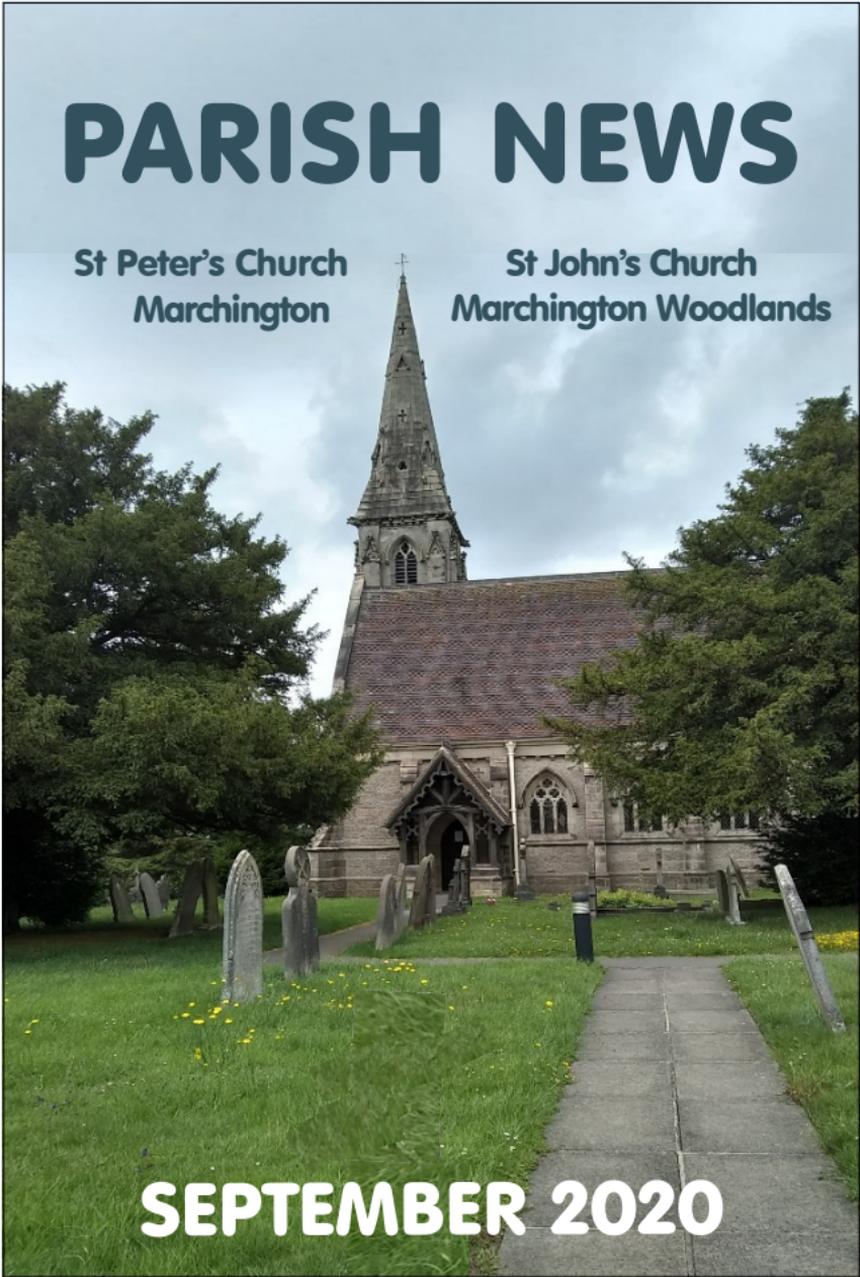


PARISH NEWS

**St Peter's Church
Marchington**

**St John's Church
Marchington Woodlands**

A photograph of a Gothic Revival church with a prominent, tall, pointed spire. The church is made of light-colored stone and has a dark tiled roof. In the foreground, a paved path leads towards the church entrance, flanked by a lush green lawn with scattered yellow wildflowers. Several old, weathered gravestones are visible on the left side of the path. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

SEPTEMBER 2020

WELCOME to the PARISH NEWS for SEPTEMBER 2020

Magazine Editor: Kate Hart
katealexan@gmail.com

Desktop Publishing: Rhoda Castle
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Website: <https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net>



Please be in touch with any news, articles or updates on your club or organisation by email to Kate. No more than 425 words in length, please.

Advertisements, both for businesses and for village events, should be sent to Rhoda. These will attract a small charge and a special deal for repeat adverts by businesses is available. Please contact Rhoda for details.

The next Parish News is the October issue. Deadline for copy is 12th September.

