

# Excalibur

THE CAMELOT PARISHES MAGAZINE

CAMELOT PARISHES WEBSITE - <http://camelotparishes.co.uk/>



THIS ISSUE - Message from the Dean of Wells - *see page 9*

Interview with Julia French, Hospital Chaplain - *see page 6*

FEBRUARY 2021

# The Camelot Parishes Ministry Team

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## RECTOR

**Revd Tristram Rae Smith** 01963 440585  
The Rectory, 6 The Close,  
North Cadbury, Yeovil BA22 7DX  
tristramraesmith@gmail.com

## ASSOCIATE PRIEST

**Revd Alison Parris** 07710 539855  
parwych@googlemail.com  
(available Saturday to Monday)

## CURATE

**Revd Dr Anna Creedon**  
Currently on maternity leave

## ASSISTANT PRIEST

**Revd Ron Wood** 441192  
5 The Paddock,  
Galhampton, Yeovil BA22 7AR  
four.posts@btinternet.com

## READER

**George Renwick** 32655

## LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

**Steve Joneleit-Hope** 440683  
**Jenny Le Mesurier** 01747 838054

## SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

**Bethan Bullock** 359066  
bethanbullock@btinternet.com

## THE CAMELOT GROUP COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN - **Belinda Salthouse** 31382  
bjs58@live.co.uk

VICE-CHAIRMAN - **Pam Wood** 441192

TREASURER - **Rob Sage** *see below*

## THE CAMELOT PARISHES OFFICE

*Monday to Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm*

SECRETARY - **Rob Sage** 01749 850934  
6 The Close, North Cadbury, Yeovil, BA22 7DX  
office@camelotparishes.org.uk

## CHURCHWARDENS

### St Michael's, Blackford

Chris Akroyd 440040  
Michael Parry 440075

### St Nicholas, Bratton St Maur

Fran Creffield 07813 063082  
Debbie Garrett 33047

### St Mary's, Compton Pouncefoot

Heather Beadles 440461

### St Nicholas, Holton

Carol Seymour 33680  
Mark Seymour 33680

### St Peter & St Paul, Maperton

Olivia Scott 33826

### St Michael's, North Cadbury

Caroline Joneleit-Hope 440683  
northcadburychurchwardens@gmail.com

### Galhampton Church

*in the parish of North Cadbury*  
Caroline Joneleit-Hope 440683

### St John the Baptist, North Cheriton

Susan Fitzmaurice 824582

### St Thomas à Becket, South Cadbury

Jane Jones 441310  
Leni van Klaveren 440373

### St Mary the Virgin, Yarlinton

Lesley Gillingham 440090

## ORGANISTS & MUSICIANS

**Judy Akroyd**  
**Bethan Bullock**  
**Malcolm Gregory**  
**Clare Leavold**  
**Doreen Martin**  
**Jenny Necker**  
**Martin Russell**  
**Anne Warren**

## EXCALIBUR MAGAZINE

EDITOR - **Rob Sage** *see opposite*

## From the Rectory

The church's year shortly reaches a hinge. From the celebration of Christmas and the season of Epiphany which follows, we begin to prepare for Lent and Easter. And this brings a marked and more austere change of tone. It is the festival of Candlemas shortly to be upon us which marks this hinge.

One of the people whom we remember at Candlemas is Anna. She was a widow for a very long time and had reached the age of 84. And during her long lifetime Anna stays in one place, never leaving the temple day or night. It is a lifestyle of continuous prayer and worship.

We might think that such a confined sphere of operation would result in a very narrow view of life. But not at all. Anna does not simply cope with the constraints within which she lives, she flourishes. She finds deep roots in God and in worship and these deep roots bear fruit in active ministry to others.

She comes to the temple to praise God and she sees the child Jesus. She recognises Him for who He is. Then she speaks about Jesus to all who are faithfully waiting for the fulfilment of God's promises.

Centuries later, in the sixth century, St Benedict reformed monastic life. For him a monk needed to be rooted in a single community. And so a prospective monk had to make a lifelong promise of stability. This meant to stay rooted in and live out a vocation within one particular community.

