KINGS NORTON TEAM PARISH

The Magazine

For church & community

June 2020 **£1.50 in print & online**

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A Church of England Team Parish serving all in Kings Norton and Druids Heath through the Parish Church of St Nicolas and the District Churches of Hawkesley and Immanuel

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The 2nd Sunday of Easter - 19th April 2020

The Ministry Team at Kings Norton led by the Rector, the Reverend Larry Wright, offer a service of Holy Communion for the 2nd Sunday of Easter. The preacher is the Revd Catherine Matlock. The prayers are led by Pauline Weaver. Bible readings are by Parisa Pordelkhaki and the Revd Eliakim Ikechukwu. We will be broadcasting content throughout the Covid 19 crisis here and on our Audio page.

Technical Advice

Because this page is updated periodically, please refresh your browser every time you visit it to be sure that you are seeing the latest content by pressing the F5 key (Windows) or ⌘+R (Mac) on your keyboard. For the best picture quality, click the cog wheel (Settings) in the bottom right-hand corner of the video and ensure that Quality is set to 1080p. If the cog has already been overlaid by the red HL label, there is no need to do anything. To be notified when new videos appear, follow us on Twitter @kingsnortonteam, or Facebook.

You are not alone.

Though we cannot gather in person for a while,
your local church continues to meet for worship each Sunday
on the Parish Website.
Join us at kingsnorton.org.uk/video or facebook.com/kingsnortonteam

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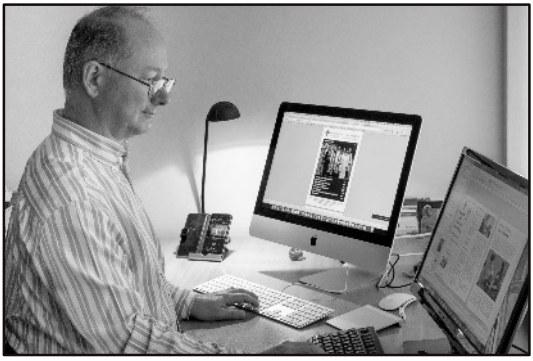
Please submit text in an editable format, preferably plain text or MS Word. Printed material entrusted to the Parish Office should be sealed and marked for the attention of The Editor.

Submission Deadlines

Items for inclusion in the July 2020 edition must reach the Editor by midnight on **Friday 12th June.**

Items for inclusion in the August 2020 edition must reach the Editor by midnight on **Friday 3rd July.**



This is by far the thinnest edition of the Parish Magazine we have published since I took over as Editor in February 2014. On the one hand, I am not surprised. With public gatherings currently impossible, there is no point in printing announcements of forthcoming events or initiatives, and there can be no reports of recent ones.

On the other hand, these are, as we are constantly reminded, extraordinary times, days of disruption, innovation and reflection. One would have thought that there were many stories waiting to be told about the ways in which you, the people of Kings Norton, are rising to the challenge of keeping life going during the epidemic. Now, more than ever, we need to encourage each other with tales of resilience, courage and hope, to celebrate selflessness, recognise generosity and confront negativity.

If, then, you have a story to tell and have hesitated until now to tell it, don't hold back. Your Parish Magazine is one of the ways in which you can tell your neighbours what's been going on locally as they shelter at home. There are many who read these pages who do not use social media but who would be interested to hear from you. It doesn't have to be a grand affair. Accounts of small gestures, offered with love and perhaps photos, can have as great an impact as longer articles from more seasoned writers.

The Editor

From The Rector
In Praise of Dr Jenner

Dr Edward Jenner (17 May 1749 – 26 January 1823) achieved fame in his lifetime for refining, applying and proving the effective use of a vaccine against smallpox. During his lifetime smallpox was responsible for the deaths of up to 10% of the population and this increased to 20% in the crowded urban areas of the nation. Those who survived were left horribly scarred and often blind.

Edward Jenner was the son of an Anglican priest and his faith informed his life as a doctor, scientist and naturalist. According to his friends he loved reading the Bible and also reading 'God in nature and science'. This balanced approach to the natural world inspired him to seek out nature's secrets as a quest for truth as much as knowledge.

