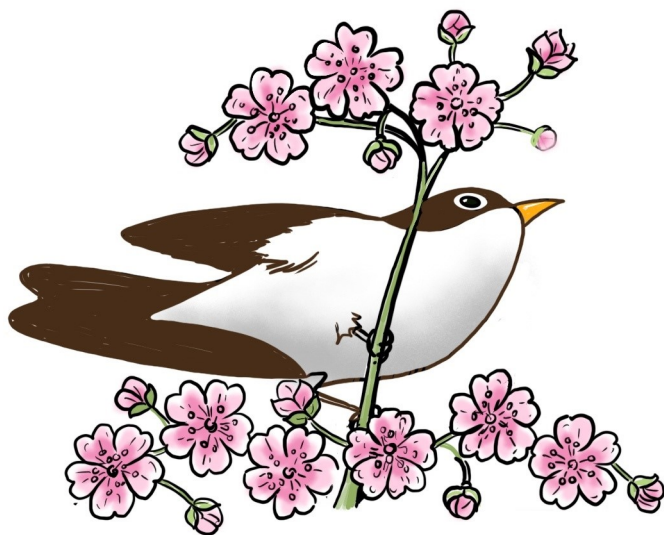


The Link

COUGHTON with SAMBOURNE PARISH NEWS



Alcester Minster Churches at Alcester,
Arrow, Coughton, Great Alne, Haselor,
Kinwarton, Sambourne and Weethley

MAY 2021

RECTOR of ALCESTER MINSTER The Reverend Katie Cross

St Nicholas Rectory, Old Rectory Garden, Alcester B49 5DB

t: **01789 764261** rector@alcesterminster.org

Administrator

Tricia Berry t: **01789 509278 m: 07840 284294**

(Monday - Friday 10.00 am - 1.30 pm)

Alcester Minster Office, Church House, 17 Butter Street, Alcester, B49 5AL

(opening hours 10.30 - 12.30 Monday - Friday)

administrator@alcesterminster.org

Reader

Mrs P Newbold t: **01527 458852** the_newbolds@blueyonder.co.uk

COUGHTON WITH SAMBOURNE CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Warden Gail Laband t:**01789 764736** gail@laband.uk

Assistant Church Warden Mike Thake t:**07966314828** mike@thake.biz

PCC Secretary

Mrs Sue Swinbourne t: **01527 457357** sueswinbourne@virginmedia.com

Treasurer

John McTavish t: **01789 764703** jhmctavish@btinternet.com

Coughton Flowers Co-ordinator

Joy Hawthorne t:**01789 764577** joyandjimhomestall@btinternet.com

Sambourne Flowers Co-ordinator

Sandra Archer t :**01527 892837**

Please contact if wishing to make own flower arrangements for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Sambourne Church Booking Agent

Debbie Lanz, t: **07711 834716** debs.doo@gmail.com

Family and Children Worker

Beth Clarke t: **07494 329638** beth.clarke@covLEC.org

GIFT AID

Whenever possible, please gift aid any donations made to our churches. Charitable causes can reclaim an extra 25p in the £1 from the government on donations made under the Gift Aid Scheme. The giver must have paid a tax amount that at least equals the tax being reclaimed on the donation. Please contact the treasurer.

Items of news for "The Link" by the **FOURTEENTH** of the month to:

Gail Smith gailsmith@aol.com t: **07449 930480**

Whilst the Editor welcomes material for publication in "The Link", they do not guarantee that items submitted will be included or will appear in a particular issue. The Editor reserves the right to edit or shorten items used. Publication is in good faith and does not imply accuracy of content or agreement with views expressed

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CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF PRODUCTION ARE VERY WELCOME.*



A Message from Pat Newbold

Hello everybody.

Well, another Easter has come and gone and still we are keeping well apart, wearing masks and not singing.....But it was a joy to meet in Church this Easter day, to worship our Risen Lord Jesus; the sun was out to greet Him, and there were lots of hallelujas – but we were all longing to sing! Hope it won't be too long.....

I thank God for this month of jabs, of sunshine and hope on the coronavirus front. We are still in the midst of a difficult time, and for some of us the loss of loved ones, the loss of human contact and normal activity, the loss of livelihood, has been destructive. On the other hand, some of us have enjoyed the time to just BE and we have seen so much kindness, so much good and healing of relationships.

I wonder what you will remember about this time? Are there things from before lockdown that you are glad to see the back of? And are there new things that you would like to keep?

