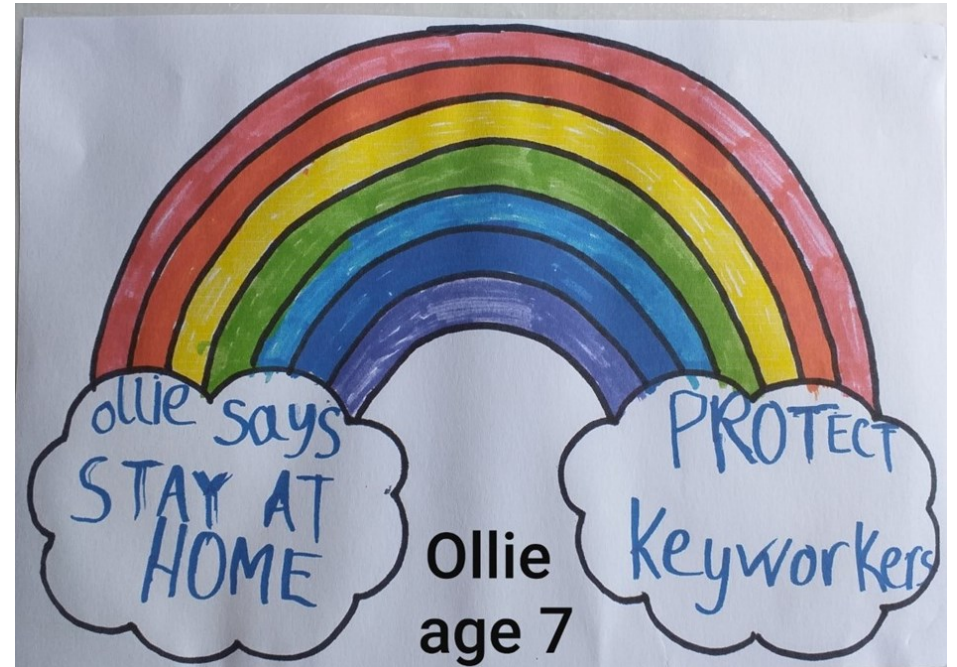


THE WATERSHED MAGAZINE



MAY 2020

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770550

Coates Rectory,

rector@thamesheadchurches.org.uk

Coates GL7 6NR

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770654

revdavidAustin@gmail.com

READERS

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770809

Liz Collins

770698

COATES

Church Warden:

Nigel Pollock

Secretary PCC

Alison Pollock

Treasurer PCC

Dickie Randall

771300

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762897

St Kenelm's

Mark Hamer

760715

Rotas

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760651

Secretary PCC

Treasurer PCC

Charles Houldsworth

760300

Flowers - Frampton Mansell

Pat Hatcher

760330

RODMARTON AND TARLTON (Chapel of Ease)

Church Wardens

Rodmarton

Simon Biddulph

841462

Susie Esmond Rees 07528 820652

Tarlton

Jasper Biddulph

770230

Flower Team Leader

Wendy Taylor

841263

Secretary PCC

Jane Marlowe

770401

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841462

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770726

COATES

Coates Parish Council Chair

Richard Harrison

771449

Coates Parish Council Clerk

Caroline Coates

770757

Coates Gardening Club

Margaret Reynolds

771354

Coates Social Club secretary

Tara Davidson

07948 966957

Coates Tree Warden

Simon Large

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Coates Village Hall

Phil Griffiths

771257

Lynn Vaughan

770876

Coates Neighbourhood Watch

Liz Allen

07771 553061/771229

Coates Snow Warden

Peter Tugwell

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Frampton Mansell Village Hall

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Paul Drake

770267

Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Clerk

Susan Hare

ex-dir

Rodmarton School

Mrs Musty

841284

Rodmarton Village Hall

Jasper Biddulph

770230

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Parish Council Chair

Sarah Osborn Smith

760805

Sapperton and FM PC Clerk

Barbara (Babs) Maloney

760276

Sapperton Snow Warden

Mark Franklin

760226

Sapperton Tree Warden

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Sapperton Village Hall

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Watershed RDA

Kathy Mottershead

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770385

Cotswold District Councillors

Ermin Ward

Julia Judd

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Kemble Ward

Tony Berry

770220

Gloucestershire County Councillor

Stephen Hirst

01666 504213

Member of Parliament

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown

01452 371630

Cirencester Hospital

655711

Police non emergency (24hrs)

101

CIRENCESTER EATING DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP



As with all mental health problems this current crisis is having quite an impact on sufferers and carers of eating distress. I am trying to keep in touch with as many of my contacts as possible but as it is a confidential service sometimes I only have a Christian name.

There are online forums and so much info to access that at the moment that is all I can offer.

The National BEAT and F.E.A.S.T websites are a good source and I have contact too with ABC Anorexia and Bulimia Care based in Bristol who also offer a free online support hub every Thursday. <https://www.facebook.com/abccharity/>
<https://www.instagram.com/anorexiabulimiicare/>

I hope this extra info helps. Remember you can always contact me for a one to one chat too!

Further details can be obtained from Pat on 770385.

GET YOUR WATERSHED BY EMAIL

If you would like to receive a copy of the parish magazine by email I am very happy to add you to my list of those who do. This would not replace your delivered copy but you would get it earlier and with some colour! Just let me know by email at watershedmag@gmail.com
Bob Merrill

ADVERTISING IN THE WATERSHED

If you wish to advertise in our parish magazine please contact Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Mobile 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Adverts at a third of a page cost £15 for a single issue or £60 for 6 months. Adverts at half a page cost £23 for a single issue or £90 for 6 months. The magazine is published 10 times every year; July/August and December/January are joint editions.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE JUNE MAGAZINE

Contributions should be sent to Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Telephone 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Articles should be in Arial font at 11 point with **formatting kept as simple as possible**. The editor reserves the right to edit any articles. **Articles should be submitted by 12 May at the latest for inclusion in the next month's issue.**

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY

Lockdown!

