

WHEATLAND NEWS

May 2020



'A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you' (Ezekiel 36:26)

***News from the Diocese of Hereford and the 17
Parishes around Stottesdon, Ditton Priors and
Highley***

Editorial

As we go to press we are now in our fifth week of lockdown and life as we know it now seems to be settling down for some of us into spending days without face-to-face contact with other human beings, phoning friends and people who we do not often contact and catching up with our old student colleagues. There is difficulty in focusing on jobs which have been around for months and it is easy to get distracted. One of the most frustrating things is the fact that, even though we feel fit and able to go and volunteer to help out in the community, age is against us and so we observe the rules and 'Stay at home, Protect the NHS and Save Lives'.

A huge "Thankyou" to all those people who are out in the communities helping to make sure food is delivered, neighbours are well and needs are met. So many people have stepped forward to return to jobs which are different in so many ways to those we are used to.

At this time we see many people like Captain Tom and others who survived and remember WW II showing us all what true grit and determination can achieve. We send Captain Tom our best wishes for his 100th birthday on 30th April 2020 and urge everyone to remember VE Day on Friday 8th May 2020 (see page 24) and to celebrate in any way by decorating gardens and houses, having a tea party linked with families and friends through the technology of our time and also to observe the 2 minutes' silence at 11am to remember those who gave their lives at that time, and also remember those who have been taken from us by coronavirus.

In this issue of Wheatland News, we have included some of the activities which have brought out hidden talent in so many people and also some of our animals!

If any of you are feeling in need of 'must get out' the following is a selection of websites which you may try eg to listen to concerts, church services, music, dance or even try a fitness video.

Keep safe and take care

Ed

Stay Home – Protect the NHS – Save Lives

Things to do, places to go

I'm joking, right? Well no, actually. It's not just the dreaded 'social media' that can take us out of ourselves, but our national organisations, local organisations, clubs, groups, associations. You name it, they're there. Things that maybe we'd never have thought of doing, or visiting, and now we can get a real taste right here in our own homes via the internet. For Life-after-Lockdown, it might be a new hobby, or an unexpected holiday destination. Or just some lovely pictures to lift the spirits right now. And if you've exhausted the delights of Netflix etc, this might be for you!

So the team would just like to offer a couple of favourites this month. First – a place that I think is the most wonderful garden that I've ever visited! **Aberglasney**, in Carmarthenshire <https://aberglasney.org/about-aberglasney/>. Watch the video and enjoy the gallery of still photos. For after lockdown, the teashop is super too!

Pentabus, the theatre company based at a Shropshire farm and at <https://pentabus.co.uk/whats-on>, has made available a number of recordings of its productions to click on and watch when it suits you.

Enjoy!

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Diocese of Hereford

The latest news from Bishop Richard

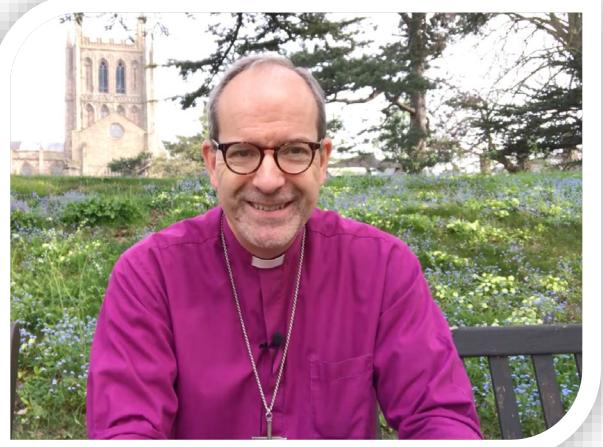
On March 24, the UK began the first official day of lockdown under measures announced by prime minister Boris Johnson the previous evening. That historic TV broadcast already feels a lifetime ago as we now draw towards the end of our fifth week of lockdown and living as a church apart. We hope that you are bearing up in the current circumstances.

We are now starting to turn our attentions to look at how as the church we can encourage one another and those around us in our communities.

Thank you to all those of you who have shared stories of some of the ways you are doing church. Please do continue to share them with our [Communications team](#).

We are also delighted that we have begun a new mid-week reflection on Wednesday evenings. This will continue next week and will be led by our Intergenerational Mission team in turn.

The national Church of England team has been looking at ways to reach those without internet access and this weekend will be launching a new freephone prayer line called 'Daily Hope', we will promote the number online from Sunday, please share this with anyone that you think may appreciate this service.



Bishop Richard is recording a weekly video message – you can find these on the [Hereford Diocese](#) website.



Farewell and ‘thank you’ to Bishop Alistair and Louise

This weekend was to have been a farewell to Bishop Alistair and his wife Louise at Hereford Cathedral.

We wish Bishop Alistair and Louise well at this difficult time, given the uncertainties about moving house. Please continue to hold them in your prayers.

We also give thanks to God for their ministry in our Diocese and have planned a provisional service at Hereford Cathedral for Saturday 19 September.

Local Businesses are helping us to keep our distance!

We **love** our local shops, restaurants, pubs – and the people who run them!

Wheatland News is proud to be able to publicise what our traders throughout the Wheatland area are doing to help us to stay alive, and to enable us to help them to stay in business for our enjoyment and convenience after the restrictions are lifted. We're delighted that we can bring you even more news of these this month, so please read on!

Reg May's Butchers, Ditton Priors

What is on offer?

- Any **Beef, Lamb, Pork and Poultry** requirements please let us know quantity and cut. A variety of Sausages and Bacon available
- **Pies, Pasties & Rolls:** Pork Pie (small/large), Meat Pasty, Cheese & Veg Pasty, Sausage Roll, Cheese & Bacon Flip, Scotch Eggs, Pork Scratchings
- **Cooked Meat Pies:** (specify small/large) Steak & Ale, Steak & Kidney, Steak & Onion, Chicken & Mushroom, Turkey & Ham, other varieties available please ask
- **Cooked Meat:** Ham, Honey Roast Ham, Corned Beef, Faggots
- **Other:** Eggs, Selection of Cheeses, Lemon Drizzle Loaf Cake

How can you order and receive what you want?

