

Spending all our days at home – other than exercise and those shopping trips for essentials (if you are not self-isolating when you can't even do that) – we have all had a lot of time to think.

What have I thought about and what have I discovered during this time?

I have discovered BBC Radio 3! I think my opinions of it were many years out of date – or possibly (and probably) my tastes have changed. Fabulous music, and you don't have to put up with adverts.

I've discovered pretty much every single footpath and lane that you can reach from Broadway in an hour's walk or cycle ride – and we have all enjoyed gorgeous weather to appreciate it or our gardens even more.

I've discovered once again the natural generosity and kindness of the vast majority of our villagers who are supporting the most vulnerable members of our communities.

I've discovered the power of video conferencing on our computers which has enabled many of us to stay in touch with each other, and come together for prayer, worship, and mutual support.

I've discovered how strange it is to be unable to plananything: work, family, holidays; after a lifetime of planning. Very strange. John Lennon says life is what happens while you are making other plans. We have had to learn to live for the moment; and that does not come naturally or easily. But if we embrace it we may find it truly liberating.

I've discovered again the wonderful sense of humour of the British people. Social media and emails have brought much to my attention. Some is side splittingly funny, and some is thought provoking. I leave you with this one: a picture of the Devil and God holding the world between them. The Devil is saying Haha – I've shut all of your churches. God replies – No problem, I've opened a new one in every home!

May you each know and be thankful for the presence of God in your homes and hearts.

Your good friend

Revd Phil

Letter from the Right Reverend Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells
A time to 'Love our neighbours as ourselves'

I wonder - are you someone who gets everything ready long before you need to; jobs done well before time; and someone who is never late for anything? Or are you someone who leaves things to the last minute; works right up to the deadline; and catches the bus or train with moments to spare? Or maybe you are somewhere in the middle?

One of the things that Bishop Ruth and I enjoy doing is writing these articles each month for parish magazines and newsletters. It gives us a chance to keep in touch with people across the diocese and to share the things that are in our hearts and minds as the year unfolds. The only drawback is that we have to write these articles well in advance, so that they reach magazine editors and church administrators in good time. The problem is of course that things may change in all sorts of ways between us writing them and you reading them. I am particularly conscious of that this month, as we are in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic. Things are changing very fast and it is hard to know what the next few weeks will bring. That inevitably brings with it a certain degree of uncertainty and some of us, especially those who are isolated and cut off, may be feeling anxious for ourselves or for others.

My hope throughout this time of 'lockdown' is that although some of us may have felt physically isolated from each other, that we have not felt socially or spiritually isolated. Indeed, I have been truly amazed and encouraged by all the stories I have heard of people caring for each other, phoning each other and

going shopping for those who cannot get out to buy the food they need. At this stage none of us knows quite how and when this virus will eventually be brought under control. However, I do hope that when we get to the stage that restrictions can be safely lifted and we begin to go out and shop as we did before, that things will be different. Many of us have had difficulty buying the food we wanted. Some of us have had to rely on others for our daily needs. We have had to learn new ways to pray and keep in touch with others in our churches and communities. We have had to trust, hope, and look out for our neighbours, especially those who are particularly vulnerable. We have been humbled by the courage and dedication of those who work in the NHS and care homes and all who as 'key workers' have worked tirelessly to look after and provide for us.

Jesus taught us to 'Love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our mind' and 'to love our neighbours as ourselves'. My hope and prayer is that as we emerge from this pandemic that we and our communities may be a more compassionate, more generous, more grateful. And may we all have discovered what it is to know in a deeper way the peace and the presence of God.
May the peace and the joy of the Risen Lord be with you. *Bishop Peter*

There is a section on Coronavirus Support on the website—
<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/> where you can find practical advice, prayers and resources, building guidance and ideas for children and young people and more. There is a link to a news post about Holy Week and Easter at home. We may be celebrating Easter differently this year, but there are lots of services and other initiatives planned that you can take part in, whether online or from your window sill! Including a series of Holy Week reflections