Enough said really, we are all experiencing it, managing it, living through it. Some among us are working harder than before and indeed “working from home” could lead to the breakdown of some especially important partitions that help us keep a manageable work life balance. After all, now you can log on to work at any time, you are effectively always available and you can't do anything outside of the home.

Some are key workers supporting our communities in a myriad of ways from delivering daily necessities to end of life care. They are facing the strain of placing themselves and their families at greater risk than those able to isolate themselves. Some have to shoulder the strain of hands on clinical care and some are helping others manage their anxiety or fear or need. Some would love the opportunity to work, to be doing something to support themselves and their families and may have a myriad of financial and practical worries. Some are retired and just trying to follow the guidelines and keep themselves and others safe.

What is it like for you to live in this time?

For all of us living though the lockdown is a unique experience. For the first time in our lives we are having to find ways of living through all a pandemic brings with hope or anxiety or resignation.

It is really important to take time to reflect on who you are and how this is affecting you personally and how your reality also impacts on those around you. Unless we stop and consider our own response and our own needs we are unlikely to be good at helping others at this time.

In our villages we are incredibly fortunate, we live in a beautiful place and the weather has been more than kind. Social distancing is not difficult here and the glory of spring is all around us. The other day we used our exercise to walk down to see the bluebells, always a joy. It was so quiet you could hear the woodpeckers hunting round the trees and enjoy the fresh green as the leaves unfold on the trees. A walk in God's garden is such a joy.

I am so glad that I do not live in a crowded flat in a tower block where it is impossible to be alone and where it is probably almost impossible to keep social distance outside. We are fortunate indeed.

We are fortunate too to have such strong communities in our villages with plenty of volunteers happy to run errands and provide for those who need to be most careful. Nobody here has to venture into shops unless they choose to. Good Neighbours are everywhere.

One of the blessings that has come out of this virus is that we have seen the value of our communities and their importance with a fresh eye. We have known it to be true but when all is well it is so much easier to be insular and selfish. This experience has reminded us that we need one another, that it is good to be able to help each other and that it is a relief to receive that help when we need it so I wanted to finish with a verse from Ecclesiastes that might explore that.



"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other...A threefold cord is not quickly broken." From Eccl 4: 9-12 We are most surely stronger together. Why not try it? It is easy to tear a piece of paper but not a book or to break a blade of grass but not to shred a handful.

With love and prayers

Trevor Kemp - Rector

For those with access to the internet the following links will take you to our website pages:

The calendar: <http://thamesheadchurches.org.uk/calendar/>

An outline of all our Sunday services:

<http://www.thamesheadchurches.org.uk/services/>

WATERSHED INTERCESSION GROUP

The Watershed intercession group was founded 20 years ago; it followed on from a small prayer group which was led by Dee Hancock. A few people decided that there was a need for older people to meet for prayer and to celebrate communion at a more suitable time than the 9:30 am Sunday church service. The church was often cold and the hill up and down the path was a bit steep and the church was without a loo!

So, on the 13th of May 2000 15 people (mostly in the older age group) were picked up from their homes and taken to the lovely old chapel at Tarlton for a service of communion which was taken by the Reverend Stanley Emerson. Everybody was then brought back to the Blessings for a good homemade tea. We have meeting every 2nd Tuesday of the month at The Blessings unless I was visiting my family in Sydney. My dear friend Jan Hitchcock then hosted the group at Dormer Cottage.

At times more than 24 people attended and we have had a young mothers with a baby and folk in a wheelchair. Brian Robbins kindly made a ramp for easier access to my front door.



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The short communion service at 3 o'clock was at first taken by various priests:

Canon Andrew Bowden

The Reverend Stanley Emson

Gwyneth Gibben (whilst in training)

Reverend Bill Woodhouse (aged 90+ at the time)

However, the parish had several long gaps without an available priest. Bishop Michael gave me permission to take the service by extension which I have done since with help from Jan.

Of course, anyone wanting house communion can always call Reverend Trevor Kemp in case of the housebound and sick (not during the coronavirus crisis). It had been my intention to have an "Open House" tea at the blessings on 12 May to celebrate our 20 years of meetings – sadly with the coronavirus crisis this is now not possible.

I did not move into the village until our house was completed in 1986 – it took two years! It was the first new build for many years and I was made very welcome. I would go to the phone box with a fist full of change to chase up deliveries. May Tree Close was allotments in those days and Albert Wheatley could always send me home with a cabbage or something. During our Tea Sessions" I learnt so much about this wonderful village I now call home. There was so much laughter...

Sybil Smith, Peggy Tibbles, Freda Sanders, Nancy Trinder, Hazel Tugwell, Graham Bland, Noel Laver, Bobyl Vann all names now in the churchyard.

It was a good "fellowship" and an especially useful "Outreach". Word soon got round if somebody was sick or troubled and a house call was made. Sadly, we are now down to five regular attenders all of a certain age. So, this seems the right time to bring closure to this group.

All of you at this uncertain time please continue to pray – prayers are a special time to spend with God – when you pray you are not alone!

