

The Plough

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe
Community and Parish Magazine

April 2021



Editor: Judith Mills. Editor.plough@hotmail.com ; 07775781591

Plough Website:

<https://www.aksplough.co.uk/community/the-plough-15062/home>

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HAPPY EASTER

There's something of a mixed-bag in this month's Plough. There's some lovely items, such as the birth of Averham's newest resident, another food bank collection and a letter from Ron Watkins. And there's news about local events—albeit virtual ones—from the WI (p.10) and the opportunity for a general catch-up in Time-to-Talk (p.9). Not to mention, of course, the Easter services (p.18), which, even though the churches are closed, are happening and a good opportunity to see and chat to others. There's some great book reviews and recommendations as well.

I've also been told that—subject to government guidelines—The Fox hopes to re-open in April. And I've received a notice that Southwell Music Festival will go ahead.

There's also, sadly, some less welcome news about suspicious vehicles, an attempted break-in at The Fox and problems in the grounds of Averham School. Much of this news—good and bad—is circulated using WhatsApp. And it's not just suspicious vans. There's offers of surplus plants, invitations to group meetings, Easter Egg Hunts and other conversations going on. Each village has their own group (but you can belong to more than one). Please do think about joining a group and keeping in touch with what's going on. The contacts are:

Averham: Tracey Carlisle, 07970 179755

Kelham: Janet Emeny, 07751 117820

Staythorpe: Debs Storey, 07974 957684

Judith Mills, Editor

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Dear Friends & Neighbours

With your Plough magazine this month, you will have received an envelope from your local church, please take the time to open and read the contents. We are looking to improve the finances of these two Grade 1 listed beautiful churches through regular donations and keep them open for generations to come.

By giving say £10 per month, which works out as 33p per day you will be supporting the day to day running costs of the churches. Once COVID restrictions are eased we will open up the churches at certain times so you can visit them and appreciate over 1000 years of worship.

NOTICE BOARD

NEXT FOODBANK COLLECTION

10th—17th April 2021



The Newark Foodbank is now well stocked so we are going to donate to Tuxford Foodbank instead.

Their shopping list is

- Instant Mash Potato
- Sugar (500g)
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Breakfast Cereal
- Tomatoes(Tinned)
- Fruit Juice
- Pasta, rice and/or noodles
- Tea Bags or Coffee
- UHT Milk
- Fish/Meat (Tinned)
- Rice Pudding (tinned)
- Biscuits
- Tinned Fruit

NO PERISHABLES; NO ALCOHOL PLEASE

Collection Points as before

- Staythorpe: Front of Staythorpe Cottage (top right hand side of Pingley Lane)
- Averham: 5 Ayrshire Way
- Kelham: 12 Home Farm Close

If you'd like to know more about the Trussell Trust, which runs local food banks, have a look at their website <https://www.trusselltrust.org>



Averham's Newest Resident

Tim and Maddie are very happy to announce that Averham's newest resident has come home.

Liliana Elena Wilson was born on Friday 19th March. Villagers in Averham's WhatsApp Group have already welcomed Liliana and sent congratulations to her parents, and I'm sure we all join in with passing on good wishes to the whole family.



Suspicious Behaviour Reports

In the last two weeks there have been reports of illegal and suspicious behaviour in our villages and nearby.

On Wednesday 17 March, about 9.30pm, there was an attempted break in at The Fox, Kelham by three men wearing balaclavas. CCTV shows them trying car and pub doors. They didn't get anything but worrying none-the-less. Elsewhere, the WhatsApp groups have been

reporting a suspicious white transit van with a driver and passenger in Rolleston; and a white Peugeot car has also been seen on numerous occasions in Averham. Of course, with so much being delivered now these may be perfectly innocent events.

Nevertheless, please be on the look out and consider joining the WhatsApp group for your village to help us keep in touch.

If you want to report suspicious behaviour our PCSO is

Richard Dunn: 07595 074292

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE—NEWARK CASTLE LEVEL CROSSING

The level crossing will be closed for essential track renewal

10pm (22:00) on *Friday 2nd April* to 7am (07:00) on *Monday 5th April*

AND

10pm (22:00) *Saturday 10th April* to 7am (07:00) on *Sunday 11th April*

The official diversion is along the A46 to Farndon Island.

All Enquiries to **Barbara Conway - Chevron TM Ltd – 01777 705053**



Manners-Sutton School Grounds CLOSED

Due to current dangers on the site and recent inappropriate/unauthorised/unsupervised use, the grounds are temporarily not available for community access.

