

St Chad's



# parish magazine

**Bishop's Tachbrook**

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March 15



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**Our Gospel reading in church recently was from St Mark's account of the Transfiguration of Jesus.** The children helped us understand that transfiguration means looking at something differently by bringing in their Transformers for us to play with! The transfiguration of Jesus encourages us to look at things from a different perspective. (Was that Transformer a car or a robot?)

If you have ever climbed up a really big hill or a mountain, you will know that one of the most exciting things about reaching the top is how you can see things that you wouldn't even know were there when you are right down at the bottom. There is so much more than we are normally able to see. As I thought about this I realized that praying can be a bit like climbing a mountain. It can be hard work, and maybe we sometimes even wonder why we are bothering, but prayer is important because it helps us see things as they really are – from God's perspective, rather than our own more limited perspective.

Jesus knew about the importance of prayer, and the importance of taking time out to regain a sense of perspective on his ministry. In fact, his ministry only lasted 3 years – and yet we read in the gospels that he was constantly taking time out to pray and be quiet – either by himself or with just a few friends. Any of us who are tempted to put our business before our prayer life should remember that even Jesus needed to take regular time out, so if He did, we certainly need to!

Taking time out is counter-cultural. Admitting to choosing not to be too busy can take a lot of courage. And so Lent, (which begins this year on February 18<sup>th</sup>) with its emphasis on taking time out, self-denial and prayer, is incredibly counter-cultural and no wonder a lot of people, even within the Church, ignore Lent, because it doesn't sit easily with our busy productive lives. Yet, if we never go up the mountain, we miss out on seeing our faith and our world through God's eyes.

So here are some things you could try this Lent:

- Put some lines through your diary each week in Lent which you are going to keep free for you and God. You can do anything in that time except fill it up with work and other people.
- Consider taking something up that will slow you down – like walking somewhere instead of taking the car.
- Spend some time when you would normally put the television or radio on just enjoying the quiet.
- Take up one of our prayer opportunities. St Chad's will be open on Wednesday mornings between 11:45am and 1pm and Wednesday evenings between 7 and 8pm. Just come in to sit quietly, away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.
- Join our Lent group. We are meeting every Tuesday evening in St Margaret's Chapter House in Whitnash at 7:30pm where we will be reading "Finding a Voice" which is based on the film "The King's Speech".

**Continued on page 5**

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## Lent Thoughts continued

One of the significant parts of the story of the transfiguration, is that Jesus didn't go up the mountain by himself – he didn't take just one person – he took a small group. And I don't suppose that Jesus took them up there just to be witnesses to the event. He took them up with him to strengthen their faith, to give them an opportunity to reflect and to see their faith from a different perspective. Meeting in a small group can give us a different perspective and an opportunity to learn in a new way; we can be more interactive, have more of a conversation and listen to and learn from one another.

So, how will you decide to keep lent this year? If you choose to give something up, remember that it is only of benefit if we give up, in order to more fully take on God. Giving up chocolate and taking up crisps might not do us much good, but giving something up in order to create a bit of emotional and spiritual space that enables us to walk that walk up the mountain to encounter God, is a very valuable opportunity.

Will you take some time to walk away from everyday life to climb up the mountain with Jesus? For those who take the journey, there will be enlightenment and revelation. God longs to show us who he is. May you have a blessed and holy Lent. Elaine

There will be a service of Confirmation on Easter Sunday at Coventry Cathedral.

It will take place during the Dawn service at 5am. If anyone is considering confirmation could they please let Elaine know.

## The Christian Family

### Baptisms

Poppybelle Liberty-Damp  
William Thomas Higgs  
Rebecca Frances Higgs  
Thomas Ellis Kane  
*We welcome them into  
the Christian Family.*

### Funerals

Mary Poole  
Kenneth Hitchcox  
Frederick Cheatham "Fred"  
David Neale  
Peter Kadlubowski  
*We pray for their souls and  
offer our sympathy  
to their families and friends.*



## Worship at St Chad's

### Sunday

10am Holy Communion (Sunday Club is held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of month)

### First Sunday of the month

8am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10am Family Service

### Wednesday

11:15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Are these times convenient for you? Would you like a mid-week communion service in the evening or an early morning service? Please let me know, the church is here to serve you and I am happy to provide what you need. Elaine

# AGM 3rd March

Bishop's Tachbrook Sports  
and Social Club 19:00 - 21:30



It's become traditional that the Friends of Oakley Wood's Annual General Meeting be followed by a fascinating illustrated talk on some aspect of woodland or wildlife conservation, and this year is no exception.

We're delighted that local moth and butterfly expert **David Brown** has agreed to come and talk to us about these fascinating creatures. David is the author of a book on Warwickshire moths and serves as the moth conservation officer for Butterfly Conservation Warwickshire. He is a very knowledgeable and engaging speaker and this is sure to be a memorable evening.

All welcome [www.oakleywood.org.uk](http://www.oakleywood.org.uk)

## What's on in and around St Chad's

**There will be Holy communion in St Chad's each Wednesday during Lent at 11:15am.**

### **March 6<sup>th</sup> 10am Women's World Day of Prayer**

This year the Women's World Day of Prayer will take place at 10am on 6th March in Whitnash Methodist church. The service has been put together by women from the Bahamas and will be led by women from the various churches in Whitnash and Bishop's Tachbrook. All are welcome.

