

# Parish News

*Kington, Huntington & Titley*

March 2022

## LENT



# SARGEANTS BUSES FOR KINGTON

FROM 3rd September 2020

email: [mike@sargeantsbros.com](mailto:mike@sargeantsbros.com)  
Tel : 01544 230481

Mill Street, Kington  
Herefordshire  
HR5 3AL

**HEREFORD** 461 via Lyonshall 462 via Eardisley  
Journey times vary Kington to Hereford approx 65minutes

## Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	461	463
Mon-Fri	0645	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710
Saturday	-	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710

## Returns Railway Station, HEREFORD

	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461	Sat/Hol	Sch	461	461
Mon-Fri	0748	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1615	1700	1815
Saturday	-	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	-	1700	1815

## LLANDRINDOD WELLS

### Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0600	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
M-F Coll Hols	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
Sat	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810

### Returns from Railway Station, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

	461	461	461	462	462	461	463	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0638	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1600	1708	1808	1850
Sat & Coll Hols	-	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1605	1708	1808	1850

## KNIGHTON Route 41

### Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

M - F	0610	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730
Sat	-	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730

### Departs Bus Station, KNIGHTON

M - F	0642	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805
Sat	-	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805

## TOWN SERVICE

Tue & Fri Arrives Serves all areas of Kington  
DOCTOR'S SURGERY 10.02 & 11.20

## ARROW VIEW

Tue & Fri Departs Kington Museum 9.20 11.15  
Departs Arrow View 9.30 RQ

TIMETABLES FOR ALL SERVICES AVAILABLE ON MOST BUSES  
& OFFICE IN MILL STREET

Also available on [www.sargeantsbros.com](http://www.sargeantsbros.com)

# THE KINGTON PARISHES



St Mary, Kington St Thomas a Becket, Huntington  
St Stephen, Old Radnor St Mary, Kinnerton St Peter, Titley  
[www.kingtonparishes.org.uk](http://www.kingtonparishes.org.uk)

## CLERGY

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Parish Office email: [office@kingtonparishes.org.uk](mailto:office@kingtonparishes.org.uk)

## ASSISTANT CURATE

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## READER

Rob MacCurrach 33 Cutterbach Lane, Kington, HR5 3EH 01544 231848

## CHURCHWARDENS

Kington Miss Ann Edwards 01544 230271  
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Huntington Mrs Christina Powell 01544 370655  
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Mr Peter Kelly 01544 370266  
Greenfield Farm, Huntington, Kington HR5 3PZ

Old Radnor Mr Michael Jones 01544 370259  
Weythel Farm, Old Radnor, Presteigne LD8 2RR  
Mrs Rosemary Watkins 01544 230174  
Dunfield Bungalow, Stanner Rd, Kington HR5 3NN

Kinnerton Mrs Ruth Jones:  
Upper House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, LD8 2PE 01547 560207  
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## MAGAZINE EDITOR

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St. Mary's, Kington PCC is a registered charity and its number is 1185453

## Letter from the Archdeacon

Dear Friends,  
No sooner are the Christmas decorations down on Twelfth Night (or Candlemas, depending on your practice) than the Easter Eggs start appearing in the shops – one of our modern signs of spring!

But we know that we don't just jump straight from Christmas to Easter. We shall begin to mark the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on 2nd March. In some traditions, last year's palm crosses will be burned, and the ash used to mark the forehead with a cross as a sign of penitence, focusing the heart on repentance and prayer, as well as on our own mortality –

*“Remember that you are dust, and to dust, you will return.”*

For most people, modern Lent doesn't involve the full Lenten Fast. Instead, you'll often hear people talk about giving up chocolate, cake, alcohol, or social media. One year, in my teens, I gave up television for Lent. It was amazing to see what else I got done instead! The 'giving up' symbolises, of course, a period of self-denial: saying 'no' to some of the things we crave, to help us focus more on God. And in my book that's always a good thing. But just giving up things for the sake of it may not help us with that aim of focusing more on God and his character.

Each year many Lent Books are published to help us spend extra time reflecting on God and his character. This year's Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book, written by the Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley, focuses on justice as we recall the words of Isaiah, *“Is this not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice?”* (Isaiah 58:6). There's a 40-day Live Lent challenge we can all follow, based on the book, which you can order online here <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9781781402603/live-lent-embracing-justice-adult-pack-of-10> (I've given the link for packs of 10 in case you want to follow the challenge as a congregation; you can order them individually or in packs of 50 as well.) There's also a children's version <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/books/9781781402665/live-lent-embracing-justice-kids-pack-of-10>

And in case you find the giving-up all too much, remember that the Sundays in Lent don't count as fast days: all Sundays are always a remembrance of the resurrection, and Christians can't fast on such a joyful day. You heard it here first...

With my best wishes,

*Fiona Gibson  
Archdeacon of Ludlow*



## View from the Vicarage

### Doing Something Beautiful for God

*Dear Friends,*

As I write this, the world or, at least Europe, seems evermore precariously balanced upon a precipice of which one false move has the potentiality of beginning a European and almost certainly global war the like of which the vast majority of us have, thank God, never had to experience.

At home, the Partygate scandal in Downing Street continues while with the exception of HM the Queen it seems, the Royal Family seems to lurch from one embarrassing revelation to another. All of this gloom, doom and disaster is before we consider the devastating consequences of a cost of living crisis which appears to show no sign of abating and which will inevitably have a dramatic impact upon the lives and livelihoods of people up and down the country.

I'm confident that in the face of this seemingly endless litany of bad and dispiriting news, you're doubtless feeling a sense of foreboding. None of these events are new. There have always been world leaders who regard the use of lethal force as the only way to achieve their objectives. Those of us who remember the 3 day weeks of the 1970s can well remember occasions of rampant inflation and, however bad the Royal family's travails are now, surely they almost pale into insignificance alongside the divorces and scandals of the 1990s.

It seems to me that the arrival of Lent this year is extremely timely, as surely what Lent encourages us to do is to put life into perspective, to look, if we can, at the bigger picture.

Lent encourages and persuades us to take a long hard look not merely at what's going on outside of ourselves but more importantly what's going on with you and me. Let's not forget that the crisis we see writ large upon the global scale all trace their origins straight back to human sin and sinfulness and that begins not in the Kremlin, the White House, or even 10 Downing Street or Buckingham Palace that begins with you and me. This is precisely why every time that we gather to worship God we begin by admitting our own faults and failings.

The six weeks of Lent encourage us to re-evaluate ourselves and our lives. To consider what's actually important, what's absolutely essential and what we could or perhaps should live without.

I'm planning to use Lent this year, to live without the addition of sugar or sweeteners to my drinks etc. This will, hopefully, begin as Lenten fast but God willing continue into the future: I've never succeeded in the past, so maybe lent 2022 will be different. It's always seemed to me that Lent is a very good incentive to do something that we've always been planning but were never galvanised into beginning.

Abstinence or giving things up should really only one part of our Lenten journey, I've felt for a long time that what's far more beneficial is to take things up for Lent and across the Benefice we have a number of opportunities that you might consider making part of your own Lenten journey this year.

Why not join a Lent Course?

As usual, Churches Together are joining together to offer a Lent Course in various locations. This year we're returning to the York Courses that have been very popular here over the years. This year's course is called "Jesus Christ Superstar" based, of course, on the famous musical of the same name. There'll be plenty of opportunities to be part of a group at a time that works best for you. A Bible, the course booklet and a willingness to join in discussion with others is all that you need.

Or how about The Way of the Cross?

This ancient meditation is Virtual Reality Medieval style. During the Middle Ages while war in Europe and the Middle East made it impossible for people to actually walk in the footsteps of Christ on his journey to crucifixion, this meditation was devised to enable people to walk with Christ without leaving their home village. Virtual Reality, Medieval style. There really is nothing new under the sun is there?

I'm really delighted that this year we'll be alternating between St. Mary's Kington and our brothers and sisters at St. Bede's RC Church. We begin on Friday March 4th at 10am at St. Mary's.

Have you been to Compline?