- Phone: 01746 712628 **at least one day BEFORE you want delivery**, and no later than 4pm please. Leave a message if no answer with your number and order so we can call back)
- Please tell us what products you would like to order and the quantity/weight/cut of each. We will then ring you back with a price and estimated delivery.
- Our driver will knock on your door and leave your shopping on your doorstep.

How do you pay?

- You can pay Reg May in cash, or by cheque made payable to Reg May Butchers.
- Please leave your payment on your doorstep. The driver will collect this when they leave your order, so there will be no contact between you.

Cleobury North Shop and Post Office

What is on offer?

- All the usual stock including wines, spirits, beers, sweets, medicines, newspapers and general groceries.
- We also still offer our postal service, please ring to find out more.

How can you order and receive what you want?

- Phone **01746 787875**, or email thevillagestores@yahoo.com
- Subject to availability on items, we will take your order and ring you back to let you know the price and what we have in stock.

How do you pay?

- You can pay Cleobury North Shop in cash, or by cheque made payable to D Mellor.
- Please leave your payment on your doorstep. The driver will collect this when they leave your order, so there will be no contact between you.

The Boyne Arms, Cleobury North

What is on offer?

Evenings – please call us to check days and times that we are serving

All £8.95:

- Fish & Chips, mushy or garden peas
- The Boyne Burger, chips or fries
- Curry of the Day, rice and or chips
- Chili Con Carne, rice and or chips or half and half
- Scampi and chips
- Vegetarian Lasagne
- Chicken breast in a yummy cream cheese and white wine sauce with minted new potatoes and veg
- Beef bourguignon pie
- Handmade pizza – wide choice of toppings!

Ask about Puddings on offer

Young Diners' menu £4.50:

- Burger & Fries
- Chicken Goujons & Fries
- Sausage & Fries

Roast Sunday Lunch ...

...with all the trimmings and beautiful fresh vegetables. Main course £8.95, two courses £11.50

We are licensed to sell alcohol off the premises so we can bring along your favourite bottle of wine or a 2-pint carton of your favourite beer.

How can you order and receive what you want?

Please phone the Boyne Arms on 01746 787214 to place your order for delivery the **following day**.

How do you pay?

Either:

- Cash on delivery, or
- Over the phone using your card, when you phone your order through.

It will really help if you order your items from the Butcher and the Village Shop for the same day, and also your hot takeaway food from the Boyne as well, so that we can deliver them all together.

The Pheasant at Neenton – the Flying Pheasant!

What is on offer?

While the Pheasant is closed during the Coronavirus pandemic Mark and Sarah are offering fabulous Pheasant food to take away! Starting with a different meal each day, order before 4pm the previous day. Have a mouth-watering look at the Pheasantatneenton.co.uk for full details, and call us to find out more on 01746-787955, and see also the Neenton News page in this copy of the Wheatland News.

- We are now preparing **TAKEAWAY** meals on a daily basis, with a set menu each day - details are posted on the Pheasant's own website, and the Facebook and Instagram pages.
- New this month – amazing **CELEBRATION BOXES!** Everything you need for a fabulous treat in your household for a birthday, anniversary, or national celebration! More information is in the Neenton section on pages 12 & 13.
- And how about a **FOOD ESSENTIALS** box, to save those queues at the real shops?

How can you order and receive what you want?

Pre-order the day before by

- calling the Pheasant on 01746-787955 between 12noon and 4.00pm

You can either collect your order from the Pheasant, or we will deliver to addresses within Neenton village.

How do you pay?

- By card, over the phone

Katerfresh – Cleobury Mortimer Freezer Centre

What is on offer?

- An extensive range, including frozen, tinned and dry goods – check the minimum order requirements please.

How can you order and receive what you want?

- Delivery to Stottesdon, please ask re other areas. Alternatively, local volunteers might collect and deliver.
- Order by phone - 01299 271345

How do you pay?

- Card payment over the telephone, or
- Cash on delivery

The Fighting Cocks and Village Shop at Stottesdon

What is on offer?

- Veg and provisions box collection service – call Bre on 01746-718270
- Pub grub and more!

Great pub grub, and more, continues on an order and pre-pay basis for collection at set times. Customers are allocated a time. Payment is taken over the phone and the meals are left in the porch for collection at the allocated time. These precautions are in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

The evening takeaway menu is offered from 5.30 until 8.30pm every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Additionally, at weekends, the Sunday lunch service is available from 12 until 3pm and The Cocks are also offering breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday – and Saturday lunches too.

Please call Bre 01746 718270 for bookings or enquiries. Follow the [Facebook page](#) 'The Fighting Cocks Stottesdon' for menus and other information.

Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood

Clair and Clive Gittens are offering a full range of butchers' produce, plus Mawley milk, Ashley's bread, veg plants and compost, vegetables from Bewdley Farm Shop, and more No order is too small! Check them out on Facebook, or call 01746-718732.

The Duck Inn, Chorley

Pete and Sara Clulee can furnish you with TAKEAWAY meals on Friday evening, and at other times too. Call them to check on 01746-718267, and see their Facebook page.

Annie Sloan paint and accessories from Tea and Roses, Bridgnorth

We are now on the road with all Annie Sloan paint and accessories! Simply ring 01746-714406 between 10am and 2pm weekdays to order. Deliveries on Wednesday and Friday to your doorstep! To find the distance from WV16 4DB simply use Google maps. Updated – now offering delivery up to 15 miles at £8!

TA Pet Supplies, Bridgnorth

Pets also need to be fed and looked after! Tom, our familiar market trader, is now offering a home delivery service for the Wheatland News area. Check out [TA Pet Supplies](#) Facebook page for details, or call 07891-822422.

Ditton Priors Shop, and Post Office

We're advised that these are still operating, but we have no information about opening times etc, so suggest you check before visiting.

