

PARISH NEWS

The Thameshead Parishes of Kemble, Ewen, Poole Keynes, Somerford Keynes with Shorncliffe

Rector
Rev Trevor Kemp
The Rectory, Coates
01285 770550

Associate Priest
(House for Duty)
Rev David Austin and
Rev Angie Austin
01285 770654



St Michael & All Angels, Poole Keynes

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GOD IS
MY ROCK
IN WHOM
I TAKE
REFUGE

Psalm 18:2



Thameshead Benefice

www.thamesheadchurches.org.uk

Services February 2021

Each Sunday the Benefice is hosting two virtual services:

Family Worship every Sunday at 9.30am – 9.50am by Zoom

Private secure link for safeguarding purposes – please contact Trevor for joining instructions

Benefice Service at 10am – livestream worship (service sheet and link on

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

“REAL” CHURCH SERVICES ALONGSIDE VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Worship is about how we can meet with God and each other and grow together in those shared relationships. For some months coronavirus has prevented our meeting together in a building, with a gradual relaxation of restrictions followed by another national lockdown. Although services in church buildings are permitted, it has not seemed sensible for us to do this, However, we are continuing with worshipping together in our virtual worship services and activities.

When services in our local church buildings resume, our priority will be to keep everyone as safe as we can and so we shall keep the recommendations to close for 72 hours between uses to ensure the coronavirus is not viable if present. We shall also keep strictly to the 2m social distancing guidelines which significantly reduces the number of people or family bubbles each building can hold at any one time. If you are able to do so, we are asking you to let us know in advance if you intend to join us for worship to help us plan and manage each service as safely as we can.

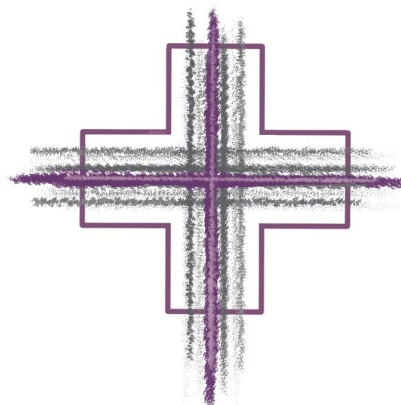
At present all our face to face services are ‘said’ services until restrictions on singing are relaxed.

Churchwardens		
Kemble	Stephen Lambert-Humble 077 8673 8824	Mark Wilton 771581
Poole Keynes	George Collins 770698	John Hiscock
Somerford Keynes	David Crofts	Sussanne Lock

Parish News is edited by a series of guest editors – would you like to join the team? It would mean preparing just a few magazines a year. If you’d be interested, please drop us an email on parish-newsthb@gmail.com

We are trying to work towards our normal production pattern but for the time being the magazine will only be produced on line: the deadline for the March magazine will be 12th February.

Little Fishes Sorry – no Little Fishes for now	Bible Study For details of current Bible Study please join via our website link	TIME OUT Sorry - The Time Out Bible discussion group cannot meet at present
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ASH WEDNESDAY

Reflections from the Rectory

Dear Friends

Hope is a really significant attribute for humans like us isn't it. It carries us through times of trial and tribulation, of fear and uncertainty. If hope is about the belief in a positive outcome from a trial or challenge then its opposite must be despair. A belief that there is no hope, no good outcome, no recovery from the situations we face.

I have been trying to watch David Attenborough's latest series 'The Perfect Planet' and one of the things that struck me was his belief that humanity can still avert environmental disaster if it acts wisely and decisively to reduce the environmental stress that modern industrial living has caused. He expressed a hope that we can resolve the problem and stabilise or perhaps even reverse some damage by acting in a united way for the good of all people, indeed the good of the whole earth.

Scientifically I am sure he is right. Many things are possible if we work together for the good of all. I think though that I feel more cynical about the willingness of nations, governments or individuals to put aside short term gain and selfish aspirations to achieve a result that benefits future generations. In part that is because I recognise my own desire for a comfortable and trouble free life and a disinclination to make it more expensive or more difficult to maintain. As someone with a lifelong interest in the natural world who values its beauty and diversity I already agree with Sir David that we should have taken action to change decades ago. We are I believe in the 'Last Chance' saloon rolling dice for our grandchildren's future and yet I recognise a reluctance within me to accept the logical implications.

