

INKPEN AND COMBE BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2020



CHURCH LETTER

This month's letter is by Jenny Veasey who is a Local Lay Minister living in Kintbury. She writes:

“NO . . . vember

“Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness” is the well-known opening to Keats’ poem “Ode to Autumn”. Later he describes how “barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue.” Which I suppose I have seen recently while out and about with the dogs.

But I have also had the words of Thomas Hood’s poem running through my head during the last few weeks: “No sun - no moon! No morn - no noon - No dawn - no dusk - no proper time of day . . . November”. Contrasting seasonal viewpoints? Or perhaps just a reflection of the changeability of the weather at this time of year. Or maybe your choice of autumnal poetry has a different focus – memories and “Remembering”: “Remember, Remember the 5th of November, gunpowder, treason and plot. . .” – a children’s song, which echoes the turbulent political and religious history of our country. Then there are the haunting words of the Binyon poem that we use every year in our Remembrance services – “At the going down of the sun and in the morning . . . We will remember them.”

The Church, also, follows its own annual round of seasonal festivals and special occasions of remembrance.

During October, we’ve been holding our much quieter than usual, socially-distanced Harvest Festivals around the Benefice. It’s been strange listening to the organ romping through “We Plough the Fields” while sitting reading the words rather than our usual lusty singing – sadly congregational singing is not permitted in any places of worship, of whatever faith or denomination, because of the risk of increased transmission of C-19. But during these weeks, as our churches re-open, I’ve found that sometimes, having to read and ponder, has brought the meaning of words which I’ve sung – more or less from memory – since childhood, into a new and sharper focus. I listened to the refrain of “We plough the fields” more carefully, I think, than I have ever sung it – “All good gifts around us, are sent from Heaven above..”

November 1st is “All Saints’ Day” – we remember our connection with all Christians throughout the centuries who have made their way through the world, through life, death and – as Christians believe – into eternal life. November 2nd (All Souls’ Day) then seems a logical progression into a day for honouring and

remembering the departed with love and sorrow. It is celebrated locally each year on the first Sunday in November with the special All Souls' service in St Mary's Church Kintbury.

These two Christian occasions get a bit mixed up these days with all the fun and scary frolics of Hallowe'en – and none the worse for that if we “remember” to include some of the solemn ideas along with the tricks.

So – November it is and we all need our memories, don't we? They are a big part of what makes us each and every one unique and they are also the glue that holds us together in families, neighbourhoods, communities and countries. An important month, therefore. And despite the shortening days – not all bad!

Jenny.”

NEWS FROM ST. MICHAEL'S

As you will see from the List of Services on page 10, the keynote service this month is that of Remembrance. It will start at **10.30** and as in recent years it will be led with both dignity and realism by Colonel Nick Freeman. Last year over 80 came – a number that far exceeds what the Covid restrictions allow us inside the Church. So, it will be held outside in the Churchyard unless the weather is truly awful. So, come prepared for the occasion and please give generously. As always, the collection goes to the British Legion Poppy Appeal and last year amounted to £575. Let's try and exceed that.

The service of Compline is being led this month by Christopher Sears who is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. So, as well as the 'end of the day' mood of the service we can look forward to some organ music as well.

On the matter of finance, many thanks to all who so far have given to our Annual Church Appeal which this year for obvious reasons is even more important than usual. Despite having reserves built up over the years largely from bequests and one off gifts, it is likely that even if the generous giving of last year is matched our current account will at the end of this year be in the red. So, if you haven't done so already but would like to give, we would most gratefully receive. You could send a cheque made out to 'Inkpen P.C.C.' or cash to me at Laburnum Cottage, Heads Lane, Inkpen Common, Hungerford, RG17 9QS.

With thanks to all.

Gerald Atkinson.

Churchwarden and Hon. Treasurer.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Associate Priest: The Revd. Tim Wood – Tel. 01488 669261;
Mob: 07927352847; Email: revtimothywood@gmail.com.

Benefice Administrator: Deborah Wilson, part-time at the **Benefice Office**
Email: wbboffice@gmail.com.

Churchwardens: **Inkpen:** Gerald Atkinson (tel. 668375). **Combe:** David Russell (tel. 668229), Katherine Astor (tel. 668284).

BRITISH LEGION POPPY COLLECTION 2020

2020 marked the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day, both significant days in our history. On 8th May, many paid tributes to the service and sacrifice of the entire Second World War Generation and on 15th August we remembered all those who served and sacrificed so much in the Far East and ultimately brought an end to the Second World War.

While many are facing hardship in 2020 it is important that we do not forget the many who gave up their lives and the hardship faced by so many during both world wars and the years that followed. At the same time helping those who work or have worked in the forces to protect our future now.

