

Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



April 2020

Village Diary

All scheduled village activities are cancelled.

Kingston Village hall is closed until further notice.

Wheelie bin collection dates

Wednesday 1 st April	Black bin
Wednesday 8 th April	Blue bin only
Friday 17 th April	Black bin
Thursday 23 rd April	Blue bin only
Wednesday 29 th April	Black bin

Editorial

At the tail end of last year I wrote an article in this magazine about how 2019 hadn't been much of a year and that I was looking forward to 2020 being much better. I take it all back. 2020 is the pits. Coronavirus has delivered a body blow to all of us and I'm not sure how long it will take us all to recover. Our lovely village might seem like a backwater at times but it seems that nowhere is safe from the ravages of this pandemic. Our lives have been turned on their heads. No church services, no schools, no travel, no meetings, no social interaction; all current activities at the Village Hall are cancelled. However irritating these closures might be, we know in our heart of hearts that the decisions to shut down are ultimately wise ones. But out of so much adversity comes heartening news. The Parish Council is making all the right noises and there are signs of the community – in its isolation – coming together. Community members are offering their services in aid of their neighbours in need. And hopefully this magazine can help to connect us. All I can say is thank you, Kingston!

And as we are all hunkering down, Spring has sprung as the lovely flower arrangement on Field Road (see the cover) attests. Hopefully, life goes on.

Peter Holly pjholly45@gmail.com 01223 264 556

Vicar's Letter

No prizes for guessing what's on my mind as I write this – the same as on everyone's mind: the covid-19 virus and the huge changes in everyone's pattern of life which it has brought.

People in vulnerable groups, and anyone with symptoms which might indicate viral infection, are being asked to self-isolate. All kinds of gatherings are now suspended – from church services to pubs – and we are all urged to keep a physical distance from each other in public.

It's a very different world from the one we're all used to. And yet, the fundamentals of life haven't changed: we still must eat and sleep. The sun still rises and sets. The birds still sing. Spring is still approaching, as the blossom on the trees tells us.

The people who love us still love us. The people who need us, need us even more than before. And the God who loves us is the same as ever: faithful and true.

At this time of year we remember how God self-isolated for us. From the glory of heaven in the presence of the Father and the Holy Spirit, God the Son chose to become human.

God wanted to rescue us from our epidemic of sin, and so came to be one of us. But once he was here, far from isolating himself from infection, Jesus came right into the middle of our human mess and muddle. Far from not touching the infected, he touched the lepers, the outcasts, the unclean. And in the end, human sin killed him, nailing him to a cross, even though he was never infected.

This Easter we once again gratefully celebrate the completion of God's rescue mission to us. Jesus, the baby in the manger we celebrate at Christmas, became the man on the cross we think about on Good Friday. And that man who died on the cross is the one who rose from the dead on Easter Sunday to show that the rescue mission was a success.

Whatever the coming weeks and months bring, nothing is going to change that truth.

Rev. Steve Day

The Coronavirus pandemic and the church in Kingston

With immediate effect and until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have stipulated public worship in Church of England churches throughout the nation has to stop for a season. Our usual pattern of Sunday services must be put on hold.

As and when this advice and guidance changes, we will advise you as soon as possible. For now, we do not know how long this situation will prevail. That said, we have not shut up shop.

a) We have guidance for less frequent gatherings including how we handle weddings, christenings and funerals.

All applicants and enquiries about weddings, christenings and funerals should be directed to our Team Rector, Nigel di Castiglione (01954-267241 and 07770697240, email nigel.dicastiglione@gmail.com).

b) Kingston church is open and the chancel (east end) is accessible every day for you to visit to pray, to reflect and enjoy a place of peace in the heart of the village.

c) As part of the Papworth Team Ministry we are drawing on pastoral resources for people who are vulnerable, isolated and needing the greater levels of support. These structures will dovetail and support the excellent arrangements being put in place for the people of Kingston, c/o the Parochial Church Council. If you know of anyone who you feel would benefit from further support and may have slipped through the net, so to speak, please let the churchwardens, Jack Diggle and Peter Reynolds know (see back page of magazine for contact details).

d) Plans are being put together, to strengthen us spiritually, - pointing people to resources accessible on line, through social media, radio and/or television.

e) The Team is also looking at the feasibility and advisability of holding a number of short services (within the area served by Team churches) in the open air on Easter Day. When details are known we will pass them to you.

For ongoing updates and news about changes to these arrangements relating to the church in Kingston and around the Papworth Team Ministry we encourage as many people in Kingston to go to the Team website www.papworthteamchurches.org and sign up for the regular news bulletins.

