

KEEVIL PARISH NEWS

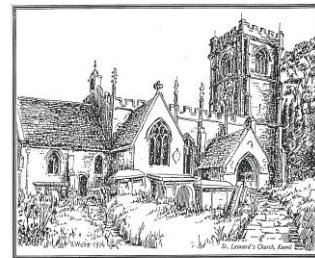


Regrettably we have been unable to get a hard copy of this magazine printed and out to you this month. Information shown is at the date the magazine was due to be printed.

APRIL 2020

ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, KEEVIL

APRIL 2020



Reverend Rob Thomas
The Rectory
Union Street
Trowbridge
BA14 8RU

Tel: 01225 350647

e-mail: rob.thomas@cantab.net

Churchwardens: Gill Gosling Tel :870553

Gillian Walden Tel: 870383

www.keevilvillage.com/information/stleonardschurch

Rector's Letter: from the Archbishops

The following article, written by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in connection with their Day of Prayer and Action on 22 March, was published nationally this week. In the extraordinary circumstances in which we find ourselves, I commend it to you all.



Rob Thomas

We are good in this country at holding our nerve and steadying one another. But a pandemic is something else; you can't touch the virus, see it or even know where it is. It may be spread by those who don't even know they are infected. It is very serious for some, very mild for many. Nevertheless, the effect of the virus could drive us apart. To some extent it must do.

When someone we care for has it they must be isolated. That is particularly so for older people and the most vulnerable, the ones by whose bed we want to sit, and hold their hand, express our love with touch. As in epidemics throughout history the effects of this fear disturb us very deeply, and dread comes upon us.

The answer to conquering this fear is love that we receive. The tears of the child wakened by a bad dream are stilled by the embrace of someone who loves them. The uncertainty of someone of great age is often quietened with a familiar voice. The words of a friend can enable us to challenge the fears of illness to reduce our sense of threat. The UK has a culture of caring, expressed through the NHS, in Social Care, and in many other ways.

All of us, now, face a common threat, COVID-19. The question is, how do we find hope in these difficult circumstances? Hope comes both from what we can do and who we are.

We know that everything possible is being done to ensure that we can meet the challenge, in the NHS and across society. The struggle will bring with it

many practical difficulties, from the closing of sports grounds to meeting the needs of those in isolation. It may mean some very hard decisions have to be taken about who is treated, as in Italy where they have had to decide not to treat some patients.

We must not be suspicious or indulge in conspiracy theories. Those who are leading our country are seeking the best advice and can be trusted to do all they can. NHS staff and scientists our Government can call upon are amongst the best anywhere in the world. They have no agenda other than the wellbeing of all.

We are capable of bearing the truth. Honesty strengthens our hopes. We need to listen to the science. Through listening we already know how to reduce the risk: washing our hands meticulously; self-isolating even if we are not ill but have come into contact with the virus; resisting the temptation to go to a doctor's surgery where we might infect others; resisting the temptation, too, to panic buy.

Above all we must look after one another, knowing that in an uncertain world with a new virus we are best protected with honesty, compassion and care.

Remember the example of the Good Samaritan, the story in the Bible, which speaks about the need to care for the other and ensure we notice those who are in distress even if they are those who are often invisible to us.

We can find hope and courage in the goodly and wholesome spirit that is in so many ways common to all human beings, whether they are people of Faith or None. We must distinguish between a healthy fear - the beginning of wisdom, which prompts us to follow advice, and to care for those at risk - and unhealthy fear which is driven by pride, leading us to act, selfishly, doing harm to ourselves and others.

With the gift of truth and hope, we can care for one another lovingly, using words if not touch because of self-isolation. We can accept advice without grumbling, out of concerns for others, even if we do not see ourselves as being at risk.

We can go out of our way to be attentive to neighbours and to those who are vulnerable. We can shop for one another. We can help at a food bank. We can volunteer in community service. We can support those who struggle to feed their children when there are no free school lunches.

Finally, there is one more thing that everyone can do. Something we would expect from two Archbishops. We make no apology for saying "Pray!" Even if you scarcely can imagine how, pray! Pray for yourself, for those you love, for friends and neighbours.