Others

No further details have come to us, but we understand that:

- The Co-operative Stores, Highley and Cleobury Mortimer
- The Willows Café, Ditton Priors

are also branching out into deliveries.

To all our traders - please tell your local WN coordinator (see their names within the benefice and parish pages) if your business is providing support that you'd like described in this section in June edition, or if you want to change the information shown here for next month! Copy date 26th May.

Thank you.

The United Benefice of Brown Clee

Rector: Revd Terry Mason

The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire, WV16 6SQ
Telephone 01746-712636

St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and Holy Trinity, Wheathill & Loughton

CHURCHWARDENS

Carole Smith: 01746-712474

Mark Smith: 01746-712394

St Michael & All Angels, Aston Botterell

CHURCHWARDEN

Anne Preece: 01746-787237

St Giles, Chetton

CHURCHWARDENS

Sheila Millington: 01746-789443

June Preece: 01746-789211

SS Peter & Paul, Cleobury North

CHURCHWARDENS

Mike Bradbury: 01746-787676

Jane Bufton: 01746-787298

All Saints, Neenton

CHURCHWARDENS

Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093

Sue Hale: 01746-787650

Brown Clee Group News

Benefice Website

All churches in the Benefice remain closed, but services are available online at www.brownkleechurches.org.uk. As events unfold, updated information will be posted on this website.

Ditton Priors News

Joy Mason Summers

As we go to press we have heard that Joy sadly passed away on Wednesday 22nd April 2020. She was a stalwart member of the Wheatland News team. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

Local business support to the community

Please read the section on pages 5 – 8 about how our wonderful local businesses are supporting the community during the coronavirus crisis, enabling us to stay home and keep away from other people.

Aston Botterell News

Children have been drawing rainbows and putting them in the windows. Parishioners have joined with the rest of the UK in Claps for Carers on Thursday evenings.

Thanks to all who are helping to keep us all safe.

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Burwarton & Cleobury North News

Local business support to the community

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Wheathill and Loughton News

Local business support to the community

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Chetton News

St Giles Church

It will be a difficult time for some of us. Although services are suspended, please don't hesitate to contact Sheila or June if help is needed in any way.

Hundred Club

- £15.00. Jonty Bayliss (no 43)
- £10.00 Mary Evans (no79)

We are keeping our Hundred Club going at this time, if anyone hasn't paid for 2020, could you get your subs to Lisa at Church House? Many thanks.

We hope everyone is coping as well as they can during the current lockdown. We are missing our regular services and keeping in touch with parishioners but we are lucky to have telephones and modern technology to contact our friends & families.

We've also been fortunate that the weather has been kind and we can get out when we can and enjoy the Springtime. The daffodils in the Churchyard and on the lane into the village have been a picture.

As you know, our events have been cancelled or are on hold at present but we will look forward to rearranging them later in the year. At the moment we just have to appreciate times at home and with our families, if we have them close by. It is hard if anyone lives alone and if you do, please don't hesitate to contact Sheila or June if help is needed in any way.

Local business support to the community

Please read the section on pages 5 – 8 about how our wonderful local businesses are supporting the community during the coronavirus crisis, enabling us to stay home and keep away from other people.

Copy date for June Wheatland News – please send all contributions to your coordinator no later than **Saturday 23rd May**. As we don't have to allow time for printing during the lockdown, we're able to extend our deadlines, which means more time for news-gathering!



THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE
WORKING HARD TO SUPPORT THE COUNTRY,
OUR COMMUNITIES AND THE MANY
VULNERABLE PEOPLE WHO WITHOUT YOUR
HELP WOULD UNNECESSARILY
SUFFER IN THIS GLOBAL CRISIS.

Revd Terry Mason

As we all try to cope with the isolation of the current crisis it is easy to become down hearted, below are a few thoughts on the Bible Reading from the Gospel of St Luke. Each week there is a service on line at:

brownleechurches.org.uk

A Reading from the New Testament

Now on the third day two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes had not recognised him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.'

Pause for Thought

How often do plans work out as well as you hoped for?

My father had, like many worked hard all his life, on his 65th birthday he learned he had terminal cancer, all the hopes and dreams of retirement suddenly faded away in the stark reality of his news; his story is not unique, it will be shared by many.

It does not take cancer to end our hopes and dreams, when I was a child I can remember those long summer holidays, trying to find something to do, to keep occupied until the day came when we would go as a family to the beach, how ironic that on the day planned it would rain and we would stay at home!

Our hopes have a habit of failing us!

It seems that life was no different for the disciples, Cleopas and another are walking along the road to Emmaus talking about all that had happened over the past few days.

They had such great hopes for Jesus, for Israel and the world, for Jesus has revealed his mighty power; he was not just a prophet, he did miraculous things, he healed people, turned water into wine and much, much more. But now he was dead, or was he?

The disciples had dared to imagine, to dream what difference Jesus could make to people's lives and the world in which they lived, but their hopes had been dashed or so it seemed.

In fact the stranger who joined them on their journey proved to be the very person they were speaking of, Jesus. Their story was about to continue albeit very different to how they had dreamed it would be so.

There's an old saying, '*as one door closes another door opens.*'

There is much wrong with the world at present, the daily news brings heartache to many and confinement does not sit easily with us. The future will look very different for many people, however, it is important not to lose hope and not to stop dreaming.

Life may not always fulfill our expectations but it will always have something special to hold out before us if we will but be patient and have eyes to see.

We often dwell on what is not to be, rather than all that life will offer.

In the same way we also underestimate the power of Jesus and the strength our faith in Jesus can be in difficult times.

May the Peace and Hope of Christ be with you all.

Neenton News

Mary Preece

Aged 89 years, and a long-time resident of Neenton, Mary sadly died recently. We send our thoughts and prayers to Simon and his family at this sad time.

Community spirit

Thank you to everyone who has been helping to support those in our community who are unable to go out and do for themselves. If anyone needs help, support, or further information, please don't hesitate to call Sue Hale or Bobbie Jarvis, our Churchwardens, whose telephone numbers are on the Brown Clee Benefice page.

