

The Downs and Valley Parishes Magazine No 3 June 2023



THE HOWARD ARMS ILMINGTON



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Service Rota June 2023

June	St George's Darlingscott	St Mary's Ilmington	St Mary's Preston-on-Stour	St Peter's Stretton-on-Fosse	St Gregory's Tredington	St Mary's Whitchurch
4th Trinity Sunday		11.00am Morning Worship & Baptism	6.00pm Evensong (1662)	9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Morning Worship	4.00pm Baptism
11th Trinity 1	4.00pm Evening Worship	11.00am Morning Worship	9.30am Holy Communion (1662)		11.00am Holy Communion	
18th Trinity 2		11.00am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion	11.00am Morning Worship	11.00am Holy Communion (166.
25th Trinity 3	4.00pm Evening Worship (1662)	6.00pm Evensong (1662)	11.00am Morning Worship		11.00am Holy Communion	

Ministers:

Rector: The Revd Canon Dr Richard Cooke 07952 544820 (mobile) or 01608 544821 (landline) or Richard.Cooke.ilmington@outlook.com
 Hon. Assistant Minister: The Revd Dr Tim Seller 01608 682244 (landline)
 Reader: Ros Wakefield 01608 682146 (landline)
 Reader Emeritus: Malcolm Davies 01789 450793 (landline)

Churchwardens:

Tredington *Posts vacant – contact the Rector*
 Darlingscott Doreen McCarroll 01608 682949 (landline)
 Ilmington Jane Downie 01608 682720 (landline)
 Preston-on-Stour Andrew Holman- West 07712 193773 (mobile)
 Stretton-on-Fosse *Posts vacant – contact the Rector*
 Whitchurch Carol Rutter 01789 450795 (landline) John Craner 01789 450200 (landline)

Enquiries about Weddings or Baptisms are very welcome! Please contact the Rector, Richard Cooke.

Richard Cooke, Rector, writes:

'Thine is the Kingdom...'

I said the Lord's Prayer out loud three times that day.

The first was at a wedding. It was a late Spring Thursday, and the cloudless sun held the first promise of Summer in its heat, as I waited at midday outside the church for the bride. When she arrived, her dress matched the May blossom on the trees and in the hedges. Amidst a swirl of music and sunshine, poetry and laughter, they made their vows and came to the altar for a blessing. In the joy of their love, bride and groom knelt and the familiar words of the Lord's Prayer summed up the prayers of everyone there: 'Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name...' After we had prayed there was a moment's stillness in the old church, witness to countless young couples who have said this prayer together here, as they have started out on the voyage of discovery that is a marriage. Then, the service over, I watched from the doorway as they left the church in a cloud of confetti, out into the sunshine and the rest of their lives.

The second time was at the hospital that afternoon. A call had come through to say that someone was not expected to live much longer and had asked for a priest to pray with her. You never say no. So, through the late afternoon traffic, down interminable hospital corridors, past medical staff in uniforms, I went to find the ward where she lay. A kindly nurse saw me looking lost as I entered the ward. 'She's in a side room', she said, knowing immediately why I'd come. The light was dimmed around the bed, where the family had been waiting all night and all day, knowing that the end would come soon and not wanting to miss it when it did. I slipped into the bedside chair and held her hand. She remembered me. She was so tired, she said, as she held my hand. Gently, with my free hand, I made the sign of the cross on her forehead with oil, and then we whispered the old words again: '...thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.' She was coming to the end of her journey and knew it, but didn't seem afraid. 'Thank you for christening my great-grand-daughter' she said. Quietly, after a conversation in hushed voices with the family, I left them in peace.

The third time was that evening in church, because it was also Ascension Day and we gathered from villages all around and made quite a crowd. The fields on the way were bright from the day's sun after a couple of weeks of rain, a tractor chugged over the meadow, and the birds sang as we began

the service outside. Inside, we sang too, hymns that took me back to the country church where I worshipped as a child. Together we shared bread and wine in communion, but before we did came those words again: 'Our Father...' As I prayed them for the third time that day, I thought of those I'd met at the wedding and the hospital and in between. In the midst of joy and sorrow, of our beginnings and endings, the old words framing all of human life within the life of God: 'For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.'

