

The Four Parishes News Magazine

BECKLEY
FOREST HILL
HORTON-cum-STUDLEY
STANTON St JOHN



Pupils at Beckley School say 'thank you' to the NHS

May 2020

The editor writes:



In these extraordinary times, we have so much to be thankful for, as volunteers from all over our community come forward to help those who are less able to help themselves. As far as possible, I have tried to provide information in the magazine about some of the help available, but it won't cover everything and things are still changing so fast that not all of it will be completely up to date. We are also immensely grateful to all those who are risking their lives in continuing to provide essential services during the current lockdown.

This month, I have two pieces of good news to share with you: one is the appointment of our new vicar, Rev'd Anthea Beresford, who will be joining us in the Four Parishes at the beginning of July - there is more about this on page 6 and we eagerly look forward to welcoming her; the other is that Jonathan Barker from Forest Hill has volunteered to help me out with this magazine. It's great to have an Assistant Editor to work with, and interesting to have a new perspective on what we are doing.

Stay safe and keep well!

Julia Stutfield

All contributions to this magazine are the sole responsibility of the author and do not imply or represent any official editorial view or endorsement.

Our cover photo ...

was provided by Mark Szortowski, Headteacher of Beckley School.

Mark writes:

"Pupils at Beckley School showed their gratitude to NHS workers by painting and displaying this colourful rainbow."

If you have taken a photo which you think might be suitable for the cover of the next magazine, please email it to 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com

We welcome contributions or notices for future issues.
Please send them to:

Beckley

John Baker Tel: 07401 550537 johnbaker245@btinternet.com

Forest Hill

Linda Goffey Tel: 01865 873078 linda@goffey.co.uk

Horton-cum-Studley

Carol Welch Tel: 01865 358122 carol_welch20@hotmail.com

Stanton St John

Sue Baker Tel: 01865 351449 susanjbaker24@gmail.com

The closing date for the June 2020 issue is 15 May 2020

The Four Parishes News Magazine is produced under the auspices of our four village churches for the benefit of the whole community. It is funded by advertising revenue, which is used to cover the printing costs.

We are dependent on volunteers to assemble the content, book and invoice the advertisers, compile and edit the magazine, collect it from the printers and distribute it throughout the four parishes. If you are interested in getting involved, please email Julia at 4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com

Recent issues of the magazine are available to view online at www.stnicolasforesthill.org/four-parishes

The Four Parishes News Magazine has 10 issues per year and is distributed free of charge to approximately 850 addresses in Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley, Stanton St John and Beckley.

**To advertise in the magazine please email JULIA
adverts.4parishesnewsletter@gmail.com**

Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill with Shotover, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John

Ministry Team

We are extremely grateful to all of our volunteer clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers for their generous support during our vacancy. Please contact the Church Wardens in the first instance with any enquiries.

Rev'd Hugh Lee	hugh.lee@btinternet.com Tel: 01865 316245
Rev'd Canon Beau Stevenson	beaumont.stevenson@gmail.com
Rev'd Stephanie Bullock	stephaniebullock9@gmail.com
Rev'd Dr. Elizabeth Hoare	liz.hoare@wycliffe.ox.ac.uk
Betty Dye LLM	betty.dye10@gmail.com
Canon Prof. Nicholas Orme LLM	N.I.Orme@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01865 512676
Joanna Allen (Ordinand)	jo.ordinand@gmail.com

Church Wardens

Beckley

Georgina Robson	Tel: 01865 351637	gina.robson@virgin.net
Betty Dye	Tel: 07910 356343	betty.dye10@gmail.com

Forest Hill

Jane Walker	Tel: 01865 872399	lyttleton@btinternet.com
Pat Fraser	Tel: 01865 875679	triciaann49@gmail.com

Horton-cum-Studley

Andrew Payne	Tel: 01865 351018	andrewrobertsonpayne@gmail.com
Lynn Whitaker	Tel: 01865 358838	lyndawhitaker@btinternet.com

Stanton St John

Sheila Pullen	Tel: 01865 351210	dave.sheila53@gmail.com
Deirdre Young	Tel: 01865 351745	youngdee@live.co.uk

