

PARISH NEWS



**St John's Church
Marchington Woodlands**

**St Peter's Church
Marchington**

FEBRUARY 2021

WELCOME to the PARISH NEWS for FEBRUARY 2021

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Please be in touch with any news, articles or updates on your club or organisation by email to Rhoda. No more than 425 words in length, please. Advertisements, both for businesses and for village events, should also be sent to Rhoda. These will attract a small charge. A special deal for repeat adverts by businesses is available: details available on request.

The next Parish News is the March issue. Deadline for copy is 12th February.

Parish News is distributed by volunteers in the parishes of St John's, Marchington Woodlands and St Peter's, Marchington. If you wish to receive a regular copy please contact our Head of Distribution, Mike Williamson (01283 820407). There is an annual subscription rate of £9 for a paper copy of the magazine delivered to your door. The online edition of the magazine is freely available on our website <https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net> and includes colour photographs and live hyperlinks. Previous issues of the magazine are available online at <https://www.marchingtonparishnews.net/archive>

Subscriptions are collected every July and cover the period up to the following June. Newcomers to the village are welcome to have a complimentary copy, so if someone has moved in near to you please let Mike know.

St Peter's Contacts

Priest in charge: Rev Margaret Sherwin, Rector, Tel: 01889 560234

Licensed Reader: Maggie Hatchard, 1 Church Close Tel: 01283 820207

St Peter's Ministry Team: Thelma Brassington, Maggie Hatchard, Fiona Needs, Liz Morgan.

St Peter's Church Wardens: Lynda Nicholson, Rose Cottage, Church Lane.

Tel: 01283 821374; Sandy Halcrow, Coverdale, Allens Lane. Tel: 01283 820346

PCC Secretary: Kate Hart

Church Website: www.stpetersmarchington.org.uk

St Valentine

Rev John Lander anticipates Valentine's Day and reminds us that although love seems to be in short supply when we can't meet some of those we care about, the acts of kindness and concern that we witness during the pandemic show us that God's love is all around.

I wonder how many of you were interested in the poll for the best ever Christmas movie (won by the 1946 film 'It's a Wonderful Life'); well in 5th place was that 2003 rom-com 'Love Actually'. Even though I watched a few films over the Christmas period I didn't see it listed on TV this year!! We did watch 'Notting Hill' again, but I digress.

It may seem odd to be harking back to December but, as has been said before, Christmas builds up for months prior to the day, then disappears almost entirely 2 days after, yet we are still in the Christmas period until Candlemas - 2nd Feb.

Shops and supermarkets keep us looking forward to the next big event/s (with Easter eggs already on display); and tucked away among the cards we glimpse images of hearts and flowers as Valentine's Day looms large on the horizon. Yes, it's time to start planning the perfect surprise for that special person in your life.... only we are in lock down again!

Anyway, it got me thinking about Valentine; who was he, and why do we

associate him with love – and a love that is sometimes shrouded in secrecy?

Well, it appears there were 3 potential candidates for the honour and it wasn't until the 3rd century that St. Valentine's Day was declared in memory of a priest of Rome who was martyred. Legend suggests it all stems back to the time of Emperor Claudius, during the period when Christians were being persecuted, and who made a decree forbidding soldiers to marry – his logic being that married men would not fight so well if they were thinking about their wives! Valentine felt this was unjust so he defied the emperor and conducted marriages for young couples in secret. Eventually he was found out, imprisoned and sentenced to death. Legend also says that during his imprisonment he fell in love with the jailer's daughter, and before his execution he wrote her a letter signed "From Your Valentine".

Probably, though, the most plausible story surrounding St Valentine is one not focused on *eros* (passionate love) but on *agape* (love of God): he was martyred for refusing to renounce his religion.

We certainly are living in somewhat dark days, both metaphorically and physically; and love can sometimes seem to be in short supply as we find ourselves limited to what we can do and those who we cannot meet. It was into such times of turmoil that God's amazing love was revealed in human form in the birth of Jesus, and 40 days later when the baby Jesus was presented in the temple that Simeon declared that "his eyes had seen God's salvation, a

light to enlighten all people." Then, as now, people felt lost and lonely with no-one to help them; and Jesus still comes with a message of help and comfort, a guiding light to all in darkness. Thankfully, that message is still heard today and is responded to through acts of kindness and concern. As we anticipate Valentine's Day and continue our Thursday evening applause for heroes, we are reminded that 'God's Love, actually, is all around.'

John

St Peter's Church News

In these difficult times we have felt it necessary to keep our congregation safe and so, with a heavy heart, the church is closed for Sunday services. We will be reviewing this at the end of January and will let you all know whether the church will open again.

In the meantime I will be organising Zoom services at 10am each Sunday, and if you would like to join us to please email me at maggiehatchard@gmail.com and I will send you an invite.

There are Sunday services to be found each week led by Rev Margaret Sherwin on YouTube - Uttoxeter St Mary's Church. Also you can join the cathedral service each Sunday by going to the Lichfield cathedral website.

For daily prayers, reflections and services you can use a free phone 0800 804 8044.

Our prayer for all our villagers

Lord, we give thanks that we live in a place where we have the opportunity to walk in nature and watch the seasons develop and change. We give you thanks

for our friends and neighbours, Bless them and keep them safe. We pray for all who are working in hospitals and care homes, those who continue to make sure that our post arrives and that there is food on our tables. For those who are ill at home or in hospital, we pray that, Lord, you will hold them in your gentle arms, secure and safe. And Lord, for all who have lost loved ones, may those who grieve be sure that they are safe and at peace. We offer this prayer in your name, Amen.

