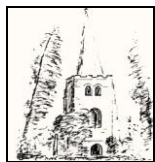


Leam Valley Messenger



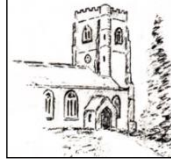
Flecknoe



Grandborough



Leamington Hastings



Willoughby

December 2018/January 2019

Rev Anne Hinks, Priest-in-Charge of Leam Valley Benefice
The Vicarage, Willoughby
Tel Nos: 01788 438561 and 07854 329892
Email: anne.hinks@outlook.com

To all the villagers and churches: thank you to all those who came to welcome me at the lovely Licensing service in Leamington Hastings, to all those who have wished me well, and to everyone! It's been a great joy and privilege to be appointed as Priest-in-charge in Leam Valley; it's my delight to be here for you.

As a child I was taken to Sunday School by my great-aunt Lucy. It was an excellent foundation to hear that Jesus loved me, and I felt secure in him. I drifted away in teenage years. But when Dave and I were building our house, I became so stressed, that I called out to God to assist us, and assistance came. And God has never let me down since. So that's my short story. I'd love to hear yours.

What makes for effective churches and village communities? Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you." He preached the good news of God's presence, and shared people's sufferings, healing those who were sick. And they realised that God was with them.

We live in a busy stressful society with a blame culture. It can be exhausting. Jesus brings a new way of living. He releases us from our rushing, and our fears, and works within us to give us his love, his joy and his peace. As people turn to him, he gently guides them into the new way of living that sets them free from stress and blame. He's here for us in our loneliness, our grief, our guilt. He respects each person's choices, so he does not insist in anyone coming to him; but when they do, he's ready to comfort and guide.

Harvest-time is past; next was the season of remembrance, with Armistice Day, remembering all those that gave their lives that we might be free. May they rest in peace, and rise in glory. Next is Advent, the remembering of the adventure of God in Jesus Christ; with Advent calendars, decorations, carols and joy. Please remember those who are grieving or alone, and find time and space to include them.

With my warm wishes, Anne

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

As we now have a new Priest, there will no longer be any need to continue with the Benefice Office. Should you wish to discuss or book Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals, please contact Rev Anne Hinks whose contact details are on the front page. If Anne is not available, please contact one of the Churchwardens, noted below, who will pass on your details.

Churchwardens for the Benefice are as follows:

Flecknoe	Andrew Grant	01788 891076	Laura Seago	07980 881545
Grandborough	Peter Johnson	01788 814994;	Pauline Stratton	01788 521123
L'ton Hastings	Brian Cooke	01926 632917;		
Willoughby	Jackie Gibbard	01788 891191;	Karen Nichols	07866 572209
Reader: Dr Alec Parker, Tel: 01926 812548				

Church News and Notices

Farmers' Market

Grandborough Farmers' Market will be held on Thursday 6th December. At this festive market we will have our yearly Silent Auction where you can put in a bid for one of the many items on offer. There will be homemade Christmas cakes and mince pies for sale on our Church table and we will also have a raffle table with the main prize being a Christmas hamper. Everyone is invited to have a glass of complementary mulled wine (alcoholic and non alcoholic). Please come along and support the church and our stallholders, who will be selling Christmas Fayre. Our Café will have festive cakes on offer along with sausage rolls and bacon rolls.

Please also note that we will have a Fish man at the next market. He has a huge selection of frozen fish and chicken. Some of you may already know him as he has been successfully building up a network of customers from Grandborough.

Thank you to everyone for their support throughout the year. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Please note that there will not be a market in January and the first market in 2019 will be held on Thursday 7th February.

Healing Services

The next monthly healing services at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Broadwell, will be on Tuesday 18th December, and Tuesday 15th January at 7.30 pm. Please come and join us and spend some quiet time with God.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate prayer for any reason at all, please advise Anne on 01788 438561 or Karen on 01926 812363 and we will include them in our prayer time.

