

Village Scene

Hampton Bishop April 2020 - May 2020



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Hampton Bishop Villagers Association

Hello to one and all.

Who would have thought since my previous letter in January, we would have seen flooding and now an international pandemic?

The Coronavirus has changed all our lives in many ways, but it is wonderful to see our village coming together again. A HUGE THANK YOU to all involved in the setting up of the 'Flood Defence Scheme', the HB-CMAG support group and the 'Noticeboard' on the Villagers Association website. A truly magnificent cooperative effort. Reminder of details below.

Normal HB Village Hall business will resume when permitted. However, in the meantime, any person wishing to take on the baton of Chairperson, or to nominate someone (with their consent) please make yourself known.

HBVA Website & Noticeboard: <http://www.hamptonbishop.info/>

Noticeboard submissions: resilience.hamptonbishop@gmail.co

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hamptonbishophereford/>

The village magazine can be found on the HBVA Website above as well as a dedicated Website <http://www.hamptonbishopcommunity.co.uk> where indexed copies of old articles and some lighter material may be found.

John Anker

Chair, Hampton Bishop Villagers Association

Hampton Bishop Parish Council

See <https://hamptonbishopparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Roger's Ramblings: A Message from Roger

Writing about my monthly ramblings has been a great joy to me and I've always looked forward to sharing my thoughts with you all. Over the last couple of years there have been topics of which I have studiously avoided. Mainly of political matters. Now, however, political matters are on the back burner and my thoughts go to more prosaic things.

When I first started writing professionally in the early 1960s I had as a friend, a man who was at that time a columnist, later to be Editor, at the Daily Mirror. The Mirror was published and printed in Manchester, my hometown, and yes before you ask, I support United. I as usual digress, his name was Bill Connor who wrote under the pseudonym Cassandra. Bill had a unique way of writing and his advice to me was to write in the vernacular, that is as if you were speaking to your reader in their language.

That advice was to prove to be very wise and enabled me to supplement my full-time career with earning a modest living with the pen, or typewriter as it was in those days. Bill became Sir William Connor for services to journalism and sadly died in 1967. I missed him very much and lost his valuable advice which had guided me in the early stages of my career. I digress again, I am very sorry. When Bill was writing his first column after the end of the Second World War, he started with the lines *"As I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted, it is a powerful hard thing to please all of the people all of the time."* That was the measure of the man, humour.

So back to what I intended to be my primary topic. I couldn't write about political matters but I could write about local matters such as the flood. During that time, we in the village created our own WhatsApp group to keep people up to date on the progress and most of all to keep them safe. From the flood we have come to the pestilence of Coronavirus. Fortunately, it has not hit us yet, only inconvenienced us. We should be reminded of the story of the village called Eyam in Derbyshire. During the plague of 1665 they isolated the village to prevent the plague spreading to local villages. Because of their selfless actions hundreds of villagers in the Peak District were spared the worst effects of the bubonic plague.

Now I'm not saying that we should do the same because after all this is the 21st century not the 17th century and things are a bit different, but we should look on our village as a little haven of safety from the plague of what is now referred to, in the modern vernacular, as Covid-19. Great work has been done by a group of villagers to whom all of us should be most grateful. They have created a communication system that is keeping villagers informed and I might say amused during these hard times of self-isolation.

It's funny how words and phrases come into the English language. Before Christmas we hadn't heard of the words, Self-isolation and Covid-19, now

they are on everybody's lips. A very amusing video shows Ronnie Corbett going into a green grocer to complain that his Blackberry wasn't working. You must have seen it. The really funny thing is that the device known as the Blackberry has itself been consigned to the bin, and blackberries are now only seen in hedgerows. Or your garden if you are lucky.

I've gone on a bit this month because as we are now only seeing a virtual magazine there's no limit to the space I can occupy. Writing is a funny profession because you create so many words in the hope that someone will read them. More than that in the hope that someone will pay to read them. Once your work becomes of no interest to the paying public then your editors soon drop you. Another funny thing is that sometimes you are paid by the number of words. Most of the magazines I write for pay by the word, and so in order to increase my pay I include as many adjectives as possible to fill the page with as little original thought as possible.

I digress again, but that's the advantage of digression when you are being paid a penny a word, the more words you use the more pennies you get. What I really meant to talk about was the wonderful help that we are being to each other. Just the little bit of thoughtfulness; the occasional phone call; the congratulations on a wedding anniversary that we probably wouldn't have known about had it not been for WhatsApp. This unique period in the history of our country will pass. I read recently an excellent article called "All things shall pass" and they will do. We will get over Lock-down; we will get over the shortage of toilet rolls; the shelves in our shops will be full again; life will get back to normal. Maybe not quite the normal we did have.

