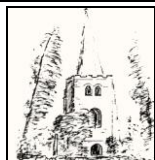


Leam Valley Messenger



Flecknoe



Grandborough



Leamington Hastings



Willoughby

April/May 2018

Easter is a time of new birth of hope and regeneration. It is a time when nature shakes off the darkness of those winter months and embraces new life and colour. Traditionally we associate it with spring lambs, daffodils waving their heads in the breeze and bluebells carpeting local woods. Symbols of new life along with chicks, rabbits and coloured eggs. Easter gets its name from Eoster, a Teutonic spring goddess. It was originally celebrated on the Spring Equinox when the day is in balance with the night, and so we will again have more light than darkness. It was therefore the perfect time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

So how are the dates for Easter decided? The death of Jesus occurred around the Jewish Passover, which is traditionally held on first full moon following the vernal equinox. As the full moon can vary in each time zone, the Church said that they would use the 14th day of the lunar month instead – the Paschal Full Moon – and host Easter Day on the following Sunday. Once the date of the moon is known, Easter Day and the Easter holidays can be determined.

Christians celebrate Easter on a Sunday as it was the day Jesus rose from the dead, following being crucified on a Friday two days before. Centuries ago in 325, it was decided by a council of Christian bishops that Easter Day would always be on a Sunday to commemorate the happy occasion.

Easter Sunday has to always fall on the full moon after the Spring Equinox. Dates for this can range from March to May dependent on year and calendar used. Christians in the East may have a different Easter date if they use what is known as the Julian calendar as opposed to the Gregorian one. The Easter date changes because the full moon can fall on different days dependent on different time zones.

At this time the Benefice is still without a vicar to lead us. The churchwardens and members of the PCCs are working hard to keep services and the day to day administration running. We appreciate support from you all and anyone is welcome to any service in the Benefice. Unfortunately the first advertisement did not get any applications but we are trying very hard to move on and find the right person for our lovely rural area. We are here for any who need us so please do not hesitate to call should the need arise.

From the Registers

Funerals: We offer our sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to the relatives and friends of:

Alan Jones whose funeral took place on 2nd February at St Nicholas' Church, Willoughby.

Morgan Gordon Jones whose funeral took place on 6th February at St Peter's Church, Grandborough.

Thomas Edward Davenport whose funeral took place on 9th March at St Peter's Church, Grandborough.

Ronnie Edgar whose funeral took place at St Nicholas' Church, Willoughby on 13th March.

Church News and Notices

In the absence of a Priest-in-Charge, it is suggested that if you have any queries regarding any of the churches in the Benefice, you should contact The Reader or one of the Churchwardens as follows:

The Reader for the Benefice is Dr Alec Parker Tel: 01926 812548

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Flecknoe | Andrew Grant | 01788 891076 | | |
| Grandborough | Peter Johnson | 01788 814994; | Pauline Stratton | 01788 521123 |
| L'ton Hastings | Karen Hatch | 01926 812363 ; | Andrew Ryan-Smith | 01926 811367 |
| Willoughby | Jackie Gibbard | 01788 891191; | Karen Nichols | 07866 572209 |

Confirmation

If you are interested in exploring your faith, which may or may not lead to Confirmation, please contact Rev Canon Barbara Clutton who is arranging a series of short informal meetings.

Thank you

A special thank you to Kay Worrall and her team of willing helpers for making the attractive posies which were handed out at the Mothering Sunday service held at Flecknoe.

Farmers' Market

Our next Farmers' Markets will be held on Thursday 5th April and 3rd May. Hopefully we will have some nice Spring weather and are looking forward to having Maliwan Plants join us again, after the winter.

We were very appreciative to the 3 stallholders who braved the snowy conditions at our March market and also to all the local people who came along to support us.

Lent Meetings

The meeting that was cancelled due to the snow will now be held on Thursday 12th April at 7.30 pm at Grandborough Methodist Chapel.

Healing Services

The next monthly healing services at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Broadwell, will be on Tuesday, 17th April and Tuesday 15th May at 7.30 pm. Please come and join us and spend some quiet time with God.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate prayer for any reason at all, please let your Churchwarden know or Karen on 01926 812363. Alternatively, email ingrianna57@gmail.com and we will include them in our prayer time.