Three thousand years ago a young King, of shepherd background, called David, wrote a song. It was a hit at his time and has remained so ever since. That is quite a success, even the greatest of our stars of today would feel that

three thousand years at the top was quite an achievement. It's the Shepherd song, "The Lord's my Shepherd".

We sing it in our common worship, at weddings and at funerals. It starts with hope but speaks of darkness as well as life. The singer begins with joy: God, the divine Shepherd-King, leads his people to nourishment and safety but in the song the scene quickly darkens.

The path along which he goes becomes a valley of the shadow of death. But the shepherd's 'rod' and 'staff', implements that prod and guide the sheep, provides the comfort that comes from divine guidance.

Find Psalm 23 and read it aloud. The Shepherd's song is about real life, not an idealised picture. It speaks of suffering and facing enemies.

Whether we are confident and brave, or doubt-filled and fearful, God is the source of love and hope. Why not say the Lord's prayer – "Our Father who art in heaven" when you wash your hands. It takes more than the recommended 20 seconds.

So, we are inviting you to join us from today, for 7 days, in praying the Lord's prayer every time you wash your hands. Yes – for seven days! And then pray throughout the day for healing for those who are sick with COVID-19; and that God will heal us from the fear which will prevent us from working together.

May the wisdom of God lead the doctors, nurses and researchers, that they may know God's protection; and that God will guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of justice and peace. And that the love of Christ will surround us and take away our anxiety and give us His peace. May He hear us and heal us.

With the hope that you will find, then act. Where someone is ill, encourage them. Where someone dies, remember that, as the foundation of our faith for over two thousand years, we have believed that God shared the pains and fears of our lives in Jesus Christ, that He faced death, but overcame it. And He is with the bereaved.

Where is our hope? It is in the end in the love and faithfulness of a God whom we may have forgotten, but whose action and character is expressed in millions of acts of love by every person in this country. This is the God who we see in Jesus Christ, who called himself the Good Shepherd. Acts of love are the normal reaction to those in need. They are a reflection of the God who is our Shepherd.

We have a stronghold and refuge, we do not depend on ourselves alone, for God keeps us so that as the Shepherd song ends: "surely goodness and mercy shall follow me, all the days of my life".

KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Prime Minister's statement on Monday 16 March marked the start of an unprecedented national response to the challenge of the coronavirus. It was immediately clear that none of our lives would be able to continue in the normal way. For the Church we were faced with a challenge and a new opportunity. Could we learn new ways of worshipping and ministering while dispersed, and in many cases, isolated? Starting on that day, we've been issuing a series of email briefings from me to our congregations in St Leonard's and St James' and to anyone else who'd be interested to receive them. They describe what we're doing, they provide useful information, and they are, we hope, a source of comfort and encouragement to everyone. If you're not already receiving these and you'd like to, please let Janet Hopkins know (janet.hopkins1@btinternet.com) and she'll be pleased to add you to the list. If you don't use email but you'd like not to be left out, let Janet know (01380 870417) and we can arrange for a paper copy to be sent to you.

Every blessing

Rob

FLOWERS IN CHURCH

Rachel has experienced problems in buying Lilies to go in church in memory of loved ones. We were planning to do three arrangements to be put in church in the hope that church may be open some time over Easter for prayer. However none of this is now possible.

We will obviously refund your money, but it may be that you'd like us to keep it and we can choose another time in the future (maybe Christmas?) when we could buy stems of another flower for display.

Flower Arrangers : Obviously with the church not now opening as planned we will not be doing Easter arrangements and will suspend flowers in church for the foreseeable future.

BANGERS AND MASH LUNCH

We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who came along to enjoy the bangers and mash lunch on March 7th and everyone who helped Geoff and I make it so successful.

We raised the magnificent sum of £570 towards St Leonard's Church funds.

Geoff and Debbie

CHURCH FETE

Sadly, I must advise you that this year's Church Fete due to be held on 6th June has been cancelled because of the Corona Virus. It was hoped that it could be deferred but that seems to be impractical so we shall have to look forward to organising the 2021 Fete!

