

**THE SIX PARISHES
MAGAZINE**

2022

Happy New Year



**ILMINGTON
PRESTON-ON-STOUR
ATHERSTONE-ON-STOUR
STRETTON-ON-FOSSE - DITCHFORD
TREDINGTON-DARLINGS-COTT-WHITCHURCH**

No. 263 January-February 2022

THE HOWARD ARMS ILMINGTON



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MONDAY TO SATURDAY : 11AM – 11PM

SUNDAY 12PM – 10.30PM

FOOD SERVING TIMES

DAYTIME:

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EVENING:

MONDAY TO THURSDAY : 6PM – 9PM

FRIDAY & SATURDAY : 6PM – 9.30PM

SUNDAY & BANK HOLIDAYS

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OR

EMAIL: INFO@HOWARDARMS.COM

THE HOWARD ARMS, LOWER GREEN, ILMINGTON,
WARWICKSHIRE, CV36 4LT

January/February 2022

'The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.' (Isaiah 9v2) These words from the prophet Isaiah start with the image of darkness, maybe that means the difficulties and the confusion of the world we are living in. The image is of people walking in the dark, who cannot see where they are going, they're tripping over things and falling into danger; perhaps they are afraid, maybe it is difficult for them to agree which way they should all be going. Isaiah was speaking of the situation of his own time, but when a prophet spoke of their own time they were not just commenting on the news, they were being led by the Holy Spirit to look more deeply into things to see how God was working in the events of their own day.

What Isaiah sees is a light breaking into this darkness, a very simple image but a very deep one. Light when it comes brings clarity, it helps us to see where we are going, it can calm our fears. The coming of light is like a new beginning, a new creation. We may find ourselves to be in a situation of darkness, not total darkness for the darkness and the light co-exist. The message is one of hope; this is often how the prophets worked, speaking as if God's plan has already been worked out and everything has become clear. The message he comes to announce is a message of hope, not just a vague optimism, but seeing that God is at work. In Jesus Christ the light is already at work in the world and his joy and energy can come and work within our lives, here and now. With so much difficulty in these Covid days, never has such a message of hope been more important.

There is much that we can anticipate in the New Year, it will be a new start. In our six parishes we look forward to the arrival of our newly appointed Rector, Revd Canon Dr Richard Cooke who will come to minister amongst us. Keep the date free – Sunday 20th February detailed arrangements are as yet unclear with Covid uncertainties. We are excited to be welcoming Richard and his wife Barbara amongst us.

Stephen

Revd Stephen Fletcher. Assistant Curate.

Keep up to date with everything that is happening on the church website. The Church of England continues to produce services that are free to hear on the telephone simply dial 0800 804 8044. It is easiest accessed through the Church of England "a church near you" site, each church has its own page. **The current issue of this magazine is available online at <https://fosseway6churches.weebly.com/>.** If there is anything you would like put up on the site do email it directly to revfletcher24@gmail.com. Have a look! It is regularly updated in these changing times. There are lots of useful links to see!

From the Registers

Baptism:

5th December Rowan Anthony Saunby. Ilmington

Funeral:

8th December Margaret Smart. Stretton on Fosse

Nature Notes January 2022

Some people hate it, and some people love it, not the spread made from yeast extract but snow! I absolutely love walking on freshly fallen snow and hearing the crunch beneath my feet! The snow turns everything into a magical winter wonderland the way it clings to the landscape. It is so stunningly beautiful, and God made each individual

snowflake unique. Just think about how many fall from the sky and each one different. As each snowflake falls, it encounters water vapour in the atmosphere. This has a big effect on its shape. They may be tiny but there is complicated science happening within each snowflake. If you've ever wondered why snow is white, it is the reflected light you're seeing from the snowflake as they are transparent! God has made an amazing world. If you would like to make a paper snowflake there are many You Tube videos to show you or <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-make-paper-snowflake>. Have fun!!