Church Services in the Four Parishes, May 2020

Our Churches and the Coronavirus

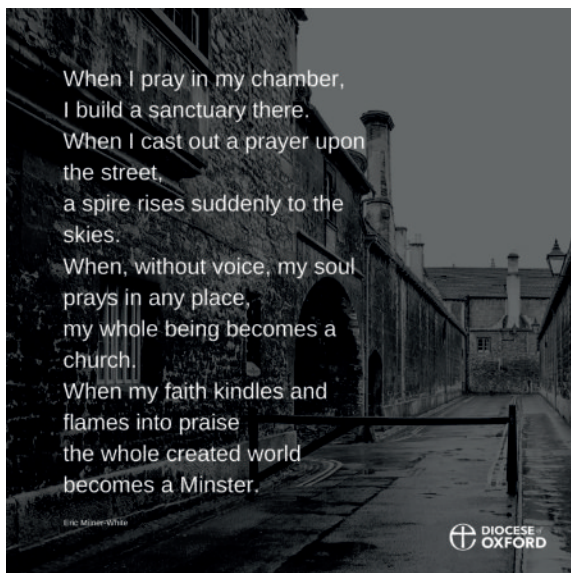
On 24 March the Archbishops of Canterbury and York announced that Church of England buildings must be closed not only for public worship, but also for private prayer. Although this means that all services in church have been cancelled until further notice, there are still many opportunities to view or take part in services in other ways.

The diocese is **live-streaming** a Sunday morning service at 10am, with bishops and other members of the clergy contributing from their own homes. Using the link oxford.anglican.org/livestream, the service can be watched on Facebook or YouTube and you can also download the order of service beforehand or view the service after the event

St Mary's Church in Wheatley have been **broadcasting services using the Zoom** videoconferencing app, which allows participants to see each other on screen and even to join in with said responses during the service. If you would like to be included in the emails about these services, please contact Rev'd Nigel Hawkes on vicar.wheatley@gmail.com.

We are especially grateful to Rev'd Hugh Lee, who has been conducting Communion services at home with his wife Anne on behalf our our Four Parishes. Hugh has been **emailing the bible readings and copies of his sermons**. Hugh's contact details are on the opposite page.

The poem reproduced here was circulated by the Diocese of Oxford on 30 March as the final part of a detailed communication containing administrative guidance for churches in response to Coronavirus.



CHURCH NOTICE BOARD

A huge thank you to the Revd Julian Dunn from Great Haseley for taking so many services while Rev'd Hugh Lee was off sick with his slipped disc. Very many of us appreciated the way he led our worship and we learnt a lot from his sermons. We are most grateful to him for stepping into the gap so readily and ably. It is not good that, because of the coronavirus, we cannot say a public thank you to him at the moment.

Update on our search for a new vicar



We are delighted to announce that the **Revd Anthea Beresford** has been appointed as Vicar of the Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John in the Diocese of Oxford. Anthea is currently Associate Priest in the Benefice of Cinderford with Littledean in the Diocese of Gloucester.

We warmly congratulate her and look forward to welcoming her to the diocese and archdeaconry when she takes up her ministry on 1 July 2020. A personal message from Anthea appears below:

"I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as Vicar of the Benefice of Beckley, Forest Hill, Horton-cum-Studley and Stanton St John. I cannot wait to move, to meet you all and to begin serving as your

priest. It feels as though I have been journeying with you already to get to this day. I look forward with excitement to that continuing journey in the days, weeks, months and years ahead. Please be assured of my ongoing prayers for you, especially in these difficult times."

When, back in December, the date was set for interviewing candidates applying to be our new vicar, no-one had any inkling that by 19 March we would all be grappling with an astonishing series of rapid changes to our daily lives, caused by the coronavirus outbreak.

The original timetable for the day, which was set out on 26 February after the completion of shortlisting, was a masterpiece of logistics: it began with a Eucharist in Beckley Church at 8.30am and encompassed a group visit to Beckley School to observe an 'Open the Book' assembly, individual visits to the vicarage in Stanton St John and to each of our four parish churches, individual meetings with the Headteacher of Beckley School and with members of our voluntary Ministry Team, and a group lunch in Stanton Village Hall provided by volunteers from the Four Parishes, not to mention the actual 50 minute interviews with the Archdeacon and panel members, which took place at College House, Stanton St John, by kind permission of Nikki Mallows.

As the interview date approached, our ambitious timetable started unravelling. On 13 March the Church of England instructed us to avoid physical contact during church services and to suspend catering; on 15 March the 'Open the Book' team had to withdraw for reasons of self-isolation so the school assembly visit was cancelled. A new timetable was produced without the morning visit to Beckley School and with people asked to bring their own lunch. The Eucharist was replaced with a short 'welcome meeting' at Stanton Church and Nikki Mallows generously re-confirmed that she was still willing to host the interviews at College House, as long as we followed specific precautions re hand-washing etc. Finally, late in the evening on 18 March, we had the news that the meetings with the Headteacher at Beckley School were cancelled, following the government announcements earlier that day.