Parish News is distributed by volunteers in the parishes of St John's, Marchington Woodlands and St Peter's, Marchington. If you wish to receive a regular copy please contact our Head of Distribution, Mike Williamson (01283 820407). There is an annual subscription rate of £9 which includes a paper copy of the magazine delivered to your door plus access to the online edition of the current magazine on our website <https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net>. The September issue of the online edition will be freely available, but from October it will be for subscribers only.

Subscriptions are collected every July and cover the period up to the following July. Newcomers to the village are welcome to have a complimentary copy, so if someone has moved in near to you please let Mike know.

Previous issues of the magazine are freely available online at <https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net/archive>

St Peter's Contacts

Priest in charge: Rev Margaret Sherwin, Rector, Tel: 01889 560234

Licensed Reader: Maggie Hatchard, 1 Church Close Tel: 01283 820207

St Peter's Ministry Team: Thelma Brassington, Maggie Hatchard, Fiona Needs, Liz Morgan, Ginny Odey.

St Peter's Church Wardens:

Lynda Nicholson, Rose Cottage, Church Lane. Tel: 01283 821374

Sandy Halcrow, Coverdale, Allens Lane. Tel: 01283 820346

PCC Secretary: Kate Hart

Website: www.stpetersmarchington.org.uk

September - a new beginning?

This month Lucy Toyn discusses our experience of church during the lockdown, looks forward to the future, but also reflects on the care for each other that has been evident over the past few months.

Dear Friends,

September 2020

Do you attend church on YouTube, Zoom or face to face? Not a question we would have thought of asking before March. Church communities have changed, and it would be so good to go back to "normal" - or would it?

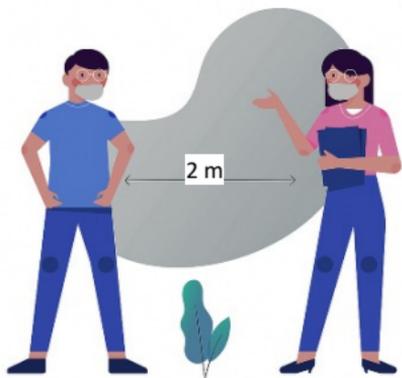
YouTube church has reached many people who have missed the church community during lockdown, but also people who had become discouraged with church, or not even thought about it. They have seen something of the message that Jesus wants us to speak

out about. Under "normal" circumstances many struggled to get to church for health or transport reasons and having a YouTube option long-term will be a Godsend!

But what sort of Christian community can we build when we don't know who is watching?

Zoom church enables people to see one another and chat, and it can build people together but it's not so easy to welcome newcomers. A Zoom congregation does not have any back pews where you can see what's going on without committing yourself!

As I'm writing this in August, we have to wear a face covering for our church services, and that means foggy glasses for many of us. And a 2m distance is challenging for a private conversation let alone if one of you is hard of



hearing. Jesus didn't have these issues (and nor did he have microphones or the printing press), but he did use the things around him to get his message across.

September is the month when children go back to school, a fresh start with new opportunities and some anxieties

too. I hope and pray Coronavirus restrictions do not prevent this. As adults September still feels like a new beginning and as we serve our Lord and our God let's hold onto the good community things which were evident in lockdown- looking out for our neighbours, acknowledging strangers on our daily walk, taking the initiative and phoning people.

Being welcoming seems more complicated now but it is so important that we find ways to meet new people, to build new friendships and to nurture our community, and so let's accept that technology can help.

We have opportunities to discover and to rediscover the message of Jesus that God's Holy Spirit sets us free to love and serve one another both near and far.

Happy September!

With love,

Lucy



Temple Street Methodist Night Shelter

Many local pubs had been providing accommodation for the homeless. Now that the pubs have reopened for business there is an URGENT need to provide safe accommodation for those who are now homeless again. Christ Church Team have supported Temple Street Methodist Church Night Shelter over the past two years and help is needed again.

Below is a list of items urgently needed. We can collect from you and deliver to the shelter.

PLEASE PHONE US Carol & Brian Riley on 01889507306 to arrange collection or you can drop off items at THE SMELTINGS Furnace Bank Great Gate Team ST10 4HE Leave under shed canopy if we are not in.

Jackets, trousers, jeans, shoes, socks, sweaters, underwear, hats, scarves/ gloves, toiletries, pyjamas, blankets, duvets, tinned food, tea bags, sugar, sweets, and biscuits.