### **7<sup>th</sup> March Church and Churchyard Spring clean**

There are two opportunities to help this year: 9:30 – 12:30 and 2 – 5pm. It would be wonderful if you could spare some time to help us give the church and churchyard a good clean. Remember, if you live in the parish, this is your church!

### **March 15<sup>th</sup> 10am Mothering Sunday**

Family Service, with flowers for all. Do come and join us.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> March 11:30am**

St Chad's Annual Parochial Council Meeting.

### **29<sup>th</sup> March 10am Palm Sunday**

Does anyone have a donkey they could loan us? Service will include Blessing of Palm Crosses, Procession and Liturgy of the Passion. Do come and join us as we begin to walk with Jesus on his journey to the cross.

### **30<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> April Holy Week**

Monday to Wednesday the church will be open for prayer:

11:45am - 1pm, 7 - 8pm

### **2<sup>nd</sup> April 7pm Maundy Thursday**

Washing of Feet, Celebration of the Last Supper, Stripping the Sanctuary.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> April Good Friday**

1pm - Meditation

2pm - Good Friday Liturgy

### **4<sup>th</sup> April Holy Saturday**

We will be decorating the church with flowers – if you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one we will acknowledge it in next month's magazine.

There will also be a cross outside church that you could put daffodils or lilies in, in memory of a loved one.

### **5<sup>th</sup> April 10am Easter Sunday**

Family Communion Service Come and join us to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord. After the service there will be our traditional Easter Egg Hunt! Everyone welcome.



**Our well-attended AGM has launched us into another year of varied and interesting talks and outings; all available for a modest subscription of £10 a year, which includes attendance at our monthly meetings and a discount on the charges for outings.** We have an enthusiastic and friendly membership and are planning to publish a booklet – more later.

We started our year in style with a trip through Priory Park, Warwick, guided by Jeannette Oubridge, our deputy Chairman. The location: the meadow and wooded area behind the old police station at Northgate, stretching down to the Coventry Road, but alas no trace of the Augustinian Priory, founded by the Earl of Warwick in 1109. The estate provided a welcome boost to Henry VIII's coffers in 1536, when he dissolved the monasteries and sold the estate to Thomas Fisher, a high-ranking servant of the Earl. Fisher demolished the priory and used the stone to build a fine mansion. During the next 90 years new owners updated the house (as you do) with a fine Jacobean frontage. 100 years later the owner, Henry Wise a royal gardener, designed formal gardens and a terrace, which commanded a spectacular view of Warwick Castle and St Mary's Church, captured for posterity in drawings by Constable and Canaletto. In 1865 the house and estate were purchased by Thomas Lloyd of the well-known Birmingham banking family, but early 20<sup>th</sup> century was a crisis time for country houses and estates, because they attracted high taxation and unmanageable maintenance costs. The solution for

some owners was demolition, or a sale to rich Americans who wanted to acquire the prestige of a fine old English house. In this event buildings were demolished, the materials transported to the States and rebuilt. This was the fate of the remains of The Priory, following partial demolition. The Lloyd family retained the estate, but the remaining structure was sold for £3,500, taken down, carved fragile ornamentation was carefully packed in crates and several thousand tons of stone was used as ballast for the Atlantic crossing to a new site in Richmond, Virginia.

The owners of this amazing project were Alexander Weddell, 40 year old bachelor and US Consul General to India, and his new wife Virginia, a gifted interior designer, middle-aged widow and rich. Together they toured England with an architect to view period houses for ideas. This led to the design of 'Virginia House', an amalgamation of styles inspired by Knole Manor (Kent), Redbourne Manor (Hertfordshire) and local Wormleighton and Sulgrave Manors. The central section, however, reproduces the design of Warwick Priory and includes a coat of arms commemorating the visit of Queen Elizabeth 1 in 1572.

Jeannette's presentation included some fine pictures of the interior of 'Virginia House'. An antiques dealer had successfully traced many original fixtures and fittings, including the wood panelling, a staircase and stained glass. These, combined with antiques the Weddells had collected during their extensive travels and Virginia's flair for interior design,

resulted in a tasteful interior which exuded history, quality and romance.

Sadly, after 25 years of marriage and approaching retirement at their dream home, both Alexander and Virginia were killed in a railway crash in 1948. They had bequeathed the house and its spectacular garden to the State of Virginia Historical Society. Back in Warwick the Priory estate was sold by the Lloyd family in 1940 to Warwickshire County Council and was bought by the Warwick Borough Council in 1951, when it opened as a public park. The new County Record Office was built on the site of The Priory in 1973.



**NEXT MEETING**  
**Tuesday, 10th March**

2.30pm in St Chad's Church  
*'Here Come the Girls!'*  
A Very "Special" Relationship  
Sheila Woolf will tell us about  
some Warwickshire Anglo-  
American liaisons in the  
19<sup>th</sup> century between  
aristocratic bachelors and  
beautiful American women.  
(Downton Abbey with a twist)  
Visitors Welcome  
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## Bishops Tachbrook Junior Youth Club

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For more information  
contact Anoushka on 311538 or  
anoushka76@hotmail.com  
or come along on a Monday.

