

May 2020

50p

Berrow with Pendock, Eldersfield,
Hollybush and Birtsmorton



Parish Magazine

UNITED BENEFICE OF BERROW WITH PENDOCK ELDERSFIELD HOLLYBUSH AND
BIRTSMORTON

MINISTRY TEAM

Rector:	The Rev Julie James, Thistledown, Pendock, Glos, GL19 3PW (Day Off-Monday)	Tel: 01531 651795 julie.m.james@btinternet.com
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Benefice Choir:	Mrs Mel Roberts	01684 833866

BERROW WITH PENDOCK

Churchwarden:	Mrs. E. Rambridge	01531 650230
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mr. M. Knott	01531 650837
Treasurer:	Mr. A. Rambridge	01531 650230

ELDERSFIELD

Churchwardens:	Mrs. M. Williams Miss. J. Peters	01452 780320 01452 840211
Deputy Churchwarden:	Mr. A Holt	01452 780429
P.C.C. Secretary:	Mrs C Powell-Chandler	01452 780444
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BIRTSMORTON AND HOLLYBUSH

Churchwardens:		
Birtsmorton:	Mrs. R. Bolton	01684 833287
Hollybush:	POST VACANT	
P.C.C. Secretary:	Gill Robson	01531 650054
Treasurer:	Mrs. S. Williams	01531 650431

BERROW VILLAGE HALL

Bookings:	Mrs. D. Shail	01531 650261
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MAGAZINE EDITORS & MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENTS

Brian and Leta Woodcock, 'The Larches,' Poolhay Close, Link End Road, Corse Lawn, GL19 4NY

New Advertisers: Please write or email (BANDL@POOLHAY.PLUS.COM) to the Magazine Editors
Copy Deadline: Please have all copy to the Editors by 10th of the month preceding publication

During the time of the 'Lock Down', I have been lighting a candle in my window near my office each night. With our neighbours, we have been standing outside each Thursday and banging our saucepans, clapping our hands; one way we can reach out to say 'Thank you' for all Key Workers and those especially in the N.H.S.

The lighting of candles speaks to those who have faith and those with none. The light overcoming darkness is something we can all recognise. Many birthday and anniversaries are celebrated this year very differently. Whatever social media can be accessed, we can join in our 'virtual' celebrations, as well as joining together for church services. Many different ways can be explored to 'bring us together', which is important, including the voice on the telephone and may be, even a letter posted via Royal Mail! We are standing together not only as friends, family, the church, and neighbours but as a community and hopefully the world in fighting this common enemy, the Coronavirus. Until we have a way to combat it, it is stretching our creativity, our own resources of resilience, patience, our steadfastness in the face of being isolated, frightened and the uncertainty of the future. We are threatened on all levels, whether our health,

wealth or security. For many with faith, the Easter message of the good news of Christ's resurrection gives us a focus and purpose in these challenging times. As Her Majesty the Queen said, 'May the living flame of the Easter hope be a steady guide as we face the future.'



The idea of the rainbow has also caught on, and many windows have this picture to support those on the front line. The rainbow has long been a symbol of the Christian faith. My design for my stoles (the scarf worn for Holy Communion) depicts the rainbow. It comes from Genesis Chapter 9, verse 13: '*I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.*' It is another sign for me that God will guide us through the storms of life.

Keep safe and keep well. The 'church' buildings may be closed, but we as the body of the church-the people-are here!

Rev'd Julie James



Please can I thank all those who made my birthday special by calling, sending cards, emails, sending flowers, zooming, sharing time and bringing presents to the door (social distancing, of course.) It was, like many present celebrations, very different during 'Lock Down' and it was difficult not to physically be with family and friends. However, everyone made a huge effort to make it special and it will certainly be memorable.

All of us are finding the social distancing one of the hardest aspects of the present situation, especially for occasions when we do want to be together. Many people are isolated and I am very grateful to my loving husband, Bob, for organising the 'Zoom' contacts. Both family and friends made huge efforts to celebrate my birthday from their homes. I feel very humbled that I could celebrate and it does make me feel very blessed to live in such a beautiful part of the countryside. With our garden, the fields and the lanes, there is space to 'breathe', to look upon the Malvern Hills, listen to the bird song and feel grounded in God's creation in warm, sunny weather as Spring emerges.

Rev'd Julie James




Prayer for this month

O gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

St Benedict

Amen.



Phone Church

With grateful thanks to Rev'd Anthea and Mike Elston for setting it up.

