

Parish Church of St Peter : Arkley 1840-2020

# ARKLEY CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS



**SEPTEMBER 2020**

**WELCOME BACK**

Public Worship Resumes ~ Lockdown Supplement



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# ST PETER'S : ARKLEY



## SEPTEMBER 2020

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Sunday 30 August <i>Trinity 12</i>	10am 11am	Parish Eucharist followed by Annual District Church Meeting
Sunday 6 September <i>Trinity 13</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 13 <i>Trinity 14</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 20 <i>Trinity 15</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 27 <i>Trinity 16</i>	10am	Parish Eucharist
Sunday 4 October	10am	<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b>
Sunday 1 November <i>All Saints' Day</i>	180 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of consecration of St Peter's	
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**Revised 17 August: see [stpetersarkley.com](http://stpetersarkley.com) for updates**

**Cover: St Peter's, 12 July 2020**

*(Photo: N Dean)*

# ARKLEY CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

## SEPTEMBER 2020



On 2 August we resumed public worship at St Peter's. We're now very pleased to be able to distribute printed copies of this magazine again.

Our April issue was being printed when the lockdown was announced. We decided to limit its run to the 300 copies that had already come off the press. Since then our issues for May to August (as well as April's) have been posted online, enabling us to use colour and without pressure of space. In addition, although we usu-

ally have a joint issue for July and August, this year we produced a separate one for August, the first time that St Peter's has done this for about 50 years.

*We hope to maintain a printed magazine in the coming months, but this will be subject to the level of any restrictions relating to public health. We shall retain our online "platform" in any event and continue to post there an edition that is identical in content to the printed one, but in colour. At present, you will find on our website a selection of articles from our "back catalogue", as well our past five issues (and this one) in full. If we do have to suspend distribution once again, we shall aim, as before, to print copies for readers we know do not have access to the internet. Please tell us if you or someone you know would like to be added to that list.*

In this "welcome back" issue, we have included an eight-page section (pages 13-20) that looks back over the recent lockdown with several features from our April to August issues that you may have missed.

*Nick Dean*

**Editor A**

**[stpetersarkley.com/arkley-magazine-home-page](http://stpetersarkley.com/arkley-magazine-home-page)**

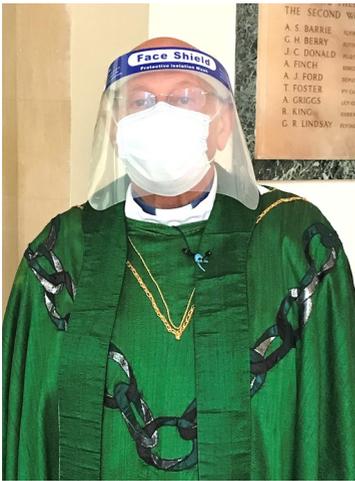
Top left: **Our Editor, in Papal mode, chiring the Chipping Barnet PCC** (see page 9)  
(Photo: N Wheeler)

**IN THIS ISSUE:** 4-5 Parish Newsletter 7 Words in Season 8 Churchwardens' Chat 11 Word of the Month: Vaccine 13-20 Lockdown Supplement (13 Open for Business 14 Charles Dickens & Barnet 15 I can't be the only millennial atheist who goes to church 16 VE Day 17 Centenary of War Memorial 18 Zoom/Zoom fatigue 19 Modelling the Muse 20 The Lockdown Garden) 21 Just Think: Tropical Nights 22 Six Degrees of Separation: Olivia de Havilland 23 Prebendary Bill Scott 26 The New Normal 27 Quiz **28-31 What's on in Arkley (31 St Peter's Contacts)**

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

REVD NICK WHEELER  
TEAM VICAR



*Fr Nick auditioning for  
Star Wars on 9 August*

*(Photo: N Dean)*

**I do hope you have all had a good summer, notwithstanding the restrictions placed by the Covid 19 pandemic.**

IN August and hopefully September, St Peter's was and will be open for Sunday worship. There is no doubt how difficult life has been for everybody over recent months since lockdown began in March. Coming out of lockdown in July and August has had its challenges. Yet life must and should go on. We need to be resilient and adapt to the circumstances as they arise. For me, my Christian faith has been a bedrock during these challenging and difficult times.

The opportunity to know with confidence, but not without questions, that God is there, present with us in the midst of the Covid pandemic.

WE must learn from this dreadful experience and value the environment in which we live, God's creation, and take far better care of it. For those who have rejected God in their lives, for whatever reason, or simply ignored Him, I ask you to think again. He is waiting there for you and longs to be invited into your lives. Unless you invite Him in, He will remain on the outside. That is how He works. He does not impose Himself, but has given each of us the free will to decide for ourselves.

LOOKING forward, we hope to have our annual **Harvest Festival** service on **4 October**. Harvest is a good time for us all to reflect on the beauty of our world, created by God and our responsibility to care for it. It is also a time simply to thank God for his provision of food and the natural world around us.

WHY should we be committed God and to His church? The reason we are committed to the church is that God is. The church lies at the centre of the purpose of God. God's plan for mankind is being worked out through history. God's plan is not just to save individuals, like you and me, but also to call out a people for himself and to build his church. Christ died for us not only to redeem and free us from sin, but to purify for himself a people, the church, who are enthusiastic for good works (Titus 2:14). So, Harvest is an appropriate time to reflect as individuals and as a community about the church and its mission in the world.

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**Harvest Festival 2019:  
Fr Nick with Archdeacon  
Janet of Hertford**

good works (Titus 2:14). So, Harvest is an appropriate time to reflect as individuals and a community about the church and its mission in the world.

