

*The Pillertons Parish News ...*  
*The Magazine for All*  
*May and June 2024*

***Church services at St Mary's*** ([www.stourdene.org](http://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.

<b><i>Services at St Mary's</i></b>	
<b><i>May</i></b>	
<b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	11.00am C W Communion
<b>Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	3.00pm Rogation, followed by tea in Pillerton Hersey
<b>Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.30am BCP Pentecost
<b>Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>	10.30am All age /family service Trinity Sunday
<b><i>June</i></b>	
<b>Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	11.00am Common Worship Communion
<b>Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am special D Day memorial service
<b>Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30am BCP
<b>Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	10.30am All age/Family Service
<b>Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	10.30am Benefice CW Communion, Newbold

***Churchwardens' notes*** - By the time you read this, **Reverend Nicki Chatterton** will be licensed as our new rector by the Bishop at a ceremony in Ettington Church. She and her husband Adrian are now living in Ettington vicarage. We are sure you will have the pleasure of meeting them both soon as they are out and about in the Stourdene Benefice. The Reverends David Jessett and Brian Russell will continue to support her. Please pray for Nicki and Adrian as her ministry begins in

our benefice.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting** took place on 28<sup>th</sup> April, with Jennifer and Jeremy re-elected as church wardens.

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> May ‘Rogation’** at 3.00 pm will be in **Pillerton Hersey**. There will be a leisurely stroll around the village for this traditional marking of the seasons and celebration of crops and new growth in our beautiful countryside. We will be ending at the church for some refreshments. Well behaved pets are also welcome.

**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30 am.** On 6<sup>th</sup> June, the nation will mark the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, the day in 1944 when the Operation - code named “Overlord” - commenced with the largest invasion fleet ever assembled, and that delivered some 156,000 allied troops onto the Normandy beaches in France on the first day. A fleet of over 5,000 naval vessels - including landing craft – were needed, and around 18,000 men dropped by parachute.

The nation will honour and remember in various ways all involved in that turning point in history. During our service on 9<sup>th</sup> June, we will remember their bravery and sacrifice. If you have personal memories of relations who served on D-Day, there will be an opportunity in the Service to share those memories. Everyone is welcome.

**“First Thursday Cuppa Club”** has welcomed several new members from Pillerton Priors. The **Cuppa Club** will take place on **Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May and Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June in the church, or in the churchyard if there is fine weather.**

**Fête on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June** will be held in the gardens of the Old Vicarage in Pillerton Hersey, by kind invitation of Jonathan and Fiona Young. If the weather is wet, the event will move to Priors Village Hall. This year, in the spirit of co-operation, the Fête will support not only the church, but also Pillerton Priors Village Hall which has a funding shortfall, and their committee will also kindly help out.

If you have any **prizes** for the grand draw, **donations** or **pledges** for the bottle or other stalls please could you pass them to Helen, Jennifer, or Jonathan and Fiona. Tickets for the **Grand Draw** will be distributed to

each household in plenty of time for you to complete. It would help us greatly if you could return these by the ***1st June*** so we can separate and fold the tickets in good time! The ticket price will be £1.

***The Lent Lunch*** was well supported with £135 of donations going to Christian Aid.

***Priors churchyard.*** A wheeled strimmer has been purchased to maintain the churchyard. Despite the rain, the churchyard has been cut twice and the mower has done a reasonable job considering that some areas had not been touched for over six months. We will continue to maintain the paths and areas that are visited regularly, but will leave some marked areas unmown to encourage wild flowers. We would still be grateful for any offers of help with this task and to establish a rota. The mower is light and easy to use but does need to be pushed!

***Grapevine and web site.*** The benefice Grapevine newsletter has been suspended for the time being, and details of services etc in our benefice are listed on the website [www.stourdene.com](http://www.stourdene.com). Nicki is updating the Grapevine, but it's 'work in progress,' and she asks for patience!

Jennifer [pillerton414@gmail.com](mailto:pillerton414@gmail.com) and Jeremy [jehpercival@yahoo.com](mailto:jehpercival@yahoo.com),  
Church Wardens

***The Fête - 8<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00pm*** - The Fête approaches and we are really grateful to everyone who has agreed to help. We again have a raffle, Pimms, teas, produce and other stalls, the Shipston Band, the dog show and as promised ... axe throwing! (and other junior games, thanks to the scouts). We are still looking for volunteers to man the book stall and potentially the barbeque – please let me know if you can help.  
Jonathan Young ([pillertonscoop@gmail.com](mailto:pillertonscoop@gmail.com))

***Village Hall Update*** - Many thanks to all who attended the Village Hall Bingo in April. It was a great afternoon, and congratulations to Alan Brooks for winning the top £80 bonus bingo round! An incredible £685 was raised for the Hall upkeep funds. We couldn't have put it on without the help of all the amazing Village bakers for their cakes, the Greenall family for running the tea and cake stall, all those who donated gifts for the raffle, and finally, Michael Neville, who did a

star turn as the caller. We will be holding another bingo event later in the Autumn.

