

Leam Valley Messenger



June/July 2022

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Dear Friends

At the start of June there really is only one thing I can talk about. This month the Queen becomes the first monarch in British history to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee.

The Queen's Coronation in 1953 was the first big 'TV moment.' It did more than any other to make television a mainstream medium. People went out to buy their first TV's to watch it and those that didn't crammed into their neighbours' houses to watch Princess Elizabeth be crowned as Queen. For the years that have followed the Queen has lived her life in the public spotlight.

Over the years the Queen and her families' lives have been watched and digested by millions of people. TV news filmed her as she sat alone in Westminster Abbey mourning her husband. When her son got married, pictures of the ceremony were beamed to TV's around the world. When her children went through divorces, the ins and outs were broadcast across the front pages of national newspapers. When her grandchildren lost their mother, journalists camped outside her house waiting for her to make a statement.

The Queen has spent more than 70 years living her life under a microscope; sharing both her highs and lows with her subjects. It strikes me as amazing that after all the ups and downs, surrounded by constant attention, the Queen has managed to maintain her public persona of calm dignity. Under all that, a good role model and providing a sense of stability in an ever-changing world.

As the country celebrates the Platinum Jubilee there will be no shortage of opinions on what the Queen has and hasn't achieved. There will be a lot of looking back and possibly some looking forward as well.

Whilst we reflect on the Queen's 70-year reign we may wonder how she manages to do what she does. What has sustained her and kept her? What enabled her to become the longest serving monarch in British history? I have no doubt many different answers will be given to those questions, but the Queen herself has been quite open and honest about what keeps her grounded.

At the Start of June 2022 it seems right to listen to the woman of the hour. In her 2014 Christmas message the Queen shared what her source of strength is and where her values and principles come from.

"For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance, and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people of whatever faith or none."

From the Queen's Christmas Message, 2014.

For 70 years now when we have sung the National Anthem we have prayed to God that the Queen may be 'long to reign over us'. I think that this month could be considered a celebration of God answering that prayer.

Rev Phil Price



From the Registers

Funerals: We offer our sympathy and the assurances of our prayers to the relatives and friends of:

Arthur Govett Caunter whose funeral took place on 12th April at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings.

Bruce Wynn Roberts whose funeral took place on 17th May at St Peter's Church, Grandborough

Weddings: We congratulate the following couples whose weddings took place at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings.

Nicholas George Edward Turner to Sophie Jane Smith on 1st April

Oliver James David Nunn to Frida Matilda Evelina Dahlqvist on 9th April.

Baptism We welcome **Annabelle Phoebe Smith** into the life and membership of the church family. Annabelle was baptised on 23rd April at All Saints' Church, Leamington Hastings

Church News and Notices

Flecknoe

Big Breakfast

Many thanks to Sara Jolley for organising another excellent Big Breakfast on Saturday 30th April. Thanks to all those who helped her and to all who came along to support us. The excellent sum of £505 was raised towards church funds. Sara, we look forward to another next February!

Afternoon Teas

On 16th July, Afternoon Teas will be served in the garden at Hillcrest House, (weather willing) from 2.00 to 4.00 pm. All are welcome.

Sunday Breakfast Service

The speaker at our Breakfast Service on 26th June will be Angela Maxwell from 'Gift of the years - Rugby'. She will speak about the mission to reach out to those living in care homes and in the later years of their lives.

Jonathan Ashton will be speaking to us on 24th July. He was sadly not able to be with us on 22nd May due to the untimely death of the Minister of his church in Coventry. He works as an Undertaker and will tell us about 'Cursillo' an organisation that 'encourages and supports Christians living out their faith in practical ways.'

Grandborough

Churchyard tidy up

We would like to thank all the volunteers who came to help tidy up in the churchyard on **Saturday 2nd April**. We had a very good response of willing workers, for which we were extremely grateful.

Farmers' Market

We were delighted by the generosity of everyone who came to the Farmers' Market in April, when we raised the sum of £315 in the Café and £85 from our Stallholders. A cheque for £400 was sent to the DEC Ukraine Appeal. Very many thanks to all who supported us.

Although Thursday 2nd June is an official Bank Holiday for the Platinum Jubilee, we will still be going ahead with Farmers' Market as normal. The only stallholder who will be unable to attend is Whittlebury Bakery.