Like other scientific discoveries, Jenner's vaccine remedy for smallpox arose partly from the findings of previous scientists but also from his own intuition. He heard that milkmaids rarely succumbed to smallpox and

investigated why. He discovered that they were prone to catching cowpox from infected udders when milking. Cowpox is a milder form of smallpox and milkmaids who caught it would have cowpox pustules on their hands. This prompted Jenner to consider whether catching the cowpox was the reason why the women were immune to smallpox. To test his theory he scraped infected material

from a cowpox pustule and introduced it into the bloodstream of a healthy person, who then contracted cowpox. Jenner then used tissue from the cowpox scabs formed on the skin of his patient and introduced it into the bloodstream of a healthy person and they in turn built up immunity to smallpox. So convinced was he of this cure he inoculated his own family including his eight-year-old son.

Despite his success, the medical establishment at the time had a conservative view of new cures and Jenner had to wait many years before his findings were accepted as scientifically proven. Once accepted his 'vaccination' (a word derived from the Latin for cow : vacca) became the most widely-used treatment for providing immunity from smallpox and a number of other diseases. In the current search for a vaccine for Covid-19, scientists will be working through some of the same stages of experimentation which Jenner and others would have used in his time.

Jenner's work was replicated in many countries and his reputation became such that he was once referred to as 'the man who saved the world.' As a Christian, he would not have appreciated such a claim; but from a medical point of view his discovery has saved millions of lives from the sufferings and death brought on by certain diseases. There are statues of Jenner in Kensington Gardens, Rome and Gloucester Cathedral, his home county. Various hospital wards are named after him and his home in Berkeley, Gloucestershire is a museum of his life and achievements.

Dr Jenner is also model and inspiration for the many scientists and doctors who are people of faith. They, like Jenner, see no contradiction between science and the claims of religion. Religious belief, at its heart, is a quest for ultimate truth and ultimate meanings. Science is a means of exploring truth and meaning through experimentation within the natural world. For many scientists, the more they study the intricacies and beauty of creation, the more convinced they are of a Creator God. The 19th century French microbiologist and immunologist Louis Pasteur, once said, 'A little science distances you from God but a lot of science brings you nearer to him.'

In 1980, The World Health Organisation certified the global eradication of smallpox.

The Reverend Larry Wright

A prayer for scientists

Lord, you have endowed human beings with the ability to search out your laws and have given them the freedom to apply their knowledge as they choose. We ask your blessing on all engaged in scientific research and technology and on those who provide the resources for such work;
that choice may be made of projects
which both enhance human life

and have regard to the safety and well-being of the natural order.
May we thus be true stewards of your bounty,
to our own inner satisfaction and your greater glory.

Amen.

Mike Baker

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Foodbank News

In more normal times, I would probably have been reminding you to come and share in a re-run of 'Summer-Christmas at Hawkesley'. Instead, the Foodbank is still honing the new skills of combining distribution and warehousing all on one site, as well as working with a selection of partner organisations.

Generosity has remained high and demand has varied. Initially, it was quite low, as clients had to find new ways of accessing us. Many of our own voucher holders are now back on-board using electronic vouchers. The referrals are increasing again and are more tailored to the individual. Just the other day, the bagging team dealt with quite a selection of specialist diets and it was good to know we were able to support clients properly once more.

Locally, I would encourage you to give financially to the Foodbank rather than to give food just at the moment. The area has been rather flooded by pop-up organisations all encouraging the giving of food and it is going to take a while for these groups to be co-ordinated. It is encouraging, though, to see that the basic human reaction to help seems to be alive and well.

We will use financial donations to buy any stocks we need in future months. We will also fit out our permanent second warehouse with racking. We still need the space of the temporary warehouse although we are well into May at the time of writing. The second warehouse will give us a home for bagging until such time as we can go back to The Cotteridge Church, as well as being a place to store excess stock ahead of the 'Dickens Effect' giving at Advent and Christmas.