BLACKWELL

The League of Friends of Shipston-on-Stour Hospitals

Colette Nock and Hazel Sutherst would like to thank the villagers in Blackwell who have kindly returned their blue envelopes with their annual subscriptions/donations to the League of Friends. It has been a difficult year as we have, once again, been unable to collect from you personally so are truly grateful for those returned. We hope you found the annual report of interest & we are hopeful that the new build for the Ellen Badger Hospital will follow shortly after the new health centre. If you wish to pay a subscription by direct debit please call Colette on 682272. We wish everyone a happy 2022. Many thanks Colette and Hazel (Blackwell residents).

PRESTON

Poppy Appeal Result 2021

Many thanks to everyone for their tremendous generosity in supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal 2021. The total amount raised for the local area was £1,800.31 - a terrific effort and a most welcome outcome for Camilla West's last year as the RBL's Local Representative, a position she has held for the last 60 years. Last year's result of £298.42 was exceptionally low because of the COVID restrictions. However by comparison the result for 2019, the last year before COVID struck, was £1,410.39, and so this year's outcome is a truly fantastic achievement.

Preston-on-Stour Village Hall

Film Night - Friday 28th January 7.30 pm

The film for the new year will be 'After Love' a British drama about a woman who converts to the Muslim faith when she marries Ahmed, a channel ferry captain. When he dies suddenly she finds that he had another life in Calais. Joanna Scanlan plays the lead in this domestic tragedy with the tension of a Hitchcock thriller. Please keep Friday February 25th on the calendar for our next film night. Our film nights need your support. No booking needed, just turn up on the night and meet some neighbours and friends, then watch a good film for £3.50! Let me know if you would like to make some film title suggestions and I will pass them on to Live and Local. Margaret prestonbrocks@gmail.com.

The Preston Quiz - Saturday 5th February 7.30 pm

Sharpen your wits for this annual event at the hall. The cost is £5 per person, bring your own drinks and a plate of sandwiches and nibbles will be provided at half time. Mick Jennings is taking bookings so please contact him on 01789 450797 or email mickandsally76@gmail.com.

Preston Environmental Group (PEG) News and Hopes for 2022

Many members of PEG are becoming increasingly depressed by the loss of our wildlife and environmental habitats. Over the last 30 years this country has

witnessed the most significant and serious declines in songbirds, small mammals, insects and meadowland and only last December it was announced that 70 species of British birds are in danger of disappearing. It is easy to feel that there is nothing that can be done to help reverse this trend but there are many like minded people who can make a difference by working together. Recently PEG has been involved with 'Wildlife Friendly Communities'. There are an encouraging number of people and groups in our area – Shipston, Newbold, Stretton, Cherington & Stourton, Quinton, Tysoe and Ilmington – who, supported by local councils and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, are setting up a network to improve habitats for our wildlife. Watch out for more news in the spring.

In Preston we have our 'no mow' village green in front of the shop/cafe. The summer of 2021 was the second year of this project and even in this short time the number of wild flower species had increased to 18 and included a wide variety of grasses which, when allowed to grow and set seed, are very beneficial to many insect species. It takes time to reverse years of close mowing so it is still early days. We thank our Parish Council for their support thus far and hope for continued and active involvement. Many gardeners in the village have sown wild flowers and left areas uncultivated. The return of hedgehogs to Preston has been a notable success. It is our hope that Preston could be a special area free of weedkillers and pesticides so that plants and insects can flourish, providing food for the many birds and mammals that we would like to see return.

The overall vision is that other villages, estates, towns and cities will become Wildlife Friendly Communities and the 'wild areas' will link up, creating nature recovery networks around the length and breadth of Britain. If you would like to know more, have any suggestions or would like to join PEG, please contact Ron on 777668, E: ronhoe@me.com or Margaret on 450710 E: prestonbrocks@gmail.com. HAPPY NEW YEAR

TREDINGTON

Tredington Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan: 'Regulation 14' Formal Consultation

9am Monday 10th January 2022, until 5pm Monday 21st February 2022



This may be your last chance to comment on the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Online or Hardcopy Questionnaire will be available. There will be two workshops.

—Newbold-on-Stour Village Hall: Friday 21st January 6.0 to 9.0 pm
AND Saturday 22nd January 10.0 am to 2.0 pm

—Tredington WI Hall: Friday 4th February 6.0 to 9.0 pm AND Saturday 5th February 10.0 am to 2.0 pm.