Annual Parish Church Meetings

| Church | Date/Time | Venue |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| Flecknoe | Tues 24 th April at 7.30 pm | Hillcrest House |
| Grandborough | Thurs 26 th April at 7.15 pm | Village Hall |
| Leamington Hastings | Tues 24 th April at 7.15 pm | All Saints' Church |
| Willoughby | Mon 23 rd April at 7.30 pm | Village Hall |

Churchwardens are chosen annually at the annual parish meeting also known as the meeting of the parishioners and the Easter vestry meeting. This is a separate meeting from the Annual Parochial Meeting of the church, though the two meetings are almost always held together. At the meeting for the choosing of churchwardens, the people entitled to vote are:

- Anybody on the Electoral Roll of the parish
- Anybody who lives in the parish and whose name is on the register of local government electors.

After the churchwardens have been chosen, only those on the Electoral Roll of the parish are entitled to vote on the business of the Annual Parochial Meeting.

Leam Valley Benefice Office Hour

If you want to find out about baptism or confirmation for yourself or for your child, would like to book a wedding service in any of the benefice churches or have any enquiries, then please come along to the Leam Valley Benefice Office Hour at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Broadwell on the first Monday of the month (except Bank Holidays) between 6.00 and 7.00 pm. Alternatively contact one of the Churchwardens from your church, details on page 2.

Visit from Archbishop of Canterbury

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will be visiting the Coventry area over a period of 4 days during May. One of his visits will include an evangelistic event to be held at Highfield Farm, Frankton on Thursday 3rd May at 6.30 pm, which will include a hog roast. For more information, contact Rev Canon Barbara Clutton or a member of your PCC. Alternatively keep up to date with all the events scheduled for his visit via the website <https://cov100.org/archbishop/>.



Flecknoe

Thank you

Many thanks to all who supported our BIG BREAKFAST on 10th February. Many thanks also to members of the PCC who helped the event run smoothly, and in particular to Sara Jolley as head chef and organiser. A record number of people came along and over £600 was raised for church funds.

Dates for your diaries:

We will be holding a Cream Tea event in the garden at the Stone House on Sunday 10th June from 2.00 to 4.00 pm, courtesy of Andrew and Jules Brown.

Our summer Holiday Club for children aged from 5 to 10 will, this year, be held from Wednesday 8th to Friday 10th August based in Flecknoe Village Hall. This year the theme will be "Help" and will include Bible stories that relate to this subject.

As always, there will be many other activities ranging from making collages to cooking, singing and playing games. For further information, please contact Clare Grant on 01788 891076 or e-mail aaggrant@aol.com. Children and their friends from across the Benefice are welcome.



Grandborough

Lent Lunch

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our Lent Lunch. We had a good number of people who came along and it was a very enjoyable and happy event. We raised a total sum of £175 which will be sent to Leprosy Mission. Also a special 'thank you' to the ladies who made the delicious soups which helped to warm everyone up on such a cold day.

Messy Church

Our next sessions will be held on Thursday 5th April and again on Thursday 3rd May from 4.30 – 6.30 pm. If you haven't been before, please give it a try; a hot meal is provided after the crafts and worship. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome.

Christian Aid week is approaching and our volunteers will be coming round the village with envelopes for your donations during the week 13th to 20th May.

On Thursday 24th May we will be holding a **Coffee Morning** at St Peter's. There will be no set charge for the refreshments and all donations will be sent to Christian Aid. Please come along and support this cause.

Women's Institute

On 18th April, John Parnell will be giving a demonstration on 'Hoola Hooping.'

Our Resolution Meeting will be held on 16th May.

The meetings are held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. All visitors welcome.

.Methodist Chapel

Preachers for April and May are as follows. Services are held at 6.30 pm.

| April | Preacher | May | Preacher |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday 1 st | Rev Charity | Sunday 6 th | Jeff Wells |
| Sunday 8 th | Michael Haighton | Sunday 13 th | Marilyne Pratt |
| Sunday 15 th | Rev Charity (HC) | Sunday 20 th | Rev Charity (HC) |
| Sunday 22 nd | Christine Herrington | Sunday 27 th | John Kay |
| Sunday 29 th | Miriam Sitch | | |

Leamington Hastings

Via Beata – A way of blessing <http://www.viabeata.co.uk>

Thank you to everyone who has already made a donation, we are most grateful. We are looking to raise £1,500 to pay for the 2 wooden benches, which will be fixed in the South porch, and to contribute to the cost of some of the carvings. We have not quite reached our target yet, so if you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to Leamington Hastings PCC; cash is equally acceptable!!! Speak to Kay Reeves or the churchwardens if you would like further information

Outdoor Bowls

Would you like to try something different? Maybe outdoor bowls? We meet every Wednesday at 6.00 pm at the bowls green next to the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall. You don't need any special equipment, (just bring flat shoes and a sense of fun)! Any age, any ability, you are most welcome to come and join us. Come and have a go, you might enjoy it!