We desperately need more adult  
volunteers to come and help at our club,  
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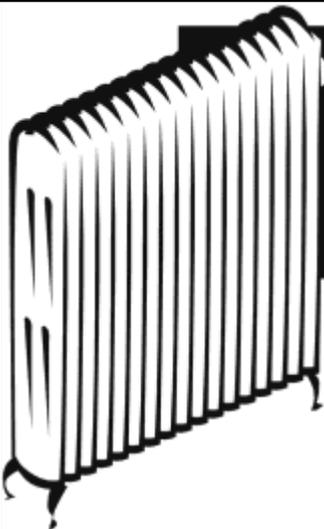
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## It's a load of old collops

*(British food from the Vikings to Empire)*

Keith Wellsted

### **Last month's load of collops reached the Saxons. Let's go for a food history time travel from the Vikings to Empire.**

The Vikings and Danes brought us the techniques for smoking and drying fish - even today the North East coasts of England and Scotland are the places to find the best kippers - Arbroath Smokies, for example.

"Collops" is an old Scandinavian word for pieces or slices of meat. A dish of Collops is traditionally served on Burns Night (25th January) in Scotland.

Collops can be made using either thin slices or minced meat of either beef, lamb or venison. This is combined with onion, salt, pepper and suet, then stewed, baked or roasted with optional flavourings according to the meat used. It is traditionally served garnished with thin toast and mashed potato.

The first York Ham is said to have been smoked with the sawdust of oak trees used in the building of York Minster.

The Normans invaded not only our country but also our eating habits! They encouraged the drinking of wine and even gave us words for common foods - mutton (mouton) and beef (boeuf) for example.

In the 12th century the Crusaders were the first Britons to taste oranges and lemons whilst in Jaffa in 1191-2.

Britain has always been a great trading nation. Saffron was first introduced into Cornwall by the Phoenicians at a very early date when they first came to Britain to trade for tin. Derived from the dried and powdered stigmas of the saffron crocus, saffron is still used today in British cooking.



The importation of foods and spices from abroad has greatly influenced the British diet. In the Middle Ages, wealthy people were able to cook with spices and dried fruits from as far away as Asia. It has been said however that the poor people were lucky to eat at all!

In Tudor times, new kinds of food started to arrive due to the increase in trade and the discovery of new lands. Spices from the Far East, sugar from the Caribbean, coffee and cocoa from South America and tea from India. Potatoes from America began to be widely grown. Eccles Cakes evolved from Puritan days when rich cakes and biscuits were banned.

When Europeans first encountered turkeys in America, they incorrectly identified the birds as a type of Guinea Fowl. The name of the bird thus became "turkey fowl", which was then shortened to just "turkey". In 1550, the English navigator William Strickland, who had introduced the turkey into England, was granted a coat of arms including a "turkey-cock in his pride proper". Turkeys were bred almost exclusively in Norfolk up until the 20th century. In the 17th century, turkeys were driven from Norfolk to the London markets in great flocks of 500 birds or more. Their feet were sometimes bandaged to protect them. Upon arrival in London, they had to be fattened up for several days before market.

The growth of the Empire brought new tastes and flavours. More about the influence of Empire next month. Prepare yourself for Kedgerree.

If you need to talk collops about growing fruit and vegetables contact your resident turkeys/Master Gardeners Susan Watt or I on: [suzwatt@gmail.com](mailto:suzwatt@gmail.com)/07711 498047 [keithwellsted@btconnect.com](mailto:keithwellsted@btconnect.com)/0771 8196577

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**February is the month of romance and passion but there has been no love lost in some of the many, many sporting events throughout this month and there has been many fierce battles between teams and individuals.** This month has also kick-started many of our favourite events to keep us all entertained through 2015.

Before we even opened our arms to welcome February we had two key sporting events. We start, of course, with the Super Bowl XLIX in Arizona between holders the Seattle Seahawks and the New England Patriots, which was won by the New England Patriots 28 -24. It was won when Malcolm Butler for the Patriots intercepts a one yard pass on the goal line with 20 seconds left which left him in tears for the remainder of the game. And now here are some super facts about the Super Bowl:

The quarter back for the New England Patriots Tom Brady shares the same birthday as me.

110 million people watched the Super Bowl as it was also being broadcasted in 25 languages.

The Patriots players received \$97,000 (£64,000) each for winning the Super Bowl.

The day of the Super Bowl is the second largest day for food consumption in America, second only to Thanksgiving.

Also this month was the start of The Six Nations. England got off to a cracking start with a win against Wales 16-21 at the Millennium Stadium and they thrashed Italy at Twickenham 47 -17, scoring 6 tries during the 80 minutes.

Ireland also have got off to a great start with wins over Italy and France. On the 15<sup>th</sup> Wales and Scotland fought it out and Wales came out on top with a 26-23 win.

The African Cup of Nations came to its conclusion between Ghana and Ivory Coast. After 120 minutes without a goal it went to sudden death in the penalty shootout which ended with Ivory Coast winning 9-8. This means now that Wilfred Bony can finally join his new team mates in Manchester after being signed to Manchester City in the January transfer window from Swansea City.