Compline from the Latin "Completerium" is the Night Prayer of the Church. This powerful and beautiful service is never more beautiful and atmospheric than when sung in plainchant in a darkened church where the candles are little pinpoints of light. Resuming our practice BC (that's Before Covid-19), compline will be sung in each church across the Benefice and each service will be followed by a short address. We begin our Compline Pilgrimage at St. Mary's Church Kinnerton on March 4th at 8.00pm.

Alongside all of that our fortnightly Silence and Prayer at Huntington on Wednesdays and Prayer Group at Kinnerton on Thursdays will continue to meet throughout Lent both begin at 3.00pm and you'd always be welcome.

As you can see, there are multiple opportunities to help you in your Lenten journey this year and I do hope and pray that whatever happens you will endeavour to do something whatever that is. Malcolm Muggeridge once described the late Mother Theresa's work among the down and outs of Calcutta as doing "Something beautiful for God." I know that whatever you do this Lent will indeed be your own something beautiful and what a fragrant garden of peaceful flowers we could plant here and now if we do. That is and was and always will be the very best and finest response to whatever crisis evil and its power may attempt to inflict upon the world. What will your Something beautiful for God be?

Wishing you a happy and holy Lent.

With my love and prayers as always

*Ben*

### **The Crucifixion Toile in St Mary's Church Kington**

Over the past few months, I'm sure that anyone who has entered St. Mary's Kington will have noticed the exuberant painting of the crucifixion which we are now extremely privileged to provide a home for. The Image or Toile as it's described has been very kindly donated by Duncan Fallowell and framed by Freda and Alison. I'm deeply grateful to them all. During Lent, the Toile has been moved to hang behind the High Altar and this seems an ideal opportunity to introduce more people to it and its history. The following is an extract from an email that Duncan sent me.



*"Helmi, the artist who painted the Crucifixion, was a good friend of mine in the south of France," Duncan writes "and I've written about her in my book To Noto. She was Estonian, trained in Paris, and after the war she married a Frenchman, Jacques Pfeiffer, who lived on the edge of Gassin near St Tropez, not far from La Croix Valmer where my parents had a house. Her full name is Helmi Whipp Pfeiffer. She was the last artist in the true bohemian tradition of the St Tropez district, which began in the second half of the nineteenth century with the Impressionists and continued with the Fauves, and which has now been overtaken by fashionable tourism and luxury villas. She and Jacques created an extraordinary Surrealist domaine at Gassin out of found objects, old ceramics, and Helmi's paintings and painted textiles. Her paintings - known as 'toiles' - used a uniform technique. She first primed the hessian with Jackson Pollock drips and then painted her exuberant imagery over the top in a quite different, naive style. The result is very colourful - and endlessly fascinating too, as nothing is quite representational in the academic sense. Jacques died first; and when Helmi died (about 30 years ago), there were many toiles still there at the domaine du Cambon. The domain was vandalised, and her nephew gave me permission to salvage what I wanted - he had already done so for the family.*

*A mutual friend has confirmed that the hole in the Crucifixion toile was intentional. Helmi was a free spirit - wonderfully so - but in this case she decided to defer to the tradition (is it East European?) that an image of Christ should incorporate a deliberate imperfection. However she positioned her 'imperfection' over the heart of Jesus; and for me the aperture placed there symbolises eternity. So it's not really an imperfection at all, but the introduction of another dimension."*

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### **Easter Lilies**

Anyone wishing to purchase a lily for Easter could you please let Gill know so that she can place the order by the end of March. The cost per lily will be £3.50. *Lesley Walters*

### **Compline**

During Lent there will be a series of Compline services held each Friday evening at 8pm. Please try to join us for this service of quiet reflection and plainsong singing. Each church in the Benefice will host a slot - see Service Schedule opposite for details.

## Kington Parishes Service Schedule for this month

*Dependant on Government announcements,*

*please see our website for up to date information.*

All services in Kington marked \* below will be available via livestream at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCho108zE6VUpNGQAmmfA9OA>

### Wednesday, 2nd March: Ash Wednesday

7pm Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Kington

### Friday, March 4th Service of Compline, 8pm

Kinnerton

### Sunday, 6th March: 1st Sunday of Lent

*Deuteronomy 26.1-11 Ps 91.1-2,9-16 Romans 10.8b-13 Luke 4.1-13*

8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Titley  
 10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Kington  
 11.30am: Holy Eucharist: Kinnerton  
 6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Old Radnor

### Friday, March 11th Service of Compline, 8pm

Old Radnor

### Sunday, 13th March: 2nd Sunday of Lent

*Genesis 15.1-12,17-18 Psalm 27 Philippians 3.17 - 4.1 Luke 13.31-35*

8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Huntington  
 10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Kington  
 11.30am: Holy Eucharist: Old Radnor  
 6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Kinnerton

### Friday, March 18th Service of Compline, 8pm

Titley

### Sunday, 20th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent

*Isaiah 55.1-9 Psalm 63.1-9 1 Corinthians 10.1-13 Luke 13.1-9*

8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Kinnerton  
 10.00am: Morning Praise: Kington  
 10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Titley  
 6.00pm: Junior Praise: Old Radnor

### Friday, March 25th Service of Compline, 8pm

Kington

### Sunday, 27th March 4th Sunday of Lent /Mothering Sunday

*Exodus 2.1-10 Psalm 34.11-20 2 Corinthians 1.3-7 Luke 2.33-35*

10.00am: Family Eucharist: Kington  
 11.30am: Evening Prayer: Kinnerton  
 4.00pm: Mothering Sunday Service: Old Radnor  
 6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Huntington

### Friday, April 1st Service of Compline, 8pm

Huntington

NB All services from Kington are live-streamed



*Luke 2.33-35*



## St. MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

The joyous season of Easter is fast approaching and how good it is to see the spring flowers and increasing hours of daylight.

I have been told today that Covid is still quite rife in our county so it behoves us to indulge in greater freedom with care.

We are venturing to plan for future events though with certain limitations. I can confidently say that I am sure that Ben will provide opportunities for us to share in all the extra services which lead up to Easter.

Fundraising has suffered over the last two years and we are very grateful to the Banks Family who have given us the opportunity to run a stall at the Spring Fair on Monday, May 2nd to enable us to start fundraising again. Traditionally we have run a cake stall at this event. However the merchandise is going to change this year and we shall offer for sale bric a brac and books. Certain rules about food make the safe selling of it more difficult.

Please support us and come and browse what is on offer. However to be able to do this we have to ask for your support in providing us with good, clean and "not wanted anymore" objects and books. As we are supporting a garden fair any garden related objects will be welcome but please no clothes or electrical goods. If you have just one item you feel is suitable it will be gladly received.

As this is a new venture for us we need to have items for sale in advance of the day for sorting. If you have items you wish to contribute before Easter please contact me on 015344 230271. Otherwise details of a collection point and date will be given in the April Parish News. We hope that we shall have some interesting items to offer.

The Friends of St. Mary's and Churches Together in Kington have events in the pipeline so we look forward to hearing details of those.

Sadly we have lost many friends from our congregation over the past months and we extend sympathy to families grieving the loss of loved ones.

We hope that it will not be too long before Rodney will be well enough to be back among us again. We miss you, Rodney, and look forward to your return. We wish you well and I am sure that others would like to join with me in sending best wishes to Margaret and to you.

*Ann Edwards.*



### Kington Community Lunch



**12.30pm  
 Wednesday  
 16th March**

If you would like a hot meal and company please join us at the Parish House.  
 Contact 230683

### More Journeys in Jane Mark III

1966 proved to be an exciting year for Jane and her owner, both for journeys undertaken and for personal milestones.

Our regular trips from Birmingham to old Sodbury via Tangmere were completed without mishap, apart from one journey in the Spring of 1966. My brother David had been injured playing rugby and was taken to Bristol Royal Infirmary. It so happened that I was returning to college, calling in at home en-route. In those days, visiting hours to hospitals were strictly observed. I rang the hospital to explain my circumstances as a student returning from Birmingham, and asked if I could possibly call in to see my brother. Permission granted, I set off to the BRI to visit my brother, before setting off to Birmingham.

