

CLEEVE PRIOR NEWSLETTER



Field Barn, looking towards Evesham Road and St.Andrew's Church

FEBRUARY 2021

The Benefice of the East Vale and Avon Villages

February brings the beginning of Lent. It's a season to prepare for Easter, by reflecting on Jesus' time in the wilderness, and by reflecting on his life and also on how our own journey of life is going. As Lent begins this year, that idea of journeys will be both literal and metaphorical for me - it will mark the time when I will stop being curate here in the benefice of the East Vale and Avon villages. As Lent begins, I will move north to begin new adventures as vicar of St Martin's church, Low Marple, just outside Stockport.

These two types of journey coming together, the journey of faith, and the physical journey of moving house, have made me think that perhaps they're not too different from each other as might appear at first glance. Lent is a time to, amongst other things, look back at 'where we've each come from' in faith. Whether joyful places in life or ones of wilderness, they all add their contribution to where we each find ourselves *now*.

Reflecting on wilderness might not feel particularly difficult for many of us this year, with a global pandemic, and lockdowns and social distancing having dominated the last twelve months. But along with all the pain and difficulty there have been moments of growth, and joy, and hope. Just a few words, like 'care', 'keyworker', and 'heroes' will highlight some of these things, that we have 'picked up' on the way – like new insights about who the key workers are in society, and how we can care for one another. It's a bit like the tradition of pilgrims collecting something, often a shell, as a reminder of their pilgrimage journey.

The same applies to my journey to a new church. While it will be a time full of goodbyes, and I will leave an empty house behind me when I go, I will also be taking part of this benefice *with* me. I wouldn't be going to be a vicar up north without the years I spent here, 'picking things up'. The things I have done, and the relationships I have formed, have helped shape who I am, and will shape the ministry I offer up in Low Marple.

In the wilderness, some familiar landmarks to orientate ourselves and work out the way forward are essential. Perhaps, in a wilderness, questions are more appropriate than answers, so I'll finish with a few... Could this February be an opportunity to reflect anew on where we have each 'come from'? In our life journey so far, what people and experiences have shaped who we are now? What are we, metaphorically, carrying? And where will we take it next?

Fr Timothy Hupfield
Curate

St Andrew's Church

Services at St Andrew's for February

We continue in the same sad state of restrictions and lockdown and any relaxation of those restrictions still seems to be some way off. You will see below the message from Revd Philip which explains the situation. We will advise of any changes when that is possible

For private prayer and meditation, the church will be open from 11.00am until 1.00pm on Wednesdays and Sundays

"Given the rapid increase in infections and after discussions with all the PCC members of our churches I will not be producing a service rota as such for this month, at this stage.

A Zoom morning prayer service will be set up for each Sunday at 9:30am for those who want to join (please ask people to email me and I can send them the link). Online services of Holy Communion will continue as normal, and sermons will be published on the website.

Services at Badsey will only continue if strict adherence to social distancing rules and 'no mingling' are observed. I fully reserve the right to cancel services if this is not adhered to properly. All of our other churches will remain closed until further notice, a decision made by each of the PCC's

I would urge everyone in the Government's 'vulnerable' category to seriously think about staying away from church until infection rates decline and the vaccines become more widely available”.

Revd Philip Morton, The Vicarage, High Street, Badsey, Evesham Worcs
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

Visit the Benefice website: eastvaleavon.com

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

From the PCC

During February we will see the departure of our Curate Revd Timothy Hupfield who, having completed his curacy in our Benefice, is moving on to continue his mission at his first Parish in Chester. His wife Hannah also a priest, has been appointed Vicar in the neighbouring parish to Timothy's so that the two of them will be able to work alongside each other. We will miss them and the children, Peter and Mary, and we are very grateful for the hard work that he has given us during the past three years. Best wishes to them all and we hope that the link of friendship will continue.

The Church Clock.

With the enormous generosity of this village we can start on the installation of the Automatic winding and repairs to the clock!

Obviously the present lockdown has stopped any practical work being done, but volunteers are on standby to prepare the Clock room and the belfry prior to the clock engineers moving in. We will continue to keep you informed as the restrictions are eased.

From the Parish Registers, The Faithful Departed

22 December 2020

Gabrielle Angela Maria Edwardes

Interment

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

January 2021

Until further notice the Council will meet the second Monday of each month, except for August, at 7:30pm **via Zoom**. The Zoom link will be provided on each agenda which is posted on the Council website prior to meetings. If a parishioner has any comments or concerns please contact the Clerk or a councillor.

Chairman Peter Wilson: wilsonatparkbourne@btinternet.com

Cllr Ian Robinson: irobinson773805@gmail.com

Cllr Mary Smith: marysmith.message@virgin.net

Cllr Ron Solomon: ron.priorhouse@gmail.com

Cllr Kevin Mellor: kevinjohnmellor@gmail.com

Cllr Douglas Carr: austin.carr@talk21.com

Cllr Iain MacDonald: ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk

The Council approved the 2021-22 Budget which includes a precept of £22,000. The precept will result in a Band D charge of £72.65 on the Council Tax Demand for 2021-22.

