

Newtown Linford Magazine

ISSUE NUMBER 175

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June 2020



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The Bradgate

Group Parish



People speak about a cycle of grief: how we move through a process of denial, anger, bargaining, depression and then acceptance as we come to terms with a loss. I've found that helpful in helping me recognise what reactions are likely to be part of grief, that that outburst of irritation at something which is quite minor is part of my wider emotional response. But as a description of a process, I don't think it works as neatly as that. We don't move from one stage to another. I find the image of standing on a beach, being hit by waves, much more accurate. Sometimes those waves ebb and you don't feel anything, sometimes they overwhelm you so you think you're going to drown, sometimes they can be anticipated, sometimes they surprise you. But they keep coming and going, coming and going until finally they flatten a little, though never fully going.

All of us are living through grief at the moment. For some, it's the harsh piercing grief of losing a loved one to Covid-19, or having a loss affected in some way by the restrictions we all have lived under (perhaps not being able to attend their funeral). For others, it's the loss of a job or, for some I am speaking to, the loss of a looked-forward to event – a wedding, or baptism. All of us are experiencing loss of some kind – even if it's 'just' being able to go to the shops, or a rugby match or concert, or visit a family member, or any of the other things which are normally important parts of life.

While some griefs are clearly big, others may appear small, but they still affect the way we think and react. If we don't realise we're grieving, we may not understand why we're feeling or reacting the way we are. There seems – alongside the positive compassion and support I am delighted to see – to be also a lot of anger, denial, and depression around.

Grief cannot be suppressed – it will come out, one way or another. Some ways are more healthy than others. One of the best, I've found, is to talk about it with someone who cares. One person who always cares, I've found, is Jesus. I mentioned last week Jesus' own engagement, talking honestly, engaging with anger as well as sadness, with a family in grief. If you're struggling with grief, of whatever kind, perhaps try talking with Jesus about it; try praying.

<https://www.trypraying.co.uk/>

Continues on next page

All Saints' update

Back at the start of 2020 we vacated our building, expecting to be back in at Easter to a gloriously repainted and re-lit interior. Well, that schedule didn't work out! Work stopped when lockdown was imposed, with just under two weeks' worth of work remaining. As yet we don't know for certain when it will be completed. I write just before the middle of May, when some lifting of restrictions has been announced and there is some hope that the work will recommence in the next month – it may even be underway or nearing completion as you read this in June.

But even when the building is finished, we still won't be able to use it for services for some time. Believe it or not, some of the normal features of Church Services carry quite a substantial inherent risk when it comes to viral infection. For instance, singing together causes a huge increase in the release of droplets from our mouths – these can carry infection.

But although the building is still closed, the Church is open.

Every morning people can join in **prayer** online (www.facebook.com/stpetersglenfield/live) and an Online Service is streamed every Sunday at 10.30am (www.facebook.com/allsaintsnewtownlinford/live). All these are available after the event on our website www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Pastoral care continues – we have a number of people who are ringing round congregation members regularly. If you'd like to be added to that number, please do contact me, just as I hope you feel able if you have a particular question or need.

Alpha. This time of crisis and the overturning of all kinds of things we take for granted in life is a really good time to reassess what is most important. You are very welcome to join me in exploring questions of meaning and of faith. Every Tuesday evening at 8pm we gather online (using Zoom) to watch a video and spend some time in discussion. Please contact me for details of how to participate in that.

Richard Trethewey

richard@allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk | 0116 287 1604

VILLAGE DIARY

June

All meetings cancelled due to Coronavirus/Covid-19

Regular events NOT RUNNING AT PRESENT

Coffee & Cake @ Newtown Linford Village Hall

Coffee & Cake Update Wednesday May 13th 2020



Hello all

Sorry it has been a few weeks since my update with you all. Of course, I haven't gone anywhere but just needed a push to sit at the computer. Another session of being advised to 'Stay Alert'! Causing a bit of confusion to say the least but I think whatever anyone does or says it will be scrutinised by the media? A thankless job for whoever is in charge. I hope this finds you all well and still coping with the lockdown especially for the elderly where things haven't really changed much. We are still unable to get together for our weekly gathering but I have been blown away by the kindness of you all, either calling someone for a chat or cooking an odd meal for those on their own etc etc we are all very lucky we live in this area and are such a great unit.

The Coffee & Cake Zoom meeting is still taking place every Thursday at 11am and is worth coming on board for if you have the right equipment. If you are interested contact Joe Costello on 01530 249613. He is brilliant at calmly talking you through how to set yourself up

News to date

The Fish & Chip Van came to the village on VE day at the Club and was a great success. Some people in the village were lucky to know this was happening as they frequent the Club so were contacted by them as they arranged it. Due to its success Carolyn Turner booked them to come again on Friday 22nd May. This will at first be for the elderly in the village and then be opened to others, I hope you were able to participate.

Members news

I spoke to Betty McChrystal's granddaughter in Dubai last week who said Betty is doing well and I did hear the other day that she could have been moved to a lower floor at Southlodge which gives her a little more freedom which is great news. I am going to drop her a letter today with our news

Janet Collins sadly lost her husband Pat a few weeks ago, he had been poorly for a while. They have lived in the village for many years and Janet has been part of the community especially regarding her expertise with flower arranging. Not an easy time so any support for her from those who know her well.

Lots of people celebrated VE day on the edge of the road socially distancing with neighbours last Friday. It was a lovely sight. I am sure the party would have been bigger at other times but it was lovely to see everyone

Gillian my mum is just lovely. We are very lucky she is in a small Respite Home in the countryside with only 7 residents and a great owner who keeps them active and gives great care. They celebrated VE day better than we did the other day - singing songs with decorations everywhere.

The Fleming family, who have moved into Mim's old house next door to me, kindly carried on the annual tradition of donating their spare rhubarb to us and I passed it round the village to those I saw and spoke to, so thank you to them

Jason Crockett also donated a huge sack of bread flour (15kg) that I decanted into smaller amounts to those who I managed to speak to who wanted some. The rule was I got a photograph of the finished product. See Pg 8! I still have some left if anyone would like some and Jason has offered me more. Thank you to Jason for his generosity. He did get some Rhubarb making Duck with a rhubarb sauce!