The first 4 days of this month were very exciting for Formula One fans as winter testing in Jerez started and Ferrari was on top of the sheets for 3 out of the 4 days, with 2 going to new man Vettel and one going to Raikkonen. McLaren, with the new Honda engine, struggled to do 50 laps, only doing 8 laps on the first 2 days. Yet again Mercedes put a massive number of miles on their engine so they look very strong going into the next testing in Barcelona. The biggest difference was the new front wings because most had been banned from the previous season.

In football news the Europa League and the Champion's League restarted this month with the first leg of the round of 32 for Europa League and round of 16 for the Champion's League.

#### **Events to look for next month:**

League Cup Final  
Six Nations  
Cricket World Cup  
Cheltenham Gold Cup  
F1 Australian Grand Prix  
Rugby LV Cup Final

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**Year business started:** We took over in December 2014.

**Tell us a bit about what your business does:** A convenience store providing fresh food delivered daily, household essentials, frozen food, toiletries, pet food, newspapers and magazines, beers, wines and spirits, tobacco, Payzone facilities and a cash machine. Regular promotions are run on popular branded products.



**What sets you apart from other businesses?** The shop provides an essential service as the local convenience store in the village, to that end we aim to provide the widest range of products and services to the residents of Bishop's Tachbrook.

**How is your business doing at the moment?** Due to the vital support of its regular customers, business has been steady given the time of the year and the current season. We are very grateful for the warm welcome and the support of the local community.

**Where do you see your business in 5 years?** Hopefully thriving, and serving the village of Bishop's Tachbrook with an improved and more complete convenience store.

**Opening hours:** Monday-Friday: 7am-8pm Saturday: 8am-8pm Sunday: 8am-1pm

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## Recovery of Stolen Fireworks

As I believe is well known £600 worth of fireworks intended for the annual New Year's Eve display were stolen on New Year's Eve from The Leopard.

As a result of information from a dog walker and others, on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February we searched the length of the south side of the brook and found the fireworks, believed to be intact but soaking and therefore regrettably useless.

It took three of us on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February to retrieve the fireworks which had been hidden and are believed to have been stolen by youngsters who obviously had no thought or respect for the enjoyment of others at the annual display. Police have been informed.

Our thanks to those who helped recover the fireworks – you know who you are!

Eddie Cousins



## The *Our Warwickshire* Website

The *Our Warwickshire* website can be reached at <http://www.ourwarwickshire.org.uk>. The site invites local residents to celebrate and share Warwickshire's heritage. Recently launched as a joint project by Warwickshire Local History Society, Heritage and Culture Warwickshire and the Friends of Warwickshire County Record Office, the project is seeking submissions from people with an interest in the county's heritage, culture, and natural history.

The aim is that local residents, community groups and organisations, website visitors, will collaborate with Warwickshire's museums, archives and local and natural history groups to record and share the tales of our county, using material from collections, recollections and research. This may be a record of Warwickshire's historic or natural environment as it is today, making a record of current activities in your local area, or sharing your research into Warwickshire's past. It may be a record of your personal experience, knowledge or memories; how your past contributes to *Our Warwickshire*.

All contributions from the public are welcomed and encouraged, and sharing your story is easy. Just click on the 'get involved' tab and add your topic, organisation, or event. Pop in a few words, upload a picture, and submit. If you want to be a regular contributor you can also register with the website, to get a username and password. Help is never more than a mouse click away. If you have any questions or want any guidance, please email [admin@ourwarwickshire.org.uk](mailto:admin@ourwarwickshire.org.uk) and one of the website's team of volunteer editors will provide support.

We look forward to sharing your stories.

# Bishops Tachbrook Sports and Social Club

## Spring Entertainment

### **March**

#### 7<sup>th</sup> March – Quiz Night

A quiz night with a difference, every team wins a prize! Come and pit your wits against The Judge, Cash Rollover could be over £220

#### 14<sup>th</sup> March – Bob Marley Tribute

Time for some classic Reggae. Our Bob Marley tribute has supported Curtis Mayfield, Third World-The Wailers and others and will be reproducing Reggae classics such as One Love, Stir it Up and 3 Little Birds

#### 21<sup>st</sup> March – Race Night

A great family night, sponsor a race, back a winner or just come and enjoy all the fun of being at the races, at your club

#### 28<sup>th</sup> March – Distorted Decade

New to the club. Distorted Decade are a covers band from the Midlands playing hits from the 50's right the way through to today

### **April**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> April – Charity Quiz Night

Raising money for Console, the national suicide and bereavement charity. We'll have great prizes so come and support this worthy cause

#### 11<sup>th</sup> April – Side by Side

Following their success last time they played for us, this reggae duo are back to sing some more classics for us

#### 18<sup>th</sup> April – Faye Horne

Faye is a versatile singer who sings hits from the 60's, 70's, 90's all the way through to today.

#### 25<sup>th</sup> April – Drink and Jive

Drink and Jive are a locally based Rock and Roll band playing covers from over the years. Come down and have a dance

#### 21<sup>st</sup> March – Table Top Sale

£5 a table. From 1-4pm. book your table with Karen soon as numbers will be limited

#### Kids Easter Disco – 29<sup>th</sup> March 3-6pm.

£2 a ticket for children between 2 and 11 in age. Ticket only event, available from behind the bar.

