

THE LANTERN

~APRIL 2020~

NEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S BREDFIELD



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FROM OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Dear members and friends of St Andrew's Church,

“And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4v7

It was with great sadness that I had to announce the suspension of church services until further notice.

The Church of England gave this announcement earlier this week (I write on the 19th March).

“In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.”

We hope to make St Andrew's available for personal prayer taking into consideration the current hygiene and social distancing practices. Any revised opening times will be posted in the church porch.

We are working on ways to signpost spiritual guidance and help along with offering alternative ways of worship. St John's Woodbridge website contains an update page and a virtual worship page which will enable some level of participation as I lead the churches in prayer and worship. We don't want this to be behind closed doors. Please note that our diocese is offering various resources online, including Morning Prayer, said by our Bishops and their staff.

It is such a shame that we have had to cancel the Mothering Sunday service, especially as The Ven Jeanette Gosney, our Archdeacon, was leading and preaching. I hope we will be able to re-book Jeanette in the not too distant future.

Needless to say, this is a time of opportunity to serve and help one another. The community that I live in has circulated a piece of paper for keeping in touch. We need to look out for each other in our immediate vicinity. For instance, Mary and I, along with the other neighbours, have knocked on doors just to make sure folk are all right, obviously keeping the necessary distance. If everyone can do this then all will be covered. Some folk may be able to get to the shops or order online; why not check if you neighbour has enough supplies too. Those that remember WW2 tell me that they made lifelong friends through

coping with adversity. I pray that may be the case as we go through this difficult time.

The scripture above is often said at the end of services and, to some degree, we take it for granted. It becomes very pertinent in the circumstances we find ourselves. Three things give this passage much power:

Firstly, it is about the peace of God. Peace is something we often recognise only when something stops. Like a road drill or when children in a playground finish their playtime. But the peace of God is much deeper – a sense of thorough wellbeing in body mind and spirit through trust in God. It affects us fundamentally.

Secondly, God's peace transcends, or surpasses, all understanding. The best way to understand this is that it doesn't make sense to be peaceful in the current circumstances. In other words, while we trust and focus on God the events and things around us do not drain us of God's peace. Sure, things will be tough going, but we won't be robbed of God's peace. The bible authors, at times, suffered a lot and so this advice come from experience. St Paul writes "I face death every day—yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord." 1 Cor 15:31.

Lastly, the peace of God is a guard on our minds. In the past, the health of the mind has been neglected in our culture. "Pull yourself together" might have been the response of not so long ago. But God has always recognised how potent the attack on the mind is and so he offers his protection over them.

So as you trust the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Please pray for our world and its leaders at this time as they have to make tough decisions. Please also pray for our health staff as they work on the front line.

Please continue to take the government and NHS advice seriously. Looking forward to being in touch.

Wishing you every blessing.

Clive

The Rector's Easter message

“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:30-31.

All around us things are coming to life after the winter. We are reminded of New Life in the shops with the things on sale at Easter. The Easter egg is the ultimate symbol of new life.

But what sort of life is in view in John's gospel? Let's face it most of what we are offered in the shops is passing. Pretty chicks grow up and proceed through the food chain! I doubt whether the chocolate eggs last long, well not in our house. Really our materialistic festivals of Easter, and indeed Christmas, are examples of the temporary nature of what the world has to offer.

St John writes a selection of the events about Jesus. He says elsewhere that if everything was written down there would not be room for all the books. But he writes so that we might believe in Jesus. So John includes seven signs pointing to who Jesus is, miracles and healings. He also records seven sayings of Jesus, known as the “I am” sayings of Jesus, as Jesus reveals who he is.

Of course, what follows is the crucifixion of Jesus. In any other story this would be a sad end to a good person. But it is followed by the resurrection of Jesus. The word resurrection is translated from a word that simply means to stand again. To come to life. So this is what new life means, Jesus offers new life after death.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

This is the hope of Easter. Wishing you a blessed Easter.

Rev Clive Howard

BREDFIELD VILLAGE

COMMUNITY SUPPORT DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS



Information and advice from Bredfield Parish Council

During the Coronavirus (Covid 19) crisis, Bredfield Parish Council encourages residents to support neighbours and others in the community; especially those who are vulnerable. It is likely that all people over-70 will be asked to self-isolate for a period.

If medical isolation is required, it will need to happen quickly. It is best to be well-prepared. Consider how you might be able to help those isolated in their home.

On the following page, is some advice on how to prepare.

If you need further help, you can contact any one of your Parish Councillors who will try to assist or offer advice. A list of the contact details for Parish Councillors can be found on the [Bredfield Village](#) website. Please note that none of the Parish Councillors are medically trained. They will only be able to assist with community support.

The Parish Council will keep people up-to-date on the website <http://bredfield.onesuffolk.net>. Also, please sign up to MailChimp as it is a simple, quick way to receive information . Email henny@dircon.co.uk if you want to be added to the mailing list.

Please note that medical advice and advice on hygiene is provided elsewhere – on the government website and on notices placed in newspapers and on social media (including Bredfield Parish Council website).



Talk to your neighbours, and others, about what might be done in the event of medical isolation. How might shopping for essentials be arranged? Who will put the bins out? Who will need to be informed?



If you haven't already done so, exchange contact details: telephone numbers, email addresses, etc.



Agree how contact might best be made: text messages, a brief shopping list left in the porch, or by other means. (Physical contact with people and handled objects should be avoided.)



Consider how shopping might be paid for. Are you prepared to be paid later for shopping that you have to do for others?



Where you can, share advice on house arrangements in the case of isolation. What should happen in the case of shared bathroom facilities? What might be done about childcare? It always helps to share concerns.