Lots of you have done some very kind acts of kindness but I happened to call on Michael Upstone the other day and Maria Simms had made a lovely VE day box of cakes and homemade goodies for him, we are so lucky to have a great village and surrounding community.

I meet Jonny Richardson often walking down the village getting his exercise, he was born in the village

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and was one of the first to welcome us 34 years ago I think he is 89? Always cheerful and great fun, in fact another of the positives of this period has been chatting to everyone walking and so many are sitting drinking coffee outside the front of their houses where everyone talks to everyone, let's hope it carries on

The bluebells walk to Groby Pool is just delightful so if you haven't done it already make sure you do! It is years since we have.

The Park opened last weekend so our village - lovely and peaceful during this period of isolation - will be shared once again. We will remember this time for many years to come as a positive in some areas.

Think that is all the news. If you have any for the next letter or need any help with anything please call me .

Stay safe, sending love to you all and call someone!

Carol Ann

TENNIS CLUB NEWS

The Tennis Club is now open so if you feel like a change of exercise then sign up as a member. Coach Paul will be back giving lessons one to one and families all in one household can play as a group of 4 or two friends can play singles, (there are rules as you can imagine). For further info please call me or go onto Newtown Linford tennis club clubspark where you will find all the membership options



Full Membership allows you to either

- Play singles against another member
- Play Doubles as a Family group only – Living in the same household
- Book a Private Coaching session one to one with our great coach Paul Nicoles - Please note a fee will be charged for this
- Please read the LTA rules we have to adhere to before you book a court on line on Clubspark Newtown Linford Tennis Club
- A great opportunity to get some different exercise

Only member players allowed on court or those having a lesson with Paul our coach .

For any further Info please contact **Carol Ann Sugden on 01530 243433 or e mail casug1@btinternet.com**

Carol Ann Challenged villagers to photograph and send in their bread making skills from the flour she gave out (see page 5).



Sarah Raynor's white loaf and above Anna's apricot, date and sultana loaf



Toby Manning's Bread



Above - is Ann Scrine's bread



THE FRIENDS OF CHARNWOOD FOREST



Friends of Charnwood Forest - important announcement

It would have been nice to have talked about the following at our May meeting, but sadly this was not to be! We have had to postpone the talks by Richard Bailey of Bawdon Lodge Farm about diversification in the Forest and that by David Robinson on Visitors to Charnwood Forest, as well as our exploration of Poultney Farm in the Ulverscroft Valley. We hope to reorganise these events when it becomes possible.

However, we are delighted to announce that the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme has been awarded a grant of c. £2,767M by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which, with matched funding from other sources, will amount to c £3M, the amount applied for. The application had the strapline “made by volcanoes, shaped by people”. The intention is to enhance people’s understanding of the internationally important volcanic legacy of Charnwood Forest. Projects funded will include geological conservation, habitat restoration, improvements to connections between sites for visitors, creating innovative interpretation, outdoor learning opportunities for young people and adults, and a five-year programme of cultural and heritage activities and events.

The current restrictions due to Coronavirus will understandably result in some delays to the start of the Scheme but the Partnership is working with National Lottery Heritage Fund to agree a way forward and all stakeholders, including The Friends of Charnwood Forest, will be informed once timescales are confirmed. I would hope that we would have someone from the Partnership to explain what schemes are likely to be put in place when this is possible.

The area covered by the Partnership stretches from Thringstone in the north-west to Anstey and Groby in the south-east – see map at <https://www.nationalforest.org/about/projects/charnwood-forest>. We therefore have to wait to see just what this will mean for Bradgate Park and all the other sites that many of us have been missing for the last two months, although the peace of the Park has doubtless been welcome to those who have been able to experience it.

Marilyn Palmer
Events Organiser, Friends of Charnwood Forest

Information from David Snartt.

Street Wardens.

Since I was alerted to the re-opening of Bradgate Park, I have been corresponding with the Council about having Street Wardens visiting the village. There have been concerns raised by residents about the numbers of people who may visit Bradgate and the impact this will have on the Parish.

I understand from information supplied visits will be made, especially to deal with vehicles parked on double yellow lines.

I would be grateful for any information about any on-going vehicle parking issues that occur during these challenging times. Contact me by e-mail, cllr.david.snartt@charnwood.gov.uk or telephone 01530 244804.

I am hopeful that your garden waste brown bin was emptied during the week commencing 11th May. The service will continue to operate on a reduced basis. It is not the usual service as the Council are still having to focus resources on the refuse and recycling service.

The next collection for Newtown Linford will be week commencing Monday 8th June. Please make sure your brown bins are out by **6am on Monday 8th June**. The Council will endeavour to empty the bins as soon as possible, but it may take until Friday of that week. Please leave your bins out until emptied. Charnwood Borough Council are reviewing the service regularly and will restore a full service as soon as possible. For more information visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/gwr

Gesture of Good Will.

Garden waste customers across Charnwood Borough are being offered £5 off their next subscription as a gesture of good will. Charnwood Borough Council are offering the reduction after collections were disrupted because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Any Charnwood resident who has an active garden waste bin subscription in April 2020 will receive a £5 discount on their next subscription. The discount will be applied automatically for people who pay by direct debit when their subscription is due for renewal. People who pay by invoice will see the discount included. For further information visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/gw_gesture.

Bulky Waste Collections.

Residents are again able to book bulky waste collections. Charnwood Borough Council is resuming this service after it was suspended due to

staff shortages caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

A limited number of bookings will be taken each week to ensure the Council's waste partners Serco can continue to focus resources on refuse, recycling and garden waste collections.

Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis and residents can book collections on the Council's website or by calling 01509 634563. The Council would like to thank residents for their patience and continued support of its refuse crews. For more information about bulky waste collections please visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/special_collections.

National Lottery Support.