Tragic Deaths on Campden Rd

I'm sure that everyone in our parishes was deeply saddened by the news of the deaths of Tilly Seccombe, Harry Purcell and Frank Wormald in a car accident between Stretton-on-Fosse and Darlingscott on 22 April. Tilly and Harry lived in our parishes and their funerals will take place in due course. In the meantime we continue to pray for the families in our church services, and the churches are open in daylight hours if you want to have a few moments of quiet prayer within them.

From the Registers

Baptism

At Ilmington on 7 May: Otto Merrington, aged 3 years, and Arthur Merrington, aged 4 months.

Weddings

At Tredington on 18 May: Trevor Dengate and Kirstine McCallum.

Funerals/Interments of Ashes

At Darlingscott on 24 April: Margaret Green, aged 89, formerly of Darlingscott (ashes interred).

At Oakley Wood Crematorium on 3 May: Jeannie Hall, aged 91, formerly of Ilmington.

At Ilmington on 12 May: Derek Chapman, aged 90, formerly of Ilmington (ashes interred).

At Ilmington on 13 May: Don Kennedy, aged 84, and Pauline Kennedy aged 88, of Henley-in-Arden (ashes interred).

At Tredington on 29 May: Jackie Lane, aged 79.

Editor's Note

The deadline for copy for the July issue is 17 June Copy to Susan Brock, Editor, E. s.brock9@btinternet.com, Daisy Cottage, Front St., Ilmington, CV36 4LA. Enquiries about advertising to Tim Seller: E. Tim.Seller@outlook.com, Long Barn, Back St., Ilmington, CV36 4LJ. *The Tredington postbox topper on the cover was created by a Tredington and Blackwell WI member to a design by Laura Sutcliffe.* **If you would like to submit an image yourself, a painting, sketch, photograph, email it to Susan Brock as a jpg or PDF file (portrait layout).** Submissions from readers of any age very welcome.

Nature Notes June 2023

The Summer solstice occurs during this month, also known as Midsummer, although Midsummer tends to refer to numerous celebrations held over the solstice period between 19th to 24th June with both Christian and pagan origins.

It occurs because one of the Earth's poles has its maximum tilt towards the Sun. It happens twice yearly once in each hemisphere Northern and Southern. When it occurs, it is the day with the longest period of daylight and the shortest night. Astronomically speaking that date this year is 21st June. It can be either side of that date but rarely occurs on 22nd. However, if you are a meteorologist then you would say it occurs on 1st June!! It is seen as the end of Spring and the beginning of Summer. It was God who created the Sun on the fourth day, along with the Moon and Stars God said that these lights would separate the days from the nights. Their purpose God said was to bring light to the Earth. Genesis 1:14 & 16. *Gill*

ILMINGTON

Ilmington Bowls Club

Everyone is welcome to play bowls free of charge every Wednesday 2-3pm. No experience necessary. Just bring flat-soled shoes e.g. trainers. *Gregg Woodall*

Ilmington Screen on the Green - Top Gun: Maverick

Buckle up for a change of pace at our **Friday 30 June** screening when Tom Cruise reprises his role as the eponymous fighter pilot in "Top Gun: Maverick", an all-action (plus romance) movie that garnered six nominations at this year's Oscars. In this long-awaited sequel to the 1986 blockbuster, Maverick must confront his deepest fears as he leads a team of elite flying school recruits on a dangerous mission. Jennifer Connelly and Ed Harris also star. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start at Ilmington Village Hall. Tickets from the Village Shop, although some available on the door. Licensed bar and raffle. *Lis Ribbans, Ilmington Screen on the Green*

