

## Latest News – 1st November 2020



### Watch the service - A service of thanksgiving, hope, and remembrance

The Bishop of London, Rt Rev Dame Sarah Mullally, leads this special service of thanksgiving, hope, and remembrance from St Paul's Cathedral..

All Saints' Service Trailer  
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Join us for our weekly service from 9am on Sunday on Facebook and YouTube

Watch later Share

Tens of thousands of people coping with bereavement amid the coronavirus pandemic are to be remembered in prayers at a special national Church of England service from St Paul's Cathedral to be broadcast this weekend. The Bishop of London, Rt Revd Sarah Mullally, is to lead the Church of England's online weekly service on All Saints' Day, marking the start of the season of remembrance. The service, of thanksgiving, hope and remembrance, with hymns and anthems from the choir of St Paul's, will be broadcast on the Church of England's [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#) at 9am on Sunday.

In opening remarks, Bishop Sarah will speak of the Christian message of hope, in the face of the devastating impact of the coronavirus pandemic. She will say that God is with us in our pain and fear and that his love for us can never be destroyed.

“We gather at a time of great uncertainty and challenge as the people of our world struggle to overcome a devastating pandemic that has cut short earthly lives, destroyed livelihoods, and separated us from the people and activities we enjoy. But we are not without hope,” she will say.

“Through word, prayer, song and symbol, we are reminded that God’s love for us can never be destroyed. God is with us in our pain and fear and will lead us to a yet more glorious day.”

The service will hear prayers read by the Dean of St Paul’s, Very Revd Dr David Ison, giving thanks for the lives of all those who have died and praying for all those who mourn their passing. He will also pray for all those caring for the sick and those providing essential services. He will further lead prayer for people in positions of leadership both at local and national level as well as those who advise them.

Delivering the sermon, Revd Canon Mia Hilborn, Hospitaller, or Chaplain, at Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust and for the London Fire Brigade, will describe how she has seen ‘extraordinary’ acts of compassion and kindness while at work this year.

“I have witnessed real heroes and heroines at work in intensive care units, the Emergency Department, oncology and elderly care wards,” she will say.

“Firefighters have been expanding their skills by supporting paramedics and still fighting fires and keeping London safe. Doctors, nurses, therapists, chaplains, being utterly extraordinary supported by teams of workers who give their all, and who are continuing to give their all because we are still very much in the midst of the Covid pandemic.”

She will add: “The hope we have in our hearts as Christians is eternal. So this day we remember with love and respect those who have gone before us, giving honour to their names and respect for their lives by our continuing to live with hope. Hope that is in Christ will not be disappointed.”

Viewers of the service will be invited to remember those who have died whom they have known and loved. They will be invited to remember especially those who have died during the pandemic, whose names are memorialised in the [Remember Me online Book of Remembrance](#) hosted by St Paul’s Cathedral.

**At the end of the service, viewers will be invited [to light an online candle in memory of a loved one who has died](#).**

The service is to be broadcast from 9am on Sunday on the [Church of England’s website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

An order of service is available to [download online](#).

*All of the video content is manually subtitled. To turn these on, go to the bottom left of the video and click the filled-in box with two broken lines inside. The service is BSL-interpreted throughout.*

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# **Coronavirus: Church will continue to bring light and hope amid new 'lockdown' - Bishop of London – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister of new restrictions to limit the spread of Covid-19, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, chair of the Church of England's Recovery Group said:

"We have heard with others the announcement from the Prime Minister this evening of a second national 'lockdown' in England and how this will affect the life of our communities and public worship. "We will study the detailed regulations and continue to liaise with Government departments to offer clarity to churches. "This is a time of real uncertainty for everyone and the Church will continue to be central to the life of our communities in bringing light and hope."

## **COVID-19: places of worship and restrictions on social gatherings**

There is an exemption from the 'rule of six' that covers places of worship making it possible for more than six people to gather for acts of communal worship. However, it is not a blanket exemption and people must not mingle in groups of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.

