

# WINDCROSS MAGAZINE

The Leaddon Vale Group of Parishes

60pence

May

2020

Covid-19 online edition



*Daffodils at St Edward's, Kempley*

DYMOCK - DONNINGTON - PRESTON - KEMPLEY  
REDMARLEY D'ABITOT - BROMSBERROW  
PAUNTLEY - UPLEADON - OXENHALL

This special online magazine has been created because our printers are unable to source a supply of paper during the lockdown we find ourselves in. An extra advantage of course is the fact that none of the distributors had to leave the house to post it through your letter box.

Unfortunately though, I don't know who normally receives the magazine! I send it via email to the printers and then, as if by magic (aided by a wonderfully dedicated team of distributors), it appears through your doors each month.

But unusual times call for unusual methods. I'm emailing it to everyone I can think of, and I do apologise if I miss you out, and I would ask all of you who receive it to forward it to anyone you can think of. I'm sure that no one will object to receiving it twice.....everyone knows where their delete key is!

Also, as a further act of kindness could I ask you to think of those who do not use email, and perhaps print off a hard copy for them. It will, I'm sure, be much appreciated.

Stay Safe

Terry

## **Dymock Community Support Group**

has been established by Dymock Parish Council to co-ordinate local help and support in the parish. If you, or someone you know, would like any assistance please ring or text

**Arin** (Parish Clerk) on the dedicated  
**Dymock Support Group** number:

**07484 619582**

The types of things we may be able to help with are:

- Picking up shopping and essential supplies
- Arranging collection and delivery of prescriptions
- Dog walking
- A regular chat over the phone

*Please note, we will not enter your house or have direct contact in person.  
We will notify you when supplies will be left on your doorstep.*

If you are living with a long term health condition and have received a letter from the Government requiring you to self-isolate for 12 weeks, please register with The Gloucestershire Help Hub so they can monitor the support you are receiving by visiting:

**[www.goucestershire.gov.uk/helphub](http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/helphub)** or calling **01452 583519**

### **Would You Like to Volunteer?**

We are compiling a list of people who are able assist their local community through this difficult time. If you can help, please get in touch on the number above or email **[dymockpc@outlook.com](mailto:dymockpc@outlook.com)**

Keep up to date with the latest support initiatives by  
signing up to the Parish Council email Newsletter  
Visit **[www.dymockparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.dymockparishcouncil.org.uk)** to subscribe



***Dymock Community Support Group is a  
community group that has been initiated by  
Dymock Parish Council.***



Greetings, friends

Firstly, I'd like to say a big "Thank you" to Terry for putting together and publishing this 'virtual' magazine', which I know will be much appreciated by all. Any and everything that can bring a sense of some kind of normality and community 'togetherness' cannot but help in these strange and, for many, difficult times.

A few rambling thoughts from me..... Every morning when I first wake, I look out of my bedroom window and give thanks to God for the privilege of living in this lovely, peaceful part of his world. Then I spend the next half hour or so reading/saying Morning Prayer and trying not to let my thoughts ramble too much! This morning (Sunday) I found myself thinking about the extraordinary way in which our human emotions can be full of rejoicing and thanksgiving, and of heart-breaking sadness and lament – both at the same time. Today I am so thankful for all the blessings in my own life, but at the same time my heart aches for those whose lives are today so very different: those who grieve the loss of loved ones, those who are themselves ill, those who are so fearful for the future, who are alone, who are homeless, who feel entirely without hope. All this is part of who I am in this moment, and I'm reminded of what the Psalmist said: "What is man, that you are mindful of him? You have made him only a little lower than the angels..." What an amazing thing it is to be human!

This leads me on, of course, to give thanks for all the ways which we can see around us today which illustrate all that is best in human nature. People have time to look at the world around them with fresh eyes, time to spend together with those who share a home, above all, perhaps, time to think and re-evaluate what really matters. As a result we see these manifold instances of communities pulling together to make someone else's life a little better. Dare we hope that the "Me Society" which has been so prevalent so far this century will be permanently changed? Today's readings from scripture focus on God as Shepherd; today we are certainly a scattered flock, but the Shepherd is far from absent, and I believe that his presence is evidenced in all the selfless actions which are happening all around us, whether those people are people of faith or not.

I'll end with some words from St Peter (also part of today's readings):

"And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen." Peter wasn't talking about the coronavirus of course – he was writing to persecuted Christians, but the principal remains the same.

We live in hope!

Blessings

**Jill**

These last few weeks have been a strange and worrying time for the whole world, when we've had to learn new ways of doing things and unlearning many others. We cannot greet friends with a kiss and a hug. If we see them we have to keep our distance. Suddenly, we oldies are having to learn new skills; who would have thought that video calls would become so essential a method of keeping in touch with family and friends. The only drawback before 'going' live is to remember to brush your hair and check your shirt front for clues as to your last meal!

The marvellous April sunshine has been a boon to those of us who are lucky enough to be gardeners: we have never been so prepared. Our cucumbers are already growing small fruit, and the tomato plants have small flowers, indicating their need to be planted into the grow-bags which are lying ready in neat rows in the greenhouse. We have three lots of broad beans, all at different stages, looking good long before the dreaded blackfly arrives. God willing, it augers well for all of our crops.

But the very best thing to come out of these dark times is the love and care shown by neighbours to those around them in need of help. Being the 'wrong side' of seventy makes Eileen and myself, like many others, statistically quite vulnerable to the ravages of the Covid-19 virus that has taken so many loved ones from us. We've had many offers of help, and we thank you all for them. Our shopping has been fetched for us regularly, taking away any worry on that score, allowing us to concentrate on the future when we'll be able to meet up with all of you once again. As Captain Tom told us....."The sun will shine!"

**Terry & Eileen**

### **My Wife the Gardener**

She dug the plot on Monday, the soil was rich and fine,  
She forgot to thaw the dinner, so we went out to dine.

She planted roses Tuesday, she says they are a must,  
They really are quite lovely, but she quite forgot to dust.

On Wednesday it was daisies, they opened up with sun,  
All whites and pinks and yellows, but the laundry wasn't done.

The poppies came on Thursday – a bright and cherry red,  
I guess she really was engrossed, she never made the bed.