Ilmington Horticultural Society Annual Show 2023

Almost every year since its foundation in 1925 the Society has held a summer show of fruit, flowers, vegetables, cookery and crafts. It now takes place each Bank Holiday Monday as part of Ilmington Show. This year's show is on Monday 28 August. The Society's objective is to encourage community gardening and its shows offer an opportunity for friendly competition. Anyone can enter whether they live in Ilmington or outside the village and there are special classes for children so all the family can join in. You don't have to be an expert grower, cook or artist but this is a real competition with trophies to be won. Have a go and enjoy producing the best

flowers, vegetables, jams, cakes, wines, photos and art and crafts. If you have any questions contact Susan BrockE: s.brock9@btinternet.com
Susan Brock, Hon. Secretary

Ilmington Cof E Primary School

We have recently enjoyed completing work surrounding the coronation of King Charles III. The children explored different countries and their role in the Commonwealth and also looked at the process of the coronation in our Worship Wednesday at the church where Rev Richard Cooke talked the children through a coronation. We had our own 'king' and 'queen' and various 'peers of the realm' in attendance - the children learnt a lot as did some of the adults who joined us. A highlight of life at Ilmington School is the annual May Day celebrations. As I write we are deep in the throes of practising for the afternoon's festivities. The children look forward to this with great enthusiasm and work hard to celebrate this traditional event. Our year fives and sixes are looking forward to their residential trip later this month and will enjoy activities including paddle boarding, climbing and archery.

Paul Crouch, Headmaster

Sewage Spillage in Ilmington: Public Meeting, Thursday June 8th at 7.30, Ilmington Village Hall

Ilmington has experienced problems with spills of raw sewage for many years due to inadequate infrastructure. The problem has got considerably worse recently, particularly during periods of heavy rain, resulting in sewage pollution of our roads, footpaths and watercourses. This impacts on public health, the environment and community wellbeing. In 2021 the sewage works in Armscote Road discharged untreated sewage into Fosse Brook 121 times for a total duration of 1,255 hours. A public meeting has been called by an informal group of concerned residents who are investigating the issues. After a presentation and discussion amongst villagers, we will be joined by Severn Trent who will share their proposals for tackling the problems. Come along to find out more, have your say and explore the way forward. Everyone is welcome. *Joyce Bridges*

Ilmington Community Shop & Café It's a Jam Jamboree!

Strawberry season is upon us and we have the most wonderful berries on sale at the Community Shop. Why not take part in our very first Jam Jamboree, a competition to find the best Strawberry Conserve in the neighbourhood? We hope you'll support your local growers and suppliers in this competition of sticky deliciousness. We will also be looking for a Jam Jury, a panel of discerning judges to help us pick the winners. More information, entry forms and strawberries can all be found in the shop. Also look out for information on our next long-table supper, scheduled for 7pm on Friday 23rd June in the

Community Café. You'll find further information on Facebook or Instagram (@ilmingtonshop), or pop into the shop or café. *Ilmington Community Shop Committee*

Ilmington Village and Horticultural Show 2023 Bank Holiday Monday 28 August 1 – 5pm

Help celebrate the show's 41st year by booking a trade or craft stand – great value at only £25 for a 3m pitch (£15 for local organisations and businesses). This price has been held for the last two shows. You'll be able to set up on the day from 10am – just bring a table (plus gazebo and chairs and generator if you wish or we'll supply a table for £3) and off you go! The deadline for application and fee is 24th June 2023. Pitches are limited, it's first come first served so for further information or to book your place contact me by emailing ilmingtonshow@gmail.com. Don't worry if you can't make it, you can promote your business and support the show by sponsoring us. Contact Rob Beebee at Robert.beebee@ipu.co.uk.
Nigel Dunn

Gardens Open Ilmington: Sunday 25 June 2023 1.30-5.30pm

12+ village gardens will be open. Teas will be served in the Village Hall £5. Entrance to the Gardens is £8 (with under 18s free) on sale at the Village Hall (cash only please). All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Ilmington. Music and bell-ringing in Church, Plants for sale, Traditional Evensong at 6.00pm. *Irene Sabin*