We have tried various ways to enable the community to still come together for worship and for fellowship, even though we are not together in the physical sense. Many people who have tried it and have found the 'coming together' helpful. We understand many issues exist with our poor internet connections, but we learn a little more each time of what works and what is not possible. Unless pre-recorded, music /singing has not been successful because of the 'time delay' the internet challenges us with. Live streaming can be found from Cathedrals, and the TV who have the type of media equipment required to produce and edit high calibre programmes.

During Holy Week, the Compline services worked well and we continued with Maundy Thursday Liturgy, a reflection on Good Friday and an Easter Celebration and communion on Easter Sunday when the 5 Pascal Candles were lit from our 5 churches.

We have settled on Sunday 11.00am time slot and the service lasts about 30 minutes, which is especially long enough for those who have to phone in.

During the week, a request was made for a midweek prayer time and 'catch up' and we have established an 11.00am Wednesday Morning prayer slot. All the materials have to be adapted to these new circumstances and they can all be downloaded from the website:

* www.berrowbenefice.org.uk

If you are unable to download the materials, do contact us and we can deliver the sheets to you. We are considering the long term, and may offer a Compline type service on a Sunday evening. We have produced 2 newsletters in the interim , as circumstances change daily. Do let us have any information or feedback that we can consider for future ideas.

Rev's Julie James



Bible Study

When? Tuesday:- Please use the Webex/phone method

19th May, 16th June, 14th July 2020

10.30am Virtual cuppa and biscuit!

Bible reflections 11.00-11.30am

If you are interested in having some notes sent

for the planned sessions, just let me know.

Any comments via email for discussion amongst group is possible.

Rev. Julie James

Benefice Diary

**Please note that all meetings planned below
are re-arranged for now until further advice**

Date	Event	Venue
A 29	Standing Committee	7.30pm Pendock Cross Church
May 2	Plant Sale -Road side	All Saints, Hollybush
6	Birtsmorton &Hollybush PCC	2.30pm Webex/phone
6	Berrow & Pendock PCC	7.30pm Webex/phone
21	Archdeacon's Visitation	Telephone calls from Robert
21	Ascension Service	TBA
June 2	Safeguard Training	Postponed
3	Church Wardens Admission Service	Postponed until Autumn
6	Pendock Church and School Fete	Deferred
14	Eldersfield Musical Evening	Postponed
August 15	Family BBQ	Deferred
26	Eldersfield PCC	7.30pm by phone/Webex
September 5	Hollybush Fete	TBA

If you have any additional dates, please contact Mel Roberts at home phone number, or Rev'd Julie James.

Communications in a time of Coronavirus

This is just to let you know about the different means of communication we are trying to use to enable us to stay in touch with everyone.

For those who have access to websites and email, we have our own benefice website;

<http://berrowbenefice.org.uk>

which we try to keep updated with news, service sheets for our regular online services and information on the impact of the virus on weddings and funerals. In addition we have an email circulation list on which we send out updates roughly twice a week. If you'd like to be added to that list please email revanthea@eightoaks.com.

This parish magazine will still be produced, and distributed via the website shown above, or emailed out to those who would like it sent to them directly. If you are unable to access it electronically please contact Mrs Melanie Roberts, our administrator, who is trying to organize the printing of individual copies for those unable to access the magazine any other way.

Additionally, we are producing a newsletter which is sent out via email and which we are trying to distribute to all those who receive the parish magazine to keep everyone updated and in touch during the month. Please let us know if you would like to receive a copy of this, and whether you'd like it supplied electronically or in print form.

Finally, we are also trying to stay in touch by phone. If you or a family member or neighbour would like a regular phone call from one of the team, please let Mrs Cathy Powell-Chandler know on 01452 780444.

Community in a time of Coronavirus

It has been noticeable how our communities have really pulled together during the lockdown, and people have looked out for their neighbours and offered a helping hand to anyone who might need it.

For example, there is also a very active Covid19 Pendock Support Group, co-ordinated by Sarah Valentine, who you can contact either via the Pendock/Redmarley Area Coronavirus Support Group Facebook page or this email address - pendockareacovid19@gmail.com. They are organizing prescription delivery/collection service and making sure folk in isolation have all the essential items they need, and just generally co-ordinating help for those who need a hand.