A Date For Your Diary: Leamington Hastings Academy Rose Queen Day - Saturday 9th June 2018

Please come along to our traditional summer fete; have some fun and support your local school in the process. Take a break from your other weekend activities and enjoy our stalls, games and refreshments, including lots of lovely homemade cakes! The children will also be showing us their maypole dancing skills before we crown the new Rose King and Queen. Timing is not yet confirmed but likely to be from around 12 noon until 3.00 pm, so please check nearer the time.



Willoughby

Update on Fundraising

Good news on the fundraising front. We are up to £30,000. Much of this is in grants and pledges which we will access once work starts. All Churches Trust Limited sent a cheque for £1,000 towards the roof fund which was very much appreciated.

Dates for your diary:

7th April - Rustic Roots in Concert in Village Hall. Cost of tickets £14, including hot food. Bar available. Tickets from Brian Hall, 19 Lower Street. Proceeds will be split between Cricket Club and Church Roof Repair Fund.

28th April from 10.00 am there is to be a churchyard clean up. All welcome. Please bring your own gardening tools.

12th May - Auction of Promises held at Willoughby Village Hall at 7.00 pm. If you can help out with a promise please speak to Andrea Hughes. 01788 891313. Tickets are now on sale at a cost of £5 for adults; children free. Wine and nibbles will be provided.

13th May - there is to be a Special Children's Service at 11.00 am. All are welcome.

20th May - Garage and Table Top Sale from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Spring clean your garage and sell your treasures. Tables can be booked at the Village Hall. Refreshments on sale.

All garages taking part will be put on a map of the village. Cost will be £5 per garage/table. Draw of Raffle.

For more details and booking, please contact Christine on 01788 890183, Karen 07866 572209 or Jackie 01788 891191.

Friends of St Nicholas

Our lovely church needs Friends. People willing to help out with fundraising, supporting events, clean ups. You do not have to be a church goer, or commit to a committee, just be someone who wants to see the village continue to have a church. Maybe consider a small direct debit donation monthly. Please contact any of our PCC members.

Thursday Club

12th April - 2.30 pm at the Village Hall. Ian Brodie, Alimant for my Child (a Victorian family melodrama!)

19th April - 12.30 pm. Pub Lunch at the Saracen's Head, Little Brington NN7 4HS.

10th May - 2.30 pm Village Hall. Dave Sharp, Life as a Falconer.

17th May - 12.30 pm Pub Lunch, venue to be decided.

We are still collecting stamps and foreign and old coins for 'Hearing Dogs', just bring any to one of our meetings.

Meetings are held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. New members very welcome, ring Jim (the Sec) 891805.

| Church Services | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| 1 st April Easter Sunday | Flecknoe Grandborough Leamington Hastings Willoughby | 9.00 am 10.30 am 11.00 am 11.00 am | Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion |
| Thursday 5 th April | Grandborough | 4.30 pm | Messy Church |
| 8 th April | Flecknoe Willoughby Grandborough | 9.00 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm | Holy Communion Family Service Evensong |
| 15 th April | Leamington Hastings Grandborough Willoughby | 9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm | Holy Communion WtW Evensong |
| Tuesday 17 th April | C of GS, Broadwell | 7.30 pm | Healing Service |
| 22 nd April | Flecknoe Willoughby Leamington Hastings | 9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm | Breakfast Service Holy Communion Afternoon Worship |
| 29 th April | Leamington Hastings Benefice Service | 10.30 am | Holy Communion |
| Thursday 3 rd May | Grandborough | 4.30 pm | Messy Church |
| 6 th May | Grandborough Leamington Hastings | 9.00 am 11.00 am | Holy Communion Holy Communion |
| 13 th May | Flecknoe Willoughby Grandborough | 9.00 am 11.00 am 6.00 pm | Holy Communion Family Service Evensong |
| Tuesday 15 th May | C of GS Broadwell | 7.30 pm | Healing Service |
| 20 th May | Grandborough Benefice Service | 10.30 am | Holy Communion |
| 27 th May | Flecknoe Willoughby Leamington Hastings | 9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm | Breakfast Service Holy Communion Afternoon Worship |
| 3 rd June | Grandborough Leamington Hastings | 9.00 am 11.00 am | Holy Communion Holy Communion |
| Thursday 7 th June | Grandborough | 4.30 pm | Messy Church |

Please note the latest date for items to be included in the next Leam Valley Messenger is **18th May 2018**. Reports should be sent to: dorothyjohnson@outlook.com