Maybe folk will become more understanding of the plight of others; maybe folk will not be so greedy; maybe families will become closer again and friends become more important. Maybe we will help the homeless, some of whom are there not of their own doing, to have shelter again; maybe the need for food banks will not be so important; maybe from the pain and distress of Covid-19 we will all learn to be more neighbourly just as we are in HB.

There we are almost a thousand words, that means we can have dripping on our bread for tea. You see "Oop North" that's all we have to look forward to. For Heaven's sake I'm trying to get this to exactly one thousand because I won't get paid for a word over that. Just count them!

Garden Wisdom of days gone by

(OR - Pre- Coronavirus).

“We should all grow our own food and do our own waste processing. We really should.” **Bill Gates.**

People are turning to thoughts of “growing their own” in the face of the Coronavirus crisis, and are looking for advice on growing their own fruit and vegetables, and there has been a surge in the purchase of seeds, seed potatoes and herbs.

So here are a few tips and reminders. Easy to grow vegetables and salad seeds and plants, from pots to plots, there are vegetables to suit every garden of every size and growing your own isn't complicated.

NOTE —You may find local garden centres are still operating on line.

Salad Leaves.

SOW: through the summer.

HARVEST: 3 weeks later.

Plant seeds in pots, keep well watered and cut leaves when required.

Plants produce leaves until late Autumn.

Radishes

SOW: 4 weeks after last frost and throughout the summer.

HARVEST: after a month.

A delicious, crunchy addition to any salad. Sow directly into the ground for quick growing, colourful veg. Don't forget to regularly water your crop.

Potatoes

SOW: late February March.

HARVEST: July to September.

Grow in potato bags, bins or in the ground. Cover shoots with more compost when they come up, this also helps to avoid late frosts. Keep well-watered and rummage out your spuds when foliage dies back.

Peas.

SOW: March to June

HARVEST: after 2-3 months.

Support with canes & chicken wire. The more you pick the ripe pods, the more the plant will produce. The tips of pea plants are a nice addition to the salad bowl.

Spring onions.

SOW: March to July

HARVEST: after 8 weeks.

Easy to grow in pots or in the ground. Perfect for salads or stir fry.

Let them flower and they will self-seed.

Broad Beans.

SOW: November to March.

HARVEST: June onwards.

Sow in small pots before planting out or sow directly into the ground. Pinch out the top few leaves when they are about 3 inches tall to encourage the plant to produce more pods.

Runner Beans.

SOW: April to July

HARVEST: after 2 months.

Train these climbers onto a support frame and keep well-watered and fed. When pods are ripe, keep picking them and the plant will keep producing more.

Onions and Garlic

SOW: Spring

HARVEST: Late Autumn.

Plant into well drained soil and lift when foliage starts to die back.

Dry in sunshine before storing in a cool, dark well-ventilated spot.

Tomatoes

SOW: February to April

HARVEST: July to October.

Sow in bags, pots or hanging baskets.

These fast-growing plants are ideal for young gardeners to grow. They just need plant food and water to give a tasty, juicy crop. Remember, you can take cuttings to increase your harvest.

Beetroot.

SOW: March to July.

HARVEST: May to September.

Sow directly into moist soil and thin seedlings to about 5cm apart.

In a couple of months you will have colourful, succulent super foods for salads, juices and more.

REMEMBER— There are plenty of other plants to grow in your garden, such as cucumbers, courgettes, herbs, and even peppers, chillis, and aubergines. There's nothing as good and satisfying as growing, and, eating, your own.

Village Hall Regular Bookings

Function	Date	Time	Place
Yoga*	Thursdays	09:30-11, 19:30-21:00	MH
Ballet*	Mondays	16:00 - 20:30	MH
Quilting*	Thursdays	10:00 – 14:00	CR
WI*	2 nd Thursday	19:30 – 22:00	MH
National Women's Council*	1 st Wednesday	12:00 – 16:00	CR

Please note the Village Hall is now closed until further notice.

