

IN TOUCH

April/May 2020



The Magazine of the Edgemoor Group of Parishes

IN TOUCH circulates freely throughout the eleven parishes. Contributions to the cost of production are welcome and may be handed to the clergy or placed in the *In Touch* collection boxes.

Suggested copy price £1.00

www.edgemoorparishes.org.uk



The Edgemoor Group of Parishes

Charles. HighBray. NorthMolton. Twitchen. BishopsNympton. Mariansleigh. RoseAsh. Knowstone. EastAnstey. WestAnstey. Molland.

Ministry Team

Team Rector

Revd David Baker
The Vicarage, NM
EX36 3HX 01598 740325
davidbaker.sw@gmail.com

Team Vicar (*Part Time*)

Revd Alastair Forman
East Rock Barn, BN
EX36 4PL 01769 551784
alastair.forman@gmail.com

Associate Priest (SSM)

Revd Penny Lawson
01398 341278

Curate (SSM)

Revd Alison Rogers
01769 550139
alisonj.r66@gmail.com

Deacon

Revd Christopher Whinney
01598 760217

Reader

Richard Holloway
01769 579125

Lay Assistant

Frances Evans 01769 550313

Further Contact Details:

Messy @ Anstey

Rachel Holland
hollandclan@fhsinternet.com

Ansteys Christians Together Discussion Group – A.C.T.

Susan Bew (01398 341423)
susanbew001@icloud.com

IN TOUCH is published six times a year in December, February, April, June, August and October. Contributions for each issue should reach the editor at North Molton Vicarage by the 7th of the month preceding publication. Articles for the magazine are welcomed from all within the 11 parishes.

Send by to:

intouch.edgemoor@gmail.com

The business manager, to whom enquiries about advertising should be directed to:

Mr Roger Wilson

email: crossecottage01@gmail.com

EDITORIAL

The old man said, 'In my life I have known many problems and worries but most of them never happened'. President Franklin D Roosevelt is famously quoted as saying 'Let me assert my firm belief that the only thing that we have to fear is fear itself'. He also referred to the four essential freedoms, the fourth of which is the freedom from fear.

I write this as the whole Coronavirus event has been ratcheted up another notch with stock markets in free fall, events being cancelled, flights around the world cancelled, people in lockdown. Here in the UK we have no idea how things will turn out, but a fear is already deeply affecting us, and the media is constantly turning the screw. I wonder if the fear is worse than the virus. We have been in fearful positions many times in our history, and at a time like this we should look to the future, because for better or worse, it will pass.

Throughout the Bible stories people were constantly experiencing terrible and fearful events, from the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt, droughts and pestilence, endless battles, problems with the Philistines and Jerusalem being sacked, rebuilt and sacked over and over again. The inhabitants in and out of slavery, Roman occupation and so on.

Jesus knew how fearful people are. He said 'And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? But strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these will be given to you as well. So do not worry about to-morrow for to-morrow will bring worries of its own. To-day's trouble is enough for to-day'.

Dame Julian of Norwich wrote 'But all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well'.

And as I look out of the window the sun is shining again!

Be uplifted.

Chris Whinney



CHURCHWARDENS

Charles

Jonathan Hudson 01598 710350
Stuart Whitehead 01598 710769

East Anstey

Keith Bavin 01398 341257
Bob Connell

High Bray

Ray White 01598 710417
Anthony Bawden

Knowstone

Reg Howe 01398 341508

North Molton

John Fox 01598 740543

Rose Ash

Martyn Rix 01769 550281
Caro Hammick 01769 550409

Twitchen

Graham White

Bishops Nympton

Frances Evans 01769 550313
Cheryl Woollacott 01769 550435

Molland

Brian Taylor 01769 550704
John Lawson 01398 341278

Mariansleigh

Thelma Avery 01769 550424
Richard Govier 01769 550996

West Anstey

John Morgan 01392 341972

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptised at Bishops Nympton, 1st December 2019:

Beatrice Mills

Cremation at Barnstaple Crematorium, 19th November 2019:

Alistair James Duff

Cremation at Barnstaple Crematorium, 6th December 2019:

Winifred May Lidbetter

Burial of Ashes at Rose Ash, 15th January 2020:

Christopher Hill

Burial of Ashes at Mariansleigh, 4th February 2020:

Leo and Marie-Luise Streit

Burial at Rose Ash, 25th February 2020:

Lesley Joan Hambridge

Burial of Ashes at Molland Church, 28th January 2020:

Mary Pook

Funeral and burial at Molland Church, 4th March 2020:

Bob Cockram

Funeral and Burial at Knowstone, 24th February 2020:

Frances Irene Spottiswoode

THE YEARS' MIND

Please remember at this time:

Dennis Gunn

Keith Taylor

Arthur Sing

Derek Ayre

Pat Atkins

Betty Long

John Macintosh

Louise Harvey

Vera Breyley

Pam Groves

Gerald Dowden

Priscilla Boundy

Vera Bolzon

Jez Bowdem

Margaret Clarke

Tony Boyles

Bill Bucknell

Ron Fanthorpe

Frank Burnett

Betty Chanter

Bob Hackman

Dorothy Little

John Bratby

Ron Boardman

Diana Kegwyn

Edwin Thorne

John Milton

Florrie Cutland

Lucy Bertram

Les Sangers

Joan Copas

Dorothy Ayre

Jack Govier

Edward Ayre

Arthur Newman

Geoffrey Rapley

William Coe

Bill Tucker

Paget King-Fretts

Nancy Lerwill

Alfred Kingdon

Brian Lock

Kenneth Cropper

Michael Ling

Brian Pugsley

Richard Power

Burgess Endicott

Edwin Thorne

Clare Tricky

Joyce Leworthy

Audrey Waterson

Angela Tate

Joan Thomas

There are lots of services and events listed in this edition of the magazine. As Covid-19 (Coronavirus) has more effects on our lives, please check that these events are happening, before you travel any distance, or put yourself at risk.

SERVICES

April 5th Palm Sunday		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Charles	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
High Bray	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Mariansleigh	8.30 am	Breakfast Church
East Anstey	10.00 am	Holy Communion
West Anstey	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Knowstone	8.30 am	Holy Communion

EASTER at a Glance

HOLY WEEK

Monday	6.30pm	North Molton	Holy Communion
Tuesday	6.30pm	North Molton	Holy Communion
Wednesday	9.30am	North Molton	Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	North Molton	Holy Communion followed by Vigil
	7.30pm	Mariansleigh	Holy Communion
Good Friday	10.30am	North Molton	Walk of Witness
	11.30am	Knowstone	Walk of Witness
	12.00 noon	North Molton	Joint Service
	2.00pm	North Molton	Solemn Vigil
	2.00pm	East Anstey	Reflections
	7.00pm	High Bray	Taize Passion Reading
Holy Saturday	8.00pm	North Molton	Service of the Light and Holy Communion

April 12th Easter Day		
Froude Stone	6.30 am	Dawn Service
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Twitchen	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Charles	11.15 am	3 Church Worship
High Bray	11.15 am	Service at Charles
Bishops Nympton	9.30 am	Breakfast Church
Molland	10.00 am	Holy Communion
East Anstey	10.00 am	Holy Communion
West Anstey	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Knowstone	11.15 am	Family Worship
April 19th		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
High Bray	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer - Chapel
Mariansleigh	10.00 am	Holy Communion
East Anstey	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
West Anstey	8.30 am 9.30 am	Holy Communion Outdoor Church
April 26th		
North Molton	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Holy Communion Sacred Space
Twitchen	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Charles	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Molland	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
East Anstey	10.00 am	Service at West Anstey
West Anstey	10.00 am	Lay led

Rose Ash	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
May 3rd		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Charles	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
High Bray	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Mariansleigh	9.30 am	Breakfast Church
East Anstey	10.00 am	Holy Communion
West Anstey	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Knowstone	8.30 am	Holy Communion
May 10th		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Charles	11.15 am	Service at High Bray
High Bray	11.15 am	3 Church Service
Bishops Nympton	9.30 am	Breakfast Church
Molland	10.00 am	Holy Communion
East Anstey	6.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Rose Ash	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Knowstone	11.15 am	Family Worship
May 17th		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
High Bray	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer - Chapel
Mariansleigh	10.00 am	Holy Communion
East Anstey	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
West Anstey	8.30 am 9.30 am	Holy Communion Outdoor Church

May 24th		
North Molton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Twitchen	11.15 am	Holy Communion
Charles	8.30 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Molland	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
East Anstey	10.00 am	Lay led
West Anstey	10.00 am	Service at East Anstey
Rose Ash	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
May 31st		
North Molton	10.30 am	Holy Communion
Bishops Nympton	10.30 am	Holy Communion

CHARLES – *Annie Whitehead*

'A cold April and a wet May fill the barn with grain and hay'. May the above proverb prove true as we reflect on how extreme weather conditions have affected those who have lost their saturated homes and land. We pray nationwide for prosperity and well-being for all and especially for our farmers in Charles and surrounding villages.

