East Budleigh with Bicton Parish News July 2020



'East Budleigh in bloom' - photos by Peter Bowler

Please send articles to:

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Available online at

www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/east-budleigh-parish-magazine



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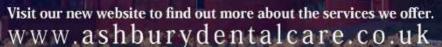


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The information in this July edition is correct at the time of printing but for the latest updates please visit

https://www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/

July view from The Vicarage...

Dear friends,

One of my favourite songs – a candidate for desert island discs – is the old Nat King Cole number "Nature boy", a gentle haunting number in which the final refrain goes "The greatest thing you'll ever learn if just to love and be loved in return"

Amidst the health, social cohesion, public order and economic earthquakes that have rocked our nation over recent months it is good to be reminded of a basic human truth that is the core Christian truth that underpins our faith.

Whether you are mourning the death of a loved one, yearning to see much missed relatives, lamenting the loss of your job, a policeman or a protestor, whatever your politics or station in life, we are bound together by common human needs and emotions.

Most fundamental amongst those is the need for Love. The song puts it well "To be loved first and then to love in return".

The Christian conviction is that as it says in John's first letter in the Bible "God is love" so the basic human need for love can also be expressed as the basic need for God because for Christians the two words are interchangeable.

If you think that you don't believe in God or have never experienced God simply turn the guestion around and ask yourself, do I believe in Love?

Who has never either loved another or been the object of someone else's love? Who has never seen love being expressed?

Love is real and because love is real, God is real. Neither can be proved or put under a microscope and pulled apart. But both can be experienced and expressed and in the case of God can also be worshipped as the first cause of all life.

This God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself – perfect love in human form and the love of Christ for you is always there and always true.

Love,

Martin

The Church Matters...

There was so much information flying about from the Government, the Diocese and the Church of England, whether to open the Church or not and when, risk assessments to be done, cleaning, social distancing and changes of opening dates in the week finishing on Friday 12th June. Consequently, at All Saints' Church, we decided to open on Sundays during the day to start with and see how things go. The first day that the Church was open for individual private prayer was on Sunday 21st June.

Please refer to the website and notices in the Church noticeboards and around East Budleigh for specific opening times.

The "Support during Lockdown" page on the RMC website provides all the current information:

www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/ support-during-lockdown.html and for the latest news, activities/events and information:

www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/ - the "Latest News" is towards the bottom of the Home page.

Facebook

All Saints' Church now has a Facebook presence – just search for All Saints Church East Budleigh on Facebook - thanks go to Zoe Aller and Penny Kurowski for setting it up. Please "Like" it and post items – we want to keep it vibrant and current!

PCC

The PCC hopes to meet in July using Zoom – if there is anything that you wish the PCC to consider, please let one of us

know. The current PCC members are:

Vicar and Chair: Rev'd Martin Jacques Associate Priest: Rev'd Karen Young

Churchwarden (ex officio): Marilyn Hobbs Churchwarden (ex officio): Paul Kurowski

Secretary: Penny Kurowski Treasurer: Maria Malinowska

Deanery Synod Rep: Margaret Briggs Safeguarding Rep: (vacant)

Electoral Roll Officer and Lay Chair: Richard Bunting

Members: Jane Buckland-Wright, John Robertson, Christine Newall and Jenny Hill (Cashier)

We continue to support the Parish Council's and Community Shop's initiatives to help people during the pandemic.

Safeguarding

If you see something that's not right relating to children and/or vulnerable adults, please contact Paul Kurowski (013957 742942) our interim-Safeguarding Representative for East Budleigh.

Pastoral Care

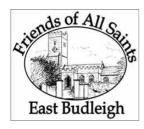
If you or anyone you know needs some pastoral care and support, please contact Rev'd Karen Young, 01395 488121, or Rev'd Martin Jacques, 01395 443473.

Paul Kurowski, Churchwarden

Tel: 01395 742942

e-mail:

churchwarden.as@rmcommunity.co.uk



Friends of All Saints' Church

2020 Events

The Friends' Committee met virtually on Monday 18th May. All the events for 2020 are cancelled except for the University of Exeter Chapel Choir's Christmas Concert on Friday 11th December which we hope will

go ahead. Michael Graham, the Musical Director, expects to get some alumni to support the students in the choir.

