

Leam Valley Messenger



Flecknoe



Grandborough



Leamington Hastings



Willoughby

February/March 2019

Rev Anne Hinks, Priest-in-Charge of Leam Valley Benefice
The Vicarage, Willoughby
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A church without a village, would be a lonely thing! A village without a church, would be less attractive. Churches bring a sense of history, spirituality and God's love. For every person has a spiritual side to their being, most obvious in children, who want to ask 'why,' inquisitive about our place in the world. Sadly the spiritual side of our being is diminished in later years, as we grapple with other opinions, and with trouble, illness and loss. And then turn away from God and church.

Yet there are still spiritual experiences – a beautiful sunset, the love of a friend, the sense there must be deeper meaning in life; a sense that there's something more calling to us. We are not just physical beings, or intellectual; the spiritual in us has needs, too.

I know the church as a whole has too often strayed in yesteryear, and not kept up with the understanding, the views and the technology of now. This is something we are putting right. After all, the purpose of the church is to help us grow spiritually, and to enable others to flourish, too. We are learning to love. I believe that there have been fractious moments in the past here, and people have been hurt. Can you let the past be past? I know that may be challenging. If so, I'd be glad to sit down with you and listen. And I mean that. We have lost several people, causing grief, for we miss them.

Christ gives a way of life, where it's possible to receive God's help to learn how to live and to love again, to be reconciled; a way of life where we can learn to thrive in relationships. Learning new ways takes time; yet with growing in the art of forgiveness and being reconciled, there is constant renewal and refreshment. We are growing in understanding. We are still 'work in progress,' but we're getting there with the help of God's inspiring Spirit.

So the churches are important to our villages, not just as beautiful historic buildings, but as a sign to everyone that God is present with us. What we are doing now, in our

churches, is to make the services more attractive and accessible to everyone. For this I would welcome your feedback.

The churches don't exist just for 'church people', but for everyone. So do come – you'd be welcome! These are your churches, and I hope that you will be supported through all the joys and challenges of life here on earth; and grow in the knowledge that you are truly and deeply loved by the one who created you, for ever. Be part of this amazing journey! We're looking forward to seeing you.

With my love and prayers for you all,
Anne, a Villager and Priest for the Leam Valley Churches



Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

Should you wish to discuss or book Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals, please contact Rev Anne Hinks whose contact details are on the front page. If Anne is not available, please contact one of the Churchwardens, noted below, who will pass on your details.

Churchwardens for the Benefice are as follows:

Flecknoe	Andrew Grant	01788 891076	Laura Seago	07980 881545
Grandborough	Peter Johnson	01788 814994;	Pauline Stratton	01788 521123
L'ton Hastings	Brian Cooke	01926 632917;		
Willoughby	Jackie Gibbard	01788 891191;	Karen Nichols	07866 572209

Reader: Dr Alec Parker, 01926 812548
Karen Hatch, 01926 812363

From the Registers

Weddings: Congratulations to **Kate Louise Bailey** and **Stewart Leonard Bell** who were married at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings, on 31st December 2018.

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

Brian Williams whose funeral took place at Willoughby on 14th January

Burial: **Sylvia Toole** whose funeral took place at Broadwell Chapel and was buried at Leamington Hastings on 28th December.

We remember the families of **Annie Holland** of Flecknoe and **Eric Watson** of Wolfhampcote who passed away in January. Our hearts go out to those who mourn.

Church News and Notices

Lent is a time for coming closer to God, and allowing him to enable us to grow spiritually, getting rid of the habits that trip us up, and learning good ones. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday 6th March at 7.30 pm, a meditative service held at Leamington Hastings.

But first, there will be a Songs of Praise/Bible Praise service held at Broadwell Chapel on 12th February at 7.30 pm

Lent /Group Meetings

Wednesday 13 th March 7.30 pm	at Grandborough Chapel
Thursday 21 st March 7.30 pm	at Hillcrest House, CV23 8AU
Wednesday 27 th March 7.30 pm	at Broadwell Chapel
Wednesday 3 rd April 7.30 pm	at Willoughby Village Hall
Tuesday 9 th April 2.30 pm	at Alms House, Leamington Hastings

Lent Lunches (soup and cheese with bread rolls) will be held on:

Wednesday 13th March at Broadwell Chapel from 12 noon to 1.30 pm.
Wednesday 10th April at St Peter's, Grandborough from 12 noon to 1.30 pm.

Palm Sunday 14th April at 10.30 am - A Palm Sunday service will be held at Willoughby Church.

Methodists will gather at 10.30 am at the Shoulder of Mutton car park in Grandborough for a procession, finishing with a service at Grandborough Chapel. All welcome.