CHURCH SERVICES

All Church services have been cancelled indefinitely. The church will, however, continue to be open every day. The church cleaning and flower rotas will also continue, but anyone who wishes to withdraw may, of course, do so. The Annual Church Meetings, which were due to take place on the 26th March were cancelled. For the time being all members and officers of the Parochial Church Council remain in office.

Church cleaning

1 st Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2 nd Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3 rd Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4 th Sunday	Janet Clear
5 th Sunday	Linda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

5 th April	Christine Stone
12 th April EASTER	Christine Allison
19 th April	Janet Clear
26 th April	Miki Ellar

Easter flowers: this year there will be no purchase of Easter lilies nor will there be any special decoration of windows as many of these will be inaccessible because of the work being carried out on the wall paintings – see below.

Church opening and closing rota

30 March – 5 April	Linda Rimmer
6 – 12 April	Keith and Christine Allison
13 – 19 April	Torrie and Linda Smith
20 – 26 April	Peter and Suzy Stokes
27 April – 3 May	Janet Clear

Wall painting conservation

All Saints and St Andrew's is widely known for its wall paintings which are of national importance. The earlier, pre-Reformation murals of the late C13, late C14 and late C15 were all conserved by the Perry Lithgow Partnership in the 1980s and 1990s. After more than two years of planning and grant applications, the Partnership have confirmed that they intend to go ahead with the conservation of the nave arcade wall paintings between the 6th and 26th of April this year. These paintings consist of six black letter text inscriptions in strapwork cartouches with associated decorative motifs. These paintings date to the late C16 or early C17 and have not received any treatment since Prof Tristram's disastrous intervention with wax coatings in 1928: they are now covered in dirt and, in some areas, there is delamination and cracking. It is very much hoped that at least some of the texts may be deciphered: they should add an important, extra post-reformation dimension to the church's history.

If you enter the church during April please take care: the conservators will be working from two scaffold towers. The nave will have all the pews removed and will be, in effect, out of use. It is strongly advised that visitors who are looking for space for private prayer or meditation, should go the chancel at the east end of the church, which will not be affected.

Peter Reynolds

Coronavirus and Kingston

Here is a digest of the implications of the Coronavirus pandemic for the Kingston Community:

- The Village Hall is closed until further notice and all scheduled activities cancelled;
- Green bin collections are suspended (see the announcement below);
- The East-West Rail consultative community meetings have been postponed;
- While there will be no church services, the church remains open. The opening and closing rota of volunteers is contained above;
- Both the Toft Shop (see below) and Knibbs in Bourn are offering food services for local people;
- Peter Stokes has a list of volunteers willing to help out those in need of help in these trying circumstances.
- And, finally, a vital question, WHERE HAVE ALL THE TOILET ROLLS GONE?

News from Local Shops

Two local shops are offering home delivery:

Knibbs Meatsafe, Bourn: offers free home delivery on orders over £25.00. Call them on 01954 713978 or message on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/knibbsmeatsafe/>

Toft Shop: is offering a home delivery scheme for over 70's and other vulnerable people. It works like this:

1. Customer contacts shop by phoning them (01223 262204) or email (info@toftshop.co.uk) with name, address, telephone no. and list of goods needed.
2. They will pack the order up and advise cost, any goods not in stock or if a substitute is available.
3. Deliveries will be made to door of customer by volunteer driver. Any driver over 70 who wishes to pick from shop themselves, can remain in car and shopping will be placed in boot.
4. Payment can be made by:-
 - a) Card payment over phone and receipt included with shopping or they can set up a pre-payment account.
 - b) Cash – prior to delivery, they will contact customer who can pass envelope with cash through letter box to volunteer driver.
 - c) Bank transfer via internet payment direct to Toft Shop using bank account details that they can supply.
 - d) Cheque payment, with an additional £1.50 extra to cover commercial bank cheque charge.

Those who would like to volunteer, please contact the shop and they will take your details. They are intending to set up a WhatsApp group for ease of communication.

White Cottage Bakery: The Underwoods hope to start baking bread for the village again from the end of March. More details to follow.

Peter Stokes

A prayer for children remembering God is with us

Lord God, you are always with me.

You are with me in the day and in the night.

You are with me when I'm happy and when I'm sad.

You are with me when I'm healthy and when I am ill.

You are with me when I am peaceful and when I am worried.

Today I am feeling *(name how you are feeling)* because *(reasons you are feeling this way)*.
Help me to remember that you love me and are with me in everything today. Amen.

Green Bin collections suspended

Green bin collections across Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire will not take place between Monday 23 March and Monday 4 May. The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service, a partnership between Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils, has made the decision in order to support staff and the recycling and waste service as a whole during the Coronavirus outbreak. The suspension of green bin collections will allow crews to concentrate on emptying blue and black bins during the coming weeks. It will also assist with any future staff sickness or self-isolation issues.

