

*Kingston Parish & Church  
Magazine*



**December 2020**

## **Village Diary**

While the Village Hall may well be open again soon – subject, of course, to the Government restrictions – few activities are being scheduled.

Please see details below of the virtual Christmas Fair which is an important fundraiser for the Village Hall

## **Wheelie bin collection dates**

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Blue and Green bins
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Black bin
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Blue and Green bins
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Black bin
Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> January, 2021	Blue bin only

## **Editorial**

Well, 2020 is coming to an end and many of you are probably saying “good riddance”! With a second lockdown in operation, besides thinking of all the things you can’t do, take a few minutes to think about the things that you’ve appreciated about this extended time at home. Paul Wright asked us to talk about our lockdown reading and Pat Draper has responded in this issue. Think also about the activities that our own villagers have created for us. Virtual weekly coffee mornings are ongoing, outdoors wellness classes were held as long as the weather permitted, and now the virtual Christmas Fair is being organized for December 12<sup>th</sup> – details are given below. This is definitely something to look forward to. Hopefully, the church events described in this issue will go ahead, including the village carolling. All these activities are ample evidence of the resiliency of the village and villagers.

The lovely photo on this month’s cover was taken by Joan Reynolds and the evocative Christmas Greenery photos (inside) were taken by Jacqueline Smith and Kay Forsythe. A big thank you to all the contributors whose photos have been featured this year.

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## Vicar's Letter

There has been a lot of talk recently of Christmas being “cancelled”, and of the need to “save Christmas” so I’m glad to be able to reassure everyone that Christmas isn’t cancelled and doesn’t need saving.

Historical events can’t be cancelled: Jesus was born 2020 years ago (give or take) and nothing can change that, or our ability to celebrate it. Christmas is not just an historical event, but the historical event. When Almighty God, creator and ruler of the entire universe, becomes part of creation as a human being, that has to be the defining point of the whole of human history.

Of course, the world at Christmas 2020 looks very different from Christmas 2019. There have been floods and fires, earthquakes and locusts, terrorism and war – above all, there has been, and still is, the covid pandemic which has killed so very many people and turned our everyday lives upside down. The things which usually give us pleasure – holidays, weddings, christenings, family gatherings – have had to be scaled back, or even cancelled.

Yet through it all, the spirit of Christmas has been evident – the spirit of loving our neighbour. Christmas is the message of hope that we need to hear amid the torrent of bad news: God didn’t come to Earth as some sort of Divine tourist, he came on a mission, and that mission was our ultimate redemption. We don’t need to save Christmas – we need Christmas to save us.

At Christmas we can find meaning and redemption because God has ultimately dealt with all that hurts and disturbs us. The Jesus we greet as the baby in the stable in Bethlehem is the same Jesus who died for us on the cross, rose again having defeated death, ascended to his Father in heaven, and promised that he will be with us for ever.

Christmas isn’t something to be celebrated just once a year. Christmas doesn’t stop at midnight on 25th December, or on 6th January when the decorations come down. Christmas doesn’t even stop at Easter, though at Easter a triumphant new theme weaves into the symphony of God’s love for us.

Christmas needs to happen every day as we allow, again, Jesus to be born for us, and to be the light in our darkness.

***Revd. Steve Day***

## Church opening

The church is open for private prayer on **Wednesdays** and **Saturdays**, from 9.30 to 5pm. Please use the hand sanitiser provided and keep to the social distancing guidelines.

## Church services for December

**Morning Prayer ZOOM Chapel: Mondays to Saturdays at 8.15am**

**Compline ZOOM Chapel: Thursdays 9.00pm**

**Telephone service on Mondays at 5.00pm**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December Morning Prayer 10am ZOOM Chapel**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December Evening Prayer 6.00pm ZOOM Chapel**

See [www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org) for more details.

**Church Services at Kingston** (*subject to government guidelines as yet unknown*)

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December Holy Communion 8.30am**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS EVE Family Communion 6.00pm.**

(Kingston will participate in the proposed national church bell ringing before this service)

*NB* Face masks are required for members of the congregation for services indoors. At Holy Communion no wine will be administered; the officiating priest will bring the wafers to members of the congregation.

**Christmas Safari Carol Service Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm**

This year the Carol Service will be 'on safari' (*if government advice permits*), gathering at 3 outdoor locations: 1, The Recreation Ground at 6.00pm; 2, The Village Green, opposite Field Row, 6.25pm; 3, in the Churchyard 6.45pm. *See flyer for further details.* Social distancing will be observed. It is hoped that mulled wine may be served at the conclusion of this event.

