

INKPEN AND COMBE BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 2020



CHURCH LETTER

A Farewell to Walbury Beacon Benefice

Since it's airing 37 years ago in February 1983, the series finale of the award-winning show *M*A*S*H* entitled "Goodbye, Farewell and Amen", remains the single most watched episode and TV event of all time with more than 125 million viewers. Set during the Korean War, *M*A*S*H* followed the daily exploits of the 4077th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital unit located 3 miles from the front lines of the war zone. Amid the horrors of war-wounded soldiers, sniper bullets, bombs and incompetent Army guidelines-the doctors and nurses relied on humour, hijinks and hearts of compassion to keep sane. And through their common experience, the members of the 4007th became a close-knit family and community.

In the episode "Goodbye, Farewell and Amen," the community finally receives some long-awaited good news – the war is over and they can return home to their families and friends. It is a cause for joyful celebration and sad goodbyes. The doctors and nurses soon realise that "going home" means their current relationships will end as they depart for various destinations in the States.

Who can blame them for feeling and acting this way? Many of us, me included, can identify with their anxiety, pain, sadness and reluctance toward saying the two words that acknowledge the end of a particular relationship in a certain setting. Saying "good-bye" to a friend or mentor, or to a Benefice can be extremely difficult. Once the words are spoken, a person then has to learn how to live without the other in their daily midst. That type of dramatic change can be scary.

The twelve disciples likely experienced some fear and anxiety when Jesus announced a huge change while having dinner with them in an upper room. I imagine there were some shocked faces, a few tears and twittering hands among the disciples as they listened to their teacher talk of betrayal, arrest and crucifixion. Jesus doesn't let them dwell long in their fear of what will happen to them and he assures the disciples that they will not be abandoned:

"When the Spirit of truth comes, (says Jesus) the Spirit will guide you into all the truth; for the Spirit will not speak on its own, but will speak whatever it hears, and the Spirit will declare to you the things that are to come."

While Jesus' words of assurance and promise of the coming Spirit may not make a departure less difficult, the words do give hope in the midst of change. Jesus' words lift the heavy weight of finality that is often felt when someone says "good-bye." The presence of the Spirit allows time for both parties who depart from one another to reflect on the sacredness of that moment of change.

Remember also a similar parting message by the Apostle Paul to the church in Thessalonica:

"We appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

These are my final words to you all.

May God Bless you and Farewell.

Mark

MARK'S LAST SUNDAY SERVICE

The 20th September will be Mark's last Sunday as Priest in Charge of WBB. There will only be one service in the Benefice on that day. It will be at Kintbury at 1030hrs. As spaces are limited due to Covid 19 we are asking parishioners to let us know if they intend to be there.

Please let Jenny Veasey know by the **10th September** in order to maximise the places available.

Her email is: jennyveasey@hotmail.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES AND LESSONS

Sunday 6th September 12th Sunday after Pentecost

08.30	Inkpen	Holy Communion	Revd. M. Wilson
10.30	W.Woodhay	Holy Communion	Ministry Team
6.30pm	Inkpen	Compline	

Sunday 13th September 13th Sunday after Pentecost

08.00	Kintbury	Holy Communion	Revd. M. Wilson
10.30	Inkpen	Holy Communion	Ministry Team
6.30pm	Enborne	Evensong	Jenny Veasey

Sunday 20th September 14th Sunday after Pentecost

10.30	Kintbury	Holy Communion	Mark's last service
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Sunday 27th September 15th Sunday after Pentecost

08.00	Kintbury	Holy Communion	Revd. T. Wood
10.30	Combe	Holy Communion (see pg 6*)	Ministry Team

Benefice Administrator required

Walbury Beacon Benefice is looking for someone with good communication and IT skills, to co-ordinate the work of the ministry team and manage the Benefice finances; also, to support our internet communication with the Benefice and wider community. 16 hours per week @ £9 per hour with some flexibility on hours.

Might this be you? If so, please contact: Rev'd Tim Wood 01488 669 261 or Jenny Veasey 01488 657 911 jennyveasey@hotmail.co.uk

NEWS FROM ST. MICHAEL'S

As our Priest-in-Charge Revd. Mark Wilson movingly wrote in the last Bulletin he is for reasons of ill health and matters quite beyond his control taking early retirement and leaving us this month. His last service **in Inkpen** will be **Parish Communion at 10.30am on Sunday 13th September** and his last service in the Benefice will be at the same time but in St. Mary's Church, Kintbury on Sunday 20th. He and his wife Deborah who has been the Benefice Administrator have given much to the Benefice and we wish them every blessing in this new chapter of their life.