We have an ongoing need for skips on site to facilitate clearance of the school pending closure. Items have been repeatedly removed from the skips over the last 3 months and used or strewn around the site. There is currently glass in the skip. The staff have worked really hard to keep tidying up but have to keep repeating the work. We also have potentially unsafe, now empty, sheds in the play area which could collapse if climbed on or pushed. There has been improvised use of play equipment which has presented a possible danger, and use of unsafe items removed from the skip.

To ensure safety on site we have no choice but to close it for community use in the current circumstances. We are reviewing the situation with the Local Authority to see if we can find a solution for the remaining period until the school closes at the end of the year.

The school playing field is a great community facility and we hope this can continue in the future with agreement from the Local Authority.

Manner Sutton School Governing Body

Highfields Prep School

While, sadly, Manners Sutton School is closing, Highfields Prep School in Newark (see advert on p.26) has sent some additional information about what it can offer.

Highfields is a co-educational, independent preparatory school and day nursery for children aged 2-11 years located in 14 acres of natural parkland in Newark, Notts.

Highfields has a strong academic record and offers a wide and enriched curriculum. Beyond the classroom children enjoy a huge selection of sports, arts and music and drama. There is a strong emphasis on traditional core values and pastoral care, with every child valued as an individual.

Places are available for admission to main school now and for September 2021. We also have a small number of places available in our nursery and we accept Early Years funding.

To see for yourself what Highfields can offer your child, come to our **Open Morning** on Saturday 24th April 2021 10am-12noon.

Booking required on admissions@highfieldsschool.co.uk or telephone 01636 704103. www.highfieldsschool.co.uk

Gardening Hints-n-Tips

from Nigel Britton, ASK Gardening Club

Climbing Plants

There are so many things to think about at this time of year in our gardens; lawn treatments, preparing for growing vegetables and summer bedding plants, for example. However, this is the ideal time to consider planting trees, shrubs and climbers to make the most of the growing season ahead.

Climbing plants can be used in a variety of ways, create privacy, covering walls, fences, and trellis with colour and interest, provide shelter and food for wildlife; they can even help insulate your home when grown up the house walls!

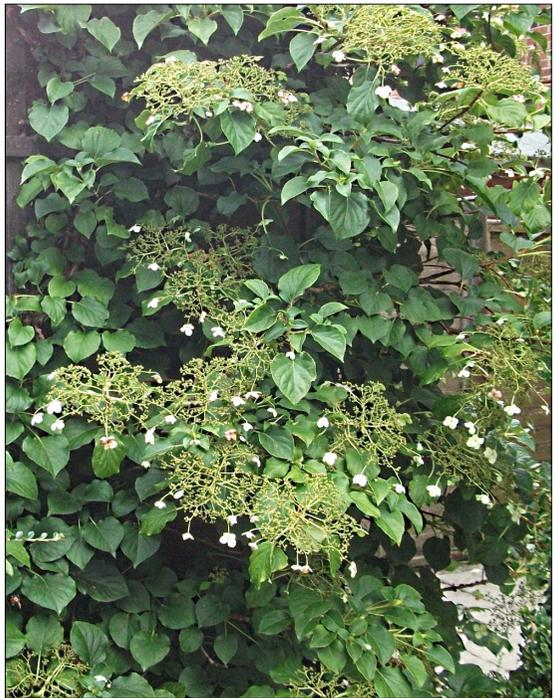
The following are some of my personal favourite climbers, reliable, easy to grow and the most rewarding:-

Clematis Montana

Various cultivars, but all are vigorous growers and have the ability to grow through, along and up and over anything they can twine through. They are early flowering April/May with masses of small flowers made up of four petals in pink or white. The flowers can last for around four weeks; some produce fluffy seed heads in autumn and the leaves of the pink varieties are tinged bronze in colour.

Hydrangea Petiolaris

This is a great one for the house wall particularly happy in full shade. This self clinging climber produces large clusters of flower heads made up of small fertile and sterile flowers. Although deciduous, the peeling chestnut coloured stems give winter interest and in the autumn the leaves turn a lovely golden yellow.



Trachyspermum (Star Jasmine)



An evergreen climbing plant that twines, it can have scented white, cream or pink small star like flowers depending on the variety. Green, gold or variegated leaf varieties of Trachyspermum can also be found in most garden centres. This is best grown on a sheltered sunny wall, preferably south facing and like with many evergreens feed with an ericaceous fertiliser.

Honeysuckle

Some of us may have several wild, self-set honeysuckles around the garden; I know I have thanks to the birds.