Clap for Carers – 8pm on Thursdays is a regular date in the Neenton calendar. Many residents come out to clap in support of those who are working to look after the sick and infirm in every category, and the sound is quite inspiring. And we've joined in the applause for Captain Tom for his amazing achievement and contribution.

Belated birthday greetings

To Anne Evans, on the occasion of her 80th birthday. Congratulations Anne!

Pets have the last laugh!

Are our cats and dogs happier with us being at home so much, or would they rather be left in peace? We may never know – but some are providing good entertainment. Phoebe, a Neenton cat, decided to check out the takeaway food bag in the hopes of finding some fish and chips on Tuesday... and a resident dog decided that those round-ish things – potatoes - that his master was burying should be dug up and played with..... so much for the Good Life!



Local business support to the community

Please read the section on pages 5 – 8 about how our wonderful local businesses are supporting the community during the coronavirus crisis, enabling us to stay home and keep away from other people.

The Pheasant at Neenton

Many thanks to Mark and Sarah and the team for continuing to prepare and supply the variety of delicious meals for TakeAway. Their continuing support for the local community is keeping the spirit of support and assistance alive in this rural spot. To order, please ring 01746-7878955. Orders can be picked up at the Pheasant (car park side) or delivered in Neenton village.

You can find out what is on the menu also via our website – click on the link, or type into your browser:

<https://www.pheasantatneenton.co.uk/take-away-meals/>

Celebration Boxes

It's not going to be the same fun for those celebrating a birthday or anniversary during the current lockdown. But prompted by several enquiries we've now come up with "Celebration Boxes", specially designed to mark an occasion and lift the spirits!

Our **Celebration Box** includes everything you need for a **Ploughman's Lunch for 2** including **home-made sausage rolls, cheese, ham, chutney, pickles, fruit and home-made rolls.**

For tea there's Scones with Jam and Cream, and a Cake, all home-made. That's Lunch and Tea for Two for just £25!

For the evening, you can add on the Takeaway Meal of the Day for two for just £10 (excludes Sunday lunch).

And don't forget the fizz of course!!! All of the above plus a bottle of prosecco for £50, or champagne for £65. That's the whole day taken care of! If you've someone special who needs something special, just ring 01746-787955 and give us a couple of days' notice.

the
Pheasant
at Neenton



Takeaway meals

Order a delicious meal, something different each day of the week. You can cook (full instructions provided!) and eat it the day of collection, or you can freeze it

Food Essentials Boxes

We've now started offering our Essential Boxes of basic foods. Each box includes 4pt milk, home-made bread, 6 eggs, home-churned butter, potatoes, vegetables, salad and fruit. £15 per box.

Win!

2 TakeAway meals and a bottle of wine!!

Enter our Photo Competition on the Pheasant at Neenton Facebook page!

Sharing the humour and other good things

WhatsApp, Teams, Instagram, Facebook, Zoom and probably many more have really taken centre stage for us as a place to share fun, happiness and good times. But Wheatland News has its place, and we're taking this opportunity of sharing some goodies only with our select readership! We hope you enjoy the selection on the next page.

Every cloud....

....has a silver lining! So many people are taking this opportunity to do the things that they never have, or make, time for when things are 'normal'. Some former residents of Neenton parish have been turning their hand to lovely crafts, and have sent us these pictures to share. Hidden talents are coming to the fore!



Traditional May Day celebrations



One of our readers sent in these two bits of May memorabilia – on the right, a primary school maypole dance, dating back to the early 1960s, and, on the left, a beautiful May Queen from Chester, crowned in the early 1930s.



And best of all – spring brings new life



Many thanks to a local friend for sending in these two lovely pictures. A lamb caring for kittens – that's a new one!



Severn Valley Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Mike Harris The Rectory, Highley, Day off – THURSDAY	Revd David Poyner, Curate Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work); email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk	
St Mary, Billingsley CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	St Peter, Chelmarsh CHURCHWARDEN Derek Arnold: 07956-844854	St Bartholomew, Glazeley CHURCHWARDENS Vacant

Billingsley News

Rev David Poyner writes:

In response to the flyers, posters and notices on social media and websites there is now a group of volunteers on stand-by to provide practical support and contact for anyone who is in need across Billingsley and neighbourhood. So far help has been provided in getting shopping, making phone calls to those who are alone, distributing donations and organising deliveries. As we await news on the next steps regarding limits on personal movement and social distancing and isolation we anticipate that more of our neighbours will be in need of help and support. We therefore encourage anyone who is facing difficulties however small to get in touch together with anyone who is worried or anxious about the current situation we are all dealing with. Contact details can be found at stmarys-billingsley.co.uk. The report below gives a good flavour of how everyone has been coming together:

"About a dozen residents in Bynd Lane have been working together to help each other out with shopping. The group set up in a very simple way via a Facebook Messenger group and have organically grown over the past few weeks. Two of the families involved are in complete self-isolation so for them this has been a vital support. The group has been linking in with services offered via the Billingsley Farm and Community Facebook page, managed by Helen Leather of Billingsley. One such service is breads, cakes, pies etc home delivered to those in isolation in Billingsley every Wednesday by Catherine's bakery. One resident said 'the deep sense of community is immense. As a family in isolation, without this very local support we would be struggling, but it's not just about the practical help, it's the laughs and jokes we share to keep each other motivated and involved with each other'."

Some words from Matthew's Gospel (chapter 18, v37-40) spring to my mind:

"Then the righteous will [say], 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Easter is ultimately about the setting loose of God's Kingdom here on earth; in our response to Covid, perhaps we see glimpses of what that looks like.

David Poyner, assistant curate, Severn Valley Benefice. Tel 01562 68638/ 0121 204 3997; email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/> or our websites, www.st-marys-billingsley.org.uk , <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/>

Chelmarsh News

Eleanor Haddon writes:

Easter Services 2020

This year Easter was very different from other years under the instructions to:

Stay home Protect the NHS Save lives in the coronavirus pandemic.