Our management team meetings now take place in the car park in a large pentagon, well spaced apart, and our warehouse neighbours have been most supportive in allowing us use all of the car park space on Tuesdays and Fridays, so that more work can be achieved whilst still observing the distancing guidelines.

Sylvia Fox

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Food and Family

In Druid's Heath

During the lockdown, I've had the privilege of delivering food to families in Druids Heath, largely through existing connections with the Spearhead Trust at Bell's Farm (right), a local community organisation which has been operating since 2001.

There is a team of staff and volunteers working tirelessly at Bell's Farm five days a week, Anne-Marie, Becky, Natalie and the founders, Sid and Dot, share between them the food sourcing, preparation, cooking, serving, delivery and stock management. I asked Anne-Marie for her perspectives on their community work and the effects of Covid-19 on the estate's residents.

How has Spearhead Trust responded to the Covid-19 crisis?

Most of our focus is on the provision of food for the residents of Druids Heath. We are finding different ways to obtain food, travelling around the city and sometimes as far as Leicester to collect it. We provide families in Druids Heath who receive free school meal vouchers with cooked meals which they can pick up every lunchtime from Monday to Friday. Our connection with many of the families goes back years. We offer wrap-around support for some. Spearhead also delivers a hot meal to older people every Wednesday because they can't come for their weekly lunch at Bell's Farm during the lockdown. We've had a food bank at Bell's Farm for several years but the need for food parcels has increased massively during the crisis.

From your perspective, what are the challenges of lockdown for the Druids Heath community?

It's affecting people's mental health. Many mums are struggling, stuck at home with their kids all the time. Some schools have started phoning parents and asking whether they are keeping children schooled. This is adding to the stress. The situation is getting progressively worse. Parents are always having to keep their kids occupied and

there is the pressure to feed them. We are only feeding a small minority here. Lots of families are not taking advantage of food provision. We are giving lots of extra staple supplies and treats with our lunches. It might be the only decent meal the children get that day.

Older people are struggling with isolation. When Sid delivered lunch to one woman yesterday, she said she felt like she was starring in 'Prisoner: Cell Block H'. The older residents we connect with are used to meeting here once a week for a chat and a giggle. Without this companionship, they could go downhill.

What signs of hope have you seen during lockdown?

There's a lot more collaborative work. On an estate, the community can come together in

a crisis. For example, we are building a great relationship with Kath Coogan (Kath's Café owner), and then there's that 'vicar': we're still trying to work her out . There are still gripes here but some really good things happening.

Sid added: Spearhead's service to the community remains faithful and consistent. We have a heart for the residents of Druids Heath. We really care. We offer wrap-around, non-judgemental support and help. We hope to be a sanctuary for local people, their extended family.

Thank-you Spearhead Trust! Through food, you are offering so much love, joy and hope to Druids Heath during the lockdown.

Whilst I really miss gathering at Kath's Café, enjoying fellowship with residents in this special, social hub, food continues to be a catalyst for relationship on the estate. Chatting with parents who are picking up their meals from Spearhead and doorstep dialogue when I'm out on deliveries have become my regular lunchtime activities.

Food opens doors that are not just about satisfying hunger. People have needs but they also have stories. Conversations that start with questions about coping during the lockdown reveal the hidden strengths and talents of residents. And the revelation of this potential brings new hope, not only for overcoming the current crisis, but for deeper connections, creativity, collaboration and community development in the future. There's a beautiful rainbow behind the clouds and it's getting brighter.

The Revd Catherine Matlock

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Pilgrimage Update

It will not perhaps be a surprise that, like many other planned occasions across the country, we have made the decision to postpone both pilgrimages, due to the current situation and lockdown rules.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE LAZARICA CHURCH, BOURNVILLE

This has been postponed from 20th June until the Autumn. I have spoken to Father Nenad and the new date will be announced as soon as it is arranged after the lockdown.

PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI and ROME

A new date for this has been booked with the two hotels in Assisi and Rome. (Italian hotels are filling up fast for 2021 with guests re-scheduling.) We will depart from Birmingham on 15th March 2021 and spend the first three nights in Assisi, as previously planned, returning from Rome after three nights there, on Sunday 21st March 2021.