As always, residents are being encouraged to waste as little food as possible, so they minimise the amount they need to throw away. For this period only, the advice to residents who do have food waste will be to put it into the black bin. Residents who enjoy spending time in the garden and growing their own food are also being asked to consider home composting as much of their garden waste as possible.

Residents who are subscribed to the additional green bin collection scheme, and therefore pay for more than one green bin to be collected, will see a reduced fee for their permit upon renewal in the October. The bulky waste collection service, which collects large items from residents' homes, will also be suspended during this period.

Head of the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service, Trevor Nicoll, said: "Our priority is to try and maintain a regular waste collection service throughout the difficult months ahead and to do what we can to support the health and wellbeing of all our staff and residents. We're making this change now to make sure we can focus on collecting blue and black bins as normal for as long as we possibly can. Our bin collection crews are trying their very best and deserve all the help we can give them. Suspending green bin collections will take some of this burden off them – they each walk the equivalent of a half marathon every shift. Residents can help by trying their very best to absolutely minimise the amount of food that they are throwing out and trying not to generate garden waste for now. Finally, it would also be a big help to our hardworking crews if residents whose bins don't have much waste inside can wait until it is full before putting it out – if they think they can manage until their next collection."

Double bag black bin waste if suffering symptoms

The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service has also published advice on handling waste if your household is displaying symptoms of Coronavirus.

If you're experiencing the main symptoms - a new, continuous cough and/or a high temperature - please be very careful when disposing of your personal waste (including used tissues and disposable cleaning cloths/wipes) at home. The advice for disposal of this waste is as follows:

1. It should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full
2. The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied
3. It should be kept separate from other waste in a suitable secure place on your property for 72 hours before being placed in the black bin as normal

The principle behind this method is that after 72 hours outside the body, the virus is no longer viable. This approach will help keep bin collection crews as safe as possible. Other household rubbish and recycling should be treated as normal.

If you or anyone in your home is self-isolating or is confirmed as having Coronavirus, Cambridgeshire County Council are politely asking that you do not go to any of their Household Recycling Centres.

Find out more about your local bin collection services at www.cambridge.gov.uk/recycling or www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling

Residents who experience any waste-related difficulties during this period are asked to email waste@scambs.gov.uk or call 03450 450 063. Please note that it may take longer than usual to receive a response as the service adapts to different working practices.

Take in a free concert at home

Wigmore Hall has an array of chamber music concerts free to watch at <https://wigmore-hall.org.uk/wigmore-hall-live/past-live-streams>.

Many other classical venues and organisations are streaming classical music concerts from their archives too. See <https://www.classicfm.com/music-news/live-streamed-classical-music-concerts-coronavirus/> for more information.

A number of artists are also live streaming and offering virtual music concerts online. You can find out more at

<https://www.billboard.com/articles/columns/pop/9335531/coronavirus-quarantine-music-events-online-streams>

Watcha Cocker

I'm feeling pretty good today. Browsing through my human's newsfeed again, I came across an article about the popularity of my breed, Cocker Spaniels. Apparently there's a special dog show called Crufts and Cocker Spaniels have been crowned "Best in Show" more often than any other breed. While there have been 78 winners of the "Best in Show" title over the years (involving 43 winning breeds), Cocker Spaniels have won 7 times, more than any other breed. Six of these victories were achieved by the same breeder, Herbert Lloyd, all taking place between 1930 and 1950. He would have achieved more victories but the Second World War intervened. At that point Lloyd became head trainer of war dogs, who were primarily used for sniffing out mines and other explosives, saving countless lives in the process. This is why cockers are still used by police and border agencies as sniffer dogs.

The best bit of the article is when the question is asked as to why Cocker Spaniels have been so successful. Is it the cocker's winning personality, intelligence or ability to stay calm, the writer asks. They are gentle, affectionate and irresistibly friendly, with ever wagging tails, she says.

These loving, endlessly cheerful dogs are the ultimate all-rounders, as happy cuddling up to you on the sofa as they are charging through brambles. They stick to you like glue, and their loyalty will melt even the coldest of hearts. You'll never be lonely with a working cocker around – or bored.

Originally bred to flush out woodcocks from undergrowth (which is how they got their name), don't be surprised if they make a dive into dense cover. It's in their DNA.

Well that explains a lot. I am loving, loyal and friendly (especially to my humans) and on walks I'm forever tempted to dive into hedges and other dark places, but my human keeps me on the lead and holds me back. What the article doesn't explain, however, is why I can't abide postmen and all other delivery people.

Buddy Holly

A prayer you can use with children when a friend is ill

Dear God, *(name of friend)* is ill.

