

# News and Notes

For Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock

April 2020

## Faith and Hope

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**Editor:**  
Jeremy Metcalfe

**Email:**  
[editor@  
newsandnotes.co.uk](mailto:editor@newsandnotes.co.uk)

**Web page:**  
[Newsand  
Notes.co.uk](http://NewsandNotes.co.uk)

**Deadline:**  
**14th of the  
month**

'THIS TOO SHALL PASS'. The adage is probably Persian in origin but quoted universally, and widely felt. The transience of everything, good or bad, is a truth of experience, an axiom of philosophy, an inspiration of poetry. Perhaps it's felt less when we are young, more keenly when we are older. It's not always a regret. When bad things pass it's a relief; only when good things pass is it a sadness. But one thing seems certain. Things pass. It's inevitable

Or is it? In one sense, yes. Time inexorably moves us on. But in another sense, no. Although everything must pass, some things may also return. There's a sign of this in the cycles of nature when spring flowers bloom again. It's why the image of flowers is so widely used to express hope in the face of death, carpeting roadside shrines as well as formal funerals. It hints at the hope of return. The image does not quite convey the full Christian hope. In nature's cycles the spring blooms are not the return of the same flower that died, just genetically connected replacements. In Christian hope we ourselves will be reborn after death, transformed but still ourselves, not just our descendants. Yet either way it's a hope. All things pass. But some good things also return.

The instinct driving this hope is vital. It has to do with the irrepressibility of good things, the sheer power of goodness. This is the core meaning of Christian belief in Christ's resurrection: the life and goodness of God in Christ just could not be killed off, not permanently. Temporarily of course God and goodness can be suppressed, wherever it is found: faith, hope, goodness, are all too easily crucified in our world. But only for a while. Ultimately they are irrepressible. They spring back, in this life and the next, just like buried spring bulbs force their way back into sunlight. In Christian faith this becomes a metaphysical necessity not just a hope; with its wellsprings in eternity, goodness *must* be irrepressible. But even without that faith we can still share the hope. Evil, suffering, loss, are desperately real and often dominate the agenda of life - *but they are not the last word.*

*The Reverend Canon Vernon White, Odstock*

# Reflection

## New Life

The time before Easter is a time of reflection in the church. Sometimes people give things up. Due to Covid-19 we have now suspended Church Services. I had never imagined giving those up. We are all getting used to different patterns of living, a new way of life.

In a few weeks' time it is Easter the celebration of new life, both in the natural world in this time of spring and in the resurrection of Jesus. He died, but God's love is stronger than death and Christians believe that Jesus rose from death.

Covid-19 has brought new ways of life which are tinged with anxiety and fear. Easter is the antidote to fear. We will need to imagine new ways of celebrating Easter that declare the victory of love over the fear of death.

The community support groups are one of the ways in which we hope to do this. I imagine a network of neighbours who support each other. All of us can join for mutual support. Will you help?

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort

knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Please feel free to contact me with questions or answers or prayers or something else.  
Phone nr: 01722 238 267; email: [anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop](mailto:anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop)

*Shalom - peace and goodwill, The Revd Anna-Claar*

## Staying informed

In these unprecedented times, we all want to stay informed and look after each other. In coordination with Parish Councils and our local churches, each Parish has set up a group of coordinators, please see these parish plans and if in any doubt or worry, please contact them.

We have an excellent Five villages Face Book page run by Allan Pollard who will do all he can to help those who do not feel confident using it. Please join the group, if you are unsure how, may I suggest you ask the younger generation, they get it!!

Pubs and shops are really keen to help support us, and likewise we should support them. Please contact our loyal local advertisers if you need supplies or services.

I cannot guarantee that we will be able to have a printed copy in May 2020. I urge you to sign up to the email version of News and Notes which will be used to pass on Parish and Church notices. Go to the News and Notes website and follow the links.

Please keep safe, stay away from other folk, look out for your neighbours, but most importantly look after yourself and your family - they come first.

*Jeremy Metcalfe - Editor*

# A Point of View

## Each of us is now responsible for saving lives

### *Why we should respect self isolating and social distancing*

**D**espite everything going on all around us, many people seem to be missing the point of why we are being asked to self isolate and social distance.