Thursday 18th April at 7.30 pm - A **Maundy Thursday** service will be held at Leamington Hastings church.

Good Friday - 19th April from 10.00 to 11.30 am - there will be activities for children at Grandborough church. There will be no walk of witness this year. At 2.00 pm there will be a meditative service in Grandborough Church for one hour.

Healing Services

The next monthly healing services at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Broadwell, will be on Tuesday 19th February, and Tuesday 19th March at 7.30 pm. Holy Communion will be served at the March meeting. Please come and join us and spend some quiet time with God.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate prayer for any reason at all, please advise Anne on 01788 438561 or Karen on 01926 812363 and we will include them in our prayer time.

Mothering Sunday

All churches in the benefice will be holding a service in their church on 29th March. Details will be confirmed nearer the time, with possible flyers being put through the doors.



Flecknoe

Carol Singing

Many thanks to all those who joined our choir to sing round the village on Thursday 20th December. This raised an amazing **£260.54** - thanks to all who gave so generously. We have split this money, giving £160.54 to the St Martin-in-the-Fields Christmas appeal for the homeless and £100 to Hope 4 to help the homeless in Rugby and the Rugby food bank.

BIG Breakfast

We are holding another much celebrated BIG Breakfast on **Saturday 16th February** from 8.30 am to 12.00 noon in Flecknoe Village Hall. Prices are unchanged from last year at £8 for adults and £4 for children. For those who have not come along before, we provide a fully comprehensive breakfast, including fruit juices, cereals, a full cooked breakfast (eggs, bacon, sausages, tomatoes, mushrooms), toast and tea or coffee. This is an excellent opportunity for an outing for all the family. Everyone is welcome.



Grandborough

Farmers' Market

We would like to thank everyone who came along to support our market in December when we had our Silent Auction, Raffle and served complementary mulled wine. We had an excellent turn out and are delighted to announce that the Silent Auction raised the sum of £1,333; the Raffle raised £181; the Church stall with homemade cakes, mince pies and sweets raised £140 and the total for the day, including the café and stallholders' donations amounted to the grand sum of £1,905. Needless to say we were extremely pleased with the outcome and these funds will help towards some refurbishment in the church. **During the year the market raised the total sum of £3,744.**

Our prices in the café have not changed since 2013 and we think it is time for a price increase. Tea, coffee and cakes will now cost £1 each, sausage rolls and bacon rolls will be £1.20. Please note the bacon rolls have come down by 10p!

Our next markets will be held on 7th February and 7th March and we hope you will be able to come along and support us.

Pennies from Heaven

Thank you to the very kind couple who donated a large sum of change, collected over sometime, and donated just before Christmas. This was indeed **Pennies from Heaven** and amounted to the grand sum of £220, for which we are extremely grateful. This now makes our total collected for the year, £555.

Messy Church



On Thursday 7th February, we are looking forward to having the **Pilgrim Puppets** come along and give us a performance of **'The Miracles.'** This will be an excellent way to start the New Year and we hope as many of you as possible will come along and join us. We will be having crafts as usual from 4.30. As soon as the crafts finish at 5.15, we will sit down to tea and

the Puppets will commence their show by 6.00 pm at the latest. This will last approximately 30 minutes. All children should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome.

Church Opening

Our church is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9.00 am until 4.00 pm.

St Peter's is now on Facebook and regular notifications will be sent out regarding any activities or services. You will also be able to link to our web page from there at www.stpetersgrandborough.co.uk.

Condolences

We offer our sincere condolences to Pat Taylour and family on the death of Mike, who sadly passed away on Friday 11th January. His funeral will take place at Rainsbrook Crematorium, Rugby, on Thursday 7th February at 11.00 am.

Women's Institute

On 20th February, Alison Titchmarsh will be telling us about 'Life with Alan.'

On 20th March, Mark Lavery will be telling us about "Blood Bikes" – Riding to save lives.

Our meetings are held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Visitors always welcome.

Methodist Chapel

On Sunday 10th March, when St Peter's will be joining us for our service at the chapel, we have Rev Anne Hinks coming to lead the worship at 6.30 pm.

Palm Sunday - April 14th - We shall be having our usual walk of witness around the village. We start from the pub car park at 10.30 am, stopping on route to sing, say a prayer, or to have a short reading. We finish with a short service in the Chapel. John Kay will be leading this. We hope you can join us.