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## Bishop's Tachbrook Calendar March 2015

Date	Organisation	Event	Venue	Time	Contact
5th Thurs	WI	Roman Alcester	B.T. School	7.45pm	01926 424135
10th Tues	History Group	Here Come the Girls	St Chad's Church	2.30pm	01926 336749
25th Wed	Mothers' Union	MU Lady Day Service	St Nicholas Alcester	2pm	

### April 2015

2nd Thurs	WI	Royal Visits	B.T.School	7.45pm	424135
7th Tues	History Group	The Most Dissolute man in London	St Chad's Church	2.30pm	01926 336749

### Weekly events

Mondays	Rainbows	Sports and Social Club	6.00-7.30pm	Jadechoc@aol.com
Mondays	Youth Club	B. T. School	6.30-8.00pm	Anoushka76@hotmail.com
Tuesdays	Pilates	Sports and Social Club	9-9.30am	07769222524
Tuesdays	Over 50s	Sports and Social Club	2-4pm	01926 313020
Tuesdays	Bingo	Sports and Social Club	8pm	01926 421621
Wednesdays	Brownies	Sports and Social Club	6.00-7.30pm	carolineoveday@sky.com
Thursdays (term time only)	Tachbrook Tinies Playgroup For 0 to 5s	Sports and Social Club	9.30-11am	Elissa 07854427213
2nd Thurs of each month	Country Dancing	Sports and Social Club	8pm	01926 314286
3rd Thurs of each month	Parish Council Meeting	BT School	7.30pm	01926 641220
Sundays	Bingo	Sports and Social Club	8pm	01926 421621

**Police Constable Manjit Sidhu attended our February meeting and introduced Analese Kirwin who is our new PCSO.** Analese replaces Peter Groom. Manjit said that the Police will be looking at Neighbourhood Watch again and also working with the Community Speedwatch Team for a day tackling speeding in our community. The Police will also be addressing the issue of vehicles over 7.5 tons driving through the village.

A number of residents have contacted us regarding the **Neighbourhood Plan** which they thought included development in place of their garages. Apparently anonymous notices have been put through letter boxes claiming this. This is not the case. The Neighbourhood Plan must look at all areas where development could be possible. These areas were then assessed and the garages were removed as unsuitable sites for development. The areas highlighted for development in the Neighbourhood Plan are the site behind the school and a possible small development of 6-12 homes next to the Guide Dogs for the Blind on the Banbury Road. We thank the residents who have contacted us and brought this confusion to our attention. Please don't hesitate to contact members of the Parish Council if you have any concerns in the future.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been approved for submission to the District Council. The Parish Council will be providing a summary of the document for residents: a massive thank you to the Neighbourhood Plan team including many residents who have helped in various ways along the three year journey. Particular thanks go to Councillor Ray Bullen who has spent hundreds of hours writing the final evolution of the plan which considers and documents all comments made during community consultation. The neighbourhood plan will now be reviewed by the district council and a planning inspector, before being put to residents in a referendum, expected to be in late spring/ early summer. Before then, we will make sure that everyone has all the information they need to understand the plan and the benefits it will provide to our community over the next 10-15 years.

The **Local Plan** was approved by the District Council for submission to the inspector. District Cllr. Richard Brookes voted against this.

The **Asps planning appeal** will start in April. Developers for the 900-home estate, larger than BT village, are appealing against the decision to refuse their planning application. The Parish Council is working with other objectors to make joint representations at the appeal enquiry. Cllr. Ray Bullen will be posting information on the website to keep everyone updated. Any member of the public is welcome to attend. It starts on 14<sup>th</sup> April at Leamington Town Hall for 8 days. We will provide timings in April's magazine.

The **Seven Acre Close appeal** starts on 28<sup>th</sup> April and will also be heard at Leamington Town Hall. Again any member of the public is welcome to attend.

A meeting took place between residents, councillors and Highways Officers to discuss the **safer crossing point on Mallory Road**. Following the meeting, a decision has been

made to go ahead with a 'build out' to slow traffic speed, but without the raised platform. The tarmac locally would be coloured to attract attention and additional signage will be requested.

We have been told that the **new junction of Tachbrook Road/ Othello and the new estate road into Woodside Farm** is not suitable for a roundabout. We are still discussing a lay-by for the school buses, bus stop and bus shelter near the notice board in Othello.

District Cllr. Richard Brookes reported that the District Council will not be increasing **council tax**.

**Next meeting Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at Bishop's Tachbrook Primary School**

Any questions please contact:

Mrs. Corinne Hill, Parish Clerk, Gaydon Field's Farm Gaydon CV35 0HF

Tel: 01926 641220

email: [parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com](mailto:parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com)/[parishclerk85@btinternet.com](mailto:parishclerk85@btinternet.com)

### **Parish Magazine Editor**

I've very much enjoyed putting together the Parish Magazine, I feel it's a great asset to our community and I know it's read and appreciated by many people. We are lucky to have many excellent regular contributors who give their time each month to keep everyone updated on events and activities in the parish. However, after 6 years it's time to find someone to take over from me as editor and bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the magazine.

Each month contributors email me their pieces, and I then edit and present the magazine content before sending it to Ann Marie Wells for proof reading and then to Cadmans for printing. Once the magazines are printed Kate Wellsted takes charge of the distribution.

