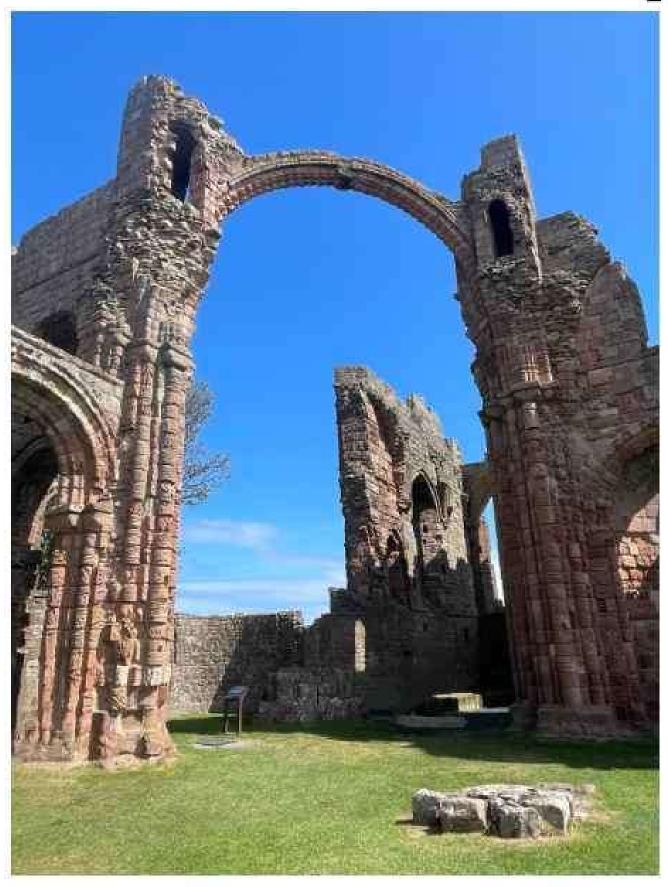
Parish News





June 2025

St Michael and All Angels, Claverdon All Saints, Preston Bagot

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CHURCH

www.churchesofarden.org.uk #churchesofarden

Vicar Vacancy

Associate Minister Revd James Holden 07767 321086
Non-stipendiary Minister Revd Phil Hanson 01926 843421
Diocesan Reader Norrie Moore 01564 793578
Youth Club Leader Zara Yousaf 01926 840100

Barbara Lord - churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com

Church Centre enquiries

Parish Secretary &

The Church Office is in Room 1 at the Church Centre, Church Rd, Claverdon

Normal office hours are 9.15am - 12.15pm on Monday and at other times by arrangement.

Claverdon Parochial Church Council

Churchwardens Jonathan Evans 01926 842690

vacancy

Member of Deanery Synod Sue Jacques

Elected Sandra Aitken; Steven Aitken; Ann Anthony; Alison Bird; David

Eastham, Richard Bonsall; Andrea Gardner; Ingrid Moss; Julia Waldron

Co-opted Rev Phil Hanson PCC Minutes Secretary Ann Anthony

PCC Treasurer Richard Bonsall 07989 494451

Organists Jonathan Evans, Jonathan Lucas

Parish Safeguarding Officer Julia Waldron 07557 919206

Preston Bagot Parochial Church Council

Churchwardens Hugh Carslake 01926 843023

Margaret Duke maggieduke44@gmail.com

Member of Deanery Synod Hugh Carslake

Elected Tony Belcher; Ros Belcher; Joy Cater; Pam Clark; Sheila Goudge;

Anne Perrin; Graham Coombs, Janet Masters

 Ex-officio
 Norrie Moore
 01564 793578

 PCC Secretary
 Anne Perrin
 01926 842638

PCC Treasurer Vacant

Organists Jonathan Lucas; Guy Pardo; Ingrid Moss

Parish News Editorial Team

Steve Aitken, Richard Bonsall, Jonathan Evans and Ingrid Moss:

Advertising enquiries to Richard Bonsall (07989 494451, richard bonsall7@btconnect.com)

Material submission deadline: 8th of the preceding month to the Editor

(parishnewseditor99@email.com)



01926 840100

The Glory of God

May was a whirlwind of activity - going on bluebell walks, VE Day celebrations and a pilgrimage to Holy Island.

Pete and I decided to walk to Holy Island along the St Cuthbert's Way. We caught the Caledonian Sleeper from Euston Station to Edinburgh, enjoyed a couple of days exploring the city and started walking from Melrose. St Cuthbert grew up in Melrose and was tending sheep as a boy when he had a vision of (St) Aidan dying. At the time, Aiden was Bishop of Lindisfarne on Holy Island.

The sun shone and the scenery was stunning. We walked over the Cheviots and visited Abbeys along the way - Melrose Abbey, Dryburgh Abbey, Jedburgh Abbey and St Cuthbert's Cave.

On Saturday morning we waited for low tide and following pilgrim poles (and many pilgrims before us), we walked barefoot to Holy Island. This, for me, was the most moving part of the walk. We reached the island, sat on a bench and marvelled at the history that brought us to this moment. The walk officially finished at Lindisfarne Priory (cover photo) where St Cuthbert followed in St Aidan's steps and became Bishop.



We joined the church group and had a wonderful weekend of fellowship sharing the Glory of God.

Where are we going next year and who's coming along?!

Ingrid

The Churches of Arden remain in a period of 'interregnum'. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils are working with representatives of the Alcester Deanery and Coventry Diocese to run a selection process for a new Minister for our four parishes. We hope that we will have something to report shortly.

In the meantime our churches continue to operate as normal - and we are blessed to have the services of Rev Phil Hanson and Rev James Holden in our midst taking services for us, alongside our band of lay leaders and visiting clergy.

If anyone has any queries or needs to get in touch, please contact Barbara Lord, our Parish Secretary, or the churchwardens whose details are opposite.



CHURCH SERVICES IN JUNE

Everyone is welcome to all and any of these services!

Date	Church	Time	Service
1 st June	All Saints P8 St. Peter's WW St. John the Baptist AC St. Michael and All Angels Clav	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) Café Church Morning Prayer Family Service
8 th June	All Saints PB St. Peter's WW St. John the Baptist AC St. Michael and All Angels Clav	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion Morning Praise with coffee Holy Communion
15 th June	St. Peter's WW St. John the Baptist AC Claverdon Church Centre	11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Holy Communion Holy Communion (Not Morning Praise) Bible Café
21 st June	5t. John the Baptist AC	5.30pm	Midsummer Evensong
22 nd June	All Saints PB St. Peter's WW St. John the Baptist AC St. Michael and All Angels Clay	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 11.00am	Morning Prayer (BCP) Morning Prayer No service today Holy Communion
29 th June	St. Peter's WW	11.00am	Group Holy Communion

Every Tuesday at 4.00pm: Evening Prayer in Claverdon Church Centre.

