

# CLEEVE PRIOR NEWSLETTER



APRIL 2020

# Saint Andrew's Church

I am sure that most people are aware that, due to the pandemic, there will not be any services at St Andrew's for some time and sadly the Church will be locked. Prayer diaries and a special prayer booklet are available. If you would like to receive one of these please contact one of the Church Wardens. If you do receive one, please do not pass it on to anyone else. Further information can be obtained from the "Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages" website (<https://eastvaleavon.com>)

*Rod Carless*

**Vicar** Revd Philip Morton, The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey, WR11 7EJ 01386 832599

## **Churchwardens**

Rod Carless 01789 773357    Lis Hughes 01789 772578

## **Safeguarding in our Benefice**

Benefice Safeguarding Officer – Lisa Farmer Tel. 01386 40401

Safeguarding Advocate – Elizabeth Spencer Tel. 01789 720078

For enquiries concerning **Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals** contact the Benefice administrator, Wendy Stafford, Tel 01386 424728

Note the Rotas for Sidesmen, Church Cleaning and Flowers are suspended until further notice.

From the PCC

## **The Church Clock**

The saga continues. The fault on the wind mechanism has been repaired and you will know that the clock face shows the correct time, however the chime and strike for the quarters and the hour is not working and the cause and cure is being investigated. We will keep you informed.

## **The Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages**

At this time of year, I would normally find myself writing about the approach of the Easter season, but this year is very different from anything else we have experienced. Part of the problem is the uncertainty around what might happen in the near future. Now that we are no longer able to gather for worship in churches, I am reminded of the words Jesus said when He summarised the Law; “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind’. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself’. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets”.

(Matthew 22: 37-40)

Jesus was teaching that these two things - loving God first and foremost, and loving our neighbours as ourselves – underpin everything that makes for human flourishing. In times when our community are shutting down in order to protect the most vulnerable, and people are self-isolating to protect themselves and their families, it is more important than ever to remember the commandment to love our neighbours. Look out for those who might be alone and can't get to the shops. Stay in touch with people by phone or text, just to let them know that people are still out there thinking of them.

And hold each other in prayer. If you have access to the internet, our new prayer booklet is available for free download from our church website [eastvaleavon.com](http://eastvaleavon.com). Other prayer resources and sermons can be found on the website, and we will be adding more material as we go along. For example, we are starting to create some online services. Follow the link to our new YouTube channel for the first service, which is Compline (Night Prayer). <https://eastvaleavon.com/online-services>

If you don't have internet access, call the Vicar on 01386 832 599 with your name and address and a copy of the booklet can be posted through your door.

And if you're feeling lonely and isolated, you are always free to call the Vicar anyway. The Church is still here, putting love of God and love of neighbour at the heart of our communities. I hope this prayer may of some comfort:

Stay safe and may God bless us all.

*Revd.Philip Morton*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need  
as if we were caring for you.  
In this time of anxiety, give us strength  
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,  
and to assure the isolated  
of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake.

**Amen.**

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## March 2020

The Council meets the second Monday of each month, except for August, at 7:30pm in the War Memorial Hall. If a parishioner has any comments or concerns please contact the Clerk or a councillor.

Chairman Peter Wilson: [wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com](mailto:wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com)

Cllr Ian Robinson: [irobinson773805@gmail.com](mailto:irobinson773805@gmail.com)

Cllr Mary Smith: [marysmith.message@virgin.net](mailto:marysmith.message@virgin.net)

Cllr Ron Solomon: [ron.priorhouse@gmail.com](mailto:ron.priorhouse@gmail.com)

Cllr Kevin Mellor: [kevinjohnmellor@gmail.com](mailto:kevinjohnmellor@gmail.com)

Cllr Douglas Carr: [austin.carr@talk21.com](mailto:austin.carr@talk21.com)

Cllr Iain MacDonald: [ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk)

The Annual Parish Meeting is currently scheduled for 11 May. It may well be that this meeting and future Council meetings are postponed or cancelled. However, parishioners are still welcome to submit reports on behalf of parish groups in the hope that the Annual Meeting will take place at a later date. The deadline is for reports which should be emailed to the Clerk is 03.05.20.

