

THE LINK

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THE UNITED PARISH OF
HOLY TRINITY, ABBOTS LEIGH
WITH
ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, LEIGH WOODS
www.theparishchurch.com

JUNE 2020

70p

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Paying for The Link

For those who prefer to pay for The Link online (cash still acceptable if preferred!) by BACS or Standing Order, here are the bank details for making your donation:

United Parish of Abbots Leigh with Leigh Woods

Sort code 40-52-40 Account no. 00010334

Reference: please give the name of the road you live on

The suggested donation for 2020 is £7.

United Parish Website www.theparishchurch.com

Leigh Woods Website www.leighwoods.org

Abbots Leigh Village Website www.abbotsleigh.org.uk

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PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: ELIZABETH ENGLAND

Tel: 01275 373996 Email: admin@theparishchurch.com

Hester is a part-time Vicar. **PLEASE CONTACT** Elizabeth with enquiries for Baptism, Banns, Weddings etc., and news of newcomers to the parish. If you have information about those who are ill, at home or in hospital, who would like to be visited, please contact our PASTORAL TEAM, Co-ordinator Alan Shellard, 0117 974 1494, alanshellard@gmail.com

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL WEBSITE:

www.theparishchurch.com

Keep up-to-date on the events and highlights of our united parish.

Lay Minister: Rosemary (Wo) Hill 0117 985 2583 **Organist:** John Talbot 0117 942 8344

ABBOTS LEIGH CHURCHWARDENS

Barry England (Acting) 01275 372777

Victoria Dominey 01275 372234

LEIGH WOODS CHURCHWARDENS

Michael Bothamley 0117 973 0072

Simon Holmes 0117 302 0096

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Helen Cornish 01275 374521

Alan Shellard 0117 974 1494

Ginny Owen
(Sacristan) 0117 973 3305

TREASURERS

Carole Nicholls 01275 373888

Barry England 01275 372777

United Parish Treasurer: Siân Narracott sian.narracott@googlemail.com 01275 375619

Dear friends,

'We ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone'. So taught the Apostle Paul, speaking with Athenians on the hill of the Areopagus. As our churches and shared public spaces continue to be closed, but as we also look at re-entering public space, it's worth reflecting on what this time of separation from wider shared living, has revealed. Many are looking forward to meeting again, not only remotely as some have been doing, but in our loved and sacred spaces, as well as further afield. These places carry great significance, and it feels a privilege to care for them; they point us, as those who've gone before us, towards the peace and the love of God, which we seek to share with others beyond the walls of the church as within.

Nonetheless in this time apart, we've also been offered other gifts: birdsong, clear air, luminous light, a little more space to listen and to wonder at natural life and beauty, a little more time to be thankful for them. And we have also realised how much we value being together, not just on the phone or by email or briefly on video links. As human beings, we value touch, and presence, and the communication that is possible in subtle but important physical and bodily ways. We value also the freedom to make choices in small and weightier matters: whether to pop to the shop, or to take a day away, or to call on a friend for a cup of tea and a natter. In lockdown, much less can be spontaneous and much needs to be more carefully coordinated. Such small and life-enhancing choices are, however, privileges. Many people in the world never enjoy them.

Paul preaches the God 'in whom we live and move and have our being'. This God isn't an idol. This isn't a God who only inhabits our buildings, sacred as they are. This God is known in the form of his Spirit, whose advent we mark at Pentecost and which moves between us and connects us, revealing even in our brokenness, a new energy and creative power, forging new possibilities.

This time of lockdown has brought terrible loss and limitation for many. If we have not yet been personally affected by illness or by the illness of someone we love, we are

fortunate. But it's reminded us of what we value. It's also encouraged [Contents](#) us to remember that we can reach out across divisions and differences. Those deep divisions of advantage and disadvantage, remain, but we have learned that we can also work together to make the world better. So what more can we do, alone or together, this next month, to reach out a little more?

While the buildings are closed, the Church has come together and expressed itself in other ways, remaining open for prayer and worship across this time, whether by Facebook or more recently by Zoom link. Do contact myself, Liz England or Wo Hill if you would like to receive a link to a service.