- Government guidance permits a maximum of 15 people to attend church premises for a 'life cycle event', such as a baptism or Confirmation, held outside of regular worship without observing the 'rule of six'. This is subject to the church carrying out a risk assessment and taking all reasonable measures to limit the risk of transmission of coronavirus.
- There is no numerical limit on other services, subject to physical distancing and Public Health requirements must be met.
- The two-metre 'rule' applies for public worship except in situations where closer contact cannot be avoided; extra Public Health precautions must then be taken.
- Consideration should be given to keeping numbers below the maximum possible to further minimise risk. This may include in advance ticketing or invitation-only events.
- People attending a gathering in church must not be part of a group of more than six unless they are from the same household or support bubble.
- Wearing of face coverings by all those attending a place of worship, including ministers and worshippers, where there may be other people present is mandatory. There are exemptions to this, including for those leading a service, detailed in church of England guidance on face coverings.
- While those at extra risk and the 'clinically extremely vulnerable' should be advised of the risks of attending public worship, a decision to do so is theirs alone.
- Government guidance includes a request for names of attendees to be recorded and kept for 21 days to assist 'track and trace' if required.
- Singing and music is only permitted for small groups of professional and non-professional performers in a physically distanced and safe way. Congregations are not permitted to sing.
- Detailed instructions on 'consumables' suggest that services of Holy Communion can be held if specific guidance is followed, including the continued suspension of the Common Cup (see the Church of England specific guidance document on Holy Communion).
- Public worship guidance includes surrounding grounds (including churchyards, car parks and courtyards); meetings in other places should follow other guidance for people meeting in public spaces.
- Refreshments can only be served at tables if a café is included in the church or cathedral building.
- Further Government advice about use of churches and church halls for non-religious activity is expected.

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## More than 17,000 online services and events provided by Church of England parishes

More than 17,000 online services and events are being provided by Church of England churches following the introduction of the lockdown and restrictions on public worship earlier this year, according to a new report published today.

Figures from the Church of England's [A Church Near You website](#), which allows people to search for church services and events, show that more than 17,000 online services or events are now listed, including Sunday Communion services, Bible studies and morning or night prayer. Many of these services take place regularly and this figure represents a snapshot of the likely total number.



The statistics do not include the [Church of England's national online weekly services](#) broadcast on Sundays and shared on Facebook and YouTube.

There have been nearly three million views of the national online services and posts about the weekly broadcasts have been seen 23.6 million times. Contributors have included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Duke of Cambridge and Pope Francis.

The national online services are being watched by a wide range of ages and around one in five people viewing go to church infrequently or not at all.

Other figures in the report show that official Church of England apps from Church House Publishing – the most popular being Daily Prayer, or the Daily Office of morning, evening and night prayer - have been used more than seven million times so far this year, up from five million in 2019. Church of England social media posts have been seen 86 million times so far, nearly double the total for last year.

The growth in online services has been helped by the Church of England stepping up its digital training programme for congregations. More than 4,200 vicars and local church leaders have taken part in remote digital training courses so far this year, four times the number as in 2019.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: “At a time when many have felt isolated and fearful, Church of England parishes and clergy have broadcast thousands of online church services and events, seeking to bring comfort and hope to their communities. We know that tens of thousands of those tuning in will never have had contact with their local Church of England parish before and may never have heard the Christian message. Their welcome presence is a sign of the great hunger we all have for spiritual meaning in our lives.”

The 2020 digital figures are published alongside the Mission Statistics for 2019 showing social action and church attendance until December. The figures show that parishes were already running or supporting 35,000 social action projects before the pandemic, serving communities across the country from lunch clubs for older people to parent and toddler groups and food banks.

More than 4,000 parent/carer toddler groups are run or supported by Church of England churches, while more than 5,000 churches run or support lunch clubs, coffee mornings or similar hospitality for older people.

The figures show the extent of church support for people living in food poverty with nearly 8,000 food banks run or supported by Church of England churches.

Nearly 60% of churches are involved in food bank provision while nearly one in three reported either running, hosting or supporting a parent/toddler group. Other figures showed 2,700 churches involved in community cafes, 2,400 in night shelters and 2,300 in holiday or breakfast clubs.

The findings show Church of England churches were involved in 35,000 social action projects, compared to 33,000 recorded in 2017.

The figures for social action have been released alongside statistics showing that the number of regular worshippers attending church once a month or more decreased by 1% in 2019 to 1.11 million.