## Church cleaning

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Janet Clear
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Linda Rimmer

## Church flowers and brasses

Sunday 6th December	Lee Steele
Sunday 13th December	Christine Stone
Sunday 20th December	Christine Allison
Sunday 27th December	Janet Clear

## Church Finances

Attentive readers will have noticed that annual running costs to the end of 2019 amounted to £17,800, not £16,800 as stated in last month's magazine. Recognising that parish church incomes have been seriously affected by the pandemic, our Rector, Nigel di Castiglione, and our Team Treasurer, Simon Fordham, in consultation with the Diocese, have been working hard to reduce both the Team and Ministry Shares for all the 15 churches in the Papworth Team. In November contributions to the Team Share for 2020 were reduced by 16% and the aggregate Ministry Share by 20% for 2021. For Kingston, Team expenses next year should be £1,860 (£2,223 was the planned figure) and the Ministry Share £6,925 (as opposed to £9,231). Our own Treasurer, Linda Rimmer adds, 'as expenditure last month (October) exceeded income by £800 this will be a very welcome reduction and help us get back on track'. *P.R.*

## Advance notice: international celebration of the Ellacombe Frame: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2021

In June next year the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the invention of the Ellacombe Frame – the wooden framed apparatus which allows church bells to be chimed rather than pealed – will be marked with a world-wide chiming, beginning in New Zealand and ending in Canada. Parishioners will know that we possess such a frame, which probably dates from the late 1920s, and we will no doubt wish to take part in this celebration with great enthusiasm. The device was the invention of the remarkable Revd Henry Ellacombe, Curate (and later Vicar) of St Mary's, Bitton, in Gloucestershire, from 1817; he was also an engineer, an antiquarian and a horticulturalist. On his institution to the parish he found that the village's bell ringers were divided into two rival teams, chose to peal for any reason they wished and for anyone who cared to pay, were often drunk, lewd and disorderly, and seldom attended church services. It took him several years to subdue his ringers, and the installation of the chiming apparatus was his way of gaining

control and imposing discipline. The Ellacombe Frame does, however, have two important virtues: firstly, it allows change-ringing to be carried out by one person, rather than by a team; and, secondly, chiming is more suitable than pealing where bell frames or towers have structural weaknesses. 21.06.21: save this date!

***Peter Reynolds***

## **New arrivals**

Henry and Katie Vickers, their three children and two Maltipoos are moving into New Barns Farm on the Toft Road. We wish them well in their new home and hope to meet them at future village events when restrictions allow.

The Fenwicks and their tortoises have moved on to Suffolk.

## **Jim Burnell's Pantomimes**

Those of us who have been here a few years still remember with affection Jim Burnell, and the extraordinary run of 14 pantomimes he wrote, and which a few highly talented villagers performed in front of a village audience each Christmas in the 80s and 90s. Broadway they were not, but we had a lot of fun rehearsing and performing. What the audience thought of them remains, perhaps mercifully, unrecorded, but we always had a full house.

Thanks to Miki Ellar, a copy of all of the scripts (save one) has survived, and I have spent the last couple of years gradually digitising them into a standardised format, suitable for printing. I have now finished this task, and am planning to print in the form of an A4 spiral-bound booklet. Clearly there will be only a small number of interested people, but the cheapest way would be to print enough copies in one go. The scripts make amusing reading - Jim was a master of the rhyming couplet, and he managed to include a large helping of invention and humour in his plots, including not a few excruciating puns.

I have already circulated this information to (what survives of) the aggregated cast of the 14 performances to see who might be interested. Cost will be something approaching £20 per copy, so I will ask for £20 and give any remaining cash to the village hall.

If anybody would like a copy, please let me know.

***Peter Stokes***

## Parish Council News

### Planning

- 20/2172/TTCA an application has been submitted to re-roof a garage and carry out tree work at Walker's Field, Church Lane. Kingston Parish Council has no objections.
- 20/02431/HFUL the application for two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and re-roofing works at Orchard Cottage, Crane's Lane has been granted.

Planning applications in South Cambridgeshire are now dealt with by Greater Cambridge Shared Planning. Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/>

*Peter Stokes, Parish Clerk*

Dear all

James Clear's farm building on the track beyond Field Road was broken into at around 9pm one night last week. The burglars stole some tools, and are thought to have come across the fields from Toft Road. There was a burglar alarm which went off, alerting James. The burglars must have known the alarm had gone off as they tried (unsuccessfully) to disarm it, but this apparently did not deter them.