Anne Chilton - The Blessings

TIME OUT

The Time Out Bible discussion group for mothers of school age children in the benefice is not meeting for the foreseeable future. Julie is looking at the possibility of setting up a virtual meeting.

For more details please contact Julie on 770123 or email julieallen47@btinternet.com or juliepaulmorton@onetel.com

RESIDENTS URGED NOT TO BURN DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Cotswold District Council has seen a large increase in the number of burning complaints in the last few weeks and is calling on residents to be more considerate of those with respiratory conditions and people in self-isolation.



Cllr Andrew Doherty, Cabinet Member for Environment, said: "We understand these are difficult and challenging times for us all. Whether you are adjusting to life and work at home, isolating yourself or looking after loved ones who are isolating.

"Most of us are spending more time at home and while having bonfires can be tempting, it carries risks to vulnerable members of our communities. Bonfires cause issues for your neighbours, especially those with respiratory problems, people who are shielding themselves from COVID-19 or anyone who may have contracted the virus.

"COVID-19 attacks the respiratory system so I would like to ask all of our residents here in the Cotswolds to please refrain from lighting fires which may affect vulnerable people while lockdowns continue."

Burning doesn't just affect the vulnerable. Bonfires and drifting smoke is a nuisance for neighbours wanting to spend time in their gardens or keep windows open.

Bonfires can get out of hand and take up valuable time and resources of the fire service which may put others at risk during this pandemic.

Cllr Doherty added: "Please be considerate of your neighbours and use alternatives such as composting or storing any waste until government restrictions are lifted. We know this isn't an ideal solution for everyone but these are not ideal times. You can put most of your garden waste to use - a successful compost heap needs lots of brown material as well as green. Don't burn it, use prunings and dry material to improve your compost heap."

Environmental and Regulatory Services are required to investigate bonfire complaints whilst following guidance and procedures for social distancing. If considered a waste offence or statutory nuisance, it may result in enforcement action and fines.

To stay up-to-date on the Council's waste and recycling services, please [visit our Coronavirus Bins and Recycling page](#).



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Coronavirus: Social Distancing

Do you need help?

Ask is a new pastoral visiting and support team from the local church.

Are you worried about how you will manage daily life if you have to stay at home because of 'social distancing' measures in response to Coronavirus?

Sisters, brothers or other family members do not live locally, so you are concerned that there's no-one nearby to help you?

Keep calm: the ASK team will try as much as possible to offer practical help – picking up prescriptions, help with food shopping, or just someone to talk to on the phone?

Let us know if we can help, or for more information please contact:-

Rev. Trevor Kemp 01285 770550 rector@thamesheadchurches.org.uk

Aileen Shaw 07807 199602 ASK@thamesheadchurches.org.uk



Jolly Nice...

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Thank you to all of our customers for supporting us & our local suppliers

KEMBLE AND DISTRICT RBL WOMEN'S SECTION



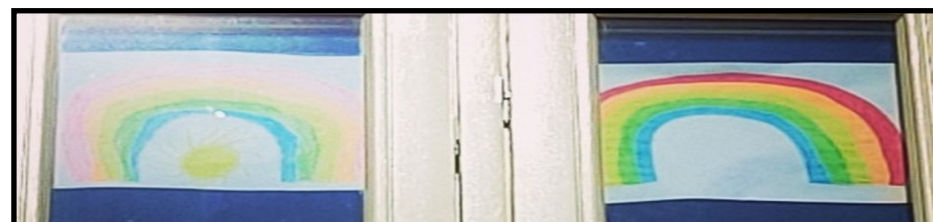
If you find you are saving some monies during this current crisis then perhaps you could help with the following:

Please save any odd coins in a Steradent tube or something similar to help fund a new mobility buggy for the National Memorial Arboretum as in July 2021 a special service of dedication for 100 years of the RBL will be held and hopefully a new buggy will be gifted.

Fingers crossed that we can go ahead and have celebrations to mark 75 years of VJ day combining the cancelled VE events on or around 15 August this year.

Meanwhile keep calm and carry on until we meet again.

If you would like to join us and become a member or just have a chat about the work of the women's section within the RBL contact Pat 770385 chairman/secretary.



most of the year, promoting the growth of wildflowers. Farming like this protects our AONB and the future of food - we know we must look after our pollinators. The reduced transportation is yet another bonus!

Many of our local suppliers have worked extremely hard to keep their livelihoods going and put food on local tables. The Dickensons in Bisley have been supplying us with their amazing honey, as well as keeping their shop going. Hobbs House Bakery and Ori, The Artisan Baker, keep baking with stone ground organic flour from Shipton Mill just by Tetbury. Fred at Prince Charles' Close Farm has been bagging up potatoes almost as fast as we can sell them, in between planting out his organic seedlings and setting the polytunnels up for tomatoes. The Hamilton and Brunt families of Sherston Free Range Eggs and Manor Farm (Grittleton) have been boxing up as quickly as the eggs are laid and both have new flocks of young hens to up production while keeping up their very high standards. We also have Arlington White eggs from the Bourns family in Stow-on-the-Wold and goose eggs every so often from Berkeley and Jonathan Crump in Standish, who also makes cheese and supplies our butchery with his Gloucester Cattle.

All of these producers are small family farms, they put the welfare of their livestock and the health of the soil first. Farming families work hard every day of the year, with early starts and late finishes and work continuing with discussions around the table. We are very lucky to have them, especially when complex supply chains have caused havoc for the big businesses. Our suppliers farm in the way my great-grandfather Bill Wilson did, and so that one day my children and grandchildren can enjoy our beautiful Cotswold landscape, let's hope that these brilliant family businesses can remain financially sustainable.