Sitting here writing this article on Friday 12 June with the rain lashing down and the forecast wet weekend makes me 'glad' that there is no Scarecrow Festival this year!

Parish News

We thank all those who distribute the Parish News hard copies as the Parish News does provide a link throughout the community – I know that people missed the May edition that was only available on-line.

The Parish News is always available on the RMC website: www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/east-budleigh-parish-magazine.html.

Friends' Fund Raising ... takes a nose-dive

Obviously, without the Friends' events and activities generating money (£10K for each of the last two years), the Church will have to prioritise its repair and maintenance works using up the available reserved funds.

You can support the Friends by joining as a Friend and/or entering the monthly draw in the 200 Club and/or making a donation – for details of how to do this and information about the Friends, events and brief updates see: www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk/friends-of-all-saints.html.

Friends' Committee

The Friends' Committee members are: Angie Canning, Elizabeth Smith, Jenny Hill, Christine Newall, Kate Ponting, Claire Duffield, Jess Hill, Elliott Hamilton, Maria Malinowska, Christina (Tiggy) Dickinson, Charles Abram, Martin Jacques and Paul Kurowski.

If there is anything that you would like the Friends to do / try, please let us know by e-mail: friendsofallsaintschurch.as@rmcommunity.co.uk.

Paul Kurowski

Chair

Christian Response 2 Eastern Europe (CR2EE)

Contrary to the experience of many people, our knitting group has benefitted from the lockdown. We have been knitting more than usual at this time of year. With no Scarecrow Festival taking place to display our "wares", I thought you might still like to know what we have produced so here are the statistics: -

128 jumpers, 43 blankets, 100 hats, 29 scarves, 17 smaller knee size blankets, 15 pairs socks, mitts and gloves and 36 baby jackets. We also knitted Christmas and Easter items to raise money to buy wool. We are ALWAYS ready to take any spare wool that you have.

The above statistics were knitted by 17 group members and 15 home knitters.

At present all the knitting is being held until the warehouse reopens, which we hope will not be long, but who knows when it will be able to be driven to Moldova. We hope and pray that as a very poor country they have not been hit too hard by the virus and when they receive all the brightly coloured garments it will cheer them to know that we care about them. Who can guess when we will be able to meet again as a group but I hope it will be by the autumn as usual. Watch this space for details!! Keep clicking away. Janet

Tidying the Village

East Budleigh in Bloom strives to keep the village looking pretty. Many residents have commented on the unsightly growth of weeds on pavements and roadsides around the village. This problem has worsened since these areas are no longer routinely sprayed with chemicals due to concerns about harm to pets and wildlife. Instead, we had planned a Village Tidy Day with all the different organisations in the village involved. As with so many activities this year, it will not be possible, but we hope it will become an annual event from next Summer.

To cope with the problem this year, we are appealing to individual residents to weed and tidy areas in front of their homes (and for neighbours that can't manage their own). After all you have had plenty of extra time to knock your gardens into shape - why not take on a new challenge! Some people have already done this, and it makes a real difference.

We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful village and have such a strong community who take pride in keeping it spick and span.

Let's get weeding!

EAST BUDLEIGH WITH BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

As we embrace freedom again, the Parish Council has adjusted the way it contacts residents. The latest news can always be found on the website at www.eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk but we are also reverting to putting information on the Notice Boards and in the Information Room again. The draft end of year accounts are now available to view online.

We have completed risk assessments in respect of re-opening the toilets and by the time you read this, we hope to have them open, with sanitiser and signage in place plus additional cleaning.

We have a vacancy for a new Councillor, following the sad demise of Councillor Peter Barnard. We are looking for an enthusiastic person who wants to protect and improve our Parish and is willing to be an **active** participant. Reasonable IT skills are essential. Contact the clerk for details.

The Parish Council is continuing to press for a conclusion on replacement trees around the phone mast. See meeting minutes for further details. Council has also received the Conservation Area Appraisal Review and Management Plan for East Budleigh, which Councillor Jim Carter monitored on our behalf. The plan is available for download from our website.