On average, 854,000 people attended Church of England services and acts of worship each week in October 2019, a decline of 2.1% compared to the year before. The additional number of people attending services for schools in Church of England churches rose by 3% to 182,000. Usual Sunday attendance fell by 2% to 690,000 in 2019.

There were nearly eight million attendances at Christmas and Advent services and more than a million people attended Church of England church services at Easter.

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## **All Souls' Day amid Covid-19: The value of remembering**

For generations, writes Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, the Church of England has been there at this time of year to help people remember those they love but see no longer, whether they have died recently or long ago. Grief and bereavement include moments to pause and remember. These can happen at any time during the year, but early November, known in the church as All Souls' Day, provides a special focus, which can be very helpful. After the public nature of a funeral, and when all the concerns of friends seem to fade, having a space just to sit with your own thoughts, offer prayers, and find comfort in knowing that God is present in our lives can be immensely comforting.

This year it is more important than ever as so many have been unable to attend a funeral. Last year the Church of England was involved in 115,000 funerals, around 25% of all funerals, and an average attendance at a funeral is around 50 people, meaning about 6 million people go to pay respects, show solidarity and mourn someone who has been part of their life. This year, those numbers are drastically reduced as since March there have been around 300,000 funerals taking place with restricted attendance. This means that many people have been unable to process their thoughts and feelings at a funeral.

Taking a moment to pause around November 1<sup>st</sup> to remember all those who have shaped our lives is both important and helpful. It could be at home through lighting a candle and saying a prayer or in the spaces provided indoors and out at great cathedrals or village churches. But wherever, it is despite restrictions in place with across our nation, churches are still very much there for grieving people.

They are there for funeral services, making it unique and special. They are there after the funeral to lay ashes to rest, or for memorial services. They are there to help families remember over All Souls' and All Saints' Day, physically in whatever ways that is possible, and they are there online, creating different kinds of spaces for people to remember in new ways. And although the way we remember might be different, the message of hope that death is not the end will remain the same, along with the prayers of God's people for all those who grieve.

## **New Community of Prayer for cathedral's soaring online congregation**

It is more than 900 years since a travelling community of monks settled on the site that is now Durham Cathedral. Now, amid the momentous events of 2020, the Cathedral has founded an online Community of Prayer to serve its growing digital congregation around the world.



A core group of 200 people have been engaging proactively with digital services put out by the cathedral, a World Heritage Site. A further 1,300 people are then returning later in the day to an online service. The Community of Prayer has been launched online to engage with the new internet worshippers. Free to join, the [Community takes place on Facebook](#) with monthly Zoom meetings. Quiet days held twice monthly, are also on offer.

Canon Chancellor, Canon Charlie Allen, said: "I am overjoyed to be launching our new online Community of Prayer. Lockdown showed us just how many people across the globe have a real connection to Durham Cathedral and we want to build on this sense of community in a positive and meaningful way by forming this shared space of prayer. I am hopeful that our new online community will become a useful resource for those who would like to deepen their sense of belonging to Durham Cathedral and explore their faith, while also combatting some of the loneliness felt by many at this time."

Congregational worship has returned to Durham Cathedral, which was built in 1093, but the online Community will serve those who are unable to visit in person. You can find out more on Durham Cathedral's website [here](#).

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# Churches face new curbs across Europe as second wave takes hold

BY JONATHAN LUXMORE

RESTRICTIONS that had been lifted are being reimposed on church services across the Continent, as governments seek to contain an upsurge in the Covid-19 pandemic.

In France, one of the worst-affected countries, a tiered alert system similar to Britain's was introduced last weekend. There is now a ban on gatherings of more than ten, and face masks must be worn outdoors in Paris, Lyon, and other cities.

A spokesman for the Roman Catholic Church in France, Vincent Neymon, said that mass attendance had dropped by 40 per cent, resulting in a loss of €60 million in church income. The Archbishop of Paris, the Most Revd Michel Aupetit, has launched a daily memorial service for victims, and bishops have urged compliance with new restrictions.

In Spain, which had registered 308 infections per 100,000 inhabitants by early October, a 15-day state of emergency was declared in Madrid, restricting church attendance to one third of normal capacity.

Although places of worship can admit larger congregations in other regions, local spikes have been reported, and several Roman Catholic convents have been quarantined in Seville after most of their nuns tested positive for the virus.