Everyone who has already booked will be contacted individually. However, there may be some who were unable to manage the original dates who would now like to join us. If you would like more details please contact me via the Parish Office.

Thelma Mitchell

The Church in the Parish

We are a Church of England Team Parish serving all in Kings Norton through St Nicolas' Parish Church, Hawkesley, in partnership with the Methodist Church, and Immanuel District Churches.

We believe that the church in Kings Norton exists
To be a worshipping transforming partnership in Christ
To live out God's radical hospitality for all
To be equipped for work in God's world

During the Covid-19 crisis, we have had to suspend all our usual activities including church services. That does not mean, however, that church has ceased to be active. Many of our services have moved online.

Sunday worship from St Nicolas' Church is now broadcast as a video on the parish website **(www.kingsnorton.org.uk/video)**. It is available from early on Sunday morning and throughout the following week.

Sunday morning worship from Immanuel Church is streamed live on Facebook at 10.30 am **(facebook.com/Immanuel123Church).**

The Tiny Tots Family Service is broadcast live on Facebook at 10.00 am on Sunday morning **(bit.ly/2K8KzTS)**. You can find daily stories and crafts for children on the same page.

Weekly prayers for Druids Heath and other occasional recordings appear as podcasts on the parish website (**www.kingsnorton.org.uk/audio**).

You can join members of the Ministry Team for morning and evening prayer daily on the parish Facebook page at 10.30 am and 5.45 pm (**www.facebook.com/kingsnortonteam**).

As new initiatives emerge, we will publish details on the parish website.

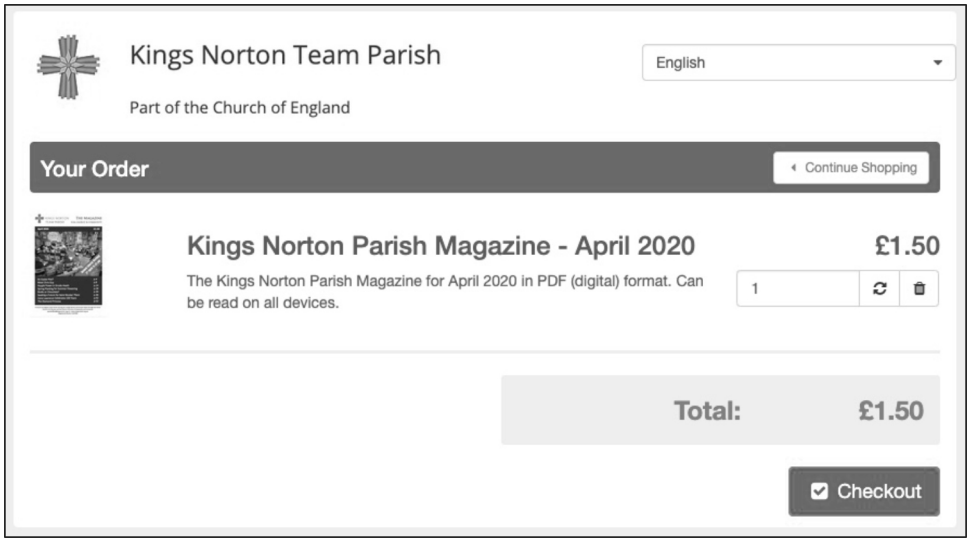
The Parish Magazine is now being sold online as a downloadable PDF which can be read on computers, phones and tablets. Since local distribution has become problematic, we have decided to print fewer copies, but all subscriptions will be honoured.

The Parish Magazine on the Internet

Since April 2020, it has been possible to purchase the Parish Magazine from the Parish Website for the same price as the printed version. £1.50 buys you a digital copy which can be read on any device capable of opening files in the popular PDF format.

Since few of our local volunteers are able to deliver to your door during the health emergency, we have switched to postal deliveries for the time being. If an edition for which you have paid in advance fails to arrive, please let the Parish Office know and we'll send you another copy. If you prefer, we can arrange for you to receive a digital copy instead.