I have received information about Charnwood Forest being awarded a National Lottery Heritage Fund Grant of £2,767,300. This unique landscape is one of the most significant in the East Midlands, but very few people are aware of its value, both locally and internationally. The landscape is currently at risk and this grant will support new projects to protect and enhance it.

The grant will fund the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Scheme. This five year scheme will promote awareness and understanding of the importance of Charnwood Forest through geological conservation, habitat restoration, improvements to connections between sites for visitors, creating innovative interpretation, outdoor learning opportunities for young people and adults and a five-year programme of cultural and heritage activities and events. More information is available on Charnwood Borough Council website.



The nation starts to go back to work

Paint Wizard (Paul from Grey Crescent) will be returning to work in June as they can incorporate social distancing methods. See advert on page 2 for more details .

How well do you know your Village?

Last month I posed a few questions about the village which aroused my curiosity and in which I was interested to learn more. I hope you find the explanations as interesting as I have.

1 SMUGGLER'S GATE

So what are the origins of the Smuggler's Gate which leads onto the cricket ground? When the water main was laid to the Newtown Linford Cricket Club the water board left a hole in the existing hedge, and installed a water meter there. The Cricket Club Committee decided to install a gate at this point with a view to stop spectators walking in front of the sight screen when a match was in progress.

In 2011 a young Australian, Ben Sunshine, joined the Cricket Club. He had been recruited through an agency and had a dual passport, his father being from England. The Newtown Linford Cricket Club Centenary book lists outstanding performers, and perhaps unkindly described him as looking like "a sack of potatoes tied around the middle" but acknowledges that his appearance belied his talent. In his first season he took 63 wickets, still a club record, but in subsequent seasons his bowling prowess diminished. With a bat in his hand he looked a "million dollars" and was a great asset to the Club. He played for four consecutive seasons.

Ben was obviously a character and his nickname was "the smuggler". How this came about I do not know. In recognition of his contribution, and reputation, the gate was named after him. So give him a thought when you pass by.

2 DAFFODILS

Iris Sayer remembered that they had disposed of old pots of daffodils in the hedge at the back of their garden in the hedge that borders Richardson's meadow. Brian Anderson added that when the ditch was cleared, the throw outs from any garden on Grey Crescent would have been dispersed further across the field.

This group of daffodils is certainly thriving in that meadow as they flower every year.

3 GRAFFITI ON THE BRIDGE

Although I thought mischievously the initials "DB" on the bridge might be Des Bates, I am told they were carved between his legs by David Brewin as he sat on the parapet, hence being upside down.

According to Brian Anderson there were four sets of initials originally but the others got eroded away and then the top stones were replaced.

4 TYBURN

Bradgate's Tyburn was not used to hang criminals. It was though used to put to death old hounds from the Earl of Stamford' pack by hanging. This was in the days before the use of vets and injections.

Tony Squires has documented that Tyburn was used as a place to castrate young hunting dogs at a distance from the hounds so that their yelps would not heard by the pack.

The fact that it is named Tyburn after Tyburn Hill in London makes me favour the first explanation.

5 GUTTERS

These can be seen at Dingle House, 94A Main Street.

I still don't know if my gutters are unique. The house was built in the early 1950's on land that was previously the vegetable garden of Watermeadow Cottage, 94 Main Street, hence the rear gate access through the stone wall.

The house was designed by the original owner Fred Pick-Smith, an architect, in an Arts and Crafts style. I believe he was connected, or a relation of, the well known firm of Pick Everard, a Leicester based consultancy. The main advantage of these gutters is that they allow overhanging eaves, protecting the walls from rain, and secondly you can clean your gutters by opening your windows, no need to use a ladder.

6 STAG'S HEAD

The old oak tree from which Peter Leadbeater carved the Stag's head had a circumference of 5M, or 16ft 5in, at 1M, 3ft, above ground level. Peter Tyldesley gave us an estimate of its age from his knowledge of old oak trees in Bradgate Park, and from relevant reference tables as 300 years, plus or minus 20. So we are looking back at the reign of Queen Anne, or George 1st.

Thank you for the input from Brian Anderson, Rhona Warrilow and Chris Scrine, with additional information from NLCC centenary book.

If you wish to add to, or correct, any of my comments please contact me.

Dick Howard

01530 245373.

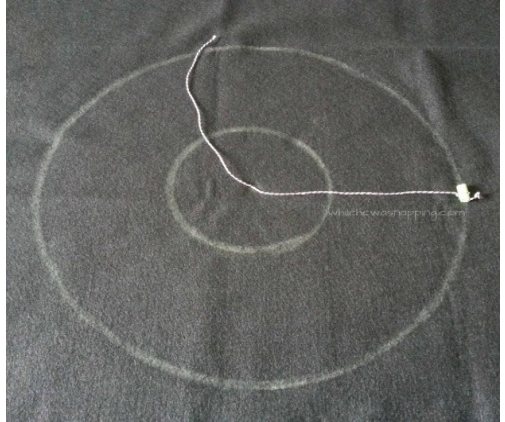
richardhoward342@btinternet.com.

PS if you need to refresh your memory with the pictures which were printing in the May edition of the village magazine and no longer have your copy - you can look online at the village website as all recent past editions are available to download.

Village Archive Enquiry

As the current “keeper” of the Village Archive I sometimes receive very interesting enquiries. The most recent one was from a PHD student asking if there are “Witch Markings” (symbols or patterns scratched into the fabric of a building with the intention of keeping witches out) in any of the old cottages in the village.

Will you please let me know if you have found any such marks (they may not look like the example in the photograph) or if you have found items buried in the walls, or under lintels or fireplaces. Some of the marks may be made by masons but I would still like to hear about them and please send me a photo if you can.



You can email me at sayer-iris@gmail.com or phone me on 01530 243822

I hope that you have enjoyed reading the memories of Edgar Smith. It may be that in the not too distant future it will be possible to have a small exhibition of the archive. It is absolutely fascinating and I have been very impressed by the diligent record keeping of my predecessors.