And through that group, I've come across a group setup by Tess in Redmarley who have been making masks, headbands to enable staff to wear masks without the elastic causing rubbed raw ears, and wash bags so that used scrubs can be put into these bags and straight into the washing machine. She has sent out an appeal for spare duvet covers, sheets and pillowcases, plus cotton thread, buttons and elastic to enable her and her team to keep up the good work so if you are able to help with any or all of the above, please do get in touch with Rev Julie or Rev Anthea to arrange pick up for the items you can donate.

The school is still very much functioning for the children of keyworks, and they are encouraging children, and all members of the community to contribute to a time capsule to be buried in the school grounds to commemorate this strange and unique time we are living through. Photographs, journal entries, artwork, stories and poems – anything and everything welcome – please contact sgrainger@pendockpri.worcs.sch.uk with your contributions.

Covid Heroes

Every Thursday at 8pm, we all stand outside our houses and clap and cheer and make a gladsome sound in tribute to the heroic folk who are keeping everything going – all of our NHS staff, teachers, shopworkers, delivery drivers, refuse collectors, emergency services and everyone else who is still going out to work in order to enable the rest of us to stay home and stay healthy.

All of which got me wondering – I bet there are some unsung heroes within our communities, people who are going that extra mile to look out for friends and neighbours, whether that's cooking an extra meal and sharing it, phoning someone alone and in isolation regularly or volunteering to pick up prescriptions or do shopping for those in self isolation.

Once this is all over, I'm sure we shall be getting together for some sort of community celebration and it would be good to recognise the contributions made by these unsung heroes then, but also to feature them in future editions of this magazine.

So, if there's someone you'd like to say a big THANK YOU to, please drop a line to either Rev Julie or Rev Anthea and we'll do our best to make sure they're included in the next edition. In these strange and trying times, its good to celebrate those who reach out a helping hand of friendship and support.



Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

They work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. They are part of a wider movement for social justice. Christian Aid's work is founded on Christian faith, inspired by hope and acts to change an unjust world through charity – a practical love and care for our neighbours.

Can I suggest that during May 2020, you could make donations direct to support this vital work.

If unsure how to do so, please contact.

Rev'd Julie James



Weddings during Coronavirus

Many wedding days have sadly been disrupted by Coronavirus restrictions. Our regular Sunday services are suspended and this poses the immediate problem of the 'qualifying attendance' to be married in a church. Wedding ceremonies can take place if all the legal requirements are in place **BUT** the only people there will be the couple, two witnesses and the officiant. Any gathering afterwards will be severely restricted under the regulations during 'Lock Down.'

How we get you legally wed

We are legally entitled to marry you in a Church of England church through the publication of banns. However, banns can only be published during the principal service of public worship in a parish church on a Sunday. We don't know when we will be able to resume services in church. So, as long as the suspension of services lasts, we can't marry you by banns.

Common License

If you have made the qualifying connection to the Church, you can apply for a Common License to marry with us. We have already explained to our couples who could apply for this and what is involved.

Banns, on resumption of services

Once services resume, it will take us 3 weeks to read your banns, so provided services resume say 4 weeks before your wedding day, that will give us and your home church enough time to read your banns. However, as no one knows when services will be able to resume, this is a high-risk strategy!

Civil Ceremony followed by a Blessing in Church

In the interim, if a Registrar marriage is possible, you could have a civil ceremony and return when the churches are open. You could then have a Church blessing of your marriage which is as similar to a full wedding as we can make it.

Conclusion

Many of our couples have postponed or delayed their marriage dates. We have no clear timetable of when churches will resume services or how marriages can or will be conducted in the future. If Anthea or I can be of any help to you during this decision making process, please do discuss the options with us and your wedding venue hosts. It is an anxious and frustrating time and no-one can predict too far in the future what restrictions, rules or recommendations will be made.

Be safe and keep healthy! May your love for one another be strengthened and bind you closer than ever during this upheaval worldwide.

Rev'd Julie James



Funerals during restrictions due to Coronavirus

We are here to help, so do get in touch to discuss details but sadly, we are unable to offer a service in church due to the Coronavirus restrictions

What type of funeral can we have at the moment?

We are able to offer a burial or interment of ashes service at the graveside. We will always aim to make it as reverent and appropriate as possible.

Who can attend?

Only the immediate family of the person will be allowed to gather at the graveside e.g. partner or spouse, parents and children only. Due to age or underlying health conditions, some people must not attend. 5 people is the suggested number, socially distanced but you will need to discuss your own particular circumstances with your officiating minister and Funeral Director.