The new streetlights were installed during the week starting 3 February. The Hoden Lane light across from Meadowview hasn't been replaced because verge was too wet to access the column. With Covid-19 upon us it may be some time before the new light is installed.

The April Parish Council meeting has been rescheduled to the 15<sup>th</sup> in order to avoid a Bank Holiday however, under current circumstances, we are still considering the best way to conduct P.C. business but there will not be a public meeting. Any business conducted will be fully minuted,

The Parish Council has undertaken to create a **Village Support Group** to assist vulnerable residents during the current crisis. Please read the separate article on this.

If you run a local community organisation and need a modest grant for vital equipment or service, please feel free to apply for one from the Divisional Fund by contacting Cllr Adams at:  
[adams.pebworth@gmail.com](mailto:adams.pebworth@gmail.com).

Due to recent flooding Parish Wharf facilities such as the steps to the river and the seat are dangerous. Please avoid using these parts of the Wharf and any other sections deemed unsafe as determined by personal inspection.

For a complete picture of Parish Council activities please see the Minutes on the Council website:  
[www.cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk/](http://www.cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk/)

*.Sean Arble, Clerk to the Council  
01789 490 501 [clerk.cleeveprior@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.cleeveprior@gmail.com)*

## **CLEEVE PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL Village Support Group**

In response to Government directives in connection with the coronavirus outbreak, the Parish Council has now established a **Village Support Group**.

Cleeve Prior is fortunate in having a good social ethos and many people in vulnerable groups will be in contact with friends, neighbours and family.

The Parish Council has established a formal group of local volunteers as a fallback for any person who is self-isolating and needs assistance during these difficult times.

There are two initial contact points for this service and they will have access to a good number of volunteers. Please see below.

If you need help with such topics as, shopping, obtaining medical supplies, dog walking, accessing the postal system, or just a discussion about your situation, please do not hesitate to call.

We will keep track of issues as time passes and government advice evolves and, if necessary, adapt our Support Group accordingly.

The two primary contact points are:

1. Mrs. Susan Robinson. Telephone: 01789 491380  
email: [paulj.robinson@btinternet.com](mailto:paulj.robinson@btinternet.com)
2. Mr. Iain MacDonald. Telephone: 07826 866 775  
email: [ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk)

*Peter Wilson, 24 March 2020*

It is very important that we communicate with you all throughout the coming months. This will be done by various means but our village Newsletter will be an important and familiar way of getting information to you. This may now need to be more regular.

To reduce cost and the need for hand delivery of additional newsletters, we would ask you to access this from the Parish Council website <http://cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk>

We propose to have this on the website every other Monday starting on 11 April. We are aware that some of you are not online so if you require a paper copy please let Susan Robinson know and we will get this to you – phone 01789 491380 or text 07880 493600.

Thank you.

The following list of local firms offering a delivery service has been compiled for your information and assistance and will be updated.

*Iain MacDonald and Susan Robinson*

## **Smaller local firms that will deliver to your home.**

Local firms are providing delivery services to enable us to stay at home and minimise social contacts. Most have details of how you can order, pay and obtain goods with the minimum contact with others, as this is the crucially important issue at this time.

This list is merely a start – if you have other suggestions that will help others in our Village please send details to Susan Mortimer at [cleevepriornewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:cleevepriornewsletter@gmail.com) and she will add them.

### **FOOD SUPPLIES**

**Wayside Farm Shop, 01386 830546:** good selection of local produce, milk, bread eggs and basic groceries. Fruit and veg boxes of seasonal produce £10 and £20, They will deliver to Cleeve Prior on Monday and Thursday for the over 70's and vulnerable groups– call 2/3 days in advance and pay directly. Orders can be made for collection 24/48 hours in advance the shop is working on limited opening hours 9-1 and only 2 people are allowed in at one time. The shop has been rearranged so that there is a one- way system to stop people getting too close.

**Hampton Farm Shop, 01386 41540:** fresh produce including fresh fruit, veg & milk deliver to Bidford-on-Avon, Minimum spend applies but they might deliver here if there is demand.

**Hillers Farm Shop, 01789 773057:** good selection of fresh food and cupboard staples. Phone your order and pay, then collect from a collection point – they will come and place the items in your boot.