LIKE any organisation, the church needs resources of money, time and talents to work; otherwise it will not survive. During lockdown without Sunday services, the income of the church plummeted, but some of the expenses like insurance and maintenance continued. **So, I would ask that you respond generously, as we have experienced the effect of the church being closed during lockdown, and for those who give or**

**would like to give to God's work and the mission of the church, to consider setting up a standing order to St Peter's. This is because the church is no longer able to use collection plates in services as a result of Covid 19. By the grace of God we have His undeserved love and we should respond generously and cheerfully. The church needs our commitment of time, talent and money.**

FOR those returning to school, college, university or work, I wish you well in these very challenging times.

**Every blessing  
Nick A**

### **SAY A LITTLE PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love. Amen

**United Society Partners in the Gospel  
Prayer for 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity (6 September)**

**If you leave your home and stay somewhere else in the UK, that's a holiday.  
A staycation entails staying at home and growing progressively more stressed by unfinished DIY projects.**

**ISABEL HARDMAN** (*The Spectator*)  
Twitter, 1 August 2020

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# WORDS IN SEASON



Today I played Latvian duets on the accordion, had tea on a narrowboat, and am now wearing socks with sandals. Thank you #lockdown.

Revd RICHARD COLES  
Twitter, 31 July 2020



Let us exult in the hope of the divine splendour that is to be ours. More than this: let us even exult in our present sufferings, because we know that suffering trains us to endure, and endurance brings proof that we have stood the test, and this proof is the ground of hope. Such a hope is no mockery, because God's love has flooded our inmost heart through the Holy Spirit he has given us.

Epistle to the Romans 5:2-5  
(New English Bible)



Serenely, gracefully, she treads  
The waiting countryside, and spreads

Upon the earth a shining cloak—  
Her perfume is the fragrant smoke  
Of burning leaves, and in her hair  
The fire bright berries sparkle.  
Fair September in her golden dress  
Glowes with enchanting loveliness,  
And with her soft, caressing hand,  
Brings rich fulfilment to the land.

EILEEN B EDGE

*published in St Peter's, Arkley magazine,  
September 1959*

**DUE TO COVID-19  
SWEET CAROLINE IS BANNED  
THERE WILL BE NO:  
TOUCHING HANDS  
REACHING OUT  
TOUCHING ME  
TOUCHING YOU**

*Notice outside pub*



“Your sentence about the Air-war ‘Never in the history of human conflict has so much been owed by so many to so few’ will live as long as words are spoken and remembered. Nothing so simple, so majestic & so true has been said in so great a moment of human history.”

Lady VIOLET BONHAM CARTER

Letter to Prime Minister Winston Churchill during the Battle of Britain,  
10 September 1940

**“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few”**  
(House of Commons, 20 August 1940): see also page 27



## Churchwardens' Chat: September

Hello, here we are again in print! We hope many of you have been able to follow us through our online magazine, but we know that for some this has not been possible and we apologise to those who have missed out.

It has, to say the least, been a strange time and still remains so. Lockdown has meant different things to different people, but for many it has been a time to sort out cupboards *et cetera* and do gardening. For others it has meant spending much more time with immediate family, or indeed being isolated and suddenly unable to see those closest to us at all.

At St Peter's, Sue, the Vicar's wife, has been cleaning and polishing in the church, which has made it more beautiful than before. We thank her for all her hard work.

The church is now open for worship on Sundays at 10am with social distancing and compulsory wearing of face masks. Unfortunately this has meant restricting the numbers we may safely accommodate, which we have worked out is 20, with maybe one or two more within the family bubble system.

Let us all hope and pray that there is no major escalation of the virus and we will continue to open up on a weekly basis to a near normal service.

St Peter's **Annual District Church Meeting** is on 30 August (see below). This should have taken place in April 2020. A full report will be in the next issue.

*Maureen & Sharon A*

**Parish Church of St Peter : Arkley**

# **ANNUAL DISTRICT CHURCH MEETING**

*(postponed from 5 April)*

**SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 2020 at 11am**  
**(after Parish Eucharist at 10am)**

*You must be on the Electoral Roll to vote*

*To join, please contact one of the Churchwardens (see page 31)*

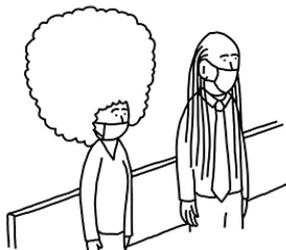
*Social distancing and other Covid-compliant measures will be in operation*



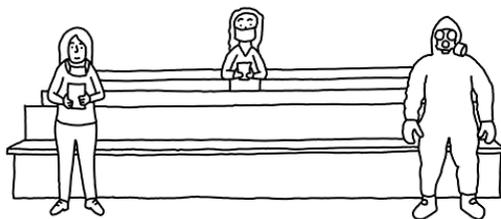
**The Chipping Barnet Parochial Church Council (for our Team Ministry) resumed business with a socially distanced meeting at St Mark's on 29 July. Our editor, who is currently chair of the PCC, is shown above, sitting in splendid isolation, with Sue Scott (St Stephen's) and Fr Nick Wheeler in the foreground. (Photo: M Stevens)**

## THE FIRST SERVICE

AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS AWAY



LOCKDOWN HAIRSTYLES



A VARIETY OF LEVELS OF COMMITMENT TO MASK-WEARING

From a CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker (*Church Times*, 7 August)

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## OUR WORD OF THE MONTH

### 42: vaccine

In recent months, we have highlighted a number of words associated with the coronavirus pandemic. Some, like *furlough* (*Our Word* 37, 5/20), had always been there, but were lying dormant, while circumstances have given others a sharper edge. Among the latter are *vaccine*, the potential availability of which has been seen as “a gamechanger”, “the only game in town”, “a silver bullet” and so forth.