Inevitably, I lost my way in Bristol before eventually picking up the A38. No time or place to check the fuel (no petrol gauge, just a wooden dipstick used as a measure by dipping it in to the petrol tank placed in front of the bulk head under the bonnet) Would I have enough petrol to complete my journey?? The main obstacle was the short length of the new M5. I usually prayed along this stretch of motorway that I would safely reach the safety of Longbridge. I thought I could park the car and walk to Edgbaston if the need arose. I realised I only had 2/- (10p) in my pocket- credit cards and mobile phones did not exist.

As I approached the end of the motor way, suddenly the light went out, the engine stopped and flames appeared from under the dash board. Fortunately, I was wearing gloves and managed to put out the flames. We were still coasting along when the engine burst into life and the lights came back on. I gave a huge sigh of relief as we turned off the motorway and made it safely back to college, elated but exhausted at 10:30pm

The following afternoon I found the cause of the electrical fault. A previous owner had fitted a spot light on the front far side of the car and had wired it up to a switch on the dashboard. The wires, one of which was live, had been cut and was dangling dangerously close to the main severed wire. The two wires met- hence the flames! I removed the switch, the wiring and the spotlight and I still have those things in a box 64 years later!!

I dipped the petrol tank and found that I had the usual amount of petrol left over in spite of the extra miles visting the hospital and getting lost in Bristol. I believe in prayer and miracles – yet another test for my guardian angel.

There was another major journey at Easter 1966 travelling from Old Sodbury to Leiston in Suffolk for the college Easter retreat at the abbey there. I set off from home with sandwiches and a flask and travelled almost non- stop until reaching my destination. Along the way I was passed several times by members of staff and fellow students in their modern cars. As the journey continued it became akin to the story of the hare and the tortoise, one of Aesop's fables. Because of minimal stops, much to the astonishment of my fellow travellers, I arrived first at our destination - Austin 7 one, modern cars nil!

On Easter morning I found a little nest full of little Easter Eggs and a furry bird looking on, placed by the staff of Leiston Abbey. It was hanging on a pink ribbon fixed to the interior mirror. This marathon trip covered 446 miles without any problems, our longest journey ever.

Our next great adventure came on July 2nd, 1966. But more of that later.....

*Tony Jardine*



If you are under 25 and live in Kington or the surrounding area we want to hear from you. Rural Media's Point Of View project has been commissioned to facilitate a consultation with young people living in Kington and the surrounding area.

Open Arms Kington are exploring the need and desire for a space for young people in the town and hope to learn what young people think about spaces for them, what a young space might offer and how it could be run. The consultation is running until early March with young people under 25 who live in Kington and the surrounding area.

*"We want to hear from as many young people as possible who live in the area. We're looking for young people who have something to say about their experiences of living here. Whether it's good or bad, we want to know what the 13-25 year olds have got to say!"*

— Toni Cook - Rural Media

Whether you want to talk about things to do or places to go - about access to opportunities, transport, the climate fight or social inequality...whatever you've got to say. We want to hear it. Get in touch with Toni Cook at [tonic@ruralmedia.co.uk](mailto:tonic@ruralmedia.co.uk)

### OPEN ARMS KINGTON & THE OXFORD ARMS

Did you know that there have been at least 31 inns or pubs in Kington? How many do you think you could name?

Open Arms Kington is a group that formed with the idea of buying one of these pubs - the Oxford Arms - and running it as a community enterprise. The idea behind the project formed when the pub was put up for sale and a group of people who live in and around Kington all agreed it would be a shame if it was lost to the community and stopped being a local pub. Open Arms Kington was formed and so was the plan to raise the money to buy the pub and run it as a community enterprise. The pub is on the open market so we need to act quickly and keep this amazing building as a community pub and hub – a place where good things happen every day. Open Arms Kington are currently compiling a feasibility study which includes consulting the community and preparing a business plan and proof of how the concept would work. Part of the work for the feasibility study involves research into pubs in Kington, both now and in the past.

Apparently the Oxford was long ago known as the Salutation Inn and is one of the oldest inns, possibly dating from as far back as medieval times when it was rumoured to have been a hunting lodge belonging to the Earl of Oxford. It appears to have had a long association with the family and remained part of the Oxford estate for centuries.

During the 18th century it became a noted coaching inn with horse drawn coaches leaving for London via Leominster and Hereford. Documents show that in 1786 the coach left the Oxford Arms at 5pm each Friday and reached London at midday on Sunday – that's not bad going for a coach and horses. Coaches also stopped on journeys in the other



direction towards Aberystwyth, with the Oxford providing a stop for a change of horses and an overnight stay with refreshments for passengers.

By 1821 the Royal Mail coach reached Kington with the Oxford Arms being a safe postal delivery point for collections along the Welsh border. It was probably an important coaching inn right up until the arrival of the railway in 1857. It was during these early years of the 1800s that there is also a connection between the Oxford Arms and the family of James Watt, famous for inventing the steam engine. James Watt jr often received post addressed to him at the Oxford Arms and he had a long association with the town and two colleagues he saw as friends - land agent James Crummer and solicitor James Davies. In 1830 James Davies was thanked for his contributions to Kington with the holding of a celebratory lunch in the Oxford Arms. Newspapers reported that 80-90 were seated for a lunch including venison sent by the Earl of Oxford from his estate at Eywood.

As Town Council meetings are held in the Oxford today, many meetings took place there in the past too. The excise office was formerly kept there and Assemblies were held there from 1841 onwards. It has always been a hub for Kington and hopefully can continue to be so for many years to come.

If you know anything about the history or have ideas about what could happen at the Oxford Arms in the future please do get in touch with Open Arms Kington on info@openarmskington.co.uk or go to our website www.openarmskington.co.uk

## KINGTON & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The next meeting is provisionally arranged for  
**7.30pm Thursday 17th March**

**AGM**  
followed by:  
**MISS JEKYL'S DAISY GRUBBER**  
with Bill laws



Venue: Masonic Hall, Headbrook  
All welcome

### Campaign to tackle drivers using mobile phone

West Mercia Police will be supporting the national mobile phone campaign by targeting motorists who continue to use their handheld mobile phone at the wheel. Distraction behind the wheel is such a significant contributory factor with regards to road collisions and this campaign demonstrates a willingness by police forces across the UK to tackle the issue of mobile phone use.

Motorists caught using a handheld mobile phone while driving face a £200 fine and six points on their licence. Drivers caught twice face a lengthy ban – which could also then lead to a £1,000 fine. While new drivers - those who have passed within the last two years - face having their licence revoked if caught just once.

To find out more please visit the website on the link below;  
[www.westmercia.police.uk/news/west-mercia/news/2022/february/police-continue-to-crackdown-on-drivers-using-mobile-phone/](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/news/west-mercia/news/2022/february/police-continue-to-crackdown-on-drivers-using-mobile-phone/)

## ST THOMAS à BECKET, HUNTINGTON CHURCH NEWS

### Christina Powell:

Following the Evening Prayer Service on the 23rd January, Christina was presented with a framed pen and ink print of St Thomas à Becket Church and a card signed by many parishioners. This was a small token to express our gratitude for her loyal and dedicated service to the church.



Christina first came to Huntington when she married Bob over fifty years ago and has regularly attended church during that time. She took on the role of PCC Secretary in April 1983, a role she undertook for nine years. In March 1992, she became a Churchwarden and Deanery Synod Representative, a role she has held to this day. Due to health reasons and a desire to live closer to her daughter Anna, Bob and Christina will shortly be moving to a house in Hereford. Bob was born, raised and spent all his life at the farm in Huntington and so this will be a tremendous wrench for him to move from a home and area he has loved. However, they will not be cutting their ties with Huntington and hope to return regularly.

Christina has always been there to warmly welcome all newcomers to church (myself included) and to offer friendship and generous hospitality. She efficiently undertook her role as Churchwarden, always ensuring the correct cloth was on the altar, candles were lit for services, lighting and heating were switched on, etc., etc., ensuring that the church was always welcoming. We sincerely thank Christina for all her hard work, and her presence in church will be greatly missed.