Leamington Hastings

LH Academy

On the 28th of November, children, staff and Governors from Leamington Hastings Academy attended the centenary service of Thanksgiving for the Diocese of Coventry at Coventry Cathedral. Seventy five schools were in attendance and were able to mark the end of the Cross of Nails pilgrimage in a service involving Bible readings, art, music and drama. It was a very enjoyable experience and as always the children represented the school really well. This is one of several events that we have taken part in over the Autumn term.

We currently have spaces available in school for any families that would like to join us and are now able to offer the 30 hours Nursery funding. Please contact us on 01926 632359 or admin3180@welearn365.com to make an appointment where we would be delighted to show you around our school. Our dedicated staff pride themselves on knowing the children well and bringing out the very best in all of them. We are very interested in developing our links with the local community so please get in touch if you feel you would like to get involved in some way.

Bowls Club

Our sincere condolences from the Leamington Hastings Bowls Club go out to Pat and his family for the untimely passing of Sylvia. Sylvia will be remembered for being such an active part of the club behind the scenes, her excellent bowling skills, her organisational qualities, her generosity, help and knowledge.

Our indoor season continues at the Leamington Hastings Parish Hall every Wednesday from 7.00 pm. There is still time to join in with the indoor short mat bowling and we welcome any age and ability, no special equipment required. We bowl outdoors during April to September every Wednesday from 6.00 pm and anyone who would like to have a go is always welcome.

Willoughby

St Nicholas' Church is slowly recovering with the work on the roof continuing. A leak in the nave led to the discovery of a hole which has been repaired. Time will tell whether that was the only issue there. All guttering and downpipes have been cleared. The repointing of the coping stones is complete although the rendering has to wait for the spring. Once all the external work has been completed then the chancel ceiling will be renewed. This will depend on how much funds are left.

We held a new look Family Service with refreshments and are hoping to continue this through the year. Plans are underway for Mothering Sunday on 31st March at 10.00 am.

23rd February - Coffee morning at Little Shaws, Main Street at 10.00 am.

March - We are hoping for another soup and social. Details to be confirmed.

13th April - A Craft Fair in the church (see Christine Hawkins for details).

May - A garage and table top sale round the village. Details to be confirmed.

A building as old as St Nicholas will always need attention. A village needs a church and a church needs a village if it is to survive. Everyone, including families and children, are welcome at all our services.

We need Friends. People to help tidy up, fundraising or generally support us. The church is here to serve the community and to survive the challenges it is facing it needs help. A big thank you to the individuals who have been helping to keep the churchyard tidy. Please contact any members of the PCC if you can spare any time to help us.

Thursday Club

14th February at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall, Linda Belgrove - First Responders.

21st February 12.30 pm - Pub Lunch at the Sporting Club, Barby.

14th March at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall - AGM. Do let us know if you would like to join the committee, or have suggestions.

21st March 12.30 pm - Pub Lunch - venue to be decided

We are still collecting stamps and foreign and old coins, for Myton Hospice, just bring any to one of our meetings. New members very welcome, ring Jim (the Sec) 891805.

Church Services			
3 rd February	Grandborough Leamington Hastings	9.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Holy Communion
Thursday 7 th February	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church (Pilgrim Puppets)
10 th February	Flecknoe Willoughby Grandborough Chapel	9.00 am 11.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Family Service Evensong
17 th February	Leamington Hastings Grandborough Willoughby	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Holy Communion WtW Evensong
Tuesday 19 th February	C of GS, Broadwell	7.30 pm	Healing Service
24 th February	Flecknoe Willoughby Leamington Hastings	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Breakfast Service Holy Communion Afternoon Worship
3 rd March	Grandborough Leamington Hastings	9.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Holy Communion
Wednesday 6 th March	Leamington Hastings	7.30 pm	Holy Communion Ash Wednesday
Thursday 7 th March	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
10 th March	Flecknoe Willoughby Grandborough Chapel	9.00 am 11.00 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong
17 th March	Leamington Hastings Grandborough Willoughby	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Holy Communion WtW Evensong
Tuesday 19 th March	C of GS Broadwell	7.30 pm	Healing Service Holy Communion
24 th March	Flecknoe Willoughby Leamington Hastings	9.00 am 11.00 am 4.00 pm	Breakfast Service Holy Communion Afternoon Worship
31 st March	Flecknoe Grandborough Willoughby Leamington Hastings	10.00 am 10.00 am 10.00 am 10.30 am	Mothering Sunday
Thursday 4 th April	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
7 th April	Grandborough Leamington Hastings	9.00 am 11.00 am	Holy Communion Holy Communion

Please note the latest date for items to be included in the next Leam Valley Messenger is 15th March. Reports should be sent to: dorothyjohnson@outlook.com