

The Pillertons Parish News ...
The Magazine for All
January and February 2024

Church services at St Mary's (www.stourdene.org)

Please check the church notice board for changes to service times, and the website for information about services in other benefice churches.

<i>Services at St Mary's</i>	
<i>January</i>	
Sun 7 th Jan	11.am C W Communion
Sun 14 th Jan	10.30 am Morning Worship
Sun 21 st Jan	8.30 am BCP at Pillerton Priors Village Hall
Sun 28 th Jan	10.30 am All age /family service
<i>February</i>	
Sun 4 th Feb	11.00 am Common Worship Communion
Sun 11 th Feb	10.30 am Morning Worship
Wed 14 th Feb	Ash Wednesday TBA
Sun 18 th Feb	8.30 am at Pillerton Priors Village Hall
Sun 25 th Feb	10.30 am All age / family service

The church has a card reader for donations. The reader is set at £5 and can be changed for any sum above this amount – please just tap for instant giving. Thank you.

Churchwardens' notes - Our Christmas services were all very well attended, with lots of families enjoying the carols and festive music. A big 'thank you' to all who helped arrange them and decorate the church so beautifully, and to Jonathan and Fiona for the churchyard tree. A collection in excess of £200 taken at the Christingle Crib Service and will be sent to the Church of England Children's Society to further their work. We were pleased to welcome members of the congregation from Butlers Marston to our Christmas Morning Communion where there was a pleasing attendance.

Family-Friendly Service: If your family enjoyed Christingle, then maybe you would enjoy our short family friendly services held at **10.30 am** on every **fourth** Sunday? These are often seasonally themed and include refreshments.

8.30 am Book of Common Prayer (BCP): In a bid to save energy, the BCP services on Sunday, 21st January and Sunday, 18th February will be held in **Pillerton Priors Small Hall**. These services may also prove more convenient for Pillerton Priors residents wishing to attend.

The First Thursday Cuppa Club: The Cuppa Club enjoyed a Christmas get-together in December. The meetings on 4th January and 1st February will again take place in Pillerton Priors small hall at 11.00am. The Cuppa Club welcomes anyone who would just like coffee, tea, and a chat for an hour or so in the warm, and we hope people from Priors will drop into the winter venue. No commitment is necessary. For details, please contact Jennifer on 01789 740 688. *Jeremy Percival and Jennifer Lewthwaite, Church Wardens*

Jottings from Hersey - The last of the Christmas festivities, Twelfth Night, approaches: time to take down the decorations and recycle the Christmas tree. This was when traditional Mummers Plays were enjoyed in the Pillertons. The plays – may be an early form of

pantomime - were based loosely on the legend of St George and the dragon. They were performed by a cast of strange, masked and fantastically costumed characters. They were intended to show the struggle between good and evil.

One of the old men, much loved in Pillerton, was John Webb, who died in 1925 having faithfully served the Mills family most of his life. He was a great singer with a wonderful falsetto voice. He always said he did not want a piano to drown his noise. Cecil Sharp, the noted collector of English folk songs, got the Warwickshire song “The mare and the foal” from him in 1911. Mr Webb was the last of the Mummings, and said his part was to enter first with a broom saying:

“A room, a room, a rousty touse,
I’ve brought my broom to sweep my house,
For me, and all my merry company.”

He did not know what a “rousty touse” meant.

A peaceful and Happy New Year from me. *Ros Williams*

Pillerton Hersey Parish Council - The date of our next ordinary meeting is Tuesday, 9th January. The meeting will start at 7pm. Agendas are posted on the village notice board next to the post box and on our website. Please check the agenda for the meeting venue.

The Parish Council have invested in a grit bin for the Oxhill Bridle road. Please contact the clerk by email (clerk.pillertonherseypc@outlook.com) if you notice an issue with the bin or more salt is required. This is for residents to use on the road when there are icy conditions.

Recently there have been reported incidents of dog attacks on wildlife and livestock. Incidents should be reported to the Police or Rural Crime team by calling 101. The Countryside Code outlines that dogs must be controlled to avoid disturbing farm animals and

wildlife. Farmers are, by law, entitled to destroy a dog that injures or worries their animals.