Every Wednesday at 10.00am: an Act of Worship at St Peter's, Wootton Wawen

PASTORAL CARE

The Pastoral Team meets regularly to offer prayers and support for those who are sick, bereaved, lonely or in any kind of need. If you know of someone who would like to be included in our prayers, please contact us. Home communions and informal visits can be arranged and all prayer requests are treated in the strictest confidence.

Pastoral Team: Sandra Aitken, Joy Cater, Gill Evans, Revd Phil Hanson, Rosemary Holding, Pete Moss, Anne Perrin. Please contact us via Joy Cater (01926 842149) or Gill Evans (01926 842690).

FOR THE RECORD

Welcome

A very warm welcome to newcomers to Claverdon!

We welcome Lauren, Dan, Dylan and Louie Hagyard who have moved into Monks Barn, Breach Lane.

And Helen and Paul Clarke who have come to live at Fairlawn, Park Drive.

David Hardy

With great sadness, we record the death of dear David Hardy on Sunday 4th May at Temple Balsall. David was a much-loved and much-valued member of Claverdon Church for very many years; he made an immense contribution to the church, notably the creation of the Church Centre. There will be a service of thanksgiving at Claverdon Church on 30th August. An obituary will follow in a later Parish Magazine. We hold Tricia and her family in our prayers.

Jonathan Evans

CLAVERDON VILLAGE WELCOME PACK

Have you just moved in? We would love to give you a Welcome Pack — it's full of information about the village including around thirty clubs and organisations! Please let Gill Evans know if you would like a Welcome Pack or if you know of anyone who is new to the village. 01926 842690 or leycroft@btinternet.com

CELEBRATE WITH LIGHT!

Claverdon Church's low energy floodlights can be lit to commemorate anniversaries, birthdays or special events. Ask our Parish Secretary Barbara Lord for more details or to book - 01926 840100, or churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com





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www.claverdon-pc.gov.uk



Claverdon Parish Council meets every other month, at Claverdon Church Centre at 7:00pm. Please find below a list of remaining dates for our 2025 public meetings. All parishioners are very welcome to attend, and we encourage you to do so where possible.

NOTICE OF REMAINING 2025 PUBLIC MEETINGS

21st July / 22nd September / 24th November

PARISH NOTICEBOARDS

The noticeboard, which will replace the broken board at the end of St Michael's Road, has now been ordered and we hope this will be delivered and installed sometime over the course of the next few weeks.

PARISH TELEPHONE BOX

Last year we asked residents what they wished to see done about our phone box, as it is looking very sad and in need of some TLC. Through a poll, residents strongly favoured its removal and the exploration of restoring, relocating and repurposing it.

The council is committed to this project, and we have made some further enquiries into both the logistics and costs involved. These costs are quite substantial, and more than we had originally anticipated. Although we have a certain amount allocated in the budget we will more than likely need to investigate some additional funds sources, via possible grants or other means. We are therefore asking any residents, who would like to support this project, to come forward to join a small working group to take this forward. Please do get in touch with us if this is something you would like to help with.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

We are committed to ensuring that our website provides the information and resources that you need. It is kept regularly updated, and we encourage residents to refer to it.



JUST SOME OF THE THINGS YOU CAN FIND ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE - www.claverdon-pc.gov.uk



As well as posting information via the Claverdon Matters Facebook Group we now also have our own Facebook page — Claverdon Parish Council. Please do give us a follow or a like to stay up to date with news.

CONTACTING US

If you have a concern or issues, you would like the council to address please do reach out by contacting our Parish Council Clerk – Ken Flood. Email. clerk@claverdon-pc.gov.uk Tel. 07946 423435

Alternatively, you can always raise the matter in the public forum at one of our public meetings. At each of our meetings there is a set agenda item for parishioners to address the council.



THE ETERNAL WALL OF ANSWERED PRAYER.



Save the date and time... Tuesday 10th June at 10.30am



This is a reminder for the visit to The Eternal Wall, to see the setting for this great Christian landmark and to find out how the vision to MAKE HOPE VISIBLE is being achieved.

The brainchild of a software entrepreneur and an evangelical Christian following a word from God to build a monument to answered prayer, it has taken 15 years to reach this final point. It is in the finest spot to be seen from the M42, M6, M6 toll, HS2, and is on the route to Birmingham Airport. 500,000 journeys per week will pass by it.

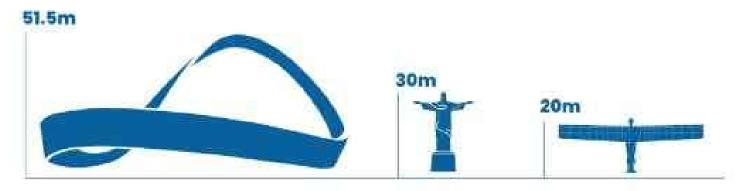
A beautiful structure made from individual bricks, soaring above you, that will

speak to all faiths and none, about hope for the future, by revealing a million examples of answered prayers. It will have the biggest database of hope stories in the world. 750,000 answered prayers from UK, 250,000 contributions from around the world and 750,000 heritage answered prayer stories dating as far back as



the 3rd century. A piece of public art telling a million stories of God's amazing power.

Our visit on June 10 will be a special virtual reality experience with



refreshments plus a chance to see the first prototype of a segment of the wall containing an answered prayer, as well as a drone showing its height and scale, and a walk across the land to get an idea of what else will be available on the site.

Please email me to secure your place or for more information. Once numbers are known, travel arrangements can be made. sue211239@hotmail.co.uk

Gue Hellingswerth





Would you like to play

TABLE TENNIS

We are hoping to restart the Claverdon Table Tennis club which used to meet on Wednesday afternoons (2.00 pm-4.00 pm) in the back rooms of the Church Centre.

