

THE SIX PARISHES MAGAZINE



**ILMINGTON
PRESTON-ON-STOUR
ATHERSTONE-ON-STOUR
STRETTON-ON-FOSSE – DITCHFORD
TREDINGTON-DARLINGSCOTT-WHITCHURCH**

No. 248

September 2020

THE HOWARD ARMS ILMINGTON



BAR OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY : 11AM – 11PM
SUNDAY 12PM – 10.30PM

FOOD SERVING TIMES

DAYTIME:

MONDAY TO SATURDAY : 12PM – 2.30PM

EVENING:

MONDAY TO THURSDAY : 6PM – 9PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY : 6PM – 9.30PM

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Six Parishes Magazine September 2020

I am glad of this opportunity for an update - we are following the Church's guidance in its advice: "remember that there's no expectation that churches will reopen at the same time or in the same way. Good and careful preparation, not haste, is key."

Most of our local churches are now available for private prayer during the day:

Ilmington weekdays and Saturday, not Sunday

Tredington Wednesdays 1.00-2.30pm for private prayer

Preston Friday to Monday daytime

Whitchurch daily

Darlingstons and also Stretton, not yet open.

Our next services in Church are as follows:

Holy Communion service at Whitchurch at 9.30am on Sunday 6th September.

Holy Communion at Tredington at 10.30am, also on 6th September.

Holy Communion at Ilmington, 13th September at 9.30am.

Holy Communion at Preston on Stour 9.30am 27th September Harvest theme.

Harvest service 10.30am at Tredington on the 4th October. (

As you will see we are beginning to hold more services across the Benefices, but will also continue to have the 10.30am 'Church at Home' YouTube service each Sunday. There are plans in hand for more services in October assuming that all goes well with coming out of lockdown measures. The current situation remains that hymns and socialising are not possible and face coverings are mandatory, as well as the now familiar social distancing, but despite all this people are thankful to be feeling 'at home and safe' in church.

We could put it in terms of 'Picking up the Pieces'. It is September now and the incidence of the Covid virus in the UK is beginning to stabilise. Our school children are due to return to school to pick up with their education. It has been such a difficult summer and a number of young people hoping to go to university have had their hopes dashed through no fault of their own. We pray for all our young people; they are so resilient, so determined, so full of life that it will be their energy and vision that allows everyone to pick up the pieces from these months of devastation.

The future cannot be known and we may even wonder whether there will be a second spike of the virus. Whatever happens we can each make our contribution towards a safer time by the way that we interact with others. I have mentioned coming back to church in such a way that we feel 'at home and safe' to be there. The Eucharist is being celebrated and the word means 'thanksgiving'. As we receive communion we can express our thankfulness for the renewed fellowship, even as we learn ways of being safely together. Yes, it is still a sadness not to sing or to shake hands as we meet, but we trust in the small steps being taken towards a new normality. Picking up the Pieces is not easy, but Christian faith always inspires us towards a new hope and we continue to support one another across our village communities in thankfulness.

Jean Fletcher, Chaplain, Six Parishes

**Interim Assistant curate
Chaplain**

Reverend Stephen Fletcher
Reverend Jean Fletcher
07714171143 revfletcher24@gmail.com

Reader Rosanna Wakefield 01608 682146

Emeritus Malcolm Davies 01789 450793 Anthony Nicholl 01608 239578

Churchwardens

Tredington with Darlingscott *Churchwarden post vacant*

Darlingscott warden Doreen McCarroll 01608 682949

Ilmington Angus Chambers 01608 682283

Preston-on-Stour Andrew Holman-West 07712193773

Stretton-on-Fosse Simon Bayliss 01608 662712

Whitchurch Doug Wilson 01789 450310

Richard James 01789 450853

From the Registers

Funeral:

16th July Hubert John Weaving (known as 'John') at Oakley Wood

23rd July Joan Mabel Knight-Adams at St. Gregory's Tredington

Deadline for the October issue is 19 September. Copy to Susan Brock s.brock9@btinternet.com, Daisy Cottage, Front St., Ilmington CV36 4LA. T: 01608 682409. To advertise contact Gabrielle Spencer spencer592@btinternet.com, 1 Cross Leys, Ilmington CV36 4RT. T: 01608 682 758.

