Brimstones, Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral, Small White, Holly Blue, Orange tips (many of those), Speckled Wood. Early days yet so fingers crossed.

Best wishes to all, keep safe.

Jean Cholerton

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Little Tommy's Sunday School teacher heard him use some questionable language. She was shocked and said, "Tommy, don't you ever use such language again, and certainly not where your friends and I can hear it. Where on earth did you learn that?" "I got it from my dad, Miss," replied Tommy. "Well, your daddy should be ashamed. I hope you don't know what all that means." "Oh but I do," said Tommy, "It meant the car wouldn't start when we were ready to come to church this morning."

(Page 16)

TEMPLE GRAFTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - FOUNDATION GOVERNOR NEEDED



We are currently looking for a Foundation Governor to join our Governing Body to help promote and monitor the Christian values and ethos of our school. This is a lovely opportunity to join the Temple Grafton school community. The role will require two evening meetings per term and a visit to the school at least once a term. You will be able to meet with the pupils and staff of Temple Grafton and attend Christian assemblies. As a Foundation Governor you will represent the church and diocese on behalf of the vicar on our Governing Body and therefore will need to be an active member of the church community. No qualifications are necessary except enthusiasm and an interest in Christian teaching in primary schools.

We would love to hear from you and if you are interested, please do not hesitate to contact our Chair of Governors (Cathy Barron 07986 660217) or our Head Teacher (Sarah Hendry 01789 772384).

TEMPLE GRAFTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL - GOVERNOR NEEDED



The local governing body at Temple Grafton Church of England Primary School is currently looking for volunteers from the local community to join our friendly and supportive team. Being a school governor is a hugely rewarding role where you will have the opportunity to make a difference to the lives of the children in our local community.

You will be required to attend two evening meetings per term and to visit the school at least once a term to meet with the staff and pupils and become part of the Temple Grafton school community. No particular skills or experience are needed and what we really need are people who can bring their enthusiasm, different viewpoints, experience and fresh ideas with them to help us provide the best possible education for the children and to ensure that our school can flourish for the benefit of our community. We would love to hear from you and if you are interested or know someone who may be then please do not hesitate to contact our Chair of Governors (Cathy Barron 07986 660217) or our Head Teacher (Sarah Hendry 01789 772384).

FEELING LIKE AN ICE CREAM

Let's start with a round of applause for you: yes, you. Why? Because (I hope) you've been following the rules: staying home and staying safe. Making rainbows and helping your neighbours. Bringing out the best of you for other people – isn't that a wonderful thing? In this time of crisis, I hope we'll look back and be proud of who we were, but we all know it isn't plain sailing.

On my run the other day, I couldn't help but smile as I ran down a road where the people who lived opposite and next door to each other had set up their deckchairs and were having the latest version of 'a night out.' Glasses in hand and sunnies on heads as the sun set on their driveways, it was (almost) like being on holiday, and it was lovely to see.

We've been connecting with each other like we haven't before, and it's been an enlightening experience. I've met my colleagues' children and their pets, seen their true colours through their hot-beverage-of-choice mugs, and become very comfortable not wearing makeup on video conferences. For some of us, what was once behind closed doors is now our working environment, and for others, there is no work environment at the moment. For many, our work environment has been transformed into something unrecognisable. But, regardless of whether we're still working, whether we can see our loved ones, whether we're teaching, caring or planning to keep our livelihoods, I feel like we've all melted at some point.

Melting is the term I've been using purely because I go in phases from feeling like a very structured, well put-together Cornetto, to feeling like a puddle of Mr Whippy that's been knocked onto the floor by some horrible seagull on a very hot day – and the change can happen instantaneously. One moment, everything feels OK – someone else (yes, another person) announces that they've just bought a new puppy, or we've just had a really good time playing online boardgames or quizzing – and the next it all comes crashing down as I begin to worry about people I know and the people I don't. Sometimes, I'll melt slowly like a Calippo (the ones that refuse to melt and then suddenly, hello liquid goodness), and other times, I feel like a Feast that's been pretty solid on the outside but then you suddenly realise the chocolate-y goodness has been melting over your fingers for the last five minutes and you hadn't even noticed. It's a very mixed bag, but it's the best analogy I've come up with to-date. Let me know of any others – I'm very curious.