We warmly welcome Martin and Brenda Peake and Tim and Gill Vaux into Charles.

On February 2nd the village gathered for a farmhouse Sunday lunch at **Sandy Park**. What a wonderful place, wonderful setting & exquisite food. Rachel excelled herself and her two young waitresses were efficient and highly competent. Thank you, Rachel, for being the perfect host, we highly recommend you. For more information and bookings please contact Rachel on Sandy Park Farmhouse Facebook page or mobile 07525 615430.

At the beginning of the month four of us visited Madeleine's lovely farmhouse to discuss the Christmas **Shoe Box Appeal**. We are starting **now** to gather as many empty shoeboxes before the truly altruistic Simon Rooksby travels from UK in November. We are also asking for help to fill the boxes with gifts for the vulnerable and poor, both adults and children.

NB. Two boxes have been left in Charles Church one box for donations and another box on information on what to put in and what NOT to put in. **Please contact Madeleine for more information on 01598 710389** & please save your empty shoeboxes where you can leave them in High Bray Church, Charles Church and Brayford Chapel at any time.

Dates for your Diary:

Easter Sunday: **12th April** 11.15am: Three Church service at Charles

May 8th 10am- 12.15pm: Plant Sale & Coffee Morning at Lamb Cottage. Howard Tolley says herbs, perennials, bedding plants and vegetables will be available. Proceeds will go to N D Hospice and how in the past years they have supported Parkinson's UK, the Pageant and Charles Church together with schools in Nepal and Africa. Dianne Tolley has now taken over from Geoff Collier as Charles Bell ringer captain.

June 28th: Patronal Service 11.15am. Followed by BBQ.

HIGH BRAY

What joy walking up High Bray church path, with snowdrops, crocus, daffodils and primroses all out together – a welcome sight after the relentless rain.

Anthony's Quiz Night is on Friday 3rd April; lots of fun raising funds for the church. (Please check prior to the evening for any late cancellation due to the current health alerts)

We are so grateful to have received a legacy from the late Mrs Phyllis Friend and Mrs Phyllis Bond. Running costs of the church increase each year but we aim to stay "open" to all.

Our Good Friday reading of the Gospel and quiet singing begins at 7.00 pm. All are most welcome. On Easter Sunday we will join with Methodists and Charles for a United service at 11.15 am.

Community Coffee on the first Wednesday of the month – we had over twenty people this month. Lovely to see everyone enjoying each other's company.

Congratulations, love and best wishes to Bill Maddox and Tony Bawden who have very special birthdays.

Listen out on Monday evenings for our wonderful ringing team filling the evening air with the sound of bells.

NORTH MOLTON – Carol Fenwick

By the time you receive this magazine April will be here – hopefully with some lovely warm weather for the lambs to enjoy and also the farmers to breathe a sigh of relief that, may be the wet weather will have ceased. We must be thankful that we have not suffered as Worcestershire and Gloucestershire have.

CONGRATULATIONS to Clare Campbell who has been accepted by the Bishops Advisory Panel for Ordination training – we pray for Clare as she starts on her journey.

LENT LUNCHESES – if you haven't already been to a Lent Lunch, there is one left on the 3rd April – do come along. All donations will be given to The Saunders Good Samaritan Trust, a South Molton based Charity run by a small group of people who help the elderly, sick, disabled and anyone in urgent need, they support local community enterprises and younger people facing financial constraints in their effort to realise their potential, so please come along and support this very local and small group of people helping those in the community.

Members of the HISTORY SOCIETY enjoyed a very informative and entertaining talk by 'The Paper Man' (Jim Patterson) he showed us how they hand make paper – he being the only person that actually makes water colour paper by hand.