There are many cultivated varieties now available to suit all aspects including evergreen varieties. I have two favourites, *Lonicera periclymenum* 'serotina' which is a very vigorous deciduous woody



twining plant, with honey scented deep red-purple-yellow flowers in terminal clusters followed by red berries. *Lonicera Japonica* 'Halliana'. This evergreen variety has dark green ovate leaves and highly fragrant white fading to yellow tubular and two lobed flowers followed by glossy black berries. Honeysuckles are great grown through old trees, hedges or over pergolas and garden arches.

TIME TO TALK

4th February was national **Time To Talk Day**, an initiative set up by the Mental Health Charity 'Time to Change' (<https://www.time-to-change.org.uk/>) to help start a conversation across the country.

The conversation can be about anything, but the aim is to get people chatting, catching-up and checking-in on each other and promoting mental wellbeing. Of course, whilst we find ourselves still in lockdown, catching up this year has never been more important.

An invitation went out quickly on village WhatsApp groups to see if anyone wanted to catch up via ZOOM on the evening of 4th Feb. Five villagers dropped in to Zoomland to meet—virtually—together and find out what we each have all been up to.

Don't worry if you didn't see the invitation—it was a rather rushed and last minute affair. We all said it was useful and provided a nice opportunity to see familiar faces.

The next Time to Talk meeting will be on
Tuesday 20th April, 7-8pm

Look out for the link on the WhatsApp Groups

Not on WhatsApp—see p.3 for how to join



We need ears to listen
We need brains to think
We need food to eat
We need water to drink

We need eyes to see
We need faith to believe
We need hearts to love
We need dreams to achieve

We need strength to be strong
We need heat to keep warm,
We need hands to hold,
We need shelter from a storm,

We need emotions to feel,
We need legs to walk,
We need time to change,
We need Time to Talk

From @allontheboard.

WI News for April 2021

We had our grand opening on March 15th with a ZOOM tea party. It was great to be back together again after a 3 month break. We had a general catch up on each other's news and then we put the world to rights on LGBT issues brought about by a think-tank's suggestion that the word Mother is no longer politically correct. Well, one can imagine the reaction to that notion! Other topics: Megan Markle and of course the Covid vaccine programme!!

On a lighter note we had a *Celebrity Quiz*, thanks to Jayne Owen. I was so pleased to be part of Lorraine Bousfield's team as she knew 17 out of 20 answers. Guided by our Presidential leader Angela Moore we broke out into 'rooms' for a chat. We need all the breakouts we can get at present don't we? Just one more thing we have learnt to do because of lockdown!! Everyday is a COVID school day!

It was just amazing where the 1½ hours went. We all agreed that having the fellowship of our WI has certainly helped us through some of the darker COVID days.

Indeed, Cariole Binks and Jenny Cawkwell had lit up a dull day at the beginning of March when they delivered a little goodie bag to every members' doorstep. Jenny Quickmire thanked them for their brilliant idea and efforts.

In accordance with Boris's exit plan we will need to have our April meeting via zoom again. Hannah Marples will be sharing her experiences as the wardrobe mistress for the Nottingham Theatre Royal with a talk 'A Stitch in Time'. This will be held on April 12th. Time to be arranged.



If any non-members would like to join in with this please email Jenny Q. on headbearsenior@gmail.com and the link will be forwarded to you.

Jenny Quickmire, Meeting Secretary

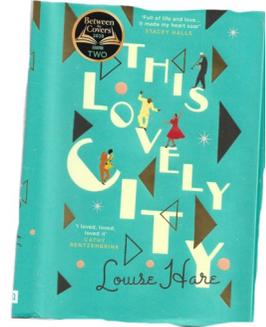


THE PLOUGH READING CIRCLE

Book Reviews for April

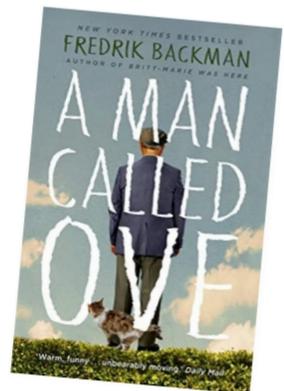
***This Lovely City*, reviewed by Jenny Quickmire**

I have just finished reading *This Lovely City* by Louise Hare (ISBN 9780008332570). It is an intriguing story of Lawrie, a young man who emigrated from Jamaica in 1948, one of the Windrush generation, set in and around Clapham Common, London. It encapsulates the traumas he suffered with racism set against the appalling conditions to which this generation were exposed. It embraces all the elements of a good story. A love story with many convolutions. A shameful family secret which threatens to derail his and several other characters' lives. A murder/mystery is part of the mix. A bit of everything really, with a real twist at the end. I found the book so moving at lots of levels. The terrible attitude towards this young man and his friends, living in fear of their lives on a daily basis, the rejections he faced and the bullying. It sounds a heavy story but in fact, yes it is thought provoking yet beguiling, atmospheric with wonderful, memorable characters and a vital message about love loyalty and hope. An important novel.