A new dedicated laptop installed with Microsoft Word and Publisher will be provided. I will help to set you up and get you started, and you can then choose whether to continue producing the magazine using my template (this is very simple and easy to use!) or experiment and develop the layout further.

The magazine committee meets informally each month to chat through the month's content and provide suggestions, support and advice so you will never feel on your own.

Please do think about taking this on; it's a worthwhile and rewarding thing to do for your community and there are many exciting possibilities taking the magazine forward, including closer links with the parish website.

If you are interested please get in touch [catherine.keen@btinternet.com](mailto:catherine.keen@btinternet.com) 01926 886980 to talk further. Catherine Keen

**Bishops Tachbrook  
Sports and Social Club**

**AGM 2015 NOTICE**

**Annual General  
Meeting**

**20<sup>th</sup> March**

**8pm**

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Call Karen Capehorn 07855 709051 for details.

Find us on Facebook (BishopsTachbrook SocialClub), Twitter (@BTSSClub) or visit

[www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk](http://www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk)

# Notice Board

Dear Friends

You all keep asking me when am I going to write again. I had to have a good thing to write about though, and I now do. My dad really told me off recently cos he thought I had left a pooh on the pavement outside my house. When he comes home in the dark it's not much fun for him to walk it into the house, mum shouts So whoever you were, you could always knock my door and ask me for the loan of a pooh bag !! I will give it to you if it means I don't get into trouble. Love Pickle x

## **The Church Spring Clean and churchyard tidy**

Saturday 7 March

ALL WELCOME

There will be two sessions - morning 9.30am - 12.30 and afternoon 2 - 5pm but come for any part of one or either sessions.

One job for the Churchyard Tidy will be to remove all remaining Christmas wreaths and artificial flowers. You are asked to remove these beforehand if you wish.

**Saturday 7 March 2015 at 7.30pm  
North Leamington School Theatre**

***Overture Prince Igor – Borodin  
Rhapsody in Blue – Gershwin  
Firebird Suite – Stravinsky***

An exciting programme guest conducted by the talented young conductor Dominic Greer, acclaimed for his performances with The Royal Ballet, The Royal Opera Covent Garden & BBC Concert Orchestra. Joined by Katharine Lam on piano.

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New concert venue:  
North Leamington School Theatre  
Sandy Lane, Blackdown  
Leamington Spa CV32 6BD

## **Country Dancing Club**

2nd Thursday of every month  
8pm at Sports and Social Club  
Contact Julie Jaggard 314286  
All welcome!

Next deadline for magazine items is 15th March for the April issue. Please send to [catherine.keen@btinternet.com](mailto:catherine.keen@btinternet.com)

If you have any items you'd like included in the April calendar please email Marion Smith on [marismi913@aol.com](mailto:marismi913@aol.com) by Sunday 8th March



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**I've always been pleased that we get sparrows in our garden.** They have disappeared from so many places but we have always had a noisy group until recently. I had been so pleased to see the Robin managing to cling onto the feeder and the visits of the Bluetits and Great tits that it was a while before I realised I wasn't seeing Sparrows taking their turn. The seed in the feeder was not going down so quickly despite the cold weather, what has caused their absence? We occasionally see some sitting on the top of the hedge so they are about but not so often in our garden. I have not solved the mystery for certain but there are a few possibilities. Hopefully they have not succumbed to the cold weather. Is it a neighbour providing a better choice of food? I have seen a black cat in the garden early in the morning, unless it sees me first. Maybe this is the reason for their absence. The mornings are lighter earlier now so we are missing the first visits of this feline. Of course this stealthy visitor could only be after the mice.

Jenni phoned one evening just as the light was fading. "Can you see the Starlings?" I couldn't but I knew exactly what she meant as I had seen them other evenings as they swooped and dived, gathering up other groups to join their aerial display. We do not get those vast numbers that have been shown in various wildlife programmes but ours are still fascinating to watch. They all gather together before descending to their favourite roost for the night. Where is that for our local starlings? Do you

know? Have you seen them as they drop into trees somewhere?

Henry the Heron has been about during daytime so I wonder if his mate is preparing the nest. Both the male and female Blackbirds have been in the garden, not exactly paired up but certainly happy to forage in the same patch. The Collared Doves sit together on the fence. It is Valentine's day so maybe love is in the air!

I saw my first butterfly of 2015 two weeks ago but it was a bit of a cheat really as it was in the church. I presume it hatched out there and I hoped it would be OK feeding on the flower arrangements as it was definitely too cold for it to be outside! I saw the first catkins just before Christmas, though they were in a very sheltered spot. Then the snowdrops in the garden have made me think about the first signs of Spring and I wondered whether we might have a challenge to be the first to see a butterfly, outside of course, and maybe some of the other early signs. **So here is the challenge - what date did you first see any of the following this year?**

Rooks building / Elder beginning to leaf/  
first bumblebee/pussy willow catkins/  
primrose flower/ celandine flower/  
frogs in ponds/ Brimstone or Tortoiseshell butterfly/first daffodil/frogspawn/  
hawthorn hedges flushing green/  
blackthorn blossom.