‘Vaccine’ dates from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It comes from the Latin *vacca*, meaning ‘cow’ (hence, *vache* in French) because, in 1796, Edward Jenner (1749-1823) used cowpox as a means of preventing smallpox (although research in 2017 suggested that he may in fact have used horsepox). A modern technical definition of ‘vaccine’ is “a suspension of dead, attenuated, or otherwise modified micro-organisms (viruses, bacteria or rickettsiae) for inoculation to produce immunity to a disease by stimulating the production of antibodies” (*Collins Dictionary*). However, for many years, ‘vaccine’ was applied solely to inoculation with cowpox: indeed, an 1843 revision of Dr Samuel Johnson’s great 18<sup>th</sup> century dictionary, while listing *vaccinate* and *vaccination* in that specific sense, gave ‘vaccine’ simply as an adjective meaning “of or belonging to a cow”. **A**



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### OPEN FOR BUSINESS (May 2020)

WHEN the doors of St Peter's and other churches closed in March, there was a unity of view and purpose that the Church itself was not closing. It remained, in the words of the Beatles' song, "here, there and everywhere". Within a few days the Chipping Barnet Team Ministry was streaming weekday prayers and Sunday services *via* Facebook; and, from the vicarage in Arkley (and later St Peter's itself), Fr Nick Wheeler recorded weekly video messages (*left*). At Easter many of our congregation shared in Holy Communion at home with wafers that had been blessed and distributed by post. As Fr Nick had emphasised in early March, when the sharing of wine from a common chalice had been suspended, Anglican teaching is that receiving one element of the sacrament is enough for it to be taken in full.

However, many of us did take a symbolic sip of wine at home with our wafer. The opportunities of virtual ministry were quickly embraced by many in the Church of England: as the *Church Times*' headline above a thoughtful piece by Canon Mark Collinson put it, "Like it or not, online services are here to stay ... Once the lockdown has ended, it will be necessary to find ways of combining the physical and the virtual" (17 April). However, Canon Collinson urged some caution: "Is it enough if the sacraments are visible in 1920x1080 pixels depending on bandwidths? I think not". And a few weeks earlier, Canon Angela Tilby had been quite sceptical: "Live streaming is a poor substitute for the real thing, which, I think, is exactly what it should be." (27 March). Even so, there can be little doubt that the efforts, in present circumstances, of our own clergy in Barnet and Arkley have been much appreciated. Lockdown has been more bearable as a result. **A**



**Patronal  
Festival, 28 June  
on Facebook**

**far left: Rt Revd  
Christine  
Hardman,  
Bishop of  
Newcastle,  
via video link**

## CHARLES DICKENS & BARNET



**T**HE novelist Charles Dickens (1812-70) died 150 years ago on 9 June. He knew Barnet well. Throughout his life it was an important coaching town on the Great North Road: in fact, until after the Second World War, there was a signpost in the High Street to Stamford, 77 miles to the north, which had a similar historic role (see AC&CN 7-8/18). As a young reporter for the *Morning Post* Dickens witnessed a huge fire in 1835 that destroyed a wing of Hatfield House and killed the Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury, grandmother of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquess, Queen Victoria's last Prime Minister. On that occasion Dickens had taken a coach to Barnet, where he changed to a horse and chaise.

The coaching inns declined with the coming of the railway to High Barnet in 1872 and of motor cars in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century; but when, in Dickens' *Oliver Twist* (1838), Oliver "limped slowly into the little town of Barnet", he wondered at the number of public houses—"every other house was a tavern, large or small". It was here that Oliver met Jack Dawkins, the "Artful Dodger", who purchased ham and a "fourpenny bran" loaf and took Oliver into a small pub (probably the Mitre) where a pot of beer was served. In the same year, Dickens had been dining at the Old Red Lion when he received news of the birth of his daughter Mary. He lamed a horse in his hurry to get away. In *Bleak House* (1853), Barnet was mentioned twice as the source of "fresh horses" and was where Richard, Ada and Esther, bound for their new home near St Albans, "got a long fresh walk, over a common and on an old battlefield, before the carriage came up".

Dickens' most notorious reference to Barnet was his thinly veiled attack in November 1851 on Queen Elizabeth's School, founded in 1573 and then located in Wood Street (the present Tudor Hall, *below in 2013*), opposite St John the Baptist. In an article in *Household Words* entitled 'A Free (and Easy) School', Barnet was called "Thistledown" (Dickens mentions the chestnut trees in the lower High Street which were later cut down when



Normandy Avenue was built) and Dr Thomas Cox, the school's headmaster since 1842, was given the pseudonym Dr Laon Blose. Cox already had a reputation for enthusiastic use of corporal punishment, but Dickens dwelt mainly on the neglected fabric of the school ("undoubtedly the very desks with which the Royal Free Grammar School was furnished when it was first built") and suggested that poorer scholars were kept apart from private pupils. Cox was obliged to resign in February 1852. He threatened to horsewhip Dickens, but the author responded charitably by helping him to become headmaster of Dulwich College. (June 2020) **A**

## I can't be the only millennial atheist who goes to church

A YEAR AGO, I'd have probably spent Sunday morning in bed, nursing a hangover. Instead—rain or shine, hangover or no hangover—I'll be at church.

I'm not just an atheist, but one who spent a decade preaching a doctrine of strident anti-theism. Yet I've started attending each week and have found it transformative. And I'm not alone. Recent surveys suggest that growing numbers of millennials and Gen Z'ers are seeking solace in church—even if they don't believe in God.



What explains the transformation from Dawkins devotee to churchgoing atheist? There are scores of churches nearby, but my favourite is St Bartholomew the Great, Clerkenwell. Initially drawn to its architecture, some personal struggles left me searching for comfort beyond the aesthetic.

The Church of England still safeguards our architectural and artistic inheritance. National identity is inseparable from its defining texts, the King James Bible and the *Book of Common Prayer*. It is impossible to interpret much great art or literature created before the 1900s without some Bible knowledge.

But perhaps the most important lesson is how churchgoing takes us outside the trivia of our own lives—the preoccupations and obsessions induced by social media and that sense of ourselves as the star of our own B-movie biopic. It enables us to escape—if temporarily—such narcissism, focusing on the wider world and taking a longer view. For me, it is a partial antidote to the illusory optimism, anxiety and depression that has defined my generation.