***A Man Called Ove*, reviewed by Lorraine Bousfield**

I really enjoyed *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrick Backman. It's not new (2012) but is a beautifully written, atmospheric and touching account of a grumpy old man's life. The loss of his wife, his great love, leads him to dark places and his strong moral ethic reaches out to touch the lives of his neighbourhood. The story is



balanced with humorous accounts of how Ove's OCD drives him to distraction - why can't people just leave him alone?

I didn't want the book to finish and needed the tissues on more than one chapter.

Other recommendations this month:

Carole Binks recommends *All the light we cannot see* by Anthony Doerr. Carole says "When I finished it, it was like saying goodbye to a best friend!". This recommendation was endorsed by Diana Latham.

Tim Barbary's choice is *Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art* by James Nestor. He says "You might think breathing is simple and well understood. Fascinating and provocative stuff!"

Both are easily available from all good book shops and as 'Audible Audiobooks from Amazon.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Although libraries are closed at the moment, they are offering

- a 'Click and Collect' and Home Delivery service.
- a Mobile Library service which visits Kelham and Averham
- an eReading, eAudio and eMagazines service so you can read these at home.

For more information, go to the Inspire Culture website

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/service-disruptions/>

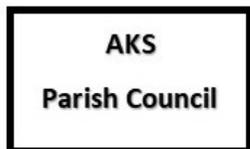
OR contact the 'ASK INSPIRE' team: 9am - 6pm Monday to Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday by calling 01623 677 200 or email ask@inspireculture.org.uk.

DON'T FORGET



Send your Reviews, Comments and Recommendations to Editor.plough@hotmail.com or via the Kelham or Averham WhatsApp group.

If you don't have email, then phone me on 07775781591 and I'll let you know where you can send your comments.



Parish Council Update

Parish Council Information Channel:

Given events over the last year or so it has become apparent that communication, or more importantly the speed of communication, is vital in getting important information distributed within our communities. It is also important to understand how we, as individuals, send and receive the majority of our communications. Having looked at recent research it would appear that the vast majority of people send and receive information either via phone or tablet.

For this reason the Parish Council has set up an information 'channel' to distribute key information across our community that has the flexibility to be accessed via mobile phone, tablet, lap top or desktop computer. In order to access the AKS PC Channel users are required to download the Telegram app, see link below, then subscribe to the information channel, again see link below.

The reason for creating a 'channel' is that it is a one-way form of communication allowing the Parish Council to push out important information and updates into the community. It is also a private channel so subscribers cannot see any information in relation to any other subscribers nor can they return messages to the Parish Council or exchange messages with each other. The channel is managed by an administrator so only pertinent information will be published. Should anyone wish to follow up on any of the information then they can contact the Parish Council in the normal manner.

For those of you familiar with WhatsApp, Telegram is functionally very similar however it is more secure and has additional features such as the creation of 'channels'. In order to subscribe, first install the Telegram app on your preferred device (or all of them) by typing the first link below in your browser, then subscribe to the channel by clicking on the second link.

<https://telegram.org/dl>

<https://t.me/AKSmessaging>

The Parish Council would actively encourage as many parishioners as possible to subscribe to the channel in order to create a comprehensive network allowing information to be circulated throughout our community as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Network Rail Crossings:

The PC would again like to remind everyone about the reporting of issues encountered with any of the rail crossings in the area. As we reported in the last issue of The Plough, Network Rail only keep a record of track side problems and not the wider issues caused such as lengthy waiting times or disruption to the local community.

It is therefore important that any issues, whether great or small, are reported to the PC via the usual channels, as and when they happen, so that they can be logged and reported at County level. It is only by doing so that a full picture can be painted and the true extent of the problems with the crossings determined as to date Network Rail only capture selective data.

Sutton Manners School Community Room:

The PC have received a preliminary response to the queries raised during the consultation period which stated that *“NCC are considering our queries and will respond in due course”*. However, one point that was raised was the use of the Community Room or more specifically that *“NCC’s Property and Legal services have no knowledge of the community space inside Manners Sutton Primary School”*. The PC is pushing for the Community Room to remain available in the future and would ask that **if you have evidence of when you used it and for what purpose**, you please forward details so that the PC can present it to NCC Property Services.