Please call Gina Graham on 01926 842927 if you are interested. All levels very welcome











Opening hours: 10am-6pm

Enquiries:

Old Rectory 01926 843023



21 June - 6 July 2025

Preview Friday 20 June 6-9pm

imago

Angela Webb Artist

Jane Emmerson Ceramic artist

Jan Gay Artist

Rebecca Small Basket weaver

Sue Southorn Landscape and abstract artist

Phil Irons Woodturner

John Scott Martin Marine artist and printmaker

Old Rectory, Preston Bagot, Henley in Arden Warwickshire B95 5EB





All Saints' Church, Preston Bagot A Summer Concert

Friday 27th June at 7 pm

A programme of songs presented by Birmingham Conservatoire a cappella singing group,

> From Renaissance to Baroque, the Romantic Era, Folk, American Spiritual

> > Tickets £15 including refreshments From

Hugh Carslake 01926 843023 Maggie Duke 07498 291451 Anne Perrin 01926 842638 Joy Cater 01926 842149 Graham Coombs 07860516401 Also from the Community Shop





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THE MONTHLY HMM...

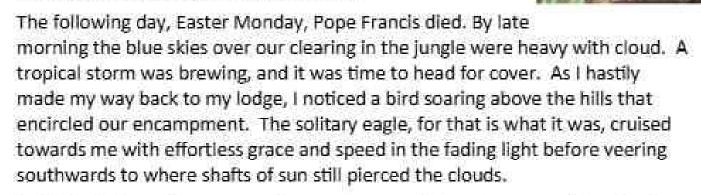
A Belizean Ascension

I'd been wanting to return to Belize for some time – keen to see and photograph more of the country's amazing bird life and to be there at Passiontide. I had quite an experience in so many ways, but perhaps especially when on Easter Day I was looking out onto dense jungle from a shared balcony.

I had just taken a picture of a beautiful golden hooded tanager when two young sisters from Vancouver came up the stairs. They hadn't been much interested in birds, not with the excitement of Central America's longest zipline to enjoy. Still the elder sister, Geneva politely asked me what I was looking at. "Isn't he lovely?" I asked as I simultaneously showed her the picture I'd just taken. "He's still there I said," as I offered first Geneva and then her younger sister Sadie a peek.

When they handed me the binoculars back, I couldn't fail but see that there was a look of joy in both their eyes. The way they saw the world had been

transformed by beauty, something that their mum later confirmed in a handwritten note that the chamber maid left in my room. She kindly let me know that both her daughters had been 'converted' to birding. Geneva, so I learned, loved their colours and their different calls. Sadie however was taken by how they all fly differently – some soaring, some flapping and others just hopping around.



As I look back on these memories, Easter season is nearly over and in church circles we are preparing first for Ascension Day when Jesus left us, then for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and thence the dawn of Trinity season. The look of joy on the girls' faces is with me as are the vivid colours of the tanager we saw together; so too the flight of the eagle ascending into the heavens as we believe Christ did -a creational sign that we may also in heart and mind ascend to dwell with him there.

Rev James



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STRATFORD ON AVON DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT - JUNE

County Council Election

Following the County Council election on the 1st May, Claverdon and Preston Bagot now have a new County Councillor. I would like to extend a warm welcome to James Crocker (Reform) and would like to thank Ian Shenton (Conservative) for his public service. I look forward to working with James where our paths cross. I have already written to James to get an early meeting with him to discuss key local issues.

Litter picking / Fly tipping

Having undertaken litter picks in both Langley and Snitterfield with residents recently, it's been satisfying to keep on top of the litter and a great way to meet residents. Please get in touch if you know somewhere that is in need of a clean up! I've got access to all the kit via the Council and I can organise the collection of the waste.

Fly tipping has been an issue of late in Snitterfield, and a large pile of waste in Preston Bagot was reported to me. If you do see fly tipping you can email streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk with a photo and the location (preferably what3words). If you can't remember this at the time, just send the information to me and I'll get it sorted.

St Michael's Road

Work continues building the 5 bungalows between 5t Michael's Road and Park Drive. The work has been very disruptive to residents, and the developer has had a number of issues brought to their attention by residents, myself and the District Council. The developer has advised me that they will be finished by the end of the summer, but this would appear to be rather optimistic. I have also had to intervene on behalf of the developer in order to get building materials approved swiftly by Planning Officers to prevent the build process from being dragged out.



Air source heat pumps on the Church Centre

A volunteer team is working to replace the old oil boiler system at the Church Centre with modern air source heat pumps. What was expected to be a relatively straightforward planning application has become a very protracted process with the District Council having some concerns over the noise generated by the machines. A noise study has been undertaken by consultants and I'm now working with the team to get this application approved.

It is essential that this project goes ahead as part of the decarbonisation of Claverdon. It will also bring forward benefits of reliability and flexibility of heating to the Church Centre. Many thanks to the team for their patience and perseverance.

If you have any local issues you would like to discuss with me then please get in touch using the details below.

Duncan Parker
Email Duncan.Parker@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Do you know a student who is doing the Duke of Edinburgh Award this year?

The Community shop has two opportunities for Volunteer work arising, one at the end of June and one at the end of July

Every year we try to give the opportunity for Duke of Edinburgh students to do their voluntary work in the shop. We are now able to offer alternate Sundays, 8 to 10:30am (end of July) and 10:30 to 1pm (end of June).

Aged 16 +. Legally their parent must be present.

If you are interested please email the shop at claverdoncs@gmail.com



Dorothea Mitchell Hall

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR CLASSES

Mon: Baby & Toddler Group 9:00am - 10:45am

Monday Club (2/6, 16/6, 30/6) 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Fitness Class 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Tue: Arty Splats 9:00am - 12:00pm

Move it or Lose it 2:15pm - 3:15pm

3rd Tue Gardening Group (17/6 only) 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Wed: Pilates with Leigh 9:30am - 10:30am

Line Dancing with Tony 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Pilates with Jennie 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Thu: Quilting with Heather (5/6, 19/6) 1:30pm - 3:30pm

Flower Arranging with Jo (26/6 only) 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Yoga with Ren 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Fri: Tea Dance with Wendy (6/6, 20/6) 1:30pm - 3:30pm

FREE DROP-IN EVENTS

Thursday 5th June 10-12:00 Antique & Collectible Valuations from Mellors and Kirk



Monday 30th June 6pm to 6:45pm Alcester North SNT Police Community Engagement Surgery

Parish News is a sharing of the lives of the people of our community, delivered to every household in the parishes of Claverdon and Preston Bagot free of charge. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team, who welcome comments and suggestions about Parish News.

Contributions to production costs, or the Church generally, are always welcome and can be left in the Community Shop, or put in an envelope marked "magazine" in the wall box inside the church door; or donated online: Claverdon PCC; 30-98-26; 01963806 with reference "magazine donation". Many thanks.





