

Parish News

Kington, Huntington & Titley

March 2024



March

SARGEANTS BUSES FOR KINGTON

From 1st January 2022

email: office@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
<i>Mon-Fri</i>	0645	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710
<i>Saturday</i>	-	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710

Returns Railway Station, HEREFORD

	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461	461	461	461
								461	Sat/Hol	Sch	461
<i>Mon-Fri</i>	0748	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1615	1700
<i>Saturday</i>	-	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
<i>M-F Coll Days</i>	0600	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
<i>M-F Coll Hols</i>	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
<i>Sat</i>	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810

Returns from Railway Station, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

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

KNIGHTON Route 41

Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

<i>M-F</i>		0610	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730
<i>Sat</i>		-	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730

Departs Bus Station, KNIGHTON

<i>M-F</i>		0642	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805
<i>Sat</i>		-	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805

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

Also available on 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

CLERGY

Vacancy

The Revd Prebendary Michael Kneen, Rural Dean of Kington and Weobley 07979-852733
Enquiries contact: Parish Office email: office@kingtonparishes.org.uk

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Titley Mr Dick Allford 01544 231052
Pinecroft, Titley, Kington, HR5 3RL

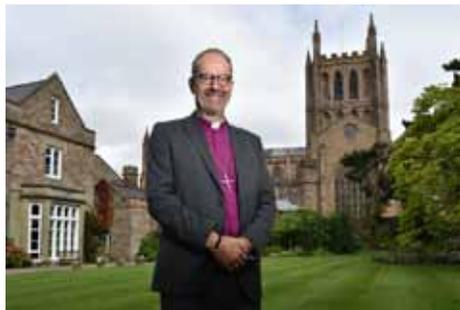
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St. Mary's, Kington PCC is a registered charity and its number is 1185453

Letter from the Cathedral

I have just read the Rule of St. Benedict, to my shame for the first time. It is a monastic rule from the 6th century that sets out the disciplines and structures for the effective running of a monastery. The rules of poverty, chastity and obedience are highly restrictive; the punishments for violations severe; the lifestyle highly demanding. Praying at set offices eight times a day (including at 2 in the morning) meant that the monk would rarely get more than few hours of unbroken sleep. Central heating was for wimps and the diet uninspiring. Although eased in later centuries, it has been the basis for the monastic tradition in Western Europe ever since. Its not the sort of discipline that works in everyday life, but that doesn't mean it has no value. It is designed to foster Christian virtues of humility, and obedience (albeit expressed through submission to the Abbot), and a growing Christlikeness.



Most of March will be the season of Lent, when we Christians have traditionally given up things that give us pleasure to focus on our spiritual journey. As our world has changed it seems increasingly anachronistic. Our culture screams at us from the lifestyle sections that the way to real fulfilment is getting what you really desire. The idea that giving something up might be good for you, other than as a grudging acknowledgement of post-Christmas weight gain, is anathema. Consumerism works by creating desire and then offering to fulfil it. But our strongest desires are not necessarily our deepest ones. Giving things up, or fasting can get us in touch with these deeper desires that only God can satisfy. There is evidence that restricting calories by intermittent fasting or turning our mobiles off is actually good for us physically and psychologically. A good lent can be like leaving the Christmas presents unopened under the tree until Christmas day. There is a joy in the opening that is enhanced by the waiting.

So, as well as helping us grow closer to God, our Lenten restraint can amplify the joy of Christ risen when we get to that glorious Easter celebration. I once gave up tea and coffee for lent and had my first large cup on Easter morning. Before I knew it, I'd done three services and built a compost heap! Lent can be spiritual dynamite.

+Richard



Views in a Vacancy

Consider the lilies of the field. (*Matt.6.28*)

Well, it's not exactly a lily of the field; but ever since Christmas, when I bought it as a bulb not much larger than a tennis ball, I've been considering it, growing in my study, an amazing amaryllis. Fitted into a pot containing a handful of soil and watered regularly, it has produced a thirty-inch green stem about an inch thick topped, eventually by four six-inch flowers which almost, it seemed, were woven from soft red satin, and each sporting a pistil and five stamens tipped with yellow pollen. *Considering* this, I found myself wondering at the way in which it had all grown out of such a small insignificant bulb. How did it know what colours and form it needed to produce, and how did it decide on just four flowers and find such a beautiful fabric for its petals? Where did all that beauty come from?



Then I recalled this little extract from Anthony de Mello's lovely book "The Song of the Bird:" It's headed:

THE QUESTION

Said the monk, "All these mountains and rivers and the earth and stars – where do they come from?"

Said the master, "Where does your question come from?"

And I thought, "All these *considerations* about my amaryllis, where do they come from?" And why does Jesus tell us to consider the lilies of the field? Surely because such *considerations* are conducive to awe and wonder; and it's but a short step from that to worship of the One from whom all these things come.

Now, I remember having taken services at the little church of St Michael in Discoed some years ago during an interregnum and how, in Lent, all the flowers were removed from the church, as is traditional, while outside in the churchyard the daffodils, sometimes called Lent lilies, were flowering right up to the door, almost as if trying to get in. And it seemed to me that in removing them from our presence in church we were doing ourselves a disservice. After all, on so many occasions we *Say it with flowers*. They speak to us, as my amaryllis has been speaking to me, and they touch our hearts and stir our emotions, which can't be a bad thing during Lent. (Though I know too, and appreciate the need for us to mark the joy of Easter with a sudden and extravagant display.)

But since during Lent we traditionally give up something and, nowadays, often also try to do something extra, why not resolve to give up taking so many things for granted, as we do in most aspects of our lives, and as for doing something extra, spend some time *considering the lilies of the field* – and not only the lilies but also *considering*, and counting our many blessings in thankfulness and worshipping the Source of *all these mountains and rivers and the earth and the stars* and, of course, *the Lent lilies* (and my amaryllis!)

(Continued overleaf)

“Say it with flowers” – but not in Lent.
when saying it without them’s meant
to help us to appear devout,
and to repent.

Tradition says, no flowers in here;
for forty days all must be dull and drear,
austere;
no alleluias, hymns of praise,
no cheer:
for Pharisee and would-be saint
a chance to practise piety, restraint.

The altar’s bare,
the pedestals and window-ledges too:
the Bride of Christ wears sackcloth,
pours ashes on her hair.

For publicans and sinners, though
without the walls, who never
bother with Lent
“Say it with flowers”
means just as much as ever.

Lent lilies crowding to the door
dancing with delight, and singing:

“Winter is past,
Brave flowers cannot fast
spring springing.
The sun is warm and bright again.
Come forth and gallant it like us,
and be as little vain!”

Behold, outside,
dressed in the best
that nature can provide
of daffodilly gold,
the Bridegroom waits impatiently
to meet and greet his Bride.