Averham Bench:

In the last edition of the Plough an article was included in relation to the public bench at Averham, however what was stated was only part of the whole story. The PC did indeed vote in favour of the removal of the bench as it was financially unviable to repair based on cost information received. After this was noted the PC received a call from Tracey and Graham Carlisle asking if Graham could take a look at it to assess the damage and whether he would be able to undertake the necessary repairs. This was agreed and Tracey reported back a week or so later to say that Graham was happy to undertake the work and that they were also happy to source the materials required. At this point, as Graham was kind enough to offer his time, the PC offered to cover the cost of the materials required. As it turned out and as reported the materials were subsequently donated free of charge and the bench duly repaired. The reason for pointing this out is that the previous article made no reference to the PC playing any part in retaining the bench which was not the case. It is only as a last resort that any assets are removed and the PC works hard to retain those assets that the Parish has. In the end the bench has been retained so a big thanks to Graham and Tracey and, I’m sure you will agree, a satisfactory result all round.

NOTES FROM THE Parish Council Meeting 02.03.2021

The PC meeting was again held via VC due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation. There was one member of the public in attendance.

- ◆ County Councillor Sue Saddington updated the Parish Council on the ongoing situation in relation to Network Rail and again requested that parishioners log and report problems to the PC at whichever crossing they encounter them. She also provided an update regarding the situation at Sutton Manners School now that the consultation period was closed. Currently the process is at Stage 4 – Decision, which concludes Spring 2021. Stage 4 is where all the objections and comments gathered during the representation period are provided to the decision maker to enable them to make the final decision.
- ◆ The over-grown state of the footpath along the A617 between Averham and Kelham has been reported to NCC Highways due to the reduced effective width of the pavement caused by weeds etc.
- ◆ The possibility of the construction of steps in the steep section of the footpath between the Trent and Staythorpe Power Station, which is part of the Trent Valley Way, is to be investigated.
- ◆ A query received regarding the oak tree in the Sutton Manners School grounds was received. This was dealt with prior to the last PC meeting and as reported in the previous edition of the Plough.
- ◆ A complaint was received from a resident regarding a “circus style” wagon located in the front garden of a house in Averham. It was reported at the meeting that this had now been removed.
- ◆ NCC reported that the Priest Path that reportedly ran between the churches in Averham and Kelham alongside the River Trent is not a public right of way nor is it indicated on any Ordnance Survey maps.
- ◆ The PC voted that the current Public Space Protection Order (Dog controls) should remain in place with Newark and Sherwood District Council.
- ◆ An email was received regarding additional road and speed signage in Averham. NCC Highways Dept. do not consider that additional speed signage is required due to the lack of reported incidents. It was also noted that each of the 3 entry/exit points for Averham already have direction signage stating “Averham Village Only”.
- ◆ The following planning applications were received and commented on:
 - 21/00146/FUL- Erection of dwelling Pinfold Lane, Averham
 - 21/0014/FUL - Construction of Stable Block, Old Farm House, Pingley Lane,

Staythorpe

- 21/00206/FUL - Averham Church, repairs to path, installation of lighting and new W.C.
- 21/00386/ - Peachcroft, Broadgate Lane, Kelham NG23 5RZ –demolition of 'lean to' shed

The next parish Council meeting will be Tuesday 13th April 2021, 7pm

Members of the Public Welcome

Due to COVID restrictions meetings are currently held via video conference and members of the public are invited to join the conference via video link please contact Jennifer Cawkwell Parish Clerk for information.

aksparishclerk@outlook.com; 07563639379

ALL AGENDAS AND MEETING MINUTES ARE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE

<http://www.akspc.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home>

Kelham By-pass—a Message from Cllr Sue Saddington

As you know I have lobbied Nottinghamshire County Council at every opportunity for over 16 years regarding the necessity for a new Kelham by-pass.

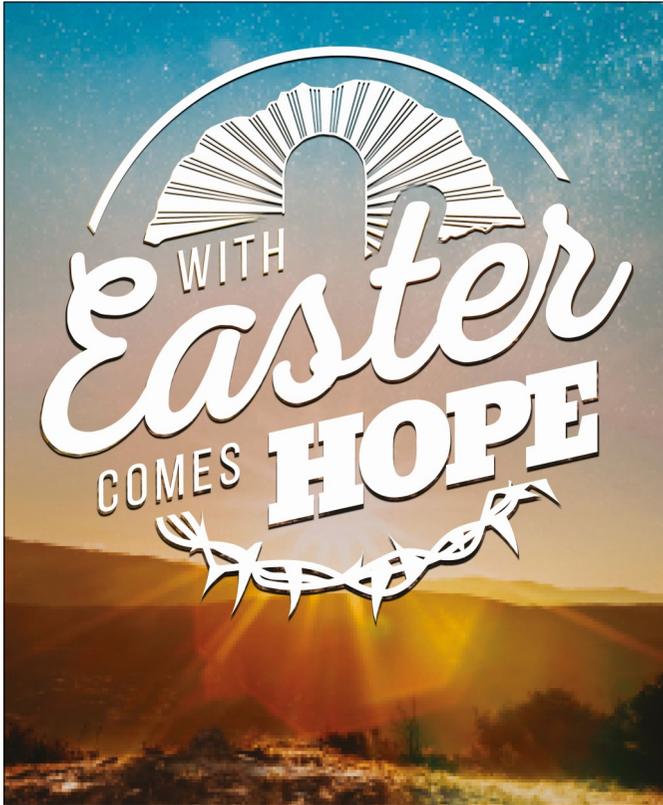
The Victorian bridge in Kelham takes a huge strain every passing day with the large, heavy loads travelling to and from the M1 to Mansfield and beyond.