**Maypole butchers in Bidford , 01789 750213**

**Budgens ,01789 773352**

- Orders need to be placed by 12pm for the same day delivery. We deliver Wednesdays and Fridays to CP.
- Deliveries will be made between 1pm and 3pm.
- Free delivery on orders over £50. £5 delivery charge applies on orders under £50.
- Payment to be made on delivery

## **LAUNDRY**

Bubbles in Evesham Yvette, Tel. 07738 563027. Collection and delivery. Collection is Friday morning.

## **LOO PAPER**

**Potty about my planet –recycled bamboo**

email [hannah@pottyaboutmyplanet.com](mailto:hannah@pottyaboutmyplanet.com)

## **NEWS PAPERS**

**News Team**, Sarah Collier,

**Customer services**, 01782 959530

[www.newsteamgroup.co.uk](http://www.newsteamgroup.co.uk)

<https://www.newsteamgroup.co.uk/my-account/terms-of-service/>

## **CHURCH SERVICES**

The Church are starting to create some online services that people can access through the website if they are self-isolating. Follow the link to the new Benefice YouTube channel for the first service, which is Compline (Night Prayer).

<https://eastvaleavon.com/online-services>

## **FLOWERS**

**Vale Flowers**, Jayne will deliver flowers which she will leave near your doorstep, call her on 07542 004101 and pay over the phone.

## **PLANTS AND HANGING BASKETS**

Mill Lane nursery, 01789 773231 will be offering a delivery service. It is a little early in the season, but from April plants could be put in a cold frame if you have one. May will see the start of the basket season and the annuals for our pots. Call and talk through your needs as they are there as usual.



# NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



Well what strange and challenging times we are living in!

I would like to say a very big thank you to all our parents for abiding by the advice given by the Government to keep their children at home, wherever possible. Currently we have no children from our school requiring child care provision. However we shall do all that we can to provide them with a safe place should the need arise.

I also would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the critical workers from the Cleeve community especially those who work in the NHS.

I, myself, am continuing to attend school every day to be able to respond quickly should it be necessary and to continue to provide support and advice for our parents having to cope with home schooling. Please rest assured that I am being very stringent in following all advice regarding social distancing.

If there is anything I can do to support the wonderful community of Cleeve Prior please don't hesitate to ask. For those of you who don't know I live in Evesham and pass 3 supermarkets on my way to work.

Finally as a Church of England School we have our own set of Christian Values. Our value for the summer term is Trust and if ever there was a time for us to place our trust in God and each other it is now.

God bless you all and please keep yourselves safe

*Sarah Newbury*



**CLEEVE PRIOR WAR  
MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL**  
email: [cleevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com](mailto:cleevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com)

**The Memorial Hall** is now unfortunately closed until further notice and all activities and events suspended.

**200 Club:** the normal start date for the 200 Club is 1 April, but we are delaying this until July or such time as restrictions are lifted, as the collection of subscriptions during the current crisis will not be possible. The March draw, see below, is the final one of the year.

**Cleeve Prior Memorial Village Hall**  
**200 Club winners**  
**March, £100:** Karen Smith  
**£50:** Allan & Gwen Mitchell



**CLEEVE PRIOR GARDEN CLUB**

For our March meeting Duncan Coombs gave a very interesting presentation on Ponds, Marginals and Bog Gardens. This certainly gave everyone with a pond in their garden lots of fresh ideas, and also with our current rainfall was very appropriate for everyone else who all had some boggy areas in their gardens.

Unfortunately, due to the present Coronavirus problems, I have decided that The Gardening Club will be postponed until further notice. I do hope we will be able to continue in the not too distant future. Thank you all for your continued support"

*Jan Stewart*

## **Cleeve Prior Ramblers**

On a cold but dry, sunny day, seven walkers set off under Rob and Susan's excellent guidance, attempting to keep the advised 2 metres apart. Certainly with lockdown fears hanging over us, it was a welcome opportunity to escape for a morning!

Starting off from Hidcote Manor car park we headed steadily upwards, past some huge badger setts, and enjoyed some magnificent views of the Malvern Hills and many more landmarks in all directions from the top. Our coffee break was taken just before circumnavigating Foxcote House, a glamorous 17th century Stately Home. This has been renovated by the American billionaire tycoon Les Wexner (the man behind Victoria's Secret Lingerie Empire) and is now a £20- million shooting estate.