We are looking for a way to offer automatic online subscriptions (rather than one-off downloads for which you have to pay each time) in the hope that an increasing number of readers will wish to adopt the digital format, thus reducing our printing costs.



Hens, Chicks and Bedding Plants

Seasonal tips from a green-fingered reader in isolation

As I take my daily walk for less than one hour (for medical reasons) I am privileged to see what is happening in my neighbours' gardens. As I write, the Azaleas are in bloom and many of the house fronts are graced with the soft blue chains of Wisteria flowers.

At this time of year, the great planting of bedding plants and even perennials is normally in full swing but the garden centres have been closed until very recently and you are left with the possibility of buying on the internet. There are one or two things to be aware of when doing this. Firstly the plants are rather expensive and they are perfectly healthy but very SMALL and most will need potting up to gain some size before planting out.

You will be shown photographs of mature plants bearing masses of flowers in a glorious array of clear colours. That is fine if you will be receiving a selection of named varieties. Beware of being offered a selection of plants in assorted but not named varieties at a bargain price!

A couple of years back I bought a dozen small, hardy geraniums which only this year bore their first flowers. Eagerly awaiting a riot of different colours I scanned the flower bed to see that every one was a good specimen of *Geranium phaeum.* The flowers are fairly small and of a rich but perhaps rather funereal purple. Where are the pinks and the blues? I fear they are still in the grower's display beds in Belgium. Ah well, you live and learn!

You will have gathered by now that my plant of the month is often a bit unusual but, in the right place, it can be very effective.

No Petunias or Pansies here. Can I introduce you to the succulent Sempervivums? You may recall them as House Leeks or Hen & Chicks (photo below) and, if you have a south-facing old rockery in full sun with awful soil, they can be a real asset. These toughies can be seen making themselves at home between old roof tiles on outbuildings and their rosettes of leaves can now be had in a vast array of colours thanks to American growers. One local botanical garden grows them in a trough filled with broken flowerpots . They were perfect for making carpet beds as the background for a botanical clock on the seafront of our more traditional resorts. I wonder if they still exist? Because they are very hardy and thrive on neglect they can appeal to boys or girls as a first step in gardening. You can see from the photo how they got their popular name. Those offsets can be rooted and you will have a vast collection in no time.

If you are thinking of building a collection, I suggest you use good old terra-cotta pots. For the best colour grow them in full sun and do not overwater. Once the central rosette has flowered it will die and should be carefully removed to prevent rot in the offshoots.

As I look out of my widow I can see a white apple blossom tree hard by a magnificent blue Ceanothus, our tree of the month (below). Usually seen as a shrub or even in a prostrate form tumbling down a bank the variety *Puget Blue* will grow into a garden tree if restricted to one trunk kept clean from side shoots. Ceanothus blue is like bluebell blue, impossible to describe but once seen never forgotten. A great specimen for the smaller garden and as a bonus it is evergreen with small, shiny dark green leaves.

Serious vegetable growers might contemplate getting a polytunnel during this period when you might have some time on your hands. I can only tell you that the plastic cover will have to

be changed after a few years and it is important to fix padding where the cover passes over the framework. Some stay cords will prevent your tunnel flipping over in to your neighbour's plot in a winter gale, however the results can be very good indeed and winter-growing veg. will do well with some ventilation.

On my fitness walk today I met two people carrying boxes of bedding plants which they had bought at the greengrocer's on the corner by Wickes of Stirchley. There are other greengrocers open and this could be an answer to the garden centre problem.

Bye for now, stay well and enjoy your gardens.

Adam the Gardener

Resources for those staying at home

Access the Coronavirus Covid-19 Community Support Directory online at www.bvoices.uk/Coronavirus

If you are unable to find the help you need, call 0333 772 1931 for assistance/referral

For advice: www.nhs.uk/conditons/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice

To find activities or support in your area visit www.r2wbirmingham.info

To download the Birmingham Directory of Community Assets visit www.brumnns.wordpress.com/tag/asset-directory

To find out about goods and services to help you in Birmingham visit www.birmingham.connectosupport.org

To find third sector organisations in Birmingham visit www.bvsc.org/directory

To find NHS services in Birmingham visit www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk/patients-public/a-z-services

Zoom Fatigue

Many new phrases have entered our vocabulary as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown. "Zoom fatigue" refers to the mental exhaustion associated with online video conferencing.

