

ENSTONE ENSIGN

Number 433 February 2021

Newsletter for Enstone Parish

THE CHASE BENEFICE - FEBRUARY

Dear Friends,

January is a difficult month at the best of times. The festive season is long over, the weather is poor, the days don't seem to be getting noticeably longer and now we are in another national lockdown. In January we need to have something to look forward to. In good times, this is the month we plan what we might do in the coming year, who we might visit, which grandchildren might come to stay, where we might go on holiday. But this year is starting in such an uncertain way that we can make none of those plans. Rather we look on as so many in our country and our world face the terrible consequences of the pandemic. There seems nothing practical we can do except as praying bystanders. But as is the way with the spiritual life, there is always light in the darkness. This dark month reveals to us some chinks of light, for the month of January in the Church is celebrated as the season of Epiphany. During this season we reflect on the extraordinary way the light of the Incarnation - when God became human in the form of Jesus Christ - is spread from its minute beginnings in the Bethlehem manger to the wider world, and even to us in our darkness. As Isaiah prophesied: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord shall arise upon you, and his glory shall appear over you." The season began with the journey of the Magi, following the star. In the weeks that follow, we reflect on the Baptism of Christ — Christ's going public to the waiting world; we hear how the first followers of Jesus were called; and, we hear of some of the miracles that Jesus preformed. The season ends on the 2nd February with the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, or Candlemas, as it is more commonly known. Our attention then turns towards Lent and the events of Holy Week and that first Easter morning, when Jesus rose from the grave, shattering the darkness of death and promising new life for all. None of us knows what this year has in store for us, but there is hope. One of the names of Jesus, which we use particularly at Christmas, is "Emmanuel". Translated it means quite simply, "God with us". And God is with us now and will be with us as go into tomorrow and all the tomorrows. Emmanuel. God with us.

With my very best wishes for better times ahead.

Mark Abrey

You can join us for worship each week online at www.thechasebenefice.org.uk or you can listen an audio recording of the service by phoning 01608 698955. Should you need a bit of support yourself, PLEASE do be in touch. We are happy to make time for a chat by phone or on Zoom. Give us a ring: Mark [01608 676572] or Ilona [07305 355809]. We might be physically isolated, but we are here for you!

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

There will be no Mass in Enstone in February.

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 March Ensign in by 27th February (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 – JANUARY 2021

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:-

- **The Long Barn, Oxford Road, Old Chalford, 20/02971/LBC -** Internal alterations to include removal of a staircase and changes to floor layouts (part retrospective).- No objection
- **Radford House, Radford, 20/02870/FUL -** Formation of equestrian training menage in paddock adjacent to Radford House – No objection
- **Westbury Farm, Little Tew Road, Church Enstone, 20/03062/FUL -** Erection of agricultural building – PC objects to this planning application
- **Mendoza, Coxs Lane, Enstone, 20/03183/HHD -** Single storey side and rear extensions – No objection
- **Broad Close, Little Tew Road, Church Enstone, 20/02833/FUL -** Demolition of existing stone barn and the construction of detached self-contained living accommodation – No objection
- **Unit 4, The Old Coal Yard, Gagingwell -** Removal of condition 3 of planning permission 18/02994/PN56 as no contamination found and

retrospective discharge of condition 3 (surface water drainage) – No objection

- **The Cottage, Chapel Lane, Enstone, 20/0343/HHD** - Single storey rear extension – No objection
- **Land West of Soho Farmhouse, Great Tew, 20/03562/FUL** - 15 one bed farmhouse huts (in place of approved bell tents) with associated landscaping and infrastructure – No objection
- **Land West of Soho Farmhouse, Great Tew, 20/00905/FUL** - Change of use of land from agriculture to hotel (to allow year round use of camping field 'Farm Camp) together with replacement guest amenity building, five-a-side pitch and new landscaping – No objection
- **Appeal Notice – Cotswolds Hotel & Spa, Southcombe, Chipping Norton, 19/03504/OUT** – Erection of up to 73 holiday homes and associated infrastructure in connection with existing facilities. Enstone PC has no further comments to add – it objects to this planning application

Decisions Received:-

- **Mendoza, Coxs Lane, Enstone** - single storey side and rear extensions - Approved
- **Radford House, Radford, 20/02870/FUL** - Formation of equestrian training menage in paddock adjacent to Radford House - Approved
- **Broad Close, Little Tew Road, Church Enstone, 20/02833/FUL** - Demolition of existing stone barn and the construction of detached self-contained living accommodation - Withdrawn
- **Westbury Farm, Little Tew Road, Church Enstone** - erection of **agricultural building** – Withdrawn

PARISH SURVEY

A separate report regarding the Parish Council's key priorities is included separately. Other areas of concern included:-

- a) *Dog fouling* – there is an increase in dog fouling around the village. Please use the bins provided. The dog population seems to have increased over the past year and we all need to clear up after our dogs.
- b) *Overhanging vegetation from residents' gardens onto public footpaths* – Please prune back overhanging vegetation from properties to ensure that public footpaths are accessible. The owners near Cling Clang Lane have been contacted and the Highways Department has been informed

regarding the continuing drainage problems at the end of Cling Clang Lane.