The morning of 19 March dawned bright and clear, which only added to the surreal feeling as we entered Stanton Church for our first meeting with the candidates, each one of us carefully observing the 'social distancing' that has since become so familiar. The day was characterised by quiet fellowship as we proceeded with the interview process and it felt like a miracle when, after over 18 months of preparing and waiting, we were finally able to recommend an appointment.

GENERAL NOTICES

Local resources

Now that it has become so difficult to shop at the big supermarkets or order home deliveries, small local businesses are stepping up to meet our needs.

The Village Shop, Stanton St John

(01865 351532 / www.stantonvillageshop.co.uk) / text/whatsapp 07795415819 or email stantonvillageshop@gmail.com

The shop is closed to visitors but Rowan is doing a fantastic job offering morning and afternoon deliveries to Stanton St John, Forest Hill, Beckley and Horton-cum-Studley, Elsfeld and Woodeaton.

The Abingdon Arms, Beckley

(01865 655667 / www.theabingdonarms.co.uk)

Take away OR delivery menu available between 5-8pm Tuesday-Saturday, 12-4pm Sunday. Card payments only please.

Field View Farm Shop, Horton-cum-Studley

(01865 358933 / www.fieldviewfarmshop.co.uk)

Andy offers an excellent range of meats, pies, and fresh vegetables.

Rectory Farm Shop, Stanton St John

(01865 358309 / www.rectoryfarmpyo.co.uk/ /

email: shop@rectoryfarmpyo.co.uk)

Open Tuesday-Sunday from 9.30am. Online 'click and collect' ordering and local deliveries are available. See website for more details.

The White Horse, Forest Hill

(Call in advance 01865 873927 /

see the menu at www.whitehorseforesthill.co.uk/)

Take Away service is available during our kitchen Lunch and Evening opening hours Tuesday to Sunday.

Islip Community Shop

(01865 375715 / islipvillageshop.com)

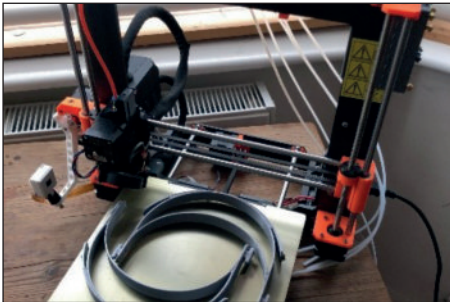
Islip Village Shop is closed to visitors until further notice but is able to offer a local delivery service. See website for details.

Stowood Scientific Instruments 3D prints face masks for NHS

Stowood Scientific Instruments Ltd is a local business based in Common Road, Beckley. Founded by Lynford (Lyn) Davies, late husband of Beckley resident Cathy Davies, and now run by her son Gwilym, the company develops and sources solutions for screening and diagnosing sleep and breathing related disorders, for both hospital and home use.

PPE Face Masks

Stowood were keen to support their NHS colleagues in this challenging time. Using their 3D printing prototyping facilities and a loaned laser cutter, they are able to make around 100 protective face masks a week while continuing with their normal business.



Stowood were able to increase their capacity for mask-building threefold thanks to generous donations from a wide range of people, many from within the Four Parishes, which allowed the purchase of further 3D printers and materials for making the masks.

The masks are distributed via a national consortium of volunteers started by palliative-medicine doctor James Coxon, the '3DCrowd UK group', <https://www.3dcrowd.uk/>.

Further information about Stowood Scientific Instruments Ltd is available on the company website at <https://stowood.com/>.



Domestic abuse support from Oxfordshire County Council

As Coronavirus restrictions impact on individuals and families, domestic abuse advice is being offered by Oxfordshire County Council. Stress and anxiety can escalate abuse. Widespread health concerns and job losses may mean people experience or use domestic abuse for the first time.

Despite restrictions on movement the Government says anyone experiencing domestic abuse can leave and seek refuge. Refuges are open and the police provide support to all who are being abused - physically or emotionally.

Oxfordshire's domestic abuse services continue to offer support and help people find safe accommodation or increase safety measures to enable them to remain at home. Those at risk can access the help they need. Sarah Carter, Strategic Lead for Domestic Abuse, from Oxfordshire County Council, said:

“Social distancing, isolation and shielding measures mean people suffering domestic abuse are less able to reach out for help. We all have a role to play in protecting those at risk - looking and listening out for our neighbours, friends, family and others in the community.”

How and where to get help and support:

- Anyone in immediate danger should phone 999.
- Or if in danger and unable to talk on the phone, dial 999 and then press 55. This will transfer the call to police, who will assist without the caller having to speak.
- Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Services offers free advice: 0800 731 0055 (Mon-Fri 10am-7pm). email das@a2dominion.co.uk
- Alternatively, call the 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247.