We also thank God for the arrival from Devon of our new Rector, Rev Katie Cross, and her family, still surrounded by boxes to be unpacked and I suspect sundry hefty guidelines from the Diocese! It is a joy to have her with us at last. You will hear from her in future editions of the Link. She will be installed at St Nicholas Alcester on 28th April, but alas only 38 people will be able to attend, so if you have the facility, you can access the service on line from the Alcester Minster website.

Katie will be taking the service at Sambourne on 2nd May at 4pm. so do come along if you can. Again, all is socially distanced and numbers limited, so register with Tricia, the administrator, on 07840 284294 or with Gail Laband, 01789 764736 as soon as you can.

In all the ups and downs of life as it is, I am so grateful that we worship Jesus Christ, a resurrected, **living**, God, who is always with us, always there to give us His wisdom, His strength, His comfort and the amazing unconditional love and forgiveness He won for us on the Cross. All we have to do is admit our need, reach out, call upon Him and wait and see what He will do!

I pray that we will remember to make Him our first port of call in all our storms..

God bless you,

Pat N

Alcester Minster Church Services – May 2021

Sunday 02 May

Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Haselor	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sambourne	16:00 am	Holy Communion

Easter 5

Tuesday 04 May

Via Zoom	12.00 noon	Minster Prayer Gathering
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Sunday 09 May

Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Arrow	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Kinwarton	16:00 am	Evening Prayer

Easter 6

Thursday 13 May

Alcester	10.00 am	Ascension Day
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Ascension Day

Sunday 23 May

Alcester	10.00 am	Pentecost
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Whit Sunday

You must reserve a place if you wish to attend a Minster service,
by emailing or telephoning the Administrator

Email: administrator@alcesterminster.org

Tel: 01789 763 246

An On-line service is available every Sunday on the Welcome page
of the Alcester Minster website

www.alcesterminster.org

MINSTER EVENTS

**For the most up-to-date information on Minster Events
please see the website calendar on the noticeboard page on
the website – www.alcesterminster.org or check out the**

Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester
Minster on facebook?



Find details and pictures of events at

www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster



**Alcester Minster Churches at Alcester,
Arrow, Coughton, Great Alne, Haselor,
Kinwarton, Sambourne and Weethley**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are delighted to announce that the Reverend Katie Cross has been appointed as the next Rector in the parishes of Alcester, Arrow with Weethley, Haselor, Kinwarton with Great Alne, and Coughton with Sambourne, known as the Alcester Minster Benefice in the Diocese of Coventry,

Katie was formerly Rector in the Netherexe Parishes, a rural mission community of eight parishes and ten churches near Exeter in Devon.

Katie, her husband Paul and family have moved to Alcester Rectory at the beginning of April, and was installed at St. Nicolas Alcester on 28th April.



Prayer

The Ministry Leadership Team would like you to pray for the following topics:

- 1. Let us pray for America as it tries to deal with its gun culture which leads to so many fatalities, unrest and sorrow.*
- 2. Let us pray for Doctors without Borders, sometimes the only medical staff toiling in the most dangerous parts of the world in horrendous conditions.*



Lateral Flow Antigen Testing If you are taking part in church related activities with regular contact with the public, such as helping with the food bank etc. and do not have any COVID symptoms, you are encouraged to access weekly Lateral Flow Testing. This is a very quick process with quick results. You would need to pre-book a test. Find out more by following the link:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/covidcommunitytesting>
there is a centre in Stratford-upon-Avon.



A Time of Reflection - by Pat Newbold

I wonder if you have had the wonderful experience of having tea in the garden with a friend or relative and being able to chat – something that used to be unremarkable, but nowadays a treat we haven't been able to have for a very long time! WE were able to celebrate our Daughter and Son in Law's 26th wedding anniversary this week – don't know where their silver wedding went to... What celebrations have you missed or managed?



Some occasions have not been so happy, and some of us have lost loved ones and had funerals sadly curtailed, and not what we would have wanted, with tributes and anecdotes glossed over.



The death of the Duke of Edinburgh was an unexpected sadness and we all learnt things about his extraordinary life that we didn't know before. What an amazing life he led, with integrity and enthusiasm, love and loyalty to the Queen and the nation and a deep faith in God to sustain him through his many trials. It has been the living out of that faith in a life of service and kindness to all

people that has won our royal family so much respect and loyalty in our nation.

I was glad that the focus was on the family being together in their love for Prince Philip, and their sadness in their loss, but have noticed since, articles in the press, and radio and TV discussions, talking about forgiveness and reconciliation replacing the anger and confrontation we see so much of in the world today.