What about a service at a Crematorium?

Each crematorium is operating under its own particular guidelines, so you will need to liaise with your Crematorium and Funeral Director to see what is possible.

Could we have a second service at a later date?

Absolutely. Once the current restrictions are lifted, we would be happy to assist in organizing a memorial service or service of thanksgiving for your loved one, which all

who wished to remember and give thanks for their life would be able to attend.

What if I am unable to attend the funeral service?

Sad though it is not to be able to be there for the service itself, there are things that you can do from a distance while it is happening;

- Why not take a few moments to think, write, or draw some of your memories of the person? Later you may be able to share that with others at a special memorial service.
- You can still pray at home, maybe with a candle lit by a special photo of the person – we can give you some prayers if you wish **or go to our website or the main Church of England website**
- You could also read a poem at home or look at Psalm 23
- You could write a card to others who are missing the person you are grieving.
- Remember that when this crisis is over [and it will pass] there will always be services both formal or informal for remembering that can be organised by the local church.
- You can light a 'virtual' candle via the:-
www.churchofengland.org/funeral-candle

Rev'd Julie James

Local Businesses in a time of Coronavirus

Our local businesses have also been going the extra mile to help and support our communities, so I've listed those I know about here, please do nominate other businesses I've not come across for future editions.

- Yvonne at Pendock shop is very much open as normal and will do deliveries as and when she can. She can be reached on 01531 650 034
- Neil at the Farmers Arms is doing Neil's on Wheels, meals to be picked up from the pub, and orders can be placed on 01684 833 308
- Les Hill at the top end of Birt Street is selling a wide selection of fruit, veg and bread and is open 10am to 6pm 7 days a week.
- The Rose and Crown at Redmarley are doing take away meals, including Sunday lunch, and frozen meals and can be contacted on 01531 650 234
- Staunton Garden Centre Wide range of groceries - milk, bread, veg, fruit, meat, tea, biscuits, soup, gardening supplies. Open 9 - 4pm, 7 days a week. Follow their Facebook page. Good social distancing markings and spacious car park. Also do deliveries to GL19, GL3 and GL4. See Facebook or call 01452 840612.
- Ben Creese the butcher is doing a delivery service and can be contacted on 01452 840510 or via their website www.countrybutchers.co.uk

- **ASHLEWORTH HUB.** Range of goods including dairy, fruit and veg, bakery, meat, eggs, dry goods. Follow 'Ashleworth village shop and post office' on Facebook. Order by phone 01452 700165 or email Arkwright@ashleworthhub.com
- **BROMSBERROW Shop.** Open 7 days, 9 - 11.30am, 4 - 6pm. Most items. See their Facebook page. Tel 01531 650447. Delivering locally.

Recipe of the month - May

Cheese Pudding

Most of us will have access to these ingredients, even in a "lock-down" larder!

Ingredients

4 - 5 slices (white) bread, lightly buttered
 (1 pint milk
 (4 eggs
 (salt, pepper, 1 teaspoon made-up English mustard
 (to make a savoury custard
 3 oz + 1 oz grated cheese (cheddar is best)
 + extras as you wish or have available:
 2 rashers of bacon, chopped up and fried off or
 1 slice of ham, chopped up
 and/or a few cooked frozen peas
 Chopped tomato – skinned and deseeded
 and, later in the month when and if available, some asparagus
 spears, blanched before adding – or cook and serve separately

Method

Grease a suitable deep ovenproof dish and proceed as you would when making a sweet bread and butter pudding, threading the "extras" and the 3 oz cheese through the bread triangles. Carefully add the custard, then the final 1 oz cheese on the top. Place on a baking sheet in a moderate oven until set and golden (about 35 min)

Lockdown,

*a poem by Richard Hendricks, a Franciscan monk in Ireland,
and posted on his Facebook page on Friday 13 March*

Yes there is fear.
Yes there is isolation.
Yes there is panic buying.
Yes there is sickness.
Yes there is even death.
But,
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear.
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland
Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.
Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number through the
neighbourhood
So that the elders may have someone to call on.
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome
and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality
To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.
To Love.
So we pray and we remember that
Yes there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.
Yes there is sickness.
But there does not have to be disease of the soul
Yes there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square,
Sing.

Message From The Friends of Pendock School

Dear all,

I hope we are all keeping safe in these uncertain times.