CLAVERDON CRICKET CLUB

So the season is now here, with outdoor training and matches for all playing groups under way as follows:

- All Stars (ages 5-8) and Dynamos (8-11) sessions on Friday evenings, an impressive 70+ players signed up, thank you to all the parents involved to help run the sessions.
- U9 softball Sunday tournaments
- U11 matches Sunday mornings
- Women's training sessions Weds evenings and matches Sunday afternoons.
- Men's training Thurs evenings and matches Saturday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.

As ever, all support and new players welcome, whether occasional or regular, see you at the Recreation Field over the summer or give us a call with any enquiries.

And last but not least we have the 150th celebration day, planned for the afternoon of Sunday 29th June. Will revolve mainly around some sociable cricket for all interested players, we'll continue with the planning and communications in the run up to the day.

Vince Hammand

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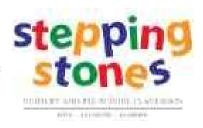






It's been a joyous term as we celebrated our Early Years

Practitioner Steff's wonderful wedding and soaked up the sunshine listening to Vera Lynn in the garden, bunting blowing in the breeze, sitting on picnic blankets enjoying our tea party as we celebrated 80 years since VE day. Our visit to the church was



fascinating, as the children embraced the opportunity to explore and discover the flags and flower arrangements, wreaths, poppies and photos whilst listening to incredible stories of the brave soldiers who fought so heroically to help keep us and our country safe. Our heartfelt thanks to Gill and her team for making us feel so welcome and for making VE day so memorable for both the staff and children.

As this shorter summer term is flying by, the days grow longer and the sunshine fills our garden with warmth and light. It's a wonderful time to be in the outdoor classroom and a privilege to watch as the children continuously explore and investigate, sharing in their surprise and delight at the dramatic changes in the colour, height and structures in our raised beds from one week to the next. Sunshine not only makes our days cheerful but also helps our bodies grow strong and healthy. The children know how important it is to wear hats, apply sunscreen and keep well hydrated to keep safe while enjoying the fun under the sun. This warmer weather has provided great learning opportunities to demonstrate what happens when we go without water, as our plants begin to wilt and the grass begins to dry out, but how magically with a helping hand and a watering can, life and vibrancy is quickly restored.

For nineteen of our children, June marks the countdown to our Graduation Ceremony and starting school. It's a time filled with excitement and curiosity as we talk about what school will be like, and how we can prepare children to be as independent and resilient as possible. Preparing for School plays a large part in forming our curriculum as the term draws closer to July, supporting their self-care, successfully using buttons and zips, unpacking their lunch boxes and unscrewing their drinks bottles requires strong fine motor skills and lots of practice!

To further support a positive transition, over the coming weeks, Reception Teachers,
Teaching Assistants and Special Educational Needs Coordinators will be visiting Stepping
Stones, talking to Practitioners and meeting their new children for the first time. This
gradual approach is an opportunity for Teachers to get to know their new children in a
familiar environment before the children begin their 'taster sessions' at their new
school. With the support of caring helpers, children can be ready to step excitedly into
their next big adventure and confidently look forward to meeting new people and
making lots of new friendships.

Hannah

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Diary of Events for

Event	Date	Times	Details
Tuesday Prayer	Every Tuesday	19:30-21:00	П
Ministry		14:00-16_00	
Wednesday Prayer Ministry	Every Wednesday	10:00-12:00	
Quiet Morning	10th July	10:00-13_00	Jesus the Good Shepherd leads us by still waters
Streams in the desert	Monday 9th June	1915-2130	Stand up girls - Rachel Hickson
Well Come and Be	Thursdays	10:00-12:00	Drop-in Wellbeing Café
Rest and receive	11th, 23rd June	14:00-15:30	Rest and Receive in person
prayer	19th	19:00-20:00	Rest and Receive online

The Village Chippy is a mobile van that travels around Warwickshire. The menu includes Cod, fish cakes, Sausages, Chicken nuggets,

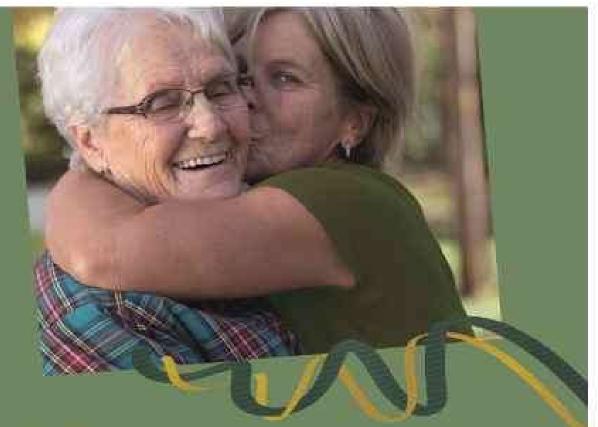
mushy peas and gravy (& more).

They also cater for events and parties. 07377086644

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REGULAR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT CLAVERDON CHURCH CENTRE

Event	When/Time	Please Contact		
Stepping Stones Pre school	Every day in term time 8.30 am - 3.00pm	Hannah Gibson 01926 843353 clavsteppingstones@welearn365.com		
Children's Dance Classes	Monday in term time 4.30 - 7.00pm	Krystle Jayne's Dance Academy 07791 852891 krystlejaynedance@gmail.com		
Badminton	Monday in term time 8.00 -9.30pm	Julie Blake otservicesgb@gmail.com		
Parish Council	Mondays or Tuesdays as scheduled by the PC	Ken Flood clerk@claverdon-pc.gov.uk		
Mobile Library (in car park)	Tuesdays at 10.40am every four weeks	See dates in advert in this edition		
Youth Group	Thursday in term time 6.30 - 8.00pm	Parish Office 01926 840100 churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com		
Flicks in the Sticks	3 rd Friday in month September to May 7.30 - 10,00pm	Gill Evans 01926 842690		
Mid-morning meet -up	Saturday twice a year 10.00am – 12.30pm	Gill Evans 01926 842690		

CONTACT DETAILS FOR CLAVERDON CHURCH CENTRE

Anyone wishing to enquire about booking the Church Centre, or to make a booking, please contact the Parish Office on 01926 840100,

or e-mail churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com



MID MORNING MEET-UP

enjoy Sue Bicknell's home-made cakes and biscuits and limitless tea and coffee, then an inspiring and stimulating talk 'My life on the streets'

weaving the threads of life and faith in night-time chaplaincy

with

James Hanson

Claverdon Church Centre

Saturday 13 September at 10.30 am

Revd James Hanson is a proud son of Claverdon, growing up here in the late 80s / early 90s. After graduating from Oxford, he trained as a Maths teacher, teaching at Warwick School, Harrow and eventually becoming Head of two schools in Surrey. He has been ordained for 4 years and is married to Jenny (a Surrey social worker) with two daughters at secondary school.