I'm sad because I miss them.

They must be feeling miserable and lonely as well.

Please be close to them.

Please be with the people who are looking after them.

Please help them to get better and to know that you love them. Amen.

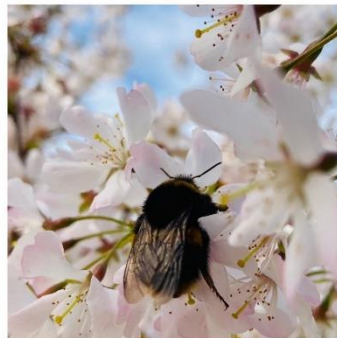
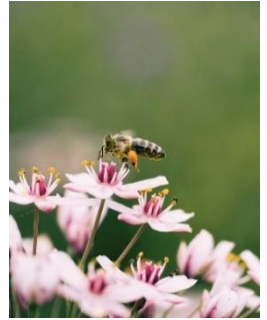
Bee Aware....

Absolutely nothing to do with Corvids or Coronas. Mark and I are both bee keepers, for the first time, we lost our bees 2 years ago. We would like to build up 2 new colonies this summer. There is a lovely colony that live in the church tower, they usually swarm in May or June. If you see a swarm in or around the village, please let us know, if you could leave a message saying, where you saw them, when and if they are on your land, if we may access them. We manage our bees with the view to increasing healthy bee stock for the common good, but if we do harvest honey, you will be sure to receive some. Happy bee hunting.

Lee Steele

01223 264710

07831550189



Busy bees in the garden, pictures by Jacqui and Ian Smith

In these troubled times

One of the gifts of these strange days when much of the world is in crisis, due to the coronavirus pandemic, is seeing how many acts of kindness are springing forth. Local communities are pulling together, serving one another, looking out for the most vulnerable. Thank you.


There seems to be one general exception – the panic buying and ‘hamstering’, typically of foodstuffs and groceries, by some people. It is understandable but, in many instances, it is little more than greed, self-centredness and an abuse of power.

There are people who cannot afford to stockpile even if they wanted to and there are many others who find the idea of stockpiling morally offensive, which it is. If you have been doing it, please stop and see if you can find someone nearby who needs what you have stockpiled excessively; when you find them, give away what they need. Please resist the temptation to sell it and make a profit. Fear is at the root of the worst forms of panic buying. It is an ancient tendency in human beings.










The Bible tells the story how God provided manna for the Israelites as they sojourned for 40 years in a region where otherwise they could not sustain themselves. They were to gather 2 days’ worth only the day before the sabbath; otherwise they were to look daily for the new supply from heaven. They were never disappointed; and those who stockpiled contrary to instruction found what they had secreted away was not fit for purpose the following day.

The Bible’s antidote is that God’s love dispels all fear. We are invited to ask God to make the power of his love tangible and something we feel on the inside as much as through the circumstances we are in.

Christians are to love God first, then love one another as our number two priority. For many of us there has never been a time when these unchanging demands are being put to the test and should be followed (dare I say it) religiously.



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The requirement announced by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York for Church of England churches not to meet for worship services on a Sunday will be a great loss. As with schools closing, we do not know, currently, how long this will last.

In case you wonder, this is not a holiday for clergy – instead (as I explained to my own Mum!) it's a season when we work differently. Please keep abreast of news and other resources for spiritual encouragement we will provide through our Team website: go to www.papworthteamchurches.org.

Keep safe. Help one another if at all possible. Stop stockpiling, please. Turn fears into prayers – taste and see how the Lord is good!

Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector

Register your appliances

Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service is encouraging people to register their appliances for a safer home in 2020.

All you have to do is visit registermyappliance.org.uk, and register large appliances bought in the last 12 years.

Registering your appliances can instantly improve safety in the home. It ensures that householders can be contacted swiftly if a safety repair is ever needed or if an item is recalled by the manufacturer, helping to prevent the risk of fire.

With many households relying on appliances every day to handle essential chores, chill food and cook for their families, this quick task can give you peace of mind.

KINGSTON VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE

- One large and one smaller hall
- Both newly refurbished
- Up to 50 people sitting
- Tables and chairs supplied
- Fully equipped kitchen
- China, glassware and cutlery
- Fridge
- Alcohol licence
- Disabled access and facilities

Hire charges per hour:

Kingston residents: Before 7pm - £5. After 7pm - £7

Non residents: Before 7pm - £10. After 7pm - £13

Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary)

01223 263500 or 0787 999 1068

kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com

Tree-works at The Old Rectory in Kingston

One of the highlights of living at The Old Rectory is the gardens. As you walk about it, you cannot help but feel the footsteps of those that worked it and loved it over many years. There is a reluctance to change much at all and to hold onto the shape that its long history has created. However, there is a point at which to do nothing becomes neglectful. We knew when we took over The Old Rectory that there had been no works done to the trees for at least 12 years and, tree welfare not being our fields of expertise, we knew we required the help of a sensitive arborist to take us through what needed to be done.