Large parts of the plan will be on display and Steering Committee members will be on hand. Please go to: www.TredingtonNP.co.uk to view the entire Neighbourhood Plan. Thank you for your support and participation.

Tredington and Newbold CofE School

We enjoyed our Christmas meal with lights, music and crackers. There was a very special visit from Father Christmas who left a sack of presents (a book for each child thanks to our wonderful PTFA). Unfortunately, a rise in local COVID cases, the sickness bug and an outbreak of chickenpox meant that our church nativity performance was cancelled. Instead, Nursery and Ruby Class recorded their performance which was shown on the school's Facebook page.

Our School Council organised a Christmas Jumper non-uniform day for charity and their previous fundraising for Children in Need raised a very impressive £180. They

continue to hold Milkshake Monday each week which is adding to the School Council's funds.

We are thankful for the continued support of our Newbold and Tredington families to keep everyone safe by looking out for symptoms, testing and keeping us informed with the results. Hopefully, this vigilance will allow us all to enjoy a merry Christmas and a smooth start to the new term.

Christmas Door Wreaths & Mince Pies Sale

The ringers of St Gregory would like to thank everyone who supported our recent Christmas Wreath & Mince Pie Sale held to raise funds for our church bell maintenance. The magnificent sum of £615 was raised, with all wreaths and mince pies selling within the first hour! Thank you very much!! Kathy McCarthy (01608 661001).

Tredington and District Garden Club

On Thursday 20th January we meet from 12.30pm for our annual members' lunch at 1.00pm. If you've not yet signed-up or would like to bring a guest, please contact one of the Committee.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 17th February in the WI Hall, when our speaker will be Paul Williams, garden designer, author & broadcaster (you may have heard him on BBC radio), who will be "Digging Deeper" into how our gardens grow. We open at 7.00pm and the bar will be open until 7.30pm when the meeting begins. We close with our usual raffle draw and light refreshments. Non-members are welcome. See our website for more

Information: www.tredingtongardenclub.weebly.com The venue has anti-viral air purifiers

Tredington Ladies Evening **Thursday 27th January 7.00 – 9.00pm in the WI Hall**

This is a special evening event for busy women of all ages, offering a chance to relax and unwind after the festivities. It might be cold and dark outside, but you'll find a warm (and scented) welcome, complimentary prosecco & nibbles and time to meet new friends. The theme for the event is "Heavenly Scent – a practical guide to relaxation", discovering more about essential oils and how to use them. Debs Lovegrove, a registered nurse and certified aromatherapist & reflexologist, will be on hand to provide information, tips and demonstrations. All of this is completely free, by advance booking only. To book your places contact Gill via gillgoodlad@hotmail.com or text to 07789 810877 The venue has anti-viral air purifiers.

Tredington Film Club

Our previous film nights have been so popular that we've now established Tredington Film Club, which will screen at least 6 films per year in the WI Hall. Membership is now open for 2022 and new members may join at our next film on Thursday 3rd February. The film is a thriller set in Paris & Venice, starring Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie. We open the pre-film bar at 7.00pm, with the film beginning at 7.30pm. The raffle will be drawn in the interval. Places are limited, so advance booking is required. Pre-booking is open to members now, and to non-members from 14th January. Contact Gill on gillgoodlad@hotmail.com or text to 07789 810877 to book your seats. The venue has anti-viral air purifiers.

Craft and Chatter

We will be holding Craft and Chatter Meetings on Thursday 6th January and Thursday 3rd February at 2.00pm in WI Hall Tredington. Do join us for an afternoon of individual crafts, please bring anything from knitting to sewing, if you are stuck on a project there is always someone to help! Tea, cake and chatter are on the menu.

Tredington and Blackwell WI

Our first meeting for the New Year will be held on Thursday 13th January at 1.00pm in Tredington's WI Hall. Our guest speaker is Felicity Howatson, who is an ecclesiastical embroidery, but on this occasion is letting us see into her Great Grandma's Workbox. She will show us familiar, and some unfamiliar tools collected over many years and tell the stories behind them. If you would like to join us for a soup lunch as well, you would be very welcome, please let me know Trish 01789740185.