Readings for May 2020

	PSALM	OLD TESTAMENT	EPISTLE	GOSPEL
3rd May Fourth Sunday of Easter	Psalm 23	Acts 2 42-end	1Peter2. 19-end	John 10 1-10
10 th May Fifth Sunday of Easter	Psalm 31 1-5,15-16	Acts 7 55-end	1Peter2. 2-10	John 14 1-14
17 th May Sixth Sunday of Easter	Psalm 66 7-end	Acts 17 22-31	1Peter3 13-end	John 14 15-21
24 th May Seventh Sunday of Easter	Psalm 68 1-10, 32-end	Acts 1. 6-14	1 Peter4 12-14,5.6-11	John 17 1-11
31 st May Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday	Psalm 104 26-end	Acts 2 1-21	1Corinthians12 3b-13	John 20 19-23
7 th June Trinity Sunday	Psalm 8	Isaiah 40 12-17,27-end	2Corinthians13 11-end	Matthew 28 16-20

FROM THE REGISTERS

From January 2016 'Anniversaries' will normally only be included for 5 years after a death. If you would like the name of a loved one included for longer or on a special anniversary please contact the Parish Administrator.

Funerals

We commit to the Lord's loving care, praying that he will comfort, strengthen and guide their families:

17 th March	Ilton	Lena Leahy
19 th March	Hambridge	Ruth Webber
15 th April	Ashill	Lord Robert Temple Armstrong

Anniversaries:

We remember, with thanksgiving, the life and witness of:

6 th May	Ashill	Mildred Parfitt
6 th May	Horton	Eileen Miyoshi
11 th May	Donyatt	Lieselotte Gertrude Loader
12 th May	Donyatt	Frank Every
13 th May	Donyatt	Albert Tratt
17 th May	Isle Brewers	Elizabeth Goodland
18 th May	Horton	Keith Taylor
21 st May	Horton	Lilian Irene Wigmore
21 st May	Ashill	Anthony David (Nobby) Clarke
23 rd May	Ilton	Peggy Irene Duke
23 rd May	Horton	Denis Cordingly
25 th May	Broadway	Muriel Isobel Sharp
26 th May	Isle Brewers	Linda S Jeffrey

Intercessions

In praise and thanksgiving to God for His goodness, we pray.

Benefice Prayer Cycle

Please Pray for:

The people of All Saints Isle Brewers

The Reverend Phil Denison

Our Reader, Mr Greg Hoare

We pray for all those working within the National Health Service. We give thanks for their bravery, knowledge and expertise and for their love.

We also pray for all those working on the front line in other services; our teachers, care workers, fire fighters, police, dustbinmen, shop workers.

We pray for all world wide who are frightened, sick, bereaved, or lonely. May they find love, support and strength.

We pray for all those who have responsibility at this time. May their decisions be wise and guided by expert knowledge and their actions guided by love and respect.

We give grateful thanks for our beautiful surroundings, for our village communities and for the support and kindness within them.

Isle Valley Benefice Prayers

will continue at 9.15am every Monday via Zoom meeting

Isle Valley Benefice Prayer Circle is privileged to pray regularly for all.

The Circle will also pray for any people in particular need at this time.



If you have any special prayer requests please send them to:

Reverend Phil Denison, email: denisonphil15@hotmail.com

or Sarah Crook (Adminstrator) islevalleybenefice@outlook.com

All requests will be confidential.

A Note on Church Finances

Like so many other organizations our churches are finding it a real challenge to fulfill their financial obligations. The great majority of their costs are fixed, and have not reduced just because they are closed.