For the first time, churches have been closed, and clergy and congregations have had to find other ways to communicate with parishioners and each other, by the use of technology, more use of the telephone and including media e.g. Zoom to provide services both locally and more widely. It has been a steep learning curve but is bound to open up new ways of working in the future.

Thanks

We "oldies" can only do our bit in this crisis by staying home, but we are conscious of the need to thank our wonderful younger neighbours, for checking on us, shopping for us and fetching our medicine, it is greatly appreciated. We are enormously grateful to them for the help and the community spirit they continue to show. **Thank you all very much!**

Chelmarsh Friends

Chelmarsh Friends will meet again once the restrictions are lifted. A notice will be posted on Chelmarsh Parish Hall Website with details.

Chelmarsh Walking for Health

Due to restrictions, all walks are currently suspended. However, as we are surrounded by beautiful countryside and numerous paths it is an ideal time to walk with those you live with. Please only walk from your home to avoid any unnecessary journeys. A notice will be posted on Chelmarsh Parish Hall Website when walks resume.

Local business support to the community

Please read the section on pages 6 - 8 about how our wonderful local businesses are supporting the community during the coronavirus crisis, enabling us to stay home and keep away from other people.

Glazeley with Deuxhill News

Marion Corfield writes: -

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting us. From everyone in Glazeley and Deuxhill – keep fit and stay safe!

Please send me your contributions for the June edition of Wheatland News no later than Tuesday 26 May.

Marion Corfield - 01746-764585 marion.corfield@talktalk.net

The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Mark Daborn

The Rectory, Stottesdon, Shropshire, DY14 8UE
Telephone 01746-718127. Email mark.daborn@hotmail.co.uk
Day off – THURSDAY

May Message

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you.'

These words of encouragement from the prophet Ezekiel come in the Old Testament reading for the Sunday after Ascension Day, the last Sunday in May. I was thinking of it as I was reading an article about how we deal personally with crises like the 'lockdown'.

At first there is the rising to the challenge of something new and different – and the rallying around in support of all those who are doing so much to combat the disease, and to keep our everyday lives running as normally as possible. It has been heartening to go outside on a Thursday evening and, even in a small village, be able to hear the clapping of the neighbours down the road as we appreciate our health workers.

But quite soon reality kicks in. The reality of being confined to quarters – difficult enough in the country, but how much more so in the towns and cities; the reality of work disappearing; the reality of trying to find new ways of shopping. And the steady drip, drip of news coming in, leaden-footed and gloomy. It takes its toll as the comfortable, accepted ways of doing things just don't work any longer, and we're left not even knowing quite what day of the week it is. We can't even ring the church bells to tell everyone it's Sunday.

But we need to move on from that stage: probably, first, by not looking at the news too often, or getting caught up in bizarre stories on social media. Good communication isn't always a good thing!

Next, there is so much good to focus on. Local businesses that have rebranded to become a new service to their communities; neighbours looking after those who are self-isolating or confined by government edict. Those of us who have been told just to stay at home are also contributing to the effort by doing just that and making sure the burden on the health services is kept manageable.

Alongside this, many people are saying that they're doing communication much better now than ever before - that people they don't usually hear from are in regular contact. Perhaps we're beginning, as a society, to learn new things about relationship; and we're lucky to have so many technological ways of being able to do that. All kinds of new networks are being constructed – or reconstructed – because we have to stay at home. Talking to people (at two metres' distance) while out dog-walking has gained a new value in its face-to-face conversation. We are re-connecting.

There are some people who are going to suffer a lot from this; some will need, when it finishes, to rebuild their businesses from nothing and start again; some will be looking for new work; some will be worn down with struggling; some will be feeling the effects of loneliness, isolation and loss; many will be exhausted. We will all have our own scars. But the human spirit is incredibly strong, incredibly resilient; the human heart incredibly generous and loving. We're made that way, to be strong together.

So let us give thanks for that gift of the Spirit, which strengthens us together against adversity, and pray that it may lead us into new quality of life together. Amen.

Mark Daborn

Stottesdon Benefice Group News

St Mary, Stottesdon CHURCHWARDEN Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007	St Giles, Farlow CHURCHWARDENS Joan Evans (01746-718619) Nigel Savage-Bailey (07989-308599)	Holy Trinity, Sidbury CHURCHWARDENS Roz Jones (07837-609229) Jo Laybourne (01746-718525)
St Mary, Cleton St Mary CHURCHWARDENS Sue Dolphin: 01584 890583 Gill Jordan: 01584 891082	St John, Middleton Scriven CHURCHWARDEN vacant – so for now your contact is Rev Mark Daborn (01746-718127)	St Michael, Silvington CHURCHWARDENS George Millichamp: 01584-891030 Annette Metcalfe: 01584 890161

Sunday Services during the current COVID-19 Lockdown

Mark Daborn writes: Sunday Services across our six churches:

On the realistic assumption that the churches will remain closed when this edition of Wheatland News is released, church services will still be available online.

Our website is hosted by the Church of England's site, and you can find your church by putting in the name of your church (for example, 'Farlow church' or 'Middleton Scriven church') into your web browser and then looking for the 'a church near you' result.

Click on that result, and you'll find that the front page provides access to a written Sunday service that you can join in with at 10:30 every week. There is also access in the same place to recorded video services to watch and listen to.

There are also lots of posts going out on 'Facebook: Stottesdon Benefice', including two videos so far. You don't need to have a Facebook account to be able to access these; again, just use a search engine to find 'Facebook Stottesdon Benefice' and it will appear for you to click on. I'm trying to do at least daily updates of all sorts of stuff during this lockdown time.

Any feedback (direct to Mark please) on the website or Facebook will be greatly appreciated!

Please do not hesitate to contact the Rector or any of the Churchwardens if you feel the Church could help you, or someone you know about, during this time of uncertainty. If we can't provide help ourselves, we will do our best to put you in touch with somebody who can.