We could see that several of the trees were in bad shape, some with dead limbs, wind damaged and some dangerously on the verge of toppling, especially around the ponds where several trees had already fallen into them. Some trees appeared too bunched together and like they had randomly self-planted. The arborist, Stephen, arrived on probably the hottest day of the summer and spent most of the day clipboard in hand working his way around each and every tree, bush and hedge making copious notes. He was clearly the man for the job, even the intense heat of the day didn't quash his enthusiasm for relaying his findings. A few weeks later with his Report and Recommendations in our hands, we packaged our application off to the Tree Officer at SCDC. Eventually, we learned that our application had been approved. We were not surprised because we knew that Stephen knew his stuff and we trusted that he had made a carefully considered case for the recommended tree-works.

We were surprised though that our application had caused some consternation among the villagers. What had seemed logical and necessary to us, suddenly appeared to be to others an act of carelessness. Our clear intention is to support the health and longevity of our trees. Stephen recommended the felling of trees that are either close to end of their natural life, have disease, are dangerous or are affecting the well-being of a close neighbouring tree. We were all particularly keen to preserve the aesthetics of the front garden and sure up the longevity of the most significant trees. Importantly, this phase makes way for the next, which is the new planting scheme. We have already planted some trees down by the ponds, which already look at home.

We realise that as owners, we are really just custodians. We hope to bring the gardens on during the time we are here and very much look forward to doing so. It cannot all happen at once – it takes deep pockets – but it is a pleasure, and not a drain, to try to take care of this wonderful place.

Sarah

Kwirky Korner

Seeing Red

Playing non-league football for Garforth Town against Bridlington Town, Alex Low was sent off within 12 seconds of the start of the game. And that's quite a feat. During the first passage of play, when he committed a heavy foul on one of the opposing players, the referee played the advantage rule (intending to yellow card him later) and allowed play to continue at which point Low came back and heavily fouled again. The ref had no option but to award 2 yellow cards and therefore one red all at the same time. You could say that this was Low's "low" point of the game. Not to be outdone, a player in Spain's second division was sent off twice in the same game. He was sent off the first time for launching a flying kick against one of his opponents but this red card was rescinded and, on returning to the pitch, he became embroiled in a violent altercation with the man he'd kicked in the first place and was shown another red card, all within four minutes. Now we hear that researchers have found that shorter referees are more likely to hand out yellow and red cards than their taller counterparts. They put it down to the "Napoleon Syndrome". But that might be a tall tale.

It's Raining Lizards

In Florida this winter, when temperatures dropped below freezing, iguanas, stunned by the cold, went rigid and fell from the trees, causing problems for passing pedestrians. Once temperatures recovered (it was in the '70s within a day or two), the iguanas quickly regained their composure.

Jude the (Not So) Obscure

Staying in Florida, Jude, a dog with a wonky nose (he was born with his nose askew to one side), was resigned to a life in a shelter. No prospective owners wanted a dog with a lop-sided look. Then Hurricane Dorian hit and all the dogs in the shelter had to be relocated. One couple stepped forward and offered to foster Jude. This experience made them realize that they were dealing with a delightfully cute and loving canine partner and they decided to adopt him, much I'm sure to his utter delight. Now he's the hit of their neighbourhood. Just don't ask how he smells, as some bright spark will say "terrible".

Yippee

After 22 years, Opal Fruits are coming back!

Pumpkin's Patch

In Norwich, at Tesco's, shoppers are used to seeing a six-year old ginger tom named Pumpkin hanging about the place. When his owner who lives nearby is at work, Pumpkin likes to loiter outside the main doors of the store, waiting for a chance to

enter. When an opportunity comes along, he sprints into the shop and likes to end up at a warm place – lying on the screener at the self-service check-out. Although now banned from entering the store, this doesn't seem to deter him. According to his owner, when she gets back from work, she knows where to find him. She goes to Tesco's, beckons to him, and he follows her home for his tea.

No-Go Zone

A dog's owner was meant to travel to Wuhan from her home in Taiwan earlier this year. Fortunately for her, when she returned home one day, she found that her pooch had eaten her passport! Did the dog know where she was headed or did he just fancy a tasty snack?