Due to flood damage the 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.

It is expected that another large caravan will be transported to the Traveller Site off Haywood Way in March. The transport will be much quicker if there are no cars parked on the route. With this in mind the transport company and site owner have been requested to give plenty of notice so the exact date and time can be included in the February or March edition of the parish magazine.

On 17 February there will be tree work on The Green. There are no plans to close the road around The Green to complete the work. It would be appreciated if cars were not parked in the area on the day.

BT has been installing full fibre to Cleeve Prior homes. This upgrade will allow for much faster broadband download speeds. Parishioners can find out more information by visiting the BT site or calling 0800 587 4787.

At the January Council meeting, WCC Cllr A Adams made a final call for WCC Divisional Grant applications which are due by the end of January. If you have an idea of your own or know of a requirement on behalf of a village group where a modest grant will help make it happen then email the following information below to adams.pebworth@gmail.com:

A paragraph about the community organisation (Is this an initiative by the School, or the Friends of the School, or the Parish Council? etc) and how it benefits the Community

The amount you want, and copies of the quotes for the equipment/product/service you need, and why you need it (already supplied)

Bank details of the organisation - sort code, account number, name on account

Main Contact details for the organisation (email, tel, address)

Is the organisation vat registered?

Can the organisation claim back VAT?

For a complete picture of Parish Council activities please see the Minutes on the Council website:

www.cleevepriorparishcouncil.co.uk/

Sean Arble, Clerk to the Council
01789 490 501, clerk.cleeveprior@gmail.com



NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



Dear Villagers

As you can imagine, the national lockdown has been an interesting time for Cleeve Prior Primary School. Although the media would have you believe that schools are closed, the reality is that we are open, but with limited attendance. Our provision in school at present supports the children of critical workers and those children who are deemed vulnerable when learning from home. For a school of our size, we have a larger than usual proportion of children attending each day and it is a testament to the teachers and support staff that they are managing to teach during the days and also provide learning for those children who are staying at home. It is fair to say that the teachers are having to work even harder than usual to maintain this so that the children at Cleeve Prior are supported as well as they possibly can be. Clearly, much of the school's day to day operations are limited but the children are coping well with the changes.

Christmas was a different experience in school, as I am sure it was for many of you. However, we still managed to enjoy a fantastic Christmas lunch which was provided by The Kings Arms. Can I say a huge thank you to the staff there for the wonderful food - it really did make our school Christmas lunch something very special. Also, we were able to attend St Andrew's church on the last day of term to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. As a Church of England School, this is an important part of our school curriculum and I am very grateful to the wardens of the church for allowing us to visit.

Hopefully, restrictions will begin to ease off after the February half-term holiday but, in the meantime, stay safe and take care of yourselves.

Kevin Riley
Interim Head of School



CLEEVE PRIOR
WAR MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL

email: cleevepriormemorialhall@gmail.com

This year marks one hundred years from the opening of the Cleeve Prior Memorial Village Hall in 1921, purchased by the village as a memorial to those who fell in the Great War. We still hope to celebrate this momentous occasion during the year, but only when circumstances allow.

It has been the decision of the trustees to keep the hall closed until the conditions are such that its use will not create a risk to the health of the village and the community.

In the meantime we wish you a safe new year and we look forward to seeing you in the near future.

The Management Committee

In Memory of **Gabrielle Edwardes** who sadly died, peacefully, on
30 November 2020 at home with family.

The family would like to say ‘thank you’ to all who knew Gabrielle and for the many messages of condolence and support we have received.

There is a web link to a small celebration of her life –

<https://gabrielle-edwardes.muchloved.com/>

Throughout Gabrielle’s four-year battle with cancer she, and the family, have been supported by both the **Shakespeare Hospice** and **MacMillan Cancer** trusts for which we are extremely grateful - as well as the donations that have been made in Gabrielle’s memory.

**The Cleeve Prior Volunteers
are still here to help
during lockdown.**

Most of us have worked out ways of coping with lockdown but, if something unexpected happens and your support system breaks down, we are here for you.

To access help from the volunteers please contact either
Susan Robinson: call 01789 491380; text or WhatsApp 07880 493600;
Email – paulj.robinson@btinternet.com
Iain MacDonald: 07826 866775 call, text or WhatsApp
Email – ismacdonald@yahoo.co.uk

If you are having difficulty getting supermarket deliveries, there are lots of suppliers happy to deliver. For everyday staples. milk, bread, eggs etc. Cotteswold Dairy delivers here on Tuesday and Friday (01242 672426).

Of course we have our own farm shop thanks to Pete Smith - **One Acre Farm Shop**, Froglands Lane, 07795 447184. Pete has a range of essential items and it would be wise to ring in advance to check that he is there.

If you want help finding suppliers I am happy to help (Susan R), or if you have any helpful suggestions do let me know so that we can share them.

Volunteers follow Government guidance and practise social distancing so will support you safely.

Stay safe!