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May**, when we will be hosting the **Village Hall AGM** from 19.30. This important event is open to all, and we encourage as many of you as possible to attend. We will provide a comprehensive summary of the Hall's activities over the past 12 months and discuss our achievements, challenges, and plans for the coming year. Join us for a glass of wine or a soft drink as we reflect on our community's progress.

On **Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May**, the Village Hall will be open from 9.30 to 13.00 to celebrate the **Charles Ivin Memorial Footpath Walk** that links Pillerton Hersey and Pillerton Priors. A leaflet and map of the walk will be available from the Hall, and we hope villagers will drop in while they are completing the loop. Tea, coffee, and bacon butties will be available. Do pop in and say hello!

Our annual **Village Picnic** on the Hall grounds is on **Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July**. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Finally, many thanks to all those who volunteer their time to help the Hall - we could not do it without you.

*Friends of St. Mary's update* - As you all know, we said goodbye to Alice and James Kerr at the end of 2023 and among their many contributions, they were stalwarts of the Friends (which raises money for the upkeep of the church infrastructure in Hersey and Priors, through the August teas and quizzes). We are delighted, however, that Debs Brotherton and Alex Cameron have agreed to join the Committee, averting an imminent collapse in cake supply. Thanks to these various events, the Friends have been able to contribute to the magnificently repaired shed in Hersey churchyard and a new heavy-duty mower for Priors churchyard. Replacements for the felled flagpole in St Mary's Churchyard and the unstable (borderline lethal) tables and chairs for the teas are also contemplated. Thank you to everyone supporting our events and if anyone else would like to join the committee, please contact Fiona at [pillertonscoop@gmail.com](mailto:pillertonscoop@gmail.com).

*Jottings from Hersey* - While searching, with a torch, for slugs and snails, I found and photographed a newt outside my front door recently. Not “great crested”, but nevertheless a newt!

Like frogs and toads, newts do no harm. Not so with our other visitors – roe deer. A menace. Charming at first, but with a predilection for roses and new shoots on other trees and shrubs and, in this excessively wet and warm weather, they are poaching the lawns. There is no way for us to keep them out, so I resort to chicken wire wrapped around more precious species. They are illusive creatures, mainly here over night, but we occasionally see them and can certainly track the cloven hoof prints. As for other wildlife; at dusk owls have begun to quarter the fields in search of food, and hoot very loudly at night. A few weeks ago, I was astonished to find the remains of a bat at the base of a vent in the house.

From 2 April, 2024, new planning law makes biodiversity net gain (BNG) a condition of planning permission, requiring all developers to demonstrate how they will deliver a 10% improvement to the biodiversity value. It is hard to see how development on greenfield sites in the Pillertons can mitigate any loss of the existing, rich and precious habitat. *Ros Williams*

*Pillerton Hersey Parish Council* - The date of our annual general meeting is Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May, to be followed by an ordinary meeting. 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.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Annual Parish meeting on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April. The presenters reports and slides will be available on our website.

Stratford District Council is contracted to cut the verges within the 30mph village boundary, and we have asked the SDC contractors to follow ‘No Mow May’ in Pillerton Hersey. By cutting less and later, we can let wild plants get a head start, helping not only the wildflowers and fungi, but also the bees, birds and butterflies. With this wildflower-focused approach, we are being sensible about safety, and our verges and green spaces will be framed with a shorter cut where needed. More information about ‘No Mow May’ can be found at the link below.

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

To keep up to date with information and the latest news, please visit our website [www.pillertonherseypc.org.uk](http://www.pillertonherseypc.org.uk), and follow our Facebook page (Pillerton Hersey Parish Council). Our clerk can be contacted by email [clerk.pillertonherseypc@outlook.com](mailto:clerk.pillertonherseypc@outlook.com)

***Pillerton Priors Parish Council*** - The Pillerton Priors Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May, commencing at 7pm in the Village Hall. The Assembly will be followed by the 211<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting. All Priors residents are welcome to attend both meetings.