Forgiveness is not an easy option, but healing wounds is such a blessing to all parties. We all used to be familiar

with the Lord's Prayer – "forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us" – dangerous words! Jesus gave us a great example of forgiveness and came to reconcile us, in all our grubbiness, to our holy God. He can give us the will and the strength to make the first move in our quarrels.

So let us in Coughton and Sambourne, lead a new campaign for a forgiving and reconciling Britain! It starts with us! Give me a ring if you want some help - I need some, too...



NOTICES

Did you notice that the brown doors of Sambourne Church have turned green and the porch has been cleaned up and painted? Well, if you come inside, you will see that the walls have also had a facelift and it looks all clean and bright. If you need a good excuse to come in, our regular service at Sambourne is now at 4pm on the first Sunday, and we are at present still opening for prayer on Wednesdays from 10am to 12. Don't be afraid to be nosey!



Later in the summer, we are also hoping to be able to decorate the inside of St Peter's Coughton. The plaster is falling off at quite a rate and is rather dangerous, hence we are quite glad that we are not allowed to keep the Church open at present. Any offers of help with the cleaning or in any practical or other way, would be much appreciated. However, the monthly service at St Peter's is on 3rd Sunday of the month at 10am and you are very welcome



Sambourne Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be as follows:

Annual Meeting Tuesday 4th May 2021 7.45 pm

The agenda can be viewed in the noticeboards and on the Parish Council website. The meeting will be held using Zoom and details for joining the meeting can be obtained from the Clerk to the Council.

Parish Clerk, Teresa Murphy: clerk.sambournepc@aol.com

Parish Council website: www.sambourne.org.uk



Studley Isolation Support Group update

May 2020 Edition 2

Now, more than ever, the community in our village are pulling together to support each other. The Studley Isolation Support Group supports all those who are isolated, alone, elderly or vulnerable. With Studley in Business and the Parish Council, we have built a core team of around 50 volunteers who carry out tasks on a daily basis. So far we have supported 165 households and undertaken over 1000 tasks. These range from shopping, prescription collection to dog walking and daily newspaper deliveries.

Nothing is too much trouble for our volunteers, and we actively encourage anyone who is having to isolate, with no close family close by to help them, to give us a call on **07933 093268** from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday.

If you have a neighbour you are concerned about then please ask them to call us. Our aim is for everyone who is vulnerable to stay safely at home. No one who should be isolating needs to do any shopping, our volunteers are shopping ninjas!

We will be here for as long as necessary, and alongside our day to day tasks we can arrange for someone to call you for a chat, drop off some books or jigsaws, post letters etc. We are here for you.

If you need help the Contact Phone number is: 07933 093268
Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm

Please note that we operate a password system to protect you. Please do not open the door to anyone you don't know, unless they can tell you the password that YOU have chosen. There are scammers capitalising on the current situation, and we want everyone to stay safe. Always follow the Government's Social Distancing guidelines

We are still looking for volunteers, please contact us if you are willing to help..

Many volunteers are busy **sewing scrubs, bags, headbands and face-masks**. They are in need of new material (that can be washed at 60 deg), elastic & buttons about the size of a 2p. If you can help then please call the Isolation Support Group on 07933 093268.

Arden Foodbank is working hard to supply food parcels to our community. Anyone who is struggling can request a voucher. Parcels can be collected from the Methodist Church on Tuesday afternoons, or one of the Isolation Support Group Volunteers can collect and deliver it for you. To contact the foodbank please call 07733 551926. Food donations can be made via the collection box in the Co-Op, or by calling the Isolation Support Group on 07933 093268.

Useful Contacts: Samaritans 116123 24-hour helpline

Your mental health is important. For a listening ear in time of need, call Janet 07852 349361

Mental Health Matters 0800 616171, 24-hr helpline & webchat www.mhm.org.uk/coven-try-warwickshire-helpline

Arden Marches Churches - for help, someone to talk to, or a prayer request: Revd Kate Mier 01527 852830 rector@ardenmarches.co.uk
or Revd Dan Corlett 07543370637 curate@ardenmarches.co.uk

Local Businesses & Contacts Offering Services to the Community

The situation changes daily, so for up to date information please visit www.enjoyablistudley.com and check out the Studley Isolation Support Group Facebook page for updates.

Bespoke Butchers FREE delivery over £25, or if you are over 65 no min. Tuesday-Friday. Ring 01527 852235 in the morning to check availability. Deliveries at the end of the day.

Bruno's Bakery min delivery £10, packed lunches also available for delivery. 01527 854652

Mount Everest for takeaways 6-8.30pm Sun-Thur & 5.30-9.30pm Fri & Sat 01527 850717

Caney's Cider deliveries. Contact: social media, website or email canescider@gmail.com

Studley Fish Bar for collection or delivery. Download their App or call 01527 852448
Delivery of orders over £10 with a delivery fee of £1.75

The **Cantonese Chef** is open 01527 852021.