James is now a vicar in Guildford and on a Friday night he leads a team of street pastors in the town working with rough sleepers, the youth, those out celebrating, those the worse for wear, those who need someone to talk to....

Tickets £10.00

All proceeds and donations to

Learnington Spa and Stratford on Avon Street Pastors

Reserve 13 September in your diary and book tickets now from

Penny Hanson: 01926 843421

Gill Evans: 01926 842690, leycroft@btinternet.com

Sue Kershaw: 01789 488493

Joy Cater: 01926 842149

Liz Rayner: 01564 792737

Sarah Breen sbreen@talk21.com





VE DAY 80 – 3 days of shared celebration and remembrance

Thursday 8 May



The bells rang out and the church, so beautifully decorated, was packed for the VE Day 80th Anniversary Service – and we sang the VE Day 80 hymn, 'I vow to

thee my country'.

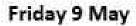
Many congratulations in particular to the amazing Year 5 Poetry readers - Jacob Altham,

Eva Hadley, Charlotte Hemms, Alfie Howard and Harriet Skipper.

The Beacon and Fireworks followed on

Park Farm by kind permission of David Burman who prepared and lit the Beacon from the Lamplight of Peace. Hundreds of villagers joined in the

National Anthem and then enjoyed the fantastic firework display!



'Lest We Forget Exhibition' in church, with 'Voices of the Children'

Thank you to Alison Hoddell with Stephen Hoddell for the absolutely

wonderful exhibition boards, telling us about VE Day itself - and nine of the soldiers from Claverdon who died in the 1st and 2nd World Wars and the Afghan conflict.







There were visits from Claverdon Village Nursery, Stepping Stones Nursery and the Year 6 from Claverdon School who together created the 'Voices of the Children' corner with poppies, artwork and poems – thank you!

Saturday 10 May

The steady stream of visitors all day in church enjoyed the exhibitions and flowers – and refreshments too!

Many thanks to Sue Bicknell for judging the VE Day

80 Cake competition. The winner was Chrissie Green, second place,

Annie Willis and third place, Jo Packwood – well done to all twenty who
entered!

In the afternoon came the Children's 1945-style

Street Party at the Church Centre followed by
celebratory bellringing - and the Claverdon Conga
and Games on the Glebe Field. 50 children with
their families enjoyed a very memorable and

fabulously fun time – great food of the era with traditional games and competitions!

Wery many thanks to the team led by Jan Hutchinson, Corinne Stoakes, Stuart Leonard and Lindsay Wragg.

And thank you to Claverdon Flicks in the Sticks, Claverdon Parish Council, the Nearly New Sale, Claverdon Church and so many villagers for their help and for funding these events.

Gill and Jonathan Evans and Nicky Arnott



Janet Masters remembersPeople from Preston Bagot Jack Hough

Jack Hough is one of the well remembered characters of Preston Bagot. He and his twin brother, Dick, were born in 1902 at Bradley Green in Worcestershire. At some point before 1921 the census shows that the family moved to Warwickshire, to a farm at Pathlow and Jack spent his early working life on farms around the county, beginning his long relationship with horses. With two other sons in the family, their father, Ernest, decided that there was not enough work on the farm for all four. Jack trained as a baker for Mr Alcott of Ullenhall before leaving for Australia in 1923. He served in the Australian Light Infantry winning many prizes for his riding ability. Returning to England in 1930 he worked for the Master of the Hunt at Oakham in Rutland and went on from there to the Isle of Wight where he managed a dairy farm and milk round.

Jack's knowledge of the land and as an experienced tractor driver and ploughman were invaluable when he worked for War Ag but he had also learned to turn his hand to anything. He had worked as a pest control officer, a farm manager for Mr Laughton at 'North Rookery', as a jockey and on canal restoration work for the National Trust. Added to that he was a good cook and a keen gardener.

Jack married Florence Boddy of Dumbleton, Gloucestershire in 1935 and Church Cottage in Preston Bagot became their home. Here they raised their two children, Tony and Jenny. Florence (known as Flo) became actively involved in the village and the church, always ready to help with anything. She was a member of the Mothers' Union and was Preston Bagot secretary for the Bible Readers Fellowship. She accepted the invitation to become organist and then choirmaster at All Saints.

Janet remembers an occasion when Jack received a proper scolding from Flo. She had very few outings and he arranged to drive her to visit her family in Dumbleton. Unfortunately the car wouldn't start but Jim Masters came to the rescue and together they kick-started I, and Jack said he'd try it out round the village. However, he quite forgot Flo and unknown to everyone drove on to Dumbleton without her, to the consternation of her family.

Without the convenience of mobile phones in those days, no-one at Preston Bagot knew his whereabouts and with many cups of tea Jim and Janet comforted Flo until Jack arrived home where, as can be imagined, he was in real trouble over his 'senior moment'.

Flo died in 1973 at the age of 68 and Rector, Canon Clifford Ross paid tribute to her, describing her as a person of real Christian faith, great integrity, character and courage.

At barely five feet tall, what Jack lacked in height he more than made up for in strength of character and a great ability for hard work. When Jim and Janet took over the tenancy of Church Farm in 1960 Janet recalls how he was always ready to give a hand - with the cattle, milking, calving cows and haymaking. Skilled at training sheep dogs, he kept a few sheep in his field for that purpose.

Above everything else was his love for horses. Within a week of breaking in a horse he would have it eating out of his hand. His ability was well known. If a horse had been broken in by Jack Hough it was a good'un. It is all down to kindness and patience he would say. Carriage riding was another of his skills and he taught most of the local children to ride. He also regaled them with tales of his horses in Australia. Seen to be limping one day he was asked if he'd seen a doctor. "Crikey, no", he said. "I have rubbed in the same stuff as I put on my horse's knee and what's good enough for him is good enough for me."

When Jack left Preston Bagot to live in a bungalow at Claverdon's St Michael's Close, he took his tools with him. At the age of 85 he pointed out that he held himself

in readiness for any hedge laying or chopping sticks for old people because "You have to help the old'uns".

Jack died in 1997 and joined Florence in Preston Bagot churchyard.

A true countryman, he loved the land and his horses.





CLAVERDON MONDAY CLUB

The Monday Club is a friendly, informal group which is open to all and meets on alternate Mondays from 2.30-4.00 pm at the Dorothea Mitchell Hall, Claverdon. Doors open at 2 pm. The admission fee is £4, which includes refreshments of tea or coffee and cakes.

