**PARISH MAGAZINE – August 2020**

**WHEATHILL PRIORY GROUP OF PARISHES – “Jesus Lives: Follow Him”**

Rev. Jane Durham tel: 01458 223417 Mobile: 07421 700 242 email: rev.jane.durham@gmail.com

**CHURCHWARDENS**

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<td>Lydford on Fosse</td>
<td>Barton St David</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Stephen Jenkins (01458) 224422</td>
<td>Mr Ralph Berry (01963) 240164</td>
<td>Mrs Jan Craig (01458) 850825</td>
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<td>Mrs Deborah Whittingham (01458) 224057</td>
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<td>Mrs Wendy Eitzen (01458) 850011</td>
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Lay Minister: Jane Sedgman (01458) 223237

Benefice Administrator, Jonathan Beardsworth – Email: wheathillbenefice@gmail.com

Web Page : wheathill.org Parish Magazine Editor : wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.org

**Our Churches**

- All Saints, Kingweston
- Methodist Chapel, Keinton Mandeville
- St Peter’s, Lydford on Fosse
- Barton St David
- St Mary Magdalene, Keinton Mandeville

**Our Communities**

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**Coronavirus Helpline**

As Coronavirus spreads it seems likely it will affect at least some members of our community. Should you have to self-isolate and yet need essential food or household supplies, medical assistance or other help –

*Please contact wheathillbenefice@gmail.com or ring 07421 700242.*

Similarly, if you are aware of elderly or vulnerable people living alone who might need assistance or should be checked up on, please let us know. More Helpline information and Resources have been circulated locally.

**Wheathill Benefice Parish Magazine**

The Editor would be pleased to hear from you if you wish to share any news or activities - notes and pictures welcomed. Each issue will be published and available online for the beginning of each month - see website addresses listed on page 16.

We will let you know when we can safely print and deliver a copy to everyone, hopefully in near future!

Next issue will be SEPTEMBER 2020 magazine – submissions up to 09:00 am Friday, 21st August

Items to the Editor – VIA EMAIL PLEASE: wheathillbeneficemagazine@gmail.com
Dear Friends

‘Holiday at Home’ was the headline on the front page of the latest BBC Good Food magazine, which probably summarises well some of the challenges and differences of this summer. Whether it is a UK based holiday, or a staycation, based at home, or maybe no holiday at all is the norm for you?

But how are you going at giving yourself some slack and some time? The past few months have been hard work for all of us, regardless of what we have done or how we responded, because life has been different, fear has been prevalent and our gardens are often looking amazing! Some of us have had more work than usual; others wonder what work is going to be available or what the next steps will be for us as a household, an individual or communities.

The people of Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness, journeying from Egypt to the 'Promised Land', having to trust God daily for their food, their guidance, their security and the enormity of their lives. Yes those lives were simpler than ours are today, but they still had to trust that there’d be food and water for the flocks and people, somewhere to pitch the tents and safety for all in the community.

Our time in lockdown has been much shorter than 40 years, but we’re looking for similar things: food, water a roof over our heads and safety for ourselves and our communities. Yes how we do that is different, but then I expect our expectations about how we do that are different today from those we had some six months ago! When Israel was travelling for those 40 years, sometimes they packed up and moved on after a short period, sometimes they stayed for a longer period. Like us there were times that the community needed to stop, to pause, maybe to regroup, maybe to recover, maybe just to have a breather. The journey continued, it just went at a different pace. Our journeys also continue they just have a different pace.

Whether or not August is a time when we go on holiday, it is a time for life at a different pace. Yes this August will be different to others, but it is still a good opportunity to take stock, to look around us a bit more than we do at other times, maybe looking back over the past few months and asking yourself what have you gained? What has gone on in your life that you would like to Keep? Secondly ask yourself what you are looking forward to losing, not having to repeat (things that have been a feature of this time)? Thirdly what are you looking forward to regaining? Finally, what don’t you want to take up again? You might view these four as a matrix, something like this:

<table>
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<th>What do I want to keep from this time?</th>
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<td>What am I looking forward to regaining?</td>
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You can do this on your own or with others in your household or friends. It makes for a really good conversation starter.

But back to those Israelites, when they were about to enter the land Moses reminded them that during their time in the desert, despite the hardships, deprivations and difficulties their clothes and had not worn out, nor had their feet swollen and so they were to give thanks to God for all He had done. Maybe if you look back over these months, look at life through the matrix there are things that you are thankful for. Possibly to God, or maybe you’re just thankful.