Judith Venning: clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk 01395 489155.

Village Hall update

The Village Hall and Green with the play area continue, regrettably, to be closed as I write this update.

Please be sure that the Trustees are keeping a close eye on developments and the advice being received from central government and local organisations and will re-act as quickly and effectively as possible should the position change more favourably.

I am sure we all look forward to the time when we can meet at the Hall whether it be as a member of a club, short mat bowling, fitness and art classes, snooker amongst other groups as well as the wide range of hirers who contribute to making the Hall such a vibrant place.

The Trustees intend meeting at the end of June with a view to next steps.

First on my agenda will be arrangements for a party.

Chris Dearsley, Chair, Trustees of East Budleigh with Bicton Village Hall



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East Budleigh Church Hall

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It has a modern kitchen and is available to hire for functions and activities.

Please contact:

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Our Churchyards

Churchyard Volunteering

We proposed a volunteering session to the regulars on Friday 19th June within all the latest constraints, eg, social distancing, six people could meet, and bringing our own tools, as there was plenty to do.

We plan to have another session on Friday 17th July, depending on the latest guidance, please join us.

Thanks go to ...

Colin Lowe and Derek Williams for sanding, cleaning, oiling / sealing nine of the benches in the Churchyards. Thanks also go to Andy Heath for shipping the benches to and fro.

Wild Life

We met up with one of our friends in the U3A Botany group to identify some of the flowering plants and grasses; hopefully, she will return to identify some of the lichens and sedges – it is difficult to discuss and identify plants when 2 metres away!

David White has been providing wonderful pictures of the wildlife in the Churchyards including an X-rated photo of two squirrels! In the large yew near to the Church Tower, we spotted a nesting pigeon as well as four squirrels clambering about and on another occasion a female pheasant luring us away from her chicks.

Please visit and enjoy the Churchyards – they are wonderfully peaceful places for quiet contemplation and a haven for wildlife

Penny and Paul Kurowski. Tel: 01395 742942; pandp@kurowski.me.uk

The Grateful Shopper

Whilst there are many acts of kindness, generosity and care being shown across the country, can I just ask us all in the Village Community to spare a moment to applaud the efforts of our own local heroes.

I refer in this instance to the 3 Managers, Mel, Anne and Liz, who have continued to run the Community Shop in the most trying of circumstances ably assisted by several volunteers who have gone out of their way to make shopping deliveries to some in the Village who have been unable to collect their orders from the Shop.

Everyone who has patiently used the ordering system should also take some thanks for their contribution.

The Community Shop has for some time been a centre of the Village, and none more so than during the last few difficult months. I for one remain a grateful shopper. Anon

Joining hands in cyber space

Doesn't it feel strange not to have access to our beloved churches, not to kneel at the communion rail, not to touch base with each other after shared worship?

We should soon be able to go into church for private prayer, but it may be some time before we can hold services in church again. So, we decided to try and organise a simple version of Morning Prayer and we set up a Zoom meeting for Tuesday mornings at 9.30. If you would like to join us, I'd be very happy to send you the link. It follows the morning prayer liturgy from Common Worship.

We set ourselves up so that Mike had easy access to his piano and he plays at the beginning and the end of the service. It quickly became obvious that one of the things that people miss is joining in together to sing familiar hymns. So, on Sunday evenings we have been holding a short service called Music, Prayers and Thanksgiving. This is also held in a Zoom meeting at 6.00pm.

You don't need to download the Zoom app. I can send you the link every time for a new service. If you do have the app you only need the Meeting ID and the password. We now have a Zoom account which means that we don't have to end the meeting after 40 minutes.

It means that people get a chance to chat and catch up with each other after the service.

It isn't perfect by any means, but it does mean that we can meet and worship together, pray together and yes, sort of sing together. We also have time on Sundays to express our gratitude to God for the blessings around us.

Do get in touch if you would like to join us, if you'd like to know more about using Zoom or even have a little private practice beforehand.

All best wishes, Revd. Margaret Scrivener

Tel: 01395 708201

Email: marscriv@gmail.com



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Next edition of the Parish News

items for the double August/ September issue of the magazine to be sent to

ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

by Friday 17th July at 6pm please

A big THANK YOU!