I also look at our response to coronavirus where just a little self discipline could have saved many lives. Where a willingness to restrict our behaviours for the good of an unknown neighbour may have saved theirs. (I should say I am aware of few people in our villages who have not taken this seriously even when they disagreed). My point though is that if we could not restrict ourselves for a few months we are unlikely to willingly make choices that limit us for generations.

There is though hope, a light at the end of the tunnel of coronavirus. Vaccination and improved clinical treatments mean the hope we always had is growing brighter each day. That hope is sustaining many people through the long nights of winter and their wait will be rewarded. It is remarkable that vaccines have been produced so quickly, a testament to human skill and ingenuity for which we should all give thanks.

As a Christian I also believe that the greatest disease we suffer from is the one that separates us from our Creator and our greatest hope is the one found in Jesus whose birth we remembered quite recently. While I remain cynical about the long term ability of humanity to act well (reading the bible will give dozens of sad examples) I never lose hope in the God who calls us to live with generosity and justice and righteousness. The selfless gift of Jesus overwhelms all our selfishness and would be the inspiration that could undo my cynicism and bring light to the aspirations of Sir David. Right at the very beginning of scripture God's command to his people is to be a blessing to all the world as Jesus comes to be a blessing to us.

With love and prayers
Trevor Kemp
Rector

Tel: 01285 770550

Email: rector@thamesheadchurches.org.uk



Sunday 31st January
Via Zoom
Candlemas



2.30pm
Fun, Games, Craft and Worship

For the link and to request an activity bag:

Contact: Liz Collins Tel: 07774 104990

email: e.collins@farming.co.uk

Juliette Jago juliettek@btinternet.com



Kemble News and Events



As soon as it is possible to restart our monthly meetings **WE WILL BE!**

Pat Ayres secretary 770385.



Kemble and District Royal British Legion Women's Section will resume meetings as and when but in the meantime you can help support the RBLWS as it is now registered with easy fundraising. Which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 4000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them at no extra cost to you. Sign up and support by going on :- https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblws/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-e1

Pat Ayres branch Chair/secretary 770385

Poole Keynes News and Events

I would just like to let all the subscribers of the Parish News in Poole Keynes know that after 22 years I have decided to hang up my walking shoes and retire from delivering the parish news

I am not sure how much shoe leather I have used over the 22 years but I have estimated that I have probably walked approx 900 miles

Luckily Margaret Bush at Bridge Farm has kindly offered to take over from me so when the subscription is due if you would be kind enough to pass this on to Margaret it would be appreciated

Many thanks

Judith Hiscock

Welcome

Mark and Vicky Foster and their daughters Sophia and Ruby who recently moved into Glebe House, Poole Keynes

Cirencester Eating Disorder self help support group (this group covers all of Gloucestershire and beyond) working in partnership with National BEAT. This is a FREE service. (Formed in 2003)

The group did meet in December and January and many thanks to Coates village hall for its COVID base hiring procedures. Government guidelines were followed as support/ voluntary groups for vulnerable people were allowed to meet in a public place. Although due to full lockdown now Coates village hall committee will be reviewing. Also Brian and I came under some pressure from our family too that we weren't to put ourselves at risk. So unfortunately for the time being **NO** support meetings will be held. I am still offering to speak to anyone on the phone or have an exchange of emails. I can also signpost callers to online support and organizations that offer virtual support if they so wish.

Please contact Pat on 01285 770385 email ayrescares50@gmail.com in confidence for more details.

North Wiltshire Villages Flower Club

The Flower Club very much look forward to resuming activities later this year all being well, and to welcoming back members, friends and hopefully a few new members when conditions allow. Unfortunately it's now clear that by the time we do this it will have been well over a year since we last got together in person at a regular meeting. In the meantime we have tried to keep in touch through newsletters, technology and an occasional competition.

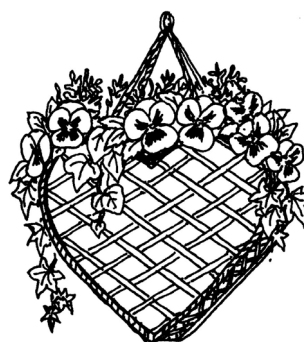
A full programme of events for 2021 has been arranged, which we will resume once restrictions are eased. We are also actively making plans for several special events during our Golden Jubilee year in 2022.