THANK YOU

St Peter's Edward Bear Club



For birth to nursery aged children and mums, dads or carers. We have moved Edward Bear club into the 21st century by holding weekly virtual 'Houseparty' calls. We meet on Wednesday mornings as usual and the benefit is that some of the older siblings who have gone on to school, can now join in! It's a very loud, chaotic call as you can imagine with up to 7 families with pre-school children chatting away together at

the same time. But it's lovely to see each other to catch up briefly and especially to see how the little ones are growing and progressing!

If anyone would like to join us at the Edward Bear club after the lockdown is over, please come along to the Church vestry on a Wednesday during term time 9.00-10.30am or ring Thelma Brassington on 01283 820447.

St Peter's Church News



Services re- starting

Great news is that services will be starting at the beginning of September again. Please see the back of the magazine for the service rota.

People will please need to self-distance and wear a mask. We ask that you sit in the designated seats and fill the church from the front and leave from the back. Anti- bacterial hand wash is available, and you will be asked to sign in and use the hand sanitiser provided as you arrive. All the necessary deep cleaning has already taken place, ensuring that the church is safe. Only 18 single people can be accommodated, and up to a total of 26 will be allowed per service, including family groups. We are unfortunately unable to sing and books won't be used, but service sheets will be on the pews and should remain there after the service please. Redemptorist sheets need to be taken home after the service too. If you wish to chat, please do this outside.

Morning prayer will be the norm apart from September 20th when Rev. Margaret Sherwin will take communion without wine, as we are unable to share the cup.

Once services recommence in the church there will no longer be Zoom services on Sunday mornings. However, we hope to video our church services and add these to our [Youtube channel](#) so that there will still be a service online every week for people who cannot come to church.

Harvest will take place on 27th September. Donations for the local food bank will take place at services during September and between 9am and 12 noon on Saturday 26th September in the church porch.

Fountain of Peace is the charity we have been supporting for several years at harvest time. We will be collecting monetary donations for this as usual. Like everywhere else, they too are struggling during this time. All the staff there have had to live in to care for the children. And the school which FOP support, has been closed. They have been able to support themselves well during this time as they have a farm with cows and grow several crops. They always planned to be as self- sufficient as possible so the vegetable gardens around the site have been very productive helping to feed the children and staff during this time of food shortage. With the help of donations from New Zealand, they have also been able to support 400 of the most vulnerable families during this time when there have been hugely inflated prices for food and soap. This small charity has given life to so many orphan babies but also the support to the local village and school - they have done so much!

If you can help by giving a donation - please make cheques payable to Marchington St Peter's church PCC or put your money into an envelope and drop it off at the church on 26th September 9am to 12 noon or put it through my door (1 Church Close). Anything will be gratefully received, and we will write one single cheque to the charity.

Maggie

Church buildings are opening again after a period of reduced income for parishes. If you would like to donate to either St Peter's or St John's Church, the easiest way is by clicking on the **DONATE NOW** button below or on the home page of the *Parish News* website:



<https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net>

MARCHINGTON ST PETER'S CHURCH

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General meeting of Parishioners to be held on Thursday 22nd October 2020 at 7:30pm (venue to be confirmed, due to Corona virus).

Agenda:

1. Election of Church Wardens

Mrs Lynda Nicholson and Mr Sandy Halcrow offer themselves for re-election.

Please note that you must complete a nomination form available from the PCC Secretary, Kate Hart or PCC Chair, Thelma Brassington and obtain the consent to be nominated from any person you may wish to nominate.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Minutes of last meeting.
2. Matters arising.
3. Confirmation of Electoral Roll amendments
4. Election of the PCC members
5. Annual Accounts for 2019
6. Appointment of Auditors
7. Annual Revision of Health and Safety Policy
8. Approval of 2020 Child Protection Policy and Procedures
9. Any other business of which due notice (not less than 14 days) has been given to the Secretary.

Kate Hart (PCC Secretary) katealexan@gmail.com

The Marchington Singers . . .



. . . are all on our knees praying for a solution to the ‘aerosol’ problem. You may have read in the press that choirs and singing are definitely off the menu until it is proved one way or the other that singing is bad for you - and we always thought singing was good for you! It appears that a choir in America met in March - a hundred and twenty singers (some of them elderly, it must be said) gathered to rehearse for a couple of hours, their chairs 50cm apart. At the break they shared snacks and at the end the helpful - and able - ones stayed to stack the chairs. Fifty-two of those singers came down with Covid-19, supposedly due to the release of aerosol droplets in the ether. Thus began the swirling rumours across the world about the grave (sorry) dangers of singing. It has still not lifted, despite the pleas of choral directors that it was the finger food and the chair-stacking rather than the singing that spread the disease. It seems that Britain’s - and the world’s - choirs are facing oblivion.