Am I a fraud? After all church isn't supposed to be a mindfulness retreat. I hope not. The community cuts across the barriers of class, race and culture that govern our daily lives—poor widows worship alongside the squire, the student, the squaddie, the computer geek, the vagrant and the scientist. Some, I suspect, are closet unbelievers like me, or imbued with what Tennyson called “honest doubt”.

The cup of coffee and chatter after the service make you feel part of the community, even in a faceless city like London. So, too, do the other social elements—evensong, the fundraising efforts to replace the woodwormy floor or the leaky roof. Singing hymns is especially satisfying in a world that has reduced music to a largely passive affair—something imposed on us willy-nilly, via interchangeable pop songs blasted into shops and pubs.

As attendance dwindles, more non-believers should give church a whirl. They welcome anyone—and provide a space where even stressed and frantic “churchgoing atheists” like me can find our equilibrium. **A**

**Madeline Grant (Twitter @madz\_grant) is Assistant Comment Editor at the Telegraph**

**This article appeared in the Sunday Telegraph on 23 February 2020 and, with thanks to the author, was reprinted in our April 2020 issue**

# VE DAY: 2020

*As we anticipated, the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in Europe was less frenetic than on 8 May 1945. However, despite the restrictions, people locally, and across the UK, found ways to mark the occasion. Multi-media tributes and memories were mostly well-pitched. The Chipping Barnet Team Ministry streamed a short service, live from St John the Baptist, which incorporated the national two minutes' silence. (June 2020)*



## VE DAY

75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 - 10 MAY 2020



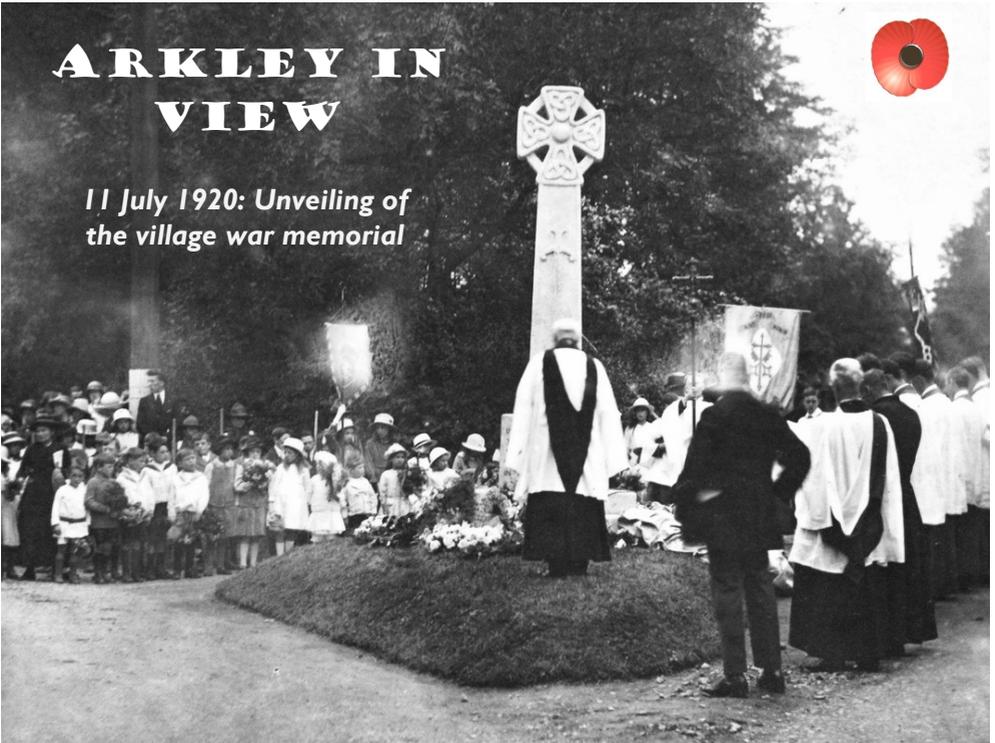
*Above: Live streaming of special Team Ministry service from St John the Baptist*

*Top right: Dot Flitney with memorabilia and something sparkling (Colin Burch)*

*Right: After the service, Acting Rector Fr Tristan Chapman is ready for his al fresco lunch (courtesy of T Chapman)*

# ARKLEY IN VIEW

11 July 1920: Unveiling of the village war memorial



Arkley's war memorial, which cost £225 and was unveiled 100 years ago, on 11 July 1920, is a granite Celtic cross, on a plinth, with a sword in relief on its face. The total height is about 13ft (4m). The memorial bears the names of villagers who died on active service during the World Wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45 (although it gives the dates of the First World War as 1914-19 because a peace treaty was not signed until 1919). There are also memorials inside St Peter's and the Arkley Club. (July 2020) **A**



**Chipping Barnet's MP Theresa Villiers during the lockdown: working from home and cycling in Barnet Gate Wood** (Photos courtesy of T Villiers) (June 2020)

## OUR WORD Online

# zoom; Zoom fatigue

*“Monday to Thursday at 10am there will be a live interactive service of Morning Prayer on Zoom” - Parish of Chipping Barnet, Facebook, 28 May 2020*

*“Of all the two-word phrases that have entered common usage since the pandemic arrived—from herd immunity to Barnard Castle—none sums up the peculiarly 21<sup>st</sup> century nature of our quarantine better than ‘Zoom fatigue’”*

*TOM WHIPPLE, The Times, 1 June 2020*

Zoom, meaning to move quickly, dates from the 1880s. Dictionaries often describe it as an imitative or echoic word because it sounds like the action it describes: “space vehicle Earth zooming about the Sun at 60,000 miles per hour” (R Buckminster Fuller, 1970). During the First World War ‘zoom’ became common among aviators, who applied it (as a noun) to a steep climb at high speed. It was this usage that gave rise to the photographic **zoom lens** (1936); hence, our computers today have a facility to **zoom in** on, or **out** of, digital images. In the 1960s, the early years of space travel, there was a rocket-shaped ice lolly called ‘Zoom’ (left), which came with picture cards similar to those collected with cigarettes or tea.