The little church at Discoed huddles in a valley beneath Offa’s Dyke, a little west of Presteigne. It’s well worth a visit, even if only so as to see and admire the ancient Yew Tree in the churchyard, reputed to be five thousand years old. Just think about that!

Well, Easter’s early this year, 31st of March, so by the time you get this we shall be already a week or two into the season of Lent – the word derives from an Old English word for Spring. So let’s **consider the lilies** and be filled with gratitude for our many blessings, turning our thoughts in awe and wonder to the Giver of all good things in heartfelt worship.

Denis.

THANK YOU MESSAGE Edna “Dorothy” Pritchard

Margaret and family wish to thank everyone who has sent messages of sympathy, cards and donations to MacMillan Cancer Support and St Mary’s Church. Thank you to those who attended the service at the Crematorium followed by a service of Thanksgiving at St Mary’s Church where Dorothy was a lifelong member.

Also thanks must go to Reverend Ben Griffith for returning from Harlech to take both services, and Phillip and the choir for singing most beautifully.



St. MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

We have just entered the season of Lent Leading to Mothering Sunday on March 10th, Palm Sunday on March 24th and so to the glorious Festival of Easter preceded by the services of Holy Week. Details of these services are to be found elsewhere in the Parish News. We look forward to the extra opportunities for worship together these offer and thank the Rural Dean for keeping so many of the services we enjoy in the calendar.



Parish News

Sadly Freda and Alison (trading as Sparkies of Kington) are retiring - Freda from her role as editor of the Parish News, and both from printing the News monthly, as from August 1st. We are extremely grateful to Freda for editing the Parish News for many years. We need to find a replacement editor for this popular magazine. Any offers or suggestions regarding this vacancy will be much appreciated. Please contact the Churchwardens if you or anyone you know, might be interested in doing this. (See also the notice on page 12.)

Brass Cleaning

We also need a volunteer to polish the Church brasses approximately once every two months, (materials supplied). These duties have been done by Beryl Thompson and we are very grateful to her for carrying them out so efficiently for the last ten years. Please approach the Churchwardens if you are interested in doing this rewarding job.

Messy Church

The next meeting will take place on Holy Saturday, March 30th, 11.30 to 2pm. for Messy Church Activity Day. This will include activities, an Easter Egg Hunt, lunch, and we would like to set up an Easter Garden. If any adult would like to help us in preparing for this garden so that the children can put the finishing touches to it, please contact Eileen Thomas on 01544 230859. We look forward to welcoming families on this day.

We send greetings to you all for a happy, peaceful Easter.

Rodney Bowdler and Ann Edwards.

Easter Lilies

If anyone would like to purchase a lily for Easter could you please place an order with Gill Pennell by the 17th March.

The cost per lily is £3.50.

Thank you

Lesley Walters



Kington Parishes Service Schedule for this month

*Dependant on Government announcements,
please see our website for up to date information.*

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

Sunday, 3rd March: Lent 3

Exodus20:1-7, Psalm19, 1Corinthians1:18-25, John2:13-22

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
6.00pm:	Junior Praise:	Old Radnor

Sunday, 10th March: Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)

1Samuel1:20-end, Psalm34:11-20, Colossians3: 12-17, John19: 25b-27

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

Sunday, 17th March: Lent 5 (Passiontide begins)

Jeremiah31:31-34, Psalm51: 1-13, Hebrews5:5-10, John12:20-33

10.00am:	Morning Praise:	Kington
10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Old Radnor

Sunday, 24th March: Palm Sunday

Mark11:1-11, Isaiah50:4-9a, Psalm31:9-16, Philippians2: 5-11, Mark15:1-39

10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kington
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Kinnerton
6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Huntington

March 28th, Maundy Thursday,

6.00pm	Holy Eucharist:	Kington
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Exodus12:1-4, Psalm116:10-end, 1Corinthians11:23-26, John13:1-17

March 29th, Good Friday

8.30 am	Good Friday Service,	Huntington
8.30 am	Good Friday Service,	Titley
10.00	Churches Together in Kington Service at Kington Court	
2.00 pm	Last Hour at the Cross	Kington

Sunday, 31st March :EASTER DAY (NB Clocks Change)

Isaiah25:6-9, Psalm118 1-2,14-24, Acts10:34-43, John20:1-18

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Huntington
8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kington
10.15am (NB time):	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
6.00pm:	Holy Eucharist:	Old Radnor

All services at St Mary's are live streamed

KINGTON PARISHES SERVICES: HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Sunday, 24th March: Palm Sunday

- 10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Kington
6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Kinnerton
6:00pm Evening Prayer: Huntington



Maundy Thursday, 28th March:

6pm Eucharist at St Mary's, Kington



Good Friday, 29th April:

- 8:30am Good Friday Service, Huntington
8:30am Good Friday Service, Titley
10:00am Churches Together service
at Kington Court.
2:00pm Last Hour at the Cross, Kington



Saturday, 30th: Easter Eve

11:30am Messy Church, Easter Egg Hunt and making of Easter Garden

Sunday, 31st March: EASTER DAY

- 8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Huntington
8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Kinnerton
10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Kington
10.15am: Holy Eucharist: Titley
6.00pm: Holy Eucharist: Old Radnor



Diocese of Hereford – Year of Faith: The Bishop’s Teaching Event

‘Can we trust the bible?’ This was the question Bishop Richard addressed at his teaching event in Ludlow on February 10th. I went with Rob and Trish MacCurrach and Nick and Margaret Cooke to the grand and beautiful setting of St Laurence’s Church. After a (literally) warm welcome with coffee and cakes Bishop Richard spoke about ‘Why is the bible important; can we regard it as trustworthy and authoritative; how do we read it well?’ He showed us what the scriptures meant for Jesus, what scripture says about itself, and what the church has traditionally said about the scriptures. He explained how trustworthy the manuscripts and translations that we have are, but most important how it speaks to us today. Bringing together human authorship with divine inspiration, it is God’s way of speaking to us today, not just to inform us but to transform us.

We then had the opportunity to choose two out of three seminars. Wayne Davies, curate at St Laurence’s, spoke about **‘Prayer, Faith and the every day.’** He encouraged us to start the day speaking with Jesus, and to continue that way expecting to hear Jesus speak. He told us about some of the opportunities he’d had to share the love of Jesus with people by praying for them.

I asked Rob and Trish what they had taken from the day: *“Listening to Jesus in the everyday. Wisdom, healing, expectation of God’s power used through us.”*

“Prayer, faith and the every day was a great reassurance and encouragement to trust that God loves to speak in and through us, wherever we may be and whatever we may be doing”.

Another seminar was led by a team from Doddington, in the shadow of Clee Hill, who talked about how they had enriched the life of the community by launching the **‘Beacon on the Hill’** project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to make significant repairs and improvements to the church. The NLHF bid had forced them to use ‘secular’ language to describe what benefit the church would be to the community, but as a result they had seen some growth in the worshipping congregation: an example of mission in action.