However, there appears to be a glimmer on the proverbial horizon. Currently experiments are taking place at Porton Down, (HM Government’s science facility in Wiltshire) with a guinea-pig group of choral singers, both professional and amateur. The experiments will measure what happens to those aerosols - droplets measuring five-thousandths of a millimetre or less - when they are emitted by the singing voice. Similar tests are going on in London, conducted by Declan Costello,

a consultant surgeon specialising in the human voice who also happens to be a tenor in Polyphony and The Holst Singers - both eminent choral groups. His expectations are pragmatic “If the result is not what we want to hear . . . well at least Public Health England can make a decision based on science. At the moment we have no real data. It’s not a situation that has ever needed to be studied.”

We await guidance.



Wendy Scott - The Marchington Singers

PS During the long days and weeks of April to July the Singers have been entertaining each other by a weekly edition (on Wednesdays which would have been our rehearsal day) of ‘Reasons to be Cheerful’ circulated to all members. The ingenuity and resourcefulness of our singers in every aspect of daily life was incredible! And amusing. And inspiring. One singer said she enjoyed receiving ‘Reasons’ because then she could tell it was Wednesday! We are now in our usual summer break period, but ‘Reasons’ will be back in the autumn, never fear! We live in strange times.

For anyone who wants to sing - albeit in a socially distanced way - there are some audio tracks suitable for singing along to on the *Parish News* website. Many of them will be familiar; there are some Vera Lynn songs, and several songs from *Les Miserables*. In most cases the words are on the screen.

<https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net/sing>

Great British Home Choir: a good experience during lockdown.

I was talking to my daughter, Fiona, about how much I was going to miss singing midweek. She suggested that I went onto YouTube and follow Gareth Malone who was doing the 'Great British Home Chorus'. As I wasn't very familiar with technology to begin with, I needed a quick lesson before I started, but soon got there! It was quite an experience: Gareth in lockdown, in his music shed at the bottom of the garden and thousands like me online from all over the world. The technology didn't always work and there were often lots of comments from people texting in to say they couldn't hear him or see him! I personally learnt a lot from the whole exercise about breathing, how to pronounce tongue twisters and exercise the chest area!

We learnt four songs, all in parts and we now have a disc of the chorus to prove it. We sang Vera Lynn songs on VE Day and others such as Vivaldi's 'Gloria'. The sheets and music were all provided for us as we went along. The guests that we met and sang with were great and they each gave us their own special warm up favourites.

We were invited to take part in the programme produced for BBC 2, which I didn't, but if anyone watched it, it was very touching. For the last one, 'Yet another storm' we joined in the chorus- all remotely of course. All in all, there were 50 half hour sessions and 4 hour long ones. Poor Gareth was exhausted by having to explain how to get the songs to him. He has now gone on holiday in his garden for a well-earned rest. It was an experience I so enjoyed!

Thelma Brassington



Marchington Village Hall



We were lucky enough to be awarded a retail, hospitality, and leisure grant of £10 000 by ESBC to compensate us for the loss of hiring income since the middle of March. At first sight, this seemed a generous sum, but we don't know when our income will pick up and at what level. It is entirely likely that we will be running at a considerable loss well into 2021. Meanwhile we have the normal running costs and there is much maintenance to do.

We are incredibly grateful to Marchington Parish Council for their small grant (formerly the precept) and their £1 000 contribution to the car park resurfacing.

The Government issued guidelines to allow village halls to reopen on Monday 6 July if required. The trustees met in the car park in late June, socially distanced on the smooth new surface, to discuss what to do. Our users have not been straining at the leash to get back in to the Hall, and the summer holiday was approaching so we decided to hold off reopening until September at the earliest. Meanwhile we have surveyed regular users and they confirmed a reticence to rush back too early. If we have not asked you and you have a view on what we can do to help bring the community safely back together to socialise or exercise, please contact us on marchingtonvillagehallbookings@hotmail.com

At the time of writing we are applying for a further grant to help fund additional Covid-secure measures in the Hall.

We are also very grateful for a child party booking later in the autumn!

If you want to book the Hall, call Gill Williamson on 820407 or email marchingtonvillagehallbookings@hotmail.com.

Geraldine Flavell

MARCHINGTON VILLAGE SHOP



Thank you for your continued support for the shop in the village. We are delighted that so many new people are using the shop, and loyal customers are finding that the shop is often more convenient than driving further away. In the past few months, we have had increased sales as a result. It really makes a difference to our mission to provide a great service to local people. We will continue to protect you and the team who are serving you, our managers and our volunteers, whilst providing that service.