Iris Sayer

Natural Elements (see advert on page 2) Face to Face Physio starts in Groby From Monday 18th May we have decided to open for **LIMITED** face to face physiotherapy treatment at our Groby practice **ONLY**.

This decision has been made following recent changes to government and Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) advice recognising that in some circumstances patients problems cannot be treated effectively remotely and a face to face treatment is a necessity.

There will be additional screening and cleaning measures in place in order to keep both clients and therapists safe and well at all times. Please refer to our website videos for further information or do feel free to contact us.

Sadly at this time we are **NOT** able to offer our massage, reflexology or footcare treatments but we hope that these services will be added over the coming weeks. Keep an eye on our social media channels and our websites for updates. **Annie & the team. x**

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Bronze Eco Church Award Certificate

This is to certify that

All Saints Church, Newtown Linford

has won a Bronze Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts to care for God's earth in each of the following areas (as applicable):

Worship and Teaching
Management of Buildings and Land
Community and Global Engagement
Lifestyle

Signed

Date

27th April 2020

CEO, A Rocha UK



ecochurch.arocha.org.uk
arocha.org.uk

All Saints' Church has achieved the Eco Church bronze award

The following changes have taken place to achieve bronze in each of 5 categories to become an Eco Church.

1. We include the environment (creation care) in our worship and teaching;
2. The lights have been changed to 100% LED, we purchase green electricity, and some green gas. Cleaning products are environmentally friendly; recycled loo paper is bought. Coffee is fair trade and food at events is local where possible. Anything recyclable is recycled.



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3. In the Churchyard we have a wild flower area, a compost heap and a water butt.
 4. The Church engages with the local community, eg Casepak visit, flower and butterfly festival, future carbon reduction course, (currently awaiting until Covid-19 restrictions are eased)
 5. It is not just the Church that must change, but we are encouraged to be good stewards of creation by living by a more sustainable lifestyle.
- We will continue to work towards becoming more environmentally sustainable and will hopefully attain a silver award in the future. **Jane**

Faith in Lockdown

“Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10).

For me, this has been the way in which my faith has been nurtured during the lockdown. We are fortunate in that we have been able to walk through the bluebells and the burgeoning foliage in the springtime woods around us (see picture opposite). There has also been a profound silence with fewer cars, aeroplanes overhead and even people around. This has enabled me to contemplate God not in a church building – which I do miss greatly – but in the midst of His creation.

Many have not been so fortunate and our prayers for them have been gathered together in the online services provided by our Rector, making use of his undoubted IT skills. The Easter Services for All Saints were especially memorable, notably the wonderfully moving Hour at the Cross on Good Friday. For those of us on our own, it is comforting to be able to see our clergy and members of our congregation in our own homes.

“Now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity”. At no time in my lifetime has charity, or love, been more evident in the community than during the past six weeks. Apart from those whom we applaud every Thursday night, neighbours have been caring for neighbours, telephone calls from friends have kept us all going, and networks of helpers have carried out essential tasks for those who cannot go out. Love and kindness have triumphed over selfishness and isolation. Even when we do have to pass by on the other side, as unlike the Good Samaritan we now have to do, most of us exchange greetings even with people we have not met before.

We have not been able to receive Holy Communion which I for one miss greatly and feel it will be some time before we are able to resume this. But All Saints Church in Newtown Linford has by no means been absent from us during the lockdown. Many thanks, Richard, John and Sharon – and thanks to God for the lovely weather we have had in which to appreciate His creation and to contemplate His love. **Marilyn**

In regards to how my approach to faith has changed during lockdown, I would say that mainly it has taken on a slower pace. I feel as if I have watched every leaf of spring unfold, heard every bird sing for its mate and smelled every perfumed flower in our garden more acutely than before. I treasure my family and friends more than ever and am humbled by the kindness of people to each other in helping us all get through this strangest of times. I am thankful to have a job and reason to leave the house.

The Sunday Zoom services have become key to bringing meaning to my week and I am immensely grateful to those who put in so much effort to make them happen. Easter was made more special by building our own Easter Garden at home, sitting in that quiet space on Good Friday (rather than with crowds in Leicester) and watching the sun rise from Old John with just my husband on Easter morning.

I miss hugs from those I love and I miss sharing communion with my family in Christ.

Joyce Burns

Things have certainly been different over the last two months. Although the Church building has been closed down, a plethora of streamed services and virtual Morning Prayers from sunny gardens have been made available to worshippers. Richard our Rector has worked hard and deserves high praise for his IT skills.

I have to say I have not missed the absence of the regular Sunday morning worship very much. Certainly not as much as I expected to. I have instead hugely valued the time and space I now have to read, reflect and say my prayers without the daily rush and noise of everyday living that was my pre lockdown normal.

I have also greatly appreciated the time and trouble shown by my Methodist Minister at Anstey Methodists, the Reverend Judith Lincoln. She has phoned me to ask how things were going and personally offered an invitation to take part in Church activities going forward. She has been simply wonderful.

Similarly I have valued more than words can say the strong sense of community that has emerged in Newtown. Not a day passes that a neighbour or friend or family member doesn't ask if I'm alright or need anything. It's lovely. What I think I am seeing is the love of God in action.

With people showing concern for me I am being loudly prompted to try to look out for others too. Isn't that what heaven is supposed to look like?

Clive Rowe

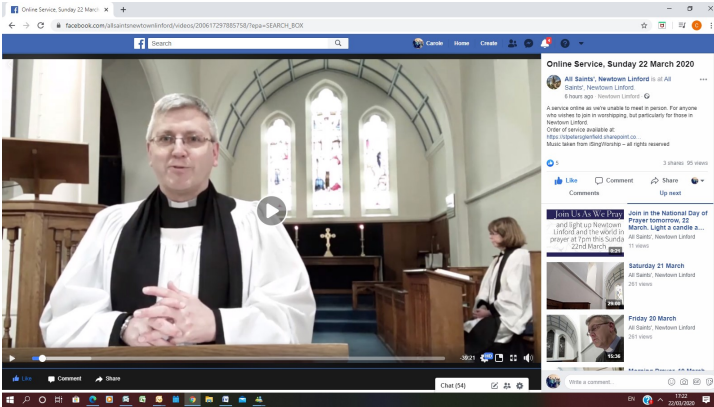


BRADGATE TEAM SUNDAY SERVICES

Public Services Suspended

Online available

Virtual Church Services



You can join in with the Sunday Morning Service from the comfort of your own home.