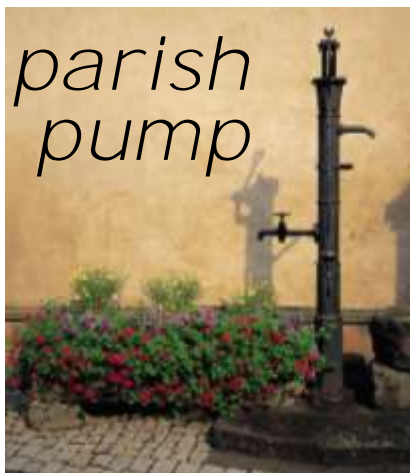


There are obvious parallels between Anna's way of life in the temple, the monastic vow of stability, and the confinements of our own lockdown. And yet we might observe that these people chose their own particular path of service and that this path is not for everyone. We have not chosen lockdown, rather it has been imposed upon us.

On the other hand, regardless of the pandemic, there are many occasions on which we do not control our own circumstances, partly or in full. Sometimes our circumstances suit us and play to our strengths. But on other occasions we are forced to play outside our own preferred role.

And that can be an opportunity for growth. We may find we have a greater sense of our need to seek and rely on God or we may find that we learn more about ourselves and discover hidden gifts and strengths we did not know we had. So what might we be learning in this time and what opportunities can we see for our growth?

*With my love and prayers,  
Tristram*



## Annual Subscriptions

Unfortunately, because of the national lockdown, we have not been able to resume the printing of paper copies of Excalibur for February.

We would normally ask for your annual subscription in February, but given the fact we have not been able to print paper copies for much of 2020 and again at the start of this year we will not be asking for the full subscription this year.

## Church Services

Although public worship is permitted in the current lockdown, all of the Camelot Churches have reluctantly decided that the risk of transmitting the new variant of the coronavirus is too great to continue with services in our churches. Services are likely to remain suspended until the lockdown restrictions begin to be eased.

## Lent in Camelot

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday - Wednesday February 17th. Due to the lockdown there won't be any special

services or events in Camelot this year, but look out for reflections in Cutting Edge Camelot our online magazine.

## Cutting Edge Camelot

Our electronic magazine, Cutting Edge Camelot, will continue for the time being while services are suspended.

Past copies of Cutting Edge Camelot are available on the Cutting Edge Camelot page of the Camelot Parishes website.

If you would like to be included in the email list for Cutting Edge Camelot, please contact Rob Sage (details below) and give us your email address so that you can be added to the list.

## Parishes Secretary/Office

The Parishes Secretary is continuing to work from home and only coming into the Office as necessary. Please make contact by email or telephone if you need administrative help. Please use the e-mail at the bottom of page 2 or, if the Office is unmanned, ring 01749 850934 during office hours.

## Adverts

Please note many of the adverts in the magazine are unchanged from before the lockdown and so not all the services offered may be available under current restrictions.

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Seen on a birthday card:

*Forget about the past,  
you can't change it.  
Forget about the future,  
you can't predict it.  
Forget about the present,  
I didn't buy you one.*

## North Cadbury Church of England Primary School

The school immensely appreciates our prayers and support in this difficult period. Some of us may be wondering whether we can also help in practical ways. The need for all families connected with the school to be able to buy books for use at home is very pressing in this time of home schooling.

So the school would appreciate donations of book tokens or gift vouchers for this purpose. If in the first instance you could send these donations to the Parish Office marking any envelopes 'For the School' they can then be passed on promptly to the school.

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### Truth Encounter

*(Luke 4:1-14, John 17:17, James 4:7)*

*Led by the Spirit  
and tempted by the devil  
he wandered in the wilderness,  
hungry  
and focussed on God,  
and the truth and power of his Word.  
Truth and power enough  
to resist his enemy and ours.  
To go on – armed with the Spirit –  
to give his life,  
to give us life.*

*A lesson in tactics then:  
know the truth,  
submit to God,  
resist the devil  
and our wildernesses will blossom.  
We will bear fruit,  
fruit to be known by  
as his.*

By Daphne Kitching

## A Prayer for the Pandemic

Dear Father God,

You promise to hear us when we come to you in prayer, thank you! We so need your listening ear at this time – and your help, Lord. Winter always brings challenges, but this winter is exceptional as the effects of the pandemic continue. When we are afraid, or lonely, or grieving, or in despair, help us to trust you and to know that you are with us in the middle of it all, sustaining us. You are not social-distancing, you are very, very close, full of love and compassion.