NCC is now due to receive funding from *Midlands Connect* which will take us one step closer to realising our aspiration for a new by-pass for Kelham.

The funding will bring forward additional investigation work on the feasibility of a by-pass to make sure that a scheme is as ready as possible for delivery should a future funding opportunity arise.

The A617 through Kelham links the A1 at Newark. The bypass which would involve a new bridge across the River Trent south of Kelham Village, would complement and enhance any improvements made to the A46 and Newark Southern Link road and help provide an end to traffic gridlock around Newark and Kelham.

**News from St Michael and All Angels, Averham
And
St Wilfrid's Church, Kelham**



Kelham, Averham and Staythorpe are part of the Riverside Benefice which also includes North and South Muskham. At the moment, because all churches have had to close due to the pandemic, services and meetings are on-line, via ZOOM. As lockdown eases over the next few months, we may be able open up for services, but they will continue on Zoom for the foreseeable future. (**Please note:** North Muskham church is closed at the moment for roof repairs.)

A full list of services for Easter and April follows. If you'd like to join in any of these, please contact Rev'd Georgie on

georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

Church Services and Meetings

Services for Holy Week and Easter

(Please Note: times have changed from those previously announced)



- | | | |
|----------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29 March | 7pm | Night Prayer (also known as Compline)
by Zoom |
| 30 March | 7pm | Night Prayer (also known as Compline)
by Zoom |
| 31 March | 7pm | Night Prayer (also known as Compline)
by Zoom |
| 1 April | 7pm | Maundy Thursday at South Muskham
Foot washing and Tenebrae service—when the
altar is stripped of adornments and candles
and lights are gradually dimmed. |

2 April Good Friday:

2pm An Hour at the Cross by Zoom

3 April Easter Saturday:

7pm Vigil service of Light either at Kelham or by ZOOM

4 April Easter Sunday:

7.30am *Sunrise Service* either at Riverside at The Ferry,
North Muskham or in the Churchyard at North
Muskham

10am at St Michael and All Angels, Averham

Holy Communion and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

SERVICES FOR THE REST OF APRIL

**By ZOOM and, if permitted, broadcast from
Churches listed**



11 April 9.30 Lord's Supper, St Wilfrid's,
South Muskham

18 April 9.30 Morning Prayer at St Wilfrid's, Kelham

25 April 9.30 Lord's Supper, St Michael and All Angel's, Averham

Thursday evenings, 8-29 April: 6.30pm, Evening Prayer, by Zoom



New Beginnings, New Hope and New Life
Rev'd Georgie's Message
to all in
Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe

Spring is definitely here with all the daffodils coming out—they begin to pop up when winter ends. They're a symbol of spring and symbolise new beginnings and rebirth. They're a positive, life-affirming symbol, with a bright and joyful yellow colour. Daffodils are strong, resilient flowers that pop return year after year.

They have an association to Easter which we celebrate at the beginning of the month. Easter is also about new beginnings, new hope and new life.

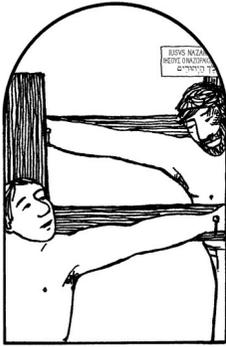
During Lent we remember that Jesus, at the beginning of his ministry, spent 40 days and nights in the wilderness; a dry, rocky, dusty place. It is time when we reflect on our faith in God. Many people give some thing up. It is a type of self discipline and sacrifice. Many follow the tradition as they use the time to readjust and kick a bad habit.

For Christians it is not just about giving something up but a time to think more about their faith and God.

Easter is surrounded by traditions. Many people eat lamb on Easter Sunday, there are, of course, Easter eggs, Easter egg hunts, for some an Easter bunny; but what is Easter really about ?