Anybody worried about causing harm to the ones they love can get help.

Respect Phonenumber - 0808 802 4040. <https://respectphonenumber.org.uk/>

24/7 Mental Health Helpline



A 24/7 mental health helpline has been launched to take pressure off 111 for mental health advice in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

The round-the-clock helpline will make it quicker and easier for people in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire to get the right advice they need for their mental health.

It will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week and temporarily takes pressure off 111 for people who need mental health care when their situation it is not life threatening.

- For adults, the number is 01865 904 997
- For children and young people, the number is 01865 904 998



John Howell MP writes

Late April 2020

As we work together to fight COVID-19, I know that it is so very worrying for many people. I have been inundated with emails raising many different questions on the situation and, with the help of my dedicated team - all of whom are working remotely - we are trying to answer as best we are able. COVID-19 queries are dominating our work and due to the urgency of most of these we are giving them priority. If you have emailed on another issue, please bear with us. We are dealing first with urgent COVID-19 casework.

Although Parliament has been in recess, Ministers have been working flat out to bring forward measures to try to keep us all safe and help people in so many different situations. Following an initial raft of measures these have been refined as situations that have fallen between the various measures have come to light. If you still have a question please feel free to email me but please do look at the Government advice first (<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>) to see if

(continued on next page)

Letter from John Howell MP (continued)

your question has already been answered. This will help me and my team to respond as quickly as we can on outstanding concerns and individual problems.

As Parliament returns from the Easter recess, we too will be working in new ways using technology. A great deal of work has been done to allow Members to continue to scrutinise the Government remotely and Ministers will take oral questions from MPs, some of whom will be in the Chamber and others joining in remotely. I have already taken part in Justice Select Committee evidence sessions online and they worked very well.

More locally, other public bodies have made provision to keep MPs updated on their work in relation to COVID-19 and to question them. I have regular conference calls with the Thames Valley Police Chief Constable and CEO of the Ambulance Trust, the Chief Executive of the Local Enterprise Partnership and the Leader of the County Council, as well as with international colleagues. I have personally surveyed GP practices and Care Homes in the constituency to check how they are coping and to ensure that their needs are met for protective clothing and equipment. I am pleased that, despite media suggestions to the contrary, Care Homes are doing well. I was pleased to see that this week the Government appointed Lord Deighton to lead our national effort to produce essential protective equipment, so we can ensure health and social care staff have the protection they need. It has become clear that a major problem has been poor logistics within the NHS on distribution rather than supply itself. We are grateful to the people who have turned their hand to helping meet the need and to the Army who have been brought in to help.

Despite the dominance of COVID-19 I remain interested to know the views of constituents on the various topics. Whether on a topic due to come before the House or something else, if you have an issue that you would like to raise with me please email me at john.howell.mp@parliament.uk or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD) to share your views.

The Maple Tree, Littleworth Road, Wheatley

The Maple Tree is a community charity (registration no. 1174117) based in Wheatley. We serve families from Wheatley and surrounding villages, including Stanton St John, Forest Hill, Horton -cum-Studley and Beckley & Stowood. We also oversee the Forest Hill Baby & Toddler Group.



We hope everybody is managing to stay safe at this difficult time. Although The Maple Tree is not currently open, we are doing our best to run a reduced remote programme. Our Facebook page is extremely active <https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley/> and our wonderful staff are posting ideas as well as recording videos with their own children of ideas to do at home. Please do take a look at our new website <http://www.mapletree.org.uk/>

We are also running interactive Facebook Live sessions on a Tuesday and Thursday morning at 11am for storytelling, singing and more activities for you to try at home with the children.

We are delighted to have formed a new partnership with **Botley Bridges, NHS Health Visitors, Oxfordshire Breastfeeding Support, OXPIP and Motherkind Café** and will be introducing a **weekly virtual Baby Group** beginning on Wednesday 22 April at 11am especially for parents who have had babies since the 1 March, as we are aware that you haven't been able to get out for the face to face support that you would normally receive. If you would like to join us, please email hayley@mapletree.org.uk and we will send you an invitation to join us via Zoom.

Barb Crowther, who runs our Saturdads session, saved seeds from our sunflower plants at the end of last summer. We have launched a sunflower growing competition, with a prize offered for the tallest sunflower at the end of August. If you would like some seeds to grow with your children, email info@mapletree.org.uk and we will arrange to send some to you. Do send us progress reports or photos of your child/ren planting the seeds.

If you need any support during this difficult time, please do contact us and we will do our best to help you (or find somebody that can). If you are interested in supporting The Maple Tree financially, by making a one off or regular donation, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please do stay safe.