- c) *Enstone Airfield* – Information will be put into next month’s magazine and website of whom to contact with concerns regarding the airfield. The Parish Council is contacting the Civil Aviation Authority.
- d) *The grass cutting contracts will remain the same* – i.e. the verges along The Drive will be cut monthly during the grass cutting season.
- e) *The Hoar Stones* – the tidying of this area is currently being considered – the land is owned by Ditchley Park and the Parish Council is in discussions with Ditchley Park regarding this.

Dates of next meetings:-

- Thursday 25th February 7.15 pm
- Thursday 25th March 7.15 pm

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 PARISH COUNCIL PARISH SURVEY - ACTIONS 2021

Enstone Parish Council wishes to thank the residents who completed the recent survey/questionnaire. It has proved to be most beneficial in determining our priorities for the next few years. We will be publishing further responses to the survey in the Ensign and website over the next few months starting with the key priorities.

The following key areas have been identified in order of priority:

1. Roads and Signage

- a. To install improved digital speed indicator devices at both ends of Enstone, along the A44.
- b. To have improved signage at both ends of the A44, the B4022, Banbury Road and Charlbury Road when entering Enstone.
- c. To fund a feasibility study (organised by Oxfordshire County Council) for 20 mph signs along The Drive, Coxs Lane, Cleveley Road, Lidstone Road, along the B4030 from the A44 junction to Church Enstone and along the A44 through Enstone.
- d. To have a one-way system at the village shop.

The Parish Council has set aside £15,000 in the current budget towards the above works.

2. Footpaths

- e. Repair of the Planks – Oxfordshire County Council aims to repair this area in spring/summer 2021. The repair works will be paid for by OCC and the Parish Council. The Parish Council has budgeted £5,000.00 towards the works.

The Parish Council will keep you appraised of progress over the coming months.

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 21st February. **PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME**

It will be open from 0930 - 1pm, with parking. It is a flat surface and a toilet is available. Donations in aid of Oxfordshire Mind, a Mental Health charity.

Stalls will include Two Jolly Cooks /The Indian Orchard / Flower Granola / It's A Chocolate Thing/ The Curiosities Company/ Tess' Brilliant Cakes / Chillis 2 U/ Swedish Sandwich Yumminess / North Aston Organics' vegetables (*cash only for Charity*)/ Sweet Berts /Barrow Coffee and maybe a few more.

Thanks Debbie

Two Jolly Cooks, Organiser of Enstone Food Market 07928 057722

ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Well, this isn't what we hoped to come back to at the beginning of the Spring Term, but once again we find ourselves juggling a combination of in-school and home-learning provision for our pupils. The last minute announcement of the school closure necessitated another very speedy response from us, to ensure that we could safely welcome in the children of Key Workers and also maintain strong provision for our pupils who are, for now, needing to remain at home. Despite all the difficulties that this situation presents, our children have returned to us in good spirits and the whole Enstone Primary School community have risen to the challenges they face. Something new on the

agenda for this lockdown is “Google Meets” for our home-learners. Being able to link up with these pupils online is going to be so important in the coming weeks to keep the children focused, motivated and in-touch with their teachers and peers in school. The technology doesn’t always behave itself, and we are all on a steep learning curve, but so far this has been a positive experience for everyone. Reflecting back, we had a lovely end to the autumn term, with some nice Christmas activities including an online pantomime (with ice creams!) and some “Bubble Discos” and parties to enjoy. Father Christmas kindly paid us a visit (socially distanced of course!) and we put together a lovely Christmas celebration of poems, songs and the little ones’ Christmas nativity play, which we were able to film and share with parents via Vimeo.

We must be hopeful that we will soon all be back together as a school community, but for now we have our happy memories of December festivities and a “can do” attitude to the weeks ahead, whatever they bring.

Sarah Mann

Head teacher

ENSTONE HISTORY SOCIETY REVIEW OF 2020.