Think about other ways in which you might help make the life of an isolated person more tolerable: loan of DVDs, conversation by phone, and so on.

THE VILLAGE SHOP

To assist the community during the Coronavirus pandemic, Bredfield Village Shop is offering a home delivery service for anyone in Bredfield who has gone into quarantine in their home. The shop stocks a range of essentials and grocery items, including seasonal fruit and veg.

If you find yourself in this situation, and would like us to make-up and deliver an order, then please phone one of the shop workers to discuss how we can help:

David Hepper 01394 386565

Hilary Harker 01394 388440

Alvina King 01394 384750



★ STOP PRESS ★

Currently, there is a likelihood that people over-70 years will be asked to self-isolate. If this happens, it may adversely affect the Village Shop's delivery service: increasing demand, whilst reducing the number of staff available. IF YOU ARE UNDER 70 YEARS, PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR SHOP WORK OR DELIVERY (see contacts above).

Look out for announcements about the Village Shop and the proposed delivery service on noticeboards, the Bredfield Website and Mailchimp.



CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)

You will all have seen the advice on dealing with the current pandemic, and it seems highly likely that people will soon have to “self-isolate” and remain at home.

As one way of assisting each other at this time, the Village Shop is offering a home delivery service for anyone in Bredfield who has gone into quarantine in their home.

The Shop stocks a range of essentials and grocery items, including seasonal fruit and veg.

If you find yourself in this situation, and would like us to help by making up and delivering an order, then please phone one of the Shop workers:

David Hepper 01394 386565

Hilary Harker 01394 388440

Alvina King 01394 384750

to discuss how we can help.

Please encourage people to sign up to MailChimp as it is a simple, quick way to keep people up to date. Tell them to email henny@dircon.co.uk if they want to be added to the Mailing List

BREDFIELD PRAYER CIRCLE

Mindful of the current situation, please be aware that we do have a Bredfield Prayer Circle. This is a group of Parishioners united in prayer for the needs of our community. The Prayer Circle operates in confidence. It does not discuss your requests but simply includes your needs with their private prayer. Please give just a first name and enough details to make your request meaningful to those who will be praying with you.

If you are in need of prayer, or praying yourself, and would like the prayer of others please contact Anne Ackerley 01394 384805 or Alison Cannard 01473 737707.

DATES NO LONGER IN THE DIARY

Church Services

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued the following statement:

“In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.”

This means that **there will be no Easter or any other services** until we are told that we may hold them again. The Church will not be decorated with flowers, but, we hope, will remain open for private prayer.

For more information and updates, look at the St John’s website <https://stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk> . You can find the ‘St John’s News’ page under ‘Church Life’.

However, our Diocese is offering Morning Prayer online at <https://www.cofesuffolk.org//bishops/broadcasting-live-services>

Church Bells

Due to the number of people being together in the confined space of the bell tower, the bell-ringers have been advised to suspend all ringing until further notice. This will leave a real gap in the life of the village – the sound of the Friday-evening practice being one of the real pleasures of living in Bredfield.

Cameo and St. Andrew’s Amblers

No further meetings of either are planned until further notice due to the Coronavirus.

Ann Stammers

BREDFIELD CHURCH FETE 2020

IT IS WITH GREAT REGRET THAT I ANNOUNCE THAT THIS YEARS CHURCH FETE IS CANCELLED

I have been involved with Bredfield Church Fete for 27 years and it has been hosted by Robin and Janet D'Arcy for over 40!

In that time the fete has not missed a year despite British weather and national celebrations. In the current situation however the idea that it could take place whilst maintaining a social distance is not realistic and we have a responsibility to protect both our helpers and visitors.

I am very sad to admit it but this time we have been thwarted and perhaps in this modern age of computer technology and communication it is to be expected it is by a virus!

Andrew Miller

St Andrew's PCC AGM (APCM)

All Church of England PCC and APCM meetings are suspended until further notice. In light of this, the elections that would normally take place at the APCM in April will not take place, so the election of 2019 will continue to stand in the 2020-2021 term.

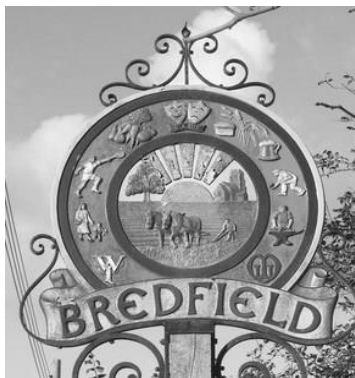
Children's Society box opening date.

The annual box-opening event, which was to have taken place in April, will unfortunately now have to take place at a later date to be advised. However, the boxes will remain open for your spare coins!

Angela Derham.

April/May Services at St. Andrew's

NO SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



RECTOR:

REV'D. CLIVE HOWARD

CHURCHWARDEN: Vacant.

To contact the Rector and for all enquiries regarding St Andrew's, contact St John's church office on:

info@stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

Or

01394 383162

www.stjohnswoodbridge.org.uk

100 Club Winners

1st Prize	No. 13 T. Bence
2nd Prize	No. 37 A. Derham

Church Cleaning Rota

4th April	P. Cooke	11th April	A. Pilgrim
18th April	P. Cooke	25th April	C. Cowper

Quotation for April

I watched a blackbird on a budding sycamore
One Easter Day, when sap was stirring twigs to the core;
I saw his tongue, and crocus-coloured bill
Parting and closing as he turned his trill;
Then he flew down, seized on a stem of hay,
And upped to where his building scheme was under way
As if so sure a nest was never shaped on spray.

Thomas Hardy