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From The Stottesdon Benefice Registers:

16th February – Stottesdon: BAPTISM – Isabella Rose EVANS

2nd April - Stottesdon: BURIAL OF ASHES – Graham and Dorothy THORLEY R I P

Lectionary for May 2020

Sunday 3rd	Sunday 10 th	Sunday 17 th	Sunday 24 ^h
Fourth of Easter	Fifth of Easter	Sixth of Easter	Sunday after the Ascension
White	White	White	White
Genesis 7 Psalm 23 Acts 2:42-end John 10:1-10	Genesis 8:1-19 Psalm 31:1-5 Acts 7:55-end John 14:1-14	Genesis 8:20-9:17 Psalm 66:7-end Acts 17: 22-31 John 14:15-21	Ezekiel 36:24-28 Psalm 68:1-10 Acts 1:6-14 John 17:1-11

Silvington News

Annette Metcalfe writes:

As I sit writing this, without the calendar to hand, we are all waiting for some good news on the COVID 19 situation.

We are getting used to doing familiar things in different ways. Easter services were transmitted in many different forms and technology enabled us to unite and continue to worship as church communities together, though apart. The good news of the Easter Story and the Light of Hope will continue to give us strength.

Our thanks and prayers are for the wonderful medical and social care professionals and volunteers and all who care and work for others. We ask God to be with them and their families and with all who are anxious, ill and grieving at this time.

And finally, we send our very best wishes to everyone in our communities - and Hope for good news for all, in the weeks ahead.

100 Club Winners (numbers selected by using a random number generator)

Congratulations to: Steven Jones, Andrew Millichamp, Peter Wallis, Georgia Wilkins, Lucy McKellop, Jean Howells.

Sidbury News

Jo Laybourne and Roz Jones write:

We just wanted to say that life In Sidbury has carried on much as usual with a few obvious differences. The village Support Group emails have proved amusing, thought provoking and helpful with offers of all sorts, from shopping to errands being run. "Sew and So" has obviously stopped for now, but you can't keep good crafters down. We are hoping to assemble a collaborative project in the form of a wallhanging. It will be made up of 10 inch squares which we've individually worked on during this period of isolation, making us feel we're still working together for a common goal.

Roz has been Sewing for NHS Shropshire making scrub bags, ear protectors and masks and has appeared on Radio Shropshire giving Sidbury a shout out! Again the community has come to the fore as donations of ribbon, tape and cotton have been left at the gate to keep the system working!

Our thoughts are with all those vulnerable, lonely and elderly members of our community, who we will try to support, where possible. Stay safe, keep well. Wash your hands. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.....

Cleeton St Mary News

Gill Jordan writes:

Sue & I did the **100 Club draw** (whilst obeying social distancing rules!) The results are:

Easter draw	April 100 club
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• £10 Matthew Gibbon No 14• £10 Margaret Taylor No 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• £20 Gary Shorthouse No 57• £10 Linda Jones No 9• £10 Kate Stokes No 60• £5 Steven Pritchard No 115

Farlow News

The Rector writes

Here is an element of ‘business as usual’!

Pam rang me to ask about the Hundred Club and whether we should have a draw last month. I thought about it and said yes, we should; but she would need to find a witness for drawing the numbers. She rang back in a few days’ time and said she’d done the draw, witnessed by a family member over Skype (or may have been FaceTime!).

There are many and various ways of keeping things going in these restricted times, and we’re very lucky to have them available for us!

So – the **April draw winners**:

- 68 Robert Jones £20
- 89 John Turner £10
- 24 Sheila and Ted £10
- 100 Margaret Link £5
- 78 Louise Waterfield £5

We don’t know when we will be able to get your winnings to you, as we are advised not to use the post unless absolutely necessary, and not to push things through letter boxes at all! But it will be kept safe for you until times improve.

Melville Chapel

Ruth Downes writes:

It has been great to see so many people reaching out the hands of Friendship to support those of us who have received letters from the government advising us to self-isolate. We have had meat delivered from Griffiths the butchers in Ludlow, Mark the Cheeseman has brought us Cheese eggs and butter, and also he kindly brought us some veg's from the Greengrocers. We have had bread and cakes delivered from Ashley's Cleobury Bakery and the Co-op at Cleobury are also doing deliveries.

We have been sending out a weekly Newsletter from Melville and Hopton Bank Chapel, with useful information included to help keep people in touch with new delivery services and the like.

Sunday Service

Rev Kim Stilwell our Minister is leading a telephone Sunday service at 10.30 –for anyone wishing to join here is the number and access code for the weekly service:

Telephone number: 0333 011 0616 Access code: 7970426

I am exploring how to use Zoom, and the Circuit does a service this way every Sunday as well. We also try to put things on the Melville Facebook page.

It was also good to hear Crumpsbrook 'Clapping out for Carers' these last few weeks - scattered we may be, yet we could still make a noise in gratitude!!

Middleton Scriven News

Ann Constable writes:

As the photographs accompanying these thoughts show, all the signs of spring are lovely, and as normal, which we are relating to more now the world has allowed (due to the lockdown) nature to be heard and seen even more. Farming carries on all around us in the rhythm of the countryside. Now tractors have no cars to hold them up on the tiny lanes, just occasional walkers. Simple sights such as lambs in the fields, yellowhammers on a hedge top, orange tip butterflies, deer in the woodland edge and banks of viola and primroses all get top marks to assist with our mental health wellbeing.

When we meet neighbours out on our daily exercise around the area and catch up while social distancing, the one phrase that is repeated is "How lucky/ fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful place and there is so much we can be thankful for."

Listening to how Polar expeditions coped with isolation and what they would recommend for us in our new world, keeping in touch with the outside world by phone, letter, email and social media was top of their list - that's exactly what has been happening here. Our community email updates have expanded into a Middleton Scriveners WhatsApp group. For our residents in isolation, plus those trying hard to avoid going into towns or supermarkets, this has proved an additional resource as our community volunteers help to get fresh foods, order garden plants, get newspapers and even takeaway meals. Photos have been shared. Cakes baked, while others without cakes have been thinking up dramatic strategies to get some, including suggesting drone delivery. It's a source of great laughter too, due to funny videos posted. It's been ideal for sharing details of small local firms who can deliver us.