The third seminar was entitled **‘Living Generously’**. Nick writes: *“We watched a video of a village in Africa that had been razed by rebel groups and militias. The villagers sat about waiting for Western aid until a visionary priest called them to prayer and faith. They realised that they could rebuild their lives and village without western aid because they had rich resources within themselves. They shared and were generous with their talents.”*

Generosity is a spiritual gift which we can all pray for so that we can more readily share what we have received from our generous God.

The next Year of Faith event: Craven Arms Community Centre, 14th March 9.30 am to 2.00 pm

The Bishop’s Study Day explores the significance of faith in our lives and discover new perspectives that will enrich our spiritual journey.

At this event, there will be the opportunity to connect with others who share a passion for the Christian faith. Engage in thought-provoking discussions, listen to inspiring talks, and gain valuable insights from speakers including **Paul Williams CEO Bible Society**, and **Rev Andrew Ollerton Presenter of The Bible Course**. Full details and booking at <https://www.hereford.anglican.org/our-faith/year-of-faith-2024/> Paul Roberts

The Storm Cock sings in March

March is a great month to search for and listen to mistle thrushes. They start to breed in February and by March can be heard proclaiming from the tops of tall trees. Unlike other thrushes such as song thrush or blackbird, mistle thrushes are known for singing during stormy weather, hence the name storm cock. They are also called Throstles, an old word for thrush. By perching high to sing, they amplify their already loud song which can be heard up to 2km away.



Compared to other thrushes the mistle thrushes song is more monotonous and piercing but still a joyful sound to hear and a herald of spring. You can identify the three thrushes by their song and once you have learned the difference they are quite easy to separate. Have a listen on the RSPB website as a starting point.

Mistle thrushes favour parkland conditions with big trees and grassland, where they feed on a wide variety of invertebrates. Churchyards and cemeteries can be perfect for them having mature soils full of invertebrates, few or no pesticides and mature trees for perching and nesting. Many burial grounds contain evergreen trees which were planted during the nineteenth century, these are now mature and offer excellent habitat for thrushes as well as other birds and animals.

Mistle thrushes are currently in decline in the UK and churchyards and cemeteries may be important strongholds for them. We would love to know how many churchyards have mistle thrushes breeding in them, and if you hear one singing, this will be a male who is proclaiming his territory so a good indicator of breeding. Please let Caring for God's Acre know by making a record on iNaturalist, you can do this by recording the song or taking a photo of the bird. Alternatively you can email wildlife@cfga.org.uk.

*Harriet Carty
Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor*

A poster with a red border and a white background. The text is as follows:

Kington Baptist Church
Charity Concert 
Ludlow Concert Band
March 15th 7pm
Admission FREE
Donations welcome
All profits for disaster relief charity
The Baptist Church
Bridge Street
Kington

Ruby Re-commissioning Part Two

We continued working on Ruby during October and November, two octogenarians happily working in the garage, often commenting on the simple design of the Austin Seven.

A leak was discovered near the petrol tank drain plug. It took half an hour to remove the tank in what proved to be a very simple operation.

The leak was cured, and the tank re-painted with black Hammerite. Re-fitting the tank a couple of days later was not so easy, and took a couple of hours.

The Zenith carburettor was in a sorry state, and was replaced by a fully reconditioned one. The fuel pump diaphragm also needed replacing.

We stopped working on the Ruby at the end of November to concentrate on the Christmas and New Year festivities.

On the 6th January Paul, our son-in-law, our daughter Lou and granddaughter Willow stayed overnight, en-route for Falmouth, where there is a part of the Exeter University campus. They all wanted to see Ruby, and Willow, who is twenty, became very excited, asking me all sorts of questions. We realized that the generation from the end of the 20th century and into the 21st century knows very little about real cars.

We will do our best to encourage such interest and, hopefully, encourage ownership of the best small car in the world.

Tony Jardine



After nearly 20 years of editing the Parish News for Kington, Huntington and Titley, I feel that the time has come to pass the baton on to somebody else. I have very much enjoyed my time as editor, but I now feel that the time has come to retire in order to leave me more time for other things.

I will continue to edit the magazine until and including the August edition which will come out in late July. If anybody is interested in taking over, I would be happy to answer any questions, to work alongside a prospective new editor or to hand over the editorship as soon as the new editor would like me to.

I will also be giving up the printing of the magazine from the same date, but there are plenty of other printers to choose from.

If you would like to know more about what the job entails, please contact me (details on page 3) and I will be very happy to tell you all about it.

Freda

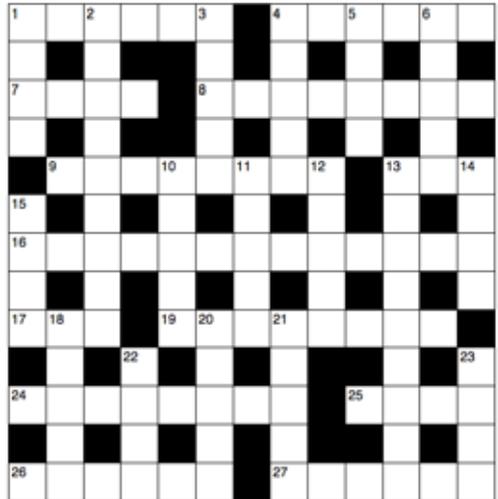
March Crossword

Across

- 1 The earth is one (6)
 4 'On a hill far away stood an old — cross' (6)
 7 'I am the — vine and my Father is the gardener' (John 15:1) (4)
 8 The Caesar who was Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth(Luke 2:1) (8)
 9 'Your — should be the same as that of Christ Jesus'(Philippians 2:5) (8)
 13 Jesus said that no one would put a lighted lamp under this(Luke 8:16) (3)
 16 Involvement (1 Corinthians 10:16) (13)
 17 Armed conflict (2 Chronicles 15:19) (3)
 19 Where the Gaderene pigs were feeding (Mark 5:11) (8)
 24 What jeering youths called Elisha on the road to Bethel (2 Kings 2:23) (8)
 25 The Venerable — , eighth-century Jarrow ecclesiastical scholar (4)
 26 8 Across issued a decree that this should take place (Luke 2:1) (6)
 27 Come into prominence (Deuteronomy 13:13) (6)

Down

- 1 Where some of the seed scattered by the sower fell (Matthew 13:4) (4)
 2 Sexually immoral person whom God will judge (Hebrews 13:4) (9)
 3 Gospel leaflet (5)
 4 Physical state of the boy brought to Jesus for healing (Mark 9:18)
 5 Tugs (anag.) (4)
 6 To put forth (5)
 10 Nationality associated with St Patrick (5)
 11 Leader of the descendants of Kohath (1 Chronicles 15:5) (5)
 12 'After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping — heel'(Genesis 25:26) (5)
 13 At Dothan the Lord struck the Arameans with — at Elisha'srequest (2 Kings 6:18) (9)
 14 'Peter, before the cock crows today, you will — three times thatyou know me' (Luke22:34) (4)
 15 Spit out (Psalm 59:7) (4)
 18 'When I — , I am still with you' (Psalm 139:18) (5)
 20 Concepts (Acts 17:20) (5)
 21 Thyatira's dealer in purple cloth (Acts 16:14) (5)
 22 Does (anag.) (4)
 23 The second set of seven cows in Pharaoh's dream were this(Genesis 41:19) (4)