Ilmington Village Hall: Monty Panesar Saturday 17 June

Join us and hear all about Monty Panesar's cricket career. As a former English international cricketer he was one of the world's best left-arm spinners. He will be appearing in a chat show format with his friend and former Sky Sports presenter, Adam Leventhall along with action film clips. An absolute scoop for the village hall and a rare opportunity to meet, ask questions, and hear from, one of the most recognisable faces of English cricket. This is also the perfect opportunity to reflect on the Ashes action of the day. Tickets are already in demand and with limited capacity, we recommend early purchase from the Community Shop at £15 per adult and £12 for under 18s including for a drink. They can also be purchased from Evenbrite. *Bryan Clifford*

Ilmington Wednesday Club

A big thank you to Brian Meredith for presenting a very interesting talk on the Stour Valley and Shipston. Although he went over the allotted time and we missed the remnants of the Coronation tea back at the Village Hall, we all thought it was definitely worth it! Great work Brian. Our next meeting is on June 14th when the Club goes to Sezincote. If your name has not been put on our list and you wish to go, then please get in touch with Carole. May saw three members with birthdays. Glynis Cooper had a birthday on 8th, Carmel Greenwood on 23rd and Edith Tuohy on 21st when she will have

celebrated her 101st! Well done Edith! For June, Marilyn Patten has a birthday on 13th followed closely by Sheila Lowe on 14th. Happy birthday ladies! We are looking for someone musical for our annual garden party at the Manor House in August. We would love to hear/see some local talent so please don't be shy! *Carole Clifford*

PRESTON-ON-STOUR

Preston Village Hall

Film Night - Friday 30th June, 7 for 7.30 pm

'Empire of Light' starring Olivia Coleman is our next film. A story set in the 1980s featuring a duty manager of a seaside cinema who is struggling with her mental health but things change when she forms a relationship with a new employee.

Village BBQ - Sunday 2nd July

The bbq will start serving at 1 pm in the Village Hall garden weather permitting or inside the hall if wet. Please bring your own liquid refreshment and glasses. This event is always a lovely opportunity to meet up with friends of Preston past and present. No advance booking needed.

Margaret Brocklehurst

STRETTON-ON-FOSSE

Cream Tea

June 18th Cream Tea in the Village Hall from 3.30pm. Any potential walkers in the village might especially like to come along to help us launch a Stretton Walking group. No commitment or payment - just the opportunity to enjoy some local walks in the company of one or two fellow walkers.....and, even if that doesn't interest you, just come along for a sociable tea on the 18th. *Geri Hunting*, 01608 663916/ 07968 338848

Film Night: Empire of Light

Friday 2nd June. Tickets Adults £3.50. Children £2.50 Doors open at 7pm. Film starts at 7:30pm. *Jo Holdback*

TREDINGTON WITH DARLINGS SCOTT

Coronation Lunch - thank you

Thank you to everyone who came to the Coronation Lunch in St. Gregory's church on the 7 May. Thanks to your generosity we are able to send £460 to the Air Ambulance Appeal for all their help in the recent terrible accident. Thank you to those who donated, provided food and help. We hope you all enjoyed the lunch and hope to see you at another similar event in July - watch this space!

Jenny Plenderleith

Tredington & District Garden Club

As we approach summer, there will be no more meetings until September. On 15th July we have a members' outing to Middleton Hall and Gardens, then on 20th July we have a social evening in a mem-

ber's garden. Details of both events will be emailed to members. For more information see www.tredingtongardenclub.weebly.com. Gill Goodlad, Programme Secretary