Many think Easter is just the Sunday when we celebrate with Easter eggs. But that is the end or the beginning! Easter or Holy Week starts with *Palm Sunday*. It is the first day of Holy Week and celebrates Jesus's arrival in Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Crowds of people came out of the city to greet him, throwing down palm branches on the road. The next important day is *Maundy Thursday* when Christians remember when Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples, breaking bread and drinking wine. Christians refer to this meal as the Last Supper.

Many Christians remember this by sharing bread and wine together in a church service called Holy Communion, or the Eucharist.



The next important day is *Good Friday*. It commemorates the execution of Jesus by crucifixion. It is a day of mourning in church. Christians remember Jesus's suffering and death on the cross, and what this means for their faith.

The celebration and traditions of *Easter Sunday* are marked because we remember that Jesus rose from the dead. That tradition of the Easter egg is a symbol of that new life. Chicks, bunnies are all symbols of new life.

Why do **you** celebrate Easter? Is it just because it's a holiday and tradition? Is it time to rethink? If you are not sure what the purpose of the tradition is, perhaps it is time to re-examine the origins.

Many Christians on Easter Sunday renew their commitment to their faith by renewing the words spoken at their baptism. Which is a tradition a sign of new birth into the family of God.

Christians believe that, through his resurrection, Jesus overcame death and sin. This offers people the promise of eternal life if they follow his teachings.

Perhaps you are someone whose faith has been tested or someone who is wondering what faith in this Jesus is about. People who wish to commit to Jesus pray a simple prayer.

Jesus,

I'm sorry for the wrong things I've done. Please forgive me. I believe your Son died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead, and because of this I will enter into heaven when I die. Jesus, come into my heart and be my Lord and Saviour. I willingly give you my life. Now, Father, help me do your will. Thank you again for saving me! In Jesus name I pray. Amen

If you wish to renew your relationship with Jesus, or begin one, please talk to me or someone you know who goes to church, and look out for a nurture group, where you can begin to find out more. There is the hint in the air of new life in away we have not experienced before as we begin to come out of the last lockdown and hope that we can learn to live new lives.

Rev'd Georgie Hadley

email: georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

OR find the Riverside Benefice on FACEBOOK

Bible study



You may have prayed the prayer in my message (p. 20) or just want to renew your faith and begin again.

Becoming a Christian is much more than a fresh start. And it is not about suddenly needing to follow a list of rules and regulations.

It is the beginning of a new relationship – with God. It takes time and effort to build a good relationship with new friends. The same is true as you begin a new life as a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ. Just as you would get to know all about a new friend, so it is important to get to know God.

How can you find out more about Jesus? You may know a few bible stories you can remind yourself about those. The Bible is the best place. A huge book, but think of it as a library of books you can choose where to start.

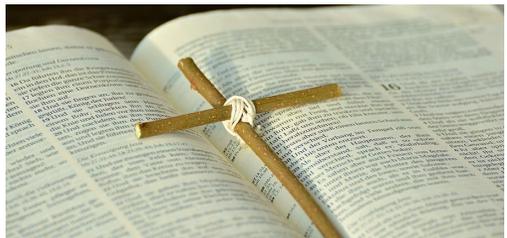
Search on line for the easiest Bible to read. Go to biblegateway.com.

As a suggestion, start in the New Testament and read, or listen, to the Gospel of Mark. You might want to make notes or record questions.

You can read conversations with or about God in the book of Psalms.

You develop relationships by talking. Prayer is just that—having conversations. You might like to say the Lord's Prayer, or learn it.

Happy new beginnings.



A Letter from Ron Watkins



I live with Parkinson's disease which affects me every minute of every day, both physically and mentally. In June/ July 2019 I spent some time in Kings Mill Hospital. This was very wearing on my son and daughter in law who travelled from St. Neots every day to visit me. Parkinson's is a progressive disease and my symptoms will only get worse. I had to decide whether I should move to be nearer my son and after a great deal of thought and prayer I decided to move.

St Neots is a very nice little town and I am happy here, especially as I live only 10 minutes away from my son and daughter in law.

But I do miss my many lovely friends in the Riverside benefice of Averham, Kelham, South Muskham and North Muskham and the Garden Club and the W.I. who were always so kind and patient with me and looked after me when I was unwell. It is nice to be able to catch up with some of them via Zoom.

I look forward to being able to visit when we are allowed, and hopefully to be able to greet them in my flat at St. Neots.

With my very best wishes. God Bless
Ron Watkins

From the Editor

It is lovely to hear from Ron, and to see him from time-to-time on Zoom. I'm sure we all look forward to a time when we can visit and meet up with all our friends and family. Let's hope that's soon.