Purity Brewing free delivery over £40 www.puritybrewing.com/online-shop

Seven Mile Homemade frozen meals delivered on Weds & Fri. Phone Jake 07891 448749
jake@sevenmile.co.uk See www.sevenmile.co.uk & Facebook for menus

Stephanie Evans (Virtual MoneyPenny) for coordinating home deliveries if you're struggling
07908 226633

Fetch N Stretch for dog walks for the elderly or key workers. Emily Smith 07713 057028

Robert Pannifer from Thomas Guise Solicitors for phone support 01527 912912

Studley Florist deliveries of fresh flowers for birthdays, celebrations, memorials or a cheer up gift. 01527 853509 Mon-Fri mornings www.studleyflorists.co.uk & Facebook/Insta

Botany Bay Garden Centre FREE delivery over £25 within 5 miles. 01527 893885

Flutterby Heidi Handmade cards with local delivery. www.flutterbyheidi.co.uk 07791 662348

Happy Buffalo personalised gifts, free local delivery happy-buffalo.myshopify.com & FB

Helping Hands homecare services Katie 07792 172 604 Katie.Woodhall@helpinghands.co.uk

Alcester Home Care homecare provider 01789 765468 office@alcesterhomecareagency.co.uk

Neighbourhood Watch: Ring the Police on 101 for suspicious activity. For a crime ring 999 & then tell Jim Bacon (jimbacon@blueyonder.co.uk) so Jim can alert others.

Please email info@enjoyablistudley.co.uk if you are a local business & wish to be included online



www.studleyinbusiness.co.uk

We would like to express our thanks to everyone who has helped to create, print and deliver this leaflet.

When you talk to your neighbours (from a safe distance), ask that they keep this leaflet close at hand, for help in the coming weeks. Not everyone has access to Social Media, and they may feel very isolated, particularly if they are poorly.



www.enjoyablistudley.com

All information is correct at time of print.

Nature jottings from Perrymill Lane

Although the weather this month has been unseasonably chilly, there have been some beautiful calm spring days to coax out the butterflies and encourage the birdsong.



22nd March. From the footbridge across the River Arrow at Coughton we noticed a couple of ducks in the water some distance upstream. One was distinctly black and white. Before I could get binoculars on them they took off, but Sue was quicker and could see the other bird had a distinctly brown head. The only conclusion then was that it was a pair of Goosanders – not a species we've ever seen before in the area. I contacted the county bird recorder who told me he was not surprised to hear this as birds have recently been seen between Bidford and Welford on the River Avon.

24th March. As we walked along Coughton Fields Lane beyond the ford we spotted an interesting plant growing in the verge. I used the "Seek" app on our phone and it informed me that the plant was Butterbur. I read that its name comes from the fact that in the past its large heart-shaped leaves were used to wrap butter in warm weather. The song of Chiffchaffs could be heard for most of our walk to and from Coughton. A Brimstone butterfly was present in our garden.

25th March. We noticed many white and purple violets in Dark Lane, Astwood Bank.

27th March. We spotted two male Yellowhammers in Coughton Lane, Coughton.

29th March. A Peacock butterfly was on the bridleway in Coughton Park wood.

30th March. Primroses seemed to be at their peak in the woodland. We were delighted to see a Hare in a field beside the wood. Peacock butterflies appeared in our garden today.



2nd April. On our walk along The Monarch's Way and through the woods we saw and stopped to listen to three Blackcaps singing in the bushes. Many Chiffchaffs were singing, and we watched one foraging amongst blackthorn blossom. We also had our first Orange Tip Butterfly sighting of the year. Many tadpoles were swimming in a large puddle in the woods.

3rd April. Two Siskins visited the sunflower hearts feeder in our garden. We spotted two Linnets in the hedgerow beside the footpath to Astwood Bank.

7th April. I noticed Cowslips in flower at the edge of the recreation ground. It would be interesting to know if these were self-seeded or part of recent plantings by parents and children.

13th April. We heard a Whitethroat singing near the ford at Coughton.

14th April. A Willow Warbler was singing in the woodland. Pete reported having seen House Martins over his Middletown Lane garden and Buzzards nesting in a tree nearby.

17th April. The early morning sunshine brought more butterflies out on the wing and we saw several Speckled Woods and a Green-veined White on our walk through the woods. A party of four Fallow Deer crossed the path ahead of us.



