

Alpheton Parish News

digital edition



September 2020

CHURCH OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, ALPHETON

SEPTEMBER 2020

Rector: The Revd Matthew Lawson
tel: 01787 310845 *email:* revmattis@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Mrs Charlotte Blyth — 01284 827008
email: charlottefblyth@btinternet.com

Administrator: Vicky Moakes *email:* chadbrookoffice@gmail.com

SERVICES

Wed 2 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Midweek communion
Sunday 6 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Livestream service
Wed 9 Sept	10.30am	Alpheton	Midweek communion
Sunday 13 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Livestream service
Wed 16 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Midweek communion
Sunday 20 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Livestream service
Wed 23 Sept	10.30am	Shimpling	Midweek communion
Sunday 27 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Livestream service
Wed 30 Sept	10.30am	Holy Trinity	Midweek communion

Livestreaming our service

1. Go to the Melford Church website: www.longmelfordchurch.com
2. Scroll down to the Facebook box on the front page
3. Click on the words 'Holy Trinity Church' at the top of this box
4. Once in our Facebook page scroll down a little to see the service

Phone in service

If you do not have an internet connection you can phone in on an 0333 number which should be free if you have free calls (free weekend calls), or you are within your free minutes' limit on a phone contract (please check).

Dial 0333 0110 946, 'Room' number: 20966931#, Guest PIN: 5252#

Services may be subject to change in light of the situation with Coronavirus.

Check the websites for any changes. www.longmelfordchurch.com

From the Assistant Priest

Making a difference

Some of you may have been watching the TV adaptation of Vikram Seth's novel "A Suitable Boy" on BBC1 on Sunday evenings. I recently discovered that the book on which it's based runs to 592,552 words (I don't know who counted them, either).

When I'm preparing sermons for Sunday services, my first draft will usually run to 1,800-2,000 words, but I know that anything over 1,650 words will take me more than 10 minutes to deliver and, as that's the limit I set myself, I usually have to do a bit of judicious pruning.

When we were able to open up our churches after the first draconian Covid-19 lockdown and we were free to hold services again, we realised that, to start with, they ought to be as short as possible. For this reason, it seemed to be a good idea to start with mid-week services because we can make them shorter than Sunday services.

We're allowed to miss out a number of sections of the service during the week which we have to include on a Sunday (the Gloria, the Creed, etc and only have one Bible reading instead of two) and instead of a sermon we could preach a homily which is much shorter (closer to 200 words). This has proved to be very popular.

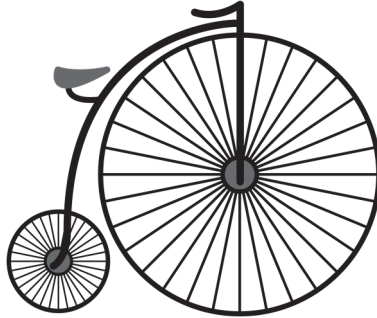
For a talk that short, you have to avoid nuances and asides and stick to the main point. So I guess that my main point for today is that small is good. Small things can make all the difference: a cheery wave and a kindly greeting can make all the difference to someone's day, including your own, as can a friendly smile (I've even drawn one on the mask I use when I go to the shop for my morning paper).

So smile and keep on smiling. It will make my day if you do, and I hope it will make yours, too. God bless.

Rev Henry Heath

Historic Churches

Ride and Stride



David Walters, from Long Melford, intends to take part again this year in the sponsored Ride and Stride for the Historic Churches Trust: during eight hours on September 12 he is planning to cycle between every Anglican church in Sudbury Deanery (24 in total), together with all the local Roman Catholic and non-conformist Churches which take part. If he has any time left after that he'll move across to Clare Deanery and maybe even cross the border into Essex.

Half of the money raised by this event goes to the Historic Churches Trust and the other half goes directly to the church nominated by the sponsored person.

If you would like to sponsor David please get in touch with him at david.walters@rodbridge.com or 01787 379236. If you would like to take part in this event please contact Carolyn or Stephen Spraggon at spraggonfamily@hotmail.com or 01787 370686 and they will send you a sponsorship form.

More details at shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride

Welcome back

**The Church of St Peter and St Paul, Alpheton
is now open for prayer**



Please note that the church is currently open for individual prayer, and we hope to be open more generally soon. If you visit the church for individual prayer, please observe these basic rules for keeping everyone safe:

- Please clean your hands thoroughly using the hand sanitiser provided before going in, and take a wipe with you into the church.
- Keep the wipe with you in the church and wipe any surfaces you touch.
- Please keep a safe distance (2m) from people other than your own household.
- Please avoid touching any books or other loose objects.
- When leaving, please use the hand-sanitiser to clean your hands and take your used wipe with you and dispose of it at home.
- Please close the inner door to keep birds out, but leave the porch door open.

Thank you – it is wonderful to have this special place open again.

*God bless you, and thank you for ensuring that both you
and other visitors stay safe.*

Simple midweek communion services are planned for Alpheton, Long Melford and Shimpling in September, with the service in Alpheton on
Wednesday 9 September at 10.30am

You are welcome to join our livestream services every Sunday at 10.30am

Directions:

1. *Google the five words "Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook".*
2. *Click on the top link which takes you to the Holy Trinity Facebook page.*
3. *Scroll down a bit ... service should be there.*
4. *Note that you do not need to join Facebook, and you can watch the service later.*



Loan sharks

The England Illegal Money Lending Team are concerned that loan sharks may be preying on people with increasing pressure during the COVID-19 epidemic. This is a government-funded enforcement team set up to identify, investigate and prosecute loan sharks. They also support people who have been the victim of a loan shark and work to prevent people using loan sharks. The following links offer advice and support: www.stoploansharks.co.uk, 24/7 helpline 0300 555 2222, and www.loansmart.org.uk

Happy Stones

Many of you will have seen, dotted around Alpheton, beautifully painted stones, and some of our 'more mature' families have received hand delivered stones with personalised messages. This is all the work of sister and brother Ruby and Harry, two of the village residents. This wonderful idea not only helped to cheer up the village in these strange times, but also helped raise money for the NHS. Our thanks go to these enterprising youngsters.