Answers to last month's crossword

ACROSS:8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord. DOWN:1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

Reader Writes

Like many others I have been enjoying, and steaming over, the ITV drama of the very real Mr Bates vs The Post Office. It's an astonishing tale and brilliantly put together; the small people up against the titans of business. But it is also a vast tragedy where hundreds of subpostmasters and their families were wrongly thrown out of their jobs, and often their homes. Over 700 were wrongly prosecuted, some went to prison, and some took their own lives. How on earth could it have happened?

To sum it up simply, if you were being generous, you would spin a tale of faulty software systems designed and installed by Horizon (for Fujitsu). Add to this perhaps wishful thinking and PR management by the Post Office, and it all gets covered up or ignored for years. But as the TV drama makes clear, there was a criminal pursuit of innocent subpostmasters as opposed to the guilty software designers and their managers. A "clunky" system turned out to be fraudulent. But what drives our indignation? Essentially, we are hard-wired for a sense of justice; if we have an active faith, or if perhaps we grew up in a home where such issues were important, it is all the more likely that we will feel that sense of outrage on behalf of the victims in any conflict.

The World Economic Forum has just had its annual gathering of corporate masters of the universe, chief executives, politicians and economists at the Swiss resort of Davos. That gathering of the super wealthy and powerful, quite unapologetically is there to promote and protect its own interests rather than ours. There will, of course, be some unctuous wringing of hands over how to spend philanthropy budgets on a few of the world's prominent problems; but they certainly won't be putting their heads together to suggest ways of paying and spending more tax. Their common creed is low taxes, deregulation and cheap labour.

That is only a digression to say that the victims of the Post Office scandal are victims of a corporate culture that puts shareholders first and rewards CEOs plus their brand managers very handsomely for boosting that bottom line. It's been said many times before in the context of different industries that we find ourselves so far inside the belly of the market driven beast that we can't see that the world could be run in a more human and equitable way. Just recently in church we celebrated Plough Sunday, and gathered outside around a splendid shining plough; we prayed for the farmer (Philip from Old Radnor) and for the treasured land all around us; here's another industry where family business and stewardship of our precious soil so often collide with corporate bottom lines. Paris is gridlocked with Farmers' tractors shouting about the same thing.

All four gospels give an account of Jesus's clash with the temple where he overturned the tables of the money changers and drove out the livestock. He declared forcefully that they had turned that place of prayer into a "den of robbers". Essentially, a system for offering sacrifices in the temple was being used to defraud worshippers and especially foreigners. If God has hard-wired us to know right from wrong, we can trust him to help us stand up for justice and the victims of injustice.

Robert MacCurrach

ST THOMAS à BECKET, HUNTINGTON CHURCH NEWS

March Services:

10 March – 8:30 am – Holy Eucharist - Mothering Sunday

24 March – 6:00 pm – Evening Prayer (4th Sunday in the month)

29 March – 8:30 am - Good Friday Service

31 March – 8:30 am – Holy Eucharist - Easter Sunday



I'm afraid I am not aware of any news to report since the February Parish News.

However, I was so excited this morning (15th February) to see that my two hives of bees were out flying for the first time this year. I had begun to get quite worried as I had not previously noticed any bees in the garden or flying to and from the hives. Unfortunately, my bees did not survive the last two winters and I was thinking this may be a third year of loss. Although the hives are situated in a sheltered spot, we are quite high up and also located in a frost pocket. For the first time, at the start of the winter, I did encase the outside of the hives in Kingspan insulation, which must have kept the bees very snug. Temperatures too have been unseasonably high for most of the winter, which has also aided their survival. My garden has been planted with the honey bees (and other pollinators) in mind, and it was so heartening to see them busily working on the snowdrops, hellebores, pulmonaria and hazel catkins and taking nectar and pollen back to the hives. I do hope they will become strong colonies and produce lots of honey over the spring and summer months, so that I can once again donate some jars of honey to the produce stand in church. It always sold out very quickly and was enjoyed by all.

Whilst I mentioned snowdrops in my garden, I must add that the snowdrops in the churchyard are looking wonderful, as are all the thousands in the hedgerows and along the River Arrow around Huntington. The signs of Spring are most definitely all around us.

Huntington Flicks in the Sticks:

Thursday 21st March – 7:30pm. Tickets - £5.00 – One Life

One Life tells the true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued 669 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis. Visiting Prague in December 1938 he found families who had fled the rise of the Nazis in Germany and Austria, living in desperate conditions and once again under threat of Nazi invasion. He and his team set out to rescue as many children they could before the borders closed. For the following fifty years Nicky was haunted by the fate of the children he wasn't able to bring to safety in England; always blaming himself for not doing more. It's not until a live BBC television show in 1988, 'That's Life', surprises him by introducing him to some surviving children – now adults – that he finally begins to come to terms with the guilt and grief he had carried for five decades. Johnny Flynn plays the young "Nicky"

and Anthony Hopkins plays the older “Nicky”, with Helena Bonham Carter playing Babette “Nicky’s” mother (who also played a huge role in the children’s rescue and fostering in England) and Romola Garai plays Doreen Warriner (who had for some time established an underground network in Prague to help the refugee Jewish families). An excellent film, but be sure to take a tissue!

Susan Maiden
On behalf of Huntington PCC

Lent 2024 – A Meditation on the Lord’s prayer part 1

What have you decided to give up for Lent? Sweets, chocolate, or your favourite pudding? Might I suggest that we find time for prayer. A useful guide follows a pattern. All prayer starts with a conversation with God, starting with Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and then finally Supplication.

In St Matthew’s Gospel , chapter 6, verse 5 and following, Jesus gives sound advice to his close friends on how to pray. Personal prayers should be offered in secret in one’s room. He then follows this up by giving them and now us the Lord’s prayer.

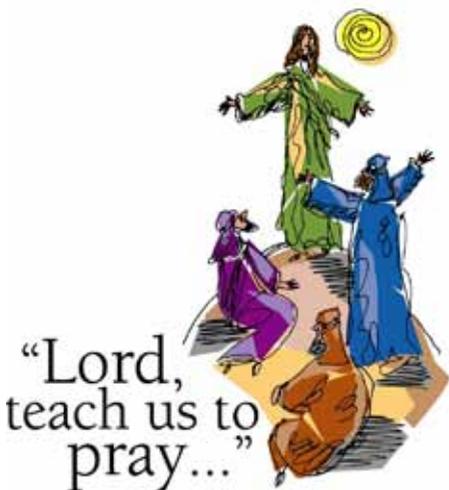
I believe there is a great difference between just saying this prayer and actually praying it. We can say the Lord’s prayer in a few seconds, praying it takes a lifetime.