Let’s use August as a time to look back and to look forward, any maybe as a time to cultivate gratitude.

I hope to try and do that, will you join me?  

Jane
time to cultivate gratitude.

Possibly to God, or maybe you're just thankful.

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reminded them that during their time in the desert, despite the hardships, But back to those Israelites, when they were about to enter the land Moses makes for a really good conversation starter.

Like most organisations, during these abnormal times, our community transport has been affected by the coronavirus guidelines laid down by the government.

The result is that we have had to curtail our normal operations not only because of the guidelines but also because the umbrella organisation which oversees all the community transport in Mid and South Somerset has been told by our insurers, who protect us against litigation, that they cannot insure us during this period.

This said, we still have a duty co-ordinator on standby who will be able to return us to normal operations very quickly when the situation improves. So, for example, when hospitals start returning to normality and you receive an appointment and would like a lift please call the coordinator on the usual number (077799 487719) and he/she will update you and hopefully be able to arrange the transport you require.

Meanwhile, to both customers and drivers, follow the government guidelines and keep safe. Finally, if during this period of enforced inactivity you have had any thoughts about joining our organisation as a driver please do get in touch with me, Neill Thomas on 223613. We would be delighted to hear from you.
A message from the Rev. Craig Manley

"In the current situation we are available for contact should people feel distressed, desperate or just needing to offload the pressures we all will undoubtedly be under. Stay safe and well and above all share the hope and confidence that can be found in our community, when we look after one another."

Craig

Reverend Craig Manley HCMANLEY Methodist Church, Somerset Mendip Circuit Tel: 01963 351 598 ; Mobile: 07900 687 264 hcmancley@outlook.com : craig.manley@methodist.org.uk

Keinton Mandeville Knit and Natter Group

When the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted, Knit and Natter will again meet every Monday afternoon from 2.00 until 4.00 p.m. at the Methodist Church Room.

New members, irrespective of ability, will always be welcome. Open to everyone from all the villages. Ring 223344 for more information.
Bishop supports foodbank’s summer holidays appeal

Posted on 21st July 2020 in Headlines, News, From the Bishops

Extracts from the above news:

'As schools break up for the summer holidays, Bishop Peter is supporting a foodbank appeal for games, jigsaw puzzles, colouring books and pens, to help carers entertain children and young people over the summer holidays.

The foodbank in Weston super Mare, one of many foodbanks across Somerset, has seen a 98 per cent rise in the number of families with children needing support during the lockdown. In the three months from April to June, Weston foodbank fed 766 children – compared to 387 in 2019.

But as families continue to struggle to provide food for their children, they will also struggle to keep them active and occupied this summer.

The diocese is asking for people to support the appeal by donating new games and activities for children, to help them have a healthy and happy summer holidays before the return to school in September. With many children’s clubs forced to close because of Covid, lots of children face a long summer indoors at home, on top of weeks already spent indoors in lockdown……'

"Bishop Peter said: "Families have been under strain all over the country, and particularly in areas like Weston super Mare where so many are reliant for income from tourism. I'm hoping people can rally round and support families with donations of money or games to help put a smile on the faces of children who have undergone a tough and confusing few months."

Youth advisers for the diocese have also put together a guide on running a virtual holiday club to help churches reach out to families this summer. Several churches are running online holiday clubs for children. Find the details on our Coronavirus support page for Schools, Children and Young People.

Donation details

If you’d like to support the appeal and send games, pens or puzzles or a financial donation, please send to Weston Foodbank, North St, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1QF or drop off in person on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10am and 2.30pm. Milton Baptist Church, Baytree Rd, Weston-super-Mare BS22 8HJ also collects donations to the and donations can be dropped on if person on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:30am and 11:30am.

The Foodbank is particularly asking for gel pens, jigsaw puzzles, games which families can play together such as Jenga; Uno; Hippos; Memory games, as well as colouring books, including colouring books for older children and adults. All items should be new and unused.'

(Note from the Editor, Wheathill Benefice, our local foodbanks have been contacted - Lords Larder, Yeovil and Glastonbury Foodbank - they are doing okay at the moment).

The Henry Livius Trust

The Livius Trust aims to provide items, services or facilities at Keinton Mandeville Primary School to advance religion in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England. The Trustees are open to any proposals to accord with the Trusts aims.