I hope you have all been keeping well and thank you to everyone who has been busy supporting the church during the temporary church building closure. It has been wonderful to see the growth in the online activities which continue to flourish. Thank you for the online prayer group, online Sunday reflection, increased Vicar's Soul Food blog twice weekly, the pastoral umbrella, online Parish magazine, All Saints WhatApp Group, informative church website, All Saints Facebook page, online Giving buttons, and telephone sign-ups for the Parish Giving Scheme. We have much to be thankful for, so thank you!

Help All Saints East Budleigh - Contactless Donations



All Saints has introduced a new online Giving button and fundraising campaign in the name of "Help All Saints East Budleigh". The campaign is up and running on the All Saints church website and receiving donations already. It is simple to use and even sends you a 'thank you' for your donation. There is an easy option for givers

to make a GiftAid declaration for their donation so All Saints can claim back 25p on every £1 donation.

These donations will help to pay for the church running costs like the church

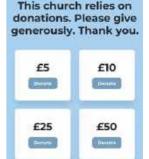
building insurance and utilities to keep the lights on.

The donation button runs on the Church of England giving platform "GiveALittle" and also enables our contactless card reader provided by SumUp, and GiftAid if applicable. Look out for the card reader in church for

- donations
- collections
- refreshments
- hall hire
- · wedding fees
- payments at events.



The Help All Saints East Budleigh campaign has facilitated Giving by QR Codes or Quick Response codes, which are a type of matrix barcode. You will see QR codes more and more in shops and online too. These QR barcodes can be scanned by your smartphone to reach the donation site. You will see these QR codes appearing on the All Saints website, emails, posters, events and newsletters. Maria Malinowska, Treasurer, All Saints



Help All Saints East Budleigh



Conserving our heritage

Friends of All Saints FOAS - Contactless Donations

Friends of All Saints have their very own online Giving button and fundraising campaign in the name of the "Friends of All Saints FOAS"

which is now active on the All Saints website.

It is easy to use and provides you with a donation acknowledgement. There is an option for givers to make a GiftAid declaration for their donation so the Friends can claim back 25p on every £1 donation.

These donations will help to pay for the repairs and maintenance of the historic church building.

The Friends of All Saints FOAS campaign supports Giving by QR Codes or Quick Response codes, which are a type of matrix barcode. These QR barcodes can be scanned by your smartphone to reach the donation site. You may see these QR codes appearing on the Friends emails, posters, events and newsletters.

Many people no longer carry cash

With less people using cash, the Friends have acquired a contactless card reader. The payment is made using the Chip and PIN function, or a contactless tap. Look out for the card reader at Friends events in the future for;

* Event tickets and purchases * Refreshments *Donations

Friends of All Saints - FOAS
Please help FOAS to maintain the ancient church building, thank you.

£5
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Debute

£25
£50

Debute



What is the church providing for the East Budleigh community at this time? This is an interesting question. The answer may be found amongst the following:

- a symbol of the omnipresence of God, the message of love and hope without judgement and without asking for anything in exchange,
- timelessness, steadfastness and endurance through difficult times, a reminder that there is a fresh tomorrow
- a key piece in the jigsaw of civilisation and culture
- a sense of place in the rich fabric of life
- a personal pride in a well-cared for historical place, lit as a beacon at night
- a privately- owned well managed churchyard open to all to enjoy without charge
- a reassurance that loved ones in the churchyard rest in a place of care and respect
- a church clock which strikes the hour, setting the rhythm of day and night, each strike counted
- a parish magazine free of charge delivered to your door step
- peace of mind that you can leave the above to others to manage on your behalf, as we know many are willing to support. "

Maria Malinowska, Treasurer, All Saints

East Budleigh Community Shop GETTING BACK TO NORMAL!

We are really pleased to be able to announce that we have started the process of resuming normal service. Our priority is to keep customers, volunteers and staff as safe as possible, and we have put the necessary Perspex till screens, sanitisers and PPE in place.

We will continue our telephone order system for collection and delivery service for a good while yet, as many of our customers are either isolating or preferring not to come out to the shop. If you need any help with your shopping please phone in advance or use the collection / delivery option.

