

# NewsLink

25 April—9 May 2021



Churches of North  
Bradford on Avon  
& Villages

Dear friends,

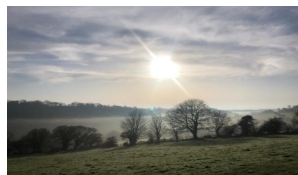
When does spring begin? The MET office sees the first of March as the first day of spring, although looking at recent weather – snow, wind, hail and frost – we might have doubted this recently!

Our gardens and hedges though, display the beautiful spring colours, particularly the vibrant colours of tulips and primroses that fill us with hope that we will be experiencing better weather and more daylight.



And then, in true British weather style, we wake up one morning to that mistiness that precedes clear blue skies, followed by sunshine that actually has some warmth in it. This is such an encouraging time.

Christians believe that even though the seasons come and go, God is eternal; His love for us is constant and has no boundaries. The heavens and the earth declare His glory and the changing seasons reveal His loving care for us, whatever the weather.



So how might we highlight opportunities to celebrate the beauty of God's creation, so that all may rest in the knowledge that He gives us strength for each day, bright hope for the future and every blessing that we need along the way?

Speaking of blessings, I, Tessa and Paul were truly blessed by your wonderful generosity at Easter.

The voucher for wine with a named contact for advice, reminded me of a time in France, many years ago, when my husband and I arrived at a village in Burgundy. We had been advised there was a small vineyard that produced exceptional wine in the area. We arrived at the village square, in the heat of the day, and enjoyed a glass of chilled white wine, with the condensation dripping down

glass, whilst waiting for the vineyard to open. Happy days that hopefully for many, will come again.

I am reminded of Genesis 1:14

And God said, *'Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years.'*

Many blessings  
Ann, Rector

## Upcoming Services and Events.

We are delighted to be able to rotate services around the Benefice, for each local community to attend. However, numbers will be limited as social distancing must be observed, and so it will be necessary to book a place and face coverings must be worn.

**In order to book to attend services please contact the following people from your Parish. When joint services are held, please contact your usual person.**

St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh:  
**Rachel Exley: 01225 851485**

St Nicholas, Winsley:  
**Roy Ludlow 01225 868779**

St James, South Wraxall: **David Wyper 01225 865384 or Valentine Thornhill 01225 862552**

Christ Church:  
**Stephen and Hilary Pike 01225 782537**

**A reminder that those using the Mount Pleasant car park at Christ Church must register their car numbers in the centre on arrival.**

**Sunday 25th April.** 10.30am at Christ Church (for CC and W)

**Sunday 2nd May** 10.30am at Christ Church for all four Parishes (book via your usual contact)

**Sunday 9th May** 10 am St James Sth Wraxall (for MF and SW)

## Getting to know Zoe.

Zoe Yeomans was appointed as the Benefice Children and Families worker at the start of last year. We thought it would be good to take a moment to get to know Zoe a little better and she kindly agreed to answer our questions:



### How long have you been in Bradford on Avon?

Almost 7 years exactly! Tim and I arrived when Edward was 10 days old and Peter was not quite 3. We turned up at Sunbeams the following week and then the Ark and now both Peter and Edward are at Christ Church School!

### What different jobs have you had?

My first job was in a very nice Tea Room patisserie and chocolatier. I loved serving people and started not even liking coffee but left being able to identify all the different blends by taste! I have taught in a variety of schools as a primary teacher, worked as a Youth Volunteer Advisor and now using my skills in the role of Children and Families Worker here!

### Did you go to Sunday School?

I didn't attend Sunday school when I was young but did help to lead some sessions when I was a teenager. Encouraged by some friends I joined a Youth Group and a Church in Salisbury where I first met Rev. Ann before she became the Rector here!

### What are your hopes and plans for the children and families work in the Benefice?

It will be great to see families back at the Ark and Sunbeams groups. I hope Activity teas, workshops, a holiday club and work within our three Schools and local nurseries can grow. Alongside projects linked to our four Churches involving children, families and the wider community so watch this space!