Hayley Hayle (Coordinator)

FOREST HILL

News from St Nicolas Church

We start with the good news:- the Reverend Anthea Beresford will be joining the Four Parishes as our new Vicar, on 1 July 2020, all being well.

On 24 March we received instructions from the Archbishop of Canterbury to close all church buildings, so the door at St Nicolas Church remains locked. This has been such a difficult task to do. The building has been there for over 900 years, a place of prayer and comfort over the centuries.

James Skinner from Forest Hill kindly put this evocative photograph on



Facebook, which resulted in comments from several people who had fond memories of St Nicolas Church through weddings, baptisms, etc. In some ways it portrayed a sign of hope during this time of lockdown and isolation. Thank you James!

We hope that those who are allowed out for walks will venture to walk around the church building and reflect on the many years it has stood overlooking the Village, providing support to those who have prayed with their concerns for safety and help.

"Our strong God, when life's circumstances overwhelm us, stand with us, stir our praise, giving us your strength to overcome".

At the time of writing, all services in May have been cancelled. On 10 May we should have been celebrating 75 years since VE Day! 21 May is Ascension Day and we were planning to go to the Millennium Hall in Horton-cum-Studley at 6.30am for a 'sunrise service'.

Christian Aid Week is in May, but we shall not be distributing envelopes this year. If you wish to send a donation directly to Christian Aid, they can be contacted on 0870 078 7788.

We wish everyone a safe journey through this pandemic.

VE Day, 75th Anniversary - Forest Hill Remembers

Those of you who came to our Armistice Day exhibition and concert in St.



Nicolas Church in 2018 will probably remember seeing the beautifully inscribed 'Roll of Honour', which contains the names of everyone from Forest Hill and Shotover who served in the armed forces during the First World War.

When we came to plan a similar event in 2019 with focus on World War Two, I was struck by the fact that, although the names of those who gave their lives in 1939-45 are inscribed on the village War Memorial, we have no corresponding tribute in St

Nicolas to the many who served and survived. Having asked one or two people in the village, it seems that it should be possible to identify at least some of the names and to create a corresponding 'Roll of Honour' for World War Two. With plans for VE Day celebrations on Friday, 8 May likely to be disrupted by coronavirus, this is one project that we can still embark on, with the aim of creating a draft list of names by Remembrance Sunday 2020.

If you had a relative who you think should be on the list or you would like to help with researching it, please contact me, Julia Stutfield (julia.stutfield@gmail.com or 07766 103427), or Jane Walker (lyttleton@btinternet.com or 01865 872399). Thank you.

Forest Hill with Shotover Parish Council

Life is certainly extra-ordinary at the moment. The Parish Council continues throughout the COVID-19 crisis, although remotely, to carry on business as usual. We are doing our best to keep you informed of any notices and updates on our website:

www.parish-council.com/foresthillwithshotover/index.asp

You can contact Helen Cross, the Parish Council Clerk, tel: 0844 884 3328 or email: theclerk@foresthillwithshotover-pc.org.uk

In these uncertain times, in the name of community spirit, keep an eye on your neighbours and yourselves and stay safe!

Forest Hill Village Email List

Since the main point of a village email list is to relay information about village events, interest in this proposal has been understandably slow, but do please email me on julia.stutfield@gmail.com if you would like to be included when there is eventually something to communicate!

* * * * *

STANTON ST JOHN

Stanton St John Women's Supper Group

Sadly, we do not yet know when we will be able to get together again for a drink, supper and chat. Let's be optimistic and hope for June!

We will be in touch by email and the Newsletter, as soon as the picture becomes clearer - but keep the thought and possible date in mind [June 1st].

Stay well and safe. We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Stanton St John Community Cafe

Unfortunately, we do not yet know when we can next hold a Community Café - but let's be hopeful for June [2nd Friday of month, 12 June]. It will be lovely to get together again for coffee / tea , cake and chat - face to face! We will keep you posted via the Newsletter - and posters around the village, when possible.

In the meantime, stay well and safe.

Stanton St John W.I.

We hope that all members are continuing to keep well and as fit as possible and to use local support.

As we anticipated our planned events will be suspended for the foreseeable future due to the extension of the lockdown timetable. We will keep in touch through emails and the Stanton St John WI website. All our best wishes from your committee.

Stanton St John Parish Council

Please don't forget during these disquieting times that the Parish Council has set up a Village Support Network of volunteers to help anyone with essential shopping, prescription collections, essential lifts or to chat if you are worried or lonely. We distributed a leaflet a few weeks ago with all the details but if you would like to receive it again or didn't get one, please email the parish clerk at stantonstjohnpc@gmail.com

Remember also that Stanton St John Village Shop is doing local deliveries as are Rectory Farm.