Just join facebook if not already on it and join the group All Saints' Newtown Linford. Richard is running a service online

10.30am

Online service

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsnewtownlinford>

Church Contact Details

Revd Richard Trethewey
(Rector) 0116 287 1604 richard@allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

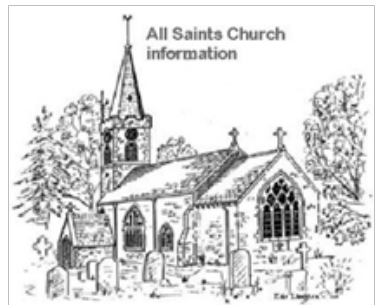
Revd Sharon Andrews , (Curate)
sharon@allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Hayley Moore (Church Administrator)
0116 239 3768
office@bradgatechurches.org.uk
www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk

Church Wardens: Jane Woolmer, Michelle Petty

Regular Events - Bell ringer's practice: Monday 8pm (cancelled)

Website: www.allsaintsnewtownlinford.org.uk



Faith in Lockdown continued

I feel lucky that we live in a house with a garden and have the countryside on our doorstep. However that does not mean that it is easy to continue to pray and read the bible on your own when it is not possible to meet other Christians in Church or occasions. Our Newtown Linford services have taken place in the garden or house of Richard Trethewey (the Rector) and with a good variety of others taking part as well; this is good. It has become more evident in the lockdown that humans are generally very sociable people and this is true of the Church as well. Being part of a Church is, for me, where my faith can be strengthened from worship, teaching, praying and sharing. We attend a service to receive, but also to give. In other ways being in the self-isolating group I have found it strange to be on the receiving end rather than the giving one.

Like many, having more time has been a good thing. I have appreciated walking in the countryside in this beautiful time of year, where there has been unusual quietness around me giving more time to think and pray and to appreciate the creation God has given us; also showing how important it is that we look after it. One very special occasion was sitting on a log in the wood between Old John and the war memorial; watching deer close by, without anyone or any noise around me. However I continue to find praying on my own difficult as being a practical person it is easier to be doing something rather than praying. I have become more aware of this in Lockdown.

The current pandemic affects everyone and faith in God can help us to face all situations. As Peter writes: 1 Peter 5:10-11 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever.
Amen.

Jane Woolmer

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Between Ascension and Pentecost, Jesus' followers found themselves in a similar position to our own: restricted in their public gatherings and worship, needing to stay at home. Admittedly, the reasons were different! What did they do? They prayed.

Ever since the start of this lockdown, I have been encouraging you to be prayerful (as well as careful and kind). To remember that God is still God, even when many of the other apparent certainties of life have been

turned upside down. To pray for yourselves and to pray for others. To pray for healing, for peace and for people to come to know the love of God sustaining them and saving them.



This year we will join with many people around the world and in our neighbouring communities to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' between Ascension (21 May) and Pentecost (31 May). Just as those first followers of Jesus gave those days over to pray, before being sent out to serve the world by sharing the good news of Jesus, so we are encouraged to pray.

Some resources have appeared on our Facebook pages or will be added. In addition there are some images reminding you of the national and local hotlines for worship and reflection.

God bless, Richard Trethewey, Rector of St Peter's, Glenfield, and All Saints', Newtown Linford

Patrick Sullivan Collins

As a young man Pat was in the Military Police stationed in Northern Ireland. After coming out of the Forces he worked in the Family Hosiery business but decided to start his own in Floristry at which he was very successful. He met Janet at a concert at which she was on the Stage singing. After the show he sent her a big box of Frecias. They went out together for three years and got married in 1958. They have three children. Peter, Michael and Helen and finished up with 2 shops on Hinckley Road.

Pat loved living in Newtown Linford and going on the Park in his buggy. He met some lovely people in the neighbourhood.

Janet would like to thank everyone for their cards and support – it means an awful lot.



Newtown Linford Gardening Club

We are still having lots of fine warm weather, which means our members have continued to spend time in their gardens. We have news of vigorous activity and we continue to share pictures over our Goup emails system. We have moved on from spring flowers like daffodils, tulips and blossom to early summers pics including some roses which have emerged early.

Nature, of course, carries on regardless of coronavirus and that is true of our wildlife. Bird activity continues as normal. Our bird box with a camera fitted has again been taken over by blue tits.

There were eight eggs laid and, at the time of writing, six have hatched out in the last two days, as you can see in the photographs. We will watch their progress with interest.



When the club will resume its normal activities is anyone's guess but we can only keep going and hope for the best.

Anyone interested in our activities can contact the Secretary (tel.01530 242452) or e-mail us at 32couling@gmail.com , or else come along to one of our meetings as a visitor (£3). If you would like a copy of our programme for the coming year, we will be pleased to send one to you.

Anne and David Couling

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From the Records

NEWTOWN LINFORD

I found a copy of this record very recently when I was looking through the Village Archive. Only one section is dated (in Nov 1963) I have no idea when the first part was made but I think possibly earlier. The whereabouts of the original is unknown. I have found it a fascinating read and I hope you do too.

Iris Sayer

MEMORIES OF GEORGE EDGAR SMITH Born March 1888 continued from May

I have been asked by a few in the village to write the history of Newtown Linford as long as I can remember.

Newtown is rather a funny village to deal with as regards sewerage. There are several places where you find running sand. When the sewerage was put in about 1900 the contractor went bankrupt over it. It was a bad place just opposite Mrs Brown's shop and also just below the British Legion Club, and also towards the Markfield Lane. Most of the old windows used to be lead lights and very small panes about 6 inches by 4 inches, they used to vary a little and the glass used to be very thin.