We have noticed particularly good sales of fresh fruit and vegetables, newspapers and magazines, greetings cards, cakes and biscuits, and wine- thanks especially to good offers on some exceptional wines.

We now ask all customers to wear a face covering, covering their mouth and nose, when they enter the shop as per the Government rules. In the shop, we ask you to use the hand sanitiser as you come in and to keep at least two meters away from the person serving you and to pay using a contactless card if you can, up to £45. However we also take cash.

From July we also further extended our Opening Hours:

1. Open from 8am to 1pm and 3pm to 5pm weekdays and from 9am to 12 noon Saturday and 9am to 11.15am Sunday.

2. We take orders via email at any time: info@marchingtonshop.co.uk and also take orders over the phone 01283 821148.

As more volunteers become keen to come back to working in the shop, we will try to increase our opening hours to the full day.

Liz Morgan, Chair, Marchington Community Shop

MARCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report - September 2020

Since the start of lockdown Marchington Parish Council has been meeting monthly as usual, but remotely, via Zoom. The August agenda had a varied list of topics for discussion. Some of the substantive items are outlined below.

Planning Issues

A planning application has been submitted to ESBC to convert the Blacksmiths Arms public house into two dwellings and to build a further five houses on the car park and beer garden/ field adjacent. Many Birch Cross residents have strong concerns about this proposal. Marchington Parish Council voted unanimously to oppose this application on the grounds of scale, location, road safety, lack of parking for visitors and deliveries, flooding and surface water drainage, sewage problems, distance from village facilities, proximity to a working dairy farm, character and heritage in very close proximity to Christmas Cottage a Grade 2 listed building.

The house building near completion on Jacks Lane has caused concern to some residents, especially those opposite with particular issues being a metal fence and the lack of a hedge. In response to resident's concerns Chevin Homes has stated that the metal fence has been erected for health and safety reasons to prevent residents falling into the road and a hedge will be planted between October and February. Marchington Parish Council will be watching very closely to ensure this is done as fought for in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Potholes and Dangerous Trees in Green Lane

After receiving concerns from residents about severe potholes and dangerous trees, the Marchington Parish Clerk logged and reported the potholes and

dangerous trees in Green Lane. Since that time some of the potholes have been infilled, but no trees have been trimmed yet.

Dangerous Parking in the High Street and Jacks Lane

Several residents have complained about dangerous and inconsiderate parking in the High Street and Jacks Lane, by visitors mainly to the Cricket Club, but also the Tennis & Bowls Club. At the end of July, Marchington Parish Council organised the laying of limestone aggregate on the track from Silver Lane to the new car park on the old sewage beds to make the track all weather for vehicles. The Parish Council has robustly insisted the Cricket Club inform all players, parents, and visitors that they should use the Silver Lane car park at times of matches, training, and events, to avoid parking in the High Street. The Cricket Club has acted upon this and will be sending messages out to participants before each session. After residents sent complaints to the Police, PC Lymer and his team will be patrolling the village to look out for dangerous parking. Please inform your visitors.

Silver Lane Football Pitches and the Bulls Head Football Club

An agreement was signed by Marchington Parish Council to allow the Bulls Head Football Club to use the principal pitch and small pitch for a period of 10 years without excluding any other local teams that wish to use the pitches. This has enabled the football club to apply for grant funding to revamp the football pitches. Weedkilling, fertilising and additional seeding has already started. We look forward to seeing the state of the pitches this time next year.

Meeting with HMP Dovegate Director

Marchington Parish Councillors met with the Director of HMP Dovegate, Clare Pearson, remotely via Teams, to discuss several concerns of Marchington residents. There have been a number of incidents recently where Marchington residents have been intimidated by released prisoners. Previously the Parish Council had been told that the strategy of HMP Dovegate was to transfer prisoners from Dovegate to a lower category prison near the end of their sentence before being released. We understand this is still the policy for long term prisoners. However, Dovegate has had remand prisoners imposed on them and these are released in very low numbers on a near daily basis at times to coincide with bus services or the availability of a taxi. The Director assured the Parish Council that she would carefully monitor this situation and that we are to report any future incidents immediately.

The Director was informed about the concerns of residents regarding the frequency of prison staff traffic travelling through the village in uniform and was reminded of the original agreement with HMP Dovegate to avoid driving through Marchington Village. The Director informed us that staff are regularly reminded of this policy.

Woodlands Road Signs

I can confirm that the road signs for Marchington Woodlands have now been made and ESBC are awaiting location instructions as to where these signs should be erected. It is hoped these long awaited signs will be erected shortly.