Sadly, there will be **NO** house to house collections in aid of the British Legion this year as they have asked us not to put anyone at risk of COVID19, but you can pick up any of the British Legion items at: **The Crown & Garter, Inkpen Honesty Bakery or Inkpen School.**



If you can't get to any of these and would like some poppies and to donate using the Gift Aid envelope please do get in touch with Claire Jones (claire@clairejjones.com) (668980)

On behalf of The British Legion and all those who benefit from your donations thank you for your support in these strange times.

INKPEN FOOD BANK



PLAYING FIELD TRUST UPDATE (IMPFT)

Pavilion News

The pavilion roof is complete, and the new doors and windows are in, so the pavilion is 'watertight' just in time for the change in weather. This month ARK will be carrying out all the plastering and flooring work. It is still the aim to complete the renovation of the pavilion by the end of December.



Phase 3: The Sports Equipment Building; we are still fund raising for this part of the renovation.

If you can donate to the pavilion renovation please make a cheque payable to: IMPF Fund Raising and give it to Gloria Keene or Claire Jones. Or contact Claire for our bank details – donations can be anonymous and every penny counts now.

In addition, we are looking at how we get funding to put proper drainage in the playing field as it becomes so waterlogged in the winter that it cannot be used at times. The cost of drainage is in excess of £35,000. One other project is to put in place two petanque pitches.

Sports Activity

Every Tuesday morning Shipley Community Project have a walking/running football match. The teams are made up of men and women with an average age of 68. It was so inspiring to see the enjoyment had by all those taking part. In addition, there were men and women playing **petanque** - again the average age was about 70. It would be wonderful if we could replicate this in Inkpen. If you are interested in setting up a football team of retired men and women - **walking or running or any football team** please do get in touch. If you have an idea for an activity for any age group please do get in touch.

We hope to re-instate the **junior football** coaching as soon as possible we are currently looking for a coach so if you have any contacts/thoughts on this please do let us know.

Netball, tennis and 5 a side football are all taking place so do please join in if you would like to. Contacts can be found on our web page or from Gloria Keene or Claire Jones.



Planting Volunteers

In the next few weeks 200 saplings will be arriving from the Woodland Trust. When they do arrive, we will need volunteers to help plant them at the playing field. Any help would be very much appreciated, even if it's only for an hour or so, please do let Claire know. Planting will be done at the weekends.

Contacts: Claire Jones (clairejonesimpt@gmail.com) or any of the other Trustees. All contacts are available on the website: www.impft.co.uk

POLICE UPDATE

During October we have seen a slight increase in rural crime. We have had reports of outbuildings being broken into and mainly tools being taken. There have also been reports of hare-coursing, criminal damage and tyre marks in fields. The clocks will be changing at the end of the month. As the nights draw in, make sure all of your outbuildings, sheds and garages are secured.

Bonfire Night is approaching. Due to Covid, most public displays have been cancelled for this year. If you are planning your own fireworks event, please ensure you follow the current government rules around gatherings and comply with the Firework Regulations. Act responsibly and don't put your family and friends at risk. Please make sure that your children do not have access to fireworks and that they act responsibly with sparklers.

Historically it is this time of the year when we might see an increase in the theft of heating oil, especially as tanks are being refilled ready for the winter. Although we have had no recent reports in the area please take a moment to think about how secure the tank is.

Consider:

- Hiding your tank. Especially if it can be seen from the roadside.
- Keeping a note of your usage and an eye on the gauges to see if the level is going down faster than normal. (This could mean you have a leak, or that your tank is being siphoned.)
- Fit security lighting or perimeter alarms that notify you if someone is near your tank. It is also worth considering surrounding the area of your tank with gravel or similar that makes a noise if walked on.
- Find out if your tank supplier does a lock or a lock alarm.

Have you heard about **THAMES VALLEY TEXT ALERT**? Sign up today www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/ to receive free texts or emails about crime in your local area and relevant safety advice.

You can now follow us on twitter @TVP_westberks. We are also on Facebook TVP West Berkshire. If you would like any further advice, or have any information relating to any of the above please contact me on 07814852137 or email Joanna.king@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

COPY DATE

Please email aliedesforges@yahoo.co.uk or call 01488668496 by **Sunday 22nd November** with any features, news, events or ideas.

LOWER GREEN TRIANGLE

Many thanks to Bob May for the recent photos of the ‘rewilding’ of the Triangle.



CHURCH SERVICES AND LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 1st November – All Saints' Day (white)

Revelation 7. 9 to end; 1 John 3. 1-3; Matthew 5. 1-12.

10.30	Inkpen	Benefice Service	Rev. T. Wood
2pm	Kintbury	All Souls' Service	Jenny Veasey

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday (red or green)

Wisdom 6. 12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4. 13 to end; Matthew 25. 1-13.