Sending love and prayers for health and peace this month,

Hester

Worship at Home - Services on ZOOM

We've conducted **Parish Communion**s on Zoom - contact Wo Hill for details and a link to future events. Zoom takes some getting used to, especially when (as on 17 May) Zoom suffers a glitch nationally. But it does bring the joy of joining the service with those we otherwise wouldn't see.

A **booklet of daily prayer and reading** is available in the porches of both Holy Trinity and St Mary's or directly from Hester.

We have been uploading **sermons and some services** to our Leigh Woods and Abbots Leigh Facebook page and links via email - please contact Hester or Wo if you would like a link to these.

In need of Prayer?

Anyone who would like prayer or a chat please give Hester a ring or email hester.jones2@gmail.com / 01275 219838

Liz England: Admin@theParishChurch.com / 01275 373996

FAMILY NEWS

BAPTISMS: None

WEDDINGS: None

FUNERALS: 22.05.2020 Mrs Margaret Blewett South Bristol Crematorium

Evelyn Abbott

Evelyn's daughter, Joanna writes:

My Mother sadly passed away on 22 April 2020. She had bravely lived with Alzheimer's for the last 10 years and her passing was eventually due to a decline from this awful disease. After Dennis's death in 2013, Evelyn lived in a Care Home in Devon near me - the only time she had moved away from the village or Leigh Woods for 60 years.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 regulations we were unable to arrange her funeral in Bristol. However, it was her wish to have her ashes scattered in Abbots Leigh Churchyard. A Service of Thanksgiving will be arranged when circumstances permit.

Jeremy, Alistair, Joanna, Bridget and Michael.



I truly hope you are keeping well, and all those who are dear to you.
It has been one of the sadnesses of the times that we have had to postpone our cinema programme until we

can be safer to meet again.

We have opportunities to watch an amazing amount of content via TV and the internet but I think this period has demonstrated the added benefit of meeting up and watching a good film with friends from the community.

The cinema committee is watching the guidelines carefully and we hope to restart our programme as soon as we can do this safely.

We also realise that those who have paid for season tickets have missed out on a number of films and we will aim to recognise that in some way.

Meanwhile at least we have had great weather, a lovely springtime and we live in a wonderful part of the Bristol region to provide pleasure.

Keep safe and we hope to see you as soon as possible,

Sonia
Chair, LW and AL Community Cinema

Time Out

It is with regret we will not be meeting for a while. We will keep in contact by email,
If you want to be added to the email group please let Gill know

Time Out is a Women's group, of mixed ages, well rather older than we were when we first set up, with lively minds. We live or have connection with Leigh Woods / Abbots Leigh. We have a mixed program of meet ups about once a month. New members always welcome.

More info, or to go on email list and/or WhatsApp group, contact

Gill Ogden 01275 602657 gillm.ogden@gmail.com

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan has inevitably slowed. There are more important things to think about, and in any case the fact that public meetings and the chance to engage in discussion are limited means that the consultation process will go on for a few weeks, maybe months, yet.

BUT

Whilst our Plan only runs to 2026, North Somerset Council have started work on a **longer term 2023-38 Local Plan**. Those wanting new development are already making noises and the 1,000 dwellings proposal for Martcombe is still being pursued.

It is important therefore that our Plan moves ahead and gets approved and
community opinion is crucial.

The Plan is available on the village website; a short summary was sent round with the May LINK. Among many recommendations, key proposals for Abbots Leigh are

- **Retention of the Green Belt**
- **Protection of the environment and built heritage**
- **Better management of the A 369**
- **A response to climate change**

Can you give us your views – welcome or otherwise?

So far only three Abbots Leigh residents have offered any thoughts.

You can comment by e-mail to nhoodplan@btinternet.com

Murray Stewart

ABBOTS LEIGH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE [Contents](#)



We are still not holding any meetings, but keeping in touch by phone, emails and ecards. Georgina sold all her plants which was a relief; mine are happily growing in pots and planters.

Lovely to see the baby ducks in Abbots Pool, but I wish the many dogs would not frighten them by charging in the water. The bluebells have been super this year, perhaps I haven't spent so much time before appreciating them. We have bumble bees nesting in our rockery, so one area not to garden near.

Jumble Sale 26th September still planned !!!!!!!

Donna Butcher

For more details contact: Donna Butcher 01275 375378

ABBOTS LEIGH WI ANNUAL JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 4th April 1-3 pm. Postponed to 26 September

Items for sale may be brought to the hall between 11 and 12 on the day.