In line with South Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council can we remind everyone not to light bonfires at this time. This is to protect the respiratory health of the vulnerable and to avoid unnecessary burden on the NHS. In addition to this, with larger numbers of people now working from home and also looking after children, the smoke from such bonfires can cause unnecessary nuisance to your neighbours.

At this time when more individuals are enjoying the outdoors for their permitted daily exercise, can we remind all dog walkers to please use the dog bins provided in the parish or take any dog waste home for disposal.

The parish council continue to meet monthly, by means of a conference call. At this time we are not sure when physical meetings in the village hall will resume. If you have any points to raise with the parish council, please do not hesitate to email the clerk, who will ensure that the parish councillors are made aware of the points raised, so they can consider them. Please note that all meeting dates, agenda's and minutes are held on the parish council website, www.parish-council.com/stantonstjohn/.

A parish council circulation list for general communication is held by the parish clerk. If you wish to be included on the circulation list please email the parish clerk at the address above. Please note all important communications will be displayed on the parish council notice board next to the village shop.

Thank you everyone for all your help.

BECKLEY

Beckley Church



Our church was closed by order of the Archbishops on 24 March but we marked Easter Day with this exuberant display at the lychgate. Wonderful Easter hymns playing at full volume rang out to celebrate the Resurrection in Beckley! The message on the hand painted display board reads:

*“Alleluia
Christ is risen
Risen indeed”*

Open Day, 14 June

As I am sure everyone will have gathered, the Open Day this year is cancelled. But we will hold it in June 2021!

Beckley Covid-19 Support

The Beckley Covid-19 Support Network brings together 24 volunteers, linked through a WhatsApp group, who can respond to requests for help. They are strategically placed around the village, keep a watching eye on their immediate neighbourhood, and welcome requests for shopping, takeaway deliveries from the pub and Stanton shop, posting items, medicine and prescription pick up, and help setting up online services.

If you need help, particularly if you are elderly or in poor health, or you are a key worker in need of support, please do contact us.

Requests for help can either be by word of mouth, email BACBSgoodneighbour@gmail.com, or by text/phone call on 07514 791910 (if there is no reply leave a message, or email instead).

Beckley and Stowood Parish Council

The May PC meeting due to be held on Tuesday 5 May 2020 has been cancelled. The Government has temporarily removed the legal requirement for PCs to hold public meetings in person during the Coronavirus pandemic. These regulations came into force on 4 April 2020 and apply to meetings until 7 May 2021. This may change if medical and scientific advice leads to a relaxation of social distancing rules. The PC will continue to function remotely by email and will do anything expedient and necessary to ensure the continuous business of the Council. Parish Council information, including planning applications, is available on the website www.beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk and the Clerk's email address is clerk@beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk

The Annual Open Parish Meeting due to be held on **Thursday 21 May 2020** has been cancelled for this year.

Tennis Court and Playground - To protect our residents and help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, we have closed all play, sports and exercise areas. Our open spaces are still open so that people can stay fit and active. Please follow government guidance and stay at least two metres apart, and if the open spaces are busy, you should not use them. Safety checks will not be carried out during these restrictions.

The Otmoor Flyer – The bus service has been suspended until further notice.

For information on Beckley Village Hall please see www.beckleyvillagehall.org and to make a booking please contact Stuart Marshall at booking@beckleyvillagehall.org – the village hall is currently closed until further notice.

Fix My Street: find and report road or street problems at www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Examples of faults you can report - vehicles; dog fouling; fly posting or graffiti; fly tipping or litter; street cleaning, such as broken glass in a cycle lane; unlit lamp posts; potholes.

Reminder from the Parish Council: Please clean up after your dog and dispose of bagged waste in the dual-waste litter bin on the playing field.



Beckley Church of England Primary School

Church Street, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9UT " Tel: 01865 351416 " Email: office@beckleyschool.org
Website: www.beckleyschool.org " Headteacher: Mr Mark Szortowski

A Message from the Headteacher

Dear all,

I hope my words find you well and making the most of current circumstances.

As we navigate our way through uncertain times, we are finding our feet amidst illness, self-isolation and the challenges associated with facilitating learning at home. Our staff are truly incredible and continue to go above and beyond. My personal thanks go to each of them, particularly for their ongoing commitment to their pupils. Maintaining the continuity of every child's education, as best as possible, is of key concern to us all.

We know school will be closed to the majority of pupils until at least after the Easter holidays and that there is every possibility that we may remain closed for quite a lot longer. School has been open to a small number of children of critical workers and we will continue to make this provision for as long as we are able.