It was violets on Friday, in colours she adores,  
It never bothered her at all, all crumbs upon the floors.

I hired a maid on Saturday, my week is now complete,  
My wife can garden all she wants, the house will still be neat!

It's nearly lunchtime Sunday and I cannot find the maid,  
Oh no! I don't believe it! She's out there WITH THE SPADE!

**Anon** (Sent to me by Sue Reeves)

## Services at Home



During the current coronavirus situation, we've gone on-line with daily services produced by members of the Ministry Team and videos for young children produced by our Children and Families Worker, Owen Westall

**For a service every day go to:**

[www.dymockchurch.net](http://www.dymockchurch.net) – then click on 'Service at Home' or 'Video Stories for Children'

**And for a specific Sunday service go to:**

[www.zymology.net](http://www.zymology.net) – click on 'Information about the Leadon Vale Benefice then 'Click to Enter' then 'Service for (date)'

If you follow the suggested times, we can all do it together as a benefice and so remain '*The Body of Christ*'.

**Roger Parker**

## Success

To laugh often and love much;  
to win the respect of intelligent persons  
and the affection of children;  
to earn the approval of honest critics and  
endure the betrayal of false friends;  
to appreciate beauty;  
to find the best in others;  
to give oneself without the slightest  
thought of return;  
to have accomplished a task,  
whether by a healthy child, a rescued soul,  
a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;  
to have played and laughed with enthusiasm  
and sung in exaltation;  
to know that even one life has breathed easier  
because you have lived -  
this is to have succeeded.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson** (sent to me by Jill Bond)

# The Shop

## At Bromsberrow

### Times are Changing!



**Due to the current situation with Covid-19, the new opening times for the Shop are 09.00 – 12.30 everyday and 16.00 – 17.00, Monday to Friday.** Apart from the usual groceries etc, there is a good selection of fruit and vegetables, together with fresh meat from a local supplier.

We have also set up a delivery service for those who are unable to leave their homes and people are asked to ring the shop (01531 650744) between 9.30 and 10.30 to give their order. Payment will be taken over the telephone via card and our aim is to deliver the same day. There is no delivery charge but there is a minimum order value depending on distance from the Shop.

The Shop is currently run by a very small team of people who are working very hard. Our Manager, Marie, is working full-time with help from a selection of new volunteers – this is due to the enforced temporary retirement of the 'old' workforce! We are amazed at how much the Shop is now appreciated and by how much the income has soared!



The 'painting team' has been very busy changing the colours of the Shop and 'The Snug' and they are both looking very fresh with the new look. The Snug is obviously shut at the moment but once we are given the go ahead, we will be open again serving a range of hot and cold drinks, plus snacks.



## Community Benefit

The Shop was set up as a members' organisation and registered in March 2014 as an "Industrial & Provident Society" which suggests more "commercial" than "community".

Since then (August 2014) legislation has been enacted which introduces the concept of a Community Benefit Society or Community Enterprise. This puts community at the heart of what we do and our plan is to complete the necessary paperwork to apply, with the agreement of our members, to

change and become a Community Enterprise. Membership of the Shop (for as little as £1) allows local people to have a say in how the enterprise is run and to benefit from its success. The more members there are the better the help provided. If you are not already a member, please consider joining and actively supporting your Community Hub and ensuring its future. (PFH)



For more information, visit our website:

[www.theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk](http://www.theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk)

**Monica Butler**

## Dymock Parish Council Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of Dymock Parish Council is Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the parish hall, but due to the ongoing coronavirus situation this may need to be postponed or cancelled.

The parish council have been investigating the possibilities, now allowed by law in the present crisis, of holding an online video meeting.

Check the parish council website, [\*\*dymockparishcouncil.org.uk\*\*](http://dymockparishcouncil.org.uk) for any further details.

Any communications can be emailed to the parish clerk, Arin Spencer, at [\*\*dymockpc@outlook.com\*\*](mailto:dymockpc@outlook.com)



# L.O.C.K.D.O.W.N

is a time to:

**L**isten to God's voice and reflect. Let go and Let God.

**O**bey His Word and His teachings.

**C**all on Jesus's name and be Calm.

**K**now that God has a purpose for all of this.

**D**well in His presence. Do not panic.

**O**ffer a prayer for everyone's safety.

**W**ait on the Lord and be patient. This too shall pass.

**N**urture our personal relationship with God.

## The Centenary Glade Dymock Woods



**This beautiful wild flower carpets ancient woodland floors in spring.**

Common Dog-violet has distinctive bluish-purple petals, leafy stems and heart-shaped leaves pictured here on the cleared floor of The Centenary Glade. The daffodils which emerged in the central ride of the Glade at Queens Wood, have now gone over, the white 'windflower' wood anemones followed, and while we wait for our seeding of fine grasses to make a covering sward – there appears a fine blooming of wild dog violets.

This wild flower, although common throughout the UK, is an indicator of ancient woodland habitat and mass germination occurs when a wood is coppiced. The year ahead will see a fabulous succession of biennial plants such as foxglove and dwarf thistle which became evident when clearing the brambles last year. The spurge, mosses and fungi demonstrate what a valuable, established oak woodland we have in our neighbourhood.

'Dog' refers to its lack of scent, as opposed to 'sweet violet'. Dog, like horse, is a common English prefix for distinguishing an inferior species from its superior relative.

It is one of the violet species which is a crucial larval food for some of Britain's most threatened and declining butterflies: pearl-bordered fritillary, small pearl-bordered fritillary, high brown fritillary, silver-washed fritillary and dark green fritillary. The 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. planting by schools of 100 wild service trees in the Spiral Maze have all taken – and there is clear evidence of insects laying eggs on these less common native shrub species which start their second year on the site.

In this period of enforced 'staying local' – we offer a wonderful opportunity to get actively involved on a day in May. We need to record a survey along the site of all the plant species. No experience necessary, and actually a phone App is available so you don't even need to look-up the species names!

Ten people for half a day would nail this base data before the task is forgotten. Please. As it happens the team needs to scan the transect at 3m distance apart – which is handy in these circumstances.