Bishop Village Hall Booking Charges

Main Hall	£10.00 per hour / £12.00 at weekend
Villagers	£7.50 per hour / £9.00 at weekend
Committee Room	£7.50 per hour / £10.00 at weekend
Villagers	£6.00 per hour / £7.00 at weekend
Weddings	£250 (up to 3 days)
Villagers' Weddings	£200 (up to 3 days)
Marquee Surcharge	£25.00
Other Functions	£70.00 per day
Use of Kitchen	£10.00 per session
Glasses Hire	£10.00 per booking

To hire the hall please contact Val Watson on 07762 103110

Please note:

- Booking forms can be found at <http://www.hamptonbishop.info/publications>
- The hall should be left clean and free of any litter. Otherwise any costs incurred will be charged to the hirer.

- **A discretionary hire fee refund can only be given if at least 72 hours' notice of cancellation is provided.**
- **Main Hall Capacity for use of tables (i.e. meals etc..) is 80 people while it can accommodate 120 standing.**

Useful Contact Details

Church Treasurer	Ken Tinsley	870620
PCC Secretary	Julia Pearson	870459
Tuesday Lunch	Thelma Netherway or Julia Pearson	870968 870459
Church Wardens	Dr Richard Miller	870612
	Mr Edwin Moss	870278
Villagers Association Chairman	John Anker	870483
VA Treasurer	Jo Evans	870724
Village Hall Booking Clerk	Val watson	07762 103110
Parish Council Clerk	Lynda Wilcox	353492/07713 077077
Chairman of Parish Council	Steve Hunt	07970 822348
Vice-Chair of Parish Council	Mark Frankland	870735
Womens Institute Secretary	Barbara Kerr	870648
Mordiford Community Choir	Tom Hughes	mordifordchoir.co.uk
St Andrew's Bell Ringers	Edwin Moss	870278
EA Flood Warning		0345 988 1188
Police non-emergency		101 / 03003333000
Iyengar Yoga	Fiona Hawkins	860270
Dance Fusion	Heather Winterbourn	07834 208639
National Council for Women	Lois Davies	851558
Shushinkai Karate	Amy Powell	851868
Girls around the Block	Lyn Daffurn	870201
CAMEO	Thelma Netherway	870968
The Vicarage, 107 Church Road Tupsley, HR1 1RT.		353068
The Benefice Office	vicar@stpaulshereford.org.uk	
	Tupsley	274490
Village Scene	Peter Turner, pmdturner@btinternet.com	870911 / 07576587639

Hampton Bishop Readers Group

Wednesday 8th April 7.30pm	Meeting Cancelled	Started Early Took My Dog	Kate ATKINSON
Synopsis: The fourth novel featuring retired police officer Jackson Brodie. It only takes one impulsive action to turn Tracy's humdrum life as a security guard upside down, into one of fear and danger at every turn.			
The Readers Group Welcomes New Members. We are members of the Hereford Library Service, which means sets of our chosen read are available. Face to face meetings are currently cancelled due to Covid-19. If you are interested in finding out more, please call: Lesley Anker 870483 or Sian Turner 870770			

St Andrews Church

Services cancelled until further notice

We have two vital pieces of Good News!

First, **we're still open!** Sadly not our wonderful building, for the time being. We can't gather in body to worship, nor for funerals, weddings or baptisms here.

But more than ever **we're open and available**. In the village and in Tupsley and across the land we've discovered so many ways that people are praying, daring to give and receive help, and talk and ask about all sorts of things. We're here for each other, and so long as you can reach a phone, we're right in St Andrew's: **see below**. We're sending regular **letters and podcasts** and you can join our mailing list by emailing beneficeoffice@stpaulshereford.org.uk. We're active on **facebook** and of course on our **village website**.

Second (and actually *first!*), **Easter is not cancelled!**

From Palm Sunday we'll be posting and sending **activities and reflections to inspire** individuals or frazzled families as we explore and celebrate the events that brought Hope and Life into the darkest times and places

through Jesus Christ. So, along with Rev Nick Armstrong 01432 353068 and Rev Rachel Robertson 07568 607720 we have a growing team happy to pray with people and to have their numbers being made available especially as we join together more than ever enabling Life to grow through COVID-19:

- Thelma Netheraway 01432 870968
- Faustina Turner 01432 870911
- Sue O'Gorman 01432 870657
- Richard Miller 01432 870612

Dates for your Diary

For obvious reasons this section is currently empty.

Puzzles and Riddles

Please submit any challenges you would like to offer. This month Thelma challenges us with the following riddle:

**What has four letters,
occasionally has twelve letters,
always has six letters but
never has five letters.**

Thelma will give us the answer in the next edition but if you give up and want the answer you can contact her directly on delsnet@hotmail.co.uk

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