February's WI meeting will be held on Thursday 10th February at 1.00pm in Tredington's WI Hall. Our guest speaker is George Jackson, whose topic will be "Singing in Lockdown. He is part of an International Choir online, who have produced beautiful choral music during the grim days of lockdown. He will play some pieces most especially the spine tingling "Quanta Qualia". Do join us for a soup lunch before the lecture, 01789 740185

ILMINGTON

Clothes Recycling Bin at Ilmington School

Do you have any clothes you no longer need and need to get rid of them? Ilmington School have acquired a new clothes recycling bin which raises funds for the school. Ilmington residents are welcome to place any bagged clean wearable clothes/handbags/paired shoes in the bin. The clothes bin is open **on weekdays after 5pm and weekends only**. The big green bin is located through the school gate, along the path to the left of the school building. Should you wish to make any donations, please ensure gates are closed when you leave.

The Coven

Well ladies, what a sad end to a difficult year. Have as merry a Christmas as you can manage, and we shall meet again some time next year. Greetings and good luck to you all. Christine

Ilmington Parish Council News

Ilmington Parish Council has one vacancy for a parish councillor. Ilmington Parish Council works together with local groups and other tiers of local authority to help to make the village a better place to live and work. Proposed projects include renovating the playground and improving our green spaces. If you are interested in becoming a councillor or to find out more then please contact the Clerk for details or speak with any councillor.

Casual Cleaner required, Ilmington Pavilion. To clean 2 x exterior public toilets on weekly basis, ideally on a Monday, £10 per week. Self-employed individual required for: Cleaning of the toilet and sinks, restocking toilet rolls and soap, and emptying waste bins. Cleaning supplies will be provided. Experience of working as a cleaner is desirable. If you are interested in this work, please contact the Clerk at ilmingtonpc@outlook.com.

Meetings: The council usually meets on the last Thursday of the month in Ilmington Community Shop. Future meetings are scheduled for 27 January, 24 February and 31 March 2022.

Contact Us: The Clerk can be reached by email at ilmingtonpc@outlook.com or telephone 01451 885189. Please see noticeboards in Upper and Lower Green or website www.ilmington.org.uk for the latest information.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to wish all residents a very Happy New Year!

Ilmington Community Shop and Café: Community Groups

We're making lots of resolutions at the Community Shop and Café this New Year, and the key word for us is "community". We are aiming to improve and extend our offering for local residents, so look out over the coming months for changes in the shop layout,

new chiller space for locally-sourced, seasonal vegetables and a dedicated notice board for community groups in our area.

Meanwhile in the café, there will be a renewed drive towards events that regulars can enjoy. Our **Parent and Baby group** has been going from strength to strength every Wednesday morning (10am) and we now have a selection of toys and books for the little ones to play with. By joining our Parent & Baby What's App group, you can see who's turning up each week and offer mutual support.

Book Group is another highlight of the café calendar, with meetings at 2pm on the first Tuesday of every month. At the time of writing, the book choice for 4th January is Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell. The following meeting is Tuesday 1st February, book to be announced.

Knit & Natter caught on immediately when we launched it last August. Bring your knitting and sewing projects along, or just come for the natter, at 2pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month: 26th January and 23rd February are the dates for your diary.

And finally, are there any folk out there who love a board game? We're determined to give **Games Club** another shot in 2022. You don't have to be a card sharp or quiz wizard: like all our friendly groups, this is purely for fun and we'd love to see you on the third Wednesday of the month at 2pm. Please call Michele Hall on 01608 682380 for more details.

Ilmington Wednesday Club: January 12th Meeting Cancelled

It was with a great deal of sadness that we cancelled our annual Christmas Lunch this year and having listened to your reactions, it seemed that you had expected the sad news. Instead, we will have our meal later in the year when the numbers of Covid cases do not pose such a problem. The January meeting is also cancelled. Please do read your 20:20 weekly edition to find out if the February meeting is to be held. If you do not have that, then we will be ringing you to let you know.