Deanery News

Everyone said coming out of lockdown would be complex – and everyone was right! Alongside the practical and safety aspects of re opening our buildings, we have been asking some important questions about the future shape of ministry in our villages. The pandemic has afforded us an opportunity to re-think what we do and why. There have been great costs to our communities in this time, but also some great blessings. Some of us have learnt to worship in new ways, have discovered God in new places and have got to know our brothers and sisters in deeper ways. Just as the world will be changed, so we acknowledge that some of our churches will be too.

We have an opportunity in October to meet and talk to the Archdeacon Missioner, Barry Dugmore, about mission and ministry in the rural churches. I'm still hoping we may be able to have the Deanery Synod in person, but if not we will convene on Zoom. Please do put the date **Tuesday 13th October** in your diaries – this will be a meeting open to everyone.

In the meantime, thank you to everyone who has worked so hard in the past few months. It has not been easy. My prayers are with each church as we begin to look to the future. Every blessing,

Sarah

Rev'd Sarah Edmonds Maguire

Rector of Shipston on Stour, Tidmington, Honington & Idlicote

Area Dean of Shipston E: rector@shipstonchurch.org

Nature Notes September 2020

There are many hedgerow delights this month, although not all can be foraged for our use as some are poisonous to us but loved by the birds and other animals. We can expect (and hope) to see blackberries, rosehips, purple black sloes, rowan berries, hawthorn berries to name a few. So take care if you go foraging and remember to leave some for the birds and other creatures that need them for food. God provides lovingly for all His creation which includes us. He meets all our needs and the Autumn time is a reminder to us of that. Gill

Hedgerow Crumble cake (serves 8)

For the sponge

280g/10oz self-raising flour

2 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

1 tsp ground ginger

2 tsp ground cinnamon

2 dessert apples

Juice and finely grated zest of ½ unwaxed lemon

250g/9oz golden caster sugar

200g/7oz unsalted butter, melted and cooled, plus more for the tin

3 eggs, lightly beaten

1 tsp vanilla extract

100ml/3½fl oz whole milk

250g/9oz blackberries

For the crumble

100g/3 ½oz unsalted butter, chilled, cut into pieces

150g/5½oz plain flour, sifted

80g/2¾oz light muscovado sugar

½ tsp ground cinnamon

handful (about 50g/2oz) of roughly chopped cobnuts or hazelnuts

Preheat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/350F/gas mark 4.

Butter a 23cm round springform tin and line the base with baking parchment. Make the crumble topping first: in a large bowl, rub the butter, flour, sugar and cinnamon together into fine crumbs with your fingertips (if this is over-mixed in a food mixer, it quickly turns to biscuit dough). **For the cake**, sift the flour, baking powder, salt, ginger and cinnamon into a large bowl. Peel, core and dice the apples finely and separately toss them in the lemon juice and zest. Set aside. In another large bowl, using a hand-held electric whisk, or in a food mixer, beat the sugar, cooled melted butter, eggs and vanilla until thick and creamy; this will take a few minutes on high speed. With a large spoon, fold in the flour mixture, alternating with the milk. Don't over-mix. Spoon the batter into the prepared tin, then scatter the apples and blackberries over the surface and gently push them in. Sprinkle over the crumble, top with the nuts and bake in the preheated oven for 50–60 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean.

Cool the cake in the tin for about 10 minutes, then remove from the tin and serve
'From Seasonal Baking' by Fiona Cairns, published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson,

Overlooked Plants: 5 by Paul Williams

Incarvillea delavayi – named for Pierre D 'Incarville, a French Jesuit missionary in China and Jean Marie Delavay, a French Catholic missionary also in China, – there was no escape for the Chinese!