Norman Owen

STOREHOUSE FOOD BANK has already experienced a considerable drop in donations in this uncertain time. Please, if and when you can, continue to give food and toiletries items. At the moment, they are particularly in need of shampoo and shower gel. Unnecessary over buying and hoarding has caused problems in the stores, but we are assured that if people are more sensible with their shopping, the suppliers have enough food to go round. Please think of the more vulnerable members of the public and those who will not be able to work, as these people will be needing our support.

You can place items in the box which is in the porch at St Leonard's Church.

KEEVIL W.I.

Keevil W.I. will not be holding their meeting on Wednesday 8th of April due to Coronavirus. We had hoped to hold an afternoon of tea, cake and memorabilia to commemorate V.E. Day on May 9th but this has been postponed until further notice.

Our A.G.M. was held on March 11th in the village hall followed by a discussion about climate change and several green hearts were made and put on the notice board. We also discussed the possibility of making small differences in our everyday lives by using greener cleaning products and trying "old fashioned" ways of cleaning.

The village is going to be very quiet for a few weeks and opportunities for socialising will be sadly missed, please look out for people who might be feeling lonely or people who may need some help during this time.

Take care Keevil.

Jan Maskrey, President

Keevil Parish Council - COVID-19

We have teamed up with Neighbourhood Watch to co-ordinate help for residents, and your NHW forms will be delivered shortly.

However to avoid any delay we want to ensure that anyone who has to self-isolate at any time can seek help by contacting any of the below Parish Councillors, who will arrange for a Volunteer to contact you to help with shopping, prescription collecting etc.

We have volunteers ready to go but if you wish to add your name to the list of volunteers, please let us know.

Please follow the Government advice and stay safe.

Keevil Parish Council

Ginny Sherman

Tel: 01380 870009 & 07951505773 Email:
ginnyshermankeevilpc@gmail.com

Suzanne Wickham

Tel: 01380 870476 & 07967213336 Email:
suzannewickhamkeevilpc@gmail.com

Simon Newton

Tel: 01380 870747 & 07721444796 Email:
simonnewtonkeevilpc@gmail.com

Malcolm Cupis

Tel: 01380 871522 & 07968030830 Email:
malcolm.keevilpc@outlook.com

KEEVIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2nd MARCH 2020

Present: Cllrs G. Sherman (Chair), S. Wickham, R. Meatyard, S. Newton and J. Goodwin.

In attendance: 24 Members of the public

Consultation Period: -

A member of the public commented that, although the Parish Council agenda had been published in good time and had included the planning application 20/00837/FUL, the Council should have been more transparent regarding the change to discussing planning applications during Parish Council meetings or meetings in the Village Hall.

Another member of the public advised that the plans for application 20/00837/FUL were only available on the Wiltshire Council website from Tuesday 25th February '20.

In response to a question re the removal of the sheds at the school, Cllr. Sherman reported that, as far as she understood, they would either be moved during the Easter or summer holiday.

Apologies for Absence Cllr. Banfield

Declarations of Interest Cllr. Sherman declared an interest in Co-option.

Vacancy Co-option

There were three applicants. Jim Sherman withdrew. Two applicants made their presentations and Malcolm Cupis was co-opted to Keevil Parish Council.

Updates

a. Trees at Martins Lane. The Clerk is to contact P. Millard at Wiltshire Council.

b. Village Gates. Cllr. Banfield and Cllr. Sherman had met with Mark Stansby, Senior Traffic Engineer, Highways. There are suitable sites for village gates, particularly with the use of single ones. Cllr. Banfield and the Speeding and Parking Working Party will be discussing the issue and report to the Council.

c. Training. Cllr. Goodwin confirmed that she had set up a separate Council email account and will provide the Clerk with the details to enable all the new accounts to be published. The Clerk had created a Parish Council email account.