Yet their income streams are greatly reduced by no church collections from Sunday services and special occasions like baptisms and weddings. And no fund-raising events for the foreseeable future. All we humbly ask is that if you are a regular churchgoer you might arrange to make your donations by bank transfer/direct debit instead. Your local churchwarden or treasurer will be happy to help you do this. Some of our congregation already do this, and have found it to be the most efficient, and indeed a truly spiritual and biblical way of supporting the church. If you are an occasional visitor to church who likes to support and enjoy our fund-raising activities perhaps you would consider making an equivalent donation to our treasurers who would be extremely happy, and no doubt relieved, to hear from you. Thank you in advance.

The Rector and churchwardens of the Isle Valley Benefice.

Hello lovely People

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How are you finding self-isolating, trying to navigate each day in uncharted waters? My word to you is... "YOU ARE NOT ALONE". Mathew ch 28 v 20. Yes, this might be unprecedented times in my or your generation, a silent war, with everybody's lives affected in mutable ways. It can bring the worst out in people, greed, not caring, fear, anger, or bring the best out, being courageous, caring, thinking of others, doing random acts of kindness one at a time. Sound familiar!?! As a church we may not be meeting together, but like many we need to be praying for this Nation, for God's mercy, for protection, for the doctors, the nurses, those on the front line, the politicians who are all trying to keep up with managing the fallout of society, in keeping us safe and protecting against real hardship and poverty. We need to pray for endurance, for divine formulas for scientists, politicians, and hospitals to work with, for creative quick thinking to provide what's needed when its needed.

Don't forget also to phone and keep in touch with one another, we all need encouragement and those isolated will be glad to hear someone else's voice in the silence. Be an encourager, keep thankful, and where you can, carry out acts of random kindness.

KEEP CHEERING EVERYONE ON IN THEIR FAITH.

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU, MAY THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE APON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU, THE LORD TURN HIS FACE

TOWARDS YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. Number's 6 verse 24-26

Lynn x

Worship @ Monks Yard

Whilst we can't physically meet together, we believe worship is still central to our faith. Visit the Sanctuary Space You Tube channel to find multiple playlists and opportunity for worship. Copy and paste the link below into your browser for a Welcome note and 'How to guide' from Phil...

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_ily-mU-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_ily-mU-3k&list=PLIxeOLdKM2wz2dHbPrwOO5W1Sr83P3Xjy&index=3&t=0s)

[3k&list=PLIxeOLdKM2wz2dHbPrwOO5W1Sr83P3Xjy&index=3&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K_ily-mU-3k&list=PLIxeOLdKM2wz2dHbPrwOO5W1Sr83P3Xjy&index=3&t=0s)

Prayer & Communion

Each morning at 10.00am Christians around our nation are partaking in communion in their homes. Join this collective movement and contact us if you would like support in this.

We meet at Monks Yard, Horton Manor near Ilminster. Tel: 01460 200020,

Email: mycommunity@themonksyard.co.uk Web: www.mychurchuk.co.uk

Or find us on Facebook – Monks Yard Church. The Monks Yard Trust, Charity No: 1100060

Ashill Baptist Church

We send our greetings, prayers and good wishes to everyone at this difficult time. If there is some way you think we might be able to help, do get in touch.

While we are unable to meet, we are keeping in regular contact by means of a weekly email newsletter - 'ABC Sunday Special'. If you would like to receive this, or have any prayer requests you would like to be included in it, please email to normanfcumming@gmail.com

Messy Church cannot meet in the usual way at the moment, of course, but if you check out our church FB page, you will see photos of the lovely Easter Gardens that were made by some of our children in their own homes.

Barrington and District Gardening Club

Sadly, we have had to postpone our meetings for the forthcoming months, due to the coronavirus outbreak. We shall keep you updated by email, as to when we hope we will be able to resume our AGM, talks, plant sale and the scheduled afternoon visit to Brimsmore - The Garden Group. These are challenging and uncertain times and we shall be following the direction from the government on resuming normal activity asap.

We hope you remain well during this time and take time to enjoy your gardens, hopefully we shall all be producing some prized specimens for the Summer Show in August!

Please contact Robin on 54691 if you would like further details, or you can find further Gardening Society information on the Barrington Village website: barringtonvillage.btck.co.uk/GardeningSociety.