The police were informed but did not attend.

Please check the security of your garages, outhouses, sheds etc.

*Peter Stokes*

### Home fires

*Winter is just round the corner. Are you ready?*

*Barn-stored logs to keep the home fires burning are available from Charlie Richmond.*



# KINGSTON VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 12th December  
10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

We're still looking for lots of donations. Please support this event!  
Here's how:-

**DONATE** Phone the stallholders to tell them what you can contribute. You can do this up till the end of November.

**CAKES AND PUDS** cakes, biscuits, flapjacks, scones, buns, meringues, profiteroles, sweet pastries, desserts, fresh bread Tel. Miki

**CHRISTMAS GOODIES** mince-pies, Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, stollen, Christmas biscuits, sweets, truffles, Christmas tree candy  
Tel. Suzy

**MARKET STALL** jams, chutneys, pâtés, terrines, meat pies, game, gift boxes of fresh fruit or vegetables Tel. Pat

**BOTTLE STALL** wine, spirits, home made sloe gin Tel. Peter

**LOOK** A SHOPPING CATALOGUE for the stalls above will be displayed on the village website from 5-12 December and circulated via email (to those on the village mailing list).

**HANDMADE CHRISTMAS GIFTS** can be viewed in advance at [www.etsy.com/shop/kaisydaisysew crazy](http://www.etsy.com/shop/kaisydaisysew crazy) and will be discounted from 1-12 December (see below). 20% of the purchase price to go towards village hall funds.

**BUY** On the day, simply phone the individual stallholders to make your purchase.  
Payment details will be on the catalogue.

To buy Kay's fantastic handmade goods, visit the website and enter the coupon code VILLAGE20 at checkout to receive 20% off!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR VILLAGE!



## We're here to help you stay well this winter

This winter, it's really important that we all remember that the NHS is here to help you stay well, safely.

We have been working hard to make changes to how healthcare is provided to make it safe for you during the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

If you're worried about your health, don't delay. The sooner you get advice, the better.


Depending on your symptoms, you can get advice from your local pharmacy, GP practice or NHS 111. For minor health concerns, your local pharmacist can help. GP practices offer remote consultations online or by phone, or if you need a face-to-face appointment, they will tell you what to do.

If you need medical help fast, think you need to go to an Emergency Department (A&E) or you're not sure what to do, use NHS 111 first – online or by phone to get clinical advice or direction to the most appropriate services for treatment for you.










You can also help us to help you. If you are over 65, have a long-term health condition or are pregnant, it is more important than ever this year to ensure you have your free flu vaccination. Just speak to your GP or pharmacist to book an appointment. You can also find more information at [www.nhs.uk/flu vaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/flu vaccine)


Be sure to also stock up your medicine cabinet with winter self-care essentials too. Many over-the-counter medicines (including paracetamol and ibuprofen) are available to help relieve symptoms of common winter illnesses and you can find further information at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)


To help prevent further spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) please follow current Government guidelines for the area you live in at all times. If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus it's important you get tested as soon as possible. You can apply for a test online via [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus), or by calling 119.





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## LIVING GRAVEYARDS

Britain's Biggest Dig was a recent BBC series about the excavation of cemeteries at Euston and Birmingham during the construction of HS2. It provides a fascinating insight into the social and medical history of 19th Century England and is still available on iPlayer.

Exploring churches is a hobby of mine and with the advent of the smartphone I found I could instantly summon up the story of the lives of people named on gravestones and memorial tablets, revealing some extraordinary and some ordinary lives and events.

I will start with Cornwall and continue to other counties in later magazines. Maybe others can contribute similar experiences.



In Zennor (famous for its mermaid legend), near Land's End, I noticed a slate memorial in the churchyard wall bearing the name of Vera May Atkins, Legion d'Honneur, Croix de Guerre. The French honours made me curious and Google told me that this was the Vera Atkins of the SOE and assistant

to its Head, Colonel Maurice Buckmaster. A good account of her life can be found on Wikipaedia and I will only provide a few highlights here. She was Jewish and half British, from Romania, and her first undercover mission was to help smuggle a Polish copy of a German Enigma machine from Poland to Romania just before the outbreak of war. We all know this was to be a game changer in breaking German codes. She joined SOE and ran the infiltration of female agents into France, including Violette Szabo and Noor Inayat Khan. So many of these women were captured that she came under suspicion of being a double agent, but this was never substantiated and it was dismissed by SOE's historian M.R.D. Foot. After the war she went to Europe to help discover what had happened to 118 of her missing women agents and report on the circumstances of their capture and terrible deaths. She was instrumental in the award of posthumous George Crosses to Violette Szabo and Noor Inayat Khan.