Maggie Hatchard

Ken Jones

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent me messages of sympathy following my husband Ken's death in November. We have lived in the village for 35 years and it was quite evident from the personal messages and the number of cards received, that he was well loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a perfect gentleman, always polite and considerate with a lively sense of humour.

He worked in Burton in the brewing industry for a number of years. After he retired, he played golf regularly at Ashbourne Golf Club, and took up water colour painting. He enjoyed painting a seasonal picture for the front cover of South East Staffordshire Association of National Trust Members magazine which is produced regularly.

As Ken's funeral took place during Covid 19 regulations, I was limited to the number of people who could attend. I was very moved by the number of people who paid their respects as the funeral cortege passed through the village and I would ask you to read the following words which convey my feelings.

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair
Perhaps you came on the funeral day if so I saw you there
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words that any friend could say
Perhaps you were not there at all but thought of me that day.
Whatever you did to console the heart I thank you sincerely for your part.*

Sheila Jones

Donations to St Peter's

It was not possible to hold the usual St Peter's Christmas Bazaar and Postday this year, but several people donated to the church the proceeds of fundraising activities that they had engaged in as individuals instead. Including giftaid £760 was raised, which is better than the Bazaar and Postday normally makes, excluding the raffle.

A number of donations were received, including the following:

Lynda Nicholson's Christmas Pudding Sales: £400

Tom Castle's Christmas card deliveries: £144

Christmas Greetings published in the magazine: £95

Joyce Halcrow's mincepie sales: £31

Gordon Marjoram, Treasurer

Christmas in Lockdown

Firstly many thanks to all who helped with the Advent window displays, it cheered us up a lot to see the decoration and in particular the lights to await Christmas coming.

On a more personal note it was lovely to celebrate Christmas Eve at Church with a service, and a few of us sang carols as people left afterwards.

On Christmas Day John and I were invited to go to the Community Orchard to join with four friends for a champagne toast along with a few nibbles. It was a very cold morning, but sunny, and the forty five minutes we spent there made up a little for the fact that our family couldn't come to be with us the next day. I wish you all a very happy new year and importantly a healthy one.

Thelma Brassington



St Peter's Edward Bear Club

For birth to nursery aged children and mums, dads or carers. We have moved Edward Bear club into the 21st century by holding weekly 'Houseparty' calls. We meet virtually on Wednesday mornings at 10am. If anyone would like to join us at the Edward Bear club when we decide to meet in person again, please let Thelma Brassington (01283 820447) know and she will be in touch when there is any progress.

Eric Carter

Elaine and Hazel would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all the neighbours and friends for the cards and lovely messages received during their recent and sudden bereavement of Eric.

It is of great comfort to us and our families and we send thanks to everyone.

Candlemas

Candlemas falls on 2nd February, half way between the shortest day and the spring equinox. There are several superstitions associated with Candlemas, including the belief that it predicts the weather for the rest of the winter:

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright

Winter will have another fight.

If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain,

Winter won't come again.

(Traditional)

In the United States, there is a another tradition linking 2nd February to the weather. The date is known as Groundhog Day. The groundhog (also known as the woodchuck) is thought to peep out of his winter burrow to assess the weather on that date. If it is a fine day and he can see his own shadow, he pops back indoors for another six week nap. This is taken to mean that there will be severe winter weather for at least another forty days.



But in the Christian church, 2nd February is not just about the weather. This date was called Candlemas because it was when all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. It marks the presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. Jesus was met by Simeon, an old man who had been promised by God that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. When he saw Jesus, Simeon recognised that God had kept His promise. His prayer of thanks refers to the light that Jesus will bring into the world,

Volunteering

It's often said that a crisis brings out the best in people and Marchington Parish is no exception. People are stepping up all over to do their bit. I realise Tiers 3, 4 and lockdown limit social interaction which we all miss, and hopefully there will be a great party when all this is under control. I would like to mention two groups who have done fantastic work recently. Jane's work group undertake tidying up areas like the community orchard, the top of Green Lane (the triangle), and the results are plain to see. They have been gathering rubbish and fallen branches, and clearing areas, which will have a massive impact when spring comes . Shrubs are being planted all over, and they have many ideas to improve the parish.

Another group laid the hedge along side the cricket pitch some three or four years ago and it is only now that this hedge is almost stock proof and will be a great feature for many years to come. This same group started fencing around the culvert that enters the Marchington Brook on the cricket club site, behind the poplar trees. It looks brilliant and once Jane's group plant up that fence line it will be another smashing feature. We intend to continue the fencing in a couple of weeks time.

There are many other examples of people volunteering in our parish and we should endeavour to do more.

This is a beautiful part of the country and a great community to be part of. So, stay safe.