Contact Chris at [dyfradaffs@gn.apc.org](mailto:dyfradaffs@gn.apc.org) 01531 890332 ansfone.

## **No Mow May**

**DyFRA is urging you lawn lovers to leave their mowers in the shed for May and let their grass grow!**

Plantlife (an advisor at The Centenary Glade with our partners Forestry England) – collates the national picture, and we now ask that all lawn 'managers', even in these rural areas could help support the wildlife – particularly bees and butterflies, to allow the wild sources of nectar to flower and seed.

Our much-cosseted green lawns could transform into a patchwork of mini meadows of daisies, dandelions and buttercups buzzing with nature. On the 25<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> May there will be a national survey inviting everyone to count the flowers in a random square in their lawn. The results of last year are due in the press on May 1<sup>st</sup> so look out for the details for this year's campaign.

Although this might be seen as a village based campaign – it is essential to mirror and augment the grander scale of action at The Glade, Queens Wood.

Kempley and recently Dymock parish councils have recognised their statutory responsibilities to conserving the biodiversity management within the Golden Triangle area: The verges campaigns are evidently successful with the sequential flowering of daffodils along the village roads, followed by significant groups of cowslips. In Kempley, Saint Edward's churchyard (not the graveyard



area) is in its fourth year of sensitive management of grassland species. Kempley Green has struggled to establish its daffodil population behind the Centenary Stone, beyond the tidy mowed road edge.

To this end – and to make a significant collective effort – we ask everyone to ‘set-aside’ say 15% of their lawns to a NO MOW in MAY regime – and perhaps then take part in the national survey at the end of May. ([www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts/](http://www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts/)).

DYFRA has a motorised strimmer (*The Basil Brushcutter*) to help bring the sward back down in July if needed (volunteers again!)

We may have restrictions to movement and congregation, but the asset of our countryside that locals have conserved these 50 years and more, will help see us through – and we still have the threat of climate change impacts to address, head-on and in this same spirit of care and consideration for the common good.

During the survey weeks, simply throw a ball onto your lawn to find a random spot, mark out a 1-metre square quadrat (we explain how), and then count the number of open flowers you find. If you have a large lawn, you can count several metre-square quadrats. Then enter your results on our website and we’ll give you your **Personal Nectar Score** showing you how much nectar your lawn is producing and how many bees it is supporting. You can do the survey on your mown lawn, or on areas of long grass you might have left unmown to grow as a mini-meadow.

**Chris Bligh** DyFRA programme director.

## Peach & Strawberry Flan

### Ingredients

1 large ready-made sponge flan

Tin sliced peaches

A quarter of a pint of double cream plus extra for decoration

1 tablespoon of cornflour

2 tablespoons of caster sugar

Chop the peaches very fine and then boil them up in their juice with the cream, cornflour and sugar until the mixture thickens (it may be necessary to add a little more cornflour)

Pour onto the sponge base and allow to cool

When cool, decorate with fresh strawberries and whipped cream

**Jenny Thick**



## Local Suppliers List

**Windcross Dairies** - 07719 493628 - **milk** in glass bottles.

**Little Marcle Farm Shop** - 07970 296153 - fresh organic veg, order by phone or online for delivery on Wednesdays.

**Andy Creese Butchers** - 01531 820209 - taking telephone orders, free delivery for orders of £25 or more.

**Moody Cow Pub** - 01989 780470 - takeaways delivered locally.

**Forest Bakehouse** - Open Wed-Fri 10am - 3pm and Sat 10am - 2pm, contactless payment only.

**Stephen Bull** - 07768 780543 - stephenbull2016@btinternet.com - delivery possible depending on distance. Large tarts £28, medium £20.

**Hillbrooks Ice Cream** - 01989 780745 - call ahead to order. Cash only or BACS before collection.

**Newent Friday Market** - newentfridaymarket@gmail.com - delivery Friday mornings of most produce available at the Newent Friday Market. Access their facebook page for further details.

**Kilcot Pig Sausages** available from Gorsley Community Shop.

**Sandford Farm Eggs** available from Gorsley Community Shop or Castrees Nursery, Bromsash.

**Bentleys Fruit Farm Shop** - full range of juices available.

**Three Choirs Wine** –Wine delivered locally - 01531 890223 – [info@threechoirs.com](mailto:info@threechoirs.com)

**The Beauchamp Arms** – take away service on Wednesday/Friday evenings & Sunday lunchtime – 01531 890266 – Advance orders only.

# Joyce Fishpool

## Mount Pleasant, Kempley



Kevin Fishpool, and his brother Adrian, announce the sad news that their mother Joyce passed away yesterday, 15th April. Her husband John has been unwell with dementia for about a year and she was reluctant to leave him for her own treatment. She was admitted to hospital on Monday evening (for reasons not related to Covid-19).

Joyce, née Bullock, had lived at Mount Pleasant for the last 61 years, ever since her marriage to John, who was born in Fishpool, brought her to live here from the village of Longhope.

She was a very active member of our community,

working on the Village Hall committees, and in particular was a stalwart member of the congregation at St. Edward's Church. Given the current lockdown circumstance it is unknown what the funeral arrangements will be, but be assured that there will be a memorial occasion at St Edward's and in the Hall in the fullness of time.

Kevin thanks you for your condolences, and he will pass them on to his father and brother who is in lockdown.

**Kevin Fishpool 07779 167005**

# **St John the Evangelist's Church, Pauntley**

## **An Update from the PCC**

As I write this, the lockdown looks set for another 3 weeks at least, so we have no idea when Church services will resume, summer weddings have had to be postponed till next year, and the Church itself has been locked following a Government directive: a painful thing to have to do when we are all in such need of prayer and contemplation.

We are all trying to look forward with optimism, despite life's present worries and stress, and while we cannot hold services in the Church - or even in the Churchyard, as we'd previously hoped - we can plan for the future.

At Pauntley the Church has an idyllic situation but it is a very long way from any facilities and the absence of a lavatory has long been a problem. Now, thanks to a bequest from a member of the Whittington family, we are in a position to change this.

In February - remember those endless, miserable, wet days? - Pauntley's PCC visited four Churches in the Cotswolds to see how they have solved the problems associated with putting modern facilities in an ancient (Grade I listed) building.