Further up country, in Launceston, is St Mary Magdalene's Church. Inside is a memorial to Thomas Prockter Ching, aged 22, who was murdered and probably eaten by cannibals in 1843.

He was among the crew of the merchantman, Charles Eaton, which had sailed from Falmouth and foundered on the Great Barrier Reef. The crew and passengers set out in boats, but were taken by Timorese from the Island of Boydang in the Torres Strait. An expedition was



sent to look for survivors in 1836 and two boys were found, in addition to 17 skulls of the murdered crew. The boys, John Ireland and William D'Oyly, had lived with their captors for some months, and were eventually exchanged to a couple from Murray Island in the Torres Strait, for a bunch of bananas; the couple reportedly believing the white skinned children were ghosts of dead relatives. They were treated with kindness by the Murray Islanders and survived to be rescued in 1836.

The skulls were buried together in a grave in Sydney and a number of drawings, probably fanciful, were published of how they had been displayed on Boydang.

Next time, from Cambridgeshire, a heartbroken vicar, a great landscape gardener and a Fenstanton man killed in the Russian revolution.

***Paul Wright***

## **From Our MP**

Many of you will have been following the events of the last two weeks closely and will already know how I voted last Wednesday: for the lockdown.

I share the anger and frustration felt by many at the announcement of a new lockdown, and at the impact it has on our livelihoods and liberties. It is particularly unfair on South Cambs, which has had just two deaths from Covid in the last 5 months. I have argued strongly against it behind the scenes, with MPs, ministers, cabinet ministers and Number 10.

But there are many counter arguments. It is absolutely clear that the epidemic is taking off nationally at a very rapid pace (but less rapid than the first peak). Across the UK, NHS hospitals are terrified of soon being overwhelmed by COVID patients, and having to limit treatment to the extent of deciding which patients to save and which to let die. Addenbrooke's is probably in the best position of any hospital in the country, but it will end up taking overflow from other hospitals elsewhere that

cannot cope. I also spoke with a large number of constituents, and also asked them what they think in a survey. Over 700 people replied, and although it is entirely unscientific, it is pretty conclusive: 60% are in favour of a second national lockdown. This public opinion was a big factor in my thinking.

It is most important now to focus on what happens next. As this lockdown continues, I want to urge everyone to stick to the rules and stay safe, and I give the firmest possible commitment that I will use the next four weeks to campaign with other MPs to ensure the lockdown ends at the beginning of December, that we move back to a tailored localised system, and then lift all restrictions as quickly as possible.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who took the time to write to me on the subject over the past week. It is very important to me that you are heard, and I can assure you that I have taken on board all my constituents' comments.

**Anthony Browne MP**

## Bourn primary needs your help....

Every year the school raises in the region of £15,000 through fundraising activities that advance the education of pupils in the school.

Sadly due to Covid and current restrictions we are forecasting that we will only be able to raise £5000 this year through our fundraising events.

Here is how you can help -

For every purchase you make on Amazon they will donate 0.5% to our charity - the BSA (our version of a Parent Teacher Association).

It couldn't be more straight forward and user friendly...

- 1.) download the 'Amazon app'
- 2.) go to settings and click on 'programmes and features' (also can be accessed via 'settings')
- 3.) select 'AmazonSmile'
- 4.) select Bourn School Association as your chosen charity.

Then hey presto - every time you go through 'check out' you will be raising money for our fabulous village school! You can also shop by typing Amazon Smile in your web browser.

This simple act will make a huge difference to the education of our children so please do consider taking 2 minutes out of your day to set it up.

Thanks

**The BSA at Bourn Primary School**

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Thank you from the BSA

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## Lockdown Reading

Once again, during this second lockdown, my reading has been varied to say the least. First, I finished “The Habsburgs: The Rise and Fall of a World Power” by Martyn Rady, then I’ve started to re-read Jaroslav Hasek’s “The Good Soldier Svejk” and in between I read “Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less” by Greg McKeown.