Ian Morgan

Useful Contacts

GAS - gas escapes - 0800 111999

ELECTRICITY supply emergencies - 0800 6783105 or call 105

SOUTH STAFFS WATER supply enquiries - 0800 389 1011

SEVERN TRENT WATER - for sewerage problems 0800 7834444

DOCTORS' SURGERIES - Dove River Practice (Sudbury) 01283 585215; Northgate Surgery (Uttoxeter) 01889 562010; Balance Street (Uttoxeter) 01889 562145

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL Burton on Trent - switchboard 01283 566333

POLICE - non-emergency - 101, or textphone 18001 101

MOBILE LIBRARY - 0300 111 8000

FLOOD INFORMATION <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>

FLOODLINE 0345 988 1188

STAFFORDSHIRE HIGHWAYS Out of hours emergencies 0300 111 8000

The Marchington Buddies

The Buddies were set up after an initiative by the Parish Council in response to the first lockdown in March. The coronavirus crisis meant that vulnerable people needed to shield to prevent infection which meant staying at home. Over 40 people volunteered from the parish to help in any way. We gave volunteers locations in the parish, usually a road or part of one basically, comprising of 15-20 houses. They would be the Buddy for that area and would undertake work for those residents who needed help, such as shopping, prescription collection or perhaps simply a chat. The list of designated volunteers was kept at the Community Shop which would act as a hub. Those volunteers that were not given an area were held in reserve in case people had to drop out. We know the concept worked by feedback received.

The Buddies were reformed during the second lockdown but were not used that much, probably because shielding was not a prerequisite and perhaps people felt a little more confident. Once again lockdown has to all intents and purposes been introduced and the vulnerable are advised to shield. Most of the original buddies stepped up once again and are currently in place, and our community shop has the active list of volunteers.

This activity is happening all over the UK and we are currently involved with Staffordshire County Council and the Staffordshire Parish Councils Association to look at taking it further. There are some great initiatives such as the DoingOurBit small grant scheme which the above government bodies are supporting. They are particularly concerned about tackling loneliness and we are involved to investigate what can be achieved.

For me, the Buddies is a classic example of what "Good" looks like in the face of a massive crisis. I know we will get through this pandemic, at some human cost, but I want you to know that there are a lot of people out there who care very much. Nobody should face this alone.

If you do need any help at this time there are lots of avenues to achieve this - e.g. the shop for the Buddies, the Parish Council or other societies, the churches etc. If anyone has any ideas or indeed wishes to volunteer please contact me, Ian Morgan 07841 363656 or 01283 820528.

Stay safe and look forward to the vaccine bringing this to an end.

MARCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman's Report – February 2021

We are now in the middle of another lockdown with rapidly rising Covid 19 cases including some in Marchington. Life is far from normal but with light at the end of the tunnel with a vaccination programme getting into full stride with some senior Marchington residents already having received their first Covid jabs. We look forward to many more being vaccinated.

Parish Council meetings continue each month via Zoom with a full varied agenda each month.

Jacks Lane Development

It had been hoped that by now the works would have been completed and then a planned re-start on 4th January has been delayed until 13th January to allow more time to inform parents of changes to the school bus route. However, it is now hoped that the works in Jacks Lane will be complete by the first week in February.

Dog and Partridge Application

In December, ESBC rejected the D & P application for a change of use, to convert the public house into a domestic dwelling. During lockdown, the D & P now offers a refreshed menu for take-away meals. I urge you to support this very valuable facility and relax at home with a take-away meal. *[The takeaway menu can be found on pages 18-19 of this magazine - Ed.]*

Marchington and Marchington Woodlands Village Halls

Sadly both the halls are currently closed due to the lockdown restrictions. However, as soon as Covid restrictions allow, the hall trustees are keen for the halls to re-open.

Silver Lane and Forestside Children's Playgrounds

These playgrounds remain open for young children to "let off steam" and give their parents a break from entertaining them at home. However, the adult exercise machines at Silver Lane need to be closed due to current regulations.

Silver Lane

Silver Lane residents have recently been disturbed by very large HGV vehicles attempting to access the Industrial Estate via Silver Lane and then trying to turn round at the blind end of the cul de sac. Marchington PC is seeking to get

additional signage erected at Moreton Lane and Church Lane to dissuade misguided lorry drivers from driving into Silver Lane.

There is also a planning application from Frostfields in Silver Lane for a vehicle storage, sales and repair business which will be discussed by parish councillors.

Public Access on land around HMP Dovegate

Marchington Parish Council had a Zoom meeting with the Dovegate Prison Director Clare Pearson on 16th December 2020 to discuss the recent reports from residents of being told they were not allowed to access the land and two lakes behind the prison. The Prison Director explained that she has needed to tighten security to prevent persons throwing mobile phones and drugs over the prison wall or using drones to do the same. She is employing German Shepherd guard dogs to patrol the perimeter wall to keep such persons away from the prison wall. The Prison Director is concerned about the liability of the guard dogs.

The rules she has now set are that residents, walkers and dog walkers, are welcome to access land to the Left Hand side of the prison ie towards the Turkey Farm and Marchington village. Dog walkers must keep their dogs on leads. Residents are not permitted to access land to the Right Hand side of the prison towards Draycott or to use the prison car park. Dovegate will erect signage indicating the area for public access.

After referring to the agreement document between ESBC and the Prison made in 1999, it would appear that these rules are in line with that agreement.

Thank you to Volunteers

Marchington Parish Council would like to thank volunteer residents Andy & Julia Smith and Justin Kenny for building a fence at the edge of the Cricket Field to prevent walkers falling into the Brook. Thanks should also be extended to residents who have carried out other tidying up works in the village organised by Jane Hilton. All efforts are much appreciated. Who knows, this may improve our chances in a future Best Kept Village Competition! *[See also the article on page 8 - Ed.]*

Andrew C Mann

MARCHINGTON VILLAGE SHOP



We are hoping to keep to our usual hours over this current lockdown, thanks to our managers, Tracy and Penny, assisted by Ellie (Thursday and Sunday mornings) and Georgia (Saturday morning) and to our great team of volunteers.