This month we have three work-related talks by expert speakers who are guaranteed to bring our local history to life.

June 2. Margaret Twigg

The Blacksmiths of Aston Cantlow and their place in village history

Margaret is the Archivist of Aston Cantlow and District History Society.



June 16. David Fry

19th Collaboration of Co

19th Century Coventry's Industry: Birth, Collapse and Rebirth

David examines the birth and collapse of Coventry's manufacturing industry in the 19th century and its renaissance in



the 20th century, with special focus on the sewing machine, bicycle and motor industries.

June 30. Richard Churchley

Off to the Workhouse

Richard takes us through the history of the workhouse and examines the way in which the poor were treated by the authorities from

Elizabethan times to the 20th century.

Visitors and new members are always welcome For further details, please ring 01926 842628



A path to a greener Claverdon

Issued by Claverdon Parish Council and CHARGE CIC

Update No. 5 June 2025

Community Solar

We are continuing to progress this project, with the aim of funding our path to a greener Claverdon through CHARGE CIC.

Apart from the community financial support, there are several reasons we like the proposed 46-acre site.

It starts next to the sewerage farm, close to the substation it would feed into, and runs south-east behind the railway line, so is very well-hidden from the village. It is on poor quality land (grade 4), where crop yields are low despite needing high levels of agrichemicals to produce them, and is prone to flooding. 54% of the area would remain free of panels and all of it would be a chemical free haven for wildlife, whilst reducing run-off into the River Avon catchment, so improving water quality.

The project aligns with our Neighbourhood Plan and we expect to be able to engage and consult further with you in the coming weeks & months. We will also be arranging walking visits to the site during the summer, so watch this space for your chance to see it.

We are also very keen to receive your thoughts on this project; so we have set up solar@claverdon-pc.gov.uk email address to contact us on.

To learn more about the project, and read through our previous updates and feasibility study for the project, please visit the parish council website <u>www.claverdon-pc.gov.uk/community-solar</u>



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CLAVERDON FOOTBALL CLUB

Exciting News: We're Heading to the Birmingham FA County Cup

We are thrilled to announce that our team will face Boldmere St Michael's in the Birmingham FA County Cup Final on Saturday, May 31st at 2pm!

The match will take place at the Birmingham County FA, Ray Hall Lane, Birmingham, B43 6JF, and we need your unwavering support as we strive to lift the trophy!



This is our chance to make history, and we want to see you there, cheering our team on every step of the way. Wear your Claverdon colours, bring your energy and lets make this day one to remember!

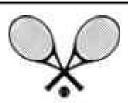
Together, we can do this! See you at the game!

Charlie Waterworth

#ClaverdonFC #CupFinal



CLAVERDON TENNIS CLUB



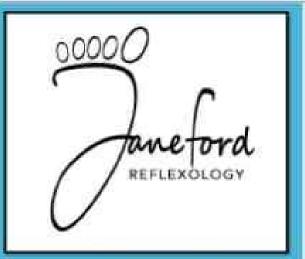
Claverdon Tennis Club now has some of the best tennis facilities in the area with its LED court lighting system and new astro turf court surfaces.

The new season starts on 1st April 2025 and it would be great if you could join us. First year annual membership for new families or a single person are £129 and £75 respectively. Juniors over 11 and student membership are only £35 per annum and under 11 years old membership is £18. Please get in touch with Richard Butler at butlerrj01@gmail.com / 07368 126145 for more information.

Non-members resident in the Parish are welcome to play at the Club by paying the visitor fees for Adults £5 and juniors £3.

It will be wonderful to see more of you enjoying the Claverdon courts in 2025.







Jane Ford SSc(Hons)
MAR
Level 5 Clinical
Reflexplogist
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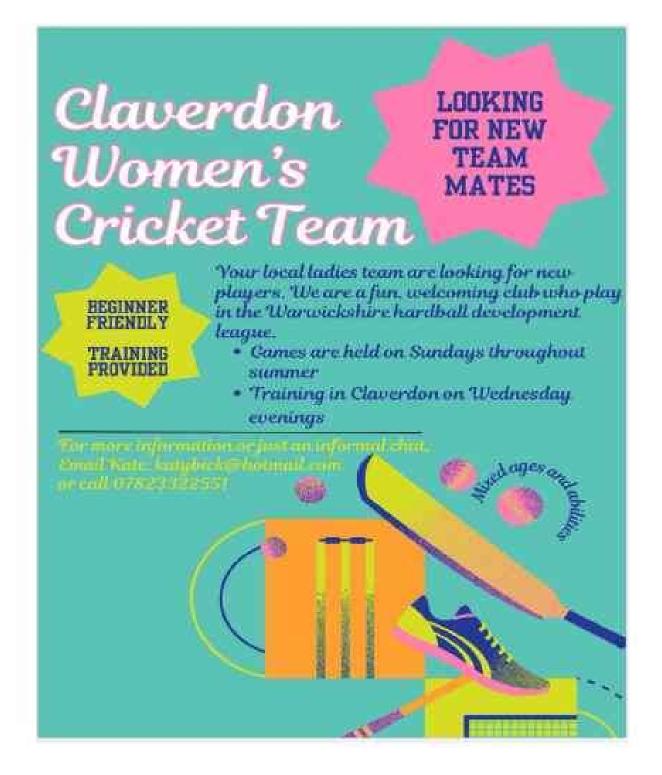
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CLAVERDON GARDENING GROUP

At our next meeting, which is on the 17th June 2025, we will welcome the return of Darren Rudge. Darren is a RHS professional associate, broadcaster and lecturer with a career that has spanned over 40 years. We enjoyed Part 1 of his gardening tips where he included use of household items that can make gardening more cost effective and sustainable, with top tips thrown in along the way. He is back for Part 2 and each talk is also accompanied by a fact sheet full of gardening advice and the recommendations Darren has given in the talk.

We are looking forward to another interesting evening so do come along even if you are not a member, have a chat over tea and biscuits at half time, with the raffle winners chosen to finish off the evening, we hope to see you there.

In the meantime, there are plenty of seasonal jobs in the garden this June for us all:

Continue to weed borders and vegetable patches.

Stake tall or floppy plants.

Prune spring flowering deciduous shrubs like forsythia. These will flower next year on this year's growth after pruning. If necessary, take some stems down to ground level to keep the bush open and avoid congestion.

Pinch out side-shoots on tomatoes.

Harvest lettuce, radish etc and sow seeds every two weeks for continuous cropping.

Plant out summer bedding.

Move containers and hanging baskets outdoors.

