

ENSTONE ENSIGN

Number 435 April 2021

Newsletter for Enstone Parish

THE CHASE BENEFICE - APRIL

Dear Friends,

When the current lockdown was announced at Christmas, the Church Councils of the Benefice took the difficult decision to suspend all in-person services. As a church community, we wanted to exercise great care and caution to keep each other and our village communities safe as COVID-19 continued.

In some ways, this is the most difficult period of the lockdown process as we are nearing the end. There are strong feelings about whether we should re-open now or wait until May, but most people we have heard are, like us, genuinely uncertain about how we should proceed. We are aware that the same conversations have been taking place in all of the churches across the country, and that a very mixed picture has emerged.

Last week all the Church Councils of the Benefice met again to discuss how and when we might re-open our churches for in-person worship. Ilona and I are grateful for the honesty and openness expressed in these discussions. We were warmed by the concern for others that we have heard and the gentle and careful listening to others.

The consensus across all the PCCs in the Benefice was that we should follow the guidance of the Bishops of the Diocese and re-open in May. I want to assure you that all of our churches will reopen for public worship as soon as we feel it is safe to do so.

Despite being apart we can still mark, reflect and journey through Holy Week together, reaching Easter and celebrating the joy of the resurrection. Whilst public worship remains suspended, all of our online services can be found on our website at www.thechasebenefice.org.uk. All of our churches remain open on Sundays between 10 am and 4 pm for quiet prayer and reflection.

Ilona and I very much look forward to the time when we can once again worship together in our beautiful church building.

With every blessing for Easter and beyond.

Mark Abrey

From the Registers:-

Deaths:-

Raymond Ashby

25th February

Enstone

Paul Green

4th March

Enstone

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, FISHERS LANE, CHARLBURY

There will be no Mass in Enstone in April.

The Parish Priest is Fr Tony Joyce, at Holy Trinity Rectory, London Rd,

Chipping Norton OX7 5AX. holytrinityrcchippy@gmail.com 01608 642703

All items for the May Ensign in by 1st May (or sooner, if you have it ready) please, to Hillside (blue door opposite Artyard Cafe) or ring 677231 for shorter items. You can also email me at info@andreabates.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – MARCH 2021

PLANNING APPLICATION:-

Whiteways Technical Centre, Enstone, 21/00347/FUL, Raise height of existing building to accommodate new second floor, together with associated works and installation of photo-voltaic array to roof. No objection

Decisions Received:-

Unit 4, The Old Coal Yard, Gagingwell, 20/03055/S73 – removal of condition 4 of planning permission 18/02994/PN56 (contamination) (amended description) - *Withdrawn*

PRE-PLANNING APPLICATION – CHAPEL LANE, ENSTONE

The details of this pre-planning application can be found on the parish website.

DO YOU WISH TO DISCUSS THE PARISH SURVEY RESULTS WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL? You are invited to join the *Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00 pm for a 7.15 pm start* when queries can be discussed. The zoom details will be on the agenda and placed on the noticeboards and website.

PARISH SURVEY

In addition, please look out for updates on the website (enstoneparish.org) following the parish questionnaire/survey. The Parish Council will respond to all the questions and comments during the next few weeks.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE – COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH NEWSLETTER

This document is also available on the parish website (enstoneparish.org).

CLIMATE ACTION DAY WORKSHOP – WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

A member of the Parish Council will be attending this workshop in April.

THE GREENS, CHURCH ENSTONE

Oxfordshire County Council, who owns these two Greens, has given permission for flower pots to be placed on them.

RESIDENTS WISHING TO JOIN PARISH COUNCIL ZOOM MEETINGS

All residents are welcome to attend the meeting but please inform the clerk beforehand so that she is aware you will be joining. Details are below on how to contact Beth.

Dates of next meetings:-

- Thursday 22nd April 7.15 pm – Annual Parish Meeting
- Thursday 29th April 7.15 pm
- Thursday 13th May – Annual Council Meeting
- Thursday 27th May – Parish Council Meeting

Mrs Beth Sinclair, Enstone Parish Clerk, Briery Cottage, 9 Alexandra Square, Chipping Norton, OX7 5HL. Tel: 01608 641051: Email:- enstoneparishclerk@gmail.com

Website address for the Parish = enstoneparish.org

Facebook Page = Enstone Parish

ENSTONE FOOD MARKET

Two Jolly Cooks brings you Enstone Food Market. To be held in the car park of the Enstone Sports and Social Club, Cox's Lane, Enstone OX7 4LF on **Sunday 18th April** .

It will be open from 0930 - 1pm. It is a flat surface and a toilet is available. Donations in aid of Oxfordshire Mind, a Mental Health charity. Stalls will include Castle Glow/Two Jolly Cooks /Flamingo Paperie/The Indian Orchard / Flower Granola / It's A Chocolate Thing/ The Curiosities Company/ The Lost Farm / Cotswold Salad / Just Liquorice/ Tess' Brilliant Cakes / Chillis 2 U/ Swedish Sandwich Yumminess / North Aston Organics' vegetables (*cash preferred for Charity*)/ Sweet Berts / Team Tea/ The Hippy Hare Company/ Fina Design Cotswolds LNWP Art and maybe a few more. Don't forget to bring empty containers to refill at the SESI Refill/Reuse stall.