In February we have a new Monthly wine, 'Folinari', a lovely Valpolicella. Just 12 bottles. Our feature wines were a great success last year, and we always welcome customer feedback on them, please, so we can learn what customers like.

We aim to keep our range as interesting as possible. This January we have delisted 8 wines and are actively looking for new wines to take their place.

And there are some great offers on these delisted wines, while stocks last.

We will be introducing a new shelf display and Julian Blakemore, our resident wine expert, will be helping with the supply of a couple of new wines to sample.

And a seasonal reminder that we have coal, logs and kindling all available for sale.

We now also have fresh bread delivered six days a week (every day except Sunday). And a full range of newspapers and magazines. Plus bacon, sausages and ham supplied by local butcher, JS meats.

All of these can be ordered by phone too, do ring us on 01283 821248, mornings preferred.

Having said that, we are not getting everything that we are ordering from our wholesaler, so are short of a few grocery items at the moment (writing this in the

2nd week of January), my apologies. We hope to get back into full stock as soon as possible.

Looking forward to warmer days and getting out in the summer, we are very much hoping to be able to hold Open Gardens this year, Covid restrictions permitting. Please do let us know if you would like to find out more about opening your own garden for this very popular event. If so, please email Gill on gill.scarlett@hotmail.com.

Finally, there have been quite a few house sales recently, and we like to give a 'Welcome Pack' to anyone new arriving in Marchington or Marchington Woodlands, so if you know of anyone moving in, please let us know in the shop, or by email to info@marchingtonshop.co.uk, thank you

Liz Morgan, Chair, Marchington Community Shop

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MARCHINGTON SHOP

~ FOR THE COMMUNITY, BY THE COMMUNITY ~

www.marchingtonshop.co.uk

phone 821248

Convenience foods, snacks, sweets and drinks, pastries, good range of biscuits and cakes, local eggs and honey, vegetables
Locally baked fresh bread, unique range of cards for all occasions
Parcel collection, dry cleaning service, logs and kindling
PLUS a great selection of wines from around the world.

**Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 8am - 5pm; Friday 8am - 5.30pm;
Saturday 9am - 12 noon; Sundays 9am - 11.15am.**

Michel Chapoutier - Wine Notes



Founded in 1808, Chapoutier is one of France's oldest wine houses. When Michel Chapoutier took over his family's Rhône Valley wine company in 1990 at the age of only 26 he became the owner of many vineyards, including 34 hectares on the hill of Hermitage, one of the best places on the planet to grow Syrah grapes.

He made the bold decision to take all the vineyards biodynamic to improve the quality of the wines. Biodynamism is a form of organic cultivation and shows a deep respect for the rhythms of nature, preventing the use of artificial pesticides and herbicides and using special techniques to preserve the fertility of the soil.

Making red, white and rosé wines from the main Rhône Valley appellations including Hermitage, Crozes-Hermitage, Chateauneuf du Pape and Côtes du Rhône, Michel Chapoutier also produces wines from Provence, Roussillon and the south of France. In addition he has developed wine projects in places such as Alsace, Portugal and Australia.

His wines have been awarded more top 100 point scores by famous US wine critic Robert Parker than any other producer. UK wine guru Jancis Robinson described him as 'one of the most compelling characters in the world of wine'. In 2014, the leading French wine guide Bettane and Desseauve voted him France's 'Wine Man of the Year'.

At whatever quality level he creates wine, Michel Chapoutier makes it as good as possible. Some of his top wines sell at auction for over £2,500 per case and yet he also produces a Southern French wine named after his great-grandfather Marius that sells for under £10.

Marius Red and White wines are now available from the Village Shop at the special price of £8.99.

Marchington Village Hall News - February 2021



Midwinter's night dream

The last few months have flown by in a blur of frenetic activity. All our regular hirers chose Marchington Village Hall to host their Christmas parties and the Hall was never busier. The rule of six was abandoned for the season and in its place, we had the rule of 60. Local celebrity Roy Wood of Wizzard achieved his lifelong wish to sing at Marchington Village Hall and it really was Christmas every day.

New Year's Eve deserves a special mention. So many residents had over-ordered on their Christmas food and drink that we were able to feed the 5000 who turned up at 2am after the pubs closed. We've never hosted an all-nighter before and even the police, alerted by the smoke alarm from the car park fireworks, joined in the conga round the village at midnight.

The Committee has decided to remove all the village hall doors as these are now completely redundant. The hall is to be reclassified as a gazebo to ensure that we can take advantage of mixing in a private garden when that becomes permissible.

Don't forget that when this particular nightmare is over, Marchington Village Hall will be available to hirers **as soon as we're allowed to open**.

We **are** a Covid-safe environment and will be open for business again the very day we are permitted to be.

If you want to book the Hall, call Gill Williamson on 820407 or email marchingtonvillagehallbookings@hotmail.com.

Geraldine Flavell

Marchington Nature notes

The friends of Marchington have been hard at it again, shaping our lovely village. We had a work party of 10 people on a mission recently (under strict social distancing conditions) tidying the top of Green Lane. We cleared debris off the banks, and created habitats there to provide homes and food for creepy crawlies, who are crucial cogs in the ecological machine of living things. From being decomposers, pollinators, pest controllers to soil engineers, they all feed the predators further up the ladder of the food chain. Additionally, we aim to plant 1000 snowdrops in the gaps by the end of Spring.