We pray for our National Health Service and ask for your special strength and protection for all staff. Thank you for the skills you have given to scientists all over the world. Thank you for the hope which the vaccines bring. Most of all thank you for the hope which Jesus brings. This earthly life is a whisper in the light of eternity and Jesus is the key to that eternal life. Thank you, Father, for meeting all our needs in Jesus. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



*A parcel for Justin! Now lockdown at home would be more bearable.*

## INTERVIEW - Going where we are called



*Julia French, Lead Chaplain and Head of Spiritual Care at Musgrove Park Hospital Trust, shares an insight into hospital chaplaincy during Covid.*

### **How has Covid affected chaplaincy in your hospitals?**

With our 50 or so volunteers not allowed in, our chaplains went from working office hours plus Sunday mornings to covering twelve-hour days, seven days a week. Overnight on-call was stopped to ensure we all got some uninterrupted sleep.

Visiting is restricted so we support relatives by facilitating phone and video calls. We still try and visit every ward each week and those patients referred to us by staff, family, friends or church communities within 24 hours. Some patients who need a high degree of support we see every day.

### **Do you visit patients with Covid or is it too risky?**

Yes, wearing appropriate PPE which for patients on ventilators means surgical gowns, gloves, FFP3 masks and goggles. We are grateful PPE is available and we are allowed in to see these patients, but it does increase the length of every visit very significantly. To a degree yes it is risky, but we go where we are called.

### **Do you have a message for those with loved ones in hospital?**

Be assured that ward staff are still very much caring for their patients as individuals. Although it is a difficult environment to work in, even more so now than in the first wave, everyone is still focused on putting the patient first.

### **If someone wishes one of the chaplaincy team to visit a patient at Musgrove, how do they get in touch?**

Telephone 01823 342515 (there is an answerphone which is checked several times a day). E-Mail:

[Chaplains.Acute@Somersetft.nhs.uk](mailto:Chaplains.Acute@Somersetft.nhs.uk)

Read more about Julia and hospital chaplaincy during Covid at

[www.bathwells.anglican.org/hospital-chaplain](http://www.bathwells.anglican.org/hospital-chaplain)

## **The Lord's Larder**

Do you know anyone who is short of food? Are you, perhaps?

Help is available, in confidence, from the Lord's Larder - not directly, but by phoning **01935 479398**.

# Camelot People

## ***We give thanks to God for:***

**Leonard Benjamin (Len) Clements**  
(aged 91). Died on 13<sup>th</sup> December  
2020. Funeral at St Nicholas', Bratton  
St Maur on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December.

**Ellen Grace Holly** (aged 97). Died on  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. Funeral Service  
at Yeovil Crematorium on Friday 8<sup>th</sup>  
January.

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*Repentance is ultimate honesty.*

– Dietrich Bonhoeffer

*It is but right that our hearts  
should be on God,  
when the heart of God  
is so much on us.*

– Richard Baxter

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## **CAMELOT VOLUNTEER NETWORK**

The following people have been co-ordinating volunteers in the different villages to help with shopping and delivering food and medical supplies to the elderly and vulnerable and to those who are forced to self-isolate and who are unable to shop for themselves: -

### **North Cadbury and Woolston**

Keri Montague,  
[kerimontague@yahoo.com](mailto:kerimontague@yahoo.com), 07889 678653

### **Galhampton**

Sue Cox, [suecox1634@gmail.com](mailto:suecox1634@gmail.com), 440596

### **Yarlington**

Amanda Ellingworth,  
[a.ellingworth@gmail.com](mailto:a.ellingworth@gmail.com), 07775 755889

### **Bratton Seymour**

Debbie Garrett,  
[dmgarrett22@gmail.com](mailto:dmgarrett22@gmail.com), 33047  
and Fran Creffield, 07854 307864,  
[francreffield@gmail.com](mailto:francreffield@gmail.com)