9.15	Hampstead Marshall	Remembrance Service at the Memorial Stone in H. Marshall Park	Jenny Veasey and Richard Pascall
9.15	Enborne	meet as above. Service in Church at 10am	Richard Pascall
10.30	Inkpen	Remembrance Service in Churchyard	Col. N. Freeman
10.45	Combe	Remembrance Service	Jon Snow
10.45	Kintbury	Remembrance Service at War Memorial: 11.05 in Church	Rev. T. Wood
11.15	W. Woodhay	Remembrance Service in Churchyard	Rev. P. Whitworth

Sunday 15th November – Second Sunday before Advent (red or white)

Zephaniah 1. 7 and 12 to the end; 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11; Matthew 25. 14-30.

9.45	Kintbury	Holy Communion}	Rev. T Wood lead
11.15	Combe	Holy Communion}	J. Veasey preach

Sunday 22nd November – Christ the King (red or white)

Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1. 15 to the end;
Matthew 25. 31 to end.

8.30	Inkpen	Holy Communion	Rev. T. Wood
9.45	Kintbury	Morning Prayer	Jenny Veasey

Sunday 29th November – First Sunday of Advent (purple)

Isaiah 64. 1-9; 1 Corinthians 1. 3-9; Mark 13. 24 to the end.

9.45	Enborne	Holy Communion	Rev. T. Wood
6.30pm	Enborne	Advent Carol Service	
4.30pm	Inkpen	Compline	Christopher Sears

Sunday 6th December

10.30 Kintbury

Benefice Service

Clergy Team

CHURCH SERVICES AT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HUNGERFORD

Our Lady of Lourdes, Priory Road, Hungerford RG17 0AF
Parish Priest - Fr Zbigniew Budyn 01635 40332

Sunday Mass - every Sunday at 9.00am

Weekday Mass - every Wednesday at 10.00am

For further information contact Paul Burrough 01488 668882
Mobile 07836 292976 Email paul.burrough@talktalk.net

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Planning applications for consideration this month: Quill Cottage, Craven Rd. replacement of bungalow to two storey dwelling. The planning application has now been referred to the District Planning Committee for consideration.

20/02074 Upper Inkpen House, Upper Green – formation of outdoor swimming pool and erection of a shed. No decision recorded by West Berkshire Council.

New Mill development update: – there are several issues to be resolved and amended plans have been requested by West Berkshire Council. New site notices will be displayed and the 21 day consultation process will begin so that residents may submit comments.

20/02398/House Staddlestone Cottage, Heads Lane – two storey extension.

All planning applications can be viewed on the West Berkshire Council website www.westberks.gov.uk

Parish Council Grant Applications: Each year the Parish Council consider grant applications submitted by ‘not for profit’ organisations or community groups based in Inkpen and supported by local people. The Council can consider small scale capital expenditure such as the purchase of special equipment. All applications must be submitted on the Council application form (this can be downloaded from

the Parish Council website) and accompanied by an up to date set of accounts and the organisation's constitution or rules. The grant application should outline the benefit accruing to the community and must demonstrate 'self-funding' or if an application has been submitted to another body. Applications must be submitted to the Parish Clerk directly – applications sent to members of the Council will not be considered. All Grants are dependent on funds being available.

Closing date for Grant Applications is **Wednesday 11th November 2020**

Draft Housing Strategy 2020-2036 – meeting the needs of the rural communities, affordable housing, homelessness etc. Closing date: 1st November 2020

www.westberks.gov.uk

Fireworks –the law says you must not set off or throw fireworks in the street or other public places. Please consider the damage caused to all our animals in the fields in Inkpen and surrounds.

Inkpen Parish website (www.inkpenvillage.co.uk) All details on the deadly Coronavirus are updated on the Inkpen website. The number of cases notified in West Berkshire has risen again to 80 cases notified - please keep a 2 metre distance from others, wear a mask where appropriate and take note of the Government Guidance – and please ask if you are not sure. A banner will be displayed at the Inkpen Playing Field to remind everyone to obey the Covid-19 rules to protect Inkpen residents.

Fly Tipping: Further instances of fly tipping, which is illegal, have occurred in Inkpen this month. Please notify West Berkshire Council, who will remove items if dumped on the highway, but will not remove items from private land; if you see anyone fly tipping please report their car licence number so that WBC can prosecute the offenders. Covid-19 arrangements apply – stay safe. Contact: Streetcare@westberks.gov.uk

Mobile Library: the mobile library will call at Craven Rd at **2.30pm until 2.50pm** and at the Inkpen Primary School at **3.05pm to 4pm on Tuesday 17th November 2020** - Covid-19 arrangements will apply.

Inkpen Parish Council: Virtual meetings are advertised on the village notice boards and on the official village website in advance of the meeting - see www.inkpenvillage.co.uk . The next virtual meeting will be held on **Monday 16th November 2020 at 7pm**. Anyone wishing to raise matters are invited to contact the Parish Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Gloria Keene, Clerk to Inkpen Parish Council (I 668960),

Email: parishclerk@inkpenvillage.co.uk .