We have also been labouring on the orchard site, trimming off the lower branches of the larger trees, to let more light onto the fruit trees. Again, we have used the debris to generate more habitats.

Already, there are many vole runs in the un-mown areas of grass. A great source of food for our barn owls.

The hedgehog box looks as though it is occupied and the bug hotel is almost finished.

The daffodils and snowdrops under the fruit trees will be nodding their heads again soon, a sure sign of warm days to come.

Work has started on fencing more of the cricket ground in preparation for planting a natural hedge. This will create a wildlife corridor and soften the overall look of this region. Thank you to the Parish Council for funding this and to the wonderful team led by Ian Morgan for giving so much of their time to this project.

Suggested read
English Pastoral (an inheritance)

By James Rebanks

A wonderful and timely account of one farmer's lifelong effort to do right by his family, his land, his animals and his ecosystem.

And finally, thank you to those who share a passion for this charming village. We are, at present, only working in pairs, but if you would like to join this friendly group later in the year (nice cake, biscuits & hot beverages, to keep spirits up)

contact Janey Hilton.

janey.hilton123@gmail.com

821351





Take Away Menu 01283 820394

info@dogandpartridgemarchington.co.uk

**To allow us to adhere to social distancing regulations
ADVANCE ORDERS ONLY PLEASE**

Available Wednesday to Saturday 5.30pm - 8.30pm

Burgers

8oz Beef Burger, Brioche Bun, Skinny Fries, Salad £9.95

Hunters Chicken Burger, Brioche Bun, Skinny Fries, Salad £9.95

Halloumi and Flat Mushroom Burger, Brioche Bun, Skinny Fries, Salad (V) £8.50

Add Bacon and Cheese £1.00

Mains

Faggots, Mash, Mushy Peas £7.95

Sausage, Mash, Vegetables, Onion Gravy £7.95

Lamb Shank, Buttery Mash, Vegetables, Gravy £11.95

Beef and Stilton Pie, Double Cooked Chips, Vegetables, Gravy £9.95

Chicken Balti, Rice, Naan £9.95

Chickpea, Spinach and Cauliflower Balti, Rice, Naan (V) £9.95

Smoked Five Bean Chilli, Rice (V) £9.50

From the Grill

All served with Skinny Fries, Mushroom Tomato and Onion Rings

8oz Gammon Steak, Egg £10.95

8oz Fillet Steak £19.95

8oz Sirloin Steak £12.95

16 oz Rump Steak £19.95

Mixed Grill, Egg £15.95

Pizza

Create Your Own

Up to 3 Toppings. £9.50 - Up to 4 Toppings £9.95

Peppers, Red Onion, Mushroom, Sweetcorn, Chilli, Goats Cheese, Spicy Beef,
Pepperoni, BBQ Chicken, Ham

From the Chippy

All served with Double Cooked Chips

Beer Battered Haddock £8.95

Fish Cakes £7.95

Battered Sausage 7.95 – Unbattered £6.95

Chicken Mushroom Pie £8.95

Steak and Kidney Pie £8.95

Minced Beef and Onion Pie £8.95

Children's Chippy Menu – All £5.50

All Served with Double Cooked Chips or Skinny Fries

Battered Haddock

Battered Sausage – Unbattered £5.00

Fishcake

Burger with Skinny Fries

Chicken Nugget with Skinny Fries

Add

Curry Sauce, Mushy Peas, Gravy £1.50

Sunday Lunch Takeaway

Available 12 noon -4.00 pm

1 Course £9.95 - 2 Courses £13.95

All served with mashed and roasted potatoes, Yorkshire pudding & vegetables

Roast Staffordshire Silverside of Beef

Roast Staffordshire Pork Loin

Roast Chicken Breast

Lamb Shank - £3 supplement

Beef and Stilton Pie

Steak and Kidney Suet Pudding

Salmon Supreme, Lobster Cream

Vegan Nut Roast (V) (VE)

Smoked Five Bean Chilli, Rice (V) - £9.50

8oz Fillet Steak, Skinny Fries, Mushroom, Tomato, Onion Rings - £19.95

Desserts

Please ask about availability when making your order

Paul would like to thank you all for your continued support.

THINGS TO DO IN THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY

February is the month when the gardener needs to prepare the garden and greenhouse for the coming growing season.

Here are just a few things to concentrate on.

FLOWERING PLANTS

Cut back stems of herbaceous perennials and compost / mulch around the plants. Mulch or compost wherever possible. It is cheaper in the long run if you compost for yourself. Leaves make great compost. Fill black plastic bags with leaves, tie them up and leave for a year. You will have great leaf mould for free.

VEGETABLES and GREENHOUSE

Plan for the vegetable garden, with a seed sowing plan. Chit potatoes in egg boxes. Sow sweet peas in deep pots ready for flowering in July. Sow hardy annuals in seed trays. If you are overwintering patio pot plants in the greenhouse, water regularly but sparingly. Dahlia tubers in compost in the greenhouse should be watered now and then, just to keep some moisture present.

Outside, plan a crop rotation. It is not too late to plant garlic and onion sets.

If you have herbs in the ground or in pots, scrape off the surface compost and add new fresh compost. Incorporate grit into the compost, as most herbs are from the Mediterranean and do not like to have water around their roots for too long.