In Italy, one of the countries worst hit economically, the Prime Minister, Giuseppe Conte, ordered a ban on sports events and parties and also restricted the hospitality industry, but imposed no immediate restrictions on churches.

The Vatican, however, imposed a face-mask requirement on Monday, after several Swiss Guards were diagnosed with Covid-19.

In Germany, which has reported fewer than 10,000 deaths since March, public gatherings have been limited to 50, and Christmas markets have been cancelled, although church organisers say that the annual Kirchentag festival will go ahead in Frankfurt next May.

Germany's federal Health Minister, Jens Spahn, said last week that church services could continue if coronavirus rules were complied with, although Chancellor Angela Merkel was set to discuss tighter restrictions with 16 state premiers on Wednesday. The country's 20 regional Evangelical Churches and 27 Roman Catholic dioceses are responsible for safety measures in their own areas, and have urged observance of government directives.

In the Netherlands, which this week reported 364 infections per 100,000 inhabitants, new restrictions were announced on 29 September, as church leaders applied a new public-gathering limit of 30 to religious services.

All governments stepped up restrictions after the World Health Organization (WHO) referred to 700,000 new cases across Europe last week: a 34-per-cent rise since the end of September.

Although the reported upsurge is widely attributed to increased testing, the WHO said that deaths had also risen 16 per cent in a week, bringing rates to their highest since the start of the pandemic last winter.

In Eastern Europe, the government of Slovakia has banned church services in an effort to contain the virus, although the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference insisted that there was insufficient evidence to support the move, and urged the Prime Minister, Igor Matovic, in an open letter, on Tuesday, to reconsider.

Church leaders in the Czech Republic said that online services would resume this Sunday; a state of emergency on Monday reduced congregations from 100 to just ten.

The RC Bishop of Plzen, the Rt Revd Tomáš Holub, warned in a message on Twitter, however, that Czech Christians had “many reservations” about government handling of the latest crisis, and said that “strong criticisms” would be merited once the current upsurge eased.

Churches remain open in Poland, although the country’s Roman Catholic leaders have urged priests to exercise “vigilance and responsibility” as infection rates rise.

The secretary-general of the Bishops’ Conference, Bishop Artur Mizinski, tested positive after a plenary last week, together with two bishops from the southern Opole diocese, while an outbreak was also confirmed among Pauline monks at the Jasna Góra national sanctuary.

In Croatia, Archbishop Marin Barišić, of Split-Makarska, also tested positive, as face masks were required at all religious gatherings.

Among Orthodox leaders, Patriarch Kirill of Moscow was forced to quarantine after being in contact with Covid-carriers, but was cleared of the virus last Saturday. Patriarch Daniel of Romania condemned a government decision to restrict an annual pilgrimage at Iasi to local residents, branding the move “disproportionate, discriminatory, and taken without consultation”.

Measures taken by European governments parallel those in the UK, where government guidelines on places of worship were updated on 8 October.

In Ireland, all church services have been banned since 7 October, although places of worship remain open for private prayer, and up to 25 people are allowed at funerals and weddings.

The weekly *The Irish Catholic* said that church leaders had requested a meeting with the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, “in a bid to lift the ban”, as parishes had “worked tirelessly to ensure protocols like sanitising and physical-distancing were rigidly adhered to” since churches had been allowed to reopen at the end of June.

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## **We must face up to the human heartache in a Britain divided by lockdowns**

24/10/2020

The Archbishop of York writes today in the Yorkshire Post with Nick Baines, the Bishop of Leeds, and David Walker, the Bishop of Manchester, on the effect of the Covid restrictions on the poorest in our society.

We’ve learnt over the years that hard truths are nearly always hard to hear - let alone accept. Yet if ever there was a time to prick up our ears up and listen carefully, it’s during this devastating pandemic. The upsetting truth is that Covid-19 cases - and hospital admissions - are rising. A long, difficult winter lies ahead. And perhaps most cruelly of all, the people who are most likely to suffer and die from this terrible virus are the very poorest amongst us.