Footpaths are being walked again, the dogs are very happy but some of us are in need of that siesta! With the bird tables/feeders well stocked, more of God's creatures are visiting us at home - plus those early risers have heard dawn choruses sung it seems even louder, trying perhaps to block out the worries and horrors of the pandemic.

Our community spirit has been enhanced by a real linking together in spirit, caring, prayer and love. Thursday night 8pm applause for all our nations heroes has brought us together - out on our own doorsteps. Who would have believed how emotional that few minutes can be? On other evenings we've shared drinks together - courtesy of WhatsApp - and given thanks!

Technology has reached us too with a Zoom-conferencing Virtual Coffee Morning to celebrate Easter Saturday. A "We can do this" attitude and "let's give it a try" meant we could see and chat together, plus drink our coffee and eat our biscuits. Sorry no virtual cake this time. We soon forgot we were not in our little church or even in the same room. Just missing Stella's Yummy cheese scones!

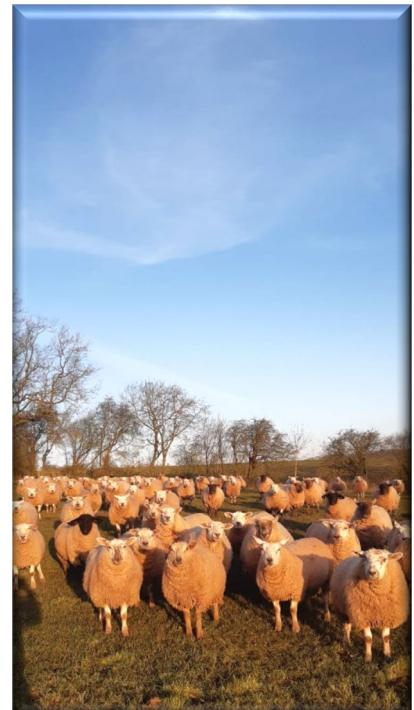
Thanks to Mark for helping us in so many ways - looking after our spiritual wellbeing, with Facebook posts, video-ing readings, emailing weekly services and much more.

Everyone knows a family member, friend or colleague who has been affected, in some way, by this virus, but the feeling of support, care and love across our communities is a really powerful spirit, invaluable to us all. Thank you all!!

Middleton Scriven joins together to wish all in our communities a safe and healthy month ahead, sending daily positives to you in this ever-changing and challenging world, with our prayers and love.



A collage of stunning photographs sent in by friends in Middleton Scriven



'We are one day closer
to everything being
back to normal again'.
Thats a good thought
to wake up to every
morning ❤'

Stottesdon Church Parish Notices and News

Clare Tibbits writes:

Adversity, as they say, brings out the best in people and the present Covid-19 Emergency is confirming the truth in that old saying over and over again. We have many examples of people sharing their precious Supermarket Delivery slots, a couple have collected supplies of local vegetable plants etc for other households to grow-on, and several more are shopping and collecting medicines for vulnerable or self-isolating neighbours.

The Community Spirit - which has engendered such selfless acts of service for others – has other manifestations too – like the weekly Thursday celebration of NHS and Social Carers. This has seen residents of houses around The Square, socially-distanced and out on their front doorsteps to join in the national applause - and to raise a cheer and a glass, to those special Heroes upon whom we all depend so much.

St Mary's 100 Club - congratulations to our lucky winners:

April: Roger & Mandy Williams, Judith Smout and Harry Dayus. (*Distribution of prize monies awaits the end of the Lockdown*).

VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations – Bank Holiday Friday 8th May

That's right – it is 75 years ago this month that World War II finally ended in Europe.

You may recall that, before the Covid-19 Emergency, the Mayday Bank Holiday was moved to coincide with Victory in Europe (VE) Day; there were to have been street parties, a nationwide ringing-out for peace in 1000's of belltowers (including our own Church), veterans' parades, and an exhibition of WW2 memorabilia in our Church.

Surely, Covid-19 has put paid to all that? Well, not entirely - the Royal British Legion and others involved in the original "VE75" plans are encouraging everyone to mark the day by joining the national 2-minute silence at 11am and then by organising their own "Stay at Home Street Party" to commemorate this historic occasion.

For more details/ideas please see the flyer from Stottesdon & Sidbury Parish Council on the next page. Houses and gardens could be dressed-up/decorated in the Red, White and Blue of the Union Flag [which will be flown in Stottesdon Square to mark the day].

How about a socially-distanced garden picnic at 1pm and a rousing "cheers!" at 2pm??

Oh, and please, send any photos of your celebration to Mark Daborn for Facebook.....

For all the latest news - please find Stottesdon Benefice on Facebook, keep an 'internet eye' on www.stottesdonbenefice.co.uk or visit the Church of England's website '**a church near you'** - and then contact the Churchwardens (see previous page) with any queries.

Deadline for the **June** edition (for Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes contributors) is to get copy to Chris by first thing on **Tuesday 26th May – Thanks!**



VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations

Stay at Home Street Party

Friday 8th May 2020

National 2 minutes silence at 11.00am allowing the country to remember the sacrifice and contribution of the WW2 generation whilst also reflecting on the Covid-19 situation and those people and organisations who are doing so much to keep us and our families safe and well.

1.00pm start for picnics

Raise a glass followed by a clap at 2pm to show our appreciation

Decorate your house Red, White and Blue and enjoy a lunchtime picnic in your garden

Commemorate the end of WW2 by celebrating with decorations, garden picnic, street singalong,

dressing up or whatever takes your fancy!

Send your photos to Stottesdon Parish Council webpage and Chorley Village Hall Facebook



Stottesdon & District WI

Meetings suspended until August 2020 – please keep in touch and check the details with Helena on 01746 718012 or Clare 718007.