During the recent coronavirus lockdown, use of the software for video conferencing developed by **Zoom**, the company founded in 2011 by Eric Yuan, has been phenomenal: it rose 30-fold in April alone. More than 300 million people a day have been participating in ‘virtual’ meetings *via* Zoom, including those who log into the services of our own Team Ministry in Chipping Barnet. For both business and social reasons, many have regarded Zoom as a lifeline in these difficult times. It has also been a leveller: “There are no corner offices on Zoom ... CEOs and interns are reduced to the same pixelated squares” (*Sunday Times Style*, 28 June). However, by early May, we started to hear about *Zoom fatigue*, a concept described with good humour in the *Sunday Times Magazine* (3 May) by India Knight, who despaired of well-meant invitations designed to make isolation “fun”, but from which, because people were supposed to be at home, there was no polite excuse. By the end of the month, the *Spectator*’s political editor was speculating about “the ‘Zoom fatigue’ of the Prime Minister”, while the *Times*’ science editor noted (1 June) that “in the past month, Zoom fatigue has begun to be referenced more widely—among tired and stressed social media users, but also among psychologists, who are just beginning to study the effects, not just of social distancing, but of socialising at a distance”. As one psychologist put it, “it’s a bit like holding a conversation while looking in the mirror constantly”. **A**

**Posted on 5 June and revised for our July 2020 issue. This month’s WORD is on page 11.**

# The Collect ONLINE

## MODELLING THE MUSE

from our Lockdown Review (June 2020)

IN our Christmas 2019 and May 2020 issues we discussed *Proserpine* (1874), a painting by the leading Pre-Raphaelite **Dante Gabriel Rossetti** (1826-82). His sitter, with whom he had a long-term affair, was **Jane Morris** (1839-1914), wife of designer and writer William Morris. During recent isolation in America, television antiques expert and historical novelist **Kate Bateman**, a previous contributor to this column (*TC25*, 7-8/18), posed as Jane for her children's project to create a famous artwork at home ([#museumathome/#covidclassics](#)). Kate owns a Victorian watered silk dress, purchased at her auction house in Stamford, which is similar to Jane's when she sat as *Proserpine* and for Rossetti's *Mrs William Morris* (also known as *The Blue Silk Dress*, 1868) (*below right*). As well as Kate's definitive *Mrs William Morris* (*below*), there were some splendid "outtakes" which you can see in colour on our website: [stpetersarkley.com/the-collect](http://stpetersarkley.com/the-collect) **A**



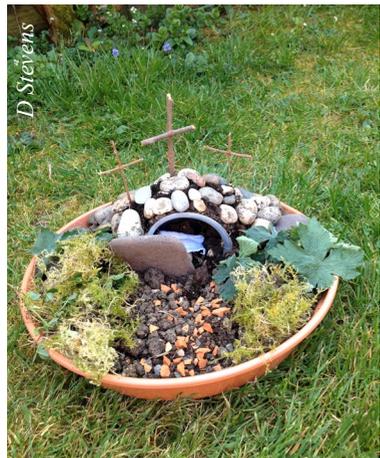
Courtesy of K Bateman



Based on I ❤️ NY concept (1976) of Milton Glasser (1929-2020) (August 2020)

## THE LOCKDOWN GARDEN *(May 2020)*

AFTER a relentlessly wet start to the year, the fine weather that followed the imposition of restrictions on movement on 23 March couldn't have come at a better time for those with gardens. Many have remarked on the progress that has been possible without the usual pressures of fitting gardening around other commitments! Visits to the Royal Horticultural Society's website are five times higher than a year ago, while the daily period of permitted exercise has provided opportunities for Arkley residents to explore footpaths and green spaces that, in other circumstances, they might not have done. As Agronomes put it in *Country Life*, "What good fortune for us that it's April and not November. How much worse it would have been if lockdown had happened as winter began to bite ... gloomy weather and celebrating Christmas on FaceTime."



That's the plus side, but there are negative considerations. Gardens have recently been depicted by some as a symbol of social inequality:

"it's all very well for middle class people with gardens to criticise others for sunbathing in the park ...". And, while lots of private gardens have undoubtedly thrived recently, the horticultural industry as a whole has suffered mightily. Easter is roughly the gardening equivalent of Christmas and so the closure of **garden centres** has involved massive waste of stock at the busiest time of the retail year. The major **flower shows** have all been cancelled—Chelsea, for example, for the first time since the Second World War, postponement being impracticable because plants must ready at exactly the right time. The **National Garden Scheme**, which in April and May alone raises about £¾ million for charity, is also unable to operate. But, with support from Mary Berry, Alan Titchmarsh and other celebrities, garden owners within the scheme have been encouraged to film virtual tours and invite online donations.

Last year at St Peter's, as shown on the cover of our April issue, the altar was decorated at **Easter** with white lilies in memory of loved ones. With services suspended and the church itself closed, we were unable repeat this, and we missed also the Easter garden that Ruth Page constructs for us every year (though she did one at home: *AC&CN* 6/20). Our intention this year had been to display a number of small gardens created by younger members of our congregation from kits distributed a few months ago. The one above is by **William Stevens**; and those who saw Fr Nick's Easter video message may have spotted a seasonal arrangement on the window sill of the vicarage. **A**