Jemima Wilson

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NEWS FROM COATES

FOOD BANK COLLECTION BY COATES VILLAGERS TO BE DELIVERED TO CIRENCESTER FOOD BANK

As many of you will know there is a desperate need for donations TO the food bank, for many struggling as a result of the ongoing lockdown due to Coronavirus.

We thought it would be great if we could, as a village, contribute to the wonderful work that the food bank is doing. If you would like to donate to it, please leave donations either in the box in the bus shelter or at 5 Quaker Row, in the box on the bench in the front drive anytime up to 6pm on Friday 8 May. If you are not able to deliver yourself, please contact Sarah Fuchs on 07922 025209 and I will arrange to pick up your donations from your home. Please see below the list of items particularly needed at this time.

Many thanks

Let's see what we can do!

URGENTLY NEEDED

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WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

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WATERSHED RDA

All the ponies are enjoying the sunshine and the new Spring grass in their paddocks at Bledisloe as many of you will have seen on your daily walk or bike ride. They had a trip out this week back down to the stables for the farrier to trim their feet and replace shoes.

We are continuing to give them light exercise in accordance with the guidance from National RDA.

Lorraine Hackett

VE DAY IN COATES

On Friday 8 May it will be the 75th anniversary of VE Day and due to current circumstances, we have no way of celebrating it properly. So, we thought as a small gesture it would be lovely if people could decorate their windows or doors with British flags or red, white and blue bunting to mark the occasion. We look forward to seeing your houses on our daily walks.

COATES GARDENING CLUB ONLINE PLANT SALE

Sadly, we will be unable to hold our annual May Plant Sale in the traditional way this year. Many gardeners have been sowing and planting in preparation for it, so Bob Merrill has kindly offered to organise an online sale.

If you have plants to offer for sale, please email a list of what you have robertwt.merrill@gmail.com and bring your plants along to the drive of Glebe House no later than 8 pm on Monday 18 May.

Bob will then circulate a list of plants available, with quantities and prices, and from Wednesday 20 May, buyers will be able to send him their wish list. On Saturday morning 23 May, Bob will confirm who has bought what and orders can be collected from Glebe House or Bob will deliver on request.

Margaret Reynolds

COATES VILLAGE LOTTERY

The final draw of this lottery year will be postponed until the current severe restraints on association have been withdrawn. It will involve the distribution of six prizes of £100, £100, £60, £60, £40 and £20. We hope this will be a cheerful and safer way to celebrate our release from the current restrictions.

Diana Crane 770976 or Jan Edmonds 771106.

THE JOLLY NICE STORY

In these testing times, there have been a few silver linings. We have been heartened by the gratitude towards local businesses and, at a time when billionaires are asking to be bailed out by the government, it's more important than ever to support local and independent businesses so that they can keep serving local communities whilst being viable and sustainable businesses.

We founded Jolly Nice because my parents were dairy farming in Westonbirt, on Historic England Grade I listed parkland next to the Arboretum and Westonbirt School, and we couldn't make ends meet. Both my grandfather and great-grandfather farmed this land, but low prices and milk quotas enforced by the big companies supplying supermarkets made it impossible to function anymore, even with grants from the EU. As Melissa from Woefulthane Organic Dairy said to me a while ago, the true cost of a pint of milk is more than you pay at the supermarket. My sister Harriet started making her amazing ice cream as a teenager in our kitchen, adding value to our milk, and after supplying local pubs like The Priory in Tetbury and The Bell at Sapperton (as well as weddings and big events in London like a birthday party for Jamie Oliver's Fifteen), my parents eventually opened our Farmshop at the derelict White Horse Filling Station in Frampton Mansell, just across the valley from where my mum grew up in Oakridge Lynch.

Farmers and food producers have had to adjust over the years, but in recent times have adapted very quickly, affected by the temporary closures of cafes and restaurants. Our local suppliers like Melissa and family, just a few miles down the road from us, have ensured we've kept well stocked, even through the weeks of panic buying. They have adapted quickly, probably discussing what to do around the kitchen table late at night like we did. Melissa bottles the milk and makes the butter and delivers it all, her husband milks their hardy native-breed Shorthorn cows and their son Henry runs a cafe and shop in Minchinhampton. The family have not poured milk down the drain, as many British farmers who are part of complex supply chains have resorted to doing - resulting in the National Farmers' Union calling on the Government for financial aid, support and "schemes to prevent the disposal of milk and look at crown buying service contracts to ensure our NHS, prisons and military all source British milk." This pandemic has brought many ongoing issues to the fore, and as well as supporting British farmers, at Jolly Nice we support local farmers. This not only gives them security, but it also has a direct impact on the environment, with small family farms and native British breeds such as Shorthorns and Gloucester cattle grazing outside for

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

before Easter a helicopter haunted us (I'd like to think, it was Essential, Key Worker-related...). We should all by now have realised how stressful the roar of traffic and aircraft actually is. Bicycles reclaimed the roads. The idea of a Quaker or Franciscan state becomes increasingly appealing, and marginally less improbable.

Things will never be the same again, but much good can – and must – arise from this. We need radical, transformative change, as a positive. We no longer live in a TV advert La La Land. I will leave you with the final lines of King Lear:

*The weight of this sad time we must obey;
Speak what we feel, not what we ought to say.
The oldest hath borne most: we that are young,
Shall never see so much, nor live so long.*

Matthew Oates

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NEW CLERK TO COATES PARISH COUNCIL

I take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Clerk to the Parish Council and to tell you a little about myself.