Newbold and Tredington C of E Primary School

It has been a busy term so far at The children are investigating their classes "Big Question" for the term. Emerald class went to The Mad Museum in Stratford as an introduction to their learning. Year 6 have worked exceedingly hard in the lead up to their SATS tests and now that they are over, they can enjoy the last part of the primary school life at Newbold and Tredington. A group of children have taken part in Bikeability and are learning to stay safe on the roads on their bicycles. Sporting events at school have included cricket and rounders tournaments as well as a swimming gala with other local school. We have also purchase a Kurling set for the children so we look forward to learning new skills. *Samantha Welsby, Head Teacher*

Advance Notice: Table-Top Sale 14 October WI Hall, Tredington

I am organising an up-market table top sale in Saturday 14 October from 10.00 to 12.30 in aid of the R.N.L.I.. Tables (provided) can also be hired for £10 for the morning to sell interesting hand-made craft items or home-made cakes. Several tables are being used to sell new and pre-loved items, antique/household, many from a large house in Tredington, (no second-hand clothes). All the money you make on your table is yours. Refreshments will be available, including bacon butties. Anyone interested in renting a table or who would like more information, contact Jenny Plenderleith on 01608 664278. *Jenny Plenderleith*

Tredington and Blackwell WI

At our May meeting, WI members and invited guests enjoyed a delicious Coronation Afternoon Tea. We hope everyone enjoyed our yarn bombing of the WI Hall and the beautiful postbox and bin toppers produced by one of our very talented WI members. The next WI Meeting will take place on Thursday 8th June 2023 at 7pm in the Tredington and Blackwell WI Hall, Armscote Road, Tredington, CV36 4NP. We will learn about *Jewellery* from Clemson Gems. Our July Meeting will be an outing (to be confirmed) on Thursday 13th July 2023.

Upcoming WI Community Events in the Tredington and Blackwell WI Hall, Tredington

Cream Teas: Saturday 17th June 2023, 2.30pm-4.00pm – All welcome. **Ladies' Event: Wine and Cheese Evening:** Friday 21st July , 7.00-9.00pm.

If you would like to attend any of our WI meetings, please contact the WI Secretary. For further details, please email: secretary@tredingtonandblackwellwi.co.uk or telephone 01608 682102. Visitors are always welcome at our friendly and thriving WI. For further information about our WI or to hire Tredington and Blackwell WI Hall, please see our website: <https://tredingtonandblackwellwi.co.uk> and Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/tredingtonandblackwellwi>. *Patricia Macpherson, Secretary*

WI Community Film Night

Our next film screening in the Tredington and Blackwell WI Hall, Armscote Road, Tredington, CV36 4NP will be on Friday 2nd June 2023. Bar opens at 7pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. It is a heart-warming British biographical comedy-drama with a superb British cast (Cert. 12A, 2021, running time 102 minutes, plus interval with bar and ice creams). Booking is now open. For more details of our films, to join the email list or to book places, please contact Gill by email: treasurer@tredingtonandblackwellwi.co.uk or text: 07789 810877.

Craft and Chatter

Our next two Craft and Chatter meetings will be on Thursday 1st June 2023 and Thursday 6th July 2023 in the Tredington and Blackwell WI Hall, Armscote Road, Tredington, CV36 4NP, commencing at 2.00pm. EVERYONE is welcome – including non-crafters. There are opportunities to share tips and learn other crafts in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Bring your own knitting, sewing or craft to work on whilst having a cup of tea, a piece of cake and a chat. Our latest project is knitting squares for shawls/blankets to be sent to a Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia. For further details, please contact Vanessa on 07818 599353 or email vanessa@tredingtonandblackwellwi.co.uk

WHITCHURCH

Whitchurch Fete 1 July 2023 2pm - 5pm at Whitchurch Farm, Wimpstone CV37 8PD, courtesy of Bidy and Will James

Donations for all our stalls including plants, produce, cakes, jams and preserves gratefully received. Bring early on the day. Bric-a-brac, nearly new, children's toys and books can be left at Whitchurch Farm from 25 June. Donations of raffle prizes: please notify Bidy James at jweeah@aol.com heading your message 'fete'. Offers to help set up the fete early on 1 July and to wo/man the stalls (including teas, children's games) are very welcome. See you at the Fete!