*Garden centres re-opened in May. There was a 'virtual' Chelsea Flower Show.*

**JUST THINK ...** The journalist and writer George Mikes (1912-87), who came to this country in 1938, observed that, in England, the weather “is an ever-interesting, even thrilling topic ...the most important topic in the land” (*How to be Alien*, 1946). But for coronavirus, this quite possibly would have been so this year; and, even with the pandemic, the weather has provided a sort of benevolent sub-plot, albeit creating conditions at times for a mass exodus to the coast, with attendant concerns for the environment and social distancing. During the lockdown we reflected on how the wettest February on record was superseded by a spring of almost unparalleled loveliness, including May’s being the sunniest month on record (see ‘*Just Think*’, 4/20 & 7/20). Since then, the statistics have continued to pile up: on 31 July,



the temperature reached 100.2°F at Heathrow, making it the third hottest day recorded in the UK (the record being 100.6° on 25 July 2019, Boris Johnson’s first full day as Prime Minister: ‘*Just Think*’, 9/19), while 7 August (97.5° at Kew) was the hottest August day for 17 years and the fifth hottest ever. (If you are reading this online, scroll to *page 27* for a view in colour of our local sunset on the 31<sup>st</sup>!) 7 August turned out to be the first of six days when the temperature in London exceeded 34°C/93.2°F, the first run of such length in the UK since 1961, although, in the famously hot and arid summer of 1976, there were 16 consecutive days when the temperature exceeded 30°, including three in a row when it reached 35° (matched only in August 1990 and this past month). We have had also a stretch of

unusually hot nights—so-called “tropical nights”, one of the few non-Covid buzz terms of the year—when the temperature did not fall below 20°C/68°F. These used to be extremely uncommon: there were only eight between 1961 and 1995, but, by 10 August, there had already been 16 this year. Such extremes were greeted, as might have been expected, with endless advice about night time routine—ditch the duvet and indeed clothing, but sleep under a sheet, and keep windows and curtains open after sunset. Oh, and avoid alcohol, which only adds to dehydration. However, as one ambivalent adviser put it, “nothing provides such relief and refreshment as an ice-cold beer; so I’m ignoring this advice” (Hattie Crisell, *Times 2*, 13 August). A recurring theme at St Peter’s in the past few years has been the need for better heating. When we re-opened for services on 2 August, it was perhaps tempting to wonder if a helpful “new normal” was setting in; but, then, as Ecclesiastes (3:1) reminds us: “To everything there is a season”—witness the rain two weeks later! **A**

**teaser** **answer on page 27**

**How many numbers between 1 and 99, when spelt out, contain the letter “a”?**



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## SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION

**43: OLIVIA de HAVILAND** (adapted from SDS 7, published in May 2016 with Maid Marian as the main subject)

**Dame OLIVIA de HAVILAND** (1916-2020), who died on 26 July, aged 104, was a film actress, born on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. Her cousin was the aircraft designer Geoffrey de Havilland. Olivia moved to America in 1919 with her English mother and sister (actress Joan Fontaine). Her best known early roles were as Melanie Hamilton in *Gone with the Wind* (1939) and with Errol Flynn in *The Adventures of Robin Hood* (1938) as ...

**MAID MARIAN**, a figure in medieval folklore, often personifying the Virgin Mary in May Day revels and, by Tudor times, linked romantically with ...

**ROBIN HOOD** (c12<sup>th</sup> century), the semi-legendary outlaw of Sherwood Forest who robbed from the rich to give to the poor. Known for his devotion to the Virgin Mary (hence, probably, the Marian connection), 'Robin Hood' plays became part of May Day festivities, the most celebrated being performed in 1516 for ...

**ANNE BOLEYN**  
(c1501-36)

married Henry VIII in 1533 following the annulment of his first marriage. Their relationship deteriorated because it failed to produce the male heir that Henry craved. Anne was arrested after a May Day joust in 1536 and convicted on capital charges of which she was probably innocent. Her third cousin, ten times removed, was ...

**KATHARINE of ARAGON**  
(1485-1536), was declared invalid in 1533 after the Pope refused to annul the union, leading the King to assume supremacy over the Church in England. Their daughter, Mary I ('Bloody' Mary) later sought to reimpose Roman authority, but her attempts were undone by her half-sister Elizabeth I, whose mother ...

**King HENRY VIII**  
(1491-1547), whose momentous reign is often recalled in terms of his having been married six times. His first marriage, soon after his accession in 1509, to ...

We were sorry to learn that the **Revd Prebendary Bill Scott**, former domestic chaplain to the Queen, died on 17 July, aged 74. Bill Scott was guest preacher at our Patronal Festival at St Peter's in July 2017 (*right*), when he reflected on the founding of our church in 1840 and, among other things, the frailties of our apostolic Patron (*see AC&CN 9/17*).

In a varied career that had began in the Gorbals in Glasgow, Scott ended up holding several posts in the Royal Household, including that of sub-almoner, which involved, among other things, responsibility for the Maundy services held just before Easter (*AC&CN 4/20*). As domestic chaplain, he described himself as “a sort of vicar in the London palaces”.

In December 2017 we carried an article about Gaudete Sunday, the third in Advent and thus shortly before Christmas, when traditionally colour is more evident in churches than earlier in the season. We quoted a recollection by the *Times*' diarist Patrick Kidd that “one Gaudete Sunday the priest was in a splendid cerise and gold outfit. He began the service by announcing: ‘This is the time of year when I like to dress up like a Quality Street’”. Kidd recently retold the story, revealing Bill Scott to have been the chocolate in question and adding that he was an “exotic” priest who used to serve *kir royale* (sparkling white wine with Hercule Poirot's favourite tippie, *cassis*) after Mass at St Mary, Bourne Street, one of the great centres of Anglo-Catholicism in London. Cardinal Basil Hume, the former Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, once remarked that St Mary's made his own cathedral look like “a Wesleyan preaching shop”.