Where's The Link? Please tell your friends...

The Link is available on the village website <http://www.abbotsleigh.org.uk/news/>. On www.leighwoods.org it's an item on the Leigh Woods Society page, under Articles and Information. Also on www.theparishchurch.com.



Tea Time Special

*Normally meets in the vestry at St Mary's Church Leigh Woods
at 2pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. Inclusive price of £2.50*

**If you are interested in being included in an email group
to keep you updated please contact Gill Ogden**

Gill Ogden 01275 602657 gillm.ogden@gmail.com

FOODBANK

Bristol North West Foodbank has written to say a big thank you for the recent generous donation from a neighbour who wishes to remain anonymous. This is in addition to several other similar gifts which have been forwarded in the past couple of weeks. In April alone this Foodbank fed 2,376 people, an increase of 360%. Meanwhile humble thanks for the continued deliveries of food left in our Church porches which Ginny Owen collects and transports to Avonmouth.

You can also donate online (see page 12) - **Keep up the good work! !**

Alan Shellard

THANK YOU - STAY SAFE AND AWARE

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the youngsters who have been looking out for the more senior members of Dennyview Road. Our shopping arrives on our doorstep as if by magic, accompanied by some very friendly smiles and chats. THANKYOU

Stay safe

Alan and Barbara Baber

I am making some simple **face coverings**. If anyone is interested let me know...but running out of knicker elastic fast, not easy to buy on line!



Flaming June already and proof if any were needed that the marching of the months continues relentlessly.

In barely quarter of a year our lives have been turned on their heads. Despite lockdown easing we look a long way off any semblance of normality and the 'new normal' doesn't look half as much fun as the old one.

Socially distant socialising doesn't sound particularly appealing and certainly isn't what I have in mind when I sneak into The George for a livener. In any case, supping a pint through PPE might make the cider taste funny.

At the moment I'd be prepared to dress up like Barbara Cartland if it meant I could enjoy the company of a group of friends without worrying about their recent covid exposure.

Despite everything, Mother Nature ploughs on. Pandemic or no pandemic. May morphs into June as will June into July.

And that's where maybe she can teach us all a lesson. That despite the seemingly grim reality of today, life will get better tomorrow - or the very least the next day - which should give us all something to focus on and look forward to.

As you can imagine looking forward to the Abbots Leigh Civic Society diary of events is difficult now. There's not much we can do but sit it out and wait until the situation eases. I'm hopeful that the 'Festival in the Field' will not become a covid casualty but as we well know - an awful lot can change in three months.

*Paul Thompson, Chair, Abbots Leigh Civic Society
33, Dennyview Road 01275 373 115*

Abbots Pool



Lockdown measures have put huge pressures on Abbots Pool as well as other countryside areas. Now that the restrictions have been partially lifted it is very difficult to police.

The car park was closed to avoid groups of people congregating in one area and to encourage people to keep their distance. High levels of parking on nearby roads have caused obstruction and local damage to verges, which is likely to continue even when the car park reopens.

The huge levels of litter in the Abbots Pool area have highlighted that it is unusual to have so many litter bins, unlike the National Trust and Forestry England where people generally take their rubbish home. The stone-built bin enclosures, whilst more in keeping, are difficult to empty. Removal of the bins is being considered. NSC and Abbots Leigh PC are planning to install dog waste bins.

Abbots Pool is a local nature reserve and the code of conduct is widely signed in the area, but largely ignored by groups of swimmers and picnickers. North Somerset are in the process of setting up a Public Space Protection Order for the reserve which will include a number of bylaws which could be enforced with fines being imposed. The process and consultation takes time, but hopefully it will be successful and not take too long.

Working parties will be resumed when we can safely do so. Hopefully the litter will have been removed by then.

COVID-19 Community Support Group

In Leigh Woods, the support group is co-ordinated by:

Gill Dixon: gill@mrconsulting.biz (07710 103 548)

Mark Rayson: mark@mrconsulting.biz (07768 877 191)

Both can also be contacted by landline on 0117 973 1842.

If you are self-isolating and need support please contact your volunteer in the first instance; any problems let the coordinators know. Many, many thanks to all the volunteers.