Our programme is always very varied and includes a good mix of workshops, demonstrations, social events and visits, all incorporating flowers in some shape or form. Meetings would normally take place at Crudwell Village Hall on the third Wednesday evening of the month, with visitors and potential new members welcome. We are a friendly and enthusiastic group with members from throughout the area.

If you'd like to get in touch we can be contacted by email – nwvflowerclub@gmail.com

and more information can also be found on our Facebook page.

We wish you all the best during these challenging times, and hope you stay safe and well.



Laptops for Schools

With schools now closed again help is being asked for pupils still in need.

Perhaps you received new laptops, tablets or mobiles for Christmas or you may have old devices you don't need anymore?

Below are details of companies and charities who can help achieve this aim of getting devices to pupils.

Some charities can collect, wipe and share the laptops all in one; some can help take your devices off your hands to fix them ready for distribution; some are collecting donations to help fund devices for pupils; some are local to specific areas and some are nationwide, both across England and the UK.

HOW TO DONATE A DEVICE

If you have something you'd like to donate – and that could be a laptop; computer; mobile phone or tablet – please click on a link below to find out more about the campaigns that are available.

[ADISA / Digital Access For All - Will accept donations from UK businesses.](#)

[BEP \(Birmingham Education Partnership\) - Will accept donations in the Birmingham area.](#)

[Business2Schools - Links businesses and individuals with schools in their area that are accepting donations. This covers much of England.](#)

[Cheddar Valley Lions Club - Accepts laptops and tablet donations in the Cheddar Valley area of Somerset.](#)

[Computer Aid - Will accept donations from businesses across the UK. They also offer a free collection service anywhere in the UK to individuals donating laptops.](#)

[Computers for Charities - Will accept donations which are 7 years old or less in the South East of England area, mainly from businesses.](#)

[Cosmic / Positive People - They will accept donations in the Devon area.](#)

[DigiLocal - Will accept laptop donations from across the West of England and also accepts donations to](#)

[Every Child Online - Will accept donations from individuals and businesses across Essex.](#)

[Green Machine - Will accept donations at drop-off points in Berkshire, Dorset and Wiltshire.](#)

[Hartlepool and East Durham Mind - Will accept donations from the Hartlepool area.](#)

[Hull and East Yorkshire Children's University - Will accept donations and devices from Hull and East Yorkshire.](#)

[ITVET Laptops for School - Refurbishes laptops donated by businesses and the local community in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex and Hertfordshire.](#)

[Lancaster and Morecambe Makers - Will accept donations from the Lancaster and Morecambe area.](#)

[Laptops 2 Kids - Will accept donations from the Herefordshire area.](#)

[Laptops for Kids - Will accept donations in the Sheffield area and across the North East of England.](#)

[LetsLocalise - Links businesses and individuals with schools in their area that are accepting donations.](#)

[PL24Reboot - Will accept donations in the PL24 area of Cornwall.](#)

[Rapid IT Recycling - Will accept donations in Lancashire.](#)

[Saracens Foundation - Will accept donations from London and Hertfordshire businesses.](#)

[SCHol - Will accept donations in Somerset \(from Wellington to Bridgwater\).](#)

[Secret Santa 365 - Will accept laptops and equipment in Oxfordshire.](#)

[Secret Santa Limited - Will accept donations in the Blackburn and Darwen areas.](#)

[The Restart Project - Links to campaigns across England, Scotland and Wales that will accept donations for students and other people in need of a device.](#)

[Totnes Rotary Club - They will accept donations in the South Hams area of Devon.](#)

[Vodafone: The Great British Tech Appeal - Will accept donations of phones or tablets.](#)

[Wiltshire Digital Drive - Will accept donations from across Wiltshire to distribute to school children in the county.](#)

[ZenTec Network Solutions - Will accept donations from the North West area of England.](#)

Farming Matters

Although we left the EU on 31st January last year, we entered a transition period during which we remained in the single market and the customs union. This meant that we enjoyed the benefits of free trade with the remaining members of the EU whilst we sorted out a deal. Farmers and fishermen were especially interested in a deal being struck to avoid costly tariffs making their products uncompetitive. Sheep farmers were particularly vulnerable.

Each year we export around 100,000 tonnes of sheep meat, worth over £300 million, to the EU, about a third of our production. On the other side of the coin we import a similar quantity of sheep meat, mainly from New Zealand. This apparently crazy shuffling of lamb around the globe is to ensure fresh lamb is available in the supermarkets all year round, southern hemisphere product filling the gap when our lamb is out of season.