I apologise for this serious summary and although the Parish Council is not physically meeting, matters arising in the Parish are being dealt with as best they can be in these unusual times. I hope that the summer weather lasts a little longer before we brace ourselves for winter and whatever that brings. I hope the transition from lockdown continues and we can get back to some degree of normality.

Andrew C Mann

USEFUL CONTACTS

GAS - gas escapes - 0800 111999

ELECTRICITY supply emergencies - 0800 6783105 or call 105

SOUTH STAFFS WATER supply enquiries - 0800 389 1011

SEVERN TRENT WATER - for sewerage problems 0800 7834444

DOCTORS' SURGERIES - Dove River Practice (Sudbury) 01283 585215
Northgate Surgery (Uttoxeter) 01889 562010
Balance Street (Uttoxeter) 01889 562145

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL Burton on Trent - switchboard 01283 566333

POLICE - non-emergency - 101, or textphone 18001 101

MOBILE LIBRARY - 0300 111 8000

FLOOD INFORMATION <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE FLOOD WARNINGS BY PHONE, EMAIL OR TEXT - FLOODLINE 0345 988 1188 or register at <https://www.fws.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/register>

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For advice on reporting problems visit

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Highways/Problems-with-roads/Report-It-explained.aspx>

THINGS TO DO IN THE GARDEN IN SEPTEMBER

September is the month when the gardener needs to start the process of clearing up in the garden and the greenhouse. There is still time to sow new plants if you feel motivated. September is peak harvest time for fruit and veg. It is also the time when growth begins to slow down. The grass will need less frequent cuts and you may want to raise the blade on your mower a notch.

Here are just a few things to concentrate on:

FLOWERING PLANTS

Continue to deadhead, feed and water hanging baskets and container grown plants. They can continue to deliver colour in the garden, well into October.

Divide herbaceous perennials, which will keep them healthy and creates new plants for free.

Continue to water Spring flowering shrubs, such as rhododendrons and camellias, so that buds form, which ultimately leads to more flowers in April and May.

Prune roses when they have finished flowering. Repeat flowering roses can be left for another few weeks though. Collect and sow seeds from perennials and hardy annuals. Plant Spring flowering bulbs.

FRUIT TREES AND BUSHES

Cut off and plant up strawberry runners to create new plants for next year.

Harvest apples, (pears normally ripen a little later than apples).

Make sure that you remove rotting fruit from trees and fruit that may be on the ground. Left on, they can spread disease and they also attract the dreaded wasp.

Raspberries and blackberries are still there to be picked. It may be time however, to cut back Summer fruiting raspberries.

VEGETABLES

Harvest crops. If you have a glut, you will need to be creative in order to preserve your produce. Pickle, store, dry or cook and freeze are the methods that spring to mind.

Keep picking beans. This will encourage more beans to ripen.

Sweetcorn will be ready to pick when you pinch a kernel. If a milky fluid comes out, it is ready. If no moisture appears, the corns will probably be too starchy.

When plants begin to die down. Cut them off and start the veg patch clean up.

IN THE GREENHOUSE

You can still sow salad leaves in containers and put the containers in the greenhouse, thus giving you autumn

cut and come again salad, even into November.

Clean out cold frames and greenhouses, so that they are ready for use in Autumn.

Water in the greenhouse in the morning, which gives time for the greenhouse to dry off before closing

doors and vents which will keep warmth in, but minimise damp conditions overnight that might encourage disease, such as botrytis.

GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY
GARDENING.
Nick Adamson

Uttoxeter Cricket Club



We are writing to you to express our gratitude with the way we have been welcomed with open arms since we moved here in April last year. It has been great to see so many of the local community engaging with the club, be it through spectating, playing or attending junior training. We hope that we have done most things right, however, we recognise that there are always things we can improve upon to make our relationship with you even better. One thing that has come to light recently, is the issue of on street parking. We would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused and reassure you that we are working hard to rectify this by making better use of the car park on Silver Lane. We have also been in contact with all our members, asking them not to park on the roadside under any circumstances. Once again, many thanks for the way you have welcomed us into the village and, should you ever wish to come down and watch a match on a Saturday or pop in for a Friday night drink, you would be more than welcome.

Yours faithfully,
Uttoxeter Cricket Club Executive Committee

Bob Willis

Bob Willis – Warwickshire and England cricketer died last year of prostate cancer at the age of 70. He was a fast bowler who played a big part in the famous 1981 Headingley Test Match win over the Australians.