Carol Rutter



Tredington Parish Neighbourhood Plan

THE REFERENDUM

Thursday June 22nd 2023

The Plan and related documents will be on display in Newbold-on-Stour and Blackwell Village Halls and in Tredington WI Hall.

They can also be viewed at:

a. www.stratford.gov.uk and type Tredington Neighbourhood Plan in the search box.

b. The Neighbourhood Plan website: Tredingtonnp.co.uk.

c. Using the QR Code:



All parish residents registered to vote will receive a polling card, as with Local and General Elections.

There will only be two polling stations: Tredington WI Hall and Newbold-on-Stour Village Hall.

The question you are asked to vote on is:

'Do you want Stratford-on-Avon District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Tredington to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area.'

'YES' or 'NO'. Please vote!

OUTSIDE THE PARISHES

A Summer Breakfast for Women: Halford Bridge Inn, Halford Saturday 8th July 9.00 for 9.15 am

The Halford Bridge Inn provides a delicious continental breakfast for £8 which includes fresh fruit, pastries, croissants, fruit juice and coffees and teas - quite a morning feast. We are always given a warm welcome. Dr. Kath Hunt will be coming to speak to us. She lives in Kenilworth with husband Andy, and besides being a GP, teaches at the University of Warwick. Kath supports her local church and also leads Retreats and Christian meditations. It will be a great opportunity and a pleasure to hear Kath's message. The talk follows breakfast, and new guests are always welcome to this open and friendly morning. To reserve a place please contact Liz Harvey E: ma_harvey@hotmail.com T: 079140 26451. *Liz Harvey*

Shipston Rotary Tour D'Ilmington

'Cyclists Fighting Cancer, the Alderminster based charity, and partners of Shipston Rotary in this year's Tour d'Ilmington, has kindly donated a framed Tour de France yellow jersey signed by Sir Bradley Wiggins himself at the start of the 2014 Tour de France in Yorkshire. The jersey will be



raffled. The draw will take place at the Tour d'Ilmintonton's HQ on the day of the event-Sunday 2nd July. Proceeds will go to Cyclists Fighting Cancer and Rotary charities and good causes. Raffle tickets are on sale now. This is a chance to win a piece of cycling history. There are three rides, all start at Newbold-on-Stour Village Hall, 10 mile family ride, 30 mile hilly ride, or the challenging 100k ride. The code below will take you to entries at Rider HQ. We hope to see you there.

Townsend Hall, Shipston on Stour: It's a Hat trick!

The last three of our Traditional Jazz events have been sell-outs. With the proceeds, the stage lift is now on order – a serious piece of kit that will provide 'access for all' to the stage. Thanks for your support and our Traditional Jazz events will continue through this year with the proceeds going towards the many other items on the list. The full schedule of events can be found at:

www.townsendhall.co.uk. Next up is 'Baby' Jools and the Jazzaholics on Friday June 16th - a lovely warm up to The Proms fortnight. Tickets are £10, available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall, where you can bag your own table and seating, or for general availability seating from Clarke Electrical Services in town. For more, take a look at our website (address above) and follow us on FaceBook and Twitter. *Haydn Ward, Townsend Hall Trustee*


52 Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, CV36 4AE

"Baby" Jools And the Jazzaholics



Featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jools: Drums ❖ Mike Henry: Trumpet ❖ Karl Hird: Reeds ❖ Kevin Grenfell: Trombone ❖ Warren James: Banjo / Guitar ❖ Jim Swinnerton: Bass 	<p>Friday 16th June 2023</p> <p>Doors Open 19:00 for 20:00</p> <p>Fully Licensed Bar</p>
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Tickets £10 from:

- Clarke Electrical Services, 01608-661394, or
- For online booking, visit ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall or townsendhall.co.uk, or
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STRETTON-ON-FOSSE

Village Hall

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A COVID-19 risk assessment is available to view: www.strettonfosse.com

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