Had we not agreed an EU trade deal with no tariffs, and importantly no quotas, our sheep farmers would see their produce subjected to a tariff of around 48% as it crossed the channel. Our continental customers would quickly find alternative suppliers. By contrast, the trade from New Zealand has an annual quota of 228,254 tonnes, above which there is a 50% tariff to pay. As it happens the quantity imported from NZ is way below this threshold but Australia has a 19,000 tonne quota which it struggles to stay within.

Well, our Prime Minister took it to the wire, displaying daring brinkmanship, but on Christmas Eve a deal was agreed meaning we started 2021 with an agreement which allowed that free trade to continue. But what does that mean, free trade deal? The UK now enjoys '3rd country' status operating outside the single market and customs union with no tariffs and no quotas. To be in a position where we have no tariffs levied on our goods when exported to EU countries and to have no limits on the quantities is quite rare, so this deal is quite an achievement.

But it's not all sunshine and daisies. As we are no longer bound by the same rules as EU countries, there needs to be additional custom checks when goods are imported or exported. These additional checks and administrative burden will add cost. It has been assessed this will add 2 – 3% to the cost of plant products and 5 – 10% to animal products.



Some products have proved too complex to arrive at an agreement. Seed potatoes, a major export from Scotland, and fresh meat preparations (e.g. sausages) have yet to have terms agreed. Live animals are still problematic as there is no appropriate border inspection post on the EU side. On the plus side, we have full autonomy to set our own regulations. But goods exported to the EU must meet their standards for animal welfare, food production standards and biosecurity.

Rules of origin require us to ensure that, not only products of UK origin, but any goods imported to the UK then exported to the EU must meet EU standards. For example if we import beef products and subsequently export them to the EU, we must ensure they were produced to EU standards. These goods will also attract a tariff if they have not been significantly processed in the UK. You may have heard the example of the M&S Percy Pig sweets. Made in the EU, imported to the UK and then redistributed throughout Europe, including Ireland. As they are not processed here they attract a tariff when they are distributed from the UK.

Another area of agreement is the continued alignment of labour rights, environmental standards and subsidising industry, the so called 'level playing field'. Sounds desirable but as the UK now operates a points based system to control movement of labour, some sectors, not only food production, will suffer a shortage of labour. Anyone entering the UK for work must have a professional qualification and attract a minimum salary. Soft fruit or vegetable growers may find it difficult to get staff to harvest their crops.

A consequence of this level playing field is that we are not able to 'unfairly support or promote industries in individual countries'. This means that, currently, the promotion of goods as being British is a divergence from this element of the agreement and independent arbitration could impose tariffs if this is found to be the case. It is a real achievement to have reached the agreement but there is clearly more to be sorted out.

Happy shopping

David Ball

Readings for February 2021

January		Readings
31.01.21	Epiphany 4 Presentation of Christ	Malachi 3.1-5 Hebrews 2.14-end Luke 2.22-40
February		
07.02.21	Second Sunday before Lent	Proverbs 8.1,22-31 Colossians 1.15-20 John 1.1-14
14.02.21	Valentine's Day Sunday before Lent	2 Kings 2.1-11 2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9
21.02.21	First Sunday of Lent	Genesis 9.8-17 1 Peter 3.18-end Mark 1.9-15
28.02.21	Second Sunday of Lent	Genesis 17.1-7,15-16 Romans 4.13-end Mark 8.31-end
March		
07.03.21	Third Sunday of Lent	Exodus 20.1-17 1 Corinthians 1.18-25 John 2.13-22

UP, UP AND AWAY! CIRENCESTER'S MEGA CHARITY AUCTION

Reach for the skies and make a big difference locally by bidding for this super exciting Lot, kindly donated by **AeroSuperBatics**.. Local businesses and celebrities are generously offering fabulous items and experiences for **Cirencester Rotary Club's** mega online charity auction in aid of the **Big Yellow Bus Project** supporting the homeless <http://www.bigyellowbusproject.co.uk/the-project/>, **Cotswold Counselling** helping people cope with the challenges in life <http://www.cotswold-counselling.org.uk> and other local good causes.

Wingwalking over the Cotswolds must be one of the most exhilarating experiences of a lifetime! This is the chance to fulfil a lifelong dream or buy the ultimate give for someone special.