Wiltshire Council

a. Cllr. Seed reported on the Wiltshire Council Tax element which will increase by 3.99% and an increase of £10 per year for a Band D property Wiltshire Police Precept.

b. The damage opposite No 81 is less than a foot from the edge of the ditch and he will pursue the solution.

c. He also reported that he had a meeting with the Trust representative on parking around the School which he will take up with Wiltshire Council.

d. It had been reported that Wiltshire Council would not collect rubbish that Parishes pick up on their Great British Spring Clean. Cllr. Seed had approached the Leader of the Council and this decision was reversed. Cllr. Sherman thanked Cllr. Seed for his help in this matter.

Police Matters No reported incidents for Keevil.

Planning Summary

Received

Decision

20/00098/TCA	Trees	23/12/19	3/2/20
19/11023/TCA	Trees	4/2/20	24/2/20
19/11844/FUL	Land behind 63,64,65 Martins Rd	17/1/20	2/3/20
19/12129/FUL	Land adjacent Church Farm	16/1/20	Withdrawn
20/00837/FUL	3 Martins Lane	21/2/20	24/3/20

Details can be found on the Wiltshire Council Planning Portal

Location of future Planning Meetings

The Council had received advice from the Senior Solicitor, Legal Services, Wiltshire Council that the Parish Council should consider planning applications at our normal scheduled meetings, and where not possible due to response dates, hold correctly constituted meetings in the village hall.

Cllr. Meatyard proposed a 3-month trial period for the meetings in this way and this was seconded by Cllr Sherman and agreed unanimously. At the end of this period, a Councillor with a responsibility for planning could be appointed to lead discussions. Cllr. Wickham also said that it is every Councillor's responsibility to have studied documents pertaining to an application and, if necessary, visit the site before the Parish Council meeting. The Chair suspended Standing Orders. Cllr. Cupis left the meeting, declaring an interest.

To consider Planning Application 20/00837/FUL

Consultation Period:-

There were a number of concerns expressed by various members of the public.

The public session closed and the Parish Council meeting re-commenced.

Councillors then discussed the application and the response was as follows:-

Keevil Parish Council objects to the application as the wall of the extension is too close to the neighbour's property and would affect their daylight and is an overdevelopment of the site. This was proposed by Cllr. Meatyard and seconded by Cllr Goodwin and agreed unanimously.

VE Day Celebrations

Cllr. Sherman proposed the planting of a tree at a cost of up to £200. This was seconded by Cllr Wickham and agreed unanimously.

It was also proposed to purchase a bench and plaque. Cllr. Sherman showed Councillors one example, at a cost of £583 plus VAT. It was agreed that Cllr. Goodwin would bring alternative examples to the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Planning Reports from Working Parties

Transport/Bus – Cllr. Newton.

There was a disappointing response to the 'Help a friend' pilot scheme for the drivers with only 2 more parishioners expressing interest, with a pool of 8-10 drivers, but they had no one put their hand up to say they need help. They will continue to advertise and need to confirm whether DBS checks are required and investigate insurance cover. The system will include ringing a list of the 8-10 drivers to establish availability. There will be no request to the Council.

Parking/Speeding – Cllr. Banfield

Nothing to report. Next meeting of the Working Party would be in March.

Roads, Verges, Rights of Way – Cllr. Wickham

Footpaths.

The group initially began a walking survey of all our Parish footpaths and quickly identified areas that needed work to improve footpath signage, repair stiles, cut back vegetation, and address specific areas of danger. The group have worked with Paul Millard, Wiltshire Council Rights of Way Officer and have made many improvements with stiles being replaced or repaired, agreement with land owners to improve the footpath and with Jeremy Cottle in Steeple Ashton, to move an electric fence, allow steps to be cut into a steep bank and also to keep vegetation cut back to keep the path safe. The group do not anticipate any cost for Keevil Parish Council as Wiltshire Council has indicated that they will pick up the cost of materials and the work involved, possibly with the assistance of The Ramblers' Association. There is still work to do and members of the group are planning regular 'working party walks' as soon as the weather improves to check and maintain our most well used footpaths, throughout the summer and autumn.