Eighty percent of us are at little or no risk and so we take liberties with the new rules. We may even think that there is a little bravado in disregarding them. "Life must go on!"

And life probably will go on - for you.

I am writing to you now on behalf of some people I know. What these people have in common are easily manageable minor health conditions. None of them is very old, one is in his forties. One writes books and regularly bikes many miles around the rolling Wiltshire countryside; another has just embarked on demanding vocational retraining; one is buying a loom and learning to weave and looks after her elderly mother, and one is the father of my grand-children, a toddler and a baby.

You would not know there was anything 'vulnerable' about them - but this virus will. There are millions and millions of people like them: amongst your own friends and loved ones. These are the people with the "underlying health conditions" we hear about on the news.

What the government is asking us to do through social distancing and self-isolation is less about our own individual health and far more about recognising that we are all responsible for trying to ensure that these people get adequate medical care in the face of the storm of illness which approaches. We have to avoid a situation like Italy's with a health system so overwhelmed that doctors are having to play god, deciding who lives and who dies on a massive scale, every day.

To survive this illness, those people will need ventilators and we have nothing like the numbers required. If we can't slow the rate of transmission any of those people mentioned above may have to be turned away at the door of the hospital without any kind of medical care to help their suffering. This is what they really mean when they say "the NHS may be overwhelmed".

And since all our intensive care beds and hospital equipment will be turned over to coronavirus patients, what about your sons and daughters who have a road accident, or you break a bone, or have a stroke? Intensive care beds are normally at 95% occupancy, and we won't stop needing them for our every day problems.

If the epidemic peaks as predicted every one of us will know someone who dies. We must shield our loved ones, our friends, our neighbours, our colleagues and the time to do it is **now**. Vast numbers of us are infected and incubating the disease without knowing because it is such a long period.

So the race is now on to try to slow the virus so that there can be appropriate health care available for everyone that needs it.

**So please - REFUSE to be a link in the chain of infection which will kill others.**

*Annabel Lawson, Britford Lane*

# Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham

## PARISH COUNCIL AND CHURCH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

There has been a dramatic increase of cases both globally and in the UK of Covid-19 which is a highly infectious viral disease. As a result, everyone is now being urged to avoid non-essential social contact. As a community we want to help everyone but particularly support and protect those who are elderly or vulnerable to the effects of the virus.

Some people may be self-isolating to protect themselves and others. Many are now having their movements drastically restricted. The Parish Council, the Church and other local volunteers wish to offer as much practical – ‘Helping Hands’, and conversational – ‘Listening Ear’ support as is needed and possible. We are looking for volunteers to fill these roles, so if you feel able to help, please ring or email your nominated village coordinators who will gladly accept your kind offers of help.

### Help needed??

If you need any help, someone to chat to, provisions, medicines or moral support please call:

Village	Tel: 01722	Mobile	Email
<b>Odstock</b>			
Sheri Start	330 761	07986 604564	<a href="mailto:sheristart@hotmail.co.uk">sheristart@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Hayley Thornton	332 727	07786 167505	<a href="mailto:hayleyblob@yahoo.co.uk">hayleyblob@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Laura McGregor	-	07800 505840	<a href="mailto:lauramcgregor1@hotmail.co.uk">lauramcgregor1@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Sharon Clark	322 090	-	<a href="mailto:shazchalk@hotmail.co.uk">shazchalk@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Nunton</b>			
Sally Nelson	328 220	-	<a href="mailto:sally.nelson@waitrose.com">sally.nelson@waitrose.com</a>
Sue Martin	320 648	-	<a href="mailto:susanelizabethmartin2@gmail.com">susanelizabethmartin2@gmail.com</a>
Jonny Hartley	-	07795 280 753	<a href="mailto:jonnyhartley@gmail.com">jonnyhartley@gmail.com</a>
Marelka Hartley	-	07801 016 064	
Sharon Chandler		07787 776 042	
<b>Bodenham</b>			
Toby Walker	-	07788 925 337	<a href="mailto:tobydcwalker@yahoo.co.uk">tobydcwalker@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Emma Harper	-	07702 565 318	<a href="mailto:em_harper@yahoo.co.uk">em_harper@yahoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Vicarage</b>			
Rev. Anna-Claar	238 267	07410 696 332	<a href="mailto:anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop">anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop</a>

Please keep an eye on the community Facebook page and News and Notes website for updates.