“The Habsburgs”, perhaps surprisingly, is a fascinating account of the Habsburg family’s rise to power in the mists of the Dark Ages to its twentieth century demise. Starting as just another Central European family based in Austria and thereabouts, through territorial gains (always seeming to be on the right side in various conflicts) and judicious marriages the Habsburg family became a world power in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with its Spanish branch conquering most of South America and its Austrian branch having territorial interests in the Far East. Indeed, anything important that happened thereabouts had the Habsburg stamp on it. As guardians of the Holy Roman Empire, protagonists in the Thirty Years War, and participants in both the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation, by hook or by crook, the dynasty’s fortunes went from strength to strength. Along the way (and these are the extra details Martyn Rady is so good at covering), the family employed Tycho Brahe and Johannes Kepler, both astrologers, whose rigour in observation and experimental method provided the foundation of modern science. Much travelled as they were, various Habsburg kings (and one queen, Maria Theresa) acquired interests in botany and zoology and collected specimens from all over the world and were the first to establish museums and zoological gardens in their provinces. Indeed, Rady argues that the Enlightenment wouldn’t have happened when it did without the family’s sponsorship.

So far so good. In the nineteenth century, however, having seen off Napoleon’s territorial ambitions, the Habsburgs were hit by the rise of nationalism both outside their borders (in Germany and Italy in particular) and within their borders, especially in the Balkans which, at last, were free of Turkish control. In fact, of course, it was the Balkans that were to be the Habsburgs undoing, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo in June 1914 at the hands of Serbian Gavrilo Princip, the incident that led to the outbreak of the First World War. Who would have thought in January 1914, with the Habsburgs atop the sprawling Austro-Hungarian Empire, that within the space of a few years not only would the heir to the throne be dead but also his uncle, the long-serving and much-venerated Emperor, Franz Joseph, (who died in 1916) and the much vaunted imperial army defeated by the Allied forces? In 1918, at the end of the war, the Habsburgs, with

their empire in tatters, lost their crown as well, with what territory they had left becoming a republic. As Martyn Rady observes:

As the reputation of the dynasty tottered, there was no sense left of a common bond to keep the peoples of the Habsburg Empire together in some sort of political union or collective enterprise. The collapse of the Habsburg Empire in 1918 was for this reason final and entire. In the history of most European states, the year marks the end of a chapter... For the Habsburg Empire, it is the end of the book.

Staying with the theme of Austria-Hungary in the First World War, I am now re-reading, after many years, "The Good Soldier Svejk" by Jaroslav Hasek, the satirical debunking of the much lauded reputation of the imperial army. Given that the book is partly autobiographical, it's important to know something about the author himself.

Jaroslav Hasek was a Bohemian bohemian and anarchist, an itinerant sponger and drunk who kept himself barely afloat with his writing. He died young (in 1923) leaving behind his classic novel about the war. His main character in the book, the good soldier, is an amiable idiot (whether for real or pretend – you never really know), who manages to survive all the vicissitudes life throws at him with a mix of innocence, gauche-ness, naïve manipulation, and native wisdom. Svejk is the complete antithesis of the army and its lofty pretensions and reputation; yet he survives and the army crumbles. Although he was discharged from military service for patent idiocy, as he proudly tells everyone, he is far from being a fool. He is quite capable of making himself appear a fool to save a situation. Interestingly, for many years, Hasek's novel was positively disliked in his homeland as it appeared to say something very negative about the Czech character. Today, it is seen as a classic of the genre.

And now for something completely different! I've just finished reading "Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less" by Greg McKeown. This best-seller is a cross between a business book and a self-help book. It's an easy read but an enjoyable one. McKeown starts by asking his readers, "Have you ever found yourself stretched too thin? Have you ever felt both overworked and underutilized? Have you ever found yourself majoring in minor activities? Do you ever feel busy but not productive? Like you're always in motion, but never getting anywhere?" The way out, he says, is the way of the Essentialist. As he concludes:

Essentialism is not about how to get more things done; it's about how to get the right things done. It doesn't mean just doing less for the sake of less either. It is about making the wisest possible investment of your time and energy in order to operate at your highest point of contribution by doing only what is essential.

His quest is the relentless pursuit of “Less but Better”. On reflection, Svejek was an Essentialist, except, in his case, he deliberately did less to avoid doing more! Again, on reflection, being in lockdown and having to stay at home, is probably the ideal time to put McKeown’s ideas into practice.