We have every sympathy with government and legislators who are trying their best to navigate a way through this most difficult of situations. The lockdowns and other restrictions that more and more of us are experiencing is a way of life we will probably have to get used to for some time to come. However, there is evidence to show that it is the poorest who are often living in the most deprived communities of our nation who are being hit the hardest and suffer most from these restrictions. Public Health England have stated, “the mortality

rates from Covid-19 in the most deprived areas of the country were more than double than the least deprived”, whilst the director of the Medical Research Council for lifelong health and ageing at UCL, said “deprivation increased the impact of Covid-19 through a range of factors, including overcrowding, income, employment, disability and health status”.

Those in more deprived communities, urban and rural, are most likely to be living in smaller and more cramped homes. They have lower incomes and little job security. They are much less likely to be able to work from home or enjoy flexible working practices and of course, that is if they have paid employment and a roof over their head in the first place. And let's not forget the large number of hidden homeless, those who are not actually on the streets, but live in temporary accommodation or move from sofa to sofa. For many families in the UK today it is a struggle just to get food on the table.

This is a terrible double whammy: the poorer you are the more likely you are to get coronavirus; and the poorer you are the more likely you are to suffer disproportionately from the restrictions that are imposed to control Covid-19. It is this heart-breaking reality, not party politics, that lies behind this week's stand-off between Manchester and Westminster. It is not that local leaders and people in Manchester don't understand the need for controls and restrictions to slow the spread of this virus and save lives, it's just that those very restrictions are crippling the people they are trying to save and, for them, doing very little to protect them from coronavirus, for they are the people who have little choice about still having to go to work, only now for a smaller wage. And if they do end up being laid off, they and their family are at further risk, not least from the deterioration in mental health that inevitably goes with the stress of unemployment and the inability to support one's family.

The hard truth is this: people on low or unpredictable wages simply can't afford to isolate, and often end up working if they are asymptomatic or have only very slight symptoms. Given the hardships they are currently facing and indeed were facing before coronavirus, what are the choices left for them?

Therefore, if we are going to bring real equality and levelling up across the country, then people living in poverty need to be paid a sufficient wage that can enable them to feel secure by staying home. Blaming them for not doing so is not an option. They simply don't have the cushion or the safety net that is there for people on higher wages nor is the current benefits system the help that it should be. For most people, there is a five-week delay in accessing benefits. This is far, far too long.

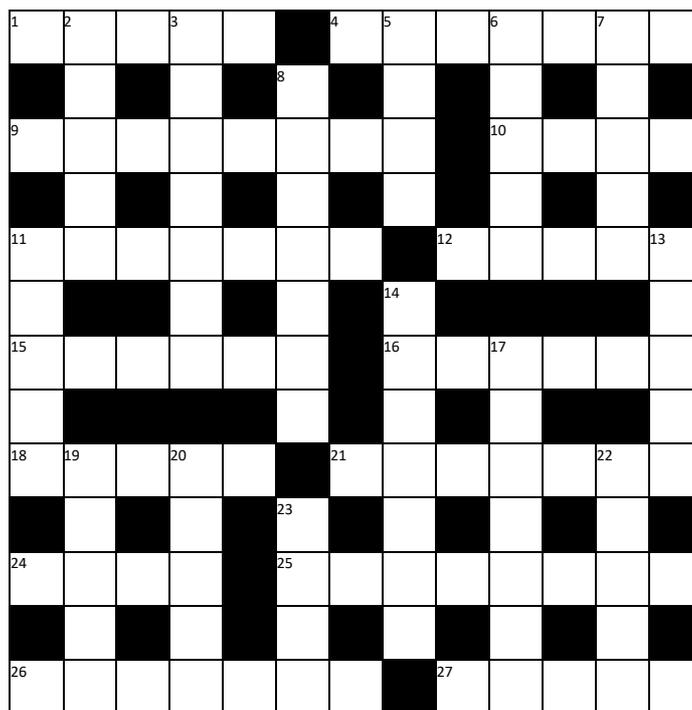
As this tough winter begins and the poorest and most vulnerable in our society take the biggest hit, we need a collective, nationwide response. This will require further injections of money to support poorer communities, which yes, will be a cost to all of us, but it is a price worth paying, since the alarming alternative that may emerge if we don't get things right is a divided nation. A divided nation where one section of society, generally wealthy, generally living in the south, is able to screen itself more effectively from coronavirus and get through to the other side of this pandemic, and another section of society, generally poorer, generally in the north, suffers greatly.

