

TOCKENHAM

"Wiltshires best kept small village"

Winner 2023



PARISH MAGAZINE

March 2024

From the editor.

Have you noticed the sunset is just that little bit later these days. That and the snowdrops being out reminds us that the seasons are always evolving and we're heading towards brighter times. The Village Hall Committee have a good list of events planned for us all and the big news is that all being well and following on from the success of last year, we'll be having another Sausage & Cider get together later in the year.

Village Hall Coffee Morning

It was lovely to see so many people at the February Coffee Morning. The next coffee morning is on Tuesday, 5th March, from 10.30 a.m. until 12 noon in the village hall, to which everyone is invited.

Thank you everyone for your support – and do come along and join us for coffee/tea, biscuits and a chat – we look forward to welcoming everyone.

If you are unable to join us in March, please add 2nd April to your diaries for the following coffee morning.

These are really growing in popularity – Ed.

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Saturday 30th March

We will be having an Easter Egg Hunt Trail around the village again this Easter. Find all the eggs and collect the symbols on the back to decode where to find your prize. Turn up anytime between 10.30am and 12.00pm to register and collect your recording card. Refreshments will be available.

Church contacts are: Reverend Rachma 01793 731134 or Mandy Cook 01793 853504

Sunday 31st March Easter Day

Communion, Bradenstoke, 9.00am

Communion, Tockenham, 9.am

Communion, Lyneham, 10.30am

Communion, Clyffe Pypard, 10,30am

Communion, Broad Town, 10.30am

March Reflection

As winter starts to turn into Spring at the beginning of March our thoughts start to turn to new life, growth, longer days and the promise of new adventures and outings in the coming seasons. Listening to Radio 4's Thought for the Day the other day, I was minded to agree with a suggestion that we should enjoy the Lent period, which continues throughout March until Easter, on the very last day of March.

In the Christian tradition the reflective season of Lent is like a journey, emulating the Hebrew people in the desert and Jesus in the wilderness. We could view this as an exciting and enjoyable time of personal adventure and discovery. A time to re-evaluate and reconnect with ourselves, creation, God and each other. As with a journey there are times to set things down, pick things up, set off, journey on (perhaps through a wilderness) and find home. Go well and God speed on your journey through March wherever it takes you and whatever you discover. And a very Happy Easter when we get there.

Future Events

March 2nd Dodecantus Concert 6.00pm at St Giles in aid of the Bell Cote Fund.

Why not spend an hour or so in our beautiful candlelit church listening to music and singing to soothe the soul?

Dodecantus is a small local chamber choir of around twelve enthusiastic and talented singers who perform locally as well as tour in this country and abroad. They will be entertaining us with a varied programme of folk, jazz and sacred Lenten pieces. Tickets cost £10 per head to include wine and canapes. For tickets please contact Ruth Phillips: Ruth Phillips at ruthphillips1608@outlook.com or 07771609991

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Benefice Services, March 2024

Sunday 3rd March:

Communion, **Broad Town**, 10.30am

All-Age Service, **Lyneham**, 10.30am

Evening Service, **Tockenham**, 5.00pm

Wednesday 6th March

Communion, **Hilmarton**, 2.00pm

Sunday 10th March:

Mothering Sunday

Communion, **Bradenstoke**, 9.00am

Baptism, **Tockenham**, 10.30am

All-Age Service, **Hilmarton**, 10.30am

Sunday 17th March:

Communion, **Clyffe Pypard**, 8.00am

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.30am

Morning Prayer, **Tockenham**, 10.30am

Sunday 24th March.

Palm Sunday

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.30am

Communion, **Hilmarton**, 10.30am

Wednesday 27th March

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.00am

Thursday 28th March

Maundy Thursday

Communion, **Broad Town**, 7.00pm

Friday 29th March

Good Friday

Ecumenical Walk of Witness, **Lyneham**, 10.00am

Meditation for Good Friday, **Clyffe Pypard**, 2.30pm

Saturday 30th March

Easter Eve

Vigil & First Communion of Easter, **Hilmarton**, 7.00pm

The Return Of Allotment News

We are about to begin our 4th year with an allotment and boy have our lives changed since our first year. As we are now growing fruit and veg to feed 4 it has made me think about the whole idea of 'grow your own' and involving the children in the process. We all know that growing your own means less plastic waste, controlled use of pesticides, reduced food miles and being more cost effective but it's the more personal impact which I appreciate.

The opportunity to be more physically active and feel an improvement in our mental health as a result of fresh air and being in nature. We are also hoping that involving Amber and Elliot will give them a greater appreciation for healthier food, learn about more sustainable practices and gain valuable life skills. Their own gross and motor skills will be improved by digging and planting seeds. They will have a hands-on approach and an opportunity to get out into nature encouraging sensory development.

So having written my seed shopping list this morning we are ready to get going and hopefully enjoy some growing fun with our growing family.

Happy Allotmenting Claire, Amber, Keith and Elliot (C.A.K.E)

Poets Corner

Easter

An Easter egg hunt is our village treat,
With the walk around-a special childrens feat!
Eggs decorated with bright designs,
And chocolate ones of different kinds.

Under a warm and gentle light,
Little yellow downy chicks are a happy sight.
Gentle chirps and tiny flapping wings to see,
They fill our hearts with joyful Easter glee.

The Easter bunny has long floppy ears,
And a coat of fur that protects-no fears!
If he has a shiny nose he cannot tend.
Because his little powder puff is at the other end!

Spring flowers add a lovely splash of colour,
Yellow, red, pink, white and blue are to the fore.
With special decorations in our homes we see,
Our hearts are lifted and happiness is the key.

Help Needed Request for Residents

As you are aware, Tockenham Parish Council are preparing an Emergency Plan to hopefully safeguard the village in the event of an emergency – flood, snow, pandemic, loss of energy or water, etc.

To this end, we have appointed Co-ordinators to cover all areas of the parish to provide communication, advice and support as required. You would have all received a note through your door advising you who your Co-ordinator is – with a request to forward your contact details to them so that they could contact you if an emergency situation arose. Thank you to everyone who has already responded – but we would be grateful if the rest of the village could help us by forwarding their details accordingly. Thank you.

However, we also need help from the wider community in certain other areas – dependant on the emergency at the time.

If you feel that you could help in any of the following areas and would be willing to go on a “Support List” – please do contact me at

dkirby@tockenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

- Owner of a 4 x 4
- Have medical experience
- Prepared to take people to medical appointments
- Prepared to pick up prescriptions or shopping
- Owner of an electric vehicle
- Chainsaw owners
- Owner of semi-submersible water pump

Thank you so much for your help.
Together we will be stronger!

With thanks
Diana Kirby
Chair of Tockenham Parish Council