QUIZ – All Saints Church Quiz will be on Friday, 5th June, at the Sportsman's Inn Sandy Way. Come along and enjoy a quiz and carvery.

We send David our best wishes as he goes on his Sabbatical during May, June and July, and look forward to his return.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

GOOD FRIDAY – 10.30 am Walk of Witness – meeting by the Bridge at the bottom of the Village – followed by refreshments.

CHURCH QUIZ - Friday, 5th June, 7 pm at The Sportsman's Inn, Sandy Way.

HANNAH WOOLACOTT Flute and guitar duo – watch out for the date.

NEWS FROM NORTH MOLTON VICTORY HALL-*Nicola Bourne*

North Molton Victory Hall news: As I write this our spring bulbs are now beginning to appear & our magnolia is in bud - hopefully the continuous rain, strong winds, hail & snow won't stop her usual display!!!!!! The pancake morning was very successful & thank you to all those who came

along. Our dance in April, is on Easter Saturday 11th 7.30 – 11.30 pm with a bring & share supper. The postponed dance from March is now the 20th June. Our next big event in our yearly calendar is the plant sale. This is on Saturday 16th May from 10.00 am – 12pm. As usual we run in conjunction with the Old School plant sale – we sell annuals, bedding plants & some vegetables, they sell perennials. We will be serving refreshments & as always there is a raffle. Also, in May, another dance – Saturday 30th, same details as above.

Lisa Butler continues her yoga sessions & if you are interested please contact her on 07902534206.

You may have noticed our noticeboard is broken – the winds ripped off the front! If you want to publicise your event, please do but laminate the poster. We will try to sort this out as soon as we can – funds permitting.

As ever thank you for supporting the hall, it means we can keep going for a little longer. Hall Correspondent Nicola Bourne 01598 740477
nician@waitrose.com

TWITCHEN – *Hugh Croft*

As I write we will be nearing the end of our Lenten journey and entering the most important part of the church's calendar, Holy week, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter. A time to reflect and be quiet and to sense the mystery of unconditional love and forgiveness, and to rejoice in the Resurrection of Our Lord.

The Deanery Synod met and Dr. Jack Shelley, our general synod rep. gave a very impressive report about the Church's take on the huge environmental issues facing us and what we are doing to help.

The trees around the church are causing concern and advice is being sort from the experts as regards to their safety.

As for us gardeners, the weather hasn't really been on our side; but none the less the snowdrops have been a magnificent carpet of white, the daffodils are bursting out thro' the wet. The broad beans have been planted and we wait with eager expectancy as they struggle thro' the waterlogged soil. Our thoughts are with the farmers who must be having a very difficult time in all this wet weather.

But Spring is on the way! We have our Easter day service at 11.15. All are most welcome.

Happy Easter.

MOLLAND - *Brian Taylor*

Firstly, please note the correct date for the **Devon Bell Ringers Final here at St. Mary's is Saturday June 13th** and will be taking place throughout the afternoon and evening starting with a church service. The London Inn will be open all day so come along and hear the “best of the best” of bell ringers in Devon competing against each other. Let's hope for a beautiful sunny June day! Apologies for the error of the date in the last issue.

The Garden Show is back this year on Sunday August 23rd with the staging of exhibits on the Saturday morning as has been the case in the past. The schedule has been revised and will soon be printed. A small committee and band of helpers will be running the event and it is hoped to have some other attractions on the day. We have sponsorship of many of the show classes so that all prize money will be paid; thanks to Molland Estate, the Parish Council and St. Mary's Church.

St. Mary's churchyard will be entered in the CPRE competition again this year. Plans are in the process of being finalised for the application to be sent in at the end of March. **We will be planting some apple trees in the churchyard to compliment the blackberries in the hedgerow on Sunday April 26th as part of the church service.** There will also be other additions to make this a really environmentally friendly churchyard both for wildlife and humans alike whilst retaining the serenity of such a place.

An application for a grant to fund the repairs and electrification of the church clock is under way and is a joint effort being made by the church and the parish council. Fingers crossed that we will be successful, and the clock will be brought back to life!

The village hall will have a new roof shortly, it may well be under way by the time you read this.

The market stall in South Molton on February 13th made £260.90 for church funds; many thanks once again to Pam and Marj for this great effort.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Thursday April 2nd

at 10.30am in the Vicarage, North Molton.