Verges

There is a Wiltshire Council programme for 'Verge improvement' which is accessed via the Area Board. This may well help with places like Martins Road and parts of Main Street. This entails hard core being placed on the edge of the road surface which has been severely eroded. Other measures could include full repair with soil and seed but with poles placed at the road edge to prevent damage while the grass takes root. This may require a contribution from Keevil Parish Council for matched funding. It is not practical to consider any of this work until the spring or summer when the weather should improve. The group could consider a programme of education to highlight parking and driver behaviour, as there are many actions that would very quickly undo any repair work. The village magazine, website and school notices could assist to pass this message on. The verge opposite Wisteria Cottage on Main Street was reported to Wiltshire Council in January and Jonathan Seed is taking up the case to organise an urgent repair, due to the danger that a vehicle could fall into the stream. The working party have achieved a lot of improvements; however footpaths and verges will always need attention.

Housing and Development – Cllr. Sherman.

Cllr. Sherman presented the Final Working Group Report. The Working Party has looked at the Village Survey responses in detail, as requested, and these are the recommendations:

1. 90% of respondents feel very strongly/strongly about 'The preservation of natural habitats and local wildlife. The Working Party recommends that the Parish Council encourage individuals to consider planting trees, shrubs, wild flowers etc. to promote wildlife conservation. The Working Party recommends that the Parish Council explores the planting of trees on areas on the perimeter of the airfield (map provided by the MOD). An offer of land for a Forest School has been made to the school so it is suggested that this will enable the Parish Council to assess the resources and commitment needed

for planting and maintenance. The Parish Council should also explore the grants available for the purchase of trees.

2. 90% of respondents strongly agree/agree that 'Future development in the parish should be in keeping with the existing landscape and character setting.' 80% of respondents strongly agree/agree that 'We should strengthen our existing protection for the conservation of the landscape.' 90% of respondents feel very strongly/strongly about 'The protection of Keevil's conservation areas and historic buildings.' 71.2% of respondents see the need for housing development within the village, but of a small number of smaller houses/affordable housing/downsizing. The Working Party recommends that the Parish Council seriously considers the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan to help decide where and what type of development should happen in our parish. The Parish Council should explore the funding available for this.

3. The Working Party recommends that the Parking and Speeding Working Party should consider using a small area of land off Pyatts Corner/Butts Lane for parking – as identified on the MOD map, adjacent to 37 Pyatts Corner.

Rural Housing Needs Survey

The Chair recommended that Keevil should have a rural housing needs survey completed.

It was agreed that the Clerk should explore the procedure involved.

Playing Field

The Council thanked the Shed for the swift removal of the dead trees including those on the Banwell plot.

Following the RoSPA report, the balance beam has to be removed. Cllr. Banfield to ask the Shed if they can do this.

The Litter bin that was the subject of an arson attack has not been repaired. Cllr. Banfield is chasing Wickstead for a site visit to look at 2 pieces of equipment on the bike trail.

Cllr. Banfield is looking at options for the cost of replacing the 'baby' swings.

Highways

Cllr. Goodwin advised that the Parish Steward had repaired some potholes.

Keevil School

The next meeting is on 24th March 2020. Cllr. Sherman asked if any Councillor had any issue they would like raised.

WiFi in the Village Hall

Cllr. Sherman is to report the Parish Council replies.

Financial Statement 2019-2020.

The Clerk advised on the finance reports which showed an under spend of £370.

Bank Accounts

Opening Balance on 1st April 2019 £13070.58

Closing Balance on 2nd March 2020 £13441.07

Donations

Councillors reviewed the Donations summary. The following was proposed and approved unanimously.

Bobby Van Trust	£30	Carer Support	£30
Alzheimers Support	£30	Wiltshire Search and Rescue	£30

Cheque Approval

Keevil Village Hall	£11.00
Clerk's Salary	£454.55
HMRC	£100.60
Clerk's Expenses	£25.33
Keevil Accountancy Ltd	£25.00
Data Protection Parish Council	£40.00
Data Protection Neighbourhood Watch	£40.00
Donation - Keevil Village Hall	£200.00
Donation - Keevil Parish Magazine	£100.00
Donation – St. Leonard's Church	£200.00
TOTAL	£1196.48 VAT £0.00

Standing Orders/Financial Regulations.