Children might enjoy using the downloads produced by the Woodland Trust and Wildlife Watch to be found on these websites: [www.wildlifewatch.org.uk](http://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk) and [www.naturedetectives.org.uk](http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk)



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## Steve Harvey's Nature Page

**Cold, bright and a blue-skied sunny day over Gaydon; a large bird grabbed my attention.** No sooner had I thought Buzzard, than I knew it wasn't. The wings were longer and moved more fluidly. It flew nearer and nearer. There's a large colony of Jackdaws in Gaydon. They were sitting in a clump of trees enjoying the sunshine. They saw the bird approaching. Only three of them took off in a half-hearted show of strength then lost their nerve and returned to the others. They left it to a pair of much larger Carrion Crows to do the business. The pair "cawed" to each other then moved to intercept. Even they hung back and merely followed the large bird. They weren't sure; it wasn't the Buzzard they were used to. It was a Red Kite, the V in the tail clear to see as it flew by unimpressed by the crows. I've only seen four Red Kites in Warwickshire over the past couple of years. This one probably followed the motorway up from Oxfordshire exploring new territory.

I was working and trying not to get free acupuncture from a pyracantha hedge when something moved to my left. It was a Goldfinch, lying face down, its tiny body heaving for breath. I carefully lifted it from the thorns. It had flown into the window. The Goldfinch gripped tightly onto my thumb, so there was some hope. It opened its eyes and then closed them again. I stroked its plumage; it was so soft; such a privilege being that close. The red face feathers are under laid with yellow. In the bright sunlight they look orange. A few minutes passed with the goldfinch still perched on my thumb. I moved it to a stone planter in the sun where it would be warm and I could keep an eye on it. It took about fifteen minutes for the little bird to regain itself. It looked at me and then flew off probably thinking it had had a nightmare or had been alien abducted.

Back when I was a teenager and a bag of crisps was under 10p Lapwings were fairly common. I used to love their "peewit" calls as they searched for insects across the farmland. Time passed, houses were built and they seemed to disappear. So it has been great over the last couple of winters to see flocks of sixty or more flying over the Longbridge island of all places. Although, when I come to think about it, boggy fields for them to feed - perfect. Hopefully they are returning. Somehow I don't think a cheap bag of crisps will!

Last February I was working on a house near Shipston surrounded by beautiful countryside when I heard the first Chaffinch. Well it happened again - same time same place maybe even the same bird - Déjà vu with a view. It blasted its bouncy song and with a big breath the Mexican wave of birdsong had begun, rippling across the whole country. Robins, a pair of which in our garden have been inseparable since January, thrushes, Hedge sparrows, Great tits, Pigeons, Doves and, my favourites, the blackbirds are all at it. It may be chilly but Spring's engine was running before the end of February.



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Kevin Marshall



**We started the new year by welcoming four visitors to our meeting. It was lovely to meet you, and I hope you enjoyed your evening and feel able to visit us again.**

Our speaker was Pam Sutton who came to tell us about "Troop Aid." What is that you are wondering? It is a charity set up by Pam and her husband Al and other ex-servicemen after a visit to Selly Oak Hospital's Alexandra Wing in 2006. This is the home of the Defence Medical Welfare Services who are responsible for the welfare of all Armed Welfare Personnel who have been injured during conflict. It was discovered that troops often return back with no personal effects, often just what they stand up in. The objective of Troop Aid is to supply them immediately with the basic essentials, in the form of a Grab Bag. This contains T-shirt and shorts, washing and shaving kit, towel, face flannel, toothbrush, toothpaste, shower mules, socks, underwear, pen and paper. Everyone also gets a get well card saying "a gift from a grateful nation". The bags are used in field hospitals in Afghanistan or Cyprus, or M O D hospitals in this country. Pam explained how her home had been used at first for packing and storing the bags but they now have bigger premises in Solihull.

Prince Charles agreed to become the charity Patron and last year they were awarded both The Chief of Defence Staff Commendation and the Queens Award for Voluntary Service. Pam was a very interesting speaker and should you wish to know more I have some information.

Our meeting continued with a quick run through of all the visits and trips available to us. These included visiting the Poppy factory and Kew Gardens or Melton Mowbray, learning to blend aromatherapy, having fun with watercolour, or a day school to finish all the craft projects that you have started.

Forthcoming events arranged by us include our annual cake stall on 9th May, a Pimms and Croquet evening in June and hopefully again in August, and the return of our wine club after a dry year. I hasten to add not us drying out just a conflict of dates.

In March we will be drawing our bursary for a 2 night stay at Denman College. This is the W I college based in Oxfordshire open to both members and non-members, covering a vast variety of courses.

16th September is the WI's 100th birthday. Plans are underway to celebrate this event so watch this space for more information.

A big thank you for all the stamps - I really will be dealing with them shortly. If you were to investigate under my stairs, all you will find, apart from carrier bags, is bundles of stamps or used bras awaiting delivery to their charity.