### **South Cadbury**

Samantha Davey,  
[samanthadavey8985@gmail.com](mailto:samanthadavey8985@gmail.com),  
441382 and 07809 361895

### **Compton Pouncefoot**

Tony Beadles,  
[tonybeadles@me.com](mailto:tonybeadles@me.com), 440461

### **Blackford**

Jane Monk, 440666,  
[jane\\_s\\_monk@hotmail.com](mailto:jane_s_monk@hotmail.com)

### **Holton**

Lisa Prior, [lisaprior63@btinternet.com](mailto:lisaprior63@btinternet.com),  
07773 440147

### **North Cheriton**

Richard Strachan,  
[rcstrachan@btinternet.com](mailto:rcstrachan@btinternet.com), 33231

If you have queries or your village does not appear to be covered could you please contact the overall co-ordinator, Keri Montague.

The clerk of North Cadbury and Yarlington Parish Council, Becky Carter, 240226, [parishclerk@northcadbury.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@northcadbury.org.uk), has also offered to be a hub to co-ordinate any requests for assistance from residents within the Parish Council area.

# Sunday Worship

*All Church services in the Camelot Parishes have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the new variant of the coronavirus.*



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers



## Roger Dodd - A CLEAN SWEEP

Flue Enemist

**01935 813989**



Power Sweeping - Brush & Vacuum - Clean and Efficient

**NACS Member - HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep**

Fully Insured. Certificates Provided.

[acleansweepsouthwest@hotmail.com](mailto:acleansweepsouthwest@hotmail.com)



## DFD KITCHEN & DELI

**New Farm Shop and Deli in Higher Holton!**

Opening Hours Mon - Fri 9.30-3.00pm, Saturday 10-12 noon

**FRESH BREAD, MILK, EGGS, LOCAL PRODUCE,  
RANGE OF OUR DELICIOUS HOME COOKED MEALS  
AND OTHER DELIGHTS FROM OUR DELI**

**TAKE AWAY SERVICE EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT  
(EITHER FISH & CHIPS, CURRY OR PIZZA)**

**FIND US IN HIGH WINDS BUSINESS PARK,  
GIBBET ROAD, HIGHER HOLTON, BA9 8AU**

Tel: 01963361199 mob: 07525667687

Email: [eat@dorsetfinedining.co.uk](mailto:eat@dorsetfinedining.co.uk)





## From the Dean of Wells

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Having heard the announcement about the latest lockdown, I walked over to the Cathedral. I sat at the back and looked up at the Cross in the Nave. A question welled up as I sat: 'what does love require in the cold climate of Covid?', with empty streets, people shut in, schools and businesses closed.

Like many clergy I have a list of people to lift with a phone call or email. Everyone can of course ring neighbours and friends and family. And offer a word, distanced, in the street; a wave to a window; a card through a letterbox.

My neighbour is those I know and care for. But Christ teaches that my neighbour is also on the streets, needy and destitute. Foodbanks and charities need urgent assistance in a cold climate where indifference is not unknown.

It might be quite simple: shopping, love taking us to the supermarket. It might be conversation: love says listen as they pour it all out. It might be a bit more complicated. My neighbour might be disabled – is practical help needed? My neighbour might be held as a slave at a car wash. How do I discreetly ask? When do I alert the Clewer initiative? My neighbour may be gay, does love ask me to affirm or keep a distance? My neighbours may be black. How do I



### *What does love require?*

show my belief that black lives really matter?

Love can be very active in the cold climate of today. But love needs replenishing. Love becomes brittle and bossy if it is given but not received.

Love means that I must be open to others, for they may want to love me and be a neighbour to me by loving me.

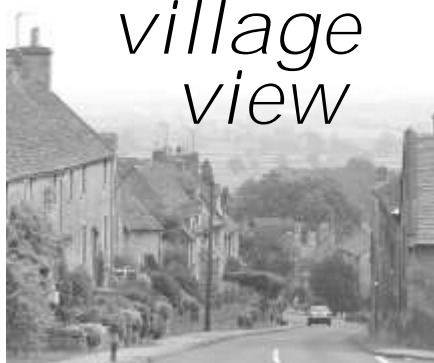
God is love, so in the cold climate of Covid, when community is weakened, let us give and receive love. And the coldness will vanish because love has come to stay.