ASHILL

The Church of St Mary

Ashill Website: www.ashillvillage.net

www.facebook.com/ashillvillage Email: ashillvillage@hotmail.co.uk

St Mary's Church

If you would like to make a donation to St Mary's, Ashill you can do so by logging on to our charitable giving page- <https://www.give.net/20273879>. You will be given the choice to add Gift Aid to your donation or you can make a gift anonymously if preferred. Any donations will be much appreciated.

Should you wish to open a standing order please contact Alan Knight, Church Warden on 01460 259564 for details.

Ashill Village Hall

Ashill Seniors Lunch Club

In view of the current crisis, the lunch clubs are cancelled until further notice.

As soon as normality returns we will let you know and look forward to seeing regulars and new members, who are always welcome.

Ashill Meat Bingo

In view of the current crisis, we will not be holding any more bingo sessions for the time being.

We hope to resume once the all clear is given.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this event over many years. We look forward to welcoming you back before too long.

BROADWAY

The Church of St Aldhelm & St Eadburga

Our Church Building is shut but our Church is still open!

Thanks to Zoom, prayer meetings and services are taking place.

For information contact Roger Sanders: e mail rogersanders19@btinternet.com Sarah Crook: email islevaleynbenefice@outlook.com Or Rev. Phil Denison: e mail denisonphil15@hotmail.com

IF YOU ARE SELF ISOLATING WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP.

We can collect & deliver Medications, help with dog walking and get Emergency supplies, papers etc. at Village Post Office.

Please call or text Channon on 07795 662 606

If you would like to help Email:channon844@btinternet.com

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

We send heartfelt thanks to all those on the front line during this pandemic who are caring for us and keeping us safe and all those keeping our essential services going. We thank Nina and all her staff at Horton Village Post Office for their hard work keeping us supplied with food. We thank Channon for setting up a support system. We thank Rev. Phil for keeping Easter alive and praying for us. We thank all those who have helped their neighbours in any way and we thank all those who have remained cheerful – especially our postman dressed as a bear! THANK YOU!

LOCKDOWN

Our family say we have to stay at home, and be one worry less.
With work from home and shopping we mustn't add to all the stress.
So he and I are in lockdown, we thought ok that's fine,
There's lots of things that we can do to help us pass the time.
We have great plans for the garden, that will give us lots to do,
But now we know that it's no go. The garden centre's locked down too.
We have read all the good advice – the bits we understand,
To cough and sneeze in tissues and wash and dry our hands.
We stay at home to help save lives, we clap the NHS,
We walk the dog out once a day – and never leave a mess.
We wave to neighbours, bless them, and they wave back to us.
So many people are worse off, we don't intend to fuss.
They say we need a good routine, to give our days a meaning.
That means we might be in lockdown, but we get on with the cleaning.
Exercise will keep us fit, they show us on the telly
These fit young folk – it's such a joke – they've not a hint of belly.
Dance to music round the room, exercise and wiggle.
I would, - but then I find I have a static middle.
The shops are very helpful, and shopping's not familiar.
They don't have what you want now, but they have something similar.
We are feeling quite adventurous, we have got set in our ways.
Opening tins is an adventure, it brightens up the days.
My desk is clear, I am up to date, I've filed away the bills.
I've written to the children, and knitted them new sweaters.
I've kept in touch with relatives and even written letters.
I really am doing my best to while away my day.
I shall have finished writing Christmas cards, about the end of May.
We have such lovely neighbours, our friends are all nearby,
We are exchanging funny jokes, and keeping spirit's high.
We read of goodness every day, of people volunteering,
It's such a change from doom and gloom, in fact it's very cheering.
Perhaps some good will come from this, when all this thing is over.
The love that's blossomed in this time, will bloom our world to cover.