Rev. Jane Durham (01458) 223417
Deborah Whittingham (01458) 224057
Belinda Simson (01458) 223470 Neill Thomas (01458)223613
Keinton Mandeville Parish Council

(01458) 224593 Sun View, Babcary Lane, Keinton Mandeville – kmpcclerk@gmail.com
Privacy Notice: http://www.keintonvh.co.uk/village/PCArchive/KMPCPN.pdf

Parish Council Meetings

During the current restrictions Parish Council meetings will continue to be held remotely and details will be published on the website – http://www.keintonvh.co.uk/village/Parishcouncil.php at least three days beforehand. Details of how the public can join these meetings will also be published on the website. Next meeting – is planned to take place on 4th August 2020 at 7:30pm.

PC Grants for local groups and organisations

The Parish Council has a grants budget for local groups and organisations, if you would like to apply, please do so in writing via the clerk.

Overhanging Hedges

It is the time of year where shrubs and hedges are growing rapidly, this a plea to those residents who have shrubs that are growing alongside the highway/pavement. In some areas these are restricting visibility and access, please check your gardens and greenery and cut back if necessary.

Dog Fouling

This is a plea for an end to the unhelpful practice of picking up dog waste and then leaving the bagged waste in the hedge/on the ground. There are several dog waste bins around the village, please make use of these.

Bonfires

The Parish Council would like to remind all residents of Keinton Mandeville to exercise consideration regarding bonfires, including what is burnt on them. Should you decide to have a bonfire, kindly note these recommendations

- DO Choose the time of day and weather conditions that will cause the least inconvenience to neighbours.
- DO NOT burn damp grass clippings or ‘green’ material as this creates thick smoke.
- DO NOT burn any oily rags, rubber, plastics, damp garden waste or other materials which would inevitably create heavy smoke or toxic fumes.
- DO NOT light a bonfire when your neighbours have washing drying, or are out enjoying their gardens or have windows wide open.
- DO NOT light bonfires one hour before dusk, or leave them burning overnight.
- DO NOT leave your fire to smoulder for long periods. Never leave a fire unattended.
- DO advise your nearest neighbours before you light a bonfire so they can be prepared for any minor inconvenience that may arise.

Lydford Third Tuesday Group

Meetings: Suspended until further notice.

We now have our own Third Tuesday website for members and friends to keep in touch and share items of interest with everyone.

Link to website: https://lydford3t.btck.co.uk.

We will let members know as soon as we think it is the right time to start up our meetings again and a revised programme of events will be put on the Third Tuesday website. In the meantime, please send your contributions for the website to Lesley.

Women Visitors are welcome to all our events held at 7:30pm on the third Tuesday of most months in the Parish Hall, West Lydford. Membership is £15 p.a. Please contact Sarah Gooder on 240698 or Lesley Ridgley on 240837 if you would like more information or if you would like to come along with someone.

Everyone is welcome to attend our “Open Meetings”
Listening Chaplaincy Phoneline Suspended as community opens up
Posted on 2nd July 2020
in News, Connect, Chaplaincy

With the opening up of several parts of society, including greater access to places of worship, organisers of the Listening Chaplaincy Phoneline have decided to suspend the operation.

Run by 90 lay and clergy chaplains the phoneline was set up to provide emotional support to those suffering from COVID-19 related anxiety in the Avon and Somerset area. It was created by the faith communities working together in the major emergencies team (originally established 30 years ago to provide face-to-face support in times of emergency) and was adapted to become a chaplaincy phoneline in response to the pandemic.

It took just one month to develop the service and train team members and it operated successfully for two months. Bishop Peter praised the work of the helpline, thanking those who set it up and the volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout to support those in need. “I give thanks to all those who worked to enable this to happen, for those who have been helped and for the things we have learnt along the way.”

Not all the calls the phoneline received were linked directly to COVID 19, but many were in response to the impact of the crisis on people. Organisers also believe there have been other indirect positive consequences, “It is now known that the Faith Communities can respond to crisis in a different and extended way, meaning, for example, a victim support line could be speedily established in the wake of a major emergency incident.”

David Maggs Bath and Wells Mission Team Leader was part of the group which helped organise the phoneline, he commended all those involved for their dedication and determination.