John Davies  
Dean of Wells

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*Christ's deeds and examples are  
commandments of what we should do.*

– John Wycliffe



# village view

## Blackford

### BOOK CLUB

For details contact 01963 440754.

### FEBRUARY SERVICES

#### AT ST MICHAEL'S

*Church services in St Michael's, Blackford have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## Bratton Seymour

### (Bratton St Maur)

### FEBRUARY SERVICES

#### AT ST NICHOLAS'

*Church services in St Nicholas', Bratton St Maur have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## Compton Pauncefoot

### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S

*Church services in St Mary's, Compton Pauncefoot have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## Galhampton

### VILLAGE HALL

The village hall remains closed until the end of the Lockdown. We wait to see what we are able to do after that date. Updates will be posted on the village website, on the two village noticeboards (next to the hall and in the phone box) and via the village Facebook group and Neighbourhood Watch email list.

The hall is Covid-19 compliant with procedures in place to minimise risk and ensure that all relevant regulations and guidance are followed. A limited number of events were being run before Lockdown 2.0 and we welcome enquiries for bookings for future events once we are able to re-open again. Please note that, to be considered, bookings must be fully compliant with our Covid-19 secure requirements.

### VILLAGE HALL BOOKING

To enquire about booking the village hall please email [booking@galhampton.com](mailto:booking@galhampton.com) or call 07534 919195.

### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT GALHAMPTON CHURCH

*Services in Galhampton Church have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## Holton

### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS'

*Church services in St Nicholas', Holton have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

# Maperton

## FEBRUARY SERVICES AT

### ST PETER & ST PAUL'S

Church services in St Peter & St Paul's, Maperton have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.

## North Cadbury

### FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS

Food banks are running seriously short of donations during the current coronavirus crisis.

So we have organised three locations for food donations in North Cadbury:

- One food donation box is located on the High Street, **opposite the Catash car park entrance.**
- There is another food donation box **halfway down Cary Road** on the right hand side, between the Catash and the school.
- And there is another food donation box at the junction of **Cary Road and The Close.**

### VILLAGE WALKS

Sadly, whilst the current health crisis is upon us, we shall not be holding further walks as a group. Please continue to walk the paths as individuals and keep the growth around them in check! Thank you.

[susan@brookcottage-somerset.co.uk](mailto:susan@brookcottage-somerset.co.uk)

### NORTH CADBURY WOMEN'S GROUP

The North Cadbury Women's Group meetings have been cancelled until further notice. For more information on the Group please contact Pauline Moylan on 440775 or [pmoylan1@gmail.com](mailto:pmoylan1@gmail.com)

## Local Contacts

### CIVIL PARISHES

#### Compton Pauncefoot & Blackford

CHAIRMAN	Jane Monk	440666
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#### North Cadbury & Yarlington

CLERK	Rebecca Carter	240226
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#### South Cadbury

CLERK	Carole Burnett	441142
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### UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

RAINBOWS	Tracey Watson	440059
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BROWNIES	Tracey Watson	440059
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GUIDES	Joy Cross	350936
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### OTHER ORGANISATIONS

#### Blackford

READING ROOM	see advert on page 9
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#### Galhampton

VILLAGE HALL	enquiries	07534 919195
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#### Holton

VILLAGE HALL	Lisa Prior	34821
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#### North Cadbury

ALLOTMENTS	Sam Davey	441382
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BRIDGE CLUB	Nicola Wilson	440642
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#### FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S

Donal O'Neill	441623
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#### GARDENING CLUB

Heather Keys-Toyer	441657
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SCHOOL	Lisa Thompson	440420
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TENNIS CLUB	Steve Ingram	440125
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TODDLERS	Helen Wooldridge	440801
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VILLAGE HALL	Esther Watts	07534 919195
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WOMEN'S GROUP	Pauline Moylan	440775
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#### North Cheriton

VILLAGE HALL	Ron Perry	406355
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WI	Veronica Goodenough	33255
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#### South Cadbury

VILLAGE HALL	Sam Davey	441382
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WI	Julie	220181
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*To update the information on the above list, please contact the Parishes Office.*

## NORTH CADBURY & DISTRICT

### GARDENING CLUB

The new programme for 2021 has already been arranged but will of course remain subject to government guidelines.