As we write this in mid-May, we have seen some restrictions on movement lifted by the Government and we all hope that the virus will recede further to allow a further lifting. Many families in Leigh Woods know people who have had the virus and we have all been impacted by it. There is a strong spirit of community support but if anybody in Leigh Woods needs more support please do contact the COVID Community Support Group, (details above).

Health, food, shopping... Our website: www.leighwoods.org has a dedicated COVID-19 page with some very useful information on a range of issues ranging from health to food and shopping delivery services. The Clifton restaurant, Cote, has just started a delivery service and many more may appear as businesses adjust to a new normal.

CYBER SECURITY The website also has some advice on cyber security. Unfortunately the criminal community is looking for new opportunities in these difficult times.

Our Summer Party and Quiz Nights have had to be cancelled as well as our Litter Picks. A big thank you to all those who, as part of their regular walks around the area, pick up litter on our verges. It makes such a difference.

FOOD BANK Many people have supported the Church's efforts to collect donations for a local food bank. Donations may be left in St Mary's Church. Local food banks need our support more than ever at the moment.

Our AGM was scheduled to be held but we have had to postpone it. We will hold it as soon as we can but it may be a few months before we are permitted, and feel comfortable, to gather together. The Chair, officers and committee of the Society are ensuring that the Society is being run according to its Charter.

Society Memberships We have 81 households as members for 2020. We would love more to join. Joining the Society, open to all residents in Leigh Woods, is very straightforward and may be done via the website www.leighwoods.org.

Matters considered by our Parish & County councils, the consultation on the proposed new Parking Scheme for Leigh Woods has now been completed but we expect that this is not a priority of NSC during the pandemic. We will let you know when they make their decision.

NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS advised to us by the Parish Council:

20/P/0877/FUH - The Gables, Bridge Road, BS8 3PB - Proposed demolition of existing boiler room, greenhouse and conservatory. Proposed replacement single-storey conservatory, single-storey greenhouse and utility extensions to the East and West of the property. New flat roof to proposed kitchen with extension of terrace above. Officer - Janet Jones

Trees **20/P/0740/TPO** - Foye House, Bridge Road, BS8 3PE - T1 - Cockspur Thorn - Remove

main trunk of the tree. Leave thin upright stem growing from the base of the trunk to grow on as a replacement. Officer - Jason Cox
20/P/0764/TPO - Avon View Cottage, Burwalls Road, BS8 3PT - T1 - Ash - Fell and replace.
Officer - Jason Cox

Finally, a big thank you to all those residents who work directly or indirectly for our health care services as well as those who help keep our essential services going. The Thursday evening clashing of saucepans from our front doors, balconies or windows is a small sign of our thanks.

FOXES & RATS IN LEIGH WOODS - MIND YOUR FOOD BIN!

This is a reminder to residents to put the handle of your brown food waste bin **FORWARD** to the **LOCK** position and/or put bin inside recycling box, if room. Bins have been knocked over recently.



Hearts produced in Leigh Woods

The knitters and crafters of Leigh Woods have continued to work hard producing pairs of hearts for the Intensive Care Unit at the BRI. Maria Burgess has delivered two further batches of hearts for the ICU and estimates that she's collected more than one hundred pairs in total, from Leigh Woods residents and their friends. Thank you!

The ICU is planning to extend the sharing of hearts to some other wards in the BRI and so Maria continues to collect pairs of home made hearts – please email mariaburgess@gmail.com if you would like to be involved.

Acrostic

by Lesley Nash's daughter Vicky, who has "2 lively boys aged 8 and 5 and a 4-month old baby" – how does she manage it?

Coronavirus hit the world in 2020

Originating in China affecting people plenty

Running round the world at breakneck speed

Old folk and the already ill were most in need

None could go out and all stayed in

At least we had a garden and could drink our gin

Virtual parties using ZOOM

Inevitably a baby boom respected

Rested & reconnected, key workers

Unusual times of Rainbow signs

Surely now is when HUMANITY SHINES

Abbots Leigh Covid-19 community volunteers

A number of volunteers throughout Abbots Leigh are being coordinated to cover groups of neighbours along roads across the Parish. The purpose is to ensure that people have someone to contact should they need help with anything such as picking up shopping, posting mail, urgent supplies or just to talk to someone when they are having to self isolate. Leaflets are being distributed to each household giving a local neighbours contact number so that a wide network can be established. Different groups may liaise through different ways whatever suits people's preferences. If you have not heard anything or want further information contact Mel King on 07876 502951 or Simon Talbot-Ponsonby 07973 147017 or 01275 375250.