FRUIT TREES AND BUSHES

Protect early fruit tree or bush blossom from overnight frosts with hessian, netting or fleece. Remove any old, unpicked fruit and remove any wind damaged twigs or branches with sharp secateurs or loppers to make a clean cut.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, GOOD LUCK
AND HAPPY GARDENING.

NICK ADAMSON.

[Nick will be leaving Marchington in February, and we would like to thank him for his regular contribution to Parish News. We will be needing a new gardening expert for the magazine from the May issue onwards - if you are interested please contact us at rhoda.castle@outlook.com]

Uttoxeter Cricket Club Bonus Ball Lottery



We trust that everyone is keeping well in these increasingly challenging times. We are hopeful that an enjoyable season of cricket lies ahead in 2021.

This year, we have launched a new fundraising initiative. Every Saturday, participants have the opportunity to win a cash prize of £40 as part of the National Lottery draw. Members and friends of the club have joined our bonus ball competition where all funds generated will be used to enhance our cricket facilities.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite villagers to join our club lottery. If you would like to find out more, please send an email to Rick Ormiston to express your interest. His email address is: rickuttoxeterjnrc@gmail.com. Any support would be thoroughly appreciated.

James Burton

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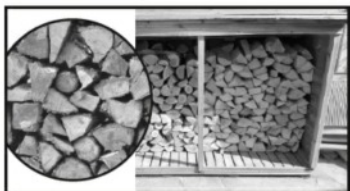
HEART of WOODS

INSPIRED BY LIFE FUELLED BY NATURE

QUALITY KILN DRIED FIREWOOD

with less than 20% moisture content, our quality kiln dried firewood gives you a cleaner, hotter and more efficient burn.

Option 1 - DIRECT-TO-STORE



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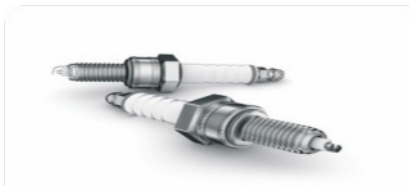
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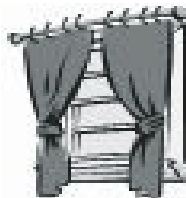
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A New Year for Woodlands WI

Happy New year to everyone, although the greetings may seem a bit late when you read this. However Woodland WI members are always cheerful and looking forward to meeting up again later in 2021.

The December meeting was held via Zoom and Maggie set us a quiz which she assured us was easy! Perhaps I didn't hear the questions correctly, a sign of getting older but we all had a great time and enjoyed catching up with everyone.

Helen, our President, had asked Julie to make each member a Christmas card; it was one to be treasured and I for one felt a kindred link with members I haven't seen for some while. Helen has done a great job ringing every member and having a catch up chat. It has been much appreciated by us all and this seems a good time to say 'Thank you' to her.

Maggie and Helen obviously thought we deserved another go at answering questions in a quiz so a themed one on Names was held for our January meeting. I did better this time so perhaps it was only the punch I was drinking in December that didn't help my memory!

Whilst Woodlands WI are in isolation and hibernation at the moment, The National Federation of WI has been busy with voting taking place in each WI for the Annual Resolution choices. This year we sent our votes in by phone or email and the results will be announced in a couple of months time. National had a difficult choice to make of holding the Annual Meeting in London in April as planned, but has decided to postpone it to early June, still in the Albert Hall. A wise decision.

Staffordshire Federation of WI has held a Zoom Presidents' evening and decided to follow the format by holding one for the Secretaries and then a Treasurers' one in February. They are trying hard to keep us in touch with each other throughout the County and for us to express our opinions and concerns.

We are all taking advantage of our subscription extension at the moment, 3 free months - that can't be bad. So instead of paying in January as usual, we won't have to pay our subscription till April. What a deal! Who knows perhaps by then we can plan meetings where we can actually meet in person.



In the meantime we will keep in touch by Zoom, phone and email, it takes a

lot to let friendships made in the WI wither.

Time to look forward to gardening, spotting snowdrops, catkins and daffodils coming out. Perhaps when you read this you will actually have seen some of them and managed to get out to do a bit of gardening.

Wishing you good gardening and nature watching in our lovely area.

Grace

Marchington Woodlands Village Hall Update



Don't know about you but each time I go to say or write "Happy New Year" to someone I haven't been in contact with for a while, the latest shocking Covid-19 statistics come into my head and it seems wrong to be offering such a cheery greeting, especially not knowing whether they (or their family or close friends) have been impacted by Covid. Still, we are in a new year and we are hoping for better times ahead, so I'm sending you good wishes for a happy, healthy 2021.

"Looking forward to new beginnings" was a New Year's message that resonated with me as being relevant to Woodlands Village Hall. It will indeed be a time for celebration (and relief) when the Village Hall is able to re-open and it will feel like a fresh start. The Committee is very fortunate and pleased to be welcoming a few

additional members to its ranks this year. New Committee members bring different ideas, skills, local knowledge, bags of enthusiasm and much-needed extra pairs of hands!

We have had our first Committee discussion of 2021 via Zoom/conference call and are moving along with projects that were initiated last year, including a replacement door for the entrance porch and updates to the new, dedicated website.

Talking of the website, I should let you know that it is now live at www.mwvh.co.uk. Mick Marrison has also published a mobile site for the same address and says that it should work nicely on mobile phones. If you take a look at the website and have any feedback, please let the Committee know at mwvh@btinternet.com.