Be Careful What You Ask For

If you ask Deutsche Bahn, Europe's leading rail organization, for a ticket from Brussels to the Hook of Holland, you might be in for a surprise. You can do this journey using local trains in an hour and a half and it will cost you around £63. According to Deutsche Bahn, however, the journey takes 14 hours and involves going via London (involving a change from St. Pancras to Liverpool Street) and then on to Harwich in time to catch the night ferry to the Hook of Holland. This marathon journey will set you back £200 plus the cost of a berth on the ferry.

The Naked Truth

Louise Redknapp versus Pepper Pig. These were the contestants in a recent court case when the songwriters of Redknapp's big hit "Naked" claimed copyright infringement, arguing that a track from Peppa Pig's recent album Peppa's Party Time was a dead ringer for the original track. The case was settled out of court with the dastardly Peppa Pig people paying up after admitting the naked truth.

Too Many Christmas Treats

According to the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary, on January 3rd an owl was found in a ditch soaked through and unable to fly. When she was dried out flying was still not an option and it was realized that she was way overweight. Apparently, she'd spent the previous couple of weeks gorging on wild mice. According to a spokesperson, "she just massively overindulged, got really plump, and then got caught in a wet spell and was too fat to fly". Put on a strict diet, she was soon returned to the wild.

Oh Roger!

Roger Federer was fined \$3000 for using an audible obscenity at the Australian Open. After being reported by a lines-woman, he was handed a code violation for swearing. When asked after the match, he claimed he had sworn in a mix of languages: "clearly she speaks mixed. Didn't know that. Next time I got to check the (language skills of the) lines-people".

Naughty Rascals

These two delightful news stories prove once-and-for-all that not all dogs are perfectly behaved.

The first story became an internet sensation when Ryker was seen failing all the tests to become a service animal. He was filmed being put through his paces at The Double H Canine Training Academy in Louisville, Kentucky, in 2018. The video shows the playful pup chewing on and then climbing on a wheelchair before dragging it across a room by its wheel. In another scene, he barks at and then bites the bottom of a walking frame, eventually pulling it away from the person using it. He is then seen being held on a lead by someone in a wheelchair before being distracted by a tennis ball and pulling the person out of their seat as he chases after it. In another clip, Ryker is seen pulling on a rope attached to a fridge door. Rather than letting go once it is opened, he begins to pull the entire fridge across the floor. The video is captioned "Every dog has a purpose. Clearly Ryker's purpose is not to be a service dog".

Meanwhile, at this year's Crufts Dog Show, a Carpathian-Mioritic mix (originally from Romania) called Kratu stole the show for all the wrong reasons. Taking part in the rescue and service dogs agility course, he repeated his antics from last year when, after a few lack-lustre jumps, he wandered off course and hid in a tunnel. When he emerged he went to look at the crowd, presumably for their approval and applause. This year, according to reports, he was "still adorably rubbish". This time around he again struggled with the tunnel before grabbing one of the poles he was supposed to be jumping over and, running off with it in his mouth, looked absolutely delighted with himself. As one of the commentators exclaimed, "Excuse me, now that is clearly against the rules. What a rascal, an absolute rascal".

Talking about rascals, it's time to say goodbye to Marnie, the Shih Tzu Internet sensation who had 18 million Instagram followers including many celebrities. Adopted by her owner when 11 years old, she recently died at the ripe old age of 18. She achieved stardom partly because of her long tongue that almost always hung out of her mouth and her slightly tilted head, which vets attributed to an illness called Vestibular Syndrome. Marnie even wrote a book about her life and times in 2015 and her owner has praised her powerful legacy of advocacy for senior dog adoption.

Oops

A driver pulled over in Louisiana in the USA was found to have an expired licence plate from 1997. The Slidell Police Department officer who stopped him was told: "Sorry, officer, I've been busy lately and totally forgot to renew my vehicle registration. I will take care of it as soon as I get home".

Parish Council News

Coronavirus Pandemic – Kingston's Plan: No infections yet in Kingston as I type this, but all communities are encouraged to plan ahead, so the Parish Council discussed and formulated the following plan for providing support if a number of people in Kingston either become infected or for other reasons need to self-isolate. This may be modified or added to in the light of the developing situation:

1. As Parish Clerk and holder of the village-wide email list, I will act as the hub for communications. I have a list of those households not on the emailing list, and where appropriate these will receive a printed note through the letterbox.
2. If infections arrive in Kingston, or a volunteer is needed, I will keep everyone informed by circular emails/letterbox notes. Please let me know if you have the infection in your household and/or are self-isolating.
3. If you are self-isolating and need shopping or other errands carrying out, please let me know and I will find a volunteer to help.
4. If you are willing and able to help as in 3. above, thank you, particularly those who have already volunteered. For the present I am not compiling a list of volunteers. I will look for volunteers as needed, using the email circulation list.
5. Please think of elderly or vulnerable neighbours – they have been advised to self-isolate for their own safety. Ask them for a shopping list next time you go to the supermarket!