| Planning Application Records | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Applic'n no. Date rec'd Target Date | Applicant & Address | Proposal | Parish Council View | NSC status | Officer |
| 19/P/3042/CQA 16-Dec-19 31-Jan-20 | The Cowshed, Glen Farm, Sandy Lane, BS8 3SE. | Prior approval, change of use of agricultural bldg to Dwelling house with operational devt: insert windows & doors. | <i>Object - Inaccurate drawings.</i> | <i>TBC</i> | Judith Porter |
| 19/P/3075/FUH 6-Jan-20 5-Feb-20 | 2 Glen Cottages Sandy Lane, BS8 3SE. | 1.5 storey side extn to give gd floor accessible annexe rooms & 1st floor bathrm & bedrm. | <i>No objections.</i> | <i>Approved</i> | Anna Hayes |
| 20/P/0247/FUH & 20/P/0248/LBC 24-Feb-20 13-Apr-20 | 34 Church Road, BS8 3QP. | Remove existing timber stair-case & glazed top section to modern conservatory at SW of property. Replace with stair-case & glazed lantern. Construct internal glazed screen & door to form lobby. | <i>No comments from PC. NSC Officer and Historic England to make decision.</i> | <i>Approved</i> | Janet Jones |
| 20/P/0411/TPO 2-Mar-20 21-Apr-20 | Bow House, Home Fm Rd, BS8 3QF. | T1 - Beech - Reduce by up to 3m. Remove 5 lowest laterals. Crown lift to 4.5m from ground level. | <i>No comments from PC. NSC Tree Officer to make decision.</i> | <i>Refused</i> | Jason Cox |
| 20/P/0920/FUH 27-Apr-20 18-Jun-20 | Tanglewood, Ashgrove Avenue | Extn to front, rear & at first floor level. Demolish existing garage. Erect open carport. | <i>TBC</i> | | Ellena Fletcher |
| 20/P/0927/FUH 4-May-20 22-Jun-20 | 62 Church Road, | Demolish existing lean-to & conservatory. Erect 2-storey rear & side extns. | <i>TBC</i> | | Ellena Fletcher |

Donald Davies, Pill Ward Councillor, N Somerset Council

My contact details are below, for those who need them, but I shall be suspending face to face surgeries until further notice for both residents' and my own health, to avoid spreading any viruses. My e-mail is donald.davies@n-somerset.gov.uk.
and my phone number is 07900 097671.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS The Parish Council is meeting through video links for the foreseeable future. If you wish to raise anything to be discussed at a meeting please contact Julie Smart, Clerk to the PC, in advance of the meeting. Meetings are normally held on the 3rd Monday of the month. The next will be **Monday 15th June** at 7pm. Agenda and Minutes are on the Village Website.

Annual Parish Meeting

The need to hold this meeting has been cancelled by the Government for this year.

Abbots Leigh Village Hall is currently closed.

Old School Field Abbots Leigh PC will instal a dog waste bin in the school field which will be emptied fortnightly or more if necessary. Please keep your dog on a lead and clear up after it . A new basketball net has been ordered.

Abbots Leigh Parish Councillors **Simon Talbot-Ponsonby** (375250) Chair, Cycle & Foot-path Network/Highways/Verges/Recycling & Rubbish/ Skittle Alley/Communications/ Website. **Martin Walker** (219530) Vice Chair/ Public Footpaths/ Old School Field/ Open Spaces/ Abbots Pool/ Transport Links. **John Butler** (373446), Village Hall/ Public Relations/Street Lighting. **Murray Stewart** (372878) Community Groups/ Neighbourhood Plan/ Abbots Leigh Charities/ Civic Soc. Liaison. **Robert Narracott** (375619) Planning/ Conservation Area. *Clerk to the Council:* **Julie Smart** (374442) who works out of the Resource Centre in Pill. Secretariat/Insurance/Police Coordination/Village Orderly.

RECYCLING AND RUBBISH:

Check **NSC website** under waste & recycling for your next collection.