**Furthest place you have travelled** - New Zealand – the Fjordland was amazing!

**Most recent read** - Born to Run

**Favourite book of the Bible** - Psalms- relevant for so many situations, and the letters to the early Church as there is so much to learn.

**Part of-** Girlguiding since I was a Brownie. I lead a Rainbow Unit in Bradford on Avon.

**Likes** - Wild Swimming, Morris Dancing and being with friends.

**Loves** - Fun family times and outdoor adventures.

**Dislikes** - treading on Lego!

**Favourite food** - Homemade cake – especially Mary's!

**A tip worth sharing** – Take opportunities and seize the day!

Thank you Zoe, for sharing this with us. Zoe can be contacted on [zyeomans3@gmail.com](mailto:zyeomans3@gmail.com)

In the later pages of this week's Newslink you will find .....

- A thank you letter from Tessa Mann
- Information about Hidden Voices, another course on modern day slavery
- Details of Christ Church Plant Sale and more....

You can read the full version and more details of future services and other resources on the website [www.nboachurches.co.uk](http://www.nboachurches.co.uk). If you require a hard copy please leave a message at the Benefice office on 01225 865046

### Easter Gifts for Clergy

May I thank all who donated most generously to the collection for the Easter gifts for the clergy who have provided us with continued provision of worship online, and in person, during this difficult year.

After due consultation with their families and/or friends, the following gifts were purchased:

For Ann: A Berry Bros and Rudd (wine merchants) voucher and a garden voucher

For Tessa: A Royal Opera House voucher and a garden voucher

For Paul: A garden voucher

I am sure that these gifts will be enjoyed by the deserving recipients! Indeed, I have received delightful letters of thanks from Ann and Paul and there is a thank you from Tessa in this edition of Newslink.

*Roy Ludlow*  
Churchwarden, St Nicholas, Winsley.

### Modern Day Slavery - how can you help?

If you found Diana Deal's item on the 'Women in the Shadows' lent course in the last Newslink interesting, you may wish to hear more about this topic and another course which we may run in the Autumn called 'Hidden Voices'.

The Clewer Initiative which developed these courses, enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to raise awareness of modern slavery, identify victims and to help provide victim support and care.

Caroline Virgo, the Director of the Clewer Initiative, has agreed to speak to those of us who are interested on **May 11th, 7.30—8.30pm**, via zoom. She will explain more about the 'Hidden Voices' course, which they run over four weeks for individual churches, or a Benefice. This is an excellent chance to hear more about the Clewer Initiative and how we can help tackle modern slavery.

If you would like to attend or find out more please contact Linds Batson on [linds.batson@gmail.com](mailto:linds.batson@gmail.com).

### Christ Church Plant Stall 11am - 3pm 2 & 3 May

Following the success of last year's 'farm gate' plant stall, we will again be selling a variety of plants at 13 Newtown BoA. If you are unable to make it down to the stall please give us a ring and we will try to deliver.



Donations of plants for us to sell also very welcome. All proceeds to the Future for Christ Church Community Project.

Thank you  
*Gillian Ellis-King*

01225 866503

### Thank you from Tessa Mann

Dear Friends,

I cannot thank you enough for the very generous gifts, marking our emergence from a year of lockdown! It was the most lovely surprise and I am so very touched by your thoughtfulness. The gift of Royal Opera House vouchers was inspired!

It seems so long since any of us have been able to enjoy the delights of live performance. This will be a very special treat to look forward to – I cannot thank you enough. Ballet is a real passion of mine and there is nothing I enjoy more than making a pilgrimage to Covent Garden – a little bit of heaven!

I have already purchased a climbing rose for our garden with the Garden Centre tokens you also gave me. It is called *Starlight Symphony*. I will plant it with a sense of thankfulness for our fellowship in the Benefice especially during the past year. I will spend the remainder on some new garden pots. As with everyone, the garden has been a particular place of solace and joy during this very demanding year.