It was with utter shock and much sadness that we learnt Anne Browning had passed away suddenly whilst visiting her son. Anne had been such a prominent member of the WI in our village and had joined our committee following the death of her husband. Anne was such a young supportive member in our club that it is hard to believe this sad news. She will indeed be sorely missed by all. As yet, there have been no details as to the funeral date but if you are wanting to go, then phone Carole for any details.

More cheerful news now! Our birthdays still come along no matter the rise in Covid and this December saw Sheila Ribbans celebrating her 90th birthday!! Congratulations to Sheila who was certainly not looking 90 when we wished her happy birthday. January is a busy month for birthdays with Christine Wright celebrating on 8th, Mary Waterman on 16th and David Shell with Genny Walker on 22nd. A very happy birthday to you all. In case we do not meet in February, then let us wish Christine Warmington a very happy 90th birthday on 11th and Sue Matthews on 22nd.

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OUTSIDE THE PARISHES

Townsend Hall Shipston-on-Stour

Challenging times still, but we were able to honour bookings for a fabulous weekend of live music over the first weekend of December. Kicking off with “Jools and the Jazzaholics” – simply superb and we’ll do our best to get them back. We then welcomed Cotswold Events back the following night with the “Birmingham Blues Brothers”; and finished up with our very own Shipston Town Band the following night. As part of a programme of jazz through 2022, we’ve already booked “Tom ‘Spats’ Langham Hot

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Services for January 2022

	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
2 nd January		Holy Communion 11 am	Evensong 6 pm	Holy Communion 9am	Family Service 10.30am	
9 th January	Morning Prayer 11 am	Holy Communion 9.30 am	Holy Communion 9.30am	Family service 11am	Holy Communion 10.30am	
16 th January		Family Service 11 am		Evensong 6 pm	Morning Prayer 10.30 am	
23 rd January		Evensong 6 pm	Morning Prayer 11 am	Holy Communion 9am	Holy Communion 10.30am	
30 th January		Morning Prayer 11 am	Holy Communion 9.30 am	Holy Communion 9am	Morning Prayer 10.30am	

Associate Minister Reverend Stephen Fletcher 07714171143 revfletcher24@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant Minister Revd Dr Timothy Seller 01608 682244

Minster with Permission to Officiate Revd Jean Fletcher

Readers Rosanna Wakefield 01608 682146

Emeritus Malcolm Davies 01789 450793 Anthony Nicholl 01608 239578

Churchwardens

Tredington with Darlingscott *churchwarden post vacant*

Darlingscott warden Doreen McCarrill 01608 682949

Ilmington Jane Downie 01608 682720 Helen Patrick

Preston-on-Stour Andrew Holman-West 07712193773 *second churchwarden post vacant*

Stretton-on-Fosse *churchwarden post vacant*

Whitchurch Carol Rutter 01789 450795 John Craner 01789 450200

There is no February issue. Deadline for the March issue is **February 12**. Copy to the Editor s.brock9@btinternet.com, Daisy Cottage, Front St., Ilmington CV36 4LA. T: 01608 682409. To advertise contact the Editor.

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	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
6 th February		Holy Communion 11 am	Evensong 6 pm	Holy Communion 9am	Family Service 10.30am	
13 th February	Morning Prayer 11 am	Holy Communion 9.30 am	Holy Communion 9.30am	Family service 11am	Holy Communion 10.30am	
20 th February	United Benefice service TBC	United Benefice service TBC	United Benefice service TBC	United Benefice service TBC	United Benefice service TBC	
27 th February		Evensong 6 pm	Morning Prayer 11 am	Holy Communion 9am	Holy Communion 10.30am	
6 th March		Holy Communion 11 am	Evensong 6 pm	Holy Communion 9am	Family Service 10.30am	

Associate Minister

Reverend Stephen Fletcher 07714171143 revfletcher24@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant Minister

Reverend Dr Timothy Seller 01608 682244

Minister with Permission to Officiate

Reverend Jean Fletcher

Rosanna Wakefield 01608 682146

Malcolm Davies 01789 450793

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Deadline for March issue is **12 February**. Copy to the Editor s.brock9@btinternet.com, Daisy Cottage, Front St., Ilmington CV36 4LA. T: 01608 682409. To advertise contact the Editor.

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