I have lived in the village with my husband Paul since October 1999 and we love living here, in a village with a strong sense of community, a beautiful church and so many public footpaths and long distance footpaths skirting the village.

We have two children, Daniel and Sarah. Daniel is married and lives in Portsmouth with his wife and daughter. Sarah has recently returned to the area and is engaged to be married.

In August 2019, I took early retirement to spend more time with my family and friends and to further develop my hobbies and interests. I have 34 years in education, teaching for 23 years and working for the local authority for 11 years.

I love to keep active whether to walk, run, cycle or swim. I enjoy gardening, baking and cake decorating and since I have retired have enjoyed getting to know my sewing machine again.

Please feel free to contact me as you feel necessary.

Caroline Coates

Email: clerk@coatesparish.org.uk Telephone: 01285 770757

COATES RESIDENTS WHO ARE SELF-ISOLATING AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 (CORONA) VIRUS

If you are a Coates resident and self-isolating, and require assistance (ie picking up shopping, a friendly phone call, posting mail or require urgent supplies) please contact Councillor Andrew Hobson on 07887 597425 or email clerk@coatesparish.org.uk and we will arrange for someone to phone you back.

Coates Coronavirus Support Group has been set up on Facebook. Anybody who wants to join the new group should contact Andrew via email (a.hobson28@gmail.com) or Facebook Messenger.

You can also stay up to date via the Coates Village Email Network. If you want to be part of the email distribution please let Tara Davidson know via email to coatesvillage@gmail.com

Regular printed notices about our response to Coronavirus will be displayed on the Coates Parish Council noticeboard at the entrance to May Tree Close.

The above initiatives are supported by Coates Parish Council and other community groups in Coates.

Information for volunteers on how to help others safely can be found on the GOV.UK website [here](https://www.gov.uk).

NEWS FROM SAPPERTON AND FRAMPTON MANSELL

PONDERINGS

In our little corner of paradise I constantly hear people say how grateful they are to have a garden and to live in the countryside. Additionally the weather has been so wonderful for April that many feel they are on holiday. Living in a bubble? Well only if you don't watch television or listen to the radio. Scary times and initially everyone went into the bunker with the loo rolls and tins of tomatoes.

However, the human spirit has prevailed, what with the constant humour contained within the WhatsApp jokes. Did you see the guy who was given a choice of A or B and he chose B without even hearing what it was, because A was to be in isolation with his family? You'd have to see it to really appreciate how funny it was. Zoom is doing a roaring trade with grandparents' night readings, after Mass coffee mornings, book clubs and virtual family gatherings.

There are two groups on WhatsApp in Frampton Mansell and through these people have been: picking up medications for others, doing the shopping, telephoning to make sure people on their own are not isolated and lonely. Generally being 'good neighbours'. This has now regressed to ancient times, exchanging goods and Freecycle (literally bikes) for a bottle of wine, eggs or pot of marmalade; still waiting for the odd chicken or lamb! The bags of horse droppings went like wildfire. I thought it went a bit far when someone suggested exchanging their sons...

Such a pity the garden centres are closed, so many are digging for Britain as this lockdown continues. It takes three weeks to get the seeds so hopefully you started early! And bread making is on the upsurge or was until the yeast supply diminished.

But don't be fooled, we are all so aware of others' sufferings and loss and our hearts go out to those who are on the front line, literally giving their lives. Staying at home is not easy for many and the threat to everyone's health is acutely felt.

The Homily today at Mass reminded us that God is walking with us at this time. He may be in the person who is walking beside you or talking to you on the phone or in you when you are helping others. Look for Him, he is there to support you.

Keep well and stay safe.

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

come again lettuce like salad bowl, will stay productive for a long time. Try home saved sunflower seeds for sprouting, they have a nutty flavour. Peas germinated in seed trays can have tops cut as pea shoots, leave enough plant to grow side shoots and then plant these out as usual for pods and delicious fresh peas.

Shady or half shade growing plots are useful in extremely hot weather. Many of the leafy vegetables, spinach, chard, lettuce, endive, parsley and coriander prefer being cooler and are less likely to bolt. Peas, radish, potatoes and French beans all do well as the moisture content of the soil or compost is more even.

Sally Oates

LOCKDOWN BLUES

These times may seem surreal, but they are frighteningly real – especially for those closely affected. As the National Lottery advert says: it could be you. The sublime Easter weather did not help us cope with lockdown. For once, rain might have been a blessing. My heart bled for the children deprived of their best-ever Easter holidays. The South West's beaches stood lonely, becalmed, at a time when they should have been full of happiness. I haven't seen my toddler grandson for weeks. He may not remember me.

Saying that the countryside would still be there when this is all over did not help one iota: we will have missed April, the year's most transformative month, and most if not all of spring. Our garden has kept me sane, just, but I have long believed that a garden is a natural right, and that we should all be growing more of our own food.

One thing that will come out of these deeply tragic times, I am sure, is a much greater and deeper appreciation of our need for sunshine, fresh air, open space and – wait for it - greenery. I have three times been through psychometric profiling tests, each of which independently determined that my key needs are sunshine and green leaves – that simple, natural, and normal. We may stop taking nature so much for granted, and value it far more. We will realise that it is a necessity, a part of us; not just something to exploit.

But, as lockdown bit in, and the traffic died down on the roads and in the sky, a soothing quietude developed; we could feel the air quality improve, and hear the birdsong, again. The night skies were enlivened, as the stars returned – rendered more visible through cleaner, healthier air. Even Cotswold Airport fell silent, its grossly intrusive propeller-driven harpies grounded – though for several days

NOTES FROM CULKERTON

GARDENING TIPS FOR MAY

This month's gardening tips will be for growing vegetables for summer and future use. Whatever the size of the plot or household, quantities can be scaled up or down. There is no point in growing more than you can use, store or give away. It is much better to have wider variety and succession of harvest. The following tips can be applied to large open plots or containers.