As we navigate the way forward in the life of our parishes, I am excited to share the road ahead with you all. I am blessed indeed to be living out my vocation in this special place.

With warmest thanks and every blessing,

*Tessa x*

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK IN  
WINSLEY 10 - 16th MAY 2021**



There will be no door-to-door collection again this year. However, envelopes will be available from St Nicholas Church from 9th May. Please collect one if you wish to support this worthy charity. Winsley has always collected a significant sum towards their work and I hope we may be able to continue even in these difficult times. You may, of course, contribute on line. Details may be found on their website [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

The envelopes may be returned direct to C Aid - the details will be on the envelope. Otherwise, they may be returned to me at 22 Late Broads, Winsley.  
If volunteers can be found, we may be able to deliver to individual houses but the envelopes will NOT be collected from your door.

Thank You, *Alison Wells*

**Looking for a place to call home**

We have received this request from a student looking for accommodation. We do not know the young lady, but are happy to help her by sharing her advert, but this does not imply endorsement by the benefice.

*My name is Carol Hussey. I am a 20-year-old mechanical engineering student at the University of Bath. This summer I am starting a placement job at a company in Trowbridge. I am looking for a room as a lodger in a house for 11 months from the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to July 2022 in Bradford on Avon or Trowbridge.*

*A little bit about me, I am currently a member of Christ Church, Bath as well as working as an assistant to the chaplain at the University of Bath. I enjoy walking, history and baking. I like to keep busy and serve others. I don't drink or smoke.*

*If you have a spare room and would be willing to explore having a lodger please get in touch. My email is [carol.hussey2000@gmail.com](mailto:carol.hussey2000@gmail.com) or call me on 07984 052169.*

**Our churches remain open for private prayer as follows:**

St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh 10 am—5pm daily (note revised hours)

St Nicholas, Winsley 10 am—6pm daily (except Mondays 4.15pm).

Christ Church, BOA 10am—4pm daily

St James, Sth Wraxall 10 am—4pm daily.

**The importance of giving Praise and Thanksgiving to God. By Bernard Hughes.**

Rev. Bernard Hughes has written another thought-provoking article for us to read, this time focussing on the importance of giving praise and thanksgiving to God. You can find the article [here](#) in the prayer and worship resources section on the Benefice website.

**Message from our  
Christian Mission Society  
(CMS) Partners in Lebanon**



A very big thank you to all of you for supporting us over the past year, especially as we transitioned to our new work with A Rocha Lebanon. We are enormously grateful for your continued prayers and financial support. You are all a real blessing to us and, as we have said before, without your faithfulness, we would not be able to be here.

Wishing you all the blessings of Easter  
Audrey and Colin

**Ministry Team**

Rector Rev Ann Keating  
[rev.ann.keating@btinternet.com](mailto:rev.ann.keating@btinternet.com) (722230)  
Rev Tessa Mann (309374)  
LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

**Benefice Office**

Denise Button (865046)  
[nboabenefice@gmail.com](mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com)  
Website  
[www.nboachurches.co.uk](http://www.nboachurches.co.uk)

**Church Wardens**

Winsley:  
Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds Batson (720069)  
Christ Church: Vacant  
Monkton Farleigh: Vacant: Contact Rachel Exley  
PCC Secretary (851485)  
South Wraxall:  
Dave Wyper (865384) Valentine Thornhill (862552)

**Lay Pastoral Assistants**

Denise Leigh (863916)  
Stephen Pike (782537)  
Denise Davies (863678)  
Gill Fairhurst (867560)  
Daphne Cox (868224)  
Elizabeth Bush (866624)  
James Middleton (920564)

**Children's and Families Worker**

Zoe Yeomans - [zyeomans3@gmail.com](mailto:zyeomans3@gmail.com)

**Do check the website as resources are added regularly and check Instagram and Facebook for all our latest news.**