Lyricist Sir Tim Rice wrote the following tribute:-

Remember more than wickets now he's gone,
Or speed, or run-up of eccentric mode,
Beginning somewhere way beyond long on,
Emerging from a distant postal code.
Remember more than flying stumps and bails
That troubled every nation's very best.
Give him his fame and all that that entails
Deserved – but he stood taller than the rest.
We knew his as a cultured Bob, refined
In thrall to Wagner, Dylan, white and red,
Laconic, warm and witty, spoke his mind.
Life's verdict: he was true Renaissance bred.
It's not a goose but eagle that we see,
Still soaring high with eight for 43.
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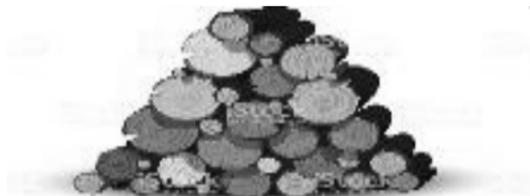
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Marchington Woodlands WI

Hurrah! Woodlands WI has managed to have the first meeting/ get together since March!

Risk assessment completed, sanitizer at the ready and weather ordered, we held our first meeting on Friday 14th August, in the open air, all socially distanced and adhering to Government advice. We had an extremely good turn out by members. Janey supplied the beautiful garden and the gazebos. We weren't sure after looking at the weather forecast if these would be to shelter from the rain but

fortunately it was to keep the sun off us. The heat was not as oppressive as earlier in the week and a glass of prosecco eased everybody back in to social mode. It did take a couple of tries to bring the chatter under control to whizz through the tiny bit of business, such as signing the minutes from our March meeting, and wishing everyone who had their birthday in



lockdown a belated happy birthday. Julie D has sent beautiful cards to everyone for their birthday and she was thanked for providing a little cheer in her stunning handmade creations. We have missed a lot of lovely events since March, but all of them will take place when we are able to pursue some normality. On a sad note we mentioned the passing of Peter Speed and the difficult time his wife, Jenny is having with her own health. Our thoughts are with Jenny and family at this time. We acknowledged that other members have had trials and tribulations throughout the pandemic and recounting these, as well as the benefits, will be a feature of our next meeting – whenever that is. Watch this space!

No one wanted to listen to any more business so the garden returned to a happy buzz of chatter whilst picnics were eaten, followed by the very British scone, cream and jam.

It was lovely to catch up with so many members, who all looked very well and the chatter continued for quite some time. What a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon. Thanks goes to Janey for hosting, Leigh for helping with the gazebos and furniture and Leanne for keeping everyone's glass topped up!

We hope to meet again soon to continue our friendship and fun through Woodlands WI.

Helen Cleaver

Marchington Woodlands Village Hall Update



Government guidance on 'how' to open community centres and village halls was followed almost immediately by the 'when'. With the best will in the world it was too quick for us.

To adapt an analogy that is used these days, our village hall 'vehicle' has gone into the garage for a thorough MOT. At the moment, it is still up on the ramp and isn't ready for the engine to be started, let alone to be put into gear and sent

back out on the road. (You may recall that Boris referred to squeezing the brake pedal, as he recently paused the easing of certain lockdown measures).

Our small, dedicated group of Village Hall Committee members and trustees are focussing on a number of key areas to ensure that the hall can be re-opened safely for all users and anyone working in-and-around the building. At the same time, where improvement is possible, the Committee is looking to update the facility for those users who have been loyal to the village hall over the years and to attract interest from individuals/ groups that may be looking for a new meeting/ recreational/ educational space.

The Committee asks for your patience whilst it goes through and ticks-off items on its extensive 'MOT' checklist. This includes talking to regular users about any new arrangements that may have to be in place on re-opening and giving them an opportunity to suggest alternative or additional measures. These changes should allow them to return confidently to the village hall (face masks and social distancing are givens). We shall, of course, keep everyone informed about our progress.

A lot has been said about the renewed spirit of community during lockdown and of individuals looking to learn new subjects or try different hobbies or start that new enterprise. Where better to bring these things together than your local village hall?

The land was originally gifted to the parishioners of Marchington Woodlands to erect a village hall and for the premises to be '...held upon trust for the purposes of physical and mental training and recreation and social, moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library, lectures, classes, recreation and entertainment or otherwise as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants... and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or of political, religious or other opinions...'

So, please, speak to the Committee about your ideas for new activities once the hall has re-opened. (Or you can email mwvh@btinternet.com). It would be great to hear from you.

Do continue to take care and stay safe.