“We thank everyone for their willingness to be involved, and for the passion, endurance and commitment shown. We have made a positive difference to many people’s lives, as we hoped we would. We know we have built a fellowship of volunteers who were “ready for anything” together.”

His words were echoed by Revd Adrian Prior-Sankey, Lead Chaplain, Taunton Team Chaplaincy, “It proved to be a real blessing to those who called seeking a caring response to their needs during the lockdown period. The 90 volunteers considered it a privilege to be able to listen and pray with those who welcomed the offer. Organisers hope that many of the team members will continue their association with the Faith Communities’ Major Emergency plan Response team and be ready to serve their neighbours again in whatever way help might be needed”.

The Benefice Choir

The Benefice Choir continues to meet online for a choir practice and then to work in the relative quiet of their own homes to record the soprano, alto, tenor or bass parts of some well-known hymns. Those being rehearsed this month include ‘The Lord’s my shepherd’, ‘O Worship the King’ and the ‘Celtic Communion’.

Although the choir misses the fellowship of being together to sing and support the four churches of the Benefice, almost all members are now familiar with using Zoom. The fact that Lynne has the power to ‘mute’ voices wholly or severally, makes for a very cheerful, if not always totally musical, practice!

Once recorded and edited, the video of the Choir’s latest efforts will be uploaded to the Wheathill Benefice YouTube page: Wheathill Benefice YouTube page and will also be included in one of the weekly online services.

The Choir would welcome any extra singers, so do please contact Lynne for further information. (Lynne Kirkman 01458 850040).
St Peter’s Church, Lydford on Fosse

We have all been living in our own worlds for the last four months but although moving back to some sort of normality is very welcome it is proving to have its issues.

As you are aware the church building at Lydford has been and remains closed for the time being both for private prayer and services. This is mainly due to the vast number of visitors we are getting visiting the river and surrounding area and therefore the risk of vandalism but also the added complexities needed to open the church at the moment. We are keeping this under constant review as Covid guidelines are reassessed.

75th Anniversary of V J Day

We are however planning to hold an open air service at the War Memorial in the car park on **Saturday, 15th August** the 75th anniversary of V J Day.

As we were not able to mark the 75th Anniversary of V E Day this will give us the chance to remember all those who gave there lives, as well as those who fought for our country in the last war. We can also celebrate the peace that came but with a great loss of life.

*A bell or bells will be rung at 11 am followed by a 2 minute silence* before a short service of remembrance and celebration. We do ask all those attending to **Socially Distance** themselves in the car park and churchyard as required.

The car park will be closed for the service so please park **considerately** on the side of the road or walk if able.

Lydford River group

For information, there has been set up in the village a **Lydford River Group** to look at ways of trying to control the parking, numbers and behaviour of those visiting the area. We do hope they have some success. We have managed to keep picnickers and sunbathers out of the churchyard this year, which must be one of the only pluses for covid, apart from also bringing communities together.

**Services**

We shall keep you informed as to when we do start services again in Lydford and the Benefice. Do please keep safe and well.

**The Walters and Pope Trust Fund (Lydford-on-Fosse)**

❖ **HELP!** Do you know anyone in Lydford who needs help and/or support?
❖ It may be help with buying books for university.
❖ It may be help with buying tools or equipment for a new job.
❖ It may be support for someone who is ill, or who is caring for someone.

The Walters and Pope Trust Fund has a small annual income – the Trustees would like to spend this money, fairly and discreetly, for the benefit of anyone who lives in Lydford. If there is anyone who would like assistance, please contact the Trust in confidence: Secretary, Caroline Seehra (New number) tel: (01963) 240735 or The Treasurer, Ann Parkhouse tel: 01963 240268.

**The Welcome and POPin Cafe**

We will let you all know when we can start up again. Keep well and keep safe.

Lydford on Fosse Parish Council

Please check our website for details of our Virtual Monthly Meetings at: **lydfordonfosse.co.uk** – Click on Parish Council, scroll down to that month’s agenda and link for Zoom meeting on first page of agenda. **lofpcclerk@gmail.com**

**Meetings dates for 2020:**
- August 13th, September 10th, October 8th,
- November 12th and December 10th.
A burglary prevention campaign is to be launched nationally at the end of July into early August.

The campaign will focus on 4 simple steps we can all take to prevent burglaries from happening to them. As lockdown continues to be lifted, an increasing number of people are leaving the comfort of their own homes to return to work and leisure activities.