Remember to keep your greenhouse cool, opening vents and doors

If there (still) hasn't been much rain raise the mower blades to protect the grass and help retain any moisture in the ground.



calling everyone who has arrived in the villages in the last few years!



Here's a date for your diary.....

NEWCOMERS PARTY Claverdon Church Centre Thursday 25 September at 7pm

A great opportunity to meet others who have recently moved here along with some who have been here longer - and enjoy a glass of wine and some delicious home-made refreshments!

Look out for more details in the July/August Parish News or contact Gill Evans on 01926 842690, leycroft@btinternet.com

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Holy Island Pilgrimage

Some walked the near 100 miles of the St Cuthbert's Way and St Oswald's Way, some arrived by motorhome, some came via Durham Cathedral where the tombs of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede can be found, some drove straight up 'The 'Great North Road', past the Angel of the North......

We all – 31 of us – arrived on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne seeking to learn more about and experience the Glory of God.

We found it

in our base at the village hall where we created a 'Priory' with chapel, refectory, cloisters and library

in the Island's beauty and constant kaleidoscope of changing colours the sea and the sky and the rhythm of the tides

in the very special service of baptism for Joel Orton in the sea just off St Cuthbert's Island

in the inspiring stories of St Aidan and St Cuthbert – and the stories of Holy Island today

in the words and worship services led by Phil Hanson and Sarah Hills, the vicar of Holy Island

in the friendships that grew and deepened....and much more





ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Claverdon Church held its APCM on 28 April. The main purpose was to review the past year, and appoint churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council. The main points were:

- there were many signs of encouragement in our church life. Despite being
 without a vicar, the regular pattern of services had been maintained with
 great thanks to Phil Hanson and James Holden and our lay service leaders; a
 very successful Alpha course had brought many newcomers to faith and
 refreshed others; we had excellent links with Claverdon's school and
 nurseries, with the church full on many occasions with children and their
 parents
- the large number of volunteers who faithfully carried out the myriad of roles to keep our church functioning well were given a large vote of thanks
- the electoral roll had remained almost constant at 91, with 19 new members replacing 20 lost during the year - some having died, others having moved away
- the Church's finances had continued with an operating deficit, although smaller than previous years. While the church's fabric was overall in good condition, some items of repair were on hold (eg repair to the church gates) awaiting sufficient funds
- the Church Centre, now some 45 years old, was in need of significant funding to keep it in good repair, in particular the heating system. A new eco -friendly system was being planned costing over £50,000 - a fund raising challenge remained for about half of this sum
- Jonathan Evans was reappointed as Churchwarden for a third and final year. The other warden post remained unfilled
- the membership of the Parochial Church Council remained unchanged, with the exception of Penny Hanson who had decided to stand down after many years of faithful service, for which the meeting gave great thanks.

Full details of the reports at the APCM are available on the Churches of Arden website at www.churchesofarden.org.uk/claverdon







Will you support our 21th birthday appeal?

My name is Caz, and I am a Young Leader on the Youth Advisory Panel for Lifespace, a local charity close to my land hopefully your; heart.

Lifespace for me was a life-saving charity which provides mentaring for kids aged 7-19 who are finding life difficult. For me, like many others, Lifespace and their mentars have helped me through family stress, self-harming and depression when I felt like there was nowhere else to turn, and no one else to talk to.

Even after finishing school, their Youth Advisory Panel has given me a space to increase my confidence and become part of a community. Without them, I would not be around to be able to write you this letter.

Due to Lifespace's commitment to give young people, like me, a voice, I am excited to be part of the planning team for writing to you to ask for support to mark our 21st Birthday. The day is going to be full of fon, with a fundraising walk and celebration BBQ. We'll be inviting children and young people who were previously mentored, to join, and share the impact of Lifespace on them and the community. We'll also invite current and former staff, volunteers, trustees and funders.

Someone
understands that what I
do isn't a choice and,
instead of trying to fix it,
helps me manage it.
Lifespace Mentee

However, with expenses to consider, Lifespace needs charitable donations from empathetic caterers and companies like you. We're asking help with food expenses, or even provision of your delicious delicacies (particularly sausages, burgers, bread rolls, cakes and soft drinks) to make our event a success. Anything would make a huge difference and we would be most grateful.

If there is anything you can do, please let us know by replying to hello@lifespace.org.uk.

We look forward to your sesponse.

Caz Jon behalf of Lifespace and our Youth Advisory Panell

Ps. We've just launched our <u>testGiving/cattipaign/Lifespace21</u> and have included an information pack, sponsorship forms and poster with this letter. If you were able to share the poster and encourage your customers and colleagues to get involved, that would be amazing.

Fincheut more at: tempe lifespace organic o1789 297400 www.lifetisce.org.uk

















Lifespace21 Sponsored walk

We're encouraging current and former mentees, mentors, families, teachers... and anyone who sees the value in Lifespace's work... to join us for our Lifespace21 sponsored walk. We have a range of routes available from 21 miles to 2.1 miles, all taking place on Sunday 29th June and ending in a celebration at Stratford Youth Collective's Youth Hub.

Whether you're an avid walker or want to join us at the youth hub for some food at the end we would love to see as many people there to celebrate with. We will be sharing our stories and taking an opportunity to thank Lifespace and it's team for all they do. The routes are:

- 21 miles starting at Long Compton
- 21 kilometres starting at Little Honington
- 2.1 mile accessible route along the Greenway.

To register for these please click here scan the QR code, contact us at hello@lifespace.org.uk or visit our lifespace21 Facebook event page.





Find out more at helloguifespace orguk o1789 zg7400 www.lifespace.orguk

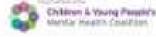


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We are here to serve you open every day of the year except Christmas Day Normal opening hours: 8am - 1pm

Our shop is your shop - use us as much as you can!

If you have 2½ hours available from time to time you could be a volunteer at the shop. If you think it's something you can help with please pop into the shop or email claverdoncs@gmail.com. You will be made most welcome and we're sure you will enjoy it!

BUS SERVICE TIMES

There is a bus service between Henley and Warwick/Leamington, calling at Claverdon, every Wednesday. For the time table visit www.flexi-bus.co.uk or see the community shop noticeboard.