By Beryl Muskett

DONYATT

St Mary's Church

100 CLUB

March 2020 draw winners

1st £30 Peter and Margaret Speed

2nd £20 Vi Quinn

3rd £10 Linda Hales

HAMBRIDGE

St James the Less

Village Website—hambridgeandwestport.org

The church has to be kept locked now, until further notice, but God's church is made up of people not buildings and we're all still here, praying for our community and willing to help if needed.

There is also a benefice prayer chain so if you'd like us to pray for anyone or any situation please call Gill on 01460 282913.

We would like to add our heartfelt thanks to all those working in front-line jobs - in the NHS, caring in the community and working in Vicarage House Nursing Home , social work, in shops, especially our marvellous village shop and post office, delivering groceries to those who can't get out, refuse collectors, postmen and all emergency services. Hasn't it been great to hear so many people coming out to applaud them every Thursday?

Everyone, please take care of yourselves and keep safe.

Hambridge and Westport

In the March issue we suggested how we might manage community support during the current health crisis. We can now report to you some of the initiatives and support activities.

- There is now a contact list of nearly one hundred people from the village who are willing to help. The list is published on the village web site www.hambridgeandwestport.org , on the Face Book page "Hambridge, Westport & Isle Brewers Support each other group ", and is also distributed by e-mail.
- Red "Emergency cards" have been distributed to all houses in the village to help friends and neighbours have a non-electronic way to summon help. The Parish Councillors also plan to keep a look out, but it's important for us all to be watching, especially looking after those who may not be familiar with social media or e-mail.
- It would be good to link in our band of helpers with those who have volunteered to support the NHS in England during the coronavirus crisis. So, if you are helping NHS and need a little extra helping hand perhaps contact one of our village volunteers. That might apply if you are an essential worker. You might be working in or supporting the medical teams. We send you all our love and thanks!
- Informal support is happening daily, for example we have arranged a prescription collection from Ilminster surgery if needed.
- The village shop is playing an ever-expanding role in feeding us.
- The village web site www.hambridgeandwestport.org has contact details for your Parish Councillors who will be able to help you as well. They are also printed below. There are important links there as well.
- Perhaps show fantastic tolerance and kindness to others. The person you imagine breaking the rules may be under tremendous stress, the grumpy neighbours may have lost loved ones or perhaps the financial impact for some families may be life changing.

So how do you get help? You may not know who to call on the list, so use one of the contact numbers below. You can post a request on the Facebook site or use the contact page on the website or 'phone a councillor. If all else fails phone 01460 281114 or e-mail micev@btconnect.com
For the time being all parish council public meetings are cancelled.

Simon Denley – Parish Council Chair
01460 281340 Mobile 07766 250656 simon_denley@hotmail.co.uk

Councillors:

Richard Maidment	07818 855150	Paul Masters	01460 281207
Richard Meecham	01460 281775	Jon Lock	07936 196288

HORTON CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

St Peter's Church and Broadway Hill Methodist Church

Correspondent: Roger Allen 01460 57702

Horton's Thoughts

Everyone in Horton seems to be coping with the enforced lockdown due to Covid 19.

All those in the vulnerable age group are most appreciative of all the help they are getting, not only from family, but from a willing volunteer force, and neighbours. The Community spirit in Horton is as strong as ever.

Our grateful thanks to Nina at our Post Office and Stores for keeping the Village shop open every day through these difficult times.

As you are aware the Church is closed for services, and also for visiting for that quiet moment. We hope that we can re-open as soon as it is safe to do so. St Peter's in Horton has been redecorated, and looks wonderful. This was able to be undertaken by the generous donation from a Horton Villager.

With the wonder of technology, we have been able to watch services online from Canterbury, York, Manchester and from Bath & Wells. Our weekly services on Zoom from Revd. Phil have helped to fill the void of not being able to attend Church.

We are also able to enjoy our weekly Quiz on a Wednesday evening run by David Ireland on Zoom, and also to thank our wonderful NHS by clapping with our neighbours (whilst observing Social Distancing) on a Thursday night.