Our walk continued through beautiful Cotswold countryside and it was pleasing to see some farmers at last being able to make a start on ploughing their fields. We ended up at Hidcote Boyce and then turned towards Hidcote Manor, passing all the beautiful National Trust Cottages just alongside. At the time of writing, although all catering facilities are now closed, the public are invited to walk around Hidcote gardens free of charge from 11:00 to 16:00 any day.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the five and a half mile walk, albeit with no lunch to follow, due to pub closures. I was delighted to be able to join the Ramblers for some good walking practise before my 300 mile Charity walk.

*Jan Stewart*

Those of us who did go out last Saturday were all conscious of the need to keep our distance from each other.

I have had several comments now questioning the wisdom of carrying on the rambles for the year and I have to agree that it is not realistic to be undertaking any 'group' activities under current government advice

however much care we may take. I propose to suspend the walking schedule until such time as it is appropriate to start again.

*Peter Wilson*

## **Jan's Charity Walk**

I had planned to do a charity walk in April along the Cornish Coastal Path but have had to postpone it. I will update you via the next Newsletter.

*Jan Stewart*

Clarendon House, Mill Lane

## **Women's Fellowship**

Our February meeting was Art with Don Wilson, which we all enjoyed very much. In fact, we were so absorbed that all the ladies were quiet! We are very grateful to Don for his patience with us and the preparation work he does. Thank you Don.

Our March meeting was supposed to be a quiz, but unfortunately our quiz person was unable to come. So, as ladies do, we had a chat with a cup of tea and cake.

Due the Coronavirus, all Women's Fellowships meetings are cancelled until further notice. I hope you all keep well.

*Meryl Holdbrook*



## *Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust* News from Field Barn

### **A Big Thankyou!**

Many thanks to the army of local volunteers who gave up their Saturday morning to help us plant fruit trees at Field Barn on 7 March. We never expected such a response and we hope you all enjoyed the event. It certainly seemed a very relaxed crowd when we all had refreshments in the 'Garden' So big 'thank you' to the ladies who gave their time to lay on the drinks.

Little were we to know that this was to be the largest Cleeve Prior gathering for some time!!

### **Can You Help?**

We desperately need help in another direction. Our treasurer is retiring and we are reorganising the work load so we need an experienced book-keeper to handle the paperwork. This is not arduous task and will involve probably half an hour per week, but it needs an experienced person to get it right. The work could be done at home and you would not have to attend meetings.

### **Covid 19 Virus**

Owing to new Government policy on public meetings it is with regret that we have to cancel our Easter celebrations for this year. Although probably classified as low risk we feel obliged to comply with their request.

### **However individual visits are welcome!**

Please feel free to visit the orchards, wood and open spaces this holiday. There are carpets of primroses to see in the Top Wood and Orchard beyond the Community Orchard, and lots of other wildlife. We saw a young buzzard flying gently among the trees last week and the green woodpeckers are about. The ponds are full this year so be careful if looking for the great crested newts in pond 2. The best time to see them is in the afternoon with the sun shining through the trees. Simon saw a

grass snake in the water last week so you never know what you might find if you are quiet. If you come with your children please ensure that safe distances are maintained from the ponds which are deep.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteer sessions are suspended until further notice. When we are able to resume there will be a greatly increased need for your help, so please don't forget us.

We are still in the market for wood chip for dressing round the fruit trees - thanks to those who remembered us.

*Brian Taylor, Chairman CPHT*  
01789 773075

### **St Joseph The Worker Catholic Church**

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email [jcsmotors@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jcsmotors@yahoo.co.uk)

## VILLAGE NOTICES

**The Kings Arms** is closed until further notice.

### **Tearoom and Lending Library**

The Tearoom and Lending Library will be closed until further notice.

**Pilates, Tai Chi, Yoga and Movement to Music** classes are all suspended until further notice

### **The CP Bowls Club**

The three weekly sessions have been cancelled until the end of the season in May.

**The WCC Mobile Library** service is suspended until further notice.

Copy for inclusion in the **May** edition

**By Thursday 23 April please**

Please submit copy by email to the following

**email address: [clevepriornewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:clevepriornewsletter@gmail.com)**

The Editor and all persons named in this Newsletter can be contacted via the email address above.

**Advertising:** Please contact the Editor for information.

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