“Our Father in heaven” God is our heavenly father and as St John states in the wonderful prologue of the Gospel, Chapter 1, Verse 12 and following, *To all who believed in his name he gave power to become children of God who were born not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*

For thoughts of heaven please read Isaiah’s vision of heaven Chapter 6, verses 1-5 or Chapter 4 of the book of Revelation. Here and elsewhere in the bible we can share such visions with awe and wonder.

In giving glory to God we have glimpses of his love and holiness. **“Your Kingdom Come”** Our Father in heaven’s sovereign rule stretches throughout the universe created for his purposes continually sustained in a constant creativity. Heaven and earth are at one in His creation.

“Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done” – All human history from the creation onwards leads us to Jesus, his life, his death on the cross, and his resurrection. Today we live in a period of history that flows from Christ’s heavenly Father to the summoning up of all things at the end of time. It is God’s will that we should open our hearts and minds to his love and quietly share this gift with the people we meet.



Tony Jardine

Titley Church News



Readers

Sunday 3rd March Dick.
Sunday 17th March Elizabeth.
Sunday 31st March (Easter Sunday) David.

Flowers. Everyone for Easter.

Lent Lunch.

A reminder that we are holding our Annual Lent Lunch in the Village Hall on Saturday 16th March between 12md and 2pm. Do come along and enjoy some time together and all monies raised will go towards the excellent work of St Michael's Hospice.

PCC Meeting.

There will be a PCC meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 6th March in the church. Would all PCC members please make a special effort to attend as we have not had a meeting for a long time.

Easter Services.

There will be a special service at 8.30am on Good Friday and Holy Communion on Easter Day at 10.15am.

Charity Shop.

We are again running the Charity Shop in October so please start to have a look around if there is anything you think might sell. If you want to leave anything at the back of the church please feel free to do so.

Dick

Easy Sudoku

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

Intermediate Sudoku

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

A to Z of God E is for Eden.

The story of our relationship with God began in a garden, and we are told that we shall return to a garden, a new Jerusalem where earth (the universe?) is renewed; a great river will flow out from it, teeming with life, its forested banks heavy with fruit and fragrant with healing leaves. The deepest yearnings of our hearts are satisfied and irrigated when we step into nature's abundance, returning as it were to dreams of Eden. How I love to creep up on the shy grey-blue stock dove and see the glittering green sheen on his neck. We are seldom happier than when tending our gardens. Many of us would probably rather be in the woods thinking about God than in Church thinking about the woods.

Eden, our protoparadise, tells us about the creator God's unfathomable abundance, generosity, creative brilliance. Scripture says that when God planted this Eden he filled it with trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food; "a river watering the garden flowed out from Eden". Why "pleasing to the eye"? Astonishingly God put man in this garden to care for it and to enjoy it. We have a capacity, even a calling, for joy in God's abundance.

Why should this be? Couldn't a sovereign God, creator of the universe, have simply set it tickingjoylessly? But no; our hearts thrill to echoes of Eden, in our dreams we return to paradise endlessly with joy. God tells us succinctly why through an obscure prophet in the Book of Ecclesiastes; "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has set eternity in the hearts of man." We are branded. We belong to God. We, the privileged creature, recognise most deeply the handwork of the God of heaven and earth. But even more than that, he wishes to walk with us in his garden, revealing his works, showing us ourselves, unfolding his plans. We have a homing device to seek Him, the author of brilliant abundance, and the diminished Eden we cherish.

Robert MacCurrach

Not a Proper Gardener (Part 40)

From my bathroom window each morning at present (early February) I am serenaded by the excited chatter of sparrows and the roaring of the frogs' motorbike rally taking place in the little pond, just outside, now becoming thick with spawn. Spring must be on the way. The overflowing pool in Park Wood was being dredged when Giles and I visited the picnic tables with our coffee on Monday morning. (The men doing the work must have thought us mad as hatters, sitting there on such a wet morning of rain and drizzle – and they were probably right!) But seeing them so engaged made me realize that our little pond should likewise be dredged and the solar fountain reinstated; but certainly not while the frogs are so busy.

But that's only one of the jobs that hasn't got done this winter, and when we visit that other favourite haunt of ours, the Kitchen Garden up at Hergest, I am almost ashamed to see how the two regular gardeners (proper gardeners!) have weeded and spread a layer of compost a couple of inches deep on so many plots. Shamed, that is into action, for



Emma and Giles and I have at last got to work on spreading ours, which to my surprise has turned out to be quite good stuff. And we've done one patch now sown with broad beans (Barnard's Exhibition) and another prepared for the potatoes (Nadine is my choice, a second early which is a little frost resistant, but not to be planted for a week or so yet.) Now that the days are beginning to get longer there's time for us to get out for an hour after the mandatory post-prandial forty or so winks I enjoy in my dotage.

So as well as doing odd jobs we've sown those broad beans as well as various veg seeds in plugs under cover; and I've potted on a dozen or so kale seedlings from plugs. They had been hiding in the potting shed! We've also cut a quantity of twigs and canes to be shredded when we get round to it. But I must be better at labelling things. The wassailing, for instance, on 17th January, went very well and the trees, I'm sure, really appreciated it; but the spiced cider-cup turned out to be spiced elderflower wine from a wrongly labelled demijohn, surely made a year or so before Covid and unlabelled. Still it was very good. Fortunately the seeds we planted the other day were all meticulously labelled by Emma (until the ink runs).

There's still a little fresh produce: some kale, beetroot, turnip tops and salad-herbs; and we may find just a couple of not-gone-over leeks for St David's Day.

Emma is as busy as ever caring for the birds and the other day she picked up a pigeon's egg on the path to the front door. Good, that one won't hatch; one fewer to avenge as Giles and I enjoy our Sunday treat... But the sparrows, well, that's another matter:

(Koinonia = fellowship)



Given the opportunity, house-sparrows choose to live in terraces.
each flock a close community.

Gregarious, together, birds of a feather, hilarious to watch, they flit
hither and thither, flight erratic,
with ceaseless chirp and chatter, acrobatic,
busy energetic, about their various activities, frenetic.

A dozen at the upturned dustbin lid that serves as bath
they splash, chatter and quarrel, then suddenly scatter,
play hide and seek in laurel and escallonia till dry.
Then off they fly, perhaps to feed on aphids, bugs and thrips,
or else, alas, to tear bean flowers and tender tips of sugar-snaps
or the bright petals of begonia.

Such depredations we forgive, however; find ample compensation
in their vibrant demonstration
of what it means to live in sweet koinonia.