Communications: those of you on my emailing list should have received an email from me with the above message. For those who are not, I think I know who you are and hopefully you have received a letter through your letterbox with the text of the email, encouraging you to join the emailing list. To join the list if you are not already on it (or are not sure) please email me at kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com. If you start receiving circular emails from me and don't want them, please let me know and I will delete your details from my list.

East West Rail: the route of the new railway in this area has been decided as somewhere within a broad band passing in a North-West to South-East direction, with the southern edge of the band uncomfortably close to Kingston. The final route within this band has not yet been decided, and the East West Rail Company is now carrying out detailed surveys and other studies in order to decide the final route. There will be consultation at several stages. However please note that the six remaining Community events have been put on hold for the time being in view of the corona virus outbreak.

It has been agreed that for the present, KPC's response to the threat that the chosen route for the new railway could run close to Kingston would be as follows. Further

activity may be agreed when we know more clearly the exact route, which it appears will pass either between Kingston and Toft, or between Toft and Comberton.

- Sue Dagleish has been appointed to be Kingston's Parish Councillor representative at any relevant meetings.
- Kingston will join a 'coalition of parish councils' in the area being organized by Bourn Parish Council to work together for the mutual benefit of the represented parishes.

Paul Wright reports that the Wildlife Trust is pushing for a northern route between Cambourne and Cambridge. There is an opportunity here for people to support this: www.wildlifebcn.org/news/beds-cambs-rail-route-track-protecting-key-wildlife-habitats

See the East West Railway Company website for further information: www.eastwestrail.co.uk.

Playground: You may have noticed an overgrown area in the top left-hand corner. The idea was to let the grass grow long here, to give an area for children to play and find hiding places. In recent years it had become an impenetrable thicket, so needed some management. Volunteers have been at work, and have cut a winding path through the area, hopefully to restore its original purpose. We will try and keep it better maintained in future.

An oak tree, paid for by South Cambs District Council, has been planted, in the top right hand corner, hopefully to be appreciated by our grandchildren and great-grand-children.

Planning

- S0127/20/FL application for 3 wildlife ponds at New Farm, Old Wimpole Road: KPC responded 'support'.
- 20/01142/HFUL application for construction of a garden building at Wychwood, Cranes Lane: KPC responded 'no comment'.

Peter Stokes, Parish Clerk

You can find liturgy and prayer resources at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

as well as on the Team website at www.papworthteamchurches.org

NHS suggestions for gentle home exercises: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/easy-low-impact-exercises/>

Body Coach Joe Wicks is putting on live PE lessons online while kids are off school at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYIRfn6rYQ>

The National Literacy Trust has reading and writing activities, videos, competitions and reading challenges at literacyfamilyzone.org.uk

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NHS advice for looking after your mental health at

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

NHS advice for looking after your body

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/for-your-body/>

NHS free apps

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/apps/>

These include easy, healthy recipes

Cruse Bereavement Care

0808 808 1677 cruse.org.uk

Information and support after a bereavement.

Mind

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

Samaritans

116 123 samaritans.org

jo@samaritans.org

24-hour emotional support for anyone who needs to talk.

Sane

0300 304 7000 sane.org.uk

Emotional support and information for anyone affected by mental health problems.

Citizens Advice

Free, confidential, independent advice, online or by telephone.

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Record Corner

Readers of these columns will know that I'm a sucker for film soundtracks. At the moment I'm deep into watching the PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) series on the Vietnam War on Netflix. As one would expect, the gripping footage is accompanied by brilliant music, which as usual is available on Spotify. But not all of it. The Spotify playlist spans the whole series and does not contain every track from each episode. You can, however, download each track from each specific episode by creating your own personal playlist (the tracks are listed elsewhere on the Internet). The choice of tracks is somewhat varied and unpredictable which adds to the listening pleasure.

And as is the case with many soundtracks the sum is greater than the parts. Synchronicity is the order of the day; while each track has its own importance, the overall effect that has its own magic.