We all wish Bob and Christina every happiness in their new home and hope that Christina will be welcomed into her new local church in Hereford, as she so often warmly welcomed newcomers here.

### Church Cards:

Allan Lloyd kindly gave us the original pen and ink drawing of the church, used in his recent book. Fiona has had two A5 (105 x 148mm) cards made, one is portrait and one landscape. The cards are blank inside and come with an envelope and are enclosed in a cellophane sleeve to keep them dry and clean. Cards cost £2.50 each. The addition of these cards now supplements the selection of postcards of the stained glass windows which are always popular.



## Snowdrops:

I know I mention them every year at this time, but the snowdrops in the churchyard look wonderful at the moment. Whether it's due to the milder winter we have had so far, but they do seem more prolific and floriferous this year. They are also abundant in the local hedgerows and along the River Arrow. When we moved here in 2010 there were only two small clumps of snowdrops at the front of the house. Thanks to the generosity of several neighbours and the ability of snowdrops to bulk up their bulbs relatively quickly, I too now have a wonderful display around the garden, which delights me every time I look through the window or go into the garden. There is nothing like the sight of snowdrops to signal that winter is almost over and spring is on the way.



### Taizé Prayers:

A Taizé prayer gathering will be held in church on Sunday 13th March at 4:00pm. This is part of the Deanery 'Learning Together' programme of events. Please see the poster here regarding the Huntington prayer gathering:

*Susan Maiden*

**Taizé prayers**  
4.00pm  
Sunday 13th March  
St Thomas a Becket  
Huntington HR5 3PY

This will be a quiet time of prayers  
Bible readings, silence and song  
using the pattern of worship & songs  
from the Taizé community in France

**All are very welcome!**

The Eagles & Wrens Deanery  
Praying together

## Praying the alphabet

We have come to the letter J which has proved quite demanding. But our first and foremost word is Justice closely followed by Judges (protectors of the people)

Close behind we thought of journalists, how we need faithful journalism. We then added journeys, juniors, peace of Jerusalem, those suffering from jealousy. Then came jockeys, jugglers, joy and jaguars (for the animal lovers) and Japan.

There is a Silence and Prayer event once a fortnight at Huntington.

info@huntingtonchurch.co.uk On the alternate weeks there is a prayer meeting in Kinnerton.

If you would like anyone to pray for you or with you contact Rev Ben 01544 230525 Rev Linda 01544 239395 or Trish 01544 231848

## March Crossword

### Across

- The earth is one (6)
- 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
- 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
- The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth(Luke 2:1) (8)
- 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus'(Philippians 2:5) (8)
- Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this(Luke 8:16) (3)
- Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
- Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
- Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
- What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
- The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
- 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
- Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

### Down

- Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
- Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
- Gospel leaflet (5)
- Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
- Tugs (anag.) (4)                      6 To put forth (5)
- Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
- Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
- 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel' (Genesis 25:26) (5)
- At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha'srequest (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
- 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times that you know me' (Luke 22:34) (4)                      15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
- 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)                      20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
- Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)                      22 Does (anag.) (4)
- The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this (Genesis 41:19) (4)



### Answers to February Crossword

ACROSS: 1, Credit. 4, Tackle. 7, Cain. 8, Kenaniah. 9, Strength. 13, Beg. 16, Salvation Army. 17, ARC. 19, Every day. 24, Admonish. 25, Dire. 26, Sneeze. 27, Bronze.  
DOWN: 1, Cock. 2, Epistolic. 3, Taken. 4, Tenet. 5, Cane. 6, Leave. 10, Erase. 11, Guide. 12, Honey. 13, Barbarian. 14, Guys. 15, Asia. 18, Rod in. 20, Voice. 21, Rahab. 22, Hope. 23, Mene



## ST PETER'S CHURCH TITLEY NEWS

### Good Wishes.

We send all our best wishes and a speedy recovery to Len Dowdeswell who is recovering from an operation and a short stay in hospital. Hopefully Len will be up and about and back bowling shortly.



### Lent Lunch.

At long last we will hopefully have a lent lunch this year. This will take place on Saturday 12th March in the Village Hall between 12md and 2pm. Please come and support this event and bring your friends with you. All monies raised will go towards St Michael's Hospice. If nothing else it will be an ideal opportunity to meet up and have a chat and catch up.

### Easter Services.

A Compline Service will take place at Titley at 8pm on Friday 18th March.

Morning Prayer will be said at Titley at 9am on Good Friday 15th April.

At 4pm the same day (Good Friday) the famous Titley Easter Egg Hunt and the building of the Easter Garden will take place. The local children love this. Hopefully we will be able to have refreshments this year. Please pass the word around and see you all there at 4pm.

Our Easter Day service takes place at 10am on Easter Sunday. This year it will be an extra special service as we also have a baptism where we will welcome Angus into our church family.



### Community Shop.

We have managed to secure a booking for the Community shop. This is not until October but I would like to give you advanced notice so you can start to look for any items which you may be able to donate for sale. If anyone wants any help with transporting anything or wants to make space now please phone Dick on 231052 and we will arrange to collect and store anything.

Dick

### Churches together in Kington Lent Groups

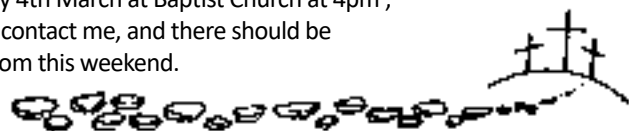
There will be three Lent groups in Kington:

- \* Trish MacCurragh Tuesdays starting Tuesday 8th 1pm to 3pm with soup lunch at her home;
- \* Rev Ben Griffith Thursday 10.30 am provisionally at Border Bean ?
- \* Rev Ross Fridays starting Friday 4th March at Baptist Church at 4pm ;

Anybody who wants to join can contact me, and there should be forms at the various churches from this weekend.

My telephone is 01544 231000.

Pat Roberts



## Not a Proper Gardener (Part 16)

There were plenty of snowdrops in time for Candlemas, What amazing little flowers they are. They look so fragile, and yet they're so very resilient, coping with whatever the weather can throw at them. And like the primroses they have a long flowering season, right from mid January until... well, we shall see - but surely they will still be with us in early March? Peter Swain, in the February Parish News, quoted a delightful little poem, *The Snowdrop Fairy*, and I recall another I love, this one by Andrew Young, called simply *The Snowdrop*:



*Our Father spun / A little flower with flakes of snow / That here, unmelted, it might grow / In rain and sun.  
And in the skies / He said to it 'Go, little one!' / And so it came like some sweet nun / From Paradise.  
Alas! instead / Of finding earth like its own home / It grieved that God had bid It come / And drooped its head.*



And we had our first daffodils out before the end of January; but I won't bore you with Wordsworth's famous poem (probably purloined from his sister Dorothy, says Emma.)

As I write this near the beginning of February, we are getting ready for the busy month of March when it's time to get sowing seeds in earnest. Already (in Feb) I have my sweet pea plants doing well; and some cosmos, germinated in the propagator, have been moved to a sunny windowsill; and I shall sow broad beans very soon. This year I am trying out seed tapes again. These each consist of a length of biodegradable tape, pre-sown, which you lay out in a shallow drill and cover with fine soil. You keep it watered and, hey presto, the seedlings come up already thinned out. I'm sowing carrots, parsnips and beetroot like this in my roots patch (keeping as well as possible to crop rotation.) Meanwhile we still have good winter veg, including the last two or three *Red Flare* cabbages. As I write, Emma's just preparing for Sunday dinner about a quarter of a seven-pounder, tight as iron and so beautifully veined in red and white. And I'm very pleased at the progress of the *Duncan* spring cabbages, a dozen of them in the greenhouse. This year, in April, when the soil's warmed up a bit, I shall possibly again use nematodes to keep slugs at bay. They cost a bit, but do seem to work. They are microscopic transparent worms. Watered on the soil they seek out slugs, killing them by feeding on them and multiplying inside them: a cruel death? Perhaps I should learn to love slugs instead and use an alternative method, drowning them in beer! But wait! Today 8th Feb, the frogs are holding a motorbike rally in our little pond, filling it with spawn, promise of plenty of slug-eaters if the weather allows them to survive.