Customers will be able to come into the shop from Monday, 29th June, and we will be selling newspapers from 6th July. To begin with the shop will be open from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon on weekdays.

Please note:-

- People queuing outside will be asked to keep two metres apart and follow the arrows to the shop entrance
- A system of one customer in at a time will operate (this could be a couple from the same household or a parent and a child)
- We recommend that a face covering be worn (on sale in the shop) so that we can allow two customers at a time
- o Payment by card only
- Please follow the arrows around the shop and understand that volunteers are currently unable to come from behind the screens to help you
- Hand sanitiser will be available for customers; baskets etc will be sanitised
- Newspapers will be self-service for tokens or the correct cash.

Please bear with us over the next few weeks as we slowly work our way back to our normal opening hours and service. In the meantime, thank you for your patience. Do let us know if there is anything that we at the shop can help you with.

For any help, please call us on 01395 445550.

For up-to-date information, please visit our website at www.eastbudleighshop.co.uk

East Budleigh in Bloom

Hooray! We have been fortunate in getting so many wonderful plants from New Leaf for our summer planting. We hope everyone enjoys the displays - we have done our best with the plants that were available. We were not able to plant the railing baskets this year, but all the planters and beds have been filled. See more pictures on the front cover and page 21.



As a team we hope to have planted the new community herb garden beside the shop by the time you read this.

Work on the cart at the Pound has started. We do not yet know when the cart can be safely repositioned, but we do hope that with the cart refurbished and moved to the foreground it will be once again a delightful focal point

in the village. We are incredibly grateful for the amazing grass cutting at the Pound that has been done by a very kind resident – hard work indeed – thank you. Happy gardening!

If you have any queries please contact the secretary, Jon Roseway, 01395 488739.

The East Budleigh with Bicton WI

The East Budleigh with Bicton WI is following the lead of the WI at National and County level, and so meetings are on hold until September at the earliest. The committee are staying in our posts until the situation improves.

We are maintaining contact with members through a monthly newsletter email, virtual competitions and a plant "swap shop". The winner of the May Flower of the Month competition was Elaine Whitehead's bearded iris.

To find out more about our WI please contact our President Pam Terry on 01395 742015





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We have welcomed back our reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children along with key worker children. It has been a very successful few weeks with everyone adapting to new routines within school. Of course, we miss the children who are not back in school yet and cannot wait to see them when the time is right. Home learning has continued for those children who are not in school and we have had lots of fantastic work sent in.

Please visit our school website http://www.drakes.thelink.academy/website Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with all the exciting things happening in school. Search for – Drakes cofe Primary School.





























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Dorothy & David, Exmouth

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P.W Frewn- Smith, Exmouth

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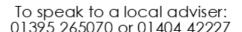
Have you been affected by the coronavirus lockdown? Or do you have other issues or concerns you are struggling with, and have a question about what help is available to you right now?

While the Citizens Advice offices in East Devon (including Exmouth, Sidmouth and Honiton) are closed, staff and volunteers are working from home to make sure everyone can get the help and information they need. CA offers advice via email, over the telephone via a call- back system, and through the Adviceline national service by phone or Webchat. All advice given is free, confidential, independent and impartial.

If you have access to the internet you can also visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk as a first port of call. This has a lot of useful information and is available to anyone. It's a great place to start when you have a problem you're not sure how to handle.

Common problems people come to the CA for help with include debts and money, benefits, work matters, housing, health, family issues, consumer complaints, and cases in courts and tribunals. You will be able to share your issue with trained adviser who will try to help you to solve your problem or

make progress towards a solution, including recommending other organisations who may be able to help if appropriate.



(You will be asked to leave your contact details and an adviser will contact you as soon as possible)

National Adviceline: 03444 111444

Email: enquiries@citizensadviceeastdevon.org

Website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk



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For many local people, the commons are the go-to place for regular 'air and exercise'. The value of this space - to escape from a troubled world, clear the head and experience nature, has become even more important since the Coronavirus outbreak, Clinton Devon Estates were committed after lockdown, to keep the East Devon Pebblebed Heaths as accessible as possible, to allow daily exercise for local communities, if safe to do so, an approach fully supported by the local police. The period between mid-April to mid-May, was probably the busiest month ever seen on the commons.