In addition to the ongoing work, the Committee is also talking about post-lockdown events. As you will appreciate, planning is difficult at the moment (we have all come to learn that nothing is guaranteed with this pandemic) but our aim is to hold a function for the whole Woodlands community in 2021 when we can celebrate being able to socialise with family and friends once again in our lovely rural surroundings.

If you, too, are taking a positive approach to the coming year and thinking about having a party or looking to organise a new activity, you can go to the new website initially to see photos of the Village Hall venue. Then please get in touch with our Bookings Secretary, Isabel Wilson, who will be able to give you more detail about the Village Hall's facilities and talk you through the hiring process and related information. Isabel's telephone number is 01889 569411.

Please take care,

Karen Perrins

Defibrillator Awareness

The defibrillator at Woodlands Village Hall was installed by AEDdonate (in 2016). It is registered with West Midlands Ambulance Service. AEDdonate maintains up-to-date details of the unit in its records and ensures that the same is held on the ambulance service database.

The status of the defibrillator is checked on a regular basis by Woodlands Village Hall Committee members who look to make sure that the unit (inside the yellow cabinet on the wall that keeps it warm and dry) is showing as being in working order and ready to use.

In the event of an issue with the unit, AEDdonate is contacted and one of the team comes out to check it themselves. If the problem cannot be resolved on-site, AEDdonate provides a loan unit free-of-charge (ensuring that the hall still has a machine) until the hall's own device is functioning normally again and can be returned.

AEDdonate is a national registered charity that was set up in Stone in 2014. It is committed to improving survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and works closely with local communities, residents' associations, businesses and councils to fundraise, purchase, install and register defibrillators for public access. AEDdonate now works pan-UK and raises awareness, knowledge and confidence in the safe use of defibrillators and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation).

Towards the end of last year, AEDdonate ran its first ever defibrillator awareness training session via Zoom. (Normally training would be face-to-face but this was of course suspended due to Covid.) A few residents from in-and-around the Woodlands attended and found the session to be informative in relation to the defibrillator and also to taking action when faced with a sudden cardiac arrest emergency situation. A link to the recording of the Zoom training session can be provided if you are interested. Please email mwvh@btinternet.com to request it.

Three statistics for you.

- 80% of cardiac arrests occur outside of a hospital environment.
- 50% increase in surviving a sudden cardiac arrest with an AED (automated external defibrillator) and CPR.
- 86p per week keeps the defibrillator running at Woodlands Village Hall (costs vary slightly per machine).

If you would like to know more about AEDdonate, its work and current projects, the website address is www.aeddonate.org.uk. They are on social media too – AEDdonate on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

Karen Perrins

Woodlands Village Hall Christmas Festive Decoration & Photo Competition



Overall Winner

Thanks to everyone who showed community spirit and sent in festive decoration photos for Woodlands Village Hall Christmas competition.

It was most enjoyable to see all the entries before dividing them up into indoor and outdoor groups and handing them out for judging.

The Committee is pleased to announce that Heidi and her mum Sophie Clark have taken the honour as overall winner, with the artistic presentation and effort that went into their indoor decoration entry.

Heidi and Sophie received 1st place from the judges in the indoor section and Jo Mellor-Shaw 1st place in the outdoor section. The full results are:-

Indoor – 1st Heidi and Sophie Clark, 2nd Isabel Wilson, 3rd Judy Slaney

Outdoor – 1st Jo Mellor-Shaw, 2nd Roland Lamb, 3rd Ross Backhouse



Congratulations to all participants and especially to Heidi, Sophie and Jo.

Christmas Festive Cheer

How nice it was to have a Christmas tree outside Woodlands Village Hall during the festive season bringing some cheer to passers-by.

Thanks to the Parish Council for awarding the tree and arranging to have it delivered, to Chairman Brian for fixing the tree in place and to Judy and Pete for putting up the lights.

The Committee intends to continue with the custom.

Valentine's Day & Spring Cheer for the Village Hall

Now that the artists out there in the Woodlands have been stirred by the Christmas Decoration and Photo Competition and we are back under lockdown restrictions, are there any youngsters out there who might like to do a drawing or painting of something that is associated with either Valentine's Day or springtime (or both!)?



Not a competition this time but an opportunity to display artwork in the windows of the Village Hall to keep some uplifting cheer going in the Woodlands.

Nothing larger than A4 size, please. Your drawing or painting can be put into the postbox outside the Village Hall and please send an email to the Committee at mwvh@btinternet.com to let them know that it is there.

Let's see how much colour can be added to the Village Hall.

St. John's Church Marchington Woodlands



So, 2020 has been and gone and we have already bid January 2021 farewell.

I hope you were all able to enjoy the festivities and get together with some of your family

We were fortunate to enjoy 2 services in church in December and especially Christmas Day. Many thanks to Rev. Chris Brown for leading that service and to John Bostock for choosing lovely renditions of well-loved carols for us to enjoy without being able to sing. The church looked lovely too. Thanks to all who made that possible. Sadly, just as we looked forward to more services in January, we found ourselves back in lockdown.

Please try to keep contact with friends and neighbours particularly those who are isolated and perhaps don't enjoy the benefits of social media.

The funeral of Mrs Rose Hurst took place at St John's on the Tuesday after Christmas. May she rest in peace.

The PCC will meet at 7pm on February 17th February for the pre-APCM meeting at which the accounts are presented for approval ready to present at the APCM. Notices of the APCM and revision of the electoral roll will appear in the March magazine.