1ST ENSTONE GUIDES

Since Christmas we have been working on the Take Action theme; we looked at public speaking and writing letters as methods to champion a cause you believe in. We had a magical Zoom session with 'Professor Baxter' and Harry Potter's Scotland trail, visiting film locations in Scotland used in the movies. We now want to visit Scotland, but we may have to be content with locations used in Oxfordshire for a while!

We attempted some STEM activities to celebrate International day of women and girls in Science. For Thinking Day, we undertook the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts challenge, looking at some remarkable women who have been integral to making change and helping peace in our world throughout recent history. Moving on to Skills for My Future theme, we have been playing some fun games which help with the understanding of money, such as risk taking, savings and banking. On a lighter note, we have used the What3Words app for a great quiz looking at locations all over the world on google earth and finished off the term for Easter with a session in our kitchens making chocolate coated cereal nests. Always a winner. The origami Easter rabbit proved a step too far via zoom! We are looking forward to meeting face to face outside after Easter.

We welcome any girls aged 10 to 14 years old, if you would like to join us please express your interest at <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter> or contact Kathy Slark 07879630655, EnstoneGuides@outlook.com.

The committee of the Enstone Horticultural Society has decided to cancel the Spring Show event on the 17th of April. At present we feel that the circumstances are too unstable to fully commit to holding our event. We are however still planning to hold our Plant Sale on the 16th of May at the Enstone Food Market. More details to follow nearer the time.

[SEP]

We are still looking forward to our annual competition 'best outdoor display in containers' this summer as well as garden visits in the summer and autumn circumstances permitting.

Stay safe and happy gardening,
EHS.

THE CROWN CHURCH ENSTONE

The "other side" is fast approaching! We are [SEP] busy preparing to open on 12 April with an outside bar and our takeaway menu. You can of course 'Eat Inn' the garden but the food will be from our takeaway menu. Still delicious just not quite our usual range of dining ! Our tulips that were just coming into their prime a year ago as we were forced to close are pushing up strong again! The Crown Team are much looking forward to welcoming you back!!

As of 17 May we plan to be open as normal both inside and out with a full eat in menu. Our rooms will also open then. [SEP]

See www.crowninnenstone.co.uk for up to date opening hours and other information.

ENSTONE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB FACILITIES FOR HIRE GROUND AND CLUB



ENSTONE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

New members welcome

Barclays Premier League Live on Sky ,plus other sports too.

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01608 677823

The club will remain closed until further notice.

Will endeavour to update our Facebook page and let people know when we can open again.

Thank you all for your support and be safe.

ENSTONE HAILSTORMS

For those of you who were living in Enstone in 1978, the date of June 1st will probably be etched in your memory.

On a very hot sunny day, June 1st, a thunderstorm started in the early afternoon. After about half an hour of torrential rain, it suddenly turned into a hailstorm with enormous pellets that shredded everything in the garden: onions, rhubarb, newly planted bedding plants all ruined; the buds on the climbing rose that were just about to flower were all knocked off. Such a scene of devastation it was! We thought: “That’s it – no roses this summer!” However, as if by a miracle, new buds formed and the roses began flowering three weeks later and carried on until November, stronger than ever for having been “pruned”. The lawn was white with the accumulated hailstones, and stayed like that for the rest of the day.

David Plant, who ran The Harrow Inn, was scrabbling around near the side entrance trying to clear the hailstones that were blocking the drain. In vain he tried to stop the rain from rushing down the slope into his kitchen (around the side). His hands were cut, he was frantic, the water poured into the kitchen and the cooker and other furniture were floating around in over 2 feet of water. A lad who was working there at the time is pictured with crates of bottles leaning against 3 feet of congealed hailstones.

There was worse flooding at the Mill Farm in Church Enstone. The Ivings family were struggling in waist-high water, watching their furniture swirling around in a middy torrent.

In 1843, as recorded in “A Parochial History of Enstone” by the Rev. John Jordan, there was a storm that began with a noise like a loud roar, followed by a hailstorm. He observed hailstones that at first were ordinary in size, but soon became as large as pigeon’s eggs which struck the ground with great force and bounced up to the height of 4 or 5 feet. Even after the storm moved on, the village was left with clouds discharging lightning and heavy thunder from every quarter of the heavens. The average size of the hailstones were recorded as being 6 inches in circumference at the time. Small animals were killed in great abundance. A leveret was found cut completely in two. Great numbers of crows, pheasants and partridges were killed. Some houses had their roofs completely destroyed.

THANK YOU

Jill, Norma and Lynne Ashby would like to thank everyone who sent cards, letters and flowers to the family for their sad loss of Ray.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April	18	Enstone Food Market 9.30 – 1 pm Sports Club.
	22	Annual Parish Meeting zoom 7.15 pm
	29	Parish Council zoom meeting 7.15 pm
May	1	FINAL DATE FOR COPY
	16	EHS Plant Sale

THOUGHTS ON GARDENING BY MONTY DON

"People have realised their back gardens, however small, however modest, are incredibly rich with wildlife and are the door to the world at large. You don't have to go to the rainforest or the Himalayas or the melting glaciers in the Arctic to really appreciate nature. If you get your garden right, if everybody does that, it's really powerful stuff.^[1]_[SEP]

And it's not hard to encourage wildlife. Don't be too tidy - nature isn't there to be conquered, she is there to be celebrated. Sometimes she wins - sometimes your prized bloom gets eaten. It's about balance. That feeds into your soul and

improves happiness, the best way to have a rich life and work with nature." ^[1]
SEP
(From an article in the Daily Telegraph)

Flooding at Mill Farm



Hail at The Harrow