The end of an era, as Bob Cockram has passed away and his funeral service took place at St. Mary's on March 4th.

Bob was born and lived in Molland all his life and was a true inhabitant of our village. He will be much missed. Our sympathies go to the family.

The daffodils are at their best at the moment, the first week in March, in the churchyard. This, we hope, will be followed by a fine display of primroses which could be at their best at Easter.

A very Happy Easter to you all.



ANSTEY Hall – *Karen Piercy*

Anstey Arts have been busy in February and March showing two films “Blinded by the Light” and “Downton Abbey” accompanied by afternoon tea. Thanks to everyone who lent a hand and came to enjoy the films.

Craft Club held a Fundraiser for Australian Wildlife on Sunday 16th February. Thank you to everyone who donated, helped, turned up in the terrible weather, bought items, tombola tickets and raffle tickets, played the very competitive marble game and enjoyed the tea and cake. You all helped to raise £480 for the ongoing care of animals rescued from the fires in Australia.

The Pancake Lunch was very well attended and a great success.

The Ferret Racing Night was great fun, as always.

Regular events in April and May:

Monday 9.30 – 10.30: **Seated Yoga**, 12.45 – 13.45: **Post Office**, 19.00 – 22.00: **Bowls Club**

Tuesday sadly Crafter noon Tea and Papercraft have been cancelled

Wednesday 9.30 – 10.30: **Pilates**, 19.00 – 21.00 **Craft Club**

Special Events in April and May:

Tuesday 28th April 11.00 – 12.30: **Coffee Break**

Saturday 16th May: Charity Dance

Tuesday 26th May 11.00 – 12.30: **Coffee Break**

VE Day Celebrations

75th Anniversary VE Day Celebration Friday
8th May 7.30 pm Anstey Village Hall Yeo
Mill Music, Dancing, Food, Raffle and Bar £12
per person

in Aid of Anstey Village Hall, East Anstey
Church and West Anstey Church

Main course Chicken Pie, Cottage pie or Bangers and Mash, Vegetarian
option. Bring and Share Puddings

Bring photos of Family members in uniform Army Navy Home Guard and
Land girls!

Raffle prizes very welcome (can be delivered to 3, Mill View Yeo Mill West
Anstey) Please book with Valerie Jackson 01398 341410

NB Some events may be cancelled, or others added depending on the
progress of the Corona Virus.



EXMOOR LINK FEDERATION (BISHOPS NYMPTON AND EAST ANSTEY PRIMARY SCHOOLS) - from Lynn Loftus

We are now well into the Spring term although the weather has been
anything but Spring-like. This has had an adverse effect on our sporting
plans, with football matches and our invitational Cross-Country event at
Bishops Nympton postponed several times. We hope for more success
next term!

East Anstey children enjoyed a history workshop with the Moorland
Voices team, taken part in a 'spaghetti challenge' and are about to visit
the Eden Project as part of their curriculum enhancement. Those from
Bishops Nympton are eagerly awaiting a visit from the 'Space Dome' for a
fun-filled day of learning later in the term. Both schools took part in
activities to celebrate Chinese New Year and World Book
Day.

East Anstey School took delivery of the defibrillator that
had been positioned at Oldways End Community Hall. It
is now in the car park at the school should assistance be
needed.

Our older children are preparing for the Exmoor



Challenge – a self-navigated walk across approximately 16 miles of moorland terrain. Several training walks are scheduled, in order to build stamina and improve orienteering skills in preparation for the event on 2nd May.

Children from Years 4 & 5 are about to go on their residential trip to Dartmoor where they will take part in a range of outward-bound activities whatever the weather brings. Thanks, as always to the staff who give up their time for these extra-curricular events.

Both PTAs have been busy with children's discos, quiz nights and a Big Breakfast. People from the wider community are welcome at these events – do check for details on our newsletters (on the websites). If there are community events that you would like publicised, do contact either school office or we can ensure the information is sent home to families.

Happy Easter to you all.