Crews are **BUSY!** You will help if you:

- wash, squash & sort recycling – help crews empty bins more quickly
- don't leave tissues in recycling boxes
- wash hands before & after putting containers out or bringing them back in – use soap & water; wash hands for at least 20 seconds
- park considerately – with more of us working from home, it's all too easy to block council vehicles; if they're blocked they (of course!) don't collect.
- fold cardboard so it fits in your recycling box; consider holding some over for next collection. Plus, cardboard can be great to use in home school arts & crafts!

All waste & recycling is currently being collected, but if there's a problem with crew availability **Green Waste** collections are first to be suspended.

Food waste

The average family throws away about £700 worth of food waste a year; most goes to landfill. Please put food waste in your food waste bin, not your black wheelie bin

Plastic Bags

... can be recycled at some larger supermarkets including a lot of food packaging & non-biodegradable magazine wrappers. Store the plastics in a plastic bag by your recycling bins; take it with you next time you go for a supermarket shop.

RECYCLING CENTRES

... have reopened to a limited extent. **Check NSC website** for times and other restrictions. **No trailers** allowed. Only take waste to a centre if storing at home is a health hazard. Can items be recycled or stored at home? Could someone else use them? Yes? Then keep them until suitable recipients (charity shops? primary schools?) reopen.

Before visiting recycling centres:

- Check opening dates/times & other restrictions. No trailers allowed.
- Sort items before you go - save time when at the centre
- Use a mapping app with the live traffic layer turned on so that you can see how busy the roads are near the centre
- Only one person may leave each vehicle. Recycling centre staff can't help. (Exceptions for people with mobility issues - two can unload from one vehicle.)
- Expect a long wait. Respect staff. Follow instructions – delays are inevitable!
- Don't leave your vehicle before you have to
- Wear protective gloves.
- ♦ Stick to social distancing – only one person at each skip.
- Maximise fair use: don't use the centre more than once a month.

QUIZ

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*More questions kindly submitted by Christopher Sharp.
Beat the editor: he scored three!!
Answers below.*

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | What was the name of Camus' doctor protagonist in his novel La Peste? |
| 2 | Daniel Defoe published his Journal of the Plague Year in 1722 but in what year was it set? |
| 3 | What are HCoV-OC43 and HCoV-HKU1? |
| 4 | Where in China did Covid19 originate? |
| 5 | And from what specific location and activity is it believed to have originated? |
| 6 | What is the connection between pangolins and the global lockdown? |
| 7 | On what date did the World Health Organization confirm that a novel coronavirus had caused a respiratory illness in a cluster of people in China? |
| 8 | What was the date of the first confirmed case of Covid19 in the U.K. (+/- 14 days) |
| 9 | When was the first major outbreak of Bubonic Plague recorded in England? |
| 10 | The last rat borne epidemic of bubonic plague in the USA occurred in Los Angeles - when? |

FOOD BANK - AS MUCH NEEDED AS EVER

There are boxes in the porches of both Holy Trinity and St Mary's for the collection of items. They are regularly checked, emptied and taken to the Food Bank once a month.

So please keep donations coming to both Churches and I will ensure they get to Avonmouth.

Can't get to the shops? <https://www.bristolnorthwestfoodbank.org.uk/> is the website where you can donate. Donations are listed, but you can remain anonymous and the process is clear.

Recent donations have been magnificent – thank you so much – keep them coming!

Alan Shellard

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)

The APCM scheduled for 26th April, at Holy Trinity, Abbots Leigh, has a new deadline in October so present roles continue till then.

1 Dr Bernard Rieux 2 1665 3 Corona viruses which cause the common cold 4 Wuhan 5 A wet market selling live (and dead) wild animals among food and other items 6 It is believed the Covid19 virus derives from pangolins perhaps combined with a virus from bats. Pangolin scales are sought after for 'traditional' health remedies in China and pangolins are illegally trafficked in places like the Wuhan market 7 12 January 2020 8 late January (16-30th) 2020 (in York) 9 June 1348 10 1924/25

Worship at Home - Services on ZOOM

We've conducted **Parish Communion**s on Zoom - contact Wo Hill for details and a link to future events. Zoom takes some getting used to, especially when (as on 17 May) Zoom suffers a glitch nationally. But it does bring the joy of joining the service with those we otherwise wouldn't see.