Happy gardening,

Denis.

From a Kington Kitchen Parsnip, carrot and red lentil dal (Serves 4)

Sweet root vegetables give a twist on coconut dal in this simple vegan supper. Parsnips and carrots are cooked with lentils and coconut milk and flavoured with ginger, garlic, turmeric and garam masala. Adding thin slivers of parsnips and carrot to the tarka provides a crisp topping to the bowl, served with fluffy white rice. This makes a very good and filling Lenten dish.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp vegetable oil (or ghee, if you're not catering for vegans)
- 1 large onion, finely sliced
- 3 parsnips, scrubbed
- 4 carrots, scrubbed
- 30g fresh ginger, grated
- 4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 200g red lentils, rinsed
- 400ml coconut milk
- 1 tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp garam masala
- 300g basmati rice
- 1 tbsp mustard seeds
- 12 curry leaves (ideally fresh)

Method

1. Heat 1 tbsp oil (or ghee) in a large saucepan. Add the onion with a pinch of salt and cook for 5 minutes until starting to soften. Meanwhile, use a peeler to shave thin ribbons of roughly half a parsnip and half a carrot and set aside, then cut the rest into 3cm chunks. Add the chunks of parsnip and carrot to the onion, along with the ginger and garlic. Cook, stirring regularly, for 3-4 minutes.

2. Stir in the lentils, coconut milk, a canful of water, the turmeric and garam masala, then bring to the boil. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes until the lentils are soft. Meanwhile, cook the rice according to the packet instructions.

3. Heat the remaining 1 tbsp oil in a medium frying pan and add the mustard seeds and curry leaves with a pinch of salt. Once hot and sizzling, add the finely sliced parsnip and carrot. Cook for a few minutes until the vegetables are crisp and tender. Serve the lentil curry with rice, then pour over the spiced crispy veg oil.



KINGTON SPRING WALKING FESTIVAL 2024

Friday 19th to Sunday 21st April

Join us for a weekend celebration of walking in and around Kington. We are offering another great opportunity to explore the beautiful countryside around Kington and into the wilds of Wales. All of our walks are led by volunteers with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

For further information and booking check out our website or follow us on Facebook.



www.kingtonwalks.org
www.facebook.com/kingtonwalks
info@kingtonwalks.org
07708 668316



KINGTON WALKS





Open Arms Kington

If you have passed the Oxford Arms over the last few weeks you may have noticed the 'Window of Dreams' community window display. The window art was created over two Sunday workshops in February and the results on display in the windows at the front of the Oxford have been up-lifting. Art workshops have been a regular happening in the Courtyard Barn at the Oxford and will continue as Spring arrives.

The new year has seen the courtyard cafe and bar at the Oxford Arms open on Sunday afternoons 12-4pm with acoustic music sessions, art and board games in the barn. Soup and hot foods, as well as cakes, hot drink and bar beverages all on offer with no purchase necessary to turn up and take part. Sunday afternoon opening continues throughout March into April when the nights draw out and the bar will also open on Friday and Saturday evenings.

The program of events for March kicks off on Saturday 2nd March with acoustic music from Bristol's Dave Oakley and support.

Sunday 10th March will see the Press Gangers shanty band raising money for the Lifeboats Association. This nine man crew of singers and musicians will perform a mix of sea shanties and Irish songs with rousing harmonies and audience participation encouraged.

A St Patrick's Day Treasure Hunt Sunday 17th March promises to be a lot of fun as does the Oxford's first ever Desert Island Discs on Sunday 24th March.

Throughout the Spring the Oxford Arms Story Project is gathering stories and memories about the Oxford. Local artists and makers are coming together to create 'The Oxford Story' a multi faceted display which will be exhibited during the Marches Makers festival in May. If you have a memory to share or would like to join the Oxford Arms mailing list for updates on news and events or be in with a chance to win £200 by joining the Open Arms Kington 100 Club please get in touch through info@openarmskington.co.uk or drop a note through the letterbox of The Oxford Arms, Duke St, Kington, HR5 3DR.

As well as your memories the project would love to hear from you with your ideas for the future. If you would like to join the Oxford's team of volunteers or have an idea for an event or fundraising please get in touch through info@openarmskington.co.uk.

KINGTON and DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Unfortunately, it has been decided by the Gardening Club committee to wind up the above Society due to a dramatic reduction in membership. This has been caused by not only the pandemic, but the rising cost of speakers, therefore it was felt that the Club could no longer continue.

Special thanks to all who have contributed towards the running of the Society for over 50 years.

Kington Museum is planning to feature the Society in a forthcoming display.

Marion Gilling



Help Support Your Community Shop
Or else we will have to put the rent up!

Our projected accounts for 2023 reveal that the rent groups pay for their week will not cover the massively increased electricity bills! This is a global issue and we hope that energy prices will come back down (and pigs will fly) but this year we are looking at a short-fall of over £2,000!

The committee have decided to work together to fundraise in the vacant week in the shop from 8th to 15th January 2024. Let's see what we can do together to avoid increasing the rent we charge groups.

Donations of saleable goods; special items for a Super-Raffle and any help on the week's Rota will be very welcome.

Contact us by email:
kingtoncommunityshop@outlook.com
 Or telephone Rita Langford: 01544 230562



Kington Community Shop
2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 1st March from 6:30pm
in the Burton Hotel meeting room

All are welcome to join us to hear how this week of fundraising went, to ask questions and helpful suggestions.

Richie

THANK YOU

The Community Shop Committee wishes to thank the good people of Kington (& District) for their generous and almost overwhelming support for last month's self-fundraising effort. We received more donated goods than we could possibly have anticipated and plenty of help to staff the shop from many appreciative organisations, customers and friends. We reached our target of just over £2,000 to cover the shortfall from the vastly increased cost of electricity last year, without having to put up the rent for the groups using the shop.

With a different group bringing fresh stock in, every week, it is one of the most interesting shops anywhere! You never know what you will find in there! It is a wonder of re-use and a brilliant example of the "local multiplier" effect; keeping more of our money in the community with 48 local organisations raising a grand total of over £60,000 each year.

Our Committee rents the whole shop on behalf of all the groups who use it. We pay the bills including insurance, cleaning, PAT testing, keep accounts & take care of maintenance. Each organisation pays a share of these costs (currently £130) and will normally "keep their week" in a rolling calendar.

Please get in touch if your group is within a 10 mile radius of Kington and would like to be added to a small waiting list of organisations who will be offered any vacancies as they arise. Email: kingtoncommunityshop@outlook.com

	Community Shop Dates	
	28 February - 5 March	Kington Baptist Church
	6 March - 12 March	Kington Bowling Club
	13 March - 19 March	Lyonsshall Village Hall
	20 March - 26 March	Evancoyd Church
	27 March - 2 April	Kington Walking Festival

News from Theodora Part 2

Chapter 3: In which Theodora works hard.