It so happens that also this month my co-Churchwarden **Peter Bell leaves us** to begin a new life with his daughter Jessica and her family in Devon. Peter came to Inkpen some 20 years ago and since 2008 has been a Churchwarden of St. Michael's. During his time here he has become the true and much respected friend of many. In his church life he has been particularly concerned, as have many of us, about how to make Christian belief and worship relevant to modern day thinking. To this end in 2005 he, with others, started to develop what came to be known as the 'Service With A Difference' which has and will continue to offer a fresh perspective. And at a different level altogether he has lobbied the Archdeacon of Berkshire, the Bishop of Oxford and the Archbishop of Canterbury (to name but a few) about the need for radical change. We will miss him enormously.

As you might expect there is the opportunity to give to the leaving presents of both Mark and Peter. If you would like to do so please send cash or a cheque made payable to 'Inkpen PCC' to me at Laburnum Cottage, Heads Lane, Inkpen Common, Hungerford, RG17 9QS.

Sadly, St. Michael's remains closed except for Wednesdays and Sundays when it will be open from **9am-4pm**. There are two exceptions to this during September. The first is on Sunday 6th which is Peter's last service with us and is Compline at 6.30pm. The Church will therefore be locked until 6pm. The other is on Sunday 13th as given above when the church will open at 10am but be closed for the rest of the day after the service.

Blessings and thanks all round.

Gerald Atkinson.

Churchwarden.

*HARVEST FESTIVAL AT COMBE

Combe is the first village in the Benefice to have its **Harvest Festival**. Observing social distancing etc. this will be in St. Swithun's Church at **10.30 on Sunday 27th September**. The Church has been in total lock-down since March, so it's opening for harvest is cause for a double celebration.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd. Mark Wilson – Tel. 01488 491105;
Mob: 07935550838; Email: markajwilson1@gmail.com.

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: Peter Bell (tel. 668395), Gerald Atkinson (tel. 668375). **Combe:** David Russell (tel. 668229), Katherine Astor (tel. 668284).

INKPEN FOOD BANK

An update from West Berkshire Food Bank: “To date, Inkpen donations total 384.1kg which is amazing and so very helpful to us.

We always welcome donations and as the general situation worsens, the demand for Foodbank usage is on the increase. Anything you can do to encourage more donations would so very beneficial for us.

Thanks very much to the entire Community of Inkpen”.

POLICE UPDATE

Joanna King writes “August / September are historically the time of year when we see an increase in rural crime offences, in particular hare coursing after Harvest and break-ins to sheds. Over the last few weeks there have been several reports of garages and vans being broken into in the Hungerford / Kintbury area. If anyone has any information regarding these please contact me.

We have received reports that there are youngsters in cars, racing to and from Combe Gibbet, in the early evenings. Due to the nature of Inkpen roads this is dangerous and we are surprised there has not been an accident. Driving in this manner is anti-social, causing alarm or distress to other road users or residents. We will deal with drivers under the Police Reform Act.

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.

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.”

LESSONS, FOR SALE AND WANTED

Inkpen Piano lessons

Piano lessons for everyone - beginners to advanced by a qualified and experienced teacher. These can be done at my home in Inkpen Common or yours (Inkpen or Kintbury).

Contact me by email at inkpenpiano@gmail.com, or by phone on 07717942172 to arrange your free, no-obligation consultation lesson.

See my entry on [MusicTeachers.co.uk](http://www.musicteachers.co.uk) for further details:
<https://www.musicteachers.co.uk/teacher/cb4202d5243356fb1bd2...>

Patricia Sears BA LTCL PGCE

Stand for Television being donated.

Meg Atkins has a three tier glass and chrome TV stand, perfect condition.
Width – 81cm, front to back 45cm, height 54cm.

Free but a generous donation to the Hungerford Food Bank would be appreciated
Please call Meg on 07769 695325

Qualcast classic 35S petrol lawnmower

(self propelled) complete with scarifier cassette.

In full working condition. £75.00. Telephone:

Also free to a good home wooden sun lounger with cushion. Call Terence Hymas - 07501867952.

Wanted: Knitting Wool

Any ply, any colour, any amount.

I knit scarves for the Samaritans' Purse Charity. This charity fills shoeboxes with toys, hats, gloves etc and I send them to countries where children have very little.

If anybody has any bits of unwanted wool, I would love you to contact me.

Kath - 07788467016



INKPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Inkpen School is ready and on Thursday we are looking forward to welcoming staff, all the children, as well as children into Reception.

Although the end of last term was challenging, the children enjoyed the beautiful outside environment and had fun.

One of the biggest struggles for some children while we were closed was access to computers. If anyone has an old computer, which they no longer use, but could be used for children's home learning, we would be very grateful if they could be donated to the school.

PLAYING FIELD TRUST UPDATE (IMPFT)

Pavilion News

Phase 1: The changing room renovation is complete. Once the cladding has been put on the extension (by mid-September) the fencing to this part of the building will be moved. Government guidelines due to COVID19 do not allow the changing rooms to be used but we hope to allow access to the toilets for matches by the end of the month.