A **booklet of daily prayer and reading** is available in the porches of both Holy Trinity and St Mary's or directly from Hester.

We have been uploading **sermons and some services** to our Leigh Woods and Abbots Leigh Facebook page and links via email - please contact Hester or Wo if you would like a link to these.

WELCOME PACK

New to the parish? Know of new arrivals? For a Welcome Pack, contact:

Abbots Leigh: Nicola Stinchcombe 01275 374523 or

Nicky Walker 01275 374177 - or **see Parish Website:**

www.theparishchurch.com

Remembering VE Day

*Some of us are able to remember; among them, we are grateful to **Pam Allcock** for sharing her memories.*

On the day itself I was packing to go back to boarding school in Yorkshire. In the evening we went to the Hippodrome to see *Arsenic and Old Lace* (I wish I could remember who starred in it!). When they took the curtain call one of the cast stepped forward and said "The War in Europe is OVER!" Everyone cheered of course and when we came out of the theatre the Centre was *en fête*.

I spent ages on the phone – telephone exchanges (vital then) were naturally in chaos – trying to find out if I was expected, in these exciting times, to return to school as usual – why on earth should I have thought not? – everything went back to normal...

When VJ day happened later in the year, we were on holiday in Cornwall and celebrated with a joyous Floral Dance through everyone's houses A DAY EARLY! It was just a rumour! But when it was properly announced the next day we were only too happy to dance again!

Pam Allcock

Coincidentally, the Editor received the following from an old (of course!) friend:

On VE Day, 8th May 1945, I was 22 days short of my 4th birthday. We, my parents, younger brother and I, were living in Swindon. Dad was the Assistant Priest at an Anglican church dedicated to St. Paul (long since replaced by St. Aldhelm's). Although, of course, I didn't realise it at the time, it would have been called a working-class parish, though many people attended the church who lived outside the parish boundaries. This was, in part, because the Vicar, daddy's boss, a Revd. Canon Harman, was quite a well-known figure in the area, not least for being a confirmed pacifist right throughout the Second World War! Dad was not. That much I knew, because mummy had told me so, having first explained what a pacifist was.

For me, the day itself was not particularly memorable. I couldn't understand why mummy seemed to be smiling, laughing and crying all at the same time nor why lots of people were knocking on the front door and being very noisy and cheerful. A couple of days later there was a big party in our street, Sanford Street, with long tables in the road and lots to eat, notably different-coloured jellies and small cakes covered in pink icing. I didn't like the colour of the pink icing, so didn't eat the cakes but tackled lots of jellies with gusto. There were many adults about but hardly any were men. Such, for me, were the VE Day celebrations.



"HERE'S TO THE FUTURE"

Local Singer / Songwriter Brian Inglis has released a single entitled 'Here's to the Future'. The aim is raise money for the NHS and to say thank you to that organisation for looking after him so well recently whilst having to cope with COVID-19.

The song can be purchased or streamed at all leading digital platforms <https://ditto.fm/heres-to-the-future> and a video is available at YouTube - <https://youtu.be/qhbEAJQigkk> The single is also available via www.brian-inglis.com

Sing away the Blues

Ben England, local conductor of choirs and orchestras, has established a YouTube page which you can join and sing your heart out (or just listen). He's humorous, he's fun and the music is easy. Check it!

Homechoir.uk

GARDEN NOTES

The weather is perhaps the unique thing about this spring. It's shown off the excess of blossom to perfection, but has created havoc with tender plants due to drought conditions and the unusually cold nights but hot days. For the first time ever we suffered from frost damage to potato and dahlia leaves. I know we are not alone in this, nor in having to hose our gardens already, (despite having 5 water butts!). Our radishes are brilliant, we are currently eating wonderful lettuce and chard from the greenhouse, and will be tucking into our cucumbers by June. *Robert Narracott*



Sarah Friend, your Village Agent !

Hello, it's Sarah Friend your Village Agent. As we are all in Lockdown and unable to meet, I am still here remotely for you. If you need help with anything or a friendly chat on the phone, please get in touch. My phone numbers are 01275 878180 or 07710 580751 or email sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk. Stay safe and well and look forward to seeing you all in person sometime soon.

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