**Peter Holly**

## **The Testaments by Margaret Atwood**

One of the books I most enjoyed reading during the first lockdown was *The Testaments*, the long-awaited sequel to *The Handmaid’s Tale*, Margaret Atwood’s hugely successful novel of 1985. This earlier book experienced a resurgence in interest in 2016, when women all over America used it as a symbol of disgust at the election of Donald Trump to the office of President. A British television series followed and took the original story a little further, with the collaboration of the author. Meantime Atwood was writing her sequel which was published last year and went on to share first prize in the Booker 2019.

It would be wrong to imagine that *The Testaments* follows on from where *The Handmaid’s Tale* left off. Time-wise it skips fifteen years and is narrated not by the original heroine but by three other characters, only one of whom we have met before. The device is complicated but ingenious. It requires a bit of effort to unravel and slowly piece together the plot but allows the reader to judge what happened from three different perspectives.

Like its precursor the book explores themes of the various roles of women in society, of life under a totalitarian regime, the struggle for personal and political freedom and the power of education and knowledge. It poses the question of whether sisterhood can allow women to regain control of their lives, their bodies and their future. Indeed the underlying mood of secrecy, uncertainty and betrayal constantly prompts the reader to question their own degree of independence.

Margaret Atwood is one of my favourite writers and she is on absolutely top-form in *The Testaments*. The writing is sharp, irreverent and witty and the narrative is horrifying but gripping, with frequent twists and turns. Some passages are sickening, only to be relieved by a laugh-out-loud profanity. One of the many accolades to this book (by Naomi Alderman) sums up what I find most intriguing about her style: “She manages to write about the darkest and most terrifying parts of human psychology in a way that is deeply funny and full of dark strange hope”.

Thoroughly recommended!

**Pat Draper**



Happy Christmas and a peacefilled New Year  
from Kingston Church  
& Papworth Team Churches



We hope and pray that in these unusual times  
you have a blessed and peaceful Christmas!

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December      8.30am- Holy Communion  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December    6.00pm - Open-air Carols and Christmas readings  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December   6.00pm – Holy Communion for Christmas

*(Keep an eye open for other exciting things happening on the Team website)*

Zoom services on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 10.00am - Morning Worship & 6.00pm, Evening Prayer  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 6.00pm, Evening Prayer  
(to join visit [www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org))

All services and events are Subject to Covid 19 restrictions

 **Papworth Team Ministry**  
... building bigger disciples  
[www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org)

## Christmas Greenery



## Neighbourhood Watch launches PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rd campaign with 3 quick and easy steps

As we spend more time at home and on our online devices, over one third (34%) of people say that they're more concerned about cybercrime than physical crime and a startling 1 in 5 people are a victim of cybercrime! You could be more at risk than you might think.

If strengthening your passwords is something you keep putting off, or you feel overwhelmed by the sea of online security information, you're not alone.

As part of our Cyberhood Watch initiative, launched in 2019 in partnership with Avast, we have launched a **PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rd** campaign that targets both the overwhelmed and complacent, providing everyone with 3 easy steps to be more secure online.

### PROTECT YOUR Pa\$\$W0rd in 3 easy steps

1. Create a separate password for your email account
2. Use 3 random words
3. Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)

To find out more about how to do each step visit our Password Protection page on our website <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/passwords>.

But we won't stop there! Whilst taking those **3 easy steps** will go a long way to protecting yourself online, we want to protect not just you but **your whole community!** To do this, we are asking you to spread the word and help protect your family, friends, colleagues and neighbours by **sharing these 3 easy steps with 3 others.**

## AUCTION TO BENEFIT KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR



Gingerbread House created by Tracy Robertson.

Bids submitted to [pandsstokes@gmail.com](mailto:pandsstokes@gmail.com).

Bids close December 12.

£10 reserve.

NOTE: Photo is an example; actual house will be different.

## Kwirky Korner

The first story probably doesn't belong in Kwirky Korner as it's not "quirky" enough. It is, however, the most heart-warming story to come out of this latest lockdown. Paul Harvey, from Buxted, Sussex, is an eighty-year-old suffering with dementia. As a former music teacher, he has always had a party trick: given four random notes, he could make a tune from them. So when his son recently presented him with four notes, despite his debilitating illness, Paul produced a lovely tune. When Nick, his son, posted the video online with the intention of showing how the power of music can help those living with brain disorders, it was picked up by BBC Radio Four and broadcast on World Alzheimer's Day. It was then that the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra stepped in, recorded the tune, and found themselves with a download hit, thus raising money for the Alzheimer's Society and Music for Dementia. As Nick commented, "Tonight, I gave him four random notes as a starting point... Although his dementia is getting worse, moments like this bring him back to me".