We all know that most burglaries are opportunistic. The campaign will remind everyone as they leave their houses to take simple steps to keep their home safe as highlighted by the acronym WIDE:

- Windows: Window locks
- Interior: Interior lights on timer
- Doors: Double or deadbolts fitted to doors
- Exterior: Exterior lights on a sensor

Wheathill Golf Club is open and thriving!

During lock down, the course was maintained to a very high standard which is proving valuable with many new players as well as established members booking to play.

The recent rain has boosted the quality and vibrancy of the land and everybody seems happy to play according to current PGA rules and government guidelines.

Booking a tee off time is essential and lessons are available for all ages including children.

Clubhouse Opening

The Clubhouse is opening on Monday 13th July offering drinks only during the first week with snack food available from the second week.

Social distancing rules will apply.

For further info on the course, lessons and clubhouse, tel: 01963 240667

www.wheathillgolf.co.uk
Wildlife Friendly St Mary Magdalene’s Churchyard

There are two areas marked out to allow the existing grasses and bee friendly wildflowers to grow in the Churchyard.

A survey was arranged with the Somerset Botany Group and this took place on 11th July; excerpts from the survey follow:–

"It was a pleasure to visit this site on a sunny Saturday morning. The initial impression of carpets of yellow and purple flowers was very encouraging. The churchyard is at the edge of the village surrounded by gardens and pasture for horses and cattle. There are two areas where vegetation has been allowed to grow during the flowering season, otherwise the churchyard is mown with a number of large trees.

The unmown area to the north of the church is showing a good range of plants including:–

**Gallium verum (Lady’s Bedstraw),**

**Lotus corniculatus (Common Bird’s-foot Trefoil),**

A similar range of species are evident in the mown area north of the church. Overall, this is fairly typical of a flower-rich meadow on calcareous soils (as would be expected in Keinton, source of much Blue Lias limestone building stone).

**Ranunculus repen (Creeping Buttercup)**

Creeping buttercup suggests that the soil may not be as free-draining as might be expected on limestone.
Wildlife Friendly St Mary Magdalene’s Churchyard – Continuation

As well as Anacamptis pyramidalis (Pyramidal Orchid), Plantago media (Hoary plantain) and Leontodon hispidus (Rough Hawkbit).

The area to the south of the church is mostly mown, with a small area unmown. This side of the churchyard is somewhat less varied botanically, with more shade from the mature trees and a greater amount of Arrhenatherum elatius (False-oat Grass). Long grass is important as cover and food for a wide range of animals including caterpillars, grasshoppers, and small mammals.

Some of the areas under the trees and around the boundary provide further species such as Urtica dioica (Nettle), Rumex sanguineus (Wood Dock) and Rubus fruticosus (Bramble). There are a number of fine mature trees in the churchyard including a large Quercus cerris (Turkey Oak) and Taxus baccata (Yew). Bramble flowers are attractive to insects and nettles are the food plant of Peacock butterfly caterpillars.

Overall, the churchyard provides a range of habitats for butterflies, moths, bees, and other invertebrates which in turn will be attractive to birds and mammals. Leaving the plants to flower will attract pollinating insects and a late cut will allow plants to set seed – another source of food for birds and mammals.

Two ‘bee hotels’ have been set up in the churchyard and the limestone walls also provide plenty of refuges for animals of all kinds.”
There has been an outpouring of compassion during the pandemic, particularly for those on the front lines, our key workers. We are very aware that often because of their personal sacrifices quality family time has not always been possible. That is why we have launched our Thank You Key Workers Appeal.

This will help provide a range of day trips and short breaks for families of key workers in the UK to help rebuild connections and togetherness, especially for those who have been kept apart or who are on low incomes - families who would generally be unable to have experiences like this. (Check on our website at: mothersunion.org for more information and how to donate).

Staying connected through midday prayers
Our UK members who don’t have access to the internet at home will still be able to hear our midday prayers thanks to the Church of England's Daily Hope line. Just call 0800 804 8044 from a UK mobile or landline and press option 4, then option 8.

We are of course still running midday prayers Monday – Saturday on our public Facebook page. Thousands of you have viewed these already, but for those interested and not aware, feel free to watch and comment.