Our two gardens (Village Hall and Wildflower) have continued to give us pleasure in this difficult time. No doubt everyone has found solace in gardening this year!

We normally meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall (obviously Covid Restrictions have prevented this). We are always delighted to have new members, so please come along and join us. Non-members and guests are also welcome for a fee of £2.

### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST MICHAEL'S

*Church services in St Michael's, North Cadbury have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## North Cheriton

### FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

*Church services in St John the Baptist, North Cheriton have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## South Cadbury

### SOUTH CADBURY VILLAGE HALL

Although the new lockdown rules mean we cannot re-open the Village Café or Hall at the moment, we do have some good news to tell you about.

#### Playground

The equipment has been repaired and extra woodchip has been spread so the

playground is now fully open again. We send a huge thank-you to Chris Lee and Andrea Maistrello for providing the woodchip. All children are welcome – please make sure they follow the Covid rules.

#### Virtual Bingo

Our Virtual Bingo Hall opens online at **7.00pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January**. If you haven't joined in before, why not have a go this time? It's a bit of fun and lasts just half an hour. Make sure we have your email details at [SCVillageHall@gmail.com](mailto:SCVillageHall@gmail.com) by the Wednesday and we'll send you the Zoom joining details. This month's prizes are a Teals pot-ready meal and a Camelot takeaway Curry or Fish & Chips – thanks to both!

#### Village Quiz

We are looking into holding a remote village quiz and will send more details in due course. In the meantime, **please email us or call Hilda on 01963 440442** if you'd be interested in taking part so we can gauge interest.

#### 150 Club

The lucky winners of our special Christmas draw were: Paul and Mel Farrer (1<sup>st</sup> place, prize of £100); Jenny Fitzgerald, on behalf of Francesca Rathbone (2<sup>nd</sup> place, prize of £60); Stuart and Lyn Hamilton (3<sup>rd</sup> place, prize of £40); and Graeme and Vicky Allen (4<sup>th</sup> place, prize of £25). The final draw for this financial year will take place in March when your membership will be due for renewal. The club has been a major source of funds for our Village Hall and we hope you will continue to support it - **please email us or call Sam on 01963 441382** to let us know.

#### Christmas Lights competition

Thank you to everyone who took part in this competition. There were so many wonderfully-decorated houses across

South Cadbury and the competition was very tough. We ended up with a short-list of ten houses which stood out and, in the end, decided to award prizes to the top three houses: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Ian and Mandy, at 7 Castle View, Chapel Road; 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Damian and Tarnya, at 8 West View, Chapel Road; and 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Clayton and Lisa, at Winterborne, Folly Lane

### **Annual General Meeting**

When we took over running the hall last year, it appeared an AGM hadn't been held for several years. Since Covid-19 struck, the Charity Commission has given permission for AGMs to be delayed or held via zoom at the discretion of the trustees. Our preference is to have a face-to-face meeting when we can so everyone has an equal chance to attend.

Our village hall and playing fields are a **community asset** for you, your family and friends to enjoy. We want to involve as many villagers as possible in decision-making and would like to invite you to consider joining us. We are hugely grateful for the support we have had from villagers over the past year. If you would like to discuss how you could help, or perhaps join the committee, **please give Phil a ring on 01963 441310** – he'll be delighted to hear from you.