As we are back in lockdown there are no services planned for February in St John's Church. Although worship is permitted by law under lockdown rules the PCC felt that following the guidelines to stay home whenever possible should be followed.

However, I know that many of us gain great solace from being inside our beautiful church. If you would like the chance to do this you can call Linda Beech on 01283 820209 or 07875516635 to book a time of private prayer.

On February 10th and 24th the Church will be open from 12 noon until 1pm for anyone to spend a little time in private prayer or to listen to some hymns.

All the COVID-19 safety measures will be followed to ensure safety.

St. John's Contacts

Priest in charge: Rev. Margaret Sherwin Rector Tel: 01889 560234

Licensed Reader: Maggie Hatchard Tel: 01283 820207

Church Wardens:

Graham Salt, Cherry Tree Cottage, Greaves Lane, Draycott in the Clay

Tel: 01283 821587; mobile 07759 238388; gsalt799@btinternet.com

Linda Beech, Cliff Bungalow, Marchington Cliff, Uttoxeter ST14 8ND

tel:01283 820209 / 07875516635 beechnuts@hotmail.co.uk

Verger: John Bostock, The School House, Marchington Woodlands
tel: 01889 562404

Treasurer: Mike Cleaver, email: macleaver@hotmail.co.uk

PCC members:

John and Pat Bostock, Graham and Pat Salt, Victor Read, Anna Cadamy, Mike Cleaver, Robert Parkes, Linda Beech,

Isabel Wilson: Tel: 01889 569411; email: chrisisalwilson@aol.co.uk

<http://www.marchingtonwoodlandschurch.co.uk/> St. Johns website

For those of you able to access the internet there is a range of services around the area:-

Zoom services are live, so you need to have the link beforehand, but then you can join in via any smart phone, or with a device with the internet and a camera. Contact one of the email address listed below to be included. The programme on Sundays is likely to be;

- 10am hosted by Stramshall, 11am hosted by Tean and Leigh
(Contact jocant124@gmail.com for both),
- 10am hosted by Marchington (contact maggiehatchard@gmail.com)
- 6pm hosted by Uttoxeter (contact lucy.toyn@gmail.com)
- 7pm hosted by Gratwich (1st and 4th Sundays, plus 2nd Sunday at 11.15am
contact revcharles.dale@btinternet.com)
- philip.swan@lichfield.anglican.org Email Philip for links to Monday evening prayer
5pm and Friday morning prayer 9am from St Chads Community

Check for information on St John's website. www.marchingtonwoodlandschurch.co.uk

St Mary's Church Uttoxeter website: <https://www.uttoxetercofe.org>

It's also the chance to try a different church out - Nicky Gumbel (who wrote the Alpha course) at Holy Trinity Brompton, our own bishops via the diocesan website. Links are also on the national website for the Church of England, or on [A Church Near You](#).

Most Sundays BBC1 offer morning worship and Songs of Praise around lunchtime starting between 12noon and 1.30pm - check TV schedules each week.

A few more options in case your diary is rather empty?

Bible Book Club - the Uttoxeter Area of Parishes is starting a monthly Bible Book Club, beginning this month on **Wednesday 20th January at 7.30pm**, and run by Lesley White. It will initially be on ZOOM so if you would like to join in please contact Lesley on uttoxeterareaparish@outlook.com or 07878 561384, and she will send you the link. I encourage you to give it a go! This month we will be looking at Galatians.

Bishop's Certificate (Living Faith) - the Bishop's Certificate is a 25 session group course that explores faith and the Bible. We started a group last January but have not been able to meet since, so rather than skip a year I thought we could put on some catch-ups and then hope to start as a bigger group in September (or even before - let's see). If anyone is interested in trying the BC (Living Faith) course, please get in touch with [Joe Cant](#). The plan would be to do the seven or so catch-ups in June/July, if circumstances allow.

Getting prepared - just because we have restrictions doesn't mean that some training can't happen. There has been some interest in training to take **Home Communion** to people in their own homes and, although that isn't possible at the moment, it might be possible to put on some **Home Communion training** online over the next few months so that people can hit the ground running later in the year. Again, if you are interested just get in touch with Joe.

We pray that you all keep safe and well and continue to look out for one another.

100 club winners in November

1st Mark Leadbetter 2nd Charlotte Birkin 3rd Jean Smith 4th Terry Gadsby

100 club winners in December

1st Emily Beech 2nd Joyce Salmon 3rd Paul Cleaver 4th Rosa Read

SERVICES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, MARCHINGTON IN DECEMBER 2020 & JANUARY 2021

These services will take place if agreed by the PCC and permitted under the Covid restrictions.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Sides-person</i>	<i>Intercessor</i>	<i>Readers</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
7 th February 9.30	Communion	Sheila Jones	Gill Williamson	Tony Butler Maggie Hatchard	Wendy Scott	Gill Williamson
14 th February 9.30	Morning Prayer	Tim Scott	Maggie Hatchard	Liz Morgan Wendy Scott	Rhoda Castle	Maggie Hatchard
21 st February 9.30	Communion	Kath Wood	Liz Morgan	Tim Scott Thelma Brassington	Wendy Scott	
28 th February 9.30	Morning Worship	Valerie Whitehead	Wendy Scott	Rhoda Castle Pat Wilson	Rhoda Castle	
7 th March 9.30	Communion		Thelma Brassington	Ian Jones Amanda Shaw	Amanda Shaw	

If you are unable to carry out your duty, please find a substitute and inform a church warden.