We can change how we interact on video calls with adapted social behaviours such as scheduling shorter meetings. But theories from audio and sound research tell us that a lot of what determines how fatigued you become is based on what you are listening to.

The voices transmitted through the internet in real time are unedited and therefore crude to our ears. That is why we can wile away an hour listening to a podcast interview but feel drained after a video meeting, even if we didn't have to contribute.

The good news is each one of us can contribute to reducing Zoom fatigue. You can change some simple things to improve everyone's video meeting experience.

Unnatural, unexpected and annoying sounds invoke a response in our brains and force us to concentrate on them. In a conference call or video meeting, your voice is transformed by the microphone. High pitch frequencies will be amplified, resulting in a squeaky, "Mickey Mouse" effect.

Subtle sounds such as key tapping and swallowing sounds will be captured and amplified through the system. Squeaky chairs, eating crunchy snacks and slurping coffee can sound to the listeners as if you are chewing in their ears.

If you want to limit the negative effect your voice might be having on other callers, the problem is you don't know what it actually sounds like on their devices. Face to face we can hear ourselves in the same environment as our audience hears us and we adjust accordingly but that's not possible online.

Step into your listener's shoes: record a meeting on your own and listen back to understand how others hear you. Something as simple as adjusting the position, distance, or direction of your microphone could make a big difference. Switching from a laptop's built-in microphone to a headphone microphone can mask a lot of environmental noises such as keyboard clicking or room echo.

While the content and topics of our video conversations may remain the same, we are constrained by the technology. Listening to group chats can be exhausting because we have lost the ways we use "back-channel" sounds to give turn-taking feedback.

This nuanced "meta-communication" involves using verbal and non-verbal sounds, such as "yeah" or "uh-huh", that show attention, understanding, or agreement, distracts and interrupts the flow in a group conversation. Network delays can confuse things even more when the talker's speech and the back-channel response arrives out of synch or with long delays and can completely stall the conversation flow.

Network problems can also impact speech clarity. Data loss in the audio feed can cause unnatural sounding voices and missing sounds. Our brain needs to do extra work to fill in the gaps. We use energy concentrating on unnatural voice changes that divert our concentration from understanding the message.

We must acknowledge the technical limits of video chats and adapt by cultivating new conversation etiquettes. Mute your microphones after saying hello and using text chat to interject or raise questions in group conversations. Articulate your own speech clearly (don't mumble) and turn on closed captions to aid your comprehension. And make sure someone else in the house is not consuming all the bandwidth for Netflix while you are having a video conference.

Conversations in a household environment bring background noises as well as echoes and reverberation due to room acoustics. Typical background conversations in open-plan offices can easily be filtered out subconsciously by our brain due to its ability to separate sounds by their location or direction.

These spatial cues allow us to focus on a single speaker in a crowded room. This is one reason why side-conversations held in parallel to the main discussion do not work on a video conference. Without the aid of directional information background noises and speech become a lot more intrusive. Rooms at home can produce reverberations that can reduce your ability to understand speech.

To make your home video environment more accommodating, close the door to at least keep pets out, even if it cannot stop kids interrupting. You may not want to convert your living room into a recording studio by putting egg cartons all over the wall but you can make the acoustic environment more "voice friendly" by reducing reverberation and echoes with soft furnishings like blankets or pillows instead of plain walls. The bookcase in the background is not just a pretty prop but also a good acoustic baffle.

Just like social distancing, improving the quality of your video call experience relies on a community effort. As many of us won't be going back into the office for a long time, we must all work to reduce Zoom fatigue and make calls less of a strain for everyone.

Andrew Hines, *Assistant Professor, University College Dublin and* ***Pheobe Sun****, PhD Candidate in Computer Science, University College Dublin*

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Locked Down

The Thoughts of a Lay Minister

As I write this we are in lockdown, a situation which none of us could have envisaged and which is proving challenging for everyone.