Today I wrote my usual piece for the school newsletter and realised that this should have been the time we were celebrating the success of our annual Chicken Run, or officially announcing our Summer Fayre. It really does bring it home and makes you appreciate what you have and how much of life we take for granted. My thoughts and wishes are with each one that forms the wonderful community we have at Pendock. For those who have faced the effects of this terrible time directly and for those who have lost loved ones as a result.

This was not intended to be a doom and gloom message... much the opposite! As always, we are blessed to have the wonderful children around us, full of spirit regardless to the situation. We are still all working hard to provide what we can for them, many of us from home, with only a small team in school providing that much needed care to our keyworker children. We are looking ahead – we would like to bury a time capsule within the school grounds. I will be setting the children tasks over the next few weeks some of these things will involve them gathering photographs, writing journal entries, newspaper clippings, artwork, and many special memories. This will encourage the children not only to think about themselves, how they feel, what they have around them but also how these things are impacting on others – tying in with our value this term of Friendship and next term Respect. When possible, we will be hosting a day in which we will be inviting all community members along to celebrate with us and bury our capsule. I would love to have your input into its contents... same idea with photographs, journal entries, stories, artwork! The more the merrier.

For those that would like to add to this, could I ask you just drop me a message and let me know to expect it? I do not need to know what you will be adding, and you have a little bit of time to get it all together I should think!

I am going to finish my message today with something I read earlier this week, which may not be true, but it certainly made me smile. As always, you know where I am if you or anyone nearby needs anything. No matter how small...

A conversation between a child and their Grandad in 2095...

Child - How old are you Grandad?

Grandad - I'm 81 Kid.

Child - So does that mean you were alive during the Coronavirus?

Grandad - Yes kid I was.

Child - Wow. That must have been horrible Grandad. We were learning about that at school this week. They told us about how all the schools had closed. And mum's and dads could not go to work so did not have as much money to do nice things. They said that you were not allowed to go and visit your friends and family and could not go out anywhere. They told us that the shops ran out of lots of things, so you did not have much bread, and

flour, and toilet roll 'child giggles'. They said that summer holidays were cancelled. And they told us about all those thousands of people that got very poorly and who died. They explained about the NHS and how hard all the doctors and nurses and all NHS workers worked, and that lots of them died too.

That must have been so horrible Grandad.

Grandad - Well kid, that is all correct. And I know that because I read about it when I was older. But to tell you the truth I remember it differently...

I remember playing in the garden for hours with mum and dad and having picnics outside and lots of BBQs. I remember making things with my Dad and baking with my Mum. I remember making dens with my little brother and teaching him how to do hand stands and back flips. I remember having quality time with my family. I remember mum's favourite words becoming 'Hey, I've got an idea...' Rather than 'Maybe later or tomorrow I'm a bit busy'. I remember making our own bread and pastry. I remember having film night 3 or 4 times a week instead of just one.

It was a horrible time for lots of people you are right. But I remember it differently.

Remember how our children will remember these times. Be in control of the memories they are creating right now, so that through all the awful headlines and emotional stories for so many that they will come to read in future years, they can remember the happy times.



Best wishes,
Steph

Chair – Friends of Pendock School

Benefice Office - Working Hours

Wednesday and Thursday

1.30-4.00pm

For a variety of reasons, I am not always in the Church office on Wednesdays and Thursdays .

Melanie Roberts

If you need to visit me, please give a call to check if I am in !

Office : 01684 833866

2020 Health Advice

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus.

Stay at home if you have coronavirus either symptoms

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.
- Use the 111 online coronavirus service to find out what to do.
- Stay at home for minimum 7 days
- Stay at home for 14 days if either you or someone you live with have the symptoms, count from when symptoms began

Stay at home if over 70, if you are at risk with underlying medical problems or if you are pregnant.

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated of your love. **Amen.**

PENDOCK VILLAGE STORES

&

POST OFFICE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS AS USUAL

Groceries, Fresh Fruit & Veg;

Wines & Spirits;

Newspapers, Magazines & Greeting Cards;

Confectionery and much, much more!

Opening hours:

	<u>Shop</u>	<u>Post Office</u>
Monday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Wednesday	8:00am - 1:00pm	Closed
Thursday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 4:00pm
Friday	8:00am - 6:00pm*	09:00am - 1:00pm
Saturday	8:00am - 1:00pm	Closed
Sunday	8:30am - 11:00am	Closed

* Closed 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Tel: 01531 650034

USE IT OR LOSE IT!