Our speaker in March is Lawrence Thatcher who is coming to tell us about Roman Alcester and on the spur of the moment, I decided to hold a competition for 3 spring flowers in a vase. If you would like to come along to a meeting, we would love to meet you. Any queries, do give me a ring or find us on Facebook. Anne Allen 424135



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## March Rotas

### Assistant Stewards

- 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Day  
8<sup>th</sup> John & Ros Pratt  
15<sup>th</sup> Fiona & Ewan Meades  
22<sup>nd</sup> Graham Leeke  
29<sup>th</sup> Huw Davies

### Cleaning

- 7<sup>th</sup> Sue Hitchin  
14<sup>th</sup> Desnee & Mervyn Fletcher  
21<sup>st</sup> Jenny & Peter Lister  
28<sup>th</sup> Jo Shaw

### Coffee

- 1<sup>st</sup> Fiona Meades & Joan Alderman  
8<sup>th</sup> Volunteers required  
15<sup>th</sup> Maralyn & Roy Brown  
22<sup>nd</sup> Gill & Paul Yarwood  
29<sup>th</sup> Ros Pratt & Jane Everett

### Sidespersons

- 1<sup>st</sup> Rod Smith & Volunteer  
8<sup>th</sup> Vera Vale & Anne Kelley  
15<sup>th</sup> Ray & Anne Allen  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sheila Hayward & Kath Reason  
29<sup>th</sup> Bernard & Jean Fisher

## Bishops Tachbrook Cycle of Prayer

### Praying for our Community

I have agreed to write the Prayer Calendar each month. If there are any particular concerns you would like us to include please let me know. I am John Pratt and can be contacted at [j.a.pratt@btinternet.com](mailto:j.a.pratt@btinternet.com)

This month we pray for those who live in Calpurnia Avenue, Church Hill, Church Lees, Cicero Approach.

When you come to church this month you immediately know that we are in Lent - no flowers, the purple sombre hangings. It is a time for reflection and prayer which we need to balance the joy that will come next month with Easter. So make it a time of reflection, find a space during the month to be quiet away from the busyness that so often surrounds us. It is something truly valuable in today's world.

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## Croft Patient Participation Group

**Non-Attendance for Appointments:** An average of 35-40 patients each week do not attend their appointments.

**Hospital Accident & Emergency Dept:** The hospital produces a league table of surgeries and their patients attending A&E unnecessarily. Croft is high on the table of incidents, and this in turn attracts a financial charge on the surgery. Except in cases of high emergency, patients are urged to contact the surgery, or phone 111 (the NHS emergency service) during out-of-surgery hours.

**Newsletter:** The PPG's first information sheet is now available. Please read it and send in your comments

**Patient Assessments:** A national initiative requires all surgeries to participate monthly in the 'Friends and Family Test'. This involves patients completing an assessment of how they rate the surgery and whether they would recommend it to friends and family. Results help surgeries to assess their systems, highlight areas of satisfaction and those requiring improvement. 60 Croft patients had participated in the first assessment and results showed overwhelming appreciation of the "friendly and helpful doctors and staff". 8 patients had reported some difficulty with arranging early appointments.

**Staff Update:** Another experienced phlebotomist (blood-taking nurse) has been appointed.

**Innovation Fund:** Congratulations to Croft, which was one of only two successful bids from South Warwickshire for funding for a new project. Over the next two years a pharmacist will work with staff and patients to check and enhance medicine management. PPG will support this project by determining patient satisfaction before and at the end of the project.

**Future Meetings:** Meetings will be held monthly at Sydenham, alternating between Tuesdays at 12.30pm (upstairs) and Thursdays at 6.30pm in the ground-floor reception area.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 6.30pm. Everybody welcome.

We would like you to think about your recent experiences of our service.

How likely are you to recommend our GP practice to friends & family if they need similar care or treatment?

 Extremely likely <input type="checkbox"/> Likely <input type="checkbox"/> Please tell us what we are doing well	 Neither likely nor unlikely <input type="checkbox"/> Please tell us why? <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	 Unlikely <input type="checkbox"/> Extremely unlikely <input type="checkbox"/> Please tell us how we can improve? <small>Please write comments on the reverse</small>
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## **Ist Bishop's Tachbrook Rainbows**

Is your daughter aged 5,  
does she like having fun, playing games,  
making things and  
being part of a group?  
Then Rainbows could be for you.  
Rainbows are part of the  
Girl Guiding group.

If your daughter is interested  
email Jade at  
[jadechoc@aol.com](mailto:jadechoc@aol.com)

## **Are you interested in being a Brownie?**

Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies meet on a  
Wednesday at 6 - 7.30pm. We have fun,  
make, work on badges, go on outings,  
sing, play games and meet new friends.

If your daughter is in Reception or Year 1  
and would like to be a Brownie when  
she is 7, please contact Caroline Loveday  
on 429082 or 07796 034371 or  
[carolineloveday@sky.com](mailto:carolineloveday@sky.com) to find out  
more and register your interest in  
Brownies. Even if your daughter is a  
Rainbow, you still need to put her name  
on the Brownie waiting list.

## **If you love books, come and join us!**

The Leamington Literary Society is the town's oldest cultural institution, founded in 1912. We have monthly meetings with guest speakers and home groups that read and discuss plays, poetry and novels. We have about 70 members but warmly welcome newcomers.

Our subject matter is not narrowly literary or academic. Instead we are interested in all aspects of language and culture, particularly as it is reflected in poetry, plays and novels. You don't need a PhD in Eng Lit to join us!

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday at Dormer Hall by St Peter's Church, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa.

Interested? Ring Trevor Humphreys on 01926-887838 or email  
[trevor.humphreys@outlook.com](mailto:trevor.humphreys@outlook.com)

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The  Leopard

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