The Pebblebed Heaths Conservation Trust (PHCT) team carefully monitored the situation and were prepared to close the car parks across the commons, should government advice or public behaviour dictate that this was necessary. Fortunately, it hasn't been, but visitor numbers remain unusually high. Up-todate information posters are displayed in car parks, reminding the public of government messages on how to keep safe, along with specific messages relevant to exercising on heathland. The commons are sufficiently large with generous enough car parking that it is possible for the site to accommodate large numbers of visitors spread throughout the day and not undermine

self-distancing rules. However, if a car park is overcrowded, we would encourage visitors to use one of the many alternatives.

The Coronavirus outbreak has introduced many new people to other countryside areas for the first time too with riverside footpaths and other walking and cycling routes also seeing increased use. This presents an opportunity to encourage a wider appreciation of the landscape but occasionally a few reminders are necessary as well. After such a long dry spell, fire continues to represent the biggest risk to wildlife and visitor safety on the commons and would also have devastating impact should it threaten woodland, farmland or rural properties. Please remember BBQs and fires are not permitted in the countryside and to take all litter home.

The Otter Estuary is also managed by the PHCT team. This wildlife area supports significant populations of bird species with its reed-beds an important breeding site during the warmer months. Keeping dogs under control, noise down and stopping at the viewing platforms and bird hide, is actively encouraged, which ensures recreation and wildlife don't conflict.

When the Otter Estuary SSSI was first designated in the 1980s, paddle boarding was yet to become widespread in popularity. Kayaks and canoes were occasionally seen on the estuary, but it is only in the last few years that activity of this sort has reached levels that are likely to have more significant impact on the site's wildlife. Like other rivers there is a Public Right of Navigation (PRN) on tidal

waters. This includes the seas, estuaries and tidal rivers – up to their historic Normal Tidal Limit (NTL), which on the Otter is close to White Bridge. Launching within the reserve, including from Lime Kilns or the Donkey's Turn is not permitted, access is from the beach only. Our staff will supplement the existing signage, including some at the bottom of the reserve, to make the significance of the site clear and help visitors make responsible choices.

Love this Space | Give Wildlife Space

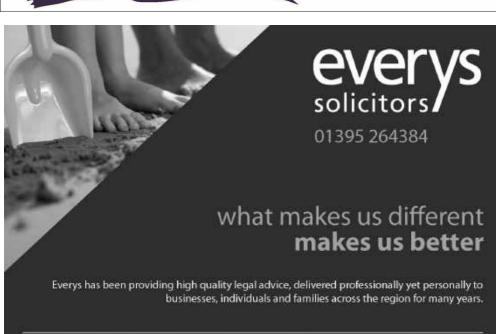
Kate Ponting BEd (Hons) Countryside and Communities Officer Tel: 01395 443881 Email kate.ponting@clintondevon.com



News from Salem Chapel

Sadly we have to inform you that the Chapel and Schoolroom are closed for the duration of the Covid 19 emergency.





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Services in the Raleigh Mission Community – July 2020

Services are currently cancelled, the Exeter Diocese has a range of resources to help you stay connected and able to 'do church differently': exeter.anglican.org/resources/coronavirus-guidance/coronavirus-resources/

For the latest information about All Saints please check; www.raleighmissioncommunity.org.uk

EAST BUDLEIGH GARAGE - CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Opening hours are, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Staffing levels are reduced to enable us to work safely and the office will not be manned all of the time. If you should ring and are not able to speak to a member of staff, please leave a message on the answerphone, 01395 445595, and we will call you back as soon as possible.

As always, should you require urgent assistance you can phone our Emergency Number 07709413323.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND STAY SAFE

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Margaret (Margie) Kuyper

200 Club

To make our 200 club more profitable - we would love to welcome more players

The 'Friends of East Budleigh Church' run a monthly raffle throughout the year to help raise funds for the upkeep of the church and churchyard.