Chorley Film Club

Film Club Members enjoy monthly big-screen films at 7.30pm on the ‘third Thursday’ in Chorley Village Hall and have free use of the DVD Library too. Membership is £7pa –full details from Joe Bubb (01746 718693). For details of the April film and future programme, please check with Joe!



Stottesdon’s Café and Village Shop

As announced last month the Shop has closed, but now provides a (PRE-PAID ORDERS ONLY) VEG & PROVISIONS BOX COLLECTION service – call Bre Hill on 01746-718270 for the details.

Excellent alternative local shops continue to thrive “just up the road” at Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood; The Village Stores and Post Office, Cleobury North; and The Co-operative Stores, at both Highley and Cleobury Mortimer. The Willows Café and other suppliers around Ditton Priors are also branching out (milk, bread and egg deliveries) see the contact list of local outlets elsewhere in this edition of Wheatland News and “shop locally” to support local producers and retailers.

The Fighting Cocks Inn

Great pub grub, and more, continues on an order and pre-pay basis for collection at set times. Customers are allocated a time, payment is taken over the phone and the meals are left in the porch for collection at the allocated time. These precautions are in place to keep everyone as safe as possible.

The evening takeaway menu is offered from 5.30 until 8.30pm every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Additionally at weekends: the Sunday lunch service is available from 12 until 3pm and The Cocks are also offering breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday – and Saturday lunches too.

Please call Bre 01746 718270 for bookings or enquiries. Follow the Facebook page ‘The Fighting Cocks Stottesdon’ for menus and other information.

Cleobury Country Easter Farmers Market

Normally at St Mary’s Church, Cleobury Mortimer is currently suspended

Other events

As this edition ‘went to press’ we had been advised that the following local groups have had to decide to postpone these planned activities for the coming months –

- + WI/Deanery Synod joint meeting on Climate Change on Wednesday 17th June
- + NGS Stottesdon Village Open Gardens/Heritage Tours of Church on Sunday 5th July

Useful Community Contacts

Brown Clee Walkers	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746 712662
Burwarton & District WI	Meets in Cleobury North Village Hall. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm Contact 01746-712466
Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wendy Lloyd 01746 712506 / 787549
Burwarton & District Garden Club	Meets on the 2 nd Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm. Contact 01584 823723 for details of topic and venue
Burwarton & District Wives Group	Meeting 8pm 1st Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746 712421 or Gill Severn 01746 712231
Chelmarsh Crown Green Bowling Club	Welcomes old and new members. Contact Sue Jackman 01746 862850
Chelmarsh Indoor Short Mat Bowling	Welcomes old and new members. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 7.30-10.00pm. Further details Sue Jackman 01746 862850
Chelmarsh Parish Hall	Available for hire - booking@chelmarsh parishhall.co.uk
Chelmarsh Jubilee Club	Parish Hall 01746 86525 Jean Davis
Chelmarsh Walking for Health	Monday 10.00am except Bank Holidays. Parish Hall. Eleanor Haddon 01746 862884. 2 levels of walking available
Chelmarsh Friends	Meet every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Jenny Green 01746 862191
Cleobury North Village Hall	Booking Clerk 07800-883830 CleoburyNorthDistrictVH@gmail.com
Tae kwon-do	Chelmarsh Parish Hall Tuesday evening. Suitable for children & Adults. Neil Morris Thursday 5.45pm 07969-996055
Chelmarsh Parent & Toddler Group	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall Contact Pam Baker 07846692323
Chetton & Gazeley WI	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
Chetton Folk Dance Club	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584 823802
Chorley Village Hall	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact Jenny or Charlie on 01746 718437
Short Mat Bowling	Every Monday & Thursday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Cleeton & Silvington Village Hall, October to end of April. Pam 01584 89261
Cleeton & Silvington V H	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584 890200
Fun & Fitness for 50+	Cleobury North Village Hall - low impact fitness programme working the whole body every Tuesday 10.00 – 11.15am. Contact 01584-823640
Ditton Priors Art Group	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Mrs Denise Davies 01746 712521
Short Mat Bowling	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm except the second Wednesday in the month when it will be Thursday at 8.00 – 10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact 712157
Ditton Priors WI	Meets in Ditton Priors Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7.15pm 01746 712473
Ditton Priors Local History Group	The Local History Centre, next to the Willows Café, opens 12.00-2.00 on Saturdays, and at other times by arrangement. Contact 01746 712850
Ditton Priors Parent & Toddlers Group	Meet in the Pavilion, Playing Fields, Ditton Priors Thursday 9.30 -11.30 am everyone welcome for a coffee and play.
Ditton Priors Book Club	Jenny 712665
Knowle Sports Club	Second hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584 890644
Stottesdon Gateway Nursery	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746 718769
Stottesdon & District W.I.	Meets in various venues on the 3rd Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746 718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746 718007
Stoke St Milborough Dance	Mike 01746712774 Betty 0174677515
Domestic Abuse Hotline	Telephone Number 08448044999

Coronavirus – useful websites

	https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus
 World Health Organization	<p>https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019</p> <p>For health emergencies, WHO's worldwide role is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepare for emergencies by identifying, mitigating and managing risks • prevent emergencies and support development of tools necessary during outbreaks • detect and respond to acute health emergencies • support delivery of essential health services in fragile settings.
 Public Health England	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance</p> <p>PHE's role, relevant to coronavirus, is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protecting the nation from public health hazards • preparing for and responding to public health emergencies • improving the health of the whole population by sharing our information and expertise, and identifying and preparing for future public health challenges • supporting local authorities and the NHS to plan and provide health and social care services such as immunisation and screening programmes, and to develop the public health system and its specialist workforce
	https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/
	https://www.hereford.anglican.org
	https://www.churchofengland.org
	<p>https://www.youtube.com</p> <p>Just type in 'Anglican Church Services' or any appropriate words, to see a wealth of wonderful services</p>
	<p>https://www.churchservices.tv/churches/</p> <p>There may be many other sites, but we came across this one and thought we'd pass it on.</p>
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY MEDICINE	<p>Johns Hopkins University is gathering, collating and presenting worldwide data on coronavirus</p>