This year we could have been mowing the 'lawn' several times during the winter. They do that on the football field almost every week, and before a match it looks like centre court at Wimbledon. But as I've said before, I treat our grass casually, claiming that's for the sake of wildlife, but actually it's because I'm getting ever more lazy year by year.

Recently we have been watching Monty Don's tour of all the lovely hidden gardens of the Adriatic. And we were especially taken by the one constructed in Venice by Carmelite Friars, based on one of the many mystical visions of St Teresa of Avila, (1577) a vision of an *interior castle* showing seven *rooms* illustrating the progress of a spiritual life. Monty explored this garden's seven parts, each one complementing a spiritual grace: a grassy lawn, a bed of medicinal herbs (including a famous lemon balm from which the friars, since 1710, have made *melissa* water, which is a calming medicine) a vegetable patch, a vineyard with seventeen rows of vines, (17 = 10 commandments and 7 sacraments) an orchard, an olive grove and a forest.

Well, we have all those *rooms* except the forest (unless we can count a forest of weeds) but they're all muddled up. And there's only one vine and one olive tree. What that says about our spiritual progress heaven only knows! But perhaps I'll try brewing some melissa water. Happy gardening!

Denis Parry

### Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall

Booking in advance only - see below.

#### Minari (cert 12A) - Thursday 3rd March 7.30

A tender and sweeping story about what roots us, *Minari* follows a Korean-American family's move to a tiny Arkansas farm in search of their own American Dream. New beginnings are always a challenge, and starting a farm to grow and sell Korean fruits and vegetables, is easier said than done. Seen from son David's viewpoint and based on director Lee Isaac Chung's own story, it immerses you in the experience of a family straining to balance dreams with survival.



#### Mothering Sunday (cert 15) (Borderlines Film Festival showing) - Thursday 10th March 7.30

Graham Swift's novella is adapted by director Eva Husson and screenwriter Alice Birch into a beguiling, sensual love story with a terrific extended cast. Henley, 1920s: Jane is a young maid who works for the Nivens, a family devastated by their losses in the First World War. Jane is passionately and secretly in love with Paul, the sole surviving son from a neighbouring manor house – but he is engaged to be married to someone else. Years later, Jane, now an author living with another man in London, begins a new novel that compels her to revisit the past.

#### Master Cheng (PG) (Borderlines Film Festival showing) - Thursday 17th March 7.30

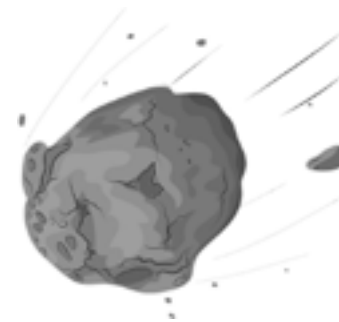
A fusion of spectacular Finnish landscape and mouth-watering Chinese dishes make this romantic comedy irresistible. Veteran director Mika Kaurismäki's tender, lyrical film explores the value of opening yourself up to the unfamiliar. When Master Cheng arrives in a remote Finnish village with his young son Nunjo, he's looking for someone he used to know in Shanghai. Unable to help find his friend, café owner Sirkka offers accommodation, and in return Cheng helps her in the kitchen. Delighting her drolly sceptical customers with his cooking, he becomes a cherished member of the community; and when his tourist visa runs out, the villagers devise a plan so he can stay.

Tickets for all films are £5. Advance booking only - please book and pay for your tickets online at [pay-brilley.co.uk](http://pay-brilley.co.uk)

Don't forget to bring your own refreshments. Doors open at 7pm.

## Reader Writes

Kate (Jennifer Lawrence), the PhD candidate, and her astronomer colleague Prof Mindy (Leonardo DiCaprio) stare at the screen first with disbelief and then with rising alarm. Kate had stumbled on a 10 km wide asteroid on certain trajectory to collide with planet Earth in just over 5 months' time. Adam McKay, the director of new film *Don't Look Up*, doesn't need to remind us that the last time something like this actually happened 65 million years ago, it caused the extinction of the dinosaurs and most of life on earth. McKay is known for his shocking satire, such as *Vice*, which unsparingly exposes Dick Cheney's determined march to war in Iraq after 9/11. And in *Don't Look Up* his asteroid allegory is tackling the biggest danger ever to be faced by Homo sapiens, climate breakdown and the mass reduction of our species.



No need for a spoiler alert; of course it doesn't end well! But the shock effect isn't diminished; it's all too plausible. Kate and the Prof get an audience with President Orlean (Meryl Streep) reassuringly quickly, but it's downhill from there on. The president and her staff can't take it seriously. Their focus is dismally short term, trivial and political. So our astronomer heroes manage to get onto a major TV news programme where their asteroid story is third priority to celebrity gossip. When they vent their frustration they are told to get some media training before coming back.

Maybe worst of all the President eventually takes action but accepts the crazy pitch by a creepy tech "messiah" (Mark Rylance) who plans to break up the asteroid and "capture" its mineral wealth for a high tech world eliminating global poverty. So the trivia of politics, the media, and finally greed, vested interest and delusion all bring us to the point where the chance of salvation is remote. The scientists were ignored!

Prof Mindy and Kate finally go back to Michigan, shop in an eerily empty supermarket, and go to the Prof's home for a thanksgiving style family supper to await the end. Kate has found a disaffected skateboarding admirer who turns out to be a Christian. The Prof wonders if they should pray but admits to not knowing how, whereupon Yule, the skateboarder, takes over. The prof's family and guests all hold hands around the table and Yule very simply prays to his Dearest Father and Almighty Creator asking for grace and forgiveness and God's love, and seeks courage to face God's divine will.

Yule's prayer would appear entirely authentic to all those who pray. God the Creator is sovereign over the entire universe; his Lordship is complete. Yet astonishingly, this sovereign God also invites us personally to enter into a close relationship with him as his family where we have the rights of children to call him Dearest Father. The essential foundational fact for Yule and all of us who are Christians is that that relationship with God the Creator began before time, and will continue beyond time. None of us want our stewardship of God's creation to end disastrously or even ignominiously. But in demanding times we have to follow the Apostle Paul's instruction to the Thessalonians: "*Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*" in eternity.

Robert MacCurrach

## Music in New Radnor

### Saturday 12 March, 7.30pm. Music in New Radnor.

Charlotte Rowan violin, with Charlotte Stevenson, piano.

A dynamic musical evening showcasing the dazzling virtuosity and exhilarating playing of violinist Charlotte Rowan.

Charlotte is celebrated for her 'lyricism and impassioned mastery of the

Violin' and her refreshing approach and stylistic interpretations of the violin repertoire have been thrilling audiences since she began her musical career. Charlotte performs extensively throughout the UK with pianist Charlotte Stevenson and their deep musical bond shares a love of music, a love of performing, a mutual understanding of interpretation.



New Radnor Community Hall, Hall Lane, New Radnor, Powys, LD8 2SW.

Tickets £12 / £3 from 01544 350268

Doors will open before 7pm for a 7.30 start, to avoid queues at the door.

Current Welsh covid-safe rules will apply.

Please book in advance.



**Don't forget that British Summer Time starts on Sunday 27th March (Mothering Sunday) and you will need to put your clocks forward by one hour.**

## British Summer Time

British Summer Time was first established by the Summer Time Act 1916, after a campaign by builder William Willett. His original proposal was to move the clocks forward by 80 minutes, in 20-minute weekly steps on Sundays in April and by the reverse procedure in September. In 1916, BST began on 21 May and ended on 1 October. Willett never lived to see his idea implemented, having died in early 1915

In the summers of 1941 to 1945, during the Second World War, Britain was two hours ahead of GMT and operating on British Double Summer Time (BDST). To bring this about, the clocks were not put back by an hour at the end of summer in 1940 (BST having started early, on 25 February 1940). In subsequent years, clocks continued to be advanced by one hour each spring (to BDST) and put back by an hour each autumn (to BST). On 15 July 1945, the clocks were put back by an hour, so BDST reverted to BST; the clocks were put back by an additional hour on 7 October 1945, so BST reverted to GMT for the winter of 1945.