Karen Perrins



St John's Marchington Woodlands **Wondering how coming out of lockdown might look**

Online services and links

<http://www.marchingtonwoodlandschurch.co.uk/> St. Johns website

<http://marchingtonparishcouncil.org/marchington-woodlands-village-hall/>
Woodlands Village Hall

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/> includes Uttoxeter and Diocese and Arch
Bishops

<https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net> Magazine

BBC1 has a Sunday service at 10.45am and *Songs of Praise* at around 1.15pm

100 club winners in June

1st Helen Newbury 2nd Sue Bellamy 3rd Noelle Harmon
4th May Shaw

100 club winners in July

1st Robert Leadbetter 2nd Steve Hanson 3rd Maria Charlesworth
4th Felicity Kiefer

The 100 Club membership renewal for the next twelve months was due in July with subscription of £12 per person. However, you can join at any time. You can pay your subs directly to the club account at Leek United BS.

Account name St Johns 100 club

Sort code 40-05-30

Account 74578031

Reference 72483734406.

Any queries contact Graham Salt or Linda Beech.

Magazine subs

If you have not yet paid your subscription (£9 for the year: apologies that the price was not included on the form or in the July magazine), or if you no longer wish to subscribe, please contact your delivery volunteer so that the subscriber list can be kept as up to date as possible. The subscription will cover both the paper and online copy as well if you want to access it that way. There will also be access to back issues for subscribers who wish to look back.

Services in September

As I write this, we hope to have two clergy led services this month. We also hope to have a couple of PCC led acts of worship during August, for which we will have phoned around the usual congregation to offer invitations. Apologies if anyone feels they were missed out. If that is the case, please let us know.

Sunday 13th September 4pm Evening Prayer (cannot be evensong yet as we are not allowed to sing)

Sunday 27th September 4pm Holy Communion

If you feel able to attend the services can we ask that you call either Linda, Graham, or Isabel a day or two prior to each service as this may change if the Covid situation changes.

Woodlands News

A warm welcome to new families in the area. If you live near to any new families, I am sure, knowing the Woodlands folk, that you will already have made them feel

welcome (that makes us sound a bit like elves or fairies at the bottom of the garden... but you never know!).

If you are reading this as a recipient of your complimentary welcome copy of the magazine, then welcome from St Johns Church PCC and from the Woodlands Village hall committee.

Keep safe and well everyone and continue to offer up prayers to ask that we can come out of this pandemic as a kinder, happier more in-touch community, country, and world. It's a big ask but with the Lord's help we will.

St. John's PCC

Priest in charge: Rev. Margaret Sherwin Rector Tel: 01889 560234

Vicar: we are still sadly in interregnum, but we are lucky that the Area team and especially Maggie Hatchard look after us and include us in all they do.

Maggie tel: 01283 820207

Church Wardens-

Graham Salt, Cherry Tree Cottage, Greaves Lane, Draycott in the Clay Tel: 01283 821587 gsalt799@btinternet.com 07759 238388

Victor Read, Loxlie Garth Bramshall Road, Uttoxeter Tel: 01889 560860

Verger-

John Bostock, The School House, Marchington Woodlands tel: 01889 562404

Treasurer:

Mike Cleaver email macleaver@hotmail.co.uk

PCC members:

John and Pat Bostock, Graham and Pat Salt, Victor Read, Anna Cadamy, Mike Cleaver, Robert Parkes,

Isabel Wilson: Tel: 01889 569411 chrisisalwilson@aol.co.uk

Linda Beech tel: 01283 820209 bechnuts@hotmail.co.uk 07875 516635

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, MARCHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER 2020

Service	Readings	Sides-person	Intercessions	Readers	Organist	Flowers
6 September 9.30 am Morning Prayer	Ezekiel 33:7-11 Romans 13:8-14 Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20	Tim Scott	Wendy Scott	Joyce Halcrow Thelma Brassington	Wendy Scott	Joyce Halcrow
13 September 9.30 am Morning Prayer	Genesis 50:15-21 Romans 14:1-12 Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35	Kath Wood	Liz Morgan	Gordon Whitehead Pat Wilson	Rhoda Castle	Shirley McCoy
20 September 9.30 am Communion	Jonah 3:10-4:11 Philippians 1:21-30 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16	John Landells	Ginny Odey	Tony Butler Wendy Scott	Amanda Shaw	Maggie Hatchard
27 September 9.30 am Morning Prayer HARVEST	Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Philippians 2:1-13 Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32	Valerie Whitehead	Gill Williamson	Ian Jones Amanda Shaw	Wendy Scott	Sue Butler

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CARRY OUT YOUR DUTY, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT AND INFORM A CHURCH WARDEN.