For Pauntley the most practical solution appears to be a separate, timber framed building – hopefully echoing the style of the porch - to house the loo, with a small 'servery' (rather than a full kitchen) in the Tower, and obviously both these must be done in the least obtrusive way.

Needless to say we are a long way from this becoming a reality, and there will be many hoops to jump through before the spade hits the soil (sorry!) but we have made a start. Later in the summer we plan to have a display in the Church showing what is possible, and also outlining the 'God's Acre' initiative to re-wild part of the Churchyard - already the wild daffodils planted by the children from Pauntley School are thriving this year, as those who use the Churchyard for quiet contemplation will have noticed.

*"The PCC of St John the Evangelist, Pauntley, greatly regret the temporary closure of the Church during the present 'lockdown' .*

*This was done in accordance with the Prime Minister's announcement on 23rd March.*

*The decision was not made by the PCC, nor by the Church of England.*

*As soon as access is permitted the Church will re-open. "*

*In the meantime, we can only pray for each other and hope for better times.*

**Sue Bartlett**

Pauntley PCC Secretary

## Pauntley Churchyard Mowing Rota



The timing of the Coronavirus crisis has meant that we have not sent out any Mowing Rota this spring.

As he lives close by, Kevin Rycroft has kindly offered to take responsibility for keeping the grass tidy during the shutdown.

Luckily, his task is a little easier than normal thanks to the 'Gods Acre' re-wilding scheme which means that the area to the left of the gate, as you enter the churchyard, is being left uncut to allow the snowdrops and wild daffodils to set seed and so that we can see which wildflowers come up when they are allowed to.

Once the shutdown is over, we will send out a new Rota and hope that you will all, once again, help with the mowing: your efforts are always very much appreciated.

On behalf of the PCC of St John the Evangelist Church, Pauntley

**Sue Bartlett**



# **St Anne's Church Oxenhall**

## **Sunday Services**

Although Churches are closed you can join with the other congregations in the Benefice by worshiping in your own home. An order of service is being produced each week, so if you would like a copy please contact Lizzie James, or you can access a version on the Leadon Vale Website which includes Hymns and Music which can be played from the service by a single click

## **Magazines**

We apologise to anyone who did not receive a magazine in April. As we are all staying at home to help the NHS and save lives, and the magazine distributors are all over 70, we are not distributing magazines in the usual way. Thank you to everyone who responded to our emails and phone calls to assist in the distribution.

## **Drop in for Coffee**

As we are unable to meet at the moment you might like to sit down with a cup of coffee on the first Thursday of the month and telephone someone you would have met there for a chat. In fact, why not do it every Thursday while we are all social distancing

## **Support during the coronavirus epidemic.**

John Teire is co-ordinating information in Oxenhall Parish on who might need assistance. Information on volunteering or for requesting assistance being co-ordinated by the Gloucestershire Community Hub can be found on this website

[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershires-community-help-hub/](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershires-community-help-hub/)

## **PCC Finances**

In common with other parishes our finances are being severely adversely affected by the coronavirus shutdown. Moreover it is something of a perfect storm for us as in addition to the cancellation of all church services meaning no income from the collection plate, and cancellation of all fund raising events including our main one - daffodil weekend, we are faced with increased costs including parish share which has gone up by 16%, and with potential substantial costs arising from quinquennial inspection report maintenance recommendations.

In the short term we would very much appreciate 'collection plate' payments being made directly to Oxenhall PCC bank account either by cheque or bank transfer using sort code 30-93-48 and account number 02987448.

For those of you who make regular tax efficient donations either by gift aid envelopes or standing order, we would like to give you the option of joining the Parish Giving Scheme which will enable gift aid refunds to be received on a

monthly basis from the diocese instead of a single payment from HMRC at year end, thus helping our cash flow a little. There will be further information about this next month.

Kath has found this poem which we hope might make you smile.

## **Sometimes God**

Sometimes when I'm in trouble,  
Like if Gary Hubble  
And his gang  
Are going to get me and beat me up,  
Or I'm outside Mr. Baggot's door  
Waiting to have the slipper for pouring  
Paint water in Glenis Parker's shoe,  
This is what I do:  
I ask for help from God.

Get me out of this, God,  
I say. I'll behave myself, then-Every day.

Sometimes when I'm really  
Scared like once when I nearly  
Got bit by this horse  
Or the other  
Week when Russell Tucker's brother  
Was going to beat me up  
For throwing Russell Tucker's PE bag  
On the boiler-house roof, or Roy  
And me got caught in the toilets  
By Mr. Baggott turning all the taps on  
And he said,  
I've had enough of boys like you,  
This is what I do:  
I ask for help from God.

Stop this happening, God,  
I say.  
I'll believe in You then-Every day.

And it works....sometimes.

**Allan Ahlberg-*Please Mrs Butler***

**Richard Chamberlain**

## Rogation Tide



Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce our food.

Traditionally a common feature of Rogation days was the ceremony of beating the bounds, in which a procession of parishioners, led by the minister and churchwardens walked around the boundary of the parish praying for its protection in the coming year. In May 2019 some of us from St Anne's did a Rogation walk from the Ladder works, via the canal to the church along a section of the parish boundary singing and giving thanks for the animals and crops.

We also tried to grow Sweet Corn for the Harvest Festival but few of us succeeded. This year while many of us have more time to spend gardening let us all try and grow something to bring to the Harvest, it might be a marrow, beans, tomatoes, flowers, corn grown from bird seed, whatever we have to hand

This war time harvesting picture was taken in this area so perhaps you might recognize someone. The only ones I know are Margaret Burlow and Kathleen James.