Scheduled to take place on **Friday 12th March 2021**, thanks to the generous support and sponsorship of local auctioneers **Moore, Allen & Innocent**, this exciting online event will be hosted by their celebrity auctioneer **Philip Allwood** on the-saleroom.com. Planning is well under way and already some fabulous 'money can't buy' experiences have been secured. An appeal is going out for local businesses, residents and their influential contacts to support this event and provide more unique Lots to ensure the success of this mega charity auction.

To get involved, offer an auction Lot or discuss potential sponsored experiences please contact Cirencester Rotary Club Members: Howard Davies on howard.m.davies@btinternet.com or Christine Sheldon on csheldon1000@gmail.com There will be an on-going PR programme promoting this event, highlighting exciting items, supporters and the local beneficiaries.

If you are community-minded and would like to make a difference locally why not consider joining **The Rotary Club of Cirencester** www.cirencester-rotary.org.uk?

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Accountants	Wenn Townsend, Gosditch House, Cirencester	659778
Builder	B. R. Gardner, Church Farm Barns, Poole Keynes	770649
Curtains, Blinds and Cushions	Harris and Rose Interiors, Ashton Road, Leigh www.harrisandrose.co.uk	Sophie@harrisandrose.co.uk
Dentist, Dental Clinic	Richard Elsey BDS MSc FDS RCS - Elsey and Elsey, 7 Sudeley Drive, South Cerney	860712
Electrical Contractors	D. L. Hayward Electrical Ltd. 15 Station Road, Kemble	M: 077 7392 6747 770770
Firewood (Barn-dried)	Christopher Hiscock, Church Farm, Poole Keynes	770271
Funeral Directors	A. Slade and Son, 35 Dyer Street, Cirencester	Day/Night 656336
General Building	Robert Harris, 44 Clayfurlong Road, Kemble	M: 079 7010 7816
Oil & Gas, Plumbing & Heating, Aga, etc	D. W. Dunn Ltd, Unit 3, Purlieus Barn, Ewen, Cirencester, Glos enquiries@dwdunn.co.uk	771001
Opticians and Contact Lens Practitioners	R. J. Holmes (Opticians) Ltd, 6, Castle Street, Cirencester	650136
Orthodontist	Maggie Elsey BDS FDS RCPS. M'DENT SC(orth) M'orth RCS- Specialist Orthodontist Elsey and Elsey Dental Clinic, 7 Sudeley Drive, South Cerney	860712
Osteopath (including Cranial osteopathy)	Jolyon Livingston DO.MSCC Registered Osteopath, Cricklade Osteopathic Health Practice, 12 High Street, Cricklade. www.osteoyo.co.uk	01793 750504
Pest Control Eradication & Prevention	Steve Floyd Fully Qualified (25 years' experience) Fully Insured stevefloydpestcontrol.co.uk stevefloydpestcontrol@gmail.com	M: 079 3335 7373
Physio and Pilates Instructor	Nicky Travlos, Physiotherapist (MCSP, HCPC), APPI Pilates Instructor	M:07956 629147 771400
Post Office, Newsagent & Village Stores	K Chudasama, Kemble Stores, Windmill Road, Kemble	770201
Printers/Stationers	Swiftprint, Silver Street, Cirencester	655925
Property refurbishment, renovation & carpentry	23 years' experience in Tetbury /Cirencester area. See website for more details: www.jandj.co.uk or call:	01453 451816 M: 07545 565 035
Security Alarms	C.I.A, Fire and Security Ltd Cirencester based Family-run NSI GOLD Approved Installer of Alarms CCTV, Fire, Keyholding and Gate Automation. www.ciafireandsecurity.co.uk	651025
Water softeners, drinking water filters & salt	Gloucestershire Softeners, Unit 3 Purlieus Barn, Ewen, Cirencester GL7 6BY www.gloucestershire-softeners.co.uk	770002

Other useful numbers			
Cirencester Hospital	0300 421 6200	Cotswold Water Park Trust	01793 752413
District Councillor, Tony Berry	770220	MP Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	020 7219 5147
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Anti-terrorist Hotline	0800 789-321	NSPCC Helpline	0808 800 5000
British Transport Police	0800 40 50 40	Childline	0800 1111
Victim support line	0845 2050 900	Emergency	999 or 112
Victim Support	00808 281 0112		
Gloucestershire	0808 168 9111	Police Non Emergency	101 or 01452 726920
Victim information service	0808 168 9293		

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