An inquiry during the winter of 1959–60, in which 180 national organisations were consulted, revealed a slight preference for a change to all-year GMT+1, but instead the length of summer time was extended as a trial. A further inquiry during 1966–1967 led the government of Harold Wilson to introduce the British Standard Time experiment, with

Britain remaining on GMT+1 throughout the year. This took place between 27 October 1968 and 31 October 1971, when there was a reversion to the previous arrangement.

Analysis of accident data for the first two years of the experiment, published by HMSO in October 1970, indicated that while there had been an increase in casualties in the morning, there had been a substantially greater decrease in casualties in the evening, with a total of around 2,700 fewer people killed and seriously injured during the first two winters of the experiment, at a time when about 1,000 people a day were killed or injured on the roads. However, the period coincided with the introduction of drink/drive legislation; the estimates were later modified downwards in 1989.

*Wikipedia*

## A Word from St Hugh's

Each morning before our Daily Office of Prayer begins, we ensure we are aware of saints and any other holy persons of days gone by in order to celebrate their lives. They are people who have lived the Faith and handed down a rich spiritual legacy, and who inspire us to do the same.

This month we shall celebrate the lives of well known saints - David, Cuthbert, Patrick and others. However, amidst these March historic saintly giants is a man who died in 1929. Not an official saint but a priest who lived a selfless life serving the needs of others with great humility.

Whilst serving as a Parish Priest in Worcester, Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy was called to be a First World War Army Chaplain. During this time his selfless courage earned him the Military Cross as he relentlessly cared for soldiers in his unique way. His biographer Dr Linda Parker says "he would fill his back pack with Woodbine Cigarettes, Bibles and a great deal of love" whilst moving through the trenches. Every spare "penny of his army salary was given to help the welfare of his fellow soldiers". After the War, Woodbine Willie, as he became known, was a morally a changed man praying for peace not victory and slowly viewing pacifism as a better way.

Returning to serving the needs of a 'poor parish' after the First World War had ended, he continued his priestly ministry by working tirelessly. Always giving priority to the poor, he and his wife, Emily, spent much time caring for them; once, for example, they carried their bed to a penniless woman who was dying on her floor. He wrote and published books, the proceeds being given away for the needs of others. Woodbine Willie was very much rooted in an unconventional love and following in the footsteps of his Master Jesus Christ.

When we read the lives of the Saints we cannot help but be inspired by reminding ourselves of the Holy Eternal Hosts in Heaven. However, throughout our daily lives we actually encounter 'saintly activity'.

Please feel free to contact us for specific prayers.

*Peter and Pauline Swain. Tel. 01544 230999. Mobile 07950 877916*

*Email: pandpswain@gmail.com*

**March Wordsearch**

Lent lasts for 40 days. Sundays in Lent are ‘oases’; as Sunday is never a day of fasting, but a weekly celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. Christians have used Lent as their ‘40 days in the wilderness’, when they set aside the indulgences of life and instead look inward, seeking spiritual renewal and growth. Lent looks towards the Cross and the Empty Tomb, with the assurance of redemption and new life in Christ. The daffodils in our gardens are golden trumpets to proclaim the wonderful message of Easter! The English word for Lent is not at all religious; it is an abbreviation of the Old English word ‘lencten’, or ‘lengthen’. At last winter is over, and the days are getting longer...

- Lent
- Forty
- Days
- Sundays
- Fasting
- Weekly
- Celebration
- Resurrection
- Jesus
- Wilderness
- Indulgences
- Inward
- Spiritual
- Renewal
- Growth
- Cross
- Empty



**Easy Sudoku**

			8	2			9
5			3	9	1		4
	9	6			4		1
	1	4					8
9			8		7		1
	3					5	7
	5		9			7	3
	7		1	6	5		2
2			7	4			

**Intermediate Sudoku**

			8			4		3
2					4	8	9	
	9							2
				2	9		1	
	7		6	5				
9							8	
	6	2	7					1
4		3			6			

**IN TOUCH – NEWS FROM KINGTON MEDICAL PRACTICE**

**Issue no 4 March 2022 Update from Dr McCaffrey**

**Covid pandemic and vaccination programmes.**

Although Covid rates remain high, the hospitalisations have stabilised. We continue to ask our patients to wear masks when coming into the surgery as vulnerable patients need to be protected and to feel confident in attending the surgery. We can review this when new guidance is published. As with all workplaces, there has been staff absence and remote working affecting the Surgery due to Covid isolation rules. We try to minimise the impact of this but invariably there is always strain on the system when this occurs.

We continue to offer one Saturday Covid Vaccination clinic in Kington per month and another at Earl Mortimer College in Leominster. The clinics can be booked via the National Booking Service online or by calling 119.

**Questions Patients Ask**

**How do I go about getting physiotherapy?**

**Answer from Dr McCaffery, Clinical Operations Manager**

The Wye Valley Trust Physiotherapists are located in the surgery building, having moved some time ago from Kington Court. At the moment patients are not able to self refer. The GPs, paramedic and Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) are able to make a referral. When a patient contacts the surgery with a muscle or joint issue they will be offered a First Contact Physiotherapist (FCP) appointment of an ANP appointment. The FCP and ANPs are skilled in assessing these problems and creating a plan for going forward. Physiotherapy can be arranged as part of this plan. We ask that patients see the FCP or an ANP so that the GPs can provide assistance to those in need of the GP’s areas of expertise in a timely way. Both the FCP and ANPs have easy access to the GP if needed. Investigations and medications will be arranged as needed in the management plan. When consulting with a clinician regarding a joint or muscle problem the patient will often be asked about any injury or trauma that triggered the episode, pain relief that has been needed or tried, sleep disturbance or difficulty in managing hygiene/self care tasks/changes to function and whether the person is off work or is a carer for another person.

Helpful information about muscle and joint issues is available on the NHS Choices website.

**More Questions please!**

We hope to make this a regular feature – please send questions to Kay Birchley; Telephone 01544 230 718 email Kington.PPG.Chair @gmail.com

*Kay Birchley*

**Kington WI**

Following the business meeting on 9th February, members enjoyed a Beetle drive, followed by refreshments served by Jenny M and Madeleine, and a quiz organised by Irene, and won by Wendy. The competition, ‘A Craft Item’, was won by Marion, with Rosemary 2nd and Irene 3rd. The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday March 9th at Markwick Hall at 2.30pm. The competition will be ‘Spring Flower’.

*Margaret Cooke*

## Shrove Tuesday

'Tis Carnival – all flesh farewell! “Thank God,” the Bishop groaned, (his Corpulence upon Scaffell exhaustedly enthroned)  
“The resurrection of the flesh is no part of my creed and it’s permitted to refresh oneself in such dire need!”  
Raising his hip-flask to his lips he took a hearty draught.

“But no more brandy, steak and chips in Lent,” the curate laughed, who, climbing with his friend, and he of stature lithe and slim, had reached the summit easily and there attended him.

“You’re right.” The Bishop eased his belt, “I’m overweight, and now this too too solid flesh must melt,” sighed he, and mopped his brow.  
“So during Lent, no parish do’s, no confirmation teas, with food a Bishop daren’t refuse, who must seem keen to please; no pastries, trifles, chocolate dreams, no vol-au-vents, soft cheese, éclairs, meringues, or custard creams, no threat of heart disease.”

“I knew a priest weighted twenty stone,” his friend said with a laugh, lived forty days on beans alone and lost almost the half.”

“In such restraint,” the Bishop said, “I see no special merit; for flesh and blood (be not misled) the kingdom can’t inherit. This sarx of mine, the face you see so red and bathed in sweat is but a printout proof of me downloaded from the net. It can’t inherit cyberspace, this file’s to view and edit.”

“Then O the shame, if that’s the case, for all you’ve done is fed it!”