The former Bishop of London, Lord Chartres, recalled that Scott “was never happier than when he was up at the altar”, although “out of the sanctuary, he was the life and soul of innumerable parties”. According to Kidd, his rotund appearance, which gave rise to the nickname “Portly Bill”, inspired an off-the-cuff joke by the Queen which Scott himself relished. Describing him as a “very well rounded chaplain”, Her Majesty apparently added, “Or should that just be very round?” Affectionate obituaries contained other amusing stories. On one occasion Scott asked a colleague to keep tabs on a bishop who had a habit of wandering off and, if he tried to do so, to stand on his cope. And, when a well-meaning curate, aware of Scott's limitations on the admin front, asked for the return of a book he had lent him on time management and planning, he was told that it had been mislaid. **A**



**“I’m not saying my daughter has come to stay for a few days,  
but there is a bottle of hemp kombucha in the fridge.”**

**RICHARD OSMAN**, Twitter, 30 July 2020

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## A TRUTH UNIVERSALLY ACKNOWLEDGED

“Six of my untold thousands of viewing hours in recent months were passed re-viewing the BBC version of *Pride and Prejudice* with my parents ... ‘I’m so heartbroken for everyone who lived before television,’ I whimpered. ‘All that going out for murderously stupid dancing or playing bezieque’ ... My father interjected, very much in the sardonic tone of Mr Bennet [*one of the main characters*], that had telly been around in 1813 Jane Austen would never have written the novel. She’d have been too enthralled by Netflix to pick up her pen. In which event, there would be no BBC version.”

**MATTHEW NORMAN**  
*The Oldie*, August 2020

## MALAC&CMPROP XXXIX & XL

**“Unfortunately no school sport, cultural or other extramarital activities are permitted at this stage.”**

Old boys’ newsletter  
(quoted in *Private Eye*, 17 July 2020)

**“Arguing with his wife about the compulsory wearing of facemasks, a reader said he objected to having to cover up when clearly not unwell. ‘You don’t know that,’ she retorted. ‘You might be asymmetric.’”**

*Times* diary, 8 August 2020

## THE NEW NORMAL

**“The outside is the new inside”**

**BARONESS NORTHOVER**  
House of Lords, 20 July 2020

**“Sitting in the office. Surrounded by people. Can’t talk to any of them. They’re all on Zoom. Talking to people. On the other side of the office.”**

**SIMON McCOY** (*BBC News*)  
Twitter, 28 July 2020

**“Packet trifle kit sales have risen 738% this year as 1970s food makes a comeback.”**

*Good Morning Britain* (ITV), 22 July 2020

**“Things that younger me did not expect to do on my 35<sup>th</sup> birthday: (1) iron face masks for daily use in a global pandemic; (2) iron face masks with hair straighteners because I’m still not 100% competent with an actual iron.”**

**ARIELLA HUFF**, Twitter, 29 July 2020

**“Wearing a mask inside the home is now highly recommended—not so much to prevent Covid-19 as to stop eating.”**

**ELIZABETH HURLEY**

‘Quotes of the Week’, *Sunday Times*  
2 August 2020

**“The cricket was rained off yesterday, and many will have heaved a sigh of relief. At last, after so much disruption this year, we are tuly back to normal.”**

*Sunday Times*, 16 August 2020

## THE GEESE ARE GETTING FAT



**“Remember Zoom quizzes? Just had a terrifying thought. There are going to be many more if we lock down again in the winter ... themed with a festive twist, with team names like ‘elf isolation’.”**

**MADELINE GRANT**  
Twitter, 4 August 2020

## Our New Normal QUIZ

Answers at foot of column

1. What is the star sign of people born on 1 September?
2. Peter Green, who died on 25 July, co-founded in 1967 which extant blues and rock band?
3. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> is the formula of what?
4. Chrissy, Jo and Robin shared a flat in which 1970s TV sitcom?
5. Who are this year's Democratic Party candidates for US President and Vice-President?
6. Who sang the hymn *Abide with Me* at the opening ceremony of the 2012 Olympics and before this year's FA Cup Final on 1 August?
7. The next four Kings after Queen Anne shared which name?
8. Which show by Andrew Lloyd-Webber and Tim Rice, based loosely on the later chapters of the Gospels, originated as a studio album in September 1970?
9. In 1940 the Spitfire (see right) and which other plane were the two main British fighters in the Battle of Britain?
10. Hogget is the meat of which one to two year old animal?
11. What are permitted in England to play a tune of up to 12 seconds at a time between noon and 7pm?
12. Which winner of the Nobel Peace Prize died in Derry on 3 August?
13. What is 3.14159 known as?
14. Who played the title role in the 1984 film *Supergirl*?
15. Why didn't Superman know he could fly?

**ANSWERS to QUIZ:** 1. Virgo 2. Fleetwood Mac  
cape-abillites! **TEASER** (p21): None (first is 101)  
pi (π) 14. Helen Slater 15. He wasn't aware of his  
10. sheep 11. ice cream vans 12. John Hume 13.  
8. Jesus Christ Superstar 9. (Hawker) Hurricane  
Biden; Kamala Harris 6. Emile Sande 7. George  
3. sulphuric acid 4. Man About the House 5. Joe  
10. sheep 11. ice cream vans 12. John Hume 13.

## 80 YEARS AGO ...

**5 September 1940** Actress **Raquel Welch** born in Chicago **7** During the Second World War, as the **Battle of Britain** (10 July-31 October) continued over southern England, the London **Blitz** began with heavy German bombing of the East End. This change of emphasis meant that British fighter planes were able to re-group for the climax of the air war on **15 (Battle of Britain Day)** when, in spite of exaggerated claims by both sides, German loss of aircraft (56) outnumbered that of the RAF by 2:1. German invasion plans were postponed indefinitely two days later.