Take, for instance, the tunes covering episodes 1 and 2, historically-speaking the 1950s before the main war breaks out. In order they are: Bob Dylan singing "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall", T-Bone Walker's "Mean Old World", Rosemary Clooney's "Come On-A My House", Miles Davis playing "So What", Bill Doggett's "Honky Tonk (Part 1)", Woody Guthrie's "Dirty Overalls", "Walk Don't Run" by the Ventures, Ben E King's "Stand By Me" and Sam Cooke's version of "Mean Old World". The Dylan track is obligatory and is played hauntingly over the opening credits. The beautiful Sam Cooke song is played over the end credits and is a fitting way to bring episode 2 to a close. The Rosemary Clooney track is a revelation and is so evocative of life in the USA in the 1950s. The Bill Doggett instrumental equally captures the spirit of the '50s and its love of dance crazes like, in this instance,




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the stroll. In fact, Bill Doggett is an interesting character who, like Louis Jordan, Little Willie John and Louis Prima, spanned the transition from swing and jazz music to rock and roll in the 1940s and 1950s. Ben E. King took time off from The Drifters to record the classic “Stand By Me” (immediately recognizable by its opening bars) and the Ventures’ “Walk Don’t Run” takes us right back to the juke boxes and coffee bars of the late ‘50s. The stand-out track, however, is the one by Sam Cooke. I don’t remember having heard it before but I recognized his soaring, almost ethereal voice immediately. His time in gospel music was well spent as his secular music retains the timbre of his earlier more spiritual numbers. This time around he treats the song with a bluesy, jazzy feel but never leaves the confines of rhythm and blues. The point remains, however, that this disparate, most varied group of tracks becomes a whole when joined together and is the perfect accompaniment for the lives and times of those involved in the build-up to the Vietnam War.

Peter Holly

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health
or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.

Cameron Bellm



Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

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Ermine Street North
Papworth Everard
CB23 3UY

Email: papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com

Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

- > The Revd Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector – 07770 697240 - 01954 267241
- > The Revd Stephen Day, Team Vicar - 01954 264226

Protecting Our Birds

Early on Sunday morning (22 March) the sun was shining, the wind had dropped and it was a beautiful, peaceful day, with just wonderful bird song to break the silence. Across the fields we saw lapwings, yellow hammers, partridge and pheasants, among others. As you probably know, these four species all nest on the ground.

There are a lot of walkers around the area while there are restrictions on so many other activities. If you are one of them, and have a dog with you, please spare a thought for the ground nesting birds who, if they are forced from their nests by a loose dog leave their eggs and chicks very vulnerable.

In my youth, lapwings and yellow hammers were a common sight. Now they are rare. Let's make sure we take care of the few we have for us and future generations to enjoy.

Thank you.

Charlie Richmond

The Government Hotline for Universal Credit is 0800 3285644

Book of the Month

“The Young Lions” by Irwin Shaw

At one of last year’s pub nights, David Heath said he was reading “The Young Lions” and asked whether I’d read it. At the time I thought I had but when I got home and looked up my copy I quickly realized that I’d never read it. This error was quickly rectified and I soon realized that I was onto something special.

“The Young Lions” has been hailed as one of the four most important American novels about the Second World War, the others being Norman Mailer’s “The Naked and the Dead”, Herman Wouk’s “The Caine Mutiny” and James Jones’s “From Here to Eternity”. Published in 1948, “The Young Lions” is based on Irwin Shaw’s experiences in the war. Born Irwin Gilbert Shamforoff in the South Bronx, New York City, to Jewish immigrants from Russia, Shaw was well placed to examine anti-Semitism in the American army during the war. And it’s a sad tale of the outright prejudice aimed at Jewish troopers by their fellows. In a 1953 interview, Shaw explained:

What I was trying to do in the Young Lions was to show the world at a certain point in its history, the good and the evil, and as many people as I could crowd into the book struggling through that world, trying to find some reason for trying to stay alive in it.

The three central characters are Christian Diestl, a sympathetic Austrian who is drawn to Nazism and becomes bestialized by it, Noah Ackerman, the American Jew who faces discrimination, and Michael Whitacre, a theatre critic who finds himself at a loose end and, much to his regret, enlists in the army. Both Ackerman and Whitacre display attributes of Shaw himself. While these three men have different wars, inevitably their paths cross with a violent outcome at the book’s denouement.

In the early part of the book, the anti-Semitism directed at Noah Ackerman is described in painful detail, to the point where he has to fight each of his opponents in turn. Bloody and bruised, he emerges with some grudging respect. Christian Diestl starts out as a decent, intelligent, well-meaning individual but, like Germany itself, winds up being totally corrupted, almost bereft of any humanity.

At times painful to read, this is a major study of war and its effects. And as Shaw explains above, it is a study of good and evil, neither side having a monopoly of one or the other. Thank you, David, for the reference. I now encourage others to dig out a copy like I did. It’s a salutary read.

Peter Holly

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- Full page: £10 (£90 for 12 issues)
- Half page: £7 (£70 for 12 issues)
- Quarter page: £5 (£50 for 12 issues)

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Age UK (Information and Advice line)	0800 1696565
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Cambridge Rail Station general inquiries	0845 7484950
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Parish Council Clerk (Peter Stokes)	01223 262207
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