One of the positives for me is my garden. I feel very privileged to have a garden and to be able to spend time outside. I enjoy working in the garden and, as it's quite big, there is lots to do. But I also enjoy sitting and watching. Bird life and bird song seem to much more prevalent at the moment; or is it just that, with less noise and more time, I'm actually able to witness it more, to be more observant and aware of it? I've also set up a chair inside my patio doors so that I can watch them from inside too without being interrupted by the dog. Today there was even a heron sitting on the top of a neighbour's tree.

Another positive for me is technology, being able to keep in touch using phone, WhatsApp, Facebook, Skype, Zoom and many more; even good old-fashioned mail. I've learnt new skills and revisited some I'd forgotten about, like audio recording. I can remember, as a child, recording on reel-to-reel tapes that were then sent in the post, especially overseas or to my blind uncle. In fact, I was reminded of this only recently when my nephew sent me a CD. On that CD he had downloaded a reel-to-reel recording of my brother singing when he was posted to Malaya in the late 1950s. It's a wonderful recording of skiffle songs and messages home. But I digress.

I wonder what skills you have learnt or revisited during the lockdown? I know lots of people are baking, cycling, gardening and sewing. I hope you have managed to keep in touch and maybe to do some of those things on the 'one-day-when-I-have-time' list.

I also wonder what our abiding memory of this time will be. Standing on

our doorsteps to clap the NHS has been really emotional, seeing so many people making the effort to say 'thank you'. Who knew we'd be standing outside with saucepans and spoons? Perhaps it is the wonderful rainbows that keep appearing in people's windows.

I think it is fascinating that God's promise to Noah, the rainbow in the sky, has become the symbol of hope during this time of crisis, a time when faith is needed more than ever and when people are using the language of faith in their conversations much more.

I hope that your memories are positive ones and that this crisis has not touched you and your loved ones personally. If it has, then I send my love and my prayers to you, as I know the rest of the Ministry Team here will. Please remember that we are still here to pray for and to support you all, just in a slightly different way at the moment. I look forward to the time when we can all be together in the more usual way. Until then, stay safe and stay well.

Pauline Weaver

Harry L Marks

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Quite A Show!

It's back to Japan this month, a country which has fond memories for me. My favourite city is Kobe, where my ship was laid over for almost two months for dry docking and modifications in the Mitsubishi dockyard.

While we were there, the shipping company laid on a trip to the Takarazuka Revue and Park. We were told that the trip would be available on two consecutive days so that everyone on board could attend and that we would be accompanied by an English-speaking guide. The journey began from Kobe station, where the day would begin with a forty minute train journey. We would then disembark and board a private train, which would take us to the venue some 10 miles away. This line had been built by a Mr Takarazuka, an industrialist who founded the complex which we were going to visit: it had a huge theatre, a park, a zoo and a funfair.

The show was spectacular with a cast of almost 200 girls who took both male and female roles. We had already noted photographs on the train of stars from the show wearing their elaborate costumes. They were apparently big celebrities in Japan. A huge orchestra was also on hand. There were several different acts including

some Kabuki drama with geisha girls in elaborate kimonos who carried beautiful fans and a wore elaborate white makeup. Kabuki is an art form over 400 years old. Towards the end of the show, a set with a pagoda and a bridge was revealed and an earthquake was staged, complete with with loud rumbling. The set collapsed entirely and, at the climax, a huge lantern fell from the pagoda and smashed into pieces.

Once the show was over, we took a walk from the theatre to see the park. As it was late winter, most of the fairground was closed. There was a small zoo, but we all agreed that the lions, the bears and the other animals were not treated very well; they were all in rather small cages and looked very sorry for themselves.

An amusing footnote to this tale is that when the trip was advertised on board as an 'all-girl' review some of the younger crew members became quite excited! Having seen a similar show in Tokyo when I was working on the Canberra, I was able to explain that there weren't going to be any skimpy costumes and certainly no nudity in any form. It was family entertainment, after all. No doubt there were a few disappointed crew members that day!