EAST ANSTEY – *Fran Bridger*

The rain seems to have stopped! But I am afraid to cheer too loudly until we are really enjoying fine Spring weather! Here are some lovely events to catch up with such as the extremely successful **Pancake Lunch**, held for the first time in Anstey Village Hall and which raised an amazing £600! This has been divided between the North Devon Hospice, St Michael's Church, St Petrock's Church and the Children's Summer Club 2021. Sincere thanks to the many helpers on the day who gave generously of their time and did an absolutely brilliant job. There will be a **Good Friday meditation** in the church at 2pm, and on **Easter Day** a **Holy Communion Service** at 1000hrs. Everyone will be welcome for these special Christian festivals. Marie Curie will be holding a **Bingo Evening** later in the year – look out for more details. **Anstey Coffee Morning** will continue to be held in local houses – Perhaps you would like to raise money for your favourite charity, if so, please book your dates now with Jo (tel 341580) or Fran (tel 341993). Our annual **Anstey District Garden Show** at AVH will be on Saturday 8th August – let's hope for some good weather soon to get our seeds planted.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Poetry Readings:** 7th April 5th May. For more info. Tel 341993.
- **Good Friday Meditation and Prayers:** 10th April, 2pm - Church.
- **Easter Day Holy Communion:** 12th April, 1000hrs, in the church.
- **Third Tuesday Worship:** 21st April 19th May, 7pm at Highlands.
- **Charity Dance:** 16th May 7.30pm – 11.30pm. AVH.
- **Anstey Coffee Morning:** Look for updates.
- **Bingo Evening:** in aid of Marie Curie – more details to follow.
- **Anstey District Garden Show:** Sat 8th August, Anstey Village Hall. Hopefully you are all preparing veg, flowers and items for this spectacular show which gets better each year. More information and Entry Forms will follow in next issue of In Touch.
- The Jubilate Choir will be performing at West Anstey church on 23rd May at 7.30. This wonderful choir will be singing works ranging from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Many popular numbers. Refreshments afterwards. Tickets at the door. Please come together and enjoy.

Good wishes and prayers are sent to all who have found the winter months difficult. Let us pray for a warmer, drier and healthy Springtime.

West Anstey – Banger Milton

Firstly, Messy Church will be at the Church from April for a trial 3 months, with the title: Messy Go Wild. Not only will it use the Church but also the big outdoors and surroundings. Refreshments will still be served, and as always it is open to one and all.

On May 23rd there will be a Jubilante concert in the evening in the Church for Church funds as will be Cream Teas at Higher Wychwood on July 26th.

Following my write up last time about Jemima, Nikki Routledge is running the London Marathon - again, this time for Spinal Research UK. With various fundraisers organised, any sponsors will be gratefully received.

Our best wishes to Rosie Morgan who has had major surgery, Roz Fisher-Smith with a cataract op & quite a few others who have been struck down by various lurgies & cannot shake them off.

Hopefully the Corona virus will not visit us & some Spring sunshine & dry air will, in abundance!

Anstey's Together – Susan Bew

Following the successful “Conversations” sessions in the Autumn, groups who meet outside of church buildings came together in January for a party to share hopes and plans for the year ahead. Friends from ACT, TGI Friday group, Pop Up Church North Molton, Local Houses of Prayer from Bishops Nympton, Molland, East and West Anstey enjoyed a happy evening together. We all felt that there is a great sense of the Holy Spirit moving within the Edgemoor Group.

By the time this In Touch is published, we will be two thirds of the way through “The Prayer Course”* which we are following through Lent; this course is written and led by Peter Greig of the 24-7 Prayer Movement and has been helping us to grow and deepen our prayer life. The remaining dates are Wednesday 1st April at Nether Woodburn Farm, East Anstey - “Contemplation” and the final evening is on Wednesday 8th April at Barton Cross Barn, East Anstey – “Listening”.

**For any who are interested but have not been able to join us, the course can be viewed online – just search “The Prayer course”*

In May we will be meeting at Barton Cross Barn, East Anstey for a study on “Parables” led by Bryant Sanders, one of David’s pilgrims who enjoyed a trip in March to the Holy Land. All are welcome - Wednesday 27th May – 7.30pm.

MARIANSLEIGH – Ruth Govier

KEEP THE DATE FREE **Friday 8TH May** Alswear, Mariansleigh and Meshaw VE Day Celebrations 2.30pm -6pm Oxham hall 1940s fun and games, music, tea, fancy dress and lots more keep an eye out for posters with more info.