Phase 2 of the building works has started and are due to be completed by 23rd December 2020.

Photos (21.08.20) Pavilion Main Room stripped out ready for the steel structure and the view from the main room of the playing fields.



The Defibrillator has been moved temporarily to the fencing of the tennis courts so that it is accessible while the building works are going on. Due to it not being connected to an electrical supply it won't be lit up at night so please do make a note of where it should be needed.

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. Any donation is very much appreciated.

Woodland Playground News

The Trustees have approved Copper Beech as the supplier of the woodland playground equipment which we hope will be installed in late November. The Woodland Trust are also giving us 200 tree saplings in October/November. We won't be able to plant all of them at the playing field and so if you are interested in having some 'medium wildlife saplings' or some 'medium year round colour' saplings for your garden please do get in touch.

Events in September

If Government Guidelines on COVID19 allow, there will be two events at the playing field this month:

Saturday 26th September: Inkpen Annual Car Boot Sale

Sunday 27th September: The Walbury Hill Climb Event organised by Newbury Velo <https://www.facebook.com/walburyhillclimb2020/>

Cricket Nets

Due to a near accident with a cricket ball hit from the practice nets the Trustees have decided that the practice nets cannot be used until there are more safety measures put in place. Safety measures are currently being considered by the trustees in conjunction with the cricket club.

Contacts: Claire Jones (clairejonesimpt@gmail.com) or any of the other Trustees

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Planning applications for consideration this month: The Western Area Planning Committee will meet again by video conference to reconsider 20/01083 **Quill Cottage**, Craven Rd. replacement of bungalow to two storey dwelling.

Planning decisions by WBC: Chase End, Craven Rd. Inkpen – New driveway, gates and walls – Planning permission granted.

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

Planning for the Future white paper consultation: Robert Jenrick, the housing secretary, has announced proposed radical changes in the Planning system, with concentration at the ‘plan making’ stage and making better use of digital technology. Under the new proposals, people will have far less opportunity to have their say at the application stage. The planning white paper states that consultation at the planning application stage will be ‘streamlined because it adds delay to the process and allows a small minority of voices to shape outcomes’.

Please take the opportunity to have your say and protect the right to public involvement and the risk of inappropriate development in the countryside. The white paper can be downloaded:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>

Re-siting the Defibrillator: The Parish defibrillator has a temporary fixing to the side of the tennis courts, pending its final resting place at the front entrance to the pavilion. The cabinet is without electrical power at the moment so the cabinet will not ‘glow’ at night but is fully operative and can be used, if required. For those who use the App ‘Save a Life’ the position of the defibrillator remains unchanged and as previously, the instruction is to call 999 and ask for the ambulance service who will provide the code to open the cabinet and take out the defibrillator.

Highway Improvements – road surface patching will start at Rooksnest Rd and Trapps Hill on **14th and 15th September**, depending on weather conditions. Notices will be erected giving information on road closure and traffic control. Further information can be obtained from Council Customer Service Team on 01635 519080.

Great British September Clean 11- 27 September 2020: Please join the campaign which was delayed this year due to Covid-19. Inkpen is a beautiful part of the AONB countryside so please help to clean up any

litter left lying on the roadside and in public places. Your help will be appreciated. If you wish to organise a private clean up or give 15 minutes or more to the campaign there are details on the *Great British September Clean* website www.keepbritaintidy.org

Fly tipping: At the request of a resident who has picked up rubbish dumped on the roadside, please remember that fly tipping is illegal. If you see anyone fly tipping, please take the car registration number and report directly to West Berkshire Council. Streetcare will remove the dumped rubbish if it is on the roadside but if dumped on private land the landowner is responsible for the removal.

Report to Streetcare: streetcare@westberks.gov.uk Use this email address to also notify pot holes.

Inkpen Parish website (www.inkpenvillage.co.uk) contains all the latest information on the deadly Coronavirus. Although residents may start to feel more confident, the virus has not gone away and more cases have been notified in West Berkshire. Please keep a 2 metre distance from others where possible.

Children's Play Area has been re-opened in line with Government Advice but please observe the guidance: the maximum users in the play area is 6; 1 family member to accompany 1 child. Please retain 1 metre distance from other users e.g. pushing swings. Use hand sanitiser gel or wipes when using the equipment. When using the equipment do not touch the face. Consumption of food and drink within play areas is not permitted. Please use the bins provided or take litter home. Above all 'stay safe'.

Environment Strategy 2020-2030 has been published by WBC setting out the objectives to combat climate change. To read or download a copy visit the website www.westberks.gov.uk

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 meeting has not been arranged due to Government advice not to hold public meetings and, as always, are subject to councillor's availability.

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

Email: parishclerk@inkpenvillage.co.uk .