This evening is that of 24th May 2014.

Over the past eighteen or so days we have put in more days of boating than we expected and done all sorts of lovely things. Life is pretty good.

I always intend to write snippets about boating life that will show you what it is that we like so much about the life afloat. The one that I particularly remember is standing on the lock side at Tardebigge top lock and looking over the green countryside with the sunlight highlighting the ridge and furrow that was worked into that form 1,000 years ago. That morning, I began to feel the benefit of the hard work put into winding the paddles of so many locks. I think that it was then that I felt that I was beginning to get physically fit again. Margaret and I had, between us, done 41 locks from lovely moorings at Oddingly to the long pound below Tardebigge top lock on the previous day. Such effort means that we sleep well, have good appetites, and don't get fat.

The early summer weather has been superb this year and we have seen drifts of bluebells in the woods that always cover the rising banks of tunnel cuttings. We have been beguiled by the scent of the cow parsley and have seen seemingly endless banks of blossoming may. The ducks have ducklings and the swans have fluffy cygnets. The Canada geese parent their goslings with swan-like care. One parent before and one behind. The gosling that paddles out of position is given a disapproving stare such as only a goose can give. The cygnets are too young to be educated in the serious skill of charming food out of boats. That will come later. The parenting skills of ducks leave much to be desired. I have never seen a drake take the least interest in the ducklings. He chases the poor females to distraction, the ducklings become scattered and can be left without due guardianship. Often, part of the brood is left frantic on the wrong side of the boat, and it is left to Margaret or me to take the best action to reunite mother and young. The usual method is to speed up as much as possible, consistent with the requirements of navigational safety. This means that Theodora outruns the best speed of the ducklings, and they can reunite astern. This is the one disadvantage of the water-cooled exhaust that I am willing to admit to. It worries water fowl on the port side and they do their best to outrun the boat to avoid it. The more sensible and adult swans



are relatively unconcerned and will only give a disapproving wag of the tail when hit by the intermittent jet, young ducklings get frantic and I have seen them paddling so hard that they rise up on the water and dash along above the surface.

As I type this paragraph it is just after lunch on Sunday 25th May. We are relaxing with a mug of coffee and enjoying the fact that hot sun is streaming through the windows and that the stiffish breeze isn't. We will do a few jobs this afternoon because there are a few left to do. There are the pictures to hang and I need to take comparative readings for the batteries. I think that they have just about worn out, but I would like to get some data to prove it. I won't burden you with another technical section on this occasion.

As we came down the Hatton Flight (21 broad locks) we became tired and noticed that the clouds were darkening. We arrived a suitable place to moor just as the heavens opened, the thunder pealed and the lightning flashed. Mooring is something that is not done and safe until it is finished. It was necessary to drive mooring pins as there were neither bollards nor mooring rings, so it took rather more than five minutes before we could take shelter. Five minutes was sufficient to soak us to the skin and make us very definitely wet. It was, perhaps, a little before five o'clock so, having dried ourselves we decided that the time had come significantly to improve conditions aboard. We installed the curtains, so giving us complete privacy when we needed it. The sleeping cabin was always reasonably private because there is just one small porthole ("scuttle" for those who are in the Royal Navy), but it did mean that when we were moored in town the locals could view us while we ate and read in the evening. Having curtains was a treat not to be sneezed at. Theodora looks so much more furnished now and the pictures will improve things too.

(One of the things about writing this in little bits is that when I come to read through the last paragraph before writing the next, I find that it is already out of date. The particular bit that is out of date in the last paragraph is that all the pictures are now hung, and the boat is looking really homely.)

It's now the evening of the feast of St Bank, Monday 26th May. We are moored just south of Bridge 17 on the Leicester Arm of the Grand Union. This is near enough to Crick to visit the Crick Boat Show. We have had a muddy time there today buying all sorts of necessary stuff. The highlight of the day, though, was meeting an old friend, Andrew Shipman, who hailed us as we were about to cross the footbridge carrying two life jackets, one insulated low energy cooker, two pairs of waterproof trousers and a gangplank/safety ladder. We chatted about the sorts of things that people who have the common interests of canalling and bell ringing chat about, then we parted carrying the loot up the towpath over Bridge 13, up Crack's Hill, down Cracks hill, over Bridge 17 and the last few yards down the towpath to Theodora, tired, happy and with less money than we had started out.

Today we travelled along one the loveliest parts of the canal system. The summit level of the Leicester Arm is as rural as it gets, with the soft hills of Northamptonshire and south Leicestershire in the full lush green of a wet spring. The new waterproof trousers that we bought at Crick performed well and the extra waterproofing for the hats did the trick. Foxton Locks is always a treat but today we came down them rather slowly, following a very cautious man managing his boat alone. We worked some gates for him when possible, he handled his rather disreputable looking boat very carefully. He thanked us nicely for helping. The lady from the boat behind helped us and we chatted as we came down the flight. Most people will chat and nearly everyone on the canals is polite and helpful. It's a good life.

Nick

KCS

conductor Robert Evans



Durufié **REQUIEM**

Ubi Caritas

Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré)

3pm

Saturday

16 March

St. Andrew's Presteigne

Tickets £12 (<18s free)

trybooking.com

and

The Salty Dog in Presteigne, Tower House
Gallery in Knighton, Border Bean in Kington

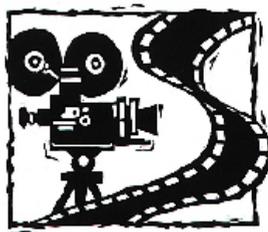
www.kingtonchoral.org.uk



Brilley Flicks in the Sticks and Borderlines screenings

Thursday 7th March at 7.30: Eternal Daughter (part of Borderlines film festival) £5.50

Starring Tilda Swinton in the dual roles of an artist and her elderly mother confronting long-buried secrets together as they return to a former family home, now a hotel haunted by its mysterious past. Shot in Wales and featuring a towering, deeply moving performance from Swinton, this beguiling film is dressed as a gothic thriller, with swirling mist, looming shadows and ghostly presences galore. Beautifully composed and intricately layered, it's a captivating study of motherhood, memory and loss.



Thursday 14th March at 7.30: Past Lives (part of Borderlines film festival) £5.50

Nora and Hae Sung, two deeply connected childhood friends, are torn apart when Nora's family leaves Seoul. Two decades later, with Nora now married to Arthur, they are reunited in New York for one fateful week to confront notions of destiny, love, and the choices that make a life. A wistful, transporting romance that beautifully depicts and considers a decades-long, world-spanning love story.