**Lizzie James**

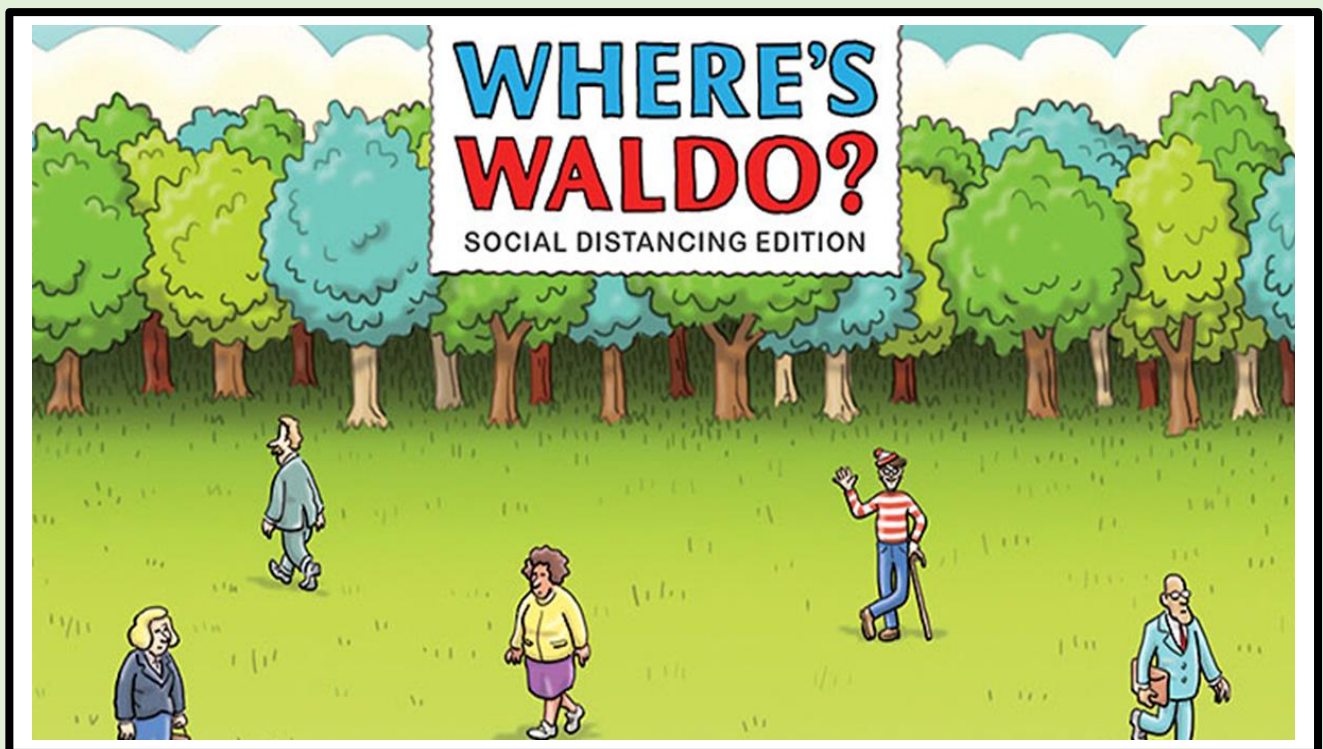
## **Pam Ares' View on our Lock-Down**

I'm normally a social girl  
I love to meet my mates  
But lately with the virus here  
We can't go out the gates.  
You see, we are the 'oldies' now  
We need to stay inside  
If they haven't seen us for a while  
They'll think we've upped and died.  
They'll never know the things we did  
Before we got this old  
There wasn't any Facebook  
So not everything was told.  
We may seem sweet old ladies  
Who would never be uncouth  
But we grew up in the 60s -  
If you only knew the truth!  
There was sex and drugs and rock 'n roll  
The pill and miniskirts  
We smoked, we drank, we partied  
And were quite outrageous flirts.  
Then we settled down, got married  
And turned into someone's mum,  
Somebody's wife, then nana,  
Who on earth did we become?  
We didn't mind the change of pace  
Because our lives were full  
But to bury us before we're dead  
Is like a red rag to a bull!  
So here you find me stuck inside  
For 4 weeks, maybe more  
I finally found myself again  
Then I had to close the door!  
It didn't really bother me  
I'd while away the hour  
I'd bake for all the family  
But I've got no flaming flour!  
Now Netflix is just wonderful  
I like a gutsy thriller  
I'm swooning over Idris  
Or some random sexy killer.



At least I've got a stash of booze  
For when I'm being idle  
There's wine and whiskey, even gin  
If I'm feeling suicidal!  
So let's all drink to lockdown  
To recovery and health  
And hope this awful virus  
Doesn't decimate our wealth.  
We'll all get through the crisis  
And be back to join our mates  
Just hoping I'm not far too wide  
To fit through the flaming gates

**Pam Ayres**



I refuse to endure months of expensive humiliation from a psychoanalyst only to be told that at the age of four I was in love with my rocking horse.

**Noel Coward**



## March & April's 50 Club Draws

The March KVHT 50 Club Draw was drawn using a Random Number Generator on the 28th March 2020. The April KVHT 50 Club Draw was drawn, also using the Random Number Generator, on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The **March** winners are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	15	£25.00	M. Edwards
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	71	£15.00	J. Osmond
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	54	£10.00	L. Daykin

The **April** winners are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	33	£25.00	M. Evans
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	22	£15.00	M. Jarvis
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	56	£10.00	S. Anstey

The May Draw will be the first Draw of the 20/21 year and will take place on the 23rd May 2020. Subscriptions for the new year are now due and should be paid prior to this date for eligibility.

If you would like to join the 50 Club please contact me by e-mail at [geraldinerees17@gmail.com](mailto:geraldinerees17@gmail.com)

KVHT wish to thank members for their continued support of the 50 Club.

[www.kempleyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.kempleyvillagehall.org.uk)

**Geraldine Rees**



## Nesting at Home

The Golden Triangle villages have a 1000 years of recorded history in this magic landscape area.

Throughout that 1000 years it is the sense of a self-sufficient community that has sustained it through many struggles. As witness of that spirit it has created arguably the best village market there is. A market that not only sells local produce but is the place where all can come and socialise over coffee and cakes. And now in these locked down times, it has formed the hub of a supply network to all the isolated members of the community.

Similarly it is the villagers who have marked, protected and maintained one of the best footpath networks in the country – and now a solace for our recreation.

Covid-19 denied us the joy of our annual Daffodil Weekend when normally 5,000 plus visitors would come to walk and wonder in the paths and woods, the revenue helping to sustain our churches and the village hall. Were we downhearted? Saddened, yes, but as ever the community rose to the occasion and we will endure.