All Saints Church, Newtown Linford dates back to 1633, but I have heard that part of it dates back early. I can just remember the chancel and the north aisle being added to the Church, it was somewhere about the date of 1894 or 1895 in the time of Kerry Williams. I think I am right in saying he went to Anstey in 1896. The builder who did the alterations was Everards of Glenfield, but the vicar often used to be there before them at 6am and spent quite a lot of time with them. The Vestry used to be at the West End where the Belfry is now, and a door leading into the Church.

There used to be 8 steps up to where we used to ring the bells and it used to lead to a gallery that went out as far as the Church entrance, and the choir used to sit up there and used to have a harmonium for the Service. My father used to tell me what a fine choir they used to have and I can remember some fine musicians there. I did hear about the choir learning to sing Handel's Messiah and a Mr Harold Nicholson was training the Leicester Philharmonic the Messiah and he stood under the gallery listening one night. He went back to Leicester and told them that if they couldn't sing it any better than a little village choir they would show them how to sing it.

The Font used to be just in front of the pulpit and the pulpit used to be

where the Lectern is. After the Rev Kerry Williams left, the next Vicar was The Rev Hudson, but he was only in the village about 2 years, he was over 80 years of age when he came and is buried in Newtown Churchyard. There followed a space of about 6 months without a Vicar and someone of the name of Mr Terry used to take the Services, and he also put paintings on the panels of the pulpit and was going to put them round the Church but he got moved before he got that far. The next Vicar was Mr Hampson, but he was only here for about 4 or 5 years and then went to Stalybridge, that living joins the other Estate belonging to Stamford & Warrington. After Rev Hampson left the living was vacant for a few months and a Mr Pearson used to take the Services on a Sunday. He was head teacher at Market Bosworth School and had an M.A. degree and used to motor cycle every Sunday. A little later he left Market Bosworth School and became a Vicar of Rothley.

The next Vicar was Rev Bradley Johnson and during his stay in Newtown, I think it was about 14 years, most of the alterations was done to the Church about 1912 or 1913. The Church bells were taken away to Taylors Bell Foundry at Loughborough and all the oak beams were taken out and new steel girders replaced and also 1 new bell, making 5 all told and room for one more bell. Thereabout 1914 and 1915 most of the alterations were made. The reheating, new organ chamber and Vestry also a new organ by Norman & Beard and oak panelling given by T W Everard Esq. Mrs Everard gave the stained window against the pulpit and Mrs Grey the east window and the west window. The organ was moved twice before it was placed in its present position. The Oak Memorial Table was made from Bradgate oak and was made on the Bradgate Estate by the late Mr Robert Brown and the carving done by Mr R Blower either belonging Ellistown or Coalville. I know he was on the Coalville Council. The Rev B Johnson was the only one who was Vicar of Newtown Linford and Bradgate and could hold Services at the Chapel in the Ruins, Bradgate Park. I am sorry to have omitted the Plaque given in memory of the Countess of Stamford and Warrington placed in the Chancel of the Church. I remember there used to be 3 boards about 3 feet long and 18 inches or 2 feet wide, 2 of them had got the 10 Commandments and the other the Apostles Creed. They used to hang on the wall by the belfry and also another board about the same size with the names of the people that had given different gifts to the Church. I understood Mr Haslegrave to say that the board had got broken up the time the bells was altered. There used to be a stone base for the Lectern with the name of John Matts and the date on it. I think I am right in saying that the stone has been taken out of the Church and put under the hedge at

the back of the Church.

5th Nov 1963

A few months ago, Mr Mossop loaned me a book of records and accounts belonging to his great grandfather, Mr William Rudkin, Builder in the Newtown district and dated 1852. It was very interesting, especially when you compare it with present day prices. One interesting item was repairing bridge at Markfield Lane, 20 hours at 6 pence, 100 blue bricks 8 shillings and one ton of barrow lime 23 shillings. Another item where 2 men were getting stone out for 2 days on Linthill at 2 shillings each per day. I can also say that a piece of granite from Linthill is in Leicester Museum. In quite a lot of the records in the book, was repairs to the Keeper's house in the Park, in the year 1868. I think this Mr Rudkin built the Keeper's House in the Park, in the year 1868. I think my father worked on it as a labourer. Mr Benjamin Rudkin Johnson was a brick layer also Mr Tom Rudkin and it also mentioned repairs to Old John and stables, the stables used to be under the rocks.

While mentioning Old John, I have often heard people asking me what it was used for. I have been told there used to be a race course, run along by Dale Spinney and under the brow of the hill and by the memorial around by Hunts Hill and back to join the race course again, as you go up Old John. The gentry used to watch the progress of the horses from where the shutters are. In one book I read, I believe it was written in 1832 by a Mr E M Potter and it mentioned about a pack of fox hounds in 1798 belonging to Bradgate Park. I will now try to write a little about Bradgate Park. There used to be a small house at the end of the ruins and was used to boil water for mashing tea. Quite a few parties used to come to the ruins in the Park. Now I was mentioning about the ruins, there is a medicinal spring runs under the road quite close to. In the early years of 1900 the volunteers used to camp in the ruins enclosure and they used to train in the meadow, against the deer barn and it used to have 6 feet of wire netting all round and in the later years they used to gather the hay for feeding deer and used to grow roots in the pheasant garden. They also used to gather acorns in the village. They used to pay 1 shilling per strike when acorns were plentiful and one and 6 when they were scarce.

I understand the park is about 828 acres now. I hear the waterworks have used about 4? Acres for a storage tank. The Park was stated to be 832 acres.

In 1883 the Prince of Wales (King Edward V11 afterwards) stayed at Bradgate House. This house was situated between Groby and Markfield.

I think it had 100 rooms and a very large game larder. It used to employ between 20 - 30 maids beside butler and footmen. It was formerly known as Steward's Hay before it was altered. But I was told it about ruined Lord Stamford. With the Prince of Wales coming the front drive from the turnpike up to the hall was all lit up with small fairy lights and also round the pont which was close to. While I am mentioning the Prince of Wales, I was told they killed 3,333 rabbits in the day and 2000 pheasants during his stay of the week. Some of the guns had as many as 7 leaders, of course they were the old muzzle loader guns. I have seen this account in a paper.