Sowings of tomatoes, courgettes, squashes, melons, cucumbers and runner beans made earlier will soon be ready to plant out, but make sure that they are well hardened off for several days beforehand. Once planted water well and protect from frost. These days this is unlikely to happen! It is not too late to start from seed, they will grow faster now.

When large enough, plant out seedling leeks, kale and purple sprouting broccoli. These are best puddled in by dibbing a hole to the correct depth, dropping the seedling in to root depth and watering in generously with a can, washing fine earth particles into the hole to cover the roots.

If planting tomatoes under glass, prepare a sunny greenhouse border with good compost. You could try growing root ginger and basil as inter-plantings. Sow basil as seed in small patches. Ginger grows best from the offshoots of the main root, start rather like Dahlias in a deep tray of compost to encourage roots. These three like the same conditions of warmth, damp soil and ventilation on hot days.

The long salad cucumbers, including types like Bella F1, an all-female variety, prefer real hot house treatment with extra humidity, so section off part of the greenhouse, with an enclosing curtain of plastic sheeting. In my greenhouse a reused large sheet from a mattress purchased years ago is just right. Melons also prefer the humidity. Both need climbing supports, although I have grown melons in frames, which they fill along the ground in all directions.

Gherkin cucumbers are much hardier and are very bountiful planted outside, but make sure they are kept adequately watered in dry weather, and keep picking!

The more tender types like French beans are ready to sow, either dwarf bush or climbing they come in a huge array of pod colours. Some are good as green beans while others can be left to mature as dried beans.

Quick veg in under a month from sprouted seed, micro greens (re-named baby leaves, or for us oldies thinnings), loose leaf and cut and

Sapperton Coronavirus Support: social distancing



Do you need help?

The church and the Parish Council are working together to help provide practical, pastoral and spiritual support to everyone in our community who needs some assistance in these difficult times.

A. Practical Help: do you need someone to pick up prescriptions or shopping?

Contact Sarah Osborn-Smith on 07836 512538 who will try to get a volunteer to you.

B. Pastoral/Social Support: Would you like to chat to someone – skype, facetime or telephone – to hear a friendly voice? Social isolation should not mean loneliness. Contact Aileen Shaw on 07807 199602 who will try to fix up someone to call you.

C. Spiritual Needs: there are no services at this time, but the church buildings are open and our clergy can offer prayer support, pastoral and confidential chats as needed. Contact Rev. Trevor Kemp on 01285 770550.

We are all part of our community: if you can help others then please also call the contact persons above to be registered as a volunteer helper

Frampton Mansell Community Lottery Our April Winners Are..!

- | | | |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------|
| ♦ 1st Prize | £50 ... | No.52...Darren Broughton |
| ♦ 2nd Prize | £25 ... | No.77... Emma Jane |
| ♦ 3rd Prize | £15 ... | No.14... Jose De Freitas |
| ♦ 4th Prize | £10 ... | No.88... Marcel Puyk |



Next Draw will take place: Tuesday 19th May
The Crown Inn approx. 7:30pm

Lottery Coordinator: Lucy Cameron-Davies

T: 07866 447725 E: lottery@framptonmansell.uk

Frampton Mansell Village Hall... Building Community

SAPPERTON & FRAMPTON MANSELL PARISH COUNCIL

Contact details for the clerk are Barbara (Babs) Maloney on 760276 or 07958 116794 and email sappertonFMPC@gmail.com

NEWS FROM RODMARTON, TARLTON, CULKERTON AND HAZLETON

RODMARTON AND TARLTON COVID19 SUPPORT

If you live in Rodmarton or Tarlton and need some practical help with shopping or would like a chat if you are self-isolating at home or are unwell please contact one of the following people who are organising volunteers to help:

RODMARTON

Wendy Taylor 841263 wendy.taylor846@btinternet.com

Simon Biddulph 07730 897312 simon.biddulph1@btinternet.com

TARLTON

Jane and Richard Marlowe 770401

Bryher and Mark Grimes 770 289

If you live in Tarlton and would like to join the village WhatsApp group, please text Bryher Grimes on 07785 542185 with your name and mobile telephone number and she will add you to the group. Please note that this group is for residents of Tarlton only.

RODMARTON DURING LOCKDOWN

Rodmarton is fairly quiet in normal times but now the birds are almost the only makers of any outdoor daytime sound with, of course, tractors and our faithful postie and binmen who still come along with a few other delivery drivers that we are so grateful for. You can even hear an electric car coming now. Except on Thursdays at 8pm when we are out clapping, shouting or banging lids and generally making a noise for our carers. Three hearty cheers for them.

Everybody is feeling it one way or another-teenage children as much as any. This short poem was in the paper the other day. It is called Coronaverse. It sees the funny side.

"William have you done your schoolwork?

William has the cat been fed?

Have you washed your face this morning?

Cleaned your teeth and made your bed?

William it's your mother speaking!

Answer when I speak to you.

Are you going to sit there watching television all day through?"

"Mother I will not deceive you, So I may as well confess:

The answers to your many questions are no, no, no, no, no and yes!"

RODMARTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

At its February meeting, Rodmarton Parish Council's discussions included the parish council's contribution towards the cost of the Watershed magazine.