The church will be holding a **Maundy Thursday** service @7.30pm.

Parish Meeting for all that live in Alswear and Mariansleigh Wed 22nd April come and find out what's happening in the parish or let us know about any worries you may have or just come down for a cup of tea and cake!

Bingo continues on the 2nd Wed of each month@7.30 pm at Oxham Hall with meat prizes and a cup of tea and biscuits at half time.

Whist drives at Oxham Hall @7.45pm Thursday 16th April and Thursday 21st may butchers meet prizes.

With all the horrid news about the corona virus I hope you all keep safe and well x

KNOWSTONE – *Michele Browse*

After the wettest February on record, which seems to be seeping into early March, the sight of snowdrops, daffodils, crocuses and primroses helps to lighten the heart and suggests that Spring just might be on its way with promise of sunnier and warmer weather.



Easter news:

The **Good Friday Witness Walk** will take place on Friday, **10th April** starting from the Parish Hall car park at **11.30 am**. As always, we will proceed up Tracey's Hill, with stops for readings and singing, before arriving at the top of the inner moor at 12.00 noon for a short open-air service. Those who might find it difficult to make the walk, but would like to join in this special observance, are invited to join the procession at the site of the Three Crosses on the moor for the service. Tea/coffee and hot cross buns will be provided afterwards.

Easter Day (12th April) will be celebrated with a **Family Worship service** at St Peter's Church at **11.15am**. Everyone is welcome, and it would be lovely to see our beautiful church filled to capacity on this glorious day. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided after the service, with an opportunity to meet and greet fellow parishioners, and the church will undoubtedly be bedecked with beautiful floral arrangements by Thelma and her team of flower arrangers.

Our deepest condolences to Mark and Sarah Dodson and their family on the passing of Mark's mother, Elizabeth Dodson, formerly of Rose Cottage Knowstone.

We also remember Frances Spottiswoode, a long-standing resident of Knowstone, who has died at the age of 94. A colourful figure with an interesting and varied life, Frances was interred in St Peter's churchyard on 24th February, making her final journey to the tune of a favourite blues piece played on the trumpet.

Upcoming events:

A **Coffee Morning** will be held at the Parish Hall on **Tuesday, 21st April, 10.30 am - 12.00 noon**. Please join us for some delicious homemade cakes and a



catch-up with friends.

An early reminder that the annual **Village Fair and Dog Show** will take place on **Sunday, 28th June, 1.00-4.00 pm**. More details to follow in the next In Touch but look out for competition entry forms over the next few weeks.

Happy Easter to all in Knowstone Parish.

ROSE ASH - Sharon Brown

By way of introduction, my husband Keith and myself have lived in Rose Ash now, for two and a half years and have loved it all – despite the seemingly constant rain which is soon forgotten with the emerging beauty of the spring flowers in the hedgerows and the new life in our fields.

Rose Ash has a thriving community and dedicated people who make Rose Ash what it is, something we are all proud of and grateful for.

The **monthly Monday morning coffee mornings** are a great meeting place and the village hall doors are open to all from **10 am to 12.00**. There is a welcoming warming cup of coffee or tea, some wonderful cakes and teacakes as well as friendly conversation and a chance to catch up or make new friends. Usually held on the **second Monday** of the month, dates can be seen on our new notice boards on the village borders.



In January St. Peters church successfully launched a new **Evensong** service which is held on the fourth Sunday of every month at 5.00pm. This has proved to be well attended, perhaps a more convivial time than the previous 8.30 am service.

The **Gardening Club** holds a meeting, usually the third Wednesday of the month, in either Rose Ash village Hall, or occasionally in Knowstone village hall. Guest speakers are often at the meetings speaking on various interesting topics, or, during the summer months' visits to places of interest may be scheduled. With lots of advice from knowledgeable members. The discerning gardener would be well advised to join.

The **Village Hall** is often to be found hosting various functions, usually on a Friday evening. We had a quiz night in February which was well attended, and the hot meals were absolutely delicious. There was a

licenced bar too. Our notice boards around the village detail up and coming events and all are welcome.