Please remember to share the following sign-up link with anyone you think may be interested in receiving this newsletter: bit.ly/mothersunionemails

Other 2020 Updates
As mentioned in previous issues, the Growing in Hope & Confidence Together conference is having to be rescheduled as it was due to take place in June. The Conference Planning group will be letting everyone know about the future plans as soon as possible and also about other ways in which we can share and learn from each other in the meantime.

Mothers’ Union Annual Gathering (formally the General Meeting) 2020
This will no longer be taking place on 26th September. We can confirm that it has been rescheduled for the same venue, the ICC in Belfast, on 25th September 2021. There will be a thanksgiving service taking place in the Cathedral on Friday 24th September 2021. An updated information pack will be available towards the end of this year.

You can subscribe to our YouTube channel to receive our updates and video content: bit.ly/mothersunionyoutube

Mary Sumner Day resources
As all of our members will know, we are fast approaching Mary Sumner day (9th August) where we celebrate our founder and all she has achieved through our movement.

We are looking forward to commemorating the occasion with thought-provoking services and downloadable resources. These will soon be on our website at: mothersunion.org

Notes from MU July 2020 e-Newsletter mothersuniononline.org

 Angie HomeCare Services

- Personal Care
- Cooking
- Respite
- Cleaning
- Night Care
- Shopping
- Companionship

Tel: 01963 240277
Email: angiehutchings59@gmail.com

Wood Works Timber Framing & Carpentry

Structural Timber Work in Green Oak and Softwood

For Timber extensions, Porches and Outbuildings

Call Tristan Eckl
Tel: 01963 240 426 Mobile: 07939 247 154
tristan@woodworksframing.co.uk

The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley
The Right Reverend Ruth Worsley
Bishop of Taunton—August 2020

Time for a rest

I’m tired! I don’t know about you? And yet I am getting up later and going to bed earlier than I was accustomed to before the pandemic struck. I’m travelling less, indeed I still have an almost full tank of petrol and have had to call out the AA three times because the battery has died! I’m at home principally, but my working day has got fuller and more demanding as time has gone on.

So, I’m planning a holiday! A retreat and some study leave. Having been ordained 24 years I have yet to have a period of sabbatical and I’m looking forward to it! It is not going to take the form I would have planned. There will not be the opportunity of a trip overseas or a residential conference to attend, but there will be plenty of time for family, rest, reading and reflection.

What about you? I know some of you might be feeling that our children have had one big holiday at home since lockdown but I can assure you that they, their parents and their teachers have all been working hard to ensure that learning can continue even though the normal patterns have been disturbed. Whether we have been working from home, furloughed or feeling alone in isolation, each of us will I expect have experienced something of the sense of weariness that heightened anxiety, change of routine and uncertain expectation brings.

So I want to encourage you to take some time off. There’s a fabulous little children’s story called, Jesus’ Day Off, which you might like read as an example of the need for even the Creator to re-create. The example of Sabbath rest which our Creator God offers us in the opening chapters of the Bible, speak to us of the need for taking time to put down the tools of work and take space to reflect and rest. We have spent the past few months in lockdown in order to keep ourselves physically healthy. Let’s make sure that in these next few months we attend as much to our spiritual and emotional health, by discovering sabbath rest!

With every blessing,
Bishop Ruth

PlotgateCSA Community Farm and our changing times

Friday 4 –7pm – Collection from the Barton Inn skittle alley.

Monday – Collection point is at a back-up location, the garage of a member household in Glastonbury, on a self-service basis.

Saturday mornings – The named boxes are on a trolley just inside the door of The Bridge in Langport, open as a food shop, to be picked up easily.

Home Deliveries

And of course, we continue cheerful and socially-distant deliveries to doorsteps!

Plotgate Community Farm is co-operatively run by its members, growing seasonal vegetables on a 9-acre site in Barton St David.

The Farm’s members can collect, or have delivered, a weekly or fortnightly share of the produce, each box containing at least 8 different types of vegetable. There are events, activities and opportunities as well as fresh food all through the year.

Barton Inn - Vegetables available for collection

Every Friday from 4 -7 pm we have freshly-picked vegetables to collect from the Barton Inn. If you’d like a share of the harvest – we also deliver on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings. Call or text 07817 608 283, or email plotgate.csa@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook, and at www.plotgatecsa.wordpress.com
July has seen some positive moves for Barton St David Scout Group. Very excitingly we have just heard that we can start to plan for face to face activities again in groups of up to 15 people outdoors.