The cost of this division, particularly among younger people, will only lead to disillusion and unrest. We need to find ways of bearing the cost of this proportionally, and even finding ways of increasing social cohesion through the shared enterprise of finding ways of defeating Covid-19.

At our best, on Thursday evenings throughout the summer cheering the NHS, we caught a glimpse of this cohesion. Rather than a society of strangers, we began to see emerge a community of communities. But unless there is proper financial provision for our poorest communities we are going to see this cohesion disintegrate. This week we saw that starting to happen in some communities in the north. It can be avoided. But it requires a different sort of vision and one that begins with much greater collaboration between Westminster and local, regional and devolved leadership. If we fail to do this, it will be measured in human suffering and may turn out to be a scourge that is more dangerous and de-stabilising than Covid-19 itself.

We pray each day for the leaders of our nation at this most testing time - but now is the time for some fresh, radical thinking. When you embark on a long journey, you need to ensure that you have with you all you will need. We are collectively as a nation in for a long haul. But while there is time, albeit limited, we hope we can look again at what is put in place, particularly listening to those local communities in the north of England and their leaders. We think our nation may be able to do better and we must. In the words of Jesus: 'Let them who have ears, let them hear' - however hard that may be.

## October's Crossword



- | Across |                       | Down |                          |
|--------|-----------------------|------|--------------------------|
| 1      | Inform (5)            | 2    | River mouth (5)          |
| 4      | Confusing (7)         | 3    | Frivolous (7)            |
| 9      | The Seven Sisters (8) | 5    | Inferior quality (4)     |
| 10     | Venetian official (4) | 6    | Fragrant wood (5)        |
| 11     | Understands (7)       | 7    | Inflexible (5)           |
| 12     | Eat away (5)          | 8    | Determined (7)           |
| 15     | Ravine (6)            | 11   | Centre of attraction (5) |
| 16     | The Hunter (6)        | 13   | Concluded (5)            |
| 18     | Seamstress (5)        | 14   | Candidate (7)            |
| 21     | Ornamented (7)        | 17   | Changes (7)              |
| 24     | 'Sticky' seed pod (4) | 19   | Furnish (5)              |
| 25     | Bless (8)             | 20   | Heron (5)                |
| 26     | Social climber (7)    | 22   | Small (5)                |
| 27     | Exploiting (5)        | 23   | Ruler (4)                |

## Service Times – St Botolph’s Church, Boston

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our service times have temporarily changed to the following. Please note that we have also implemented safety measures to protect all who visit/worship at St Botolph’s. Our 11am service will also be streamed via Zoom. To join us, please email [admin@parishofboston.co.uk](mailto:admin@parishofboston.co.uk) or call (01205) 310929 to obtain the login details.

### Sunday Services

Said Eucharist – 9.30am

Said Eucharist – 11.00am

### Mid-week Service

Said Eucharist – Wednesday at 10:30am



ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH  
A BEACON & OASIS OF HOPE

## St Botolph’s Church Tower Climb

### Tower Climbs are back!

The historic & iconic tower of Boston Stump has reopened for people to climb the 200 steps to the viewing gallery. With views as far as Hunstanton all the way to Lincoln Cathedral the views from the tower will not disappoint.

### Opening Times

Monday – Friday

First climb 9.00am / Last climb 2.30pm

### Pricing

Adults - £5.00

Under 18's Free

(with an accompanying adult)

You are advised that it is not suitable for those with cardio-respiratory conditions, or for persons taking medication for breathing difficulties. Young persons under the age of 18 years are not permitted to climb the tower unless accompanied by an adult. If there is any doubt you will be asked to prove your age before entry. We regret that bags and holdalls are not permitted. The tower climb may need to close due to inclement weather.

Tel. (01205) 310929 | Add. Rectory Offices, Wormgate, Boston, PE21 8NP  
Email. [admin@parishofboston.co.uk](mailto:admin@parishofboston.co.uk) | W. [www.parish-of-boston.org.uk](http://www.parish-of-boston.org.uk)



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ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

*A Passion for People*





## Lincoln Cathedral's shared worship

We are once again able to come together in shared worship at Lincoln Cathedral.

Worship observes social distancing rules and be held in the Nave. Download the Order of Service before attending if you can. If you receive one on arrival please take it home with you. There will be music by a cantor and organ but no communal singing. Use hand sanitiser provided. Communion will