Many thanks to the Gardening Club for the delightful photo of Ron.

Averham and Kelham Church News

Sadly our lovely church remains closed. We are optimistic that there will be some movement in April as the COVID restrictions are, hopefully, eased but like everyone we are just hoping and waiting.

The regular zoom services continue to be very popular. The services for Easter and throughout April are listed on p.18. and if you would like to receive the link please contact Rev 'd Georgie on

georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920



Many thanks again to Jo Ferguson and her helper Tracey Carlisle for the thought provoking floral display in the church porch at Averham. Make sure you go and have a look before Easter.

Also for Averham, some good news as a planning application is currently with Newark & Sherwood District Council to resurface and light the path to the church and to install a composting w/c, this will allow us to use the church for community events, particularly in the evenings as this is currently difficult. We should hear the decision by mid April.

Meanwhile, at Kelham, some of you may have seen a news article on *East Midland Today* on 10 March about the ancient graffiti in the church. There's a follow-up item on the BBC News website

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-56339928>

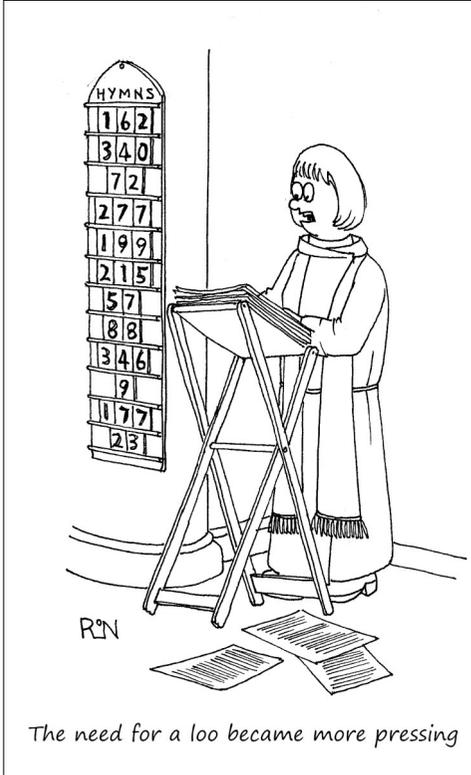
And we also made it into the *Daily Mail*, *Nottingham Post* and onto a couple of American websites. There'll be more on this in due course.



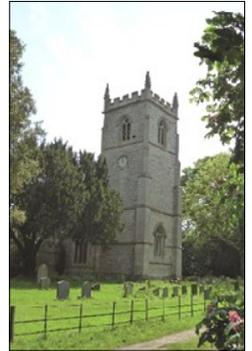
Happy Easter

Philip Staniforth and Jenny Quickmire

Please support Kelham and Averham Churches



We hope to meet you all back in church soon. Our church buildings have been a sign of hope for generations. We need to enable them to be signs of hope for the future and we will all need to be involved with that. You can make a simple donation to help support the churches by following the 'give a little' link or scanning the QR Code below.



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<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/ab066f56-6393-4d59-8c9f-813bd2ad1557>



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USEFUL CONTACTS

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES: please see the District Council website:

<https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/>

* * * * *

The Churches

Rev. Georgie Hadley, georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

Kelham: Church Warden, 01636 703289 (Philip Staniforth)

Treasurer: 07889 486260 (Steve Emeny)

Averham: Church Warden, (Vacant),

Treasurer: 01636 672640 (Hilary Snell)

Parochial Church Council: Secretary: 01636 816343 (Carole Binks)

* * * * *

AKS Parish Council: website <http://www.akspc.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home/>

Chairman: Andy Fereday, 0775 2265081; cllrfereday@gmail.com

Clerk: Jenny Cawkwell; 07563 639379; aksparishclerk@outlook.com

* * * * *

Gardening Club: Nigel Britton; 01636 700023 or 01636 812886

Walker's Group: Debs and Carla; 07974 957 684 or debs@hens-at-home.co.uk

Bell Ringers: Martin Cooper; 07810 658 627 or mlcooper2@gmail.com

Women's Institute: Angela Moore (President) angela@oranalysts.com
or Jenny Quickmire (Meetings Secretary) headbearsenior@gmail.com

* * * * *

PCSO contact details: Richard Dunn: 07595 074292

Staythorpe Power Station: Staythorpe@rwe.com; 01636 596900

Lathams' Farms: Steven Gill 07966 382781; Stuart Perkins 07818 171689

To report Potholes: 0300 500 80 80 / www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/roads/potholes/report-a-pothole

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If you think I've missed a useful contact, please get in touch:

editor.plough@hotmail.com