The thing is though, no matter which ice cream I feel like one day, I could feel like a completely different one the next. Maybe I just want to be that Neapolitan ice cream we forget about at the back of the freezer sometimes, and that's ok. It's important that we let ourselves feel all these different things and learn to process them with others in ways we haven't before (with fewer hugs). Video conferencing via WhatsApp, FaceTime, House Party, Zoom, Facebook, Teams and a whole menagerie of others are helping us to socialise in ways many of us never imagined, and it's important we share our experiences. We're all experiencing things differently right now; talking about things we might not have talked about before, and learning in ways we may have previously scoffed at. So keep sharing, and whether you're feeling like the most exciting Ben and Jerry's combo under the sun or good ol' faithful vanilla, talk about it. And if that's accompanied with a quiz night, taskmaster,

fancy dress or bingo game, we may as well find joy in all the things we can.
#ForTheGiggles

Alice Claronino

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BINTON

NEWS FROM ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BINTON

As we are in the second period of lockdown we continue to be blessed with wonderful weather. When villagers take their daily exercise – often a walk through the village – they frequently reconnect with or even meet new neighbours as they pass their properties as they are gardening. The community spirit lives on as we can exchange information such as the availability of flour, etc. There are many offers of help. Every Thursday we applaud the NHS workers, care workers, shop assistants, postal workers, refuse collectors, delivery drivers and all those people who must meet the public on a daily basis. It is also our chance to communicate with our immediate neighbours as we line the road and exchange banter, which lifts everyone's spirits.

Sue Joyce



(Pages 19 and 20)

MORE SCAMS TO WATCH OUT FOR

Regrettably, one thing that hasn't stopped - or even slowed-down - during the current period of lockdown is scammers coming-up with more creative ways to part us from our cash.

Warwickshire Trading Standards are warning of the following scams which have been detected in the county recently.

With household waste recycling centres across the UK closed, reports have been coming in from Councils of an increase in the amount of fly-tipping. Warwickshire Trading Standards is asking residents not to inadvertently contribute to this problem by employing criminals and unlicensed operators who offer to remove household rubbish for a fee before dumping it a few streets away. These individuals may be working door to door or advertising on social media. The householder is responsible for where the rubbish is left. If it is fly-tipped and items are traced back to the householder, they could be prosecuted or issued with a fixed penalty notice! Current advice is to store bulky items until such time as the recycling centres can safely re-open.

People struggling to obtain loans and similar finance from recognised 'high street lenders' may be tempted to go online where there are many scammers waiting to offer bogus loans or business funding. The scammers' websites encourage individuals to make an online application and in doing so gather telephone numbers and email addresses. Those searching for loans or similar are then contacted and offered money. However, the fraudsters ask for an upfront fee – usually between £25 and £450 - as part of the 'application' process. Once paid, the money (loan or funding) never materialises and the fraudsters disappear.

Malicious email attachments, false 'government grant' phone calls and CEO impersonation scams are among a raft of scams undermining businesses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. With remote working and many businesses having to stop or diversify their trading practices, criminals are seizing the opportunity to target employees who are isolated from colleagues. Scams include criminals impersonating government officials or a senior member of the business in order to put pressure on employees to give out sensitive information or make payments. Criminals will also try and gain access to personal or business devices and networks, and everything stored on them. They can do this by various means, such as sending emails with malicious attachments, exploiting vulnerabilities in your operating systems if they are not up-to-date, or trying to get you to click links or visit malicious websites. Once they have access to your device and your data, they may try to steal your data or extract money from you by getting you to pay a ransom.

Don't let the scammers trick you, they are after your money. Follow the guidelines below, or make a scam/rogue trader complaint to Trading Standards via Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

Protect yourself - watch out for scam messages:

Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to unsolicited messages and calls that ask for your personal or financial details.