I like plants that look exotic but are in fact pretty tough and well able to survive a South Warwickshire winter. Three or four spring to mind but let us just look at one, Incarvillea, this month. I am writing this on the first of June and this Chinese plant has already been in flower a week or so, maybe encouraged to flower that bit earlier by the hot weather in May. It first sprouts a ruff of tough looking, crinkly leaves. From this rises a straight thick stem which bears at its top a succession of eight or nine, disproportionally large, bright pink, flared trumpet flowers through June to August. Nip off faded flowers to keep it looking tidy if you can be fussed. The leaves lengthen to attractive, robust, fern-like, slightly glossy 'fronds'. Its common name, Hardy Gloxinia, gives you some hint of its exotic appearance. Plant the crowns in autumn in a spot that gets full sun. Don't plant it where it will sit in over- wet soil during the winter.

ILMINGTON

Ilmington Parish Council August Report

PLAYING FIELDS: The Playing Fields were recently re-opened for exercise purposes and the first cricket match has been held. The children's playground re-opened 31st July. Users are urged to follow Government guidance and signs providing advice have been posted. It is not practicable to clean the toilets as necessary to reduce the risk of Covid. Accordingly, the Council maintains its advice not to enter or use these facilities.

PLAYGROUND SLIDE: Spoil at the rear of the Tennis Courts has been removed and the mounding around the slide extended. Some parishioners queried this action. The slide is now approaching the end of its life and the standards in place at its installation have been superseded. In particular, guard rails do not comply with current standards and an inspection has noted corrosion of these rails. The initial mounding was probably installed to reduce the risks of falls from height and the extension of the mound reduces the need for guard rails. Furthermore, in planning for its replacement, the Council is aware of the modern approach, which positions the slide atop a suitable mound. In short, this work has secured the ongoing safe use of the slide and prepares the site for its replacement. The slopes were sown with wildflowers but the dry period voided germination.

PAVILION ROOF: The flat roof of the Pavilion is leaking. A new covering has been ordered.

CAR PARK: The re-surfacing of the Car Park (Phase 2) has been ordered.

NEW CLERK: Our Parish Clerk, Sarah Furniss, is leaving. We would like to publicly thank Sarah for the highly professional manner in which she has carried out her duties. Our new Clerk is Pauline Rigby.

The Cosy Coven

Greetings to our lady Covenanters - safe and snug at home. Still no indication of when we may get together, but what a lot we shall have to talk about at that happy occasion. Until then, happy birthday to Anne and to Marilyn, who may claim a free drink at our first lunch, whenever that may be.

Wednesday Club: September Meeting Cancelled

Unfortunately, the situation remains the same and we will not be meeting in September with the Village Hall continuing to be closed.

On a happier note we have some birthdays to celebrate but before we mention them, belated greetings go to Phillip Patten (10th August) and to Tony Wilkins who was a young 88 on 16th August. Our apologies for omitting your birthdays in our

previous message gentlemen! For the month of September, we have four birthdays, all in succession at the end of the month. First is Marilyn Figgitt on 26th, Colin Waterman on 27th, Mary Brain on 28th and finally Carol Hawkins on 29th. May we all wish you a very happy day!

It has been such an interesting time meeting you whilst delivering cakes over the weeks. Apart from keeping cool with the help of portable fans, many of you have been keeping busy. Irene has been knitting/crocheting for charities and Carol Hawkins is no longer making scrubs but face coverings now for the food banks. Well done ladies! Terry Hall and Thelma Rondel enjoy jigsaws for passing the time and I think Thelma must hold the record for having done 14 since lockdown! Perhaps the most memorable thing in the last month is seeing Emma, Thelma's grand daughter delivering cakes on horseback! The lengths we go to, in order that you have a cake with your cup of tea!!! Keep safe everyone and keep smiling! Carole Clifford

Screen on the Green, Ilmington

We are sorry that there will be no film shown in September but the Ilmington Cinema Group do hope to re-open the doors to our audiences again before too long. We have some first class films ready to show you so watch this space and we hope to be back as soon as circumstances allow. Best wishes from *Ilmington Cinema Group*.