July 19th, 2020 will bring the infamous **Rose Ash Revel**. Last year the dog show was extremely popular and well run with many dogs, of all shapes and sizes, proudly wearing their rosettes on their collars. There were classic cars to look at and admire, cooking, colouring for the children, photographic and craft competitions, face painting, a talent show, music, stalls, children's running races, rides on a wagon pulled by two wonderful Suffolk Punch horses George and Albert – who knows what will be in store this year so be sure to add the date to your diaries.

Find Community and Church events at www.roseash@info or you can search for Rose Ash Parish Council on Facebook and ask to join the group. An administrator of the site will approve and then you will receive regular notifications.'

BISHOPS NYMPTON – Cheryl Woollacott

Hoping the weather has improved by the time you read this! The Plough Service took place in January, when the old Plough was taken into Church and blessed for the start of the next agriculture year, the children planted up some seeds.

Breakfast Church had a very successful morning in the hall in February, when a lot of children attended. **Budding Bishops** is proving very popular still on a Monday morning, for Adults and Children, Grannies and Mums to join in from 10.30am to 12.00pm. Further details from Clare on 07815745716, who is also organising the **Easter Coffee Morning and Egg Treasure Hunt on Saturday 11th April**, in and around the Church.

Wednesday lunch club takes place on 8th/22nd April and 13th/27th May. Sunday Lunches are 19th April and 17th May, all at 1.00pm

There is plenty of information in the shop and village hall website on regular activities, including Yoga, Bowling, Pilates, Tai Chi, WI, Gardening Club, Dance Club and one-off events. The School also has a lot of events coming up, so please check notice boards! The PTA are also producing a recipe book with



contributions from family and friends of the school.

The next **Churchyard Tidy Up** (or inside cleaning as well!) day with lunch provided is, weather permitting, on Saturday 18th April from 10.00am.

Thank you to everyone who helps with this at other times as well.

If there is any event or group activities in particular you would like mentioned, then please let me have details before 7th May, for the June/ July issue. Any items for the North Devon Journal Community News have to be in the Thursday before the next publishing date.

The next Parish Council is on Wednesday 20th May at 7.30pm.

House of Prayer meets monthly at various homes and Wednesday morning prayer group meets 9.00am every week in the Church.

Palm Sunday service in Church at 10.00am on 5th April with the **Easter Breakfast Church** on the 12th April from 9.30am.

Several people unwell at the moment, so thoughts and prayers are with you all whom we each know of.

Welcome to all newcomers who may have recently moved into Bishops Nympton, it's not always this wet...!!

Meanwhile, lambing is in full swing again, so thank you for keeping dogs on leads, especially when going through footpaths where sheep are, as unfamiliar dogs do upset the Mums and their lambs.

Happy Easter, best wishes, Cheryl Woollacott

NORTH DEVON HOSPICE

We are holding a lovely remembrance event, which is open to all local people. Where the Wind Blows is on 5th April. For more details please

contact: [Jess Burford Redgrove](#)

Community & Events Fundraiser

North Devon Hospice

[DDI 01271 347213](#) / [Mob 07917797689](#)

Deer Park, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 0HU

WEST ANSTEY WEATHER STATION – Neville Vereker



January – February 2020

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rainfall</u>	<u>20 yr. Average</u>	<u>Temp</u>
January	5.61ins 142.5mm	144mm	max 12.1° min -1.3 °
February	9.65ins 245.0mm	115mm	max 11.9° min 0.9°

Note

1. The highest January rainfall in the last 20 years was in 2014 with 243mm whilst the lowest was in 2006 with 36mm
2. This year's February rainfall is a record for the last 20 years, the previous highest having been in 2014 when we had 233mm just beating 2002's 231mm! The lowest rainfall in February in the last 20 years was in 2003 when we had only 57mm.
3. The Met Office reported February as the wettest since their records began with a reading of 202.1mm so clearly East Anstey has had more than its fair share!



Local Houses of Prayer

A short Celtic Daily Prayer
and a time of gentle prayer and blessing.

Where and When?

East Anstey Church: 1st and 3rd Friday of the month
5.00pm – 5.30pm

West Anstey Church: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month
12.00 noon – 12.30 pm

Molland Church: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
10.00am – 10.30am

(with apologies for missing West Anstey before)



For all children and families...

...every THIRD SUNDAY beginning on

Sunday April 19th - 9.30-11.00

OUTDOOR CHURCH

at West Anstey Church

Come and join us for breakfast

Wear suitable outdoor clothes