Cleeve Prior NWR

Following on from the success of our November Zoom meeting, our first meeting of 2021 was conducted by this now ubiquitous method.

The topic was The Festive Season. We had originally hoped to have a meeting in December, but various factors conspired to prevent this. We kept the theme and extended it to Twelfth Night, its customs and traditions.

We started off by pulling our crackers and sharing the jokes therein. Unfortunately, FOUR of the jokes were the same which rather spoilt the effect. Undaunted, we carried on recounting some of our family Christmas traditions and it was lovely to step back into our childhoods and remember many happy times. Some treasured Christmas decorations were produced including June's rather wonderful and obviously much displayed Snowman.

In order to fulfil NWR's aims of providing intellectual stimulus for members, we had a brief quiz on various aspects of Twelfth Night. Unfortunately, the quiz setter – me – made a mistake which was spotted by several of our members and extra points were given! There were also a few questions on Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. I think we were surprised at how many famous quotes come from this play. The winner was Gina, but everyone did very well. It was fun and we all learnt something – thus fulfilling NWR's requirements!

During these difficult times, NWR Head Office has tried to provide members with various on-line events. A recent one was Mary Magdalene – Saint or Sinner. This talk was illustrated using paintings and various biblical references. It was fascinating and illuminating and was attended by around 300 people. Members are emailed when there is an online event, and it is quite simple to book.

We are trying to put together an outline programme for the coming year including a possible visit to Honington Hall and Gardens near Shipston on Stour. Our next meeting, which will still have to be via Zoom, will be on Wednesday 10 February at 7.30 and will be a Book event with each member discussing the merits of a book they have been particularly taken with.

The last NWR report ended with a couple of clues from our National Quiz – here are the answers:

Endless dilemma for motorists? PARKIN
Common money with Hazel? DOUGHNUTS

Evelyn Wilson



Cleeve Prior Heritage Trust

Registered Charity Number 1063291

News from Field Barn

As we are all now restricted once again to ‘plodding’ around the muddy footpaths, I am sure you will be pleased to hear that the sheep have been taken out of the Earl’s Lane Orchard and we propose to open it again for the general public. We shall be having the sheep back in early April, so it will be closed again until August time. Thank you to those of you who got in touch so quickly when they spotted the damage being done by the sheep. It has highlighted that we need to do some restorative work on the tree compounds- new posts and rails need replacing or re-fixing.

Earls Lane Orchard is one area where you can help by volunteering, working on your own or in your bubble! If anyone would like to volunteer to help repair and clear up then please let Brian know. It would be great to tidy up the Orchard, clear some of the brambles and sort out the tree protection.

If you are interested to learn more about Volunteering, please contact Brian Taylor, on 773075.

Do remember that you can wander into the Sanctuary, and walk up at the orchard and woodland at the Trust, which are all open. Primroses are beginning to appear in the woodland. Have a look at our newly built pond dipping platform on which David and Albert have done a marvellous job. Thankyou!

A polite reminder please, to dog walkers to pick up the poo, even in wooded areas. We have lots of children who enjoy our open spaces and footpaths so it is really important to clean up.

Last year’s cider is now available and I can say it is really delicious and at this time of year good for mulling to warm yourself after those cold walks. We can deliver. It’s £2.50 per bottle or £24 for 12.

Wishing you all a happy 2021

Gina Carr, Trustee

POLITE NOTICE

We are delighted that during these difficult times so many villagers are getting their exercise and fresh air using the open spaces and footpaths that surround us.

However on the Millennium Green this is creating its problems, the heavier use and the bad weather are taking their toll. Some people are creating new paths and these are suffering abnormal wear and tear which will take a long time to recover. We would ask that you keep to the main paths on the Green in order to minimise damage, as these areas will then recover a lot quicker in the spring.



We would also respectfully remind dog owners to PLEASE “bag it and bin it” as there is an increasing amount of dog fouling generally around the Village UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED.

Cleeve Prior Millennium Green Trust

Beware fake phonecalls Amazon Prime

There has been a spate of calls recently purporting to be from Amazon, advising that your Prime subscription has been renewed and the sum of £79.99 taken from your bank account. You are invited to press 1 to speak to someone if you wish to cancel this renewal. You are then advised to download a claim form.

Do not proceed with this call. It is not from Amazon.

Inland Revenue

As the January tax return deadline looms, we've been made aware of an increase in fake calls from scammers claiming to be from HMRC.

Don't make a payment if you've been cold called by HMRC to pay a tax bill, even if they threaten court or police action.

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See you all very soon,

Donna, Henry and the team



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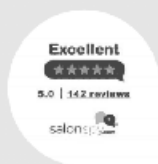
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Parish Priest: Canon Garry Byrne

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Copy for inclusion in the **March 2021** edition
by **Saturday 20 February** please

Please submit copy by email to the following
email address: cleevepriornewsletter@gmail.com
or contact the Editor, Susan Mortimer (773453)

The Editor would be pleased to receive any photos of local interest for possible inclusion in future Newsletters. Please email them to the above address.

This Newsletter is published by St. Andrew's PCC