Protect yourself - shopping online:

If you're making a purchase from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, and ask a friend or family member for advice before completing the purchase. If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one, as most major credit card providers insure online purchases.

From the Action Fraud website and Warwickshire Trading Standards

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A country conference centre which was much used by church groups had as its motto, "There are no problems here, only opportunities."

A minister booked it for a weekend retreat with a group from his church. The day arrived and they all signed in and were shown to their rooms.

A few minutes later, the minister returned to the reception desk and said he had a problem.

The receptionist responded with a smile and said, "Sir we don't have problems here, only opportunities."

The minister said, "Call it what you like, but there's already a woman in my room."

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HEARTBEAT – KEEP IN TOUCH

Do you know someone who would like to keep in touch with what's going on in the Heart of England Parishes?

If you enjoy reading Heartbeat, why not recommend it to a friend?

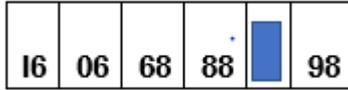
A year's subscription (10 copies) costs just £5 for subscribers who live in the Heart of England Parishes, because we can deliver it direct to your door at no extra cost.

If you would like Heartbeat posted to a UK address, a year's subscription is £10 including postage.

To arrange a subscription, just contact the Editor, Neil Smart, at goosecottage@btinternet.com or by telephone on 01789 400791

PUZZLE CORNER (APRIL ISSUE) - ANSWERS

What is the number of the parking space with the car in it?



Space number 87 (turn the picture upside down to see why)

What is the next number in this sequence? 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, ??

50 - they are the values of UK metal coins in current circulation, in order

Two mothers and two daughters went out together for a meal. Everyone ate one hamburger, but only three hamburgers were eaten altogether. Why was that?

There were three generations – a grandmother, her daughter, and her daughter's daughter. The 'middle' one was therefore both a mother and a daughter.

Julie's mother has three daughters. One is called Alice, the second one is Beatrice. What is the name of the third daughter?

Julie.

Which five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

Short.

Three doctors said that Bill was their brother. Bill said he had no brothers. Both were right. How?

The three doctors were Bill's sisters.

You need to time something for exactly 15 minutes, but you only have a 7 minute hourglass and an 11 minute hourglass. How can you time exactly 15 minutes using those two hourglasses?

Set both hourglasses off at the same time. When the smaller hourglass has run through (ie at 7 minutes), turn it over and start it again; leave the larger glass running through. Then, when the larger hourglass has run through (ie at 11 minutes), turn the smaller glass over – by now it will have run for 4 minutes of its second cycle, so by turning it over it will have another 4 minutes to run. $7 + 4 + 4 = 15$ minutes.

ANSWERS TO THE FRIDAY QUIZ (See page 7 of this issue)

1. Mama
2. Maine
3. On her Majesty's Secret Service
4. Severn
5. Ear (the stapes)
6. Salisbury (404 feet / 123 metres)
7. Arctic tern
8. Sneezzy (18)
9. Pop goes the Weasel
10. Elizabeth II (68 years not out), Victoria (63 years 216 days), George III (59 years 96 days).

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THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE CORNER

If you spell "sit in the bath" s – o – a – k, and you spell "a funny story" j – o – k – e, how do you spell "the white of an egg" ?

To whom was it said "Jesus loves you more than you will know"?

Can you find the
the **mistake**?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

A man dressed all in black is walking down a country lane. Suddenly, a large black car with no lights on comes round the corner, and screeches to a halt. How did the car's driver know that the man was there?

What are the next two numbers in this sequence: 1, 4, 3, 11, 15, 13, ?, ?

If I am holding a bee, what have I got in my eye?

How can you add eight 6's together to get 750 ?

How many numbers, between 1 and 100, have the letter 'a' in their spelling?

Good luck! Answers next month (sorry, no prizes).

Montagu Burford

AND FINALLY...

When all is said and done, will you have said more than you have done?