Of course there are a few restrictions and detailed plans have to be approved by a hierarchy of Scout Association people. But our wonderful members are well worth that effort and hopefully you’ll have some news of what we are doing next month. I’m not sure when we will get back to face to face indoors but we are so fortunate to have an outdoor meeting place with the best ‘landlord’ in the country. It is through his generosity that we are able to look forward with confidence and get going again.

Having smaller groups and some leaders who are unable to return face to face just yet does mean that we may struggle to get the required leaders for each session. With a group of 15 we anticipate requiring 2-3 adults meaning that we can have 12 children.

If you are able to join in the fun as a volunteer then please let me know. I promise that no one will be asked to do more than they wish to do and if needed your support can be simply for the duration of the current situation. Please get in touch with me if you’d like to do your bit to make 60 wonderful local children very happy indeed.

One of the characteristics of success is the ability to be flexible, to adapt to change and simply to give things a go.

July has been no exception! After the super enjoyable May virtual camp this weekend saw many of our young people take part in the summer camp.
The virtual camp was opened and closed by Bear Grylls and activities were laid on by Ed Stafford (explorer who has walked the length of the Amazon); acid-base reaction rockets led by the UK space agency; whirly birds led by the RAF – as well as origami; compass coding led by Raspberry Pi and Tower Building led by Rolls Royce amongst many other activities.

A great opportunity for those that attended from their back gardens or from the depths of Dartmoor on a family wild camp and still enjoying the Scouting fun.

I’m so proud of those that took part and worked really hard to make the best of the current situation. No moaning about what they can’t do, just the can-do spirit that we take care to foster through all our sections from age 6 to 18. That’s why we have just put in a bumper order for 104 badges which are just about to be delivered to our members.

So a positive story to tell in a strange time. But we are definitely hoping to get back and see each other face to face again shortly! In the meantime, here are some pictures of our fantastic youngsters at the virtual camp.

Vega Sturgess
Group Scout Leader, Barton St David Scout Group
gslbarton@yahoo.com

Keinton Mandeville WI
If looking to make friends and learn about new things, look no further than our WI. You will be surprised at what we offer

The W.I. are making sure we keep in contact with members, sometimes via internet group chats, quizzes etc. but also good old fashioned phone calls!!!

If anyone would like to join us and become a friend of the W.I. for the duration of the lockdown then don’t hesitate. It won’t cost you a penny and we will be delighted to include you in our communications.

Just email presidentwi@gmail.com
Bishop Ruth, new patron of Send a Cow, Launches Harvest resources

From July, Bishop Ruth will be a patron for the international development charity, Send a Cow. The charity, based near Bath, helps families in rural Africa to grow their own futures. To mark this new appointment, Bishop Ruth is calling on churches to join Send a Cow in their Harvest celebrations, on-line or outside, during September or October.

Bishop Ruth says, “I’m delighted to be invited to support Send a Cow in becoming Patron. The development work SAC does in support of African rural life, environmental concerns and in empowering women within their communities, are all areas I am passionate about.

The Harvest appeal, which we now launch, is an invitation to all of us to do what we can to ensure that our African sisters and brothers share with us in a fruitful future as we emerge from the pandemic. As Christians, we may not be able to gather across different cultures physically, but we hope that we can celebrate God’s good gifts to us whether online or in other innovative ways, within restrictions. Do join in!”

Send a Cow have created free Harvest resources for an online church service, including a special Harvest video, to tell your congregation about families like Dessie’s from Ethiopia, and what Harvest means to them. You can sign up to access Bishop Ruth’s special Harvest reflection video to share via video link.

Send a Cow, which was set up 30 years ago by Christian dairy farmers from the South West has helped over 2 million people in rural Africa grow their own futures, free from poverty and hunger. It’s true that these farmers sent cows to Africa on planes, in response to the 1988 famine in Uganda, but now the charity helps family farmers through training in gender and social exclusion, sustainable agriculture and enterprise skills.

Nigel Varndell, Director of Development says, “We are thrilled to formally welcome Bishop Ruth to the Send a Cow family. Her interest in our work and her support for families in rural Africa is inspiring to us all. As families in Africa learn to adapt to a changing climate it’s vital for us to connect with congregations and communities, both to be thankful this Harvest and help our neighbours, too.”

For more information and a free pack to help you celebrate visit: www.sendacow.org/harvest