Everyone at school remains stubbornly positive and committed to doing the absolute best we can for all our pupils and their families. During this unprecedented period it is important that as a community we reach out, more than ever, and support those who may be more vulnerable than ourselves.

We have received countless messages of support from parents, governors and our neighbours and there has never been a stronger sense of community in school.

The strength of any organisation is never really seen until truly tested. I am proud to tell you that Beckley School is united and strong. Please look after yourselves, your families and friends.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Szortowski". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light grey rectangular background.

Mark Szortowski, Headteacher

HORTON-cum-STUDLEY

St Barnabas

The Mothering Sunday Service on 22 March did not go ahead but thank you so much, Lyn, for the beautiful primulas which you delivered to ladies throughout the village.

The church is not open at the moment.

There has been a kind donation of DVDs, which are available in the church for anyone who would like to have/borrow them. If you would like to look at these please call Lisa Mynheer about getting the key (351340) or Lynn Whitaker (358835).

A huge thank you to David and Julia Slingo for coordinating the AddER support in our village.

Thank you to Rev'd Hugh Lee, supported by his wife, Anne, for support and prayers and for his emails containing prayers, bible readings and sermons we can use at home. If anyone else would like to receive these, Hugh's email is in the front of the magazine.

Horton cum Studley AddER update

A small group of people in the village came together in mid-March to steer the provision of support for our parishioners in anticipation of the then imminent lockdown. Somewhat tongue in cheek we called this the AddER group (adding extra resilience) rather than Cobra! The group included representatives of the Parochial Church Council, our village hall (a potential emergency location), and other village 'interest' groups (e.g. Toddler Group) as well as the Parish Council. We also have local GPs in the AddER group who have helped with contacts at several local surgeries. The important feature of this group was to involve people of all ages in the village.

Our first notice (delivered by volunteers in the village just before lockdown) established a system for gathering 'needs' as well as volunteers, using a dedicated e-mail address hortonparishcouncilHELP@gmail.com.

The responses were analysed and those 'with needs' were identified and allocated volunteers. The volunteers will keep in contact with them to handle their requirements. This has ranged from collecting shopping for a

person living on their own and self-isolating for three weeks, to delivering prescriptions and making regular phone calls simply to keep in touch whilst social distancing takes its toll particularly on those more vulnerable. A further set of actions was around contact with local suppliers. We are fortunate that Rowan at the Stanton St John shop, Ken at the Studley Wood Golf Club and local butcher Andy have all stepped in to offer support and it is with these that we liaised to support deliveries in the village.

We have a useful village Facebook page to keep many up to date and supplement this with leaflet drops as necessary, knowing that not all use Facebook or e-mail. After our first few weeks, thankfully we have more volunteers than those registered 'with needs' although this may change at any time.

The first notice was reproduced in last month's magazine and the second one appears below to provide anyone in the village the opportunity to register needs at any time during this emergency.

Horton-cum-Studley Parish Council – the AddER group
Helping each other during the Coronavirus Emergency (Notice 2)

The AddER (adding extra resilience) group within the village is co-ordinating support during the coronavirus emergency. We have contacted all those who returned the pink 'contact cards' to check any immediate needs. Thanks to those who responded offering help, we now have a group of volunteers ready to provide support throughout the village. **Please be aware that since 4PN was printed many entries may not be correct as all communal events are cancelled, and spaces closed due to the current restrictions.**

Shopping

- Stanton shop: For delivery phone 351532, or email stantonvillageshop@gmail.com or text/Whatsapp on 07795415819. One of our volunteers is already working there to optimise links with our village.
- Studleywood Golf Club food service – weekly groceries, fresh veg & meat, call 351144 or contact ken@studleywoodgolfclub.co.uk to place order by Thursday, collect from the club on Monday.
- Field View Farm shop, now with food hygiene rated 5, stocks eggs, veg, fruit as well as meat. Andy on 358933.
- Headington Market traders offering local delivery – see their Facebook page for the latest posts.
- Cornfield Bakery, Wheatley – a weekly service to be set up for the village, more details to follow.

Medicines

- Local surgeries at Islip, Wheatley and Brill are all willing to work with us should deliveries of medicines be needed. Islip is already set up with a delivery service if you are a patient there.

Cherwell District Council helpline for vulnerable people available 8:30am-8:00pm Monday to Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm Saturday & Sunday. Call 01865 897820 or email shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Oxfordshire All-In: useful map of community groups and local businesses at [Oxfordshire All In Response Map](#)

We cannot predict what may happen over the coming weeks, but now have a few systems in place to provide ongoing support within the village, particularly calls to those needing support – **do encourage others you may know to return the pink contact card at any time to hortonparishcouncilHELP@gmail.com or call 07850 004700.**

Iris Grace Gibbard

28 March 1925 - 24 March 2020

Iris was born In Waddesdon and spent her childhood and formative years in Haddenham.