Eddie Matthews

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CONTACTS

If you cannot find what you are looking for here, you will probably find it on the parish website (www.kingsnorton.org.uk). Alternatively, please ask questions at the Parish Office, which remains open between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm.

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Curate (Pioneer)	The Revd Catherine Matlock
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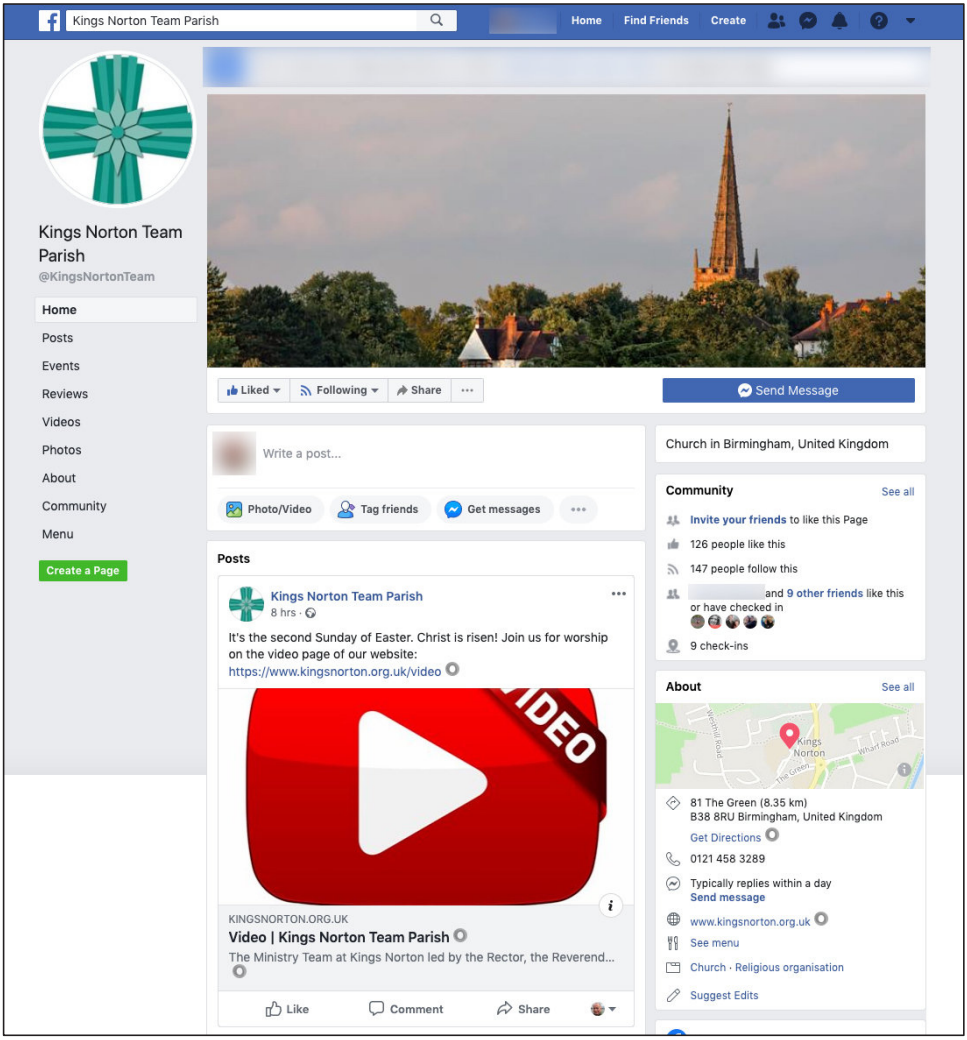

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...with what your parish church is doing during the health crisis. Morning and evening prayer are live on Facebook every day. News and links to parish online activities can be found here, on Twitter @kingsnortonteam and on the Parish Website.

WESTHILL HOUSE DAY NURSERY

2014|2015 Ofsted Outstanding Early years provider

Open 07.30 – 18.00
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- Free funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- Before and after school club
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- Large garden and playground

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