Councillors agreed to note that there were no changes to the Standing Orders/Financial Regulations.

Appointment of Clerk

The Chair announced that Richard Culverhouse had been appointed as the new Clerk from 1st April 2020 and thanked him for attending tonight's meeting.

Exemption for Small Councils to employ External Auditors

It was proposed to approach the internal audit process as the previous year. This was agreed unanimously.

It was proposed to employ the external auditor for the year 2019-2020 and this was agreed unanimously.

Any Other Competent Business

a. Cllr. Meatyard reported that a delivery vehicle had used Towmead Lane and got stuck. Cllr. Sherman would contact the Senior Traffic Officer to investigate the erection of a sign at the entrance to Towmead Lane to explain that the byway is not suitable for heavy traffic.

b. Cllr, Goodwin agreed to complete the Green Open Space Survey for the parish.

The date of the next PC Meeting is 4th May 2020 and will include the Annual Parish Meeting which will start at 7:00 p.m.

The Minutes of the Parish Council are available at the following meeting of the Parish Council or alternatively copies are available from the Clerk on request or they can be downloaded from the Keevil Village web site. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can make comments prior to the Parish Council meeting commencing.

Richard Mills, Clerk to the Council
email: richardj39@hotmail.co.uk

You can download a copy of these minutes from
<https://keevilvillage.com/parish-council/minutes-agendas/>

DAMAGED VERGES

Many verges in Keevil have been eroded due to vehicles either pulling in to park, or having to drive too close into the verge because of parking vehicles on the opposite carriageway.

We have areas in the village where the kerb is so badly eroded that there is a significant gap between the edge of the road and the reduced verge.

There are two forms of repair that we can consider, either to fill in the gap between road edge and reduced verge with hardcore, or to rebuild verges with soil and seed, this option would also require some barrier such as temporary post to protect the verge until the grass is established. Grants for this work may be available from Melksham Area Board and we continue to work with Wiltshire Council Highways Department to seek the best resolution.

As a Parish Council we want to instigate a programme of repair, however for any repairs to remain intact we all need to be aware of how best to protect our verges.

Driver behaviour will have a huge impact on how successful any repair work will be. We do appreciate that it isn't only villagers that use our roads, but the majority of those parking are either residents, or those involved with the school. Driving and specifically parking carefully will ensure that any repairs have a chance to remain intact.

Below are some things that we could all consider to help protect our verges.

- 1 Do not pull in so tight to the kerb that your wheels are off the existing tarmac.
- 2 Take extra care driving into or reversing into a space between other vehicles.
- 3 Slow down when negotiating around parked cars.
- 4 Avoid parking against a high bank if you cannot get out of your car without leaving it too far into the carriageway.

If we can repair our verges and keep them in good condition, it will make the village a more attractive place and keep a significant amount of mud off of the road.

Keevil Parish Council

KEEVIL WALKING GROUP

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic all future walks have been suspended.

We will re-commence our walking group when it is safe to do so.

Rachel and Tony Howe

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak is a rapidly changing situation, however, one thing remains clear in the last few days: the importance of effective social distancing and the avoidance of crowds, groups or gatherings, especially for vulnerable adults. Here's the Government advice. and the Ramblers' Association are currently advising against all group led walks until the end of May.

Like it or not, most of us fall into the vulnerable category, either because of our age, or underlying conditions, or both, so the advice should be taken seriously. Solo walks remain highly recommended, but in a group walk, when we naturally want to talk to each other, it will be hard for us to maintain the minimum 2 metres distance from one another. And anyone vulnerable shouldn't be car-sharing.

ON A HAPPIER NOTE!

Belated happy birthday wishes to Una Woods-Hopps who reached the wonderful age of 100 on 23rd February.

Congratulations Una on this wonderful achievement and best wishes from everyone in Keevil

FAUSTUS CONCERT AT KEEVIL VILLAGE HALL

This folk event has been postponed from Saturday 18th April 2020.

The concert has now been re-scheduled to **SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER 2020** at Keevil Village Hall commencing at 7.45 p.m.