## AND THE FORECAST ...

As September, so the coming March

St Giles [1 September] finishes  
the walnuts

Matthew's Day [21 September],  
bright and clear,

Brings good wine in next year

Richard Inwards (1893) *Weather Lore*

*Our backdrop (in colour online) is of  
the scarlet sunset locally on 7 August:  
see page 21*

## WHAT'S ON in ARKLEY ~ September 2020

Please send changes, additions and diary dates to [arkleyccnews@gmail.com](mailto:arkleyccnews@gmail.com)

Contacts for **St Peter's** and the **Chipping Barnet Team Ministry** are on page 31

For further details of Team Ministry contacts, see websites and *Parish of Chipping Barnet Team Magazine* (August/September online) ~ Editor: **Charlotte Botham** ~ [barnetteammag@gmail.com](mailto:barnetteammag@gmail.com)

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### COMMUNITY CONTACTS

**ARKLEY ASSOCIATION ~ VILLAGE HALL ~ TENNIS CLUB**

Steve Gray 07795 117980

TENNIS COACHING ~ Alex Gopalla 07786 858382 ~ [alex.gopalla@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alex.gopalla@yahoo.co.uk)

**ARKLEY CLUB ~ 020 8449 5726**

**ARKLEY GOLF CLUB ~ 49 Rowley Green Road EN5 3HL ~ 020 8449 0394**

**BARNET BOROUGHWATCH ~ 0208 364 8400 ~ 07813 339 368**

[barnetboroughwatch@gmail.com](mailto:barnetboroughwatch@gmail.com)

**BARNET SENIORS' ASSOCIATION ~ 0203 778 0151 ~ [www.baseas.org.uk](http://www.baseas.org.uk)**

**CHURCHES TOGETHER for CHIPPING BARNET ~ [www.ctfcb.org.uk](http://www.ctfcb.org.uk)**

HOPE CORNER COMMUNITY CENTRE ~ 185 Mays Lane ~ 020 8364 8756

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**BARNET COUNCIL HELPLINE (non-medical) ~ for link, type "Barnet Council Covid" into search engine ([barnet.gov.uk](http://barnet.gov.uk))**

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## ST PETER'S CHURCH HALL

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**All enquiries to Iris Auburn 020 8449 0980**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Psalm 27:1

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# DIARY DATES in & around ARKLEY



**BANK HOLIDAY: MON 31 AUGUST**

*Updated on 17 August: events are subject to change in current circumstances*

**Sun 30 August @ 11am: Annual District Church Meeting ~ St Peter's**

DAY	TIME	SEPTEMBER EVENTS
Fri 4	11am-1pm	<b>CHRIST CHURCH FOOD BANK ~ St Albans Road EN5 4LA</b> (weekly)
Sun 6		<b>ALEXANDRA PALACE ANTIQUES &amp; COLLECTORS FAIR</b> cancelled
Wed 9	7.30pm	<b>ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING</b> (Chipping Barnet Team Ministry) ~ St John the Baptist <i>Pre-booked seats only, with priority to PCC &amp; St John's, but meeting may be streamed online ~ barnetparishchurch.org.uk</i>
Sat 19		<b>BARNET MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL</b> cancelled

**Sunday 4 October @ 10am: Harvest Festival ~ St Peter's**

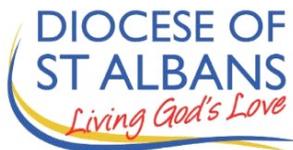
**\*\*\* the ar\$KleY \*\*\***

**AUTUMN EQUINOX: TUES 22 SEPTEMBER @ 1.31pm**

**SUNRISE/SUNSET: 1 SEPTEMBER: 6.14/7.46; 30<sup>TH</sup>: 6.33/6.40**

**FULL MOONS: WED 2 SEPTEMBER @ 5.22am (HARVEST MOON)**

**TUES 1 OCTOBER @ 9.05pm (HUNTERS MOON)**



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[stalbans.anglican.org/faith/bishop-s-annual-harvest-appeal/](http://stalbans.anglican.org/faith/bishop-s-annual-harvest-appeal/)

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# Parish Church of **ST PETER : ARKLEY**

**180 years: 1840-2020**



## **Chipping Barnet Team Ministry**

*St John the Baptist, Chipping Barnet; St Peter, Arkley; St Stephen, Bells Hill; & St Mark, Barnet Vale*

**113 Barnet Road EN5 3FJ**

**[www.stpetersarkley.com](http://www.stpetersarkley.com)**

## **ST PETER'S CHURCH CONTACTS**

### **Team Vicar at Arkley**

Revd Nick WHEELER LVO (*Working days on Sun, Tues, Wed*)

020 8441 9316 ~ [teamvicar.arkley@gmail.com](mailto:teamvicar.arkley@gmail.com)

### **Churchwardens**

Mrs Maureen STEVENS

020 8449 5874

Mrs Sharon BUTLER

[stpetersarkleycw@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersarkleycw@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

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### **Secretary**

Mr Nick DEAN

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### **Organist**

Mrs Gillian DEL BRAVO

020 8440 8650

*Safeguarding Officers* Mrs Maureen STEVENS (*as above*)

Mrs Iris AUBURN 020 8449 0980

## **OTHER TEAM MINISTRY CONTACTS**

**Acting Team Rector** Revd Tristan CHAPMAN (*as below*)

**Team Vicar** (*St Mark's & St Stephen's*)

Revd Tristan CHAPMAN 020 8440 7490 ~ [fr.tristan@googlemail.com](mailto:fr.tristan@googlemail.com)

**Reader** Mrs Linda SANDERS 01707 653963

**Lay Leader of Worship** Mr Laurie LITTLE 020 8441 1193

**Lay Chair of Parochial Church Council** (*until 9/9*) Mr Nick DEAN 01707 262422

**Parish Safeguarding Representative** Mrs Judy BURSTOW 020 8440 3773

**Parish Office:** Mr Tony LONG (*Administrator*) 020 8447 0350

*Church House, Wood Street, Barnet EN5 4BW ~ [parishoffice@barnetparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@barnetparishchurch.org.uk)*

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*Copy date for October / Harvest issue: THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER*

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Parish Church of St Peter : Arkley 1840-2020

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MAY 2020

180 years

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Parish Church of St Peter : Arkley 1840-2020

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JUNE 2020



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