The councillors also talked about the charges for grass cutting in St Peter's churchyard and agreed to seek compensation from Gigaclear (Complete Utilities) for digging up the green at Rodmarton without permission from the Parish Council.

Councillors considered the possibility of installing protective posts, similar to those installed in other greens in both Rodmarton and Tarlton, to stop erosion by traffic on the edge of the village green in front of the church.

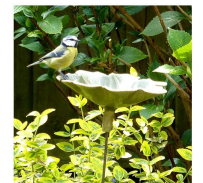
Renovations to the villages' telephone boxes were also discussed and it was agreed that they probably needed to be shot blasted before painting. Tarlton Defibrillator Group is moving forward having achieved sign off on grant application.

Poaching was also on the agenda and councillors asked villagers to keep alert and report any suspected poaching activity to the police on 111.

Mark Grimes



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07948 966957

some don't know if they can get into colleges or universities in September and many can't even get part-time jobs or see their friends at the moment. Their world has ground to a halt at a time when they expected the opposite.

"We felt we wanted to make a small, positive gesture in this community to tell young people that we value them and want to see them flourish and encourage them to follow their dreams even during lockdown and Covid19."



SWALLOWS

Have your swallows returned this year? We are distraught at Jackaments Bottom, because although they used to appear regularly on 10 April and some nest in the farmhouse barn, this year there has been no sight of them. Overhead, way up high, we sometimes see an occasional pair, even four at a time swiftly flying past. But as of 23 April, none have taken up residence here.

Also we were very alarmed to read that on the night of 5/6 April in Greece the streets of Athens and Nauplion and surrounding areas were littered with dead and dying swifts and swallows, flocks of migrating birds all battered from the skies by unusually fierce winds. Perhaps west country swallows come on a different through via Gibraltar, but that may also have been affected. Please, can you write to the magazine to let us know if your swallows have returned to nest or not? And how many there are about in your area?

Meg Hopkins

LITTER PICK

12 residents of Rodmarton participated in a litter pick around the village on Sunday 1 March collecting 14 bags of rubbish including many pieces of car bumper, beer cans, wine bottles, drinks bottles and crisp bags. Thank you to those who took part, a sterling effort. Judging by the amount of rubbish that has accumulated already it looks like we may need an annual pick going forward. Any ideas on how to deter people from discarding rubbish in our village welcome!

NESTING SEASON

For cat owners and bird lovers alike, this is going to be a tough few weeks. If you're a baby bird, it could be much worse.

According to the [RSPB](#), 27 million birds are killed every year in this country by the 7.2 million cats UK residents keep as pets. That means our feline companions are supplementing the [£829m](#) we spend on cat food every year with their own avian breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Before you despair, there are ways of getting your cat to do its bit for bird conservation.

The RSPB offers advice on how cat owners can help stop their cats killing birds especially in nesting season -

- Put a bell on your cat's collar. A recent study suggests that this may reduce predation of birds. The collar must be correctly fitted and should have a quick release mechanism to allow the cat to free itself, should it become snagged. There are commercially-available sonic collars which are designed to alert the potential prey to the cats presence. We do not yet know how effective these collars are or how they affect the cat.
- Cats should always be well-fed and cared-for, but this may also encourage them to stay near home and be less likely to wander where they are not welcome (although it will not prevent them catching birds).
- **Keep your cat indoors when birds are most vulnerable: at least an hour before sunset and an hour after sunrise, especially during March-July and December-January, and also after bad weather, such as rain or a cold spell, to allow birds to come out and feed.** During these high-risk hours you may also find unaccompanied fledglings on the ground and should take your cat indoors until baby and parent bird are reunited and have fled the scene.

Jackie Bostock

At the time of writing, we are all still in lockdown and Rodmarton Primary School remains closed to all but vulnerable children and the children of key workers with the majority of pupils being taught at home.



The school's teaching and admin team has sent a video message out to all pupils to let them know that the staff are thinking of them and missing them, and encouraging the children to "enjoy the sunshine, get out into the garden, work hard, and listen to Mum and Dad".

The video, which is introduced by head teacher Mrs Musty and features messages from all the school's teachers and administration staff, was sent to pupils via Google Classroom which the school has been using to help parents teach their children at home while the school is closed.

The video has also been posted on the Friends of Rodmarton Primary School Facebook page as well as the school's Twitter account. Click [here](#) or visit <https://www.facebook.com/103766437753301/videos/259286345204473/> to watch it.

Mrs Musty said: "Although we remain very much in touch with all our families, we wanted them to have a collective message from us all. The school and staff are still here for them even when they can't be with us. It gives them a chance to "see" us all and for them to know how much we look forward to their return, whenever that might be."

I'm sure I speak for all parents at the school when I say that we are so proud of our fantastic little school and all its amazing staff. Not only have they set up many online resources to help us all teach our children at home, but they have continued to work selflessly to keep the school open to provide essential care for those children who need it.

We cannot thank them enough for all they are doing. We miss everyone and cannot wait until it is safe for the school to reopen and we are all able to be together again.

In the meantime, many of the pupils have drawn and coloured rainbows for their windows, and those children still attending school have decorated the school's windows with giant rainbows as well as a message of support for the NHS and key workers on the railings outside. Here are some of them to bring you some much needed cheer in these strange times. To view all the pictures on the Rodmarton School Facebook page click [here](#).

Look after yourselves, stay home and stay safe!

Nutty (working from home)

<https://www.rodmartonschool.co.uk/> 01285 841284

THE COTSWOLD CHALLENGE – SUPPORTING PROACTIVE TEENAGES TO SHOWCASE THEIR TALENT



Five business owners who live in and around the Cotswolds have come together to support local young people who have had their GCSEs and A levels cancelled.