This, of course remains subject to any advice/regulations relating to the COVID-19 virus.

All tickets purchased for the April event have been transferred to the new date of Saturday 17th October 2020.

If you have purchased tickets and do not wish this to happen, then please contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Janet/Norman – 01380 870417

Rachel/Tony – 01380 870661



KEEVIL LITTER PICK

25 willing volunteers turned out on the morning of Saturday 14th March to clean up the lanes in and around Keevil as part of the Great British Spring Clean.

The forecast was dry but we did have a few light showers. They didn't spoil the 'fun', however, and the general consensus was that there was less rubbish around than previous years – maybe people are getting the message ??

We found a few qwerky items including a complete vacuum cleaner (we didn't check whether it worked!) and a skull (badger ?) that will go on John Tuckers grizzly shelf!

Many of you will have seen the resulting pile of around 40 black bags at Cold Harbour.

Many thanks to all who came out and got stuck in, particularly to Alison Rasey for bringing a sack-load of litter picks and bag hoops – we couldn't have done it without the kit !



In previous years, I have thanked Wiltshire Council for their help and encouragement, but this year, they were conspicuous by their lack of assistance. In the first place they announced that they wouldn't be able to collect the rubbish and would we put it in our own bins or take it to a recycling centre ! Then, having capitulated they reluctantly announced they would pick bags up on one day only – Friday 20th March. (Hence our rather hurried arrangements). Now it seems they are going to pick them up on Monday 16th March, which will at least mean fewer days to attract the fly-tippers !

Let's hope next year they will get back to making it easier for Council Tax payers to give their own time and effort to making the place tidier!

Paul Lenaerts, Keevil Community Shed



LATEST AT KEEVILVILLAGE.COM...

It goes without saying that COVID-19 has changed all our lives the last few weeks, and will continue to do so for quite some time. We've added a page to the website with links to national and local advice, and obviously we are updating information from our Emergency Group, Parish Council, and NHW, as well as from organisers of village events, as soon as it comes in.

The best way of keeping up with changes is to sign up to the BUZZ – all you have to do is enter your email address where it says FOLLOW THE BUZZ on the home page, then confirm when the system emails you back to authenticate, and you're done. We don't hold your email, it stays in the system, it just means when we make a new post, you get an email to tell you.

There is also now a KEEVIL VILLAGE Facebook Group which will act as a real-time message board for villagers of Keevil and their families, wherever they are. Come join the discussion!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/keevilvillage/>

FOLLOW THE BUZZ

Enter your email address to receive notifications of new BUZZ posts, then press the blue button
We'll never share your data with anyone else
and you can unsubscribe any time.

JOIN THE KEEVIL BUZZ

Bob & Sarah

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic the following events scheduled to be held in the Village have been cancelled or postponed to a date to be determined later in the year

18th April 'Faustus' folk trio

23rd April Keevil Community Amenities Trust AGM

23rd April Village Hall AGM

8th May Pub Night (Fun Committee)

9th May VE Day Tea Party

16th/17th May School Scarecrow Trail

6th June Church Fete

Tea and Chat, Coffee at 13 Martins Lane, Craft, Bellringing, W.I. Zumba, Yoga, Singing, Mobile Library, S.A. films (and probably others I've missed!) also suspended. Alternative arrangements may be made for the church APCM.

Keevil Post Office will be closed for the foreseeable future. She will keep Steeple Ashton open as long as she can – as long as the shop is open. Wednesdays 9.30 am -1.30pm

STEEPLE ASHTON VILLAGE SHOP

As many of you are probably aware by now, from Monday 23rd March we have made a few changes to improve and expand the service the shop provides to help you in these difficult and uncertain times. Please rest assured that the shop will remain open and continue to support all our lovely customers in the months to come.

Collection and Delivery

From Monday we will be offering a choice of either a self-collection or delivery service. You will be able to phone in or email your order to the shop by **2.30 p.m.** and can pick up from the Parish Council office (side door on the right hand side of the shop), or have a delivery to your home that afternoon. Card payments will be processed over the phone or cash payments accepted on collection. The shop will of course remain open for normal business offering all our usual products, as well.