As you will all appreciate, there is not a great deal to report this year!

All our 2020 talks and other events had to be cancelled, because of the Pandemic, with the exception of the talk in February. This was presented by Michael Lowe, from Wootton, who talked about the history of the lute. He put the instrument into a social context by reviewing its development from 1620 to the mid eighteenth century. However, in January, the postponed 2019 Christmas Party also took place and was attended by around forty members and their guests. This year, the Committee has decided to suspend subscriptions to the Society even though it is hoped that we may be able to hold some of our scheduled events later in 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members of the Committee for continuing to run the Society albeit at a reduced level this year. Thanks are due to Julia Boardman, our Treasurer, who manages the finances for the Society and is also Membership Secretary and to Anne Francis, our Secretary who manages our administration. Carol Geare is our Editor and produces our Newsletter. Her contribution is much appreciated. Brian Pennington also deserves our thanks for setting up the bar and organising the sandwiches for

our meeting this year in addition to arranging the seating. Pam Foxall continued to provide support for which I thank her.

We hope that we may be able to run a reduced programme of events later in 2021 – details of which have already been circulated. You will continue to receive updates on our revised plans but as already indicated, the talk in February has been cancelled and it is with regret that the Committee has decided to cancel the talk in March. I am afraid that it seems likely that the April and May talks will also have to be cancelled but you will, of course, be kept informed. We trust that you will keep safe and well in 2021 and we look forward to your continued support of the Society.

John Pritchard Chairman

UPDATED ENSTONE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY EVENTS 2021

We at EHS have been trying to figure out the planning of events for this year. As everyone is only too aware, decisions as to whether we can hold events and how will depend on the COVID 19 restrictions in place at the time and peoples concern for their own safety. But to give you an idea of what we have in mind, here's our list...

Please keep an eye on the new parish website and our Facebook page, you will find us as Enstone Horticultural Society. Alternatively you can E-Mail us at enstonehorticulturalsociety@gmail.com

The events we hope to hold are:

- Spring Flower Show; we hope to hold this in April on the 17th at the Parish Hall.
- Plant Sale; we hope to hold this at the Enstone Food Market on the 16th May 2021, more details to follow.
- Quiz; we hope to hold this in the late spring or summer, more details to follow.
- Local Open Gardens; we hope to hold in June 2021, more details to follow.
- Garden visit; we hope this will be in July 2021, more details to follow.
- Annual competition, July and August 2021 with the theme of ‘Best outdoor display in containers’, information on judging to follow.
- Autumn visit, October possibly to Batsford Arboretum, more details to follow.

- John Shortland Talk ‘Why can’t my garden look like that?’ ; We hope to be able to reschedule this for autumn 2021, more details to follow.

If you haven’t yet renewed your membership, it’s easy to pay online, please E-Mail us for details. enstonehorticulturalsociety@gmail.com New members are very welcome. Due to the current situation annual membership is half price at £5 each or £7.50 for couples. With membership you can benefit from discounts of 10% at local garden centres as well as huge discounts on seed and bulbs orders. Peter Nyssen Bulbs: If bulbs are required, please take a look at www.peternyssen.com and email us with your order before 16th February. Discount will only be applied with a considerable order.

1st ENSTONE GUIDES

We managed two face to face meetings inside prior to Christmas. We had a Christmas movie film night and our secret Santa, all socially distanced and wearing face masks. We now find ourselves in yet another lockdown. However, the Guides are proving very resilient and our numbers are growing. Guides eagerly show up for their weekly Zoom meetings where they can catch up friends and we are able to carry out activities on the Guide programme, mixed in with games and other fun activities such as crafts and cooking. We are looking forward to a Zoom tour of Scotland visiting locations used for the Harry Potter films. Our wands are ready, and invitations are being sent by owl (or e-mail in this case as the owls can’t be trusted to remain socially distanced).

After half term we have some activities planned for World Thinking Day (takes place on 22nd February). Our celebrations will be quite different from last year, when we celebrated Thinking Day in London at one of the Guiding World Centres and we visited Guide HQ on Buckingham Palace Road. Like everyone, we are looking forward to getting out and about again and doing all the things that one might associate with Guides such as hikes, camping and cooking on fires! 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.

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

ALL SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

The club will remain closed until further notice.

Will update on our Facebook page.

Thank you all for your support and be safe.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 21 Enstone Food Market Sports and Social Club 9.30am-1pm
25 Parish Council Meeting 7.15pm via Zoom
27 FINAL DATE FOR COPY