Now I will follow on about the Park. Mr Reeves was head keeper who removed from the old keeper's house into the new house. He still has a grand (?) on a butcher at Woodhouse Eaves. I have heard my Dad mention about a Stag hound, he used to have. If he put the hound on a certain deer or buck, it could pick it out of a herd until caught. I think about the time I can remember there used to be about 250. They used to kill about 6 or 8 bucks off each year and 2 or 3 fawns and keep the venison up at the Hall, Bradgate House.

I was at the park soon after I left school, with the head keeper a Mr T Geary. I first went to a Mr A Foulds, he was keeper at Bradgate and used to do the rearing of the young pheasants. We used to go around the villages and farms to buy broody hens 2/6 each and then sell them at 1/- each after they had done with them. They used to say a pheasant cost a £1 each to rear. We used to rear about 2000 pheasants and then when the pheasants had grown, they used to distribute them among the other keepers on the estate. There used to be 8 keepers on the Estate at that time. Anyone would be surprised to know what young pheasants were fed on. I used to boil about 20 eggs twice a day and put through a sieve, cook a couple of rabbits and put through a mincing machine and a large strainer of rice, biscuits scolded and dried meat and Indian meal, barley meal. Then used to watch for jackdaws and hawks and various other animals. This was when the pheasants were quite young.

I left Mr A Foulds for a few months for a youth come from Markfield and then I went back again as the youth left from Markfield and a Cropstone youth came to the Park. I must say it was a very healthy job but rather poor pay. When they used to have the shoot the beaters had 2/6 a day and their lunch. I have seen 5 or 600 pheasants killed in a day and 1600 rabbits killed in the Park. But in those times it used to be a job for keepers looking out for poachers. In the old times 4 or 5 men used to mow the bracken and help load it up at 5/- a load but in the low park they used

to leave parts unmown for the rabbits to be in and then a few days before the shoot they used to dig the holes out and used to stop the old trees just by the pheasant garden with bracken and tar and the night before the shoot they run nets out from the gate at the bottom of the rookery out to the side of the road and down by the roadside as far as the ruins, and then from the road to the ruin walls. Someone used to go along the net until the beaters had been through. I remember Mr Cecil Gee having the shoot in the park for 2 or 3 years but at that time the pay was 5/- per day. But after the Park was bought by Mr Charles Bennion about 1928 that finished the shooting and the Park was turned over to the County and Borough of Leicester but since then quite a lot of new foot roads have been opened up. A lot of fires get started but some get started through the sun shining on glass bottles, or cigarette ends thrown down carelessly.

Note from Editor . I hope you enjoyed this look at the past in Newtown Linford as much as I did - thank you to Iris for typing this all out from the handwritten notes!

Big Thank You

John Pattison

Can I just say thank you from my family and other villagers to John Pattison of Main Street who volunteered to deliver newspapers after the Post Office tea rooms and papershop shut its doors due to the pandemic leaving many villagers without their normal morning paper. John has now delivered papers from Wilson's Newsagents in Groby for the past two months. I often see him when I am heading off to the hospital in a morning and my husband does appreciate having his paper whilst stuck at home with our son.

Thank you to John and all the other villagers who are helping each other at this moment in time.

News Update - Just had time to add in a note seen from Hannah on facebook that John is one of three people who you can vote for in The Telegraph Lockdown Awards - your chance to vote for Britain's Best Neighbour. Just go onto your computer and vote before the winner is announced on the 29th May <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/family/life/lockdown-awards-chance-vote-britains-best-neighbour/>

Thursday Evenings - thanks to NHS staff and carers. I must say that I am sure I am not alone in coming out at 8pm on a Thursday to clap for carers and also be able to wave at neighbours and chat across the gardens - it's a lovely village event now.



Newtown Linford Neighbourhood Watch - A member of the Parish Council



June 2020

Over recent weeks, I have received many reports from residents of vehicles speeding through the Village, including Heavy Goods Vehicles during the night.

Dash cam footage received, shows cars driving at speeds way in excess of the 30 and 40 mph limits.

Following this large number of reports, I contacted the new Sergeant for Charnwood West Neighbourhood Policing Team, Chris Boylin, who reports a speed check was carried out on Bradgate Road on Friday 1st May, where 10 motorists out of 27 were caught speeding. During a further speeding operation on Monday 11th May, 8 motorists were issued Traffic Offence Reports. Sgt. Boylin informs me that further speed checks will be carried out across the Charnwood West area during the forthcoming weeks and months.

Video footage, registration plates and company logos help Police to identify those driving dangerously and can be used if offences are highlighted. Residents are urged to report such incidents either by calling Police on 101 (or 999 in an emergency) or by using the online reporting form on their website at www.leics.police.uk

In an attempt to slow these racers down, I have also requested the paint markings be refreshed on the speed humps along Main Street and hope works will be carried out in the not too distant future.

The additional bollards fitted outside the school to further highlight the buildout and reduce the number of vehicle/bollard collisions seem to have made a difference with there being no impacts reported since.

PC Rachel Chapman for Newtown Linford reports that during April, there was one report of Criminal Damage within the Village. When in contact with her, we also discussed incidents of anti-social behavior outside the tearooms on Bradgate Road and this is currently being monitored.

With regards the current COVID - 19 situation, Leicestershire Police released the following update on their website on 15th May:

Covid – 19: How we are continuing to protect you.

On Sunday (10th May) the Government announced an easing of the restrictions previously in place during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Firstly, we'd like to thank everyone living across our force area who has adhered to the terms of the Health Protection Regulations following their introduction on 23 March.

As we follow the path to recovery, we are encouraging you, the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, to stay up-to-date, respecting the rules and keeping one another safe.

Our officers are continuing to follow and adhere to guidance given by both the Government and the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC).

We have no role in enforcing social distancing, wearing masks or avoiding public transport.