In 1972 she moved to Horton-Cum-Studley with her husband Gordon, who died in 2018, and twins David and Linda. Her firstborn Terry was living in Stokenchurch with his family.

Iris was a private family lady, always caring for others and hugely supportive of her immediate and extended family. She died peacefully at home while being cared for by her children David Gibbard and Linda Parke.



Anneke Lyster

Anneke passed away on Saturday 11 April while staying with Devon with her son. Our thoughts are very much with Basil at this time.

Millennium Village Hall

Sadly there is only one piece of news to give you which is that we have had to shut the hall, the play area, tennis courts and playing field as part of the fight to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Many of those who had made bookings were already cancelling them and we then had an order from Cherwell District Council. Hopefully we may be reaching the peak of the epidemic but it is going to be weeks if not months before we can to re-open. Pete Whitaker continues to do his weekly fire check and I also go down weekly to inspect both outside and inside of the hall. These are in line with the requirements of the insurance company. Cancellation of bookings and of the Otmoor Challenge has a huge implication for our finances. We are mitigating that to a degree by suspending our contract with the cleaners and with Grundon. Hopefully I can give you a more optimistic message next month. The AGM is now unlikely to take place. Please let me know if there are any burning issues that you wish to raise so that I can put them on the agenda for the AGM whenever we can fix a new date. DJ

Horton-cum-Studley Parish Council

The Parish Council will continue to operate remotely; we will publish the Parish Accounts once they have been audited as it is unlikely that the APM will take place.

Planning applications will be notified via the Village Facebook page and on the Parish Website. Comments can be submitted directly to the District Council or via email to

Hortoncumstudleyparishcouncil@gmail.com.

The Parish Council would like to thank the AddER group for the support of village residents, along with Andy from Field View Farm Shop, Ken from Studley Wood, Rowan from Stanton Shop, and the team at Rectory Farm PYO.

Please stay safe and practice social distancing in line with Government recommendations

Horton-cum-Studley Gardening Club



What strange and difficult times. We are fortunate that this lock down started in spring rather than the midst of winter. Birds are singing (blackcap, chiffchaff, song thrush, blackbird, robin and wren to mention a few), I heard a cuckoo the other day, trees are coming into leaf and gardens are full of

colour. Tulips, narcissi, primroses, euphorbias, camellias and fritillaries flowered in April and there is so much more to come. May and June are the best times of year in many gardens. Our speakers have all been cancelled as have some visits. I suspect the July outing may also be cancelled, but please see the website for more information. www.horton-cum-studley.org.uk/community/clubs/

If you would like to know more about the Gardening Club please contact the chairman, Susan Burge 01865 351310.

Stay safe and be careful.



Stay living at Home

Why many families are now choosing live-in care over a residential care home

What is live-in care?

Live-in care allows an individual, or couple, to stay in the comfort and familiarity of their own home. They have one-to-one, high quality 24/7 support from a carefully matched carer who lives with them. Depending on the provider and level of care agreed, core services typically include: help with mobility and safety, personal care, medication, night time support, shopping, cooking, housework, pet care, admin, trips out and appointments, plus companionship and emotional support. Many carers are specially trained to cope with conditions such as dementia, stroke, MS, Parkinson's or palliative care.

Key benefits

Live-in care is just that. It provides great peace of mind. To be in familiar surroundings, with treasured possessions, beloved pets, friends nearby, while receiving tailored, professional care enables elderly relatives to live well - and be as healthy and happy as they can be.

With no rigid timetables, each day is planned around the client and their own routines and preferences (this is especially beneficial for those with dementia). Carers can adapt quickly and easily to any changes in needs. Indeed, getting to know their charges well also helps a carer spot when someone might just be little off colour, enabling health issues to be picked up as early as possible.

Live-in care is about caring for the whole person, not just an age or health issue. Good carers possess a balance of dedication, reliability and compassion, combined with sociability, good humour and common sense. The good care providers have developed proven in-depth carer-client matching procedures to ensure sensitive and compatible pairings. It's an essential part of making live-in care so successful.

Live-in fees can compare favourably with residential care homes, especially where couples are looked after together. Costs vary depending on requirements, for instance some people may need simple companionship and support with housekeeping, others may have complex medical needs.

Further details are available from
www.oxfordprivatecare.co.uk or ring them on
01865 861944.





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Spring lambs in the first week of spring in the Horton-cum Studley countryside by Christina Clarke



Apple blossom in Horton-cum-Studley by Julia Slingo