### **FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST THOMAS À BECKET**

*Church services in St Thomas à Becket, South Cadbury have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

## **Yarlington**

### **FEBRUARY SERVICES AT ST MARY'S**

*Church services in St Mary's, Yarlington have been suspended for the time being due to the increased risk of transmitting the Covid-19 virus.*

# **Bible Readings**

## **FEBRUARY**

- 1<sup>st</sup>** - Mark 5: 1-20
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** - *Presentation of Christ*  
Luke 2: 22-40
- 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Mark 6: 1-6a
- 4<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 6: 7-13
- 5<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 6: 14-29
- 6<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 6: 30-34
- 7<sup>th</sup>** - **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**  
Colossians 1: 15-20
- 8<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 6: 53-56
- 9<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 7: 1-13
- 10<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 7: 14-23
- 11<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 7: 24-30
- 12<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 7: 31-37
- 13<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 8: 1-10
- 14<sup>th</sup>** - **Sunday next before Lent**  
2 Corinthians 4: 3-6
- 15<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 8: 11-13
- 16<sup>th</sup>** - Mark 8: 14-21
- 17<sup>th</sup>** - **Ash Wednesday**  
John 8: 1-11
- 18<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 9: 22-25
- 19<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew 9: 14-15
- 20<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 5: 27-32
- 21<sup>st</sup>** - **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
1 Peter 3: 18-22
- 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Matthew 25: 31-46
- 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Matthew 6: 7-15
- 24<sup>th</sup>** - Luke 11: 29-32
- 25<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew 7: 7-12
- 26<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew 5: 20-26
- 27<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew 5: 43-48
- 28<sup>th</sup>** - **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
Romans 4: 13-25

# Avian Influenza (Bird Flu): Latest situation

New housing measures will come into force in England, Scotland and Wales on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

[www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-influenza-bird-flu-national-prevention-zone-declared](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-influenza-bird-flu-national-prevention-zone-declared)

The Chief Veterinary Officers for England, Scotland and Wales have agreed to bring in new measures to help protect poultry and captive birds, following a number of cases of avian influenza in both wild and captive birds in the UK.

Whether you keep just a few birds as pets or thousands, from 14<sup>th</sup> December onwards you will be legally required to keep your birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds. We have not taken this decision lightly, but it is the best way to protect your birds from this highly infectious disease.

Poultry and captive bird keepers are advised to be vigilant for any signs of disease in their birds and any wild birds, and seek prompt advice from their vet if they have any concerns. They can help prevent avian flu by maintaining good biosecurity on their premises, including:

- housing or netting all poultry and captive birds;
- cleansing and disinfecting clothing, footwear, equipment and vehicles before and after contact with poultry and captive birds – if practical, use disposable protective clothing;
- reducing the movement of people, vehicles or equipment to and from areas where poultry and captive birds are kept, to minimise contamination from manure, slurry and other products, and using effective vermin control;

- thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting housing at the end of a production cycle;
- keeping fresh disinfectant at the right concentration at all points where people should use it, such as farm entrances and before entering poultry and captive bird housing or enclosures;
- minimising direct and indirect contact between poultry and captive birds and wild birds, including making sure all feed and water is not accessible to wild birds.

## Register your birds

We encourage all keepers to register their birds with us so we can contact you quickly if there is a disease outbreak in your area and you need to take action.

If you have more than 50 birds, you are legally required to register your flock within one month of their arrival at your premises. If you have less than 50 birds, including pet birds, you are still strongly encouraged to register. Find out [how to register your birds](#).

Poultry and captive bird keepers and members of the public should report dead wild birds to the Defra helpline on 03459 33 55 77 (option 7), and keepers should report suspicion of disease to APHA on 03000 200 301. Keepers should familiarise themselves with our [avian flu advice](#).

## Public Health Risks

Public Health England advise the [risk to public health](#) from the H5N8 and H5N2 strains of bird flu is very low.

The Food Standards Agency has said that on the basis of the current scientific evidence, avian influenza poses a very low food safety risk for UK consumers. Properly cooked poultry and poultry products, including eggs, are safe to eat.

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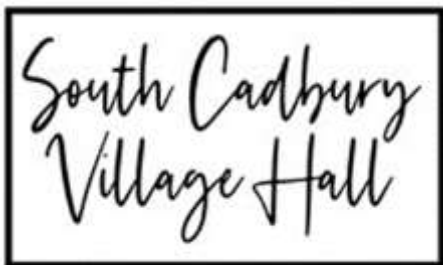
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