Life is different, but we are so lucky to live in a wonderful part of the country with such lovely friends to keep an eye on us all.

I have been keeping in touch with as many people as possible in the last few weeks, especially those who I am aware of, that live on their own.

If you would welcome a call from me, please ring me on 01460 57702.

In the coming few weeks we must all try and keep cheerful, look out for one another, follow the rules, stay home, keep well, and keep safe.

Love Jan, Churchwarden

Broadway Hill Methodist Church

Some of the community are working so hard, endeavouring to juggle many aspects of life that have come together. I have every respect for all who are working with children and family at home. I have had photographs of exciting face painting and children sleeping out in the garden overnight, even for the first time! Thank you, too, for those in a professional or volunteering role who are putting themselves out for me and others staying at home.

During April there were a number of radio programmes about William Wordsworth, whose 250th anniversary of his birth was celebrated. Wordsworth was born in Cumbria but stayed for a while with his friend Samuel Taylor Coleridge here in Somerset in Nether Stowey. It set me thinking of a visit to a studio at Hort Bridge last year during the Somerset Art Weeks. I bought a copy of "We have heard Ravens" with poems by William's younger sister Dorothy, put together by Catherine Simmonds; incidentally the publishing and artwork was done locally. There was a huge loyalty and common interest between the siblings. Both William and Dorothy with Coleridge, soaked in the atmosphere, changes and details of their daily walks, in all weathers. So perhaps we can notice the trees, moss, birds and flowers as we perambulate. Enjoy!

Broadway Hill Methodist Church is closed until guidance allows. It is amazing though, how much is on offer with phone chats, email, live-streaming, Skype, Zoom and social media. www.methodist.org offers print-off of worship outlines for every Sunday. I would be pleased to send these by email week-by-week so please contact Sue on the details below if you would like. I can deliver in the centre of Horton and Broadway too. I am not into social media but the following is also recommended: #Loveyourself#loveyourneighbour from that website . don't hesitate to pick up the phone!

Contact Sue Parsons 01460 54581 a.parsons028@btinternet.com
Minister Rev Anna Flindell 01460 261766 flindell.anna@yahoo.com

A prayer in Hard Times

God in this season I offer my thanks.
You, knowing all things,
Know **exactly** how we feel right now.

While we battle confusion and uncertainty
we know we are not alone.

While we isolate ourselves and keep our distance
we know that you are **never** too far.

While we ask difficult questions
and face hard and unexpected truths,
we know you are a wise and true God.

Father, give strength and joy at this time.
Fill us with peace and happiness
that could only come from you.

Show us how to love and care for one another
in this new world which is still yours.

Although many things are changing
Help us to rest in the truth of who you are
a Loving God who never changes. Amen (Thelma Commey)
www.methodist.org

ILTON

The Church of St Peter

Church Roof

The closing date for the architect to receive builders' quotes for re-roofing St Peter's Church was 17th April. After due consideration, the decision concerning which builder will complete the work will be made.

ISLE ABBOTS

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin

Correspondent: Lesley Sutcliffe – 01460 281440

lesleysutcliffe52@btinternet.com Village Website: www.isle-abbotts.org.uk

Due to the logistical difficulties relating to the distribution of the IVN across the 8 parishes it has been decided to send future editions electronically for the time being.

Unfortunately the church has had to close so there will be no services until further notice. However, the church is more about the people, not just the building, and we are all here to support and help you at this difficult time. Isle Abbots has a very good support network already and I'm sure everyone is being looked after by their neighbours and family that live locally. If, however, you feel the need to speak to a church member or the vicar please contact Elaine (281407), Tony ([07967802058](tel:07967802058)) or Rev. Phil Denison (259155).

Mothering Sunday was a difficult time for us as many were not able to visit family to celebrate and thank their mothers and grandmothers. Some members of the PCC made up small posies of flowers from our gardens and distributed them to every house in the village as a sign of unity and to celebrate this special day.