A photo competition last month entitled “Nesting at Home” generated a huge response and produced images to inspire, amuse and contemplate what is good in our society. It forms a significant standalone exhibition of more than 40 images recording ‘*Nesting at Home - Easter 2020*’

### Dinosaur’s Nest





Of the three categories (which included: *Over 70s* and *Surreal* and *Underlying Artistic Condition*) it was the *Under 15s* that produced this fantastic image, generated entirely at home under lockdown “The Dinosaur’s Nest” was created by Victoria Spencer (aged 5) of Kempley (daughter of ‘3parishesClerk’ Arin)

See all 4 “Kempley Competitions” albums at <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmMx7pWM>

### Portfolio Winners

The overall winners were Chrissie Bentley and her niece Sophie-the-Eggstand, who are currently locked down at The Castle Fruit Farm in Dymock. Their other photos were *Chickpiece* and *Eggstrordinary Truths in the Time of Covid*.

## Yoga Chick

The roll call of winners & runners-up document can be found here <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/?hl=enGB#inbox/FMfcgxwHMjvMfjLMHqbCGcWcTnCfDRXq>



All Pictures may be downloaded and shared, but remain the copyright ownership of the photographer..

Please register your interest in competing in the next Arts Event due on May 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> and described as the KOBRA exhibition (Kempley Old Barrow Restoration Art.)



The categories may include design displays on a wheelbarrow

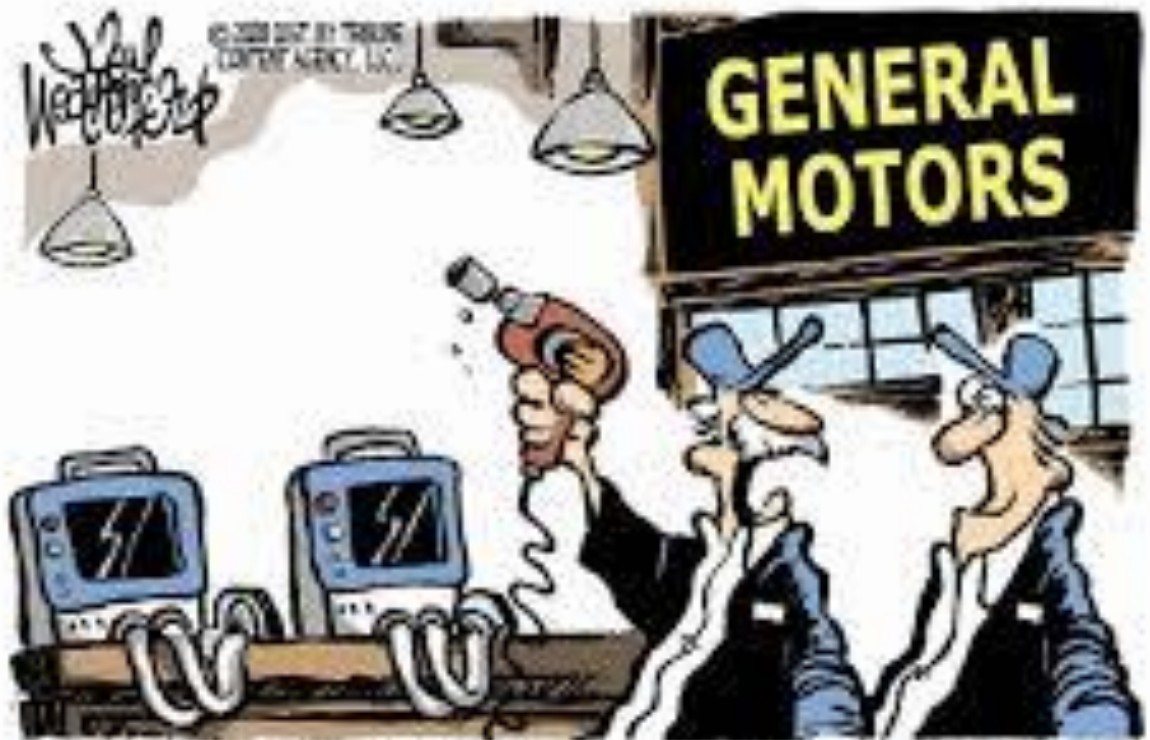
- 1) as a table display illustrating a children's' fairy tale /book scene
- 2) a 'manikin' size animal in harness of the barrow
- 3) an overall abstract category of both barrow and sculpture

Displayed 3m apart in silent waiting – all visitors will be able to vote on Flickr (as in *Fave* [spit!]) for your favourite display in each category.

Please send your interest in this ongoing arts initiative to [kempleycompetitions@gmail.com](mailto:kempleycompetitions@gmail.com).

In the run of things this will replace the Pop up Pub for May 2020, and will be managed (!) by the Baker Boys.

**John O'Keefe** editor TheMoment.press



**Making ventilators is fine in these uncertain times, but where do the wheel nuts go?**

## The Beauchamp Arms, Dymock



During the recent lock-down caused by the presence of the coronavirus Covid-19, John & Linda at The Beauchamp Arms have been doing their best to help keep community spirits up by providing a limited supply of take-away meals.

**Wednesday** evening finds them frying up their much loved cod & chips.

**Friday** evening sees their normal tempting menu, but in a limited form – no beef or gammon steaks I'm afraid – but John has been kept busy cooking up his usual treats such as delicious faggots, steak pies and fish pies.

**Sunday** lunches are also available to give over-worked mums a rest, or simply to tease the palate of anybody who's fed up with lock-down.

**Please remember, that due to the present supply difficulties John & Linda will need your orders as far in advance as possible, especially for fish orders as this needs to be ordered by them over a week before it's required.**

*So if you fancy a 'meal out' in the comfort of your own home, give them a call on 01531 890266; they'll be happy to help you out.*

## Walking Into Summer

I hope that many of you have been enjoying one unexpected aspect of the lock-down, which has been to allow us time to look out and see the sprouting of spring all around us and, even better, to have time to walk the local paths and lanes to appreciate it even more.