Our officers will continue to engage with you – the public – explain the current guidance and encourage you to follow it in order to remain that everyone stays safe.

There may be a role for us where people are gathering in groups including people not in their household, as this isn't legally permitted in the regulations.

The regulations also prohibit you from leaving your home to visit and stay overnight at a holiday home or second home, or to visit the homes of friends and family where you are not protecting a vulnerable person, escaping the risk of harm or visiting for medical reasons.

"We're asking you to continue engaging with us positively, as you've done to date," says Chief Constable Simon Cole.

"We're very grateful for the cooperation we've seen across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

"Hundreds of people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland have died from coronavirus so far. Nobody here wants to see a new wave of infection. "We've come this far. Many colleagues have worked hard and put themselves at risk for you.

"Everyone has a responsibility and a civic duty in respecting the terms of these regulations and our officers will remain inquisitive where necessary."

Officers will act appropriately where clear breaches are seen. They will use common sense and discretion to determine what's reasonable. They will engage, explain, encourage and, only as a last resort, enforce.

“Officers are still able to issue a fixed penalty notice to anyone found to be in breach of the regulations,” adds the Chief Constable.

“To date, we’ve issued just over 400 fixed penalty notices.

“The Government has increased these from £60 to £100 and they will double with each further breach, to a limit of £3,200.”

Travelling to outdoor spaces in Wales and Scotland for recreational activities – not exercise – may result in offences being committed in those jurisdictions, and therefore may not be a reasonable excuse for leaving home.

“We recognise these changes will mean more people are out and about,” adds the Chief Constable.

“We will continue to respond to any concerns or issues you have in order to protect our communities and keep people safe.

“You can report things to us by visiting our website – www.leics.police.uk – or calling 101. Always call 999 in an emergency.”

Keep ‘em peeled!. Best wishes, **Hannah Shaw, Parish Council Clerk**
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Newtown Linford Parish Council

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As of Sunday 10th May, lockdown restrictions have been relaxed slightly and this has seen the reopening of Bradgate Park.

Parish Council Chairman, Sue Pritchard, has been in contact with Bradgate Park's Interim Director and has been reassured by BPT's strategy for mitigating any possible negative effects this may have on the Village.

So far, I'm pleased to report it has been fairly quiet and we have not heard of many problems arising with the increased number of visitors to date.

Currently, Bradgate Park Trust have advised us they have increased staff attendance in order to deal with any potential influx of visitors. However, Park staff on duty may not have time to deal with individual comments or complaints and therefore, we kindly ask you to contact us in the first instance via the usual methods and we will pass all feedback on to BPT for their attention.

Please be assured that over the forthcoming weeks whilst Government guidance remains the same, all agencies will continue to work closely together, with Traffic Enforcement Officers in attendance to deal with illegal parking issues and Charnwood Police continuing to monitor the situation.

In other news, there have been some updates to Garden Waste Services, Bulk Waste Collections and the re-opening of seven County Recycling and Household Waste sites, our closest being Mountsorrel. An online booking procedure has been



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implemented to alleviate any possible problems with traffic management at these sites and to ensure the ability to socially distance.

The next collection of Garden Waste Bins will be week commencing 8th June and bins should be left out by 6am on the Monday morning, until such time they are emptied. Moving forward, this service will run on a 4 weekly basis. For further details, please refer to Borough Councillor David Snartt's report.

As I mentioned to you in the last edition of the Magazine, I had been practicing new 'Zooming' skills and on Monday 4th May, Councillors met successfully at our first virtual Parish Council meeting via Zoom.

Zoom is a web conferencing platform that is commonly used for audio and/or video conferencing. This will be the way in which meetings will be held for the foreseeable future.

Agendas are published on the Parish Council website giving 3 clear days' notice and include the Meeting ID and Password, should you wish to attend. If you intend to join us, it would help me if you could please let me know beforehand, particularly if you wish to dial in by telephone (I've not fathomed that bit yet!).

On with more news....

Bob Bown Memorial Field

We are making good use of the time whilst the park remains closed. Firstly, we have had an inspection carried out which has highlighted some issues that need addressing. I am currently obtaining quotations and hope this work may be undertaken whilst the closure has to remain in place. If you have any suggestions for new equipment, please get in touch!

Remedial works to trees around the perimeter of the play area and to the large Oak tree, will also be carried out.

Cemetery and Churchyard

I received a delightful telephone call this morning from a resident who wished to comment on how wonderful the Cemetery and Churchyard are looking. Our maintenance team continue with the grass cutting and tidying schedule fortnightly and the new trees are establishing themselves nicely.

Village

Chairman, Sue Pritchard, has plants on order for the Village troughs and the hanging baskets will be in place sometime during the first week in

June. I will look forward to seeing a splash of joyful colour.

Again, I have not included my latest 'Reports' update as priority is being given to other areas during the current pandemic and non-urgent items may not be attended to straight away. However, that pesky, troublesome blocked drain on Main Street has now been cleared! Hoorah! Well done to LCC operatives who have worked tirelessly in trying to resolve the issue.

Lastly, two Street Lighting Columns, one located on Main Street and the other on Bradgate Road, have failed a recent structural test. LCC will be attending to lay new foundations and where needed, straighten columns. Parish Councillors have also made the decision to have these converted to LED lanterns at the same time.

Well, that's all for this month. Please do not hesitate in contacting me should you require any help and the CAR volunteers are still very much available and willing to pick up groceries, collect prescriptions, post mail or for a friendly chat. Please do ask if you need help!

Keep well and safe.

Best wishes,

Hannah Shaw

Parish Council Clerk

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Can we have your contributions for the **July/August 2020** issue by **15th June 2020** please. **Send to the Editor, Carole Heubeck, 5 Grey Crescent, Newtown Linford (01530 244790).**

**E-mail newtownvillagemagazine@outlook.com &
heubeck111@btinternet.com**

Please could you send any emails to the above email addresses. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your email within 3/4 days - please contact Carole, the Editor direct on the above number to check we have received it.

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