Ilmington Community Shop

We have been really pleased by the number of people who have used the shop over the last few months. Thank you to everyone in the village who has supported us. Our trade has now dropped a little from the peak of May and June, although we are still much busier than usual. Please keep using the shop as much as you can – it really makes a difference to our ability to provide a service to the village. We are still offering our home delivery service for people who are vulnerable or isolating. We deliver on Tuesdays and Fridays and there is no charge. For details please email orders@ilmingtonshop.co.uk or phone 682838.

TREDINGTON

St Gregory's Church Bells

Thank you to everyone who supported us on Saturday 8th August. We raised donations of £216.40 on the plant sale table outside of St Gregory's Church which will be put towards the cost of ongoing maintenance to the church bells. Well done everyone!! Our magnificent set of 6 bells, 5 of which date back to the 1600s, are well worth looking after for us and future generations to enjoy. Kathy

Tredington and Newbold Cof E School

Covid-19 did not stop our children from reading at home every day. Many pupils entered into our 'Ready, Set, Read!' prize draw and, during the holidays, our winners received their chosen books to read.

The way we have introduced our new Reception and Nursery starters to staff and our small setting has been a little different than usual. Families have been sent a video introducing them to the child's new teacher. In September, the staff have two INSET days to finalise our plans to welcome everyone back safely. We are keen to allow time to assess the needs of every pupils following lockdown and learning at home and will personalise the curriculum accordingly.

We hope all of our pupils and their families have enjoyed a relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing our pupils and welcoming our new starters

Craft and Chatter

We are opening Craft and Chatter again on Thursday 3rd September at 2.00pm in the WI Hall. Bring along all those projects you have started during lockdown and not quite finished! You will be able to enjoy the company of like minded enthusiasts who will love to see your work! Social distancing rules will be observed and please bring your masks.

Tredington and Blackwell WI

Our doors will be open again on Thursday 10th September at 7.30pm in the WI Hall and hope that you will be able to join us. So if you fancy an evening meeting old /new friends and neighbours please join us. We shall, of course, be following

Message from Ilmington Community Shop

We wanted to send a big thank you to all of our customers from Darlingscott and Blackwell who have supported the shop over the last few months. It has been great to see so many of you shopping with us and we would like to encourage you all to keep shopping, even though lockdown has eased. We are maintaining our home delivery service for people who are vulnerable or isolating and we deliver to Blackwell and Darlingscott. We deliver on Tuesdays and Fridays and there is no charge. For details please email orders@ilmingtonshop.co.uk or phone 01608 682838.

PRESTON ON STOUR

Preston Village Hall

The hall is poised and should be ready to reopen in September. The committee have worked hard to make the hall as safe as possible in these difficult times but that does mean quite a lot of restrictions as everyone will have experienced in many other areas. Government guidelines are changing all the time so our advice to anyone interested in booking the hall is to contact Mary on 450142 or talk to any of the committee members.

Sadly we have made the decision to cancel the Harvest Supper which is usually held in October because of the limit on numbers and catering.

Hopefully film nights might be able to resume sometime soon and fingers crossed for the annual Preston Quiz in January!

STRETTON ON FOSSE

Message from Ilmington Community Shop

We wanted to send a big thank you to all of our customers from Stretton who have supported the shop over the last few months. It has been great to see so many of you shopping with us and we would like to encourage you all to keep shopping, even though lockdown has eased.

Cover Image

Our cover image of a heron is by Will Hands. If you would like to see some more or talk about his work he can be found at <https://handsdesignandphotography.weebly.com>, on Instagram using @handsdesignphoto or by emailing me at handsdesignphoto@yahoo.com.

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Halford Village Hall, Monday 9.30-12.30

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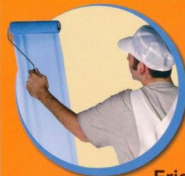
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