CLAVERDON MOBILE POST OFFICE

Visits Claverdon every Monday and Wednesday - 12.15 to 2.15 pm

D M Hall car park adjacent to the Community Shop

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Visits us on Tuesdays every 4 weeks Next visits: 24th June, 22nd July calls at: St Michael's Rd (09.55) Church Centre car park (10.40) Henley Road, Preston Bagot (11.20)





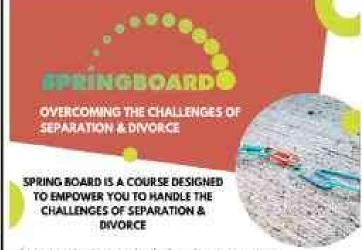
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Is there a fee? A small donation towards facilities would be welcome

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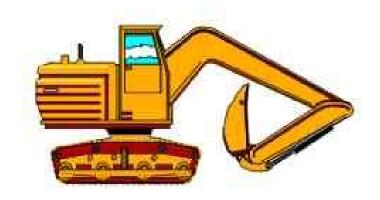
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Thursday 24th July Chunky Blanket

Saturday 26th July Chunky Blanket Chunky Cushion

Monday 28th July Chunky Wreath

Tuesday 29th July Chunky Cushion

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Events subject to change without notice.

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AND FINALLY...

Reaching the front of the queue

The first time I really remember waiting in a very long queue was when I was a student in London. Penny and I decided to try to see the Tutankhamun exhibition at the British Museum. The waiting time was about three hours and the weather was bitterly cold. An army of volunteers was bringing hot drinks to everyone. There was a special atmosphere about it all. The exhibition was amazing, but it is the queue that lingers in the memory.

I am not naturally good at queueing. I wouldn't have the patience to spend hours on-line trying to get concert tickets, however much I might like to see Coldplay or whoever. On the occasions we have taken our grandchildren to theme parks I have been amused at watching the subtlety of queue-jumping techniques, allowing a young child to run ahead and then following them to a point much nearer the front, for example.

I remember being in an airport in the Middle East when my flight departure was announced. It triggered a mass scramble to the desk for which I was clearly unprepared. I had naively imagined an orderly queue. I was inevitably the last to board!

My maths master at school explained to us that queues were like matter, you simply can't destroy them, you can only move them. His example was that if every time you reached the bus stop, a bus immediately appeared, there would indeed be no queue of passengers. There would, however, be a queue of buses round the corner waiting for the next passenger to turn up. We will always have queues.

Penny and I joined that incredible all-day queue to pay our respects at the late Queen's lying in state. It took twelve hours to reach Westminster Hall. Along the way we made lots of new friends and enjoyed a very special and memorable experience. It was British queueing at its very best.

I am conscious that there are also lots of very trying queuing experiences: being stuck on a closed motorway, endlessly delayed trains and flights or waiting your turn in A & E for example.

If there will always be queues let's at least be thankful for the orderly and unselfish approach to them that is a strangely British phenomenon and celebrate the unlikely opportunity for fellowship and good humour that they provide.

Phil





GET IN TOUCH WITH THE VILLAGES

Baby and Toddler Group	Parish Office	01926 840100 churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com
Badminton	Julie Blake	otservicesgb@gmail.com
Bellringers	Jill Roberts	01926 713430
Benefice Housing Association	Louise Peace	07930 687384 / 01926 843440
Church Centre Bookings	Parish Office	01926 840100
Church Floodlighting	Parish Office	01926 840100
Claverdon Art & Craft Group	Jayne Andrews	07753 795595
Claverdon & District Neighbourhood Watch	Steve Lister	sjlister@aol.com
Claverdon and District British Legion	Paul Ellwood	01564 784725
Claverdon Community Shop	Mike Rack	01926 843916
Claverdon Cricket Club	Vince Hammond	07925 290931
Claverdon Football Club	Charlie Waterworth	07309 575475
Claverdon Gardening Group	Heather Sharp	hdsharp3@gmail.com
Claverdon Monday Club	Shirley Reading	01926 842628
Claverdon Parish Council	Ken Flood	clerk@claverdon-pc.gov.uk
Claverdon Rugby Club	Līz Kelsey	07931 220489
Claverdon Quilters	Heather Sharp	01926 842557
Claverdon Primary School	Dan Powell	01926 842403
Claverdon Table Tennis	Gina Graham	01926 842927
Claverdon Tennis Club	Richard Butler	butlerrj01@gmail.com 07368 126148
Community First Responders	Peter Neville	01564 793978
Dorothea Mitchell Hall bookings	Caretaker	07398 244781
Preston Bagot Parish Meeting	Adrian Griffiths	prestonbagotpm@gmail.com
Rotary Club of Henley	David Burman	01926 842451
Scout Group 1 st Bearley and Snitterfield	Sam Smith	01789 731865
Scout Group 1 Henley and Wootton	Graham Mallinson	graham.mallinson@goodrich.com
Stepping Stones Pre-School (age 2 - 5)	Rachel Wild	01926 843353
Stratford District Councillor	Duncan Parker	07745 210097
Claverdon Youth Club	Parish Office	01926 840100
	KDMSERFERRES	churchesofardenoffice@gmail.com
Warwickshire County Councillor	lan Shenton	07746 565969
Wolverton Guiding (girls aged 5-14)	Janet Livingston	07752 105457





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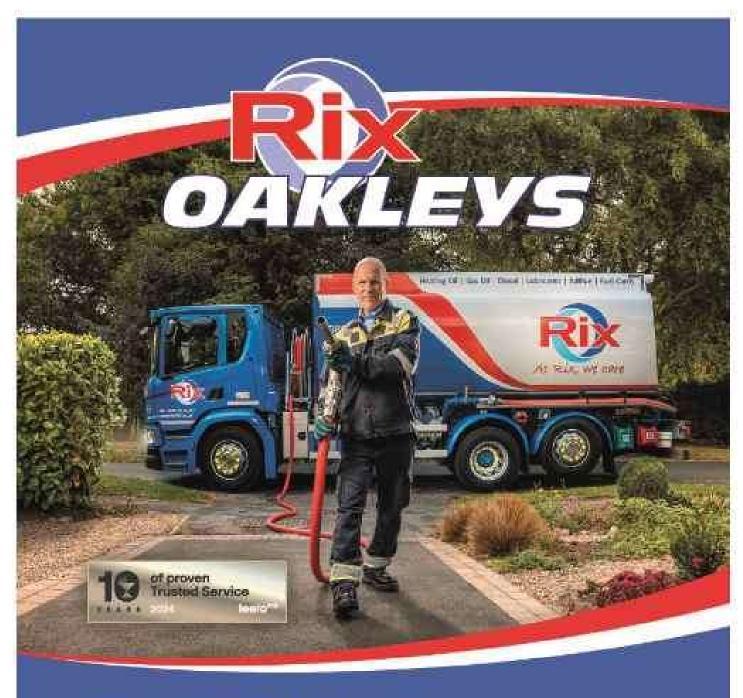
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