I usually take secateurs with me to cut back the brambles which inevitably grow so quickly at this time of year over stiles, kissing gates and other points where the walker has to pass. So, if you can, please do the same and help clear the way for other walkers after you.

Spring is also the season of course when our local farmers are sowing crops and cattle are reappearing in the fields, so it behoves us to remember to stick to best practice in following the country code with additional respect for the social distancing measures put in place to combat the virus.

To help walkers readjust to the coronavirus restrictions Gloucestershire County Council Public Rights of Way (PROW) and NFU have both produced the current included guidelines which should be followed.

If you have any comments you wish to air about our local path network in the Golden Triangle, then please contact us at [feedback@windcrosspaths.org.uk](mailto:feedback@windcrosspaths.org.uk)  
Happy walking!

**Mike Townsend**

Windcross Paths Group

### **Public right of way**

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

**This path crosses through farmland and close to homes and families.**

**In line with Defra and Public Health England Advice:**

**Maintain social distancing requirements -**

**Ensure you keep at least 2 metres away from other people.**

**Hand wash/sanitise after touching any shared surfaces e.g. stiles/gates.**

**Keep dogs on a lead near livestock and away from other people/dogs**

**Leave gates as you find them.**



# Public Rights of Way

## Covid-19 Information

People living in close proximity to public rights of way are reminded that the public have a legal right to use a public right of way, and that they should not block or obstruct paths. Some paths pass close to residential properties, and in some cases through gardens, but with sensible precautions there is no reason that this would increase the risk to householders of contracting Coronavirus.

Public rights of way provide an opportunity for local people to take exercise and get some fresh air in these difficult times. However, people should not be making special journeys to access them, and should not congregate on public rights of way. If there is a particular problem with people congregating on a right of way then the police, who have powers to disperse such groups, should be informed.

It is also important to stress that people should not be making special journeys to access them. Travel to exercise is NOT essential travel and people should not be travelling to do their daily exercise. Please see the latest government guidance (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-guidance-on-access-to-green-spaces>) on access to green spaces. People should also observe the government advice on social distancing, keeping at least 2 metres between themselves and other people, other than those in their own household.

Where residents living near public rights of way have concerns, then they should exercise suitable precautions to ensure social distancing from people on the path. They may also want to regularly clean any gate latches or other surfaces on any paths across their property.

*The County Council will work with the police and other agencies to take any further actions necessary in the event of any changes to legislation or Government guidance, however, at this time there are no plans nor legal means to close public rights of way for Covid-19 related reasons.*

**Gloucestershire CC, April 2020**

I'm at that stage in life when if a girls says 'no' to me I'm profoundly grateful to her.

**Woody Allen**



## What Did That Sign Mean?

When we are allowed out again, you may like to look carefully at signs. They can be a source of much amusement. My favourite is the sign that states in bold letters, 'This door is alarmed.' This begs the question-Why? What is the problem? Is the door frightened or just upset? What should I do about it? Perhaps go and give it a hug and a sweet. That seems to work with grandchildren if they are upset by something. Or maybe the door is grown-up, so perhaps a G & T may be better, or even a brandy, 'For medicinal purposes' you understand. Another good example is the protest movement outside many a school, with a lady, (why is it always a lady?) who is protesting about children crossing the road. Her placard clearly states, 'Stop Children Crossing.' Crossing the road seems to be a perfectly normal occupation, so why would anyone wish to stop them? Or have I misunderstood?

Lest you should think this is an unusual event, I give to you this example of signs set up during the attempted lock down of Dymock during the last summer when all the roads into the village were closed by roadworks! This array was seen on the B4215 near the turning to Ryton. Where are we to go, and what diversions are we being offered, I wonder? Perhaps a beer at the Beauchamp Arms or maybe a refreshing tea and cakes? It doesn't say.

You may like to offer your own signs that, when read literally, do not say what the author intended!



David Clowes

## View from the Pew Website

My son Tony has helped launch a website which currently hosts the monthly articles I have written over 17 years. These have been for nine parishes in this part of Gloucestershire bordering Herefordshire. I would be grateful if you would be so kind as to visit the website (see article for addresses etc.) and pass the latest article on to a friend by email or from a link on the site.

I started the column with the hope (I still have it) that, local people who have a sense of attachment to their parish church or were sympathetic to the original purposes of the Christian Church, might also recognise the importance of regular worship services in their local church building. I also hoped that parishioners would be able to distinguish between the currently centralised and hierarchal practices of large religious organisations, and the simple trust, faith and hope of the early Christians.

The tension between the practices of the early Christian church and those of international Churches today are frequently raised in my articles, as is the tension felt between the demands of a centralised government catering for the majority in cities, and the needs of a rural parochial minority. I also express a belief in the essential goodness of people but have doubts as to whether those virtues are fully transferred to the organisations they set up.

As I have aged, I have come to the view that what is not known to the human mind is far greater than what is known. Also, that the limitations of the human brain itself renders total 'knowledge impossible'. However, I also believe that there are areas of existence that are outside our normal sensory and perceptive capabilities, and so I am loathe to draw any boundary around the universe and the body of knowledge that philosophy and physical science teaches. I suspect Shakespeare was right when he had Hamlet say to the rationalist Horatio, "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

The articles try to explore life from a rural perspective with humour, and I hope readers find something to stimulate, entertain and maybe even agree with.

Please do not feel obliged to send details of the site to friends but, as I hope one day to publish a collection of Views from the Pew in aid of Pauntley Parish Church, the more readers the column has, the greater the possibility that Pauntley Church and its ancient Parish will gain support.

Thank you and kind regards

**Peter Wells**

To see View from the Pews from February 2006, type [www.viewfromthepew.co.uk](http://www.viewfromthepew.co.uk) or <https://viewfromthepew.co.uk> into your computer.

**You can leave comments or share the article by clicking the appropriate buttons.**

## **View from the Pew**

Earlier in March, whilst the wife and I were driving to the Trumpet Tea Rooms for a baked potato lunch we listened to Prime Ministers Questions and I was struck by how the politicians spoke of the NHS as though they were standing in front of a medieval King. Their demeanour, tone and obsequious words spoke clearly of a desire to express appreciation whilst also ingratiating public opinion.