Please come along and join us. If the weather is nice, we plan to put some tables outside

Messy Church

Having had an excellent turn out for Messy Church in April, we were disappointed to have so few at our May meeting. Only 6 children with their Mums/Dads came along. However, they all enjoyed the crafts and worship and there was plenty of food for everyone.

We are still intending to have Messy Church on 2nd June and are hoping to have a number of families join us. This will be a fun day to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. Weather permitting, we hope to hold our activities outside with a buffet tea. In order to cater for everyone, it would be helpful if you could let Dorothy know if you intend to come along. Details are on the back page.

Christian Aid week 15 – 21 May

We would like to thank everyone who has supported Christian Aid in the Parish of Grandborough. The Coffee Morning was very successful when we raised the sum of £175. In total, with donations by e-envelope and Gift Aid, we have collected the grand sum of £507.75 for this very worthy cause.

Willoughby

The good news is that we have finally hit our target for the toilet/servery project. We are now waiting for a builder to supply tenders, after being let down.

The National Heritage Lottery approved our bid for a grant for repairs and heritage activities at the church. We have applied for permission to start, hopefully next month, and just waiting for a new advisor.

Funeral

Sadly, a popular and well known villager, Jean Whitehead, passed away in May. The funeral service will take place on Monday 20th June at 1.45 pm at St Nicholas Church, followed by a Committal at Rainsbrook Crematorium.

Soup and Puddings

Our Soup and socials will continue by popular request. Lovely homemade soups and puddings, with suggested donation of £5 for both. Everyone welcome. The next dates are 25th June and 23rd July in the Village Hall from 12 - 2.00 pm.

Pet Service

A pet service is planned for Sunday 12th June at 11.00 am in the church. The Rev Phil Price will be on hand to welcome all our trusted companions to whom we could not have been without during the last few years

Heritage Craft Weekend

On July 9th/10th we will be having a Heritage Craft Weekend at the church. Heritage Crafts will be on display, maypole dancing, stalls. Posters will go round once it has all been confirmed. Exciting and fun filled. Contact Karen Nichols kjndon@aol.com for further details.

Wolfhamcote Church

On **Sunday 26th June at 3.00 pm**, the Church will become a Way Station on the pilgrimage route Via Beata from Lowestoft to St David's. This will be marked with the commissioning of a beautiful wooden carving in the Church and a Gospel Choir led by the New Testament Church of God from Rugby. Please come to the Church at 3.00 pm to help celebrate.

There will be a Blessing by Rev Phil Price, Gospel Singing, a short talk by Steve Eggleton from Via Beata on the pilgrimage walk across Central England and then we will provide hot dogs and cold drinks around 4.00 pm. You are welcome to bring your own food to share or eat separately. There will be a collection.



We are currently going through the legal process of becoming one single benefice with the Draycote Benefice. It has been a joy seeing people travelling around the Leam Valley benefice for services when their local church isn't meeting and you are also very welcome at All Saints, Stretton, St. Nicholas' Frankton, St Leonard's Birdingbury and St Peter's Bourton.

At the moment all Sunday services in the Draycote Benefice are at 10.30 am. (Please check <https://draycotegroup.org.uk/> or our Facebook page for details of which churches are holding services each week.)

Draycote and Leam Benefices

Regular Weekly Activities

Sunday 9pm
Zoom Compline

Tuesday 9am
Zoom Morning Prayer

Wednesday 9.30am
Morning Prayer
at St Leonards Birdingbury

Thursday 9pm
Zoom Compline

Saturday 9.30am
Morning Prayers
All Saints', Stretton

Zoom login details:
Meeting ID 439 317 8703
Passcode 4835679

Church Services for Leam Valley Benefice			
2nd June	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
5th June	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
12th June	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
19th June	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	11.00 am	Welcome to Worship
26th June	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Breakfast Service
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
3rd July	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
7th July	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
10th July	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Family Service
17th July	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	11.00 am	Welcome to Worship
24th July	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Breakfast Service
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
31st July	Stretton	10.30 am	Holy Communion Benefice

Grandborough W.I.

Our meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. All visitors welcome.

On 15th June, Alison Foster will be giving us a presentation on how we use and have used plants in medicine.

On 20th July, Di Vernon will be giving a presentation on various glass techniques, including copper foiling, fused glass and leaded panel.