The initiative was developed solely to support 16 to 19 year olds in the Cotswolds area to give them something creative to do and offer them the chance to excel, gain a sense of achievement and self-worth and maybe win a monetary prize. The challenge launches today (April 20) and remains open until noon on Monday 1 June.

Young people who take part must live in the Cotswolds area and for those under the age of 18 parental or guardian permission will be sought if they wish to participate. It does not matter which school they attend. A briefing pack and entry details are available via the website www.thecotswoldchallenge.com.

The challenge has been divided into three categories: art and design; creative writing; innovation and entrepreneurial thinking with a first, second, third and fourth prize in each category of £500, £300, £150, £50 and runners up will get a book token.

The prize money has already been donated in full by sponsors. Winners will also be able to pitch for additional funds to take 'the next step' in showcasing their work eg publishing their poem or short story in a local publication, staging their own art exhibition or taking an idea to an early prototype stage.

Nigel Chute, of Chute Design said: "We are so grateful to our business contacts who have, without hesitation, supported this project. They see the value to the community and to the young people involved and they've fallen over themselves to help. In fact, due to their support we've been able to offer more than we originally envisaged."

Entries will be judged by a team of well-known people who have themselves achieved success in their own sector or business.

Brand expert Allison Murray, of Allison Murray Design, is one of the entrepreneurs behind the project who call themselves The Cotswold Collective.

She said: "Many of the young entrepreneurs of tomorrow no longer have any direction because their formal exams have been cancelled;

ENTRIES

Entries are free and can be made in writing to Tara, 24 May Tree Close, Coates or by email to tara@tarajaneceramics.com stating your name and section numbers you wish to enter.

Please submit your entries by 8pm Saturday 29th August 2020

RULES

1. All exhibits with the exception of flower arranging **must have been made or grown by the exhibitor.**
2. All exhibits are to be put in place between 11am and 12 noon.
3. No exhibitor is allowed more than one entry in any section.
4. Exhibitor's names must not be visible on the exhibits.
5. In section 8, children's ages and school year must be displayed on all exhibits.
6. If children compete in adult sections 1-7, then ages must not appear on exhibits. *(Points from these entries will not count towards the Family Cup.)*
7. No exhibits to be removed before 4.30pm
8. The judge's decision is final.

TROPHIES

Family Cup	most points in show by one Family (parents and children). Please refer to rule 6.
Flower Cup	most points in section 1
Fruit/Veg Cup	most points in section 2
Domestic Cup	most points in section 3
Art/Craft Cup	most points in section 4 - 7
Reception – year 2	most points in section 8a
Years 3-6	most points in section 8b
Years 7-11	most points in section 8c



Entry schedule

Saturday 5th September

Entries to hall 11am - 12noon

**Produce Show from 3pm
onwards with stalls, bar,
refreshments, games, raffle
and BBQ**

Section 1 - Flowers

1. One single stemmed rose
2. Vase of 6 dahlias
3. Vase of garden flowers – 6 of one variety
4. A sunflower head
5. A flowering pot plant, max pot size 10" diameter

Section 2- Fruit/Vegetables

1. 3 carrots
2. 5 tomatoes with stalks
3. 4 potatoes of one variety
4. 6 runner beans
5. Longest runner bean
6. Largest marrow
7. A plate of 5 different vegetables, one of each.
8. 3 apples of the same variety
9. Soft fruit - single variety displayed on a plate

Section 3 – Domestic

1. A jar of homemade jam
2. A jar of homemade chutney
3. A Victoria Sponge with jam (no cream)
4. 4 fruit scones
5. 6 biscuits
6. A ginger cake (men-only recipe as per schedule)
7. 1 bottle of homemade liqueur
8. 1 bottle of homemade beer

Section 4 – Flower arranging

1. An arrangement in a vase
2. An arrangement for a table centre

Section 5 – Handicrafts

Any item of handicraft using any method e.g. knitting, card making, patchwork, tapestry, cross stitch

Section 6 – Art

Any piece of artwork, a pen, pencil or pastel drawing or a painting in any medium.

Section 7 – Photography

A photograph of 'Something Local' max 7"x5"

Section 8 – Children: Reception to School Year 11

8 a) Reception to School Year 2

1. Make and decorate 5 cookies.
2. A plant grown from seed – max 8" pot
3. Paint a picture of an animal - max A4 size.

8 b) School Years 3-6

1. A handmade greetings card
2. 5 homemade brownies
3. A photograph of 'Something Small' - max 7"x5".

8 c) School Years 7-11

1. A photograph of 'Something Big' - max 7"x5".
2. 5 homemade cupcakes decorated.
3. A poem about my holiday.

Section 3.6 Men-only Recipe

Ginger Cake

200g self-raising Flour	2 tsp ground
ginger	
1 tsp mixed spice	50g margarine
50g soft brown sugar	50g black treacle
50g golden syrup	pinch salt
1 egg beaten with added milk to make $\frac{1}{4}$ pint (125ml)	

Method:

Preheat oven to 170°C fan, Gas 4
Grease and line a 18cm (7") square tin
Mix flour, salt, ginger and mixed spice in a mixing bowl
Melt the margarine, sugar, treacle and syrup gently over a low heat.
Add to flour and gradually mix in the egg and milk. Beat well.
Pour into tin (will be like a thick batter)
Bake for approximately 40 to 45 minutes until firm.
Cool slightly and turn out of tin and leave until cold