Stan Burcham

I would like to thank everyone for the cards and support I have received since Stan sadly passed away on June 2. I'm also grateful for all the offers of help during lockdown. *Maureen*

Events off

Because of the COVID-19 epidemic, regular monthly events at Alpheton village hall, including the WI and Film Night, have been cancelled until further notice.

Shopping online

Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime, received **over 16,000 reports** relating to online shopping and auction fraud during the lockdown, with losses totalling over **£16m**. Members of the public have reported buying mobile phones (19%), vehicles (22%), electronics (10%) such as games consoles, AirPods and MacBooks , and footwear (4%) on sites such as eBay (18%), Facebook (18%), Gumtree (10%) and Depop (6%), only to have the items never arrive.

If you're making a purchase from a company or seller you don't know and trust, carry out some research first. For example, by checking to see if others have used the site and what their experience was.

Use a strong, separate password for your email account. Criminals can use your email to access other online accounts, such as those you use for online shopping.

Some of the emails or texts you receive about amazing offers may contain links to fake websites. Not all links are bad, but if you're unsure don't use the link, go separately to the website. Remember, if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is.

If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one as other payment providers may not provide the same protection.

If you think you've visited, or made a purchase on, a bogus website, you should first take a note of the website's address, then close down your internet browser. You should then report the details to Action Fraud and contact your bank to seek advice.

*For more information about how to stay safe online, please visit **www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime***



Children at Church

There is still plenty going on during lockdown:
Crafts, videos, stories, Zoom meetings, teaching ...
silliness.



For more information please contact our family
worker Pam: melfordfamilyworker@gmail.com,
07890 880 976 ...

... or ask to be invited to our 'Children at Church'
Facebook Page.

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Looking for something fun to do?
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Lawshall Village Hall, Fridays 7.00-9.00pm

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More information:

*Tory Lugsden (County Fieldworker) 01473 785547
office @suffolkyoungfarmers.com*



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Elizabeth Gibson MSSCh MBChA
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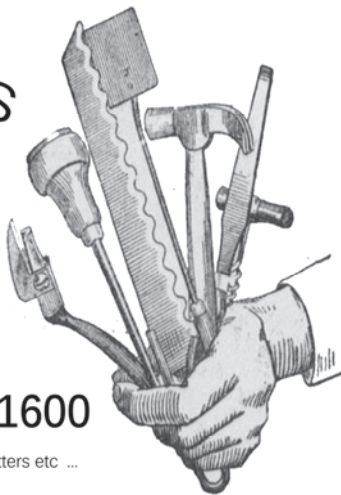
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R J C

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Freephone: 0808 274 2190 or
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Weekly events at the Village Hall

All events subject to cancellation following government COVID-19 advice

Second Tuesday of the month: WI, 7.30pm (*Spring and Summer*)

Third Tuesday of the month: Film Night, 7.30pm

Last Tuesday of the month: Coffee Pot from 10.30am

Last Friday of the month: Craft and Social session, 2.00pm (not Dec)
Alphie's Bar, 8.00pm

Mobile Library:

Thursday every four weeks (next visit September 24)

11.35-11.55 opposite the Village Hall

12.00-12.15 Post Box near Church Lane



Village Hall Bookings

The Village hall has a licensed bar and is available for hire

For all village hall bookings please contact

Stephen Larnar 01284 828468 stephenlarnar@btinternet.com



Advertisements

Commercial Ads (*up to half a page*): £3.50 per month or £35 per annum

Domestic small Ads £0.85 per month

Alpheton Parish News is published by Alpheton and Shimplingthorne Parochial Church Council, *Editor Emeritus* Mrs Paddy Trevelyan. The PCC reserves the right to alter or refuse any item submitted for publication and cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of any claims made by any advertiser. Articles submitted do not necessarily represent the view of the publisher.



COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Please email copy by September 12 to

Editor **Ken Watkins** watkinsk105@outlook.com

copy received after the deadline will be held until the next issue

Artwork for the front cover is always welcome

Please ensure that any graphics are emailed as hi-res Jpegs or PDFs

Camera-ready artwork should be hi-res: portrait for full page, landscape for half page



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

during September 2020

NB: All regular social events at the village hall are suspended until further notice in view of the current COVID-19 epidemic. They will return once government advice changes to allow them to resume.

Sunday 6 Sept Livestream Communion from Holy Trinity, 10.30am
Wed 9 Sept Midweek communion, Alpheton Church, 10.30am
Sunday 13 Sept Livestream Communion from Holy Trinity, 10.30am
Sunday 20 Sept Livestream Communion from Holy Trinity, 10.30am
Sunday 27 Sept Livestream Communion from Holy Trinity, 10.30am



Further ahead

We look forward to regular events returning once government advice changes to allow them to resume.



Message from the Editor

In view of the current restrictions, and as a safety precaution for everyone involved in the normal production and delivery of the Parish magazine, this edition is coming to you online, rather than through your letter box.

It is appearing on both the Alpheton village website, and the St Peter and St Paul website, and will continue to do so until circumstances change.

Stay safe, and take care.

Ken Watkins

Cover artwork: Julie Rix