The Big Breakfast in March was another successful morning. We had 55 breakfasts to serve and raised over £300 of well needed funds for the church. Thanks to those who helped and to all those who attended.

We have set up a second hand book stall in the porch of the Jubilee Room. The books have come out of the church and have been wiped over with anti-bac wipes. It will be open during the day when the door is ajar. Please make sure your hands are clean before entering and use the gloves provided before handling the books. Any donations for the church would be gratefully received.

We are inviting contributions for next month's edition of the IVN. If you have a story to tell, a favourite poem or prayer, or to show your appreciation to others then please send your entry to our correspondent, lesleysutcliffe52@btinternet.com by 9th May latest.

Several businesses in Ilminster, Langport and Curry Mallet will take telephone orders and deliver goods. Just give them a ring and see what they can do for you.

There are several pubs in the area who are offering take-away meals. If you would like to make use of them but are not able to collect it yourself please let us know and we will endeavour to pick up for you (281407).

March 100 Club Draw

1st Prize – Diane Lusey (64)

2nd Prize – Sheila Simpson (02)

3rd Prize – Carolyn Furness

The Church of St Mary the Virgin,

A medieval Church of golden hamstone
Glowing graciously in a moorland landscape.
Built by monks from nearby Muchelney
Now the *jewel in the crown of Somerset Churches.

A shrine left unspoilt by religious wars
Forgotten and unnoticed in this rural backwater.
The imposing tower niches displaying ancient Saints
And on high ornate gargoyles and ferocious hunky punks.

Inside pervades a cool stillness and calm
An oasis to soothe the troubled soul
Crying out for a connection with God
Our Saviour who dearly loves us all.

Those who have gone home now resting in peace
In the graveyard sleeping alongside generations of villagers
Having lived their various lives for good or bad
Not forgotten by their family and friends.

Scenting the spiritual imprint of humanity
Who over the centuries have used the Church
To pray to God, marry, be baptised and buried
As life evolves from generation to generation.
*Pevsner

Peter Cottell 2020

Thank You NHS *A poem by Matt Kelly*

I'll tell you a tale that's been recently written
Of a powerful army so great it's saved Britain
They didn't have bombs and they didn't have planes
They fought with their hearts and they fought with their brains
They didn't have bullets, armed just with a mask
We sent them to war with one simple task
To show us the way to lead and inspire us
To protect us from harm and fight off the virus
It couldn't be stopped by our bullet proof vests
An invisible enemy invaded our chests
So we called on our weapon our soldiers in blue

All doctors all nurses your country needs you
We clapped on our streets hearts bursting with pride
As they went off to war while we stayed inside
They struggled at first as they searched for supplies
But they stared down the virus in the whites of its eyes
They leapt from the trenches and didn't think twice
Some never came back the ultimate price

So tired so weary yet still they fought on
As the virus was beaten and the battle was won
Too many of us owe so much to so few
The brave and the bold our heroes in blue
So let's line our streets and remember our debt
We love you our heroes - lest we forget.

To make you smile.

Seen pinned to the door of a mother working from home :

Mum is in a Meeting

9.30 -11

DO NOT ENTER

The answer to your question might be here:

Upstairs

In the wash

I don't know what's for dinner

NO

In your bedroom

piece of fruit

As usual, the village is pulling together as a community at this difficult time and like the rest of the country we are very grateful to the NHS who are working so hard at great risk to themselves. We also appreciate all the work being done by the other emergency services, carers, teachers, food suppliers, delivery services, postmen and the council for continuing to provide services like our bin collections. Thank you.

We hope that this will cheer you, too!

Ashill School continues to be open during 'lockdown' so that some of the children with one or both parents who are key workers can continue to come into school when necessary.

A rota of staff from Ashill, Hatch Beauchamp, Winsham and Buckland St Mary Schools support and look after them, and besides school work the children – and the adults! – do lots of fun things too.

We do hope you like the lovely poster that the children have made and the array of beautiful rainbow.