### So please remember:

If you need assistance, or just want to talk, phone one of the numbers above.

## We're here to help

# Britford

## Supporting each other in the Parish of Britford

*Have you been told that you need to self-isolate? Do you need some support?*

Britford Parish Council have agreed to co-ordinate members of our community who are prepared to support people who have been identified as having COVID- 19 or those who have been told to isolate themselves by staying indoors, and who may need help.

If you have been diagnosed, are self-isolating and need urgent supplies, shopping, posting letters or even a phone call for a chat please contact us using the details below:

**This is not an alternative to the NHS or social services it is simply Britford residents helping each other.**

### Contacts

- Jane Ranaboldo: Tel: 01722 326825; Email: [JRanaboldo@btopenworld.com](mailto:JRanaboldo@btopenworld.com)
- Jay McGowan: Tel: 07946 576550; Email: [clerk@britfordparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@britfordparishcouncil.co.uk)

**PHE has advised people who are self-isolating to do what they can to avoid visitors to their home and any deliveries of groceries medications or other shopping to be left at the door, so please ensure that when you are providing support this advice is followed.**

If you would be prepared to help a householder in this way, please let one of the above contacts know so that we can increase the number of volunteers

*Thank you all for your support. Britford Parish Council*

# Charlton All Saints

If you require any support please contact Barbara Box on 01725 510 758 or Revd Anna-Claar on 01722 238 267.

# Local Business Support

**Coombe Bissett Stores** are available during shop opening hours to take orders via email: [shop@coombebissettstores.co.uk](mailto:shop@coombebissettstores.co.uk) which can be collected from the shop, bypassing any queues.

**Bread and Flowers** in Bodenham are offering a weekend takeaway service, please email them to order at [enquiries@breadandflowers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@breadandflowers.co.uk)

**The Radnor Arms and the Bat and Ball** are providing a take away and delivery service. Please check their website for menus at [TheRadnor.com](http://TheRadnor.com)

**See adverts for further details**

# Notices and Reports

## Book Lending in our Churches

For some time Britford has had a collection of books at the back of the church which can be borrowed and returned. While we are locked down by the coronavirus it seems a good idea to try to put books for borrowing in all the five churches of our Parish. Anyone who can spare a book or two could you please take them to your local church and put them somewhere at the back or your local 'book box'.

I will try to coordinate some sort of system in the churches and I will make lists of the books that are there so that people who are restricted can phone and ask for a particular book. If anyone has books to donate please could they contact me with the titles and then put them in the back of your local church.

We all need to get out and go for walks, and those who can, could perhaps cooperate and get books for anyone who cannot or should not go out.

*Enid Alston – 01722 331705 Britford*

## Odstock Nunton and Bodenham WI

### March Meeting Report

It was business as usual at the March meeting of ONB WI. The dates for the regular groups: Theatre, Gardeners, Walkers, Pins and Needles and Book Club were announced. This month an extra morning of 'card making' will be on March 30th. The summer outing was discussed along with a variety of county WI courses and events on offer. The Castle of May talk tickets were distributed. The annual financial statement was presented by the Treasurer, the annual Report read by the Secretary and the President thanked all members for their help during the year. The committee was then duly re-elected and after a ballot Sally Hadley was elected as president for 2020.

Coffee and cake followed with the proceeds of £48 going to the John McNeill Opportunity Centre. The raffle, book stall and competition brought in £75 - earmarked for the Associated Country Women of the World charity. Lesley Meader won the Denman Bursary and Ann Wait won the flower competition.

Five members then talked about WI events they had experienced during the past year. Rosemary spoke about a machine appliqué course and the skills she'd learned; Sue talked encouragingly about the Wiltshire Federation holidays and Doreen gave a lively account of the Wiltshire Denman weekend. Hatty told members about the two walks led by a National Trust guide around Avebury and the Stonehenge area and Mary made us laugh describing her 'Afternoon of Entertainment' at Westbury. What a variety of experiences!

**Sadly, future meetings have been cancelled until August.**

# Adverts

Please support our local advertisers, many who live in our villages and need our support at this difficult time.

## Coombe Bisset Stores

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We would appreciate you only using email to make your order, but phone to arrange collection.