If any Priors residents would like to receive the Parish Council's email updates, please send your email address to [pillertonpriors@gmail.com](mailto:pillertonpriors@gmail.com). Residents who currently receive the emails do not need to apply. *Sue Greenall, Clerk to Pillerton Priors Parish Council*  
([pillertonpriors@gmail.com](mailto:pillertonpriors@gmail.com))

***Stour Singers*** - The Spring Concert will be held in **St Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour, on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm**. The programme includes Haydn's Nelson Mass, Mozart's Dixit and Laudate Dominum, and Purcell's Te Deum and Jubilate. Richard Emms will conduct the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Orchestra, with Louise Wayman (soprano), Judith Le Breuille (mezzo soprano), Matthew Pochin (tenor), and James Birchall (bass-baritone), by arrangement with Ann Ferrier Artists. You can book tickets at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/stour-singers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stour-singers), or purchase them on the door. We do hope you can join us.

***Carers4Carers at Kineton Village Hall*** - Come along and meet other local carers. There will be refreshments and biscuits! If you bring your loved one, they can join our Companionship Group while you attend the meeting. **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 10:30 - 12 noon:** This month Anita, a local massage therapist, will be on hand to offer some TLC. **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 10:30 - 12:30:** Speaker to be confirmed. For more information about our support group for carers, or to get help with transport to / from meetings, please call Gillian on 07947 893504, email us at [kcarers4carers@gmail.com](mailto:kcarers4carers@gmail.com) or take a look at [www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk).

*Churchyard mowing rota* - Please mow as close as you can to the end of your assigned week, and do inform Tim Fillmore of any rota swaps so he can keep track of the shed key. Thank you!

<i>29 Apr-5 May</i>	Robert Archer	<i>10-16 June</i>	Glan Thomas
<i>6-12 May</i>	Jonathan Chesters	<i>17-23 June</i>	Nigel Walker
<i>13-19 May</i>	Peter Williams	<i>24-30 June</i>	Richard Jennings
<i>20-26 May</i>	Steve Sherbourne	<i>1-7 July</i>	Tim Newcombe
<i>27 May-2 June</i>	Pete Kelsey	<i>8-14 July</i>	Terry Hitchman
<i>3-9 June</i>	David Clews	<i>15-20 July</i>	William Forsyth

*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!

<i>5-12 May</i>	Helen Marshall & Patricia Crookes	<i>16-23 June</i>	Fiona Young & Debs Brotherton
<i>19-26 May</i>	Gill Ison & Olga Brades	<i>30 June-7 July</i>	Muriel Fidler & Rosie F-Dilke
<i>2-9 June</i>	Jane Waters & Susan Archer	<i>14-21 July</i>	Jennifer Lewthwaite & Fiona Young

*Church opening rota* - The church opens daily during summer. Week commencing:

<i>6 May</i>	G & C Thomas	<i>24 June</i>	G&C Thomas
<i>13 May</i>	T&E Fillmore	<i>1 July</i>	T&E Fillmore
<i>20 May</i>	A Brooks	<i>8 July</i>	A Brooks
<i>27 May</i>	J&F Young	<i>15 July</i>	J&F Young
<i>3 June</i>	J Lewthwaite	<i>29 July</i>	C Hitchman
<i>10 June</i>	C Hitchman	<i>5 August</i>	P&S Kelsey
<i>17 June</i>	P&S Kelsey	<i>12 August</i>	G&C Thomas

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

<b><i>6<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>	Mrs Lewthwaite & Mrs Kelsey	<b><i>10<sup>th</sup> June</i></b>	Mrs Waters & Mrs Dumas
<b><i>13<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>	Mr & Mrs Percival	<b><i>17<sup>th</sup> June</i></b>	Mrs M Hitchman & Mrs Eveleigh-Jones
<b><i>20<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>	Mrs Fidler & Mrs Curtlin	<b><i>24<sup>th</sup> June</i></b>	Mrs Ison & Mrs Brades
<b><i>27<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>	Mrs Williams & Ms Brotherton	<b><i>1<sup>st</sup> July</i></b>	Mrs Jean Young & Mrs C Hitchman
<b><i>3<sup>rd</sup> June</i></b>	Mrs Marshall & Mrs Crookes	<b><i>8<sup>th</sup> July</i></b>	Mrs Archer & Mrs Stephenson

***Please submit any news by Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> June for the next newsletter that will cover July and August (pillertonscoop@gmail.com).***