Phil J (18th April)



Visiting Coughton Court this spring

Over at Coughton Court our gardens and parkland are open for visitors to enjoy. Our shop is also now open, along with outdoor seating for our mini cafe. The house and our indoor seating are currently closed. The safety of our staff, volunteers and visitors from the nearby community remains our priority. We strongly advise booking your visits in advance, especially over school and bank holidays when we may be very busy. Please check the web-sites before your visit and follow government guidance on travel.

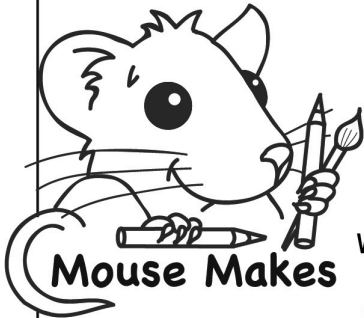
It's hard to beat that spring feeling, you can finally leave the house without a thick coat, feel the sun's warmth on your skin, enjoy the early-morning birdsong and stroll through fields of daffodils and shimmering bluebell woods. Spring brings warmer weather and longer days, so it's the perfect opportunity to take some time out and explore the great outdoors.

Our orchards and hedgerows are currently at their blooming best, and blossom from hawthorn and apple to ornamental cherries, can be found throughout April - June. The wisteria is also a beautiful sight, carefully pruned in winter in preparation for spring, the blooms appear from May or June in striking clouds of lilac against the house and in our walled garden which re-opened in April.

Spring is also the perfect time to stretch your legs on one of our walks. Come and experience the sights and sounds of the countryside, panoramic views, a range of wildlife, and the opportunity to learn about local history. Don't forget to pop to the café on your return for a well-deserved drink and tasty treat.

We look forward to welcoming you to Coughton this spring.
For more details call Coughton Court on 01789 400777,
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coughton-court

Junior Link



Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.



The Holy Spirit
V S E I L
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit
helps us to
W K N O
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit
H C T S E E A
us about God.

The Holy Spirit
K P E S S A
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit
P H L S E
us to tell others
about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit
helps us when we
A Y P R



On the day of PENTECOST
the disciples were gathered
together in one place...

What sound did they hear?

Acts 2:2

What did they see?

Acts 2:3

What filled them?

Acts 2:4

How did they speak?

Acts 2:4

What did the crowd hear?

Acts 2:6



Which countries
had they come from?

Acts 2:9

What was
their reaction?
Acts 2:12-13

Who explained
what was
happening?
What did he say?

Acts 2:14-36



How many
people were
baptised
that day?

Acts 2:41



Change each letter to the
letter before it in the
alphabet and see what
the **Holy Spirit**
produces in us:

KPZ
IVN MJUZ
TFMG DPOUSPM
GBJUIGVMOFTT
LJOEOFTT
QBUJFODF
QFBDF
MPWF
HPPEOFTT

Galatians 5:22

What is the work of the
Holy Spirit? What does He do?

Fill in the missing letters.



TEAC _ES
COMF _RTS
REVEA _S



IN _OU
TRAN _FORMS



HEL _S



GU _DES

GENEWS
CONV _CTS
SANC _IFIES



Our Annual meeting is on Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 6pm.

We would love you to join us!

Please sign up for email alerts at www.coughtonparishcouncil.co.uk

For PC information, please contact our Clerk:

Kerry Finlayson coughtonclerk@gmail.com

Coughton & Sambourne 100 Club

The winner of the April 100 Club Jackpot for £450 was not Roger Hammersley this time but it was another popular one, Helen McCarthy. Helen was our Churchwarden for many years and now lives in a Residential Car Home in Evesham. She has, however, always maintained close connections with the Parish. Congratulations Helen.

May's draw for £100 will be made at Sambourne on Sunday 2nd at 5.00pm

The Organisers will be pleased to welcome any new members who would like to join the 100 Club. By doing so you would not only be helping to maintain the churches in both Sambourne and Coughton but also have every chance of winning a cash prize each month. You should contact Peter Laband (01527 893879) or John McTavish (01789 764703) to be included in the monthly bit of fun.

If **YOU** would like to contribute to the monthly magazine, then please contact the editor **Gail Smith**
via email: gailsmith@aol.com

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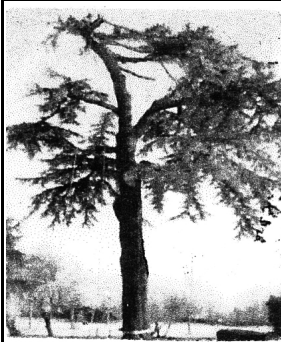
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