Three winning numbers are drawn at the shop at the end of each month with three cash prizes of £40, £20 and £10

May winners were:-1st - £40 Emily Pye 2nd - £20 Ian Briggs 3rd - £10 Andrew Canning

If you would like to subscribe for the 200 Club for 2020, please send your name, address, telephone number and email together with a cheque for £6.00 per number (£1 per month until the end of 2020) made payable to 'All Saints East Budleigh PCC' c/o Jenny Hill, The Old Vicarage, Vicarage Road, East Budleigh, Devon, EX9 7EF

If you would prefer to pay by annual direct debit - please phone Jenny on 01395 442140 to arrange.

Who's who in East Budleigh & Bicton

Vicar - Rev'd Martin Jacques 01395 443473 / 07795 025 016 vicar@rmcommunity.co.uk

Associate Priest – Rev'd Karen Young 01395 488121

associatepriest@rmcommunity.co.uk

Churchwardens -

Marilyn Hobbs 01395 488739
Paul Kurowski 01395 742942
churchwarden.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

Deputy Churchwarden

Christopher Buckland-Wright 01395 446781

RMC Administrator

Fran Mills - 01395 443397

rmcoffice@rmcommunity.co.uk

The office at St Peters church is open; Mon 1-3, Tues-Thurs 10-12 & Fri 10-2.

Parochial Church Council -

Secretary -

Penny Kurowski 01395 742942

Treasurer -

Maria Malinowska 07773 218582

Cashier - Jenny Hill 01395 442140

Bellringers Captain -

Alan Murdoch 01395 445230

Organist - Geoff Aplin 01395 442951

Church Hall bookings – 01395 443609 or church office 01395 443397

Parish News Editor - Jess Hill

ebmag.as@rmcommunity.co.uk

To be a Pilgrim

When I was Rector of St Martin's Hereford, I also served as Chaplain to the SAS whose Regimental Headquarters, Stirling Lines, was just around the corner from the Church and Rectory. There was a strong association between St Martin's Church and 'the Regiment': it had custody of the 'Regimental Plots' in the churchyard and housed a memorial window to those who had died in the Falklands conflict of 1982, along with previous and subsequent conflicts. Below the window is a plaque containing part of a poem by R J Flecker, The Road to Samarkand:

We are the Pilgrims, master; we shall go Always a little further; it may be Beyond that last blue mountain barred with snow Across that angry or that glimmering sea.....

Geoffrey Chaucer (c.1343-1400) has somehow immortalised Pilgrimage in his Canterbury Tales. Importantly, he captures the stories of a wide spectrum of people, from all walks of life, with a variety of experiences, sharing their stories as they walk, side by side. And they share a common objective, to visit the Shrine of St Thomas a' Becket at Canterbury Cathedral. Unsurprisingly, I find myself drawn to the Friars' Tale which opens with: In our land there was an Archdeacon, a man of high degree... But you will have to read the rest to find out what Archdeacons really got up to in medieval England and why the people so detested them; well at least then!

Pilgrimage is a journey full of surprise, joy, sadness and mishaps; often of unexpected happenings. Life is a journey too, and for many followers of the Christian faith it is described as a pilgrimage. For the Pilgrim the journey is made special, or significant, by association — a special, or holy place.

During the extensive period of 'lockdown' many of the familiar or special places have been denied us. It may be a place associated with a loved one, a friend; our own local church or a stunning view that takes our breath away and lifts the spirit. For us all, many of the meetings and encounters that sustain our daily living have been removed from our grasp. Perhaps we have resorted to the telephone, Facetime, or even Zoom, and we should be grateful for such media, however limited, for keeping our ability not only to speak but also to see each other.

For my soldiers in Hereford, the tasks they undertook were not on their own; they were very dependent on each other. The outcome of the journey the pilgrim makes can be hoped for but not pre-determined; it depends what happens on the way! At the heart of the Christian experience, grounded in faith and love, Pilgrimage is 'in the company of others'. The goal is our communion with God and each other. St Paul reminds us, whatever comes our way on the journey, 'Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus Our Lord'. (Romans 8: 31-39).

The Venerable Dr Trevor Jones archdeacontrevor@gmail.com



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http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/eastdevon

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Keep Cool and Carry On





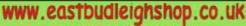












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