Coffee Shop

It is with great regret that we have decided to close the coffee shop from Monday 23rd March until further notice to keep you and our staff safe. We will, however, continue to offer all our current takeaway options, and you are always welcome to consume your purchases at the tables at the front of the shop – if and when the weather improves.

Volunteers

We are experiencing a slight drop-off in the numbers of our current volunteers as some of our older members have, sensibly, decided to self-isolate for the time being. If you would like to consider helping out in the shop or to deliver to our customers, please contact **Maureen Hodge** on **01380 870276**. From personal experience, I can assure you it's a lot of fun and a great way to meet other people from the village.

We wish all our customers good health and best wishes during the tricky months to come.

We are here for you.

Email: steepleashtonvillageshop@btconnect.com 01380 871211

EDINGTON ARTS

Following the Government's upgraded advice, we have been forced, very regretfully, to cancel the planned Operatunity concert on May 9th. Our next scheduled concert is the pianist Martin James Bartlett on June 27th, and we will be monitoring events to see what we need or can do near the time.

NEXT ISSUE

Needless to say there will not be a May edition of
Keevil Parish News

PAT BARTHOLOMEW. Editor

'Pendennis' 49a Martins Road, Keevil

e-mail: patbartholomew@hotmail.com

Daylight saving time 2020 in United Kingdom will begin at 01:00 on
Sunday 29 March

IN OTHER WORDS - THE CLOCKS GO FORWARD ONE HOUR!

The gardens of Keevil should be looking good this summer!

With all this time to spare hopefully our readers are making the most of the recent sunshine and are now enjoying time pottering outside.

Who knows, that spring cleaning you meant to do last year may at last get done!

Our diaries are full of crossings out but hopefully we'll soon be complaining that we've got too much to do!

Friends of Keevil

If at all you feel alone
Don't forget your friend the
phone,
If you have any needs at all
Please pick it up and give
someone a call.

We all have different needs at this
time,
Never fear, our Village help is just
sublime,
Safety is a most important factor
So aid is available by foot, car or
tractor.

Whatever you have forgotten or
are short of,
Fairy Liquid or meds. for a cough,
There will be someone here with
one to spare
Because all of us are generous
and do care.

Please pick up your friend the
phone,
Remember you are never alone
All are friends in the village of
Keevil
We won't let COVID-19 be the
carrier of evil.

Keep safe. *Pat Tucker*

The Time We Spring-Cleaned the World *(for the children)*

The world it got so busy,
There were people all around.
They left their germs behind them;
In the air and on the ground.

These germs grew bigger and
stronger.
They wanted to come and stay.
They didn't want to hurt anyone -
They just really wanted to play.

Sometimes they tried to hold your
hand,
Or tickled your throat or your nose.
They could make you cough and
sneeze
And make your face as red as a rose.

And so these germs took over.
They started to make people ill,
And with every cough we coughed
More and more germs would spill.

All the queens and kings had a
meeting.
"It's time to clean the world up!" they
said.
And so they had to close lots of fun
stuff,
Just so these germs couldn't spread.

We couldn't go to cinemas
Or restaurants for our tea.
There was no football or parties,
The world got as quiet as can be.

The kids stopped going to school,
The mums and dads went to work
less.
Then a great, big, giant scrubbing
brush
Cleaned the sky and the sea and the
mess!

Dads started teaching the sums,
Big brothers played with us more,
Mums were in charge of homework
And we read and played jigsaws
galore!

The whole world was washing their
hands
And building super toilet roll forts!
Outside was quiet and peaceful,
Now home was the place for all
sports.

So we played in the world that was
home
And our days filled up with fun and
love,
And the germs they grew smaller and
smaller
And the sun watched from up above.

Then one morning the sun woke up
early,
She smiled and stretched her beams
wide.
The world had been fully spring
cleaned,
It was time to go back outside!

We opened our doors oh so slowly
And breathed in the clean and fresh
air.
We promised that forever and always
Of this beautiful world we'd take care!
Written

by Louise Gribbons