“Not so,” replied his Corpulence, “just read between the lines, you’ll see it’s in true penitence that a man’s spirit shines. A Lenten fast’s not dieting, the aim is not cosmetic, my flesh may be disquieting, my soul’s plain apathetic! I’ll discipline them both to let the Spirit’s light shine through into the heavenly internet where God makes all things new. There’s more to me than what you see, the flesh is Brother Ass, mere virtual reality, a metabolic mass! The body’s more than flesh and blood, it’s soul and spirit too, and must be fed on other food. So let us each renew this proof, this copy shaped in clay, this printout we are given, by keeping carnival today and being truly shriven.”

## Ash Wednesday

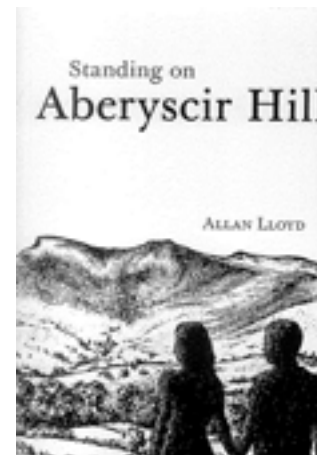
“Yet,” said the curate, “flesh, you know, should not be denigrated, since He who shared our life below himself that flesh created, and did, for us, the same assume, God’s printout incarnated, did not abhor the Virgin’s womb, and thereby consecrated all flesh. The cross that you will make upon my brow tomorrow, sign that He suffered for my sake, born into sin and sorrow, reminds me that I am but dust, and calls to mind my death, and yet, because the God I trust inspires with holy breath this dust, this clay so untoward, I never can despise it; the incarnation of my Lord blesses and sanctifies it.”

“With that,” his Corpulence replied, “I cannot but agree. The mud we are is glorified, humus must human be, having the proper selfless pride of true humility. Humility as of the One who braved a city street upon a donkey, God’s own Son who washed St Peter’s feet. Humus, human, humility, with proper self-esteem,” the Bishop said, “if you agree, shall be our Lenten theme.”

“Then may that Cross enable me, who am of dust computed, to overcome the deadly virus by which I am polluted.”

“That’s right,” his Corpulence replied, “this height shall represent the summit of our human pride. So, now for the descent!”

*Denis Parry*



## Raising money for the Hospice

Last month I printed an article from Allan Lloyd, the author of “Standing on Aberyscir Hill”. The book costs £10, and all proceeds from its sale will be donated to St Michael’s Hospice, Hereford. It is a lovely book that I can thoroughly recommend.

I have received an email from Allan saying that although the book has only been available since mid-December, the ball-point figure already donated to St Michael’s Hospice is £3,000.

What a wonderful total in such a short time. If anyone wants a copy, or for more information, contact Allan by phone 01544 230408 or email: [allan.lloyd579@btinternet.com](mailto:allan.lloyd579@btinternet.com).

*Editor*

## What's on at the Cathedral

Monday – Saturday

8 am – Morning Prayer

10.30 am – Eucharist (8.30 am on a Saturday)

5.30 pm – Evening Prayer or Evensong

Sunday

8 am – Holy Communion

10 am – Cathedral Eucharist (this service is also live streamed)

11.30 am – Morning Prayer

3.30 pm – Evening Prayer or Evensong

### EXHIBITIONS

**All Things Bright: A thousand years of metalwork from cathedral and diocese**

Monday 24 January to Saturday 23 April      Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm

as well as its own metalwork treasures, the cathedral also cares for the historical silver no longer in regular use in churches in the Hereford Diocese. This exhibition shows some of the finest pieces from these collections. Normal admission charges apply

### EVENTS

**Ash Wednesday - Choral Eucharist with Ashing**

**Wednesday 2 March, 5.30pm**

**Lockdown with Bach**

**Friday 4, Tuesday 8, Tuesday 15, Thursday 17, Tuesday 22 & Tuesday 29 March, 1.15pm**

Hereford Cathedral's Assistant Director of Music Peter Dyke, will give six short recitals from Book 2 of Bach's 48 Preludes and Fugues on the grand piano in College Hall

Tickets cost £5 per recital via the cathedral website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/lockdown-with-bach](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/lockdown-with-bach)

**Living in Love and Faith - A one day course led by Revd Canon Chris Pullin**

**Saturday 5 March, 11am – 4pm**

How do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church? Canon Chris Pullin will explore these questions when leading this Church of England course. This course is free to attend but advance booking is essential via the Library: [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6

**Chorister Open Morning Saturday 12 March, 10 to 11am (with registration from 9.30 am)**

The Chorister Open Morning will give children and their families an opportunity to learn about the life of a cathedral chorister, meet members of the cathedral's music department and hear the choristers sing. Places at the open morning are free of charge but advance booking is essential.

To register for a place, or for further information, please call Geraint Bowen on 01432 374 238 or email [organist@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:organist@herefordcathedral.org)

**Medieval Colour Talk by Dr Rosemary Firman Wednesday 16 March, 7pm**

Today we live in a world which is saturated with colour, but in medieval times colour was a luxury and its production labour intensive and expensive. There are still traces of medieval colour in the cathedral, but it is in the pages of illuminated manuscripts that the colours still blaze.

Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased via the cathedral website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/medieval-colour2022](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/medieval-colour2022) or by calling 01432 374 225/6

**Stitch from History - full day textile workshop Friday 18 March, 10am – 4pm**

Taking inspiration from the objects and designs in the current exhibition 'All Things Bright', make a brooch, a bag charm or other accessory using your choice of threads, fabrics and embellishments. Tickets cost £50 and can be purchased via the cathedral website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/stitch-from-history](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/stitch-from-history) or by calling 01432 374 225/6

**Spring Garden Opening Friday 25 March, 10am – 3pm**

Explore the beautiful gardens of the cathedral and see all of the hard work that has been undertaken by our volunteer gardeners before the gardens officially open for our summer tours and events. Tickets cost £5 and can be purchased via the cathedral website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/spring-garden-opening2022](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/spring-garden-opening2022)

**Medieval Bookbinding Talk by Arthur Green Wednesday 30 March, 7pm**

Local book conservator and bookbinder Arthur Green will talk about his work and the training that formed the foundation of his current practice. He will bring examples of his work to explain the craft and its historic context. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased via the cathedral website: [www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/medieval-bookbinding](http://www.herefordcathedral.org/Event/medieval-bookbinding) or by calling 01432 374 225/6.

### Fraudulent activity in Herefordshire

Officers are asking everyone to remain aware of a "courier fraud" scam currently being seen in Herefordshire. Phone calls are being made from fraudsters claiming to be from West Mercia Police, and quoting the force telephone number. They are attempting to persuade people to make bank transfers and making threats of arrests if they don't comply. Incidents reported so far:

\* A woman from Ludlow in her 80s who received a call from a withheld number claiming to be West Mercia Police. They said they had someone under arrest for trying to hack her bank account and had the woman's name and address. Thankfully when the woman went to get a pen and paper the caller hung up. Her bank confirmed no money had been taken.

\* A 94-year-old man from Hereford was also targeted. He received a call claiming to be from Hereford Police before it cut off.

\* Another call soon after claimed to be from Halifax bank saying they'd been in touch with police and were coming to collect his credit card. The man fortunately realised it was a likely scam.

Detective Inspector Emma Wright stated that: *"No police officer from any force or department will ever ask you to make a payment, withdraw or transfer money or ask for your bank account details. This scam can be very elaborate and convincing but it's extremely cruel, often, but not always, targeting older, vulnerable people. We are currently investigating these scams and urge anyone who has received suspect calls to please get in touch. If you receive a call that you're not sure about, please simply terminate the call and also pass on the information to friends, relatives and neighbours and advise them what to do. Please remember the police will never contact you asking for your bank card or cash. If someone does, it's a scam – provide no details, hang up and report it immediately to Action Fraud or 0300 123 2040. If you have recently provided bank details or handed over cards or cash, or the caller has arranged for someone to visit your address to collect items, you should call the police to report this on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency."*

[neighbourhoodalert.co.uk](http://neighbourhoodalert.co.uk)



## News from Theodora No.13

### An Aside recounting a Wildlife Experience

25/06/08

Grave and grievous are the vicissitudes with which fortune makes us acquainted. The particular vicissitude was associated with the need to reduce the vibration of the alternator. This required about three quarters of an hour working down what is called the engine hole. The engine hole in Theodora is, you may recall, at the stern and is accessed by lifting the boards upon which one stands to steer or be sociable with the steerer.