The Parish Council has received reports of overgrown hedges adjacent to roads and along footpaths causing safety concerns, so we urge you all to see if your hedge or overhanging vegetation next to your property needs cutting back now before the nesting season starts. This is a problem that obscures road users' views of potential dangers, causes an obstruction, and affects all road users – drivers, cyclists, horse riders and walkers. The owner or occupier of a property has a legal responsibility (Highways Act 1980) to ensure that the 'public highway' (defined by law as consisting of any verge, footway, carriageway, bridleway or footpath) is not obstructed by vegetation from their property. Cutting back should be done to a minimum width from the highway of 1.2m (or to your boundary which is the central growth line of a hedge or your boundary fence) and to a height of 5.2m (roads) or 2.5m (verge/path).

The date of our next ordinary meeting is Tuesday, 14th November at 7pm. Agendas are posted on the village notice board next to the post box and on our website. Please check the agenda for the meeting venue.

Thank you to everyone who attended our last meeting on 12th September. Pillerton Hersey and Pillerton Priors parish councils continue to collaborate on matters that affect both parishes.

To keep up to date with information and the latest news, please visit our website www.pillertonherseyipc.org.uk and follow our Facebook page (Pillerton Hersey Parish Council).

Pillerton Priors Parish Council - The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday, 17th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. At this meeting we will be setting the Parish Council precept for 2024/25. The agenda will be posted on the noticeboard

and on our website, www.pillertonpriors.com, a week before the meeting. All residents are welcome to attend.

If any Priors residents would like to be added to our email list to receive information from the Parish Council then please send your email address to pillertonpriors@gmail.com. *Sue Greenall, Clerk to Pillerton Priors Parish Council (pillertonpriors@gmail.com)*

Flowers for the church - This is a plea to ask if some kind folk would join the church flower rota. Due to various house moves, etc, our rota of volunteers is severely depleted! No particular skills are required, and if you cannot arrange flowers, providing a plant would be just as welcome. Please contact Fiona Young for more information, and if you would be willing to help (pillertonscoop@gmail.com). Thank you!

Carers4Carers at Kineton Village Hall -

Carers4Carers monthly meeting. Kineton Village Hall. Come along for refreshments and the chance to meet with other local carers.

Friday 26th January 10:30 - 12 noon - our informative speaker will be from Shipston Home Nursing.

Friday 23rd February 10:30 - 12 noon - find out how your GP surgery's social prescriber and carer champions can help you in your caring role.

If you would like to know more details, please get in touch. Your loved one will be welcome to join our Companionship Group while you attend the meeting. For more information about our support group for carers, including help with transport to/from meetings, phone Gillian on 07947 893504, email us at kcarers4carers@gmail.com or take a look at www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk.

Church flower arranging rota - Please prepare your flowers in time for the Sundays noted on the rota – if you cannot do so, please contact Fiona (0791 7771157). Thank you very much for your help!

7-14 Jan	Fiona Young	18 & 25 Feb	Fiona Young & Jennifer Lewthwaite
21 & 28 Jan	Jane Waters & Sue Ingall	3 & 10 Mar	Olga Brades & Gill Ison
4 & 11 Feb	Muriel Fidler & Susan Archer	17 & 24 Mar	Helen Marshall & Patricia Crookes

Church opening rota - The church opens only on Saturdays and Sundays during the winter.

6-7 Jan	J Lewthwaite	10-11 Feb	A Brooks
13-14 Jan	C Hitchman	17-18 Feb	J&F Young
20-21 Jan	P&S Kelsey	24-25 Feb	J Lewthwaite
27-28 Jan	G&C Thomas	2-3 Mar	C Hitchman
3-4 Feb	T&E Fillmore		

Church cleaning rota - The key is available from Fiona Young (The Old Vicarage), Jennifer Lewthwaite (Home Farm), or Elizabeth Fillmore (Church Barn).

1 Jan	Mr & Mrs Fillmore	5 Feb	Mrs Jean Young & Mrs Christine Hitchman
8 Jan	Mrs Waters & Mrs Dumas	12 Feb	Mrs Archer & Mrs Stephenson
15 Jan	Mrs Mary Hitchman & Mrs Eveleigh-Jones	18 Feb	Mrs Lewthwaite & Mrs Kelsey
22 Jan	Mrs Ison & Mrs Brades	26 Feb	Mr & Mrs Percival

Contact information for the clergy and associated individuals:

Associate Minister: *Rev'd Nicki Chatterton* Chat2rev.nicki@gmail.com
07769 871237; Benefice Secretary: *Jane Evans*,
janealisonevans@gmail.com; Churchwardens: *Jennifer Lewthwaite*,
Pollerton414@gmail.com 01789 740688; and, *Jeremy Percival*,
jehpercival@yahoo.com 01608 663932.

Please submit any news by Friday, 16th February for the next edition covering March and April 2024.