These can then be collected from the shop, bypassing any queues. Local village volunteers may also be able to collect orders, so please let your village coordinator know if you need someone to collect your order.

**With effect from Monday 23 March our shop and Post Office hours are:**

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## BREAD FLOWERS

### Pop up, Pop out, Eat in

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penny on flowers so that I might have a reason  
for living". – Yevgeny Yevtushenko*

The very premise of our Business is  
based on the combination of  
sustenance (Bread) and delight  
(Flowers). In this very unsettled &  
uncertain time it seems strikingly  
relevant.

Along with everyone else, we have  
been thinking about what we can do to  
keep ticking over, keeping ourselves  
busy, & support some of our key staff.

We want to keep working, keep  
exploring & keep going. Keep  
connecting with our customers even  
when we can't welcome you here or  
cater for your parties and events. We  
want to spread some joy during this  
seriously tough time.

Every weekend we will offer 3 different  
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They will be ready for collection on  
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# Dates

## The following events have been cancelled:

Car Boot sales at Nunton Playing Field  
Chalke Valley Benefice Church services  
Chalke Valley Benefice Lent events  
Chalke Valley Benefice weekend at Lee Abbey  
Chalke Valley Link Scheme AGM  
Downton Country Market  
Film Night in Radnor Hall  
Odstock Nunton Bodenham Parochial Church Council AGM  
Odstock Nunton Bodenham Parish Council Annual AGM  
Radnor Hall AGM  
Well Spring  
WI meetings and Gardening Group

Some of these events may be run via an online meeting. We will keep you updated via E-News and Notes.

Future events will be advertised in the coming months.

# Useful links

Bread and Flowers	<a href="mailto:enquiries@breadandflowers.co.uk">enquiries@breadandflowers.co.uk</a>
Coombe Bisset Stores	<a href="http://shop@coombebissetstores.co.uk">shop@coombebissetstores.co.uk</a>
Editor of News and Notes	<a href="mailto:editor@newsandnotes.co.uk">editor@newsandnotes.co.uk</a>
Revd Anna-Claar	<a href="mailto:anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop">anna-claar.cvb@myphone.coop</a>
Revd Jenny Taylor	<a href="mailto:revjennytaylor@gmail.com">revjennytaylor@gmail.com</a>
The Radnor Arms	<a href="mailto:theradnorsalisbury@gmail.com">theradnorsalisbury@gmail.com</a>

Local Coordinators                      Please see parish pages here in N&N

# Church News

## Current Arrangements

We have discontinued publishing the list of church services because all public worship in our church is suspended during the Coronavirus outbreak. There will be no more services for the time being. However, our churches will remain open for those who wish to visit them.

The clergy are developing different ways of 'doing church' and more information will follow in due course.

## Message from the Chalke Valley Benefice team.

### *Lent Project*

Our Benefice Lent project events in support of our local schools have all been cancelled for the time being. At a time when we have few children in our churches, we just wanted to help the schools teach the faith. Now it has been kyboshed by a virus.

So, our plea is, as we all hunker down, don't forget Lent. It is supposed to be a time of giving, prayer and fasting (though we never thought we'd have to 'fast' from meeting each other!)

You can still give by BACS (Chalke Valley Benefice Account 30-90-92 34167660, please quote Lent20 when making a BACS transfer) and, just think, if everyone on the Electoral Roll of our churches gave £10, we'd hit our target without having to do a thing.

We will give more information about any further fund raising events as we plan but perhaps we can dare to look beyond Lent to a time when we can regather, eat, drink and, if you haven't already, give.

We will also come up with a plan to stay in touch as people may have to self-isolate for a long time. Either by email, website or old fashioned post, we won't abandon anyone.

Blessings to you all.

STAY SAFE. If you need help, let us or your Parish Council know.

*The Reverends Catherine, Jenny, Anna-Claar and Roger*

### **Ministry Team:**

<b>Team Rector</b> ~ The Revd Catherine Blundell:	01722 780134
<b>Team Vicars</b> ~ The Revd Canon Jenny Taylor:	01722 503 081
The Revd Dr Anna-Claar Thomasson-Rosingh:	01722 238 267
<b>Curate</b> ~ The Revd Roger Leake:	07947149 456
<b>Team Administrator</b> ~ Mrs Emily Broomhead:	07890 262 376