Crouching down and slaving away trying to insert fiddly little spacers donated kindly by a canal side car repairers. I worked away in innocence of the insult that was about to be inflicted upon me.

I was made rudely aware of the insult by what can only be referred to as being goosed. Not quite literally goosed because the perpetrator was a swan. A large male swan. A large male swan who objected to my presence in his territory. This happened once and I was not going to let it happen again. It is amazing how the constant threat of being pecked in the hindquarters destroys your concentration. I called Margaret to defend my honour and give me the confidence to finish the job. This she did by brandishing the mop in the swan's face when it tried to repeat the insult. She observed that the cob was not interested until extra effort required that I raised my hinder parts above the gunwale. I was a little miffed that she did not treat the incident with the seriousness that it merited.

I have gone off swans.

### A thousand miles

10/07/08

Throughout a life which has been quiet, contented and largely uneventful, I have learned that it is possible to have too much of a good thing. We have now covered over a thousand miles on this tour and the quantity of boating that we have experienced has not proven to be too much of a good thing. In fact we really don't want it to stop. We have all that we need in the space of 60' x 7' and we see new things and new scenes every day. We keep in contact with friends by email and do not feel at all neglected. The wonders of technology mean that as I type this I am listening to a live performance of Mahler's symphony of a thousand and Theodora is keeping the rain off.

We are experiencing an interesting waterway at the moment. If the Staffordshire and Worcester Canal was the country lane of the canal system then the canal where we are at the moment, the Aire and Calder Navigation is very much the M1. It is wide and deep and bordered by large and rusty piles which prevents the wash from the occasional 200 Tonne barge from breaking down the banks. It is rather fun to see that the waterways are used for more than leisure and chastening to think that they all might have looked like this if water transport had remained the most economical form of transport. What a loss, if all of the small waterways had been widened to commercial specifications.

Now that is all too serious for the moment and I must tell you of another wildlife experience that I forgot to tell you about. It happened on Monday 28th April that we have moored close to Shillingford bridge on the Thames. It was still early enough in the year for it to be important that I took any opportunities offered to go a hunting for wood for the log burner. We were moored on the edge of a wood so I thought that it would be easy enough to find a fallen branch or two to keep us going. I usually find that about ten minutes will see enough wood cut up and split to provide heat for an evening. I try to keep the wood store full so that we have dry fuel to burn.

We bought three bags of coal as we left the Wey in April and we have not yet opened any of them. As you can imagine, British Waterways is always happy for you to clear up some of the dead wood for them. In this case I was doing a favour for the Environment Agency which is the body which looks after the Thames.

As I wandered about in the wood margins I stepped into a patch of sunlight and a disturbed the edge of a large heap of dry twigs. To my lasting delight I saw a lithe, four foot, olive green shape slither away into the shadows. I had disturbed a grass snake which had been basking in the morning sun! I had never thought to see such a thing. What a privilege!

Here are some details for those who enjoy such things:

Total miles since leaving our moorings at Raynesway: 1,042.7 Total locks: 790

If you really want all the details email me and I will send you a copy of the trip spreadsheet. What a sad person!

### 16th July 2008

We zoomed up the canal type motorway for a bit, aiming directly for the cooling towers of Thorpe Marsh Power Station. An arrow straight section of the new Junction Canal was this, so Thorpe Marsh Power Station featured in our view of the world for quite some time. The rain rained hard and the rain rained heavily and the waterproof clothing became wet but we still kept going until it all got too much and was nearly lunchtime. We decided that a long lunch at some moorings close to Kirkhouse Green lift bridge would be a Good Thing. It was, and by the time the leisurely lunch was finished the rain had eased from torrential to heavy and after a protracted cup of coffee the rain had eased further, to light so we carried on.

At a curiously unnamed junction the New Junction Canal joins the Don Navigation and off we went upstream at a fine pace. The Don seemed to have been curiously unchanged by the heavy rain and the current was slow so we made good progress. Doncaster was reached. You get a fine view of the parish church from the river but on this occasion we didn't stop and I had a drippy time working the lock whose controls are close to the railway bridge. Railway bridges are very drippy when it is raining hard. It was raining hard so the railway bridge was very drippy.

The Don, I have to report, is an excellent river. Not only is it very kind and unprone to fast currents in a rainy season, but much of it is very attractive. We saw some H U G E barges carrying sand from a quarry above Sprotborough down to a building site just upstream from Doncaster. It was good to see some lorries taken off the roads.

The lock is this part of the world are very big indeed. They were upgraded in the 80's to the European 700Tonne standard so poor old Theodora looks rather lost in them. There is a traffic light system to show you what to do. Red means that the lock is being operated for another craft so moor up and wait for a bit. Green means "Come on in." so it is accompanied by the fact that the gates are open in a welcoming sort of way. Green and red together means hang on for just a bit the lock is being got ready for you. Amber means "Tough. Moor up and work it yourself. The lock keeper has gone home."

When we arrived at Sprotborough Lock the light was Red. "Good," we said to each other, "The lock keeper is there and we will be let through in a while." The light remained red and we waited for





ten minutes. The light remained red and we waited for another ten minutes. The light remained red and we said to each other: "The lock keeper has gone home and left the wrong light switched on."

It was Margaret's turn to work this lock so she went ashore and tried to work the lock. It wouldn't. She then noticed the back view of the lock keeper who was busy with, I am sure, Important British Waterways Business. Margaret shouted, but Margaret's shout is not a very loud shout. It can be a very cross shout on occasions but that is no good if the shout is not loud enough to be heard.

Then it was my turn. I was a teacher. Teachers have cast iron voices and loud shouts. I thought that I would whistle, though, because a whistle seemed more appropriate. I stuck my fingers in my mouth and blew. A rather indistinct sizzling sound resulted so I shouted a loud shout. The lock keeper stopped doing his Important British Waterways Business and worked he lock for us. He also told us where the visitor moorings were to be found.

Sprotborough was a very nice mooring with the weir just the other side of the embankment. A crowd gathered on the opposite bank and boarded the ex-Clyde ferry, *Wyre Lady* and went off to have a bit of a do on the river. It all sounded very jolly but we were tired and pleased to remain aboard *Theodora*.

Traa

Nick



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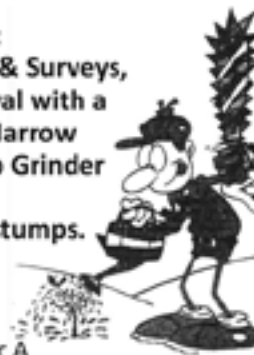
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## Forthcoming Events

- Thur 3rd Mar 7.30pm Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall
- Wed 9 Mar 2.30pm Kington WI meeting at Markwick Hall
- Thu 10 Mar 7.30pm Borderlines Film Festival Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall
- Sat 12 Mar 12 noon Lent Lunch at Titley Village Hall
- 7.30pm Music in New Radnor
- Tues 15 Mar Cut-off date for the March Parish News
- Wed 16 Mar 12.30pm Community Lunch at the Parish House
- Thur 17 Mar 7.30pm Horticultural Society AGM /meeting at the Masonic Hall, Headbrook
- 7.30pm Borderlines Film Festival Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall
- Sun 27 Mar British Summer Time begins



### **MATERIAL FOR THE APRIL 2022 PARISH NEWS**

by

**15th March please**

to

The Parish News Editor

Arrow Weir House, Kingswood Road, Kington HR5 3HD

**or email: [freda@sparkiesofkington.com](mailto:freda@sparkiesofkington.com)**

**Note: The cut-off date is always the 15th of the previous month**

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