Flecknoe

Harvest Supper

Many thanks to all who came to our Harvest Supper on 30th September. As always, we had restaurant quality food served efficiently by many helpful hands. Thanks to all who prepared the food. In all a great village collaborative effort enjoyed by everyone. Although down on numbers from last year, we raised a record **£529.50** from the auction of donated produce. This was given to Headway who provide care and assistance to those who have suffered from brain injuries and also help to their families.

Carol Service

Our Carol Service will take place on **Sunday 16th December** at 6.00 pm. As usual, we will hand out Christingles during the service and will be providing wine and mince pies after the service. Come and make this a celebratory start to Christmas for all the family.

Carol singing round the village

Continue to build Christmas spirit by joining us to sing carols round the village on **Thursday 20th December**. Gather at Hillcrest House at 5.45 pm for refreshments and nibbles before we set out at 6.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to join our choir, even if you can't sing! Wrap up warmly and bring a torch, carol sheets will be provided.

Breakfast Service

With so many things going on and the close proximity of Christmas, it has been decided to cancel the Breakfast Service scheduled for 23rd December.



Grandborough

Flower/Music Festival/Harvest Supper

We had an extremely busy and enjoyable weekend with many people attending the church for the Flower and Music Festival on the Saturday and Sunday, followed by Harvest Supper in the Village Hall. The total sum raised for both events amounted to £880 and we would like to say a **big thank you to everyone who helped in any way** to make this such a successful weekend.

Remembrance

We had an excellent turn out for this very moving service with many people coming back into the church for refreshments and to view the special exhibition which was prepared by the Grandborough History Group and Flecknoe church. The sum raised during the collection amounted to £364.72p which has been donated to the British Legion.

Pennies from Heaven

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the recent collection. We received the excellent sum of £150, making the total sum collected for the year £335. All the small change adds up and the church is very appreciative of your donations.



Party time at Messy Church on Thursday 6th December.

Even if you haven't been before, please come along and join us for fun and games and also enjoy listening to the Christmas story. A buffet meal will be served. All children should be accompanied by an adult. Everyone is welcome. Please note

that we will not be making any charge on this occasion.

Evensong

On the second Sunday of each month during January, February and March, we will be joining the Methodists at the Chapel **at 6.30 pm**.

Church Opening

Our church is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9.00 am until 4.00 pm.

Women's Institute

On 12th December, Jayne Bilsborrow will be demonstrating how to make a 3D Christmas card and there will be an opportunity for everyone to join in and make their own card.

On 16th January Lee Sterrey will be coming to tell us the story behind the book, **"THE UNIQUE UNICORN."**

Our meetings are held at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Visitors always welcome.

Methodist Chapel

Band Concert - Our Christmas concert with Dunchurch Band will be held at 7.00 pm on Saturday 15th December in the Village Hall. There will be a collection for NCH Action for Children and refreshments will be served. Everyone welcome.

Carol Service - This will be held on Sunday 16th December at 6.30 pm in the Chapel and will be led by Rev Charity. All welcome.



Leamington Hastings

Thank you - Mary Harrison would like to thank everyone for their generous support at the Table Top Sale at Marton, in aid of Breast Cancer. The sum of £460 was raised for this very worthy cause.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - Zinnia Allen would like to say a very big thank you to all the residents of Hill who so generously gave to the Poppy Appeal. The sum of £93.77p was collected.

Leamington Hastings Christmas Market

A very big thank you to everyone who helped to make the day so special. The atmosphere was very warm and sociable, with beautiful craft and art work and some very tasty soup and cakes. Some of us spent far too much money!!! Over £800 has been raised for the church but this is not a final total as there is more money to come.

Male Voice Choir

LH Parish Hall Management Committee is proud to announce that the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir will perform a concert with a strong Christmas flavour in the Parish Hall on Saturday 1st December at 7.30 pm. Doors open at 6.45 pm. Also featuring in this event will be Solihull soloist, Rose Rowley.

Tickets are £12, including a light supper to be served at the interval, and are available from: Pat Toole (01926 632874) or Jill Ayres (01926 633119). Proceeds in aid of much needed Parish Hall improvements.

Carol Service

We will be having a Carol service on 23rd December, starting at 4.00 pm. This will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine. (*Soft drinks will also be available*). Please come and join us to hear the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus and to sing some favourite Carols. Everyone is welcome, especially children.