Thursday 4th April at 7.30: The Great Escaper £5

Michael Caine and the late Glenda Jackson star in an inspirational retelling of a D-Day veteran's great escape. In the summer of 2014 – the 70th anniversary of the D-Day Landings – Bernie Jordan (Caine) made headlines after staging a 'great escape' from his care home to join fellow war veterans on the beach in Normandy and commemorate their fallen comrades. Oliver Parker's warm, bittersweet film celebrates an adventure that captured the imagination of the world and the culmination of Bernie's 60-year marriage to Rene (Jackson), while exploring the lasting trauma of war.

Advance booking only - please book and pay for your tickets online at pay-brilley.co.uk
Brilley and Michaelchurch Village Hall, doors open at 7pm
- don't forget to bring your own refreshments!

Lent Groups

Further to the notice in last month's Parish News, there have been two Lent courses arranged in Kington.

The first started on Monday 19th February, and takes place at the home of Nick and Margaret Cooke.10:30/12noon .

The second started on Thursday 21st February with Paul Roberts.11/12:30 .



Churches Together in Kington

We all know how important churches are in a community, but how many or where they were sited are part of Kington's history.

There were Wesleyan, Methodist, Baptist, Quakers, Church of England, and Catholic church. Many of the large houses have their own private places of worship, some hidden deep in woods, to remain undiscovered to avoid retribution by authority.

In 1746, John Wesley rode from Leominster to Kington in 3 hours, preaching from the veranda of the house in Harp's Yard. Another famous preacher was Charles Spurgeon who preached twice in one day in the Square to a vast crowd, some having walked 20 miles to hear him. Their first church was built in 1801 at Upper Cross, a new one built in 1829. Now a sorry sight to see.

Non-Conformist chapels are all around us, some now converted into dwellings, but still part of the architecture and spirit of our villages. The term "chapel" is any building set aside for Christian worship. Nonconformists were so named, as loyalty was not to the church of England. Sunday schools started, thanks to Sir Robert Raikes, of Gloucester who was a philanthropist and prison reformer in the 1700s. At its height the chapels Sunday schools covered quite an age range with as many as 140 children in attendance, who not only learned the gospels, but more importantly to read and write. A new way of life began for the children within the community as there were picnics, music, poetry, prizes to be won and tea parties.

From 1830 – 1880 a yearly camp meeting was among Kington's most stirring religious events, which took place in an orchard belonging to Bridge House.

St. Mary's Church has undergone much restoration in life but preserved much of its architecture. From 1130, the building has evolved to what it is today, with curious features, purpose unknown. In 1789 a visitor noted the rich tradesmen's wives going to church with the apprentices carrying their prayer books and patterns. Females sat one side of the church, males the other. The Sunday School had 100 children in 1850, who paraded through the town with a brass band to await tea and hymn singing in a field. The Parish Wake or Feast was held in the churchyard until 1795, but it was moved to Kingswood as scenes of revelry and disorder were not tolerated by the Vicar. Church attendances were averaging 800 to 1000 people.

The ancient Catholic Church was once sited behind the Ewe & Lamb in the High Steet. It is said the Drovers requested a church for worship, which the people of Kington funded. Small but grand was the description. The building has since been used as a malt house, storge and is now a holiday let. It did have a small burial ground attached. A stone removed from the wall bore the initials TP dated 1682. The present Church in Bridge Street was originally a meeting place for the Kingswood residents who did not attend chapel and a meeting room.



The Baptist Chapel was erected in 1810 and was called the Furlong . It was given by Mr. George Coleman, with the Sunday school established in 1812 with 80 - 90 children attending. A new Chapel was built in Bridge Street.

The Methodist Church on Park Avenue built in 1902 was sadly demolished.

Kington Churches have always come together to remember the people of Kington in times of disasters and celebrations, working together for the benefit of the community.

Wendy Jones

**Saturday 9th March 7.30pm. Music in New Radnor.
'An evening with Pedwar Bones'.**



No, not a ghost story, but our first student platform concert since the pandemic. Tonight's concert features a trombone quartet, presenting a varied programme, exploring the endless capabilities of the instruments.

With pieces ranging from the 16th to the 21st centuries and covering arrangements of work from Thomas Tallis to Henry Mancini, there will be something to please everyone in this concert.

**New Radnor Community Hall, Hall Lane, New Radnor, Powys, LD8 2SW.
Pre-booking preferred. Tickets £15 / £3 from 01544 350746 or 07493 940683
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start.**

Wordsearch for March

Life is full of ups and downs: after blessings, hard times often follow. They are not meant to destroy us but to help us grow spiritually by deepening our faith and dependence on God. The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil – to give him the opportunity to stand fast against the enemy. The devil's temptations were based on half-truths, which Jesus rejected by standing firm on the whole truth of Scripture. The truth sets us free!

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| Holy | Glory |
| Spirit | Worship |
| Jordan | Me |
| Wilderness | Serve |
| Tempted | Jerusalem |
| Devil | Pinnacle |
| Fasted | Temple |
| Hungry | Stone |
| If | Foot |
| Bread | Angels |
| Alone | Bear |
| Kingdom | Strike |
| World | Test |
| Authority | temptation |



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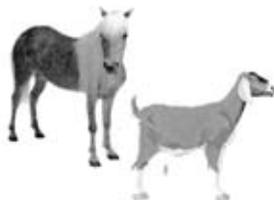
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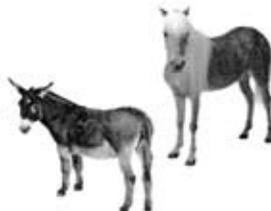
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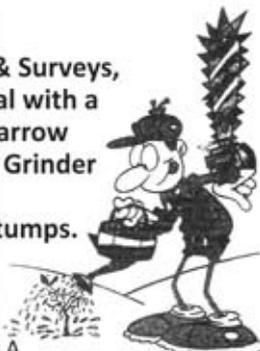
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Wed 6 March	7.30pm	PCC Meeting at Titley
Thu 7 March	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley Village Hall
Sat 9 March	7.30pm	Music in New Radnor
Sun 10 March	12 - 4pm	Sea Shanties at Open Arms Kington
Thu 14 March	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley Village Hall
Fri 15 March	7pm	Ludlow Concert Band at Kington Baptist church
Sat 16 March	12 - 2pm 3pm	Lent Lunch at Titley village hall KCS Concert at St Andrew's church, Preseigne
Sun 17 March	2 - 4pm	Treasure Hunt at Open Arms Kington
Thu 21 March	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley Village Hall
Sun 24 March	12 - 4pm	Desert Island Disks at Open Arms Kington
Tues 26 March		Kington Museum reopens
Sat 30 March	11.30 - 2pm	Messy Church Activity Day British Summer Time Begins
Thu 4 April	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley Village Hall
Fri 19 -Sun 21 April		Kington Walking Festival



MATERIAL FOR THE APRIL 2024 PARISH NEWS

by

15th March please

to

The Parish News Editor

Arrow Weir House, Kingswood Road, Kington HR5 3HD

or email: freda@sparkiesofkington.com

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

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