I suppose fear of Coronavirus has focussed minds to the extent that they elevate the NHS to the role of personal and social saviour. Folks in earlier times gave that role to religion or to the government, but I do hope today's readers have not taken a similar view because, in reality the NHS is only a structured way of organising medical services. It is not an 'organism' which has its own life, it is an organisation. Everything that matters is carried out by human beings such as Cleaners, Porters, Nurses, and Doctors. Receptionists, etc. In fact, as an organisation the NHS employs 1.2 million people in the same way as does Aldi which employs 30,000.

We all pay taxes to fund the NHS and its managers and most of us have used its services. The medical help and care given to us is carried out by the people who work for it and, in my own case, I have always found the people helpful and professional. In fact most people I have ever dealt with are helpful, with the added bonus that they are also cheerful.

We must not forget however, that systems and organisations do not have human traits and feelings. A Nurse is skilled and dedicated because of who she is; not because she works for the NHS or St Michael Hospice. This thought may explain why I am irked when a Bank advertises that it cares for its customers. An organisation cannot care, and so I would rather a Bank tell me that it was efficient in operation and effective at making sure my money is safe.

Whilst we are being cheerful; lambing this year was over in three weeks and likewise with my friend Martin who used the same Tup which had sojourned with our girls. Although we ended up feeding two lambs, we have them down to two feeds at 7: am and 7pm. The next major event in our sheep calendar will be dagging prior to shearing in May, though how to manage that this year has yet to be settled.

I noticed that the fruit trees are budding, and the bee colony which survived the winter had young bees bringing in pollen. I put fondant feed in the box just to make sure that they would not starve should a cold-snap leave them short of food.

Maurice from Brand Green has planted his seed potatoes and, as he is the lead for the rest of us to go ahead, I've put a row of radishes, beetroot and early lettuce seeds in one of the raised beds...

Every cloud has a silver lining and throughout the recent lockdown it has been a delight not to have to listen to the army of luminaries who, having returned from a

South Sea Island Conference then tell us, 'We're all doomed'. I really can't help chuckling that those who claim to know the answers to the distant future, somehow missed the doom currently with us. Thank-goodness these woeful futurists have disappeared from our screens and are playing second fiddle to people who have to deal with the here-and-now.

I do however notice a link between the people who think of an organisation as akin to a Saviour and those who look to Nature in the similar way. Do they, I wonder, share the ambition of the early writers of the Old Testament and yearn for two ideal states of being. The first being pictured in the Genesis account of the Garden of Eden and the second that of the lion lying down with the lamb in Isaiah.

Could it be, that when people do not believe in God and claim to reject the wisdom and tenets represented by the church, that they unknowingly express them in a different way? Is it possible that they see the NHS as an expression of their hope for eternal life whereas the green movement simply longs for a return to a personal pre-existent paradise and, as such, a place of safety and indescribable innocent beauty?

From a theological point of view; I do hope the 'NHS' and 'all things green' are not being regarded as worthy of human worship. If so, such worshippers are probably selling themselves short.

But talking of paradise in this technological computer age brings to mind the notice outside a Church in Baltimore that reads:

**Adam & Eve**

**The first people not to read the  
Apple 'Terms & Conditions'**

**Peter Wells**

He was of the faith chiefly in the sense that the church he did not currently attend was catholic.

**Kingsley Amis**

What do I think of Western civilisation? I think it would be a good idea.

**Mahatma Gandhi**



# Woad

(The National Anthem of the Ancient Britons)

What's the good of wearing braces,  
Vests and pants and boots with laces,  
Spats or hats you buy in places  
Down in Brompton Road?  
What's the use of shirts of cotton,  
Studs that always get forgotten?  
These affairs are simply rotten:  
Better far is woad.  
Woad's the stuff to show, men.  
Woad to scare your foemen:  
Boil it to a brilliant hue  
And rub it on your back and your abdomen.  
Ancient Briton ne'er did hit on  
Anything as good as woad to fit on  
Neck, or knees, or where you sit on.  
Tailors, you be blowed.

Romans came across the Channel  
All wrapped up in tin and flannel:  
Half a pint of woad per man'll  
Dress us more than these.  
Saxons, you can waste your stitches  
Building beds for bugs in britches:  
We have woad to clothe us, which is  
Not a nest for fleas.  
Romans keep your armours;  
Saxons your pyjamas:  
Hairy coats were meant for goats,  
Gorillas, yaks, retriever dogs and llamas.  
Tramp up Snowdon with our woad on:  
Never mind if we get rained or blowed on.  
Never want a button sewed on.  
Go it, Ancient Bs

**Anon**      (Sent to me by Monica Butler)

## **Local Planning Applications**

**P0398/20/AG** - Prior notification for the erection of a general purpose agricultural building - Holders Farm, Holders Lane, Oxenhall

**P0317/20/OUT** - Outline application for the erection of a low carbon energy efficient self-build dwelling. (Associated works to include a vehicular access) - The Willows, Horsefair Lane

**P0481/20/AG** - Prior notification for the erection of a general purpose agricultural building – Herridges Orchard, Pool Hill

**P0393/20/FUL** - Erection of a two storey rear extension, first floor side extension, single storey rear extension and car port all with associated works - Cleeve House, Brand Green, Redmarley

**P0024/20/DISCON** - Discharge of conditions 03 (images/samples of roofing and external materials), 04 (hard and soft landscaping) and 08 (hedgerow boundary) relating to P1206/18/FUL – Hedgerows, Redmarley

**P0422/20/APP** - Approval of Reserved Matters (Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale) for outline permission P1885/17/OUT for the erection of up to 5 self-build dwellings with associated works - The Meadows, Bromsberrow Heath

*To view the full details of these applications, or to check the progress of any application, log on to the Forest of Dean DC web site and go to planning.*

**Quite often, planning applications are not validated in time to be inserted in the magazine. For your own protection and peace of mind it might benefit you to log onto The Forest of Dean DC planning applications and search your own parish's list of applications on a regular basis.**

**Your parish council will be doing this on your behalf, but many sets of eyes are better than one. It's too late when the application you dreaded is approved.**

**The cut-off for the June magazine (I like to be optimistic!) is**

**Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Keep Safe**