Armonico Consort

There are still some tickets available for the concert on Saturday 8th December at 7.00 pm; 'Carols By Candlelight' with Armonico Consort. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served during the interval. For availability, please contact: 07966 584328 or email dpotts@musicatleamingtonhastings.co.uk.



Willoughby

Roof Repairs

Work has finally started on part of the roof. As the Faculty has now been granted, it means that the chancel can finally be recovered and the ceiling repaired. Due to theft issues, it has been agreed that we will no longer be required to use lead on the roof.

A hedge has been planted in the churchyard, bordering the spinney, to encourage wildlife.

Many thanks for all the help and support offered during this challenging time of the church's history. The Churchwardens in the Benefice have been of great help with advice and an appreciation of the problems facing us. Thank you for the help and generosity of everyone with Fundraising. Hopefully with all the grants that have been promised, we can now look to the future.

Bonfire Party

The Bonfire party was well attended with a great community spirit and the grand sum of £508 profit was raised for church funds. Thank you to Richard and Elaine Heckford for hosting and for all those who donated soup and food and helped out. Events like these would not be possible without this support.

Following an appeal letter, donations of over £1,200 have been received.

Pennies from Heaven raised £186 in September.

Christingle Service



This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the first Christingle service in this country and we would be delighted if you could join us on Sunday 2nd December at 4.00 pm. The children at Leamington Hastings School are kindly assisting in creating Christingle Oranges. Please wrap up warm if attending church until our roof repairs have been completed.

Carol Singing - We will be carol singing round the village on 21st December .

Soup and Social will be held on Saturday 29th December in the Village Hall at 12.30 pm. £5 for bowl of soup and a roll.

Has Willoughby Got Talent Show will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 26th January.

Thursday Club

13th December - Christmas Lunch at the Wheatsheaf, Crick.
Bus from Village Hall, 12 noon to leave at 12.15pm

10th January 2.30 pm – Games Afternoon at the Village Hall.

17th January 12.30 pm - Pub Lunch - wherever Tony takes us!

We are still collecting stamps and foreign and old coins, for Myton Hospice, just bring any to one of our meetings. New members very welcome, ring Jim (the Sec) 891805.



A Christmas Message from Anne



Christmas - a time of light in the darkness, a deep mystery revealed in the birth of a child; richness born into a filthy stable, love born into a world of war, hatred and meanness.

That was back then.

But for now:

Jesus comes into the depth of our need; with love and healing, restoring us to meaningful lives, giving his companionship and purpose so we can have fullness of life.

Dave and I would like to wish you all a love-filled peaceful Christmas.

God bless you all.

Love, Anne.

Church Services			
2 nd December	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	4.00 pm	Christingle
Thursday 6 th December	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church
9 th December	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Family Service
	Grandborough	6.00 pm	Evensong
16 th December	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	11.00 am	WtW
	Willoughby	4.00 pm	Carol Service
	Flecknoe	6.00 pm	Carol Service
18 th December	C of GS, Broadwell	7.30 pm	Healing Service
23 rd December	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	4.00 pm	Carol Service
24 th December	Grandborough	6.00 pm	Carols by Candlelight
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 pm	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 om	Holy Communion
25 th December	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	10.30 am	Holy Communion
30 th December	Grandborough Benefice Service	10.30 am	Holy Communion
6 th January	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
13 th January	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Family Service
	Grandborough	6.30 pm	Evensong (Chapel)
Tuesday 15 th January	C of GS Broadwell	7.30 pm	Healing Service
20 th January	Leamington Hastings	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Grandborough	11.00 am	WtW
	Willoughby	4.00 pm	Evensong
27 th January	Flecknoe	9.00 am	Breakfast Service
	Willoughby	11.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	4.00 pm	Afternoon Worship
3 rd February	Grandborough	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	Leamington Hastings	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 7 th February	Grandborough	4.30 pm	Messy Church

Please note the latest date for items to be included in the next Leam Valley Messenger is **15th January**. Reports should be sent to: dorothyjohnson@outlook.com

The Editor would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contributions to the