We all know that the Queen loves Pembroke Welsh Corgis. What we haven't thought about is the names she gives them. Some are to be expected; others are definitely quirky. Traditional names are Monty, Susan, Holly (great name), Emma, Linnet, Noble, Willow, and Heather. Some unexpected names: Candy, Sugar, Foxy, Bushy, Brush, Honey, Whisky, Sherry, Vulcan, Cider, Berry, Flash, Spick, Span, Tiny, and Bisto Oxo. Given some of these names, you certainly see the queen in a different light.

The best news of the month has been the election result in the USA. Several months ago, Donald Trump tweeted about teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg after she made a passionate speech, "So ridiculous, Greta must work on her Anger Management problem, then go to a good old-fashioned movie with a friend! Chill, Greta, Chill!" After the election result was contested, Greta issued this word-by-word parody. "So ridiculous, Donald must work on his Anger Management problem, then go to a good old-fashioned movie with a friend! Chill, Donald, Chill!"

Matt Topham, from Louth in Lincolnshire, scooped £45 million when he won the EuroMillions jackpot in 2012. Former painter and decorator, he has reinvented himself as a racing car driver and helicopter pilot, recently winning a race at the Donnington GT Cup Championship in his £240,000 Aston Martin Vantage GT4. In the meantime he has bought his mother-in-law a petting zoo at Rushmoor Country Farm Park. This zoo came with llamas, pygmy goats, horses, pigs, ducks, and a falconry centre with barn owls, falcons, hawks, and a sea eagle. He has also got involved in a very serious road accident and legal action is pending. Maybe going back to painting and decorating would be a safer option.

Feel sorry for the woman who couldn't find the switch to turn off the rectangular light at the top of the stairs in her new home. When she complained to her husband, he pointed out that it was actually a skylight – no electric light, just the sun shining!

## Village Hall Broadband

We have finally managed to arrange for BT broadband to be installed in the Village Hall. Because we have no telephone line we have to start with a low speed copper wire, but as soon as this is shown to be working we will be quickly upgraded to fibre. It has been quite a journey to get this far, beginning with applying for a postal address and then dealing with broadband providers who were baffled by having to deal with a premises that has no existing phone line. If all goes to plan, it will be up and running in full by the New Year.

**Paul Wright** (Chairman)

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Email: [papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com](mailto:papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com)

Web: [www.papworthteamchurches.org](http://www.papworthteamchurches.org)

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

> The Revd Nigel di Castiglione,  
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[kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com)

## Kingston Village Quiz

The Kingston Village Quiz will take place on Saturday 23 January 2021. It will be a virtual quiz, online, and will comply with all government advice at the time.

The Village Hall Committee are contemplating whether fish & chips will be part of the quiz, but at the moment think this may not be logistically possible, if we are all in separate houses. This will be looked into closer to the time, taking into account all the government guidance at the time.

As this is a fundraising event, there will be a charge to enter the quiz. Team captains will be asked to put together teams of six and manage all payments. As the event is not in the village hall, there are no restrictions to the number of groups attending the event.

For those concerned about acoustics and hearing, which is usually difficult in the village hall, the online version will include a mixture of verbal and text, so all questions will also be presented in a written format. There will be breakout rooms during the quiz, where the groups can go to discuss their answers, then return to the main event.

The Quiz is an annual fundraising event for the Village Hall and as such we will be charging £5 per person to join. As there will be no bar sales, something the event relies on for raising extra funds during the event, any extra donations will be gratefully received.

If you are interested in fielding a team for the Quiz, or would like to join a team, do please contact Katherine Stalham

## Comberton Twinning Association

Comberton is twinned with the village of Le Vaudreuil in Normandy - near the River Seine about 10 miles from Rouen. For two decades, we have made regular visits each year to and from Le Vaudreuil, and many friendships have been formed. The aim of the group is for families, couples and individuals to experience the way of life in each other's communities. Speaking French is not vital!

Coronavirus has meant that the visit planned by the French for May 2020 (the VE Day weekend) had to be postponed. Similarly plans for our next visit there are also on hold, as are the various annual social events (BBQ, Quiz, etc) that we usually hold.

However, we did hold a delayed AGM in mid-September, as a 'hybrid' event, part physical, part virtual. After a risk-assessment, we booked Comberton Village Hall as a venue which had been through extensive Covid-secure analysis and preparation.

About 15 members attended in person, including most of the committee, with households sitting socially distanced at least 2m apart. Another 15 families attended virtually by Zoom – their images appearing on the big screen, and their voices through the hall speakers. It was a bit odd at first, but worked well.

We are now planning a Zoom meeting with the French, to show them what our village looked like in lockdown (particularly around the VE Day weekend) and for them to keep us up to date with happenings in France. We are looking forward to future visits as and when travels can resume – hurry up with a vaccine!

For more information, see <http://CombertonTwinning.org.uk>. To join, contact Glynis Ellis, tel 262214, email [secretary@combertontwinning.org.uk](mailto:secretary@combertontwinning.org.uk).

*Paul Hardy, Chairman of Comberton Twinning Association*

## Record Corner

If you're looking for something different to play to assuage your lockdown blues, then I highly recommend the music of Ane Brun, the Norwegian songwriter, guitarist, and vocalist. Born in Molde, Norway, in 1976, she specializes in folky "art pop". Everything she does is light and airy (no raging guitar work here) and her songs and singing are on the stripped down, sparse, and wistful end of the spectrum. Her music is a perfect accompaniment for an evening by the fire at this time of year. She's never been particularly famous, although she did have a tilt at fame in 2011, when she featured on Peter Gabriel's New Blood album and sang Kate Bush's part on the re-recorded version of "Don't Give Up". Due to tour with Gabriel, she was struck down by lupus and that put paid to her chances of achieving real fame.

And here I have to make an admission. I'm not a great lover of her light and airy pop songs. They're OK, but nothing special. What I love, however, are her covers of other people's songs. I don't know what it is but her treatment brings them alive in ways that you can't imagine. Songs like "At Last" (Etta James), "You'll Never Walk Alone" (Gerry and the Pacemakers), "Halo" (Beyonce), "Big in Japan" (Alphaville), "All My Tears" (Emmylou Harris), "Stay" (Rihanna), "Make You Feel My Love" (Adele), "From Me to You" (The Beatles), "True Colours" (Cyndi Lauper), "Girl from the North Country" (Bob Dylan), "Unchained Melody" (Righteous Brothers), "Always on My Mind" (Elvis Presley), and "I Want to Know What Love Is" (Foreigner) all become something very different from the originals. With her wistful voice and delicate delivery, they are transformed into pop masterpieces. So light the fire, sit back in your favourite arm-chair, and give this girl from the north country a listen.

*Peter Holly*



Dear all,

On the 4 November, the Transport Committee of the Combined Authority, discussed the CAM metro, including the C2C.

Simon Wright, technical and engineering advisor, explained that Jacobs is conducting the investigation into the Northern route - 4 weeks work so far - and although it appears that it would be slightly less advantageous in 3 ways, it would be only reasonable to continue this investigation so that at least it can be compared on equal basis with the southern route via Coton.

It is frustrating that, although Cllr Van de Weyer voted against Southern route of C2C in his last meeting as Chair of GCP, now he is not supporting the investigation of these alternative routes, delaying further this analysis and comparison between the routes. But more importantly, he did not really show any interest on what residents want...

During this meeting James Palmer, our Mayor, was simply asking for this technical work to be taken by the GCP for further work as part of these two organisations working together to achieve the best solution for our communities. The GCP seem to not want to review any other alternatives.

Listening to this committee's discussion, it's apparent that James Palmer is the only one who is interested in what residents think and what could be best for communities... No one was asking the right questions - in my opinion - around what the best route is, what is best for our communities... all the questions were around timelines, finance, procedures,...

I would have thought that elected members' priority would be to represent residents and achieve the best possible outcomes on million-pound schemes. Positive outcomes should not only be based on costs. They should have been raising questions around connectivity, quality of life, community cohesion, fragmentation of biodiversity, etc...

Unfortunately, this was not taken forward.

I know that this scheme is very sensitive for most of you and in the interest of all, I do believe that we should take the time to make sure all options are assessed properly so that whatever the decision is, residents are reassured that the work has been done and that they have been listened to.

The impact of this project will be for generations to come and rushing it does not seem appropriate. I hope that the CA, GCP et al. get this right and that all key partners are working together and strategically.

***Lena Nieto***

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<b>Cambridge Rail Station</b> general inquiries	0845 7484950
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**Rev Nigel Pearson** 01954 719637

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**Kay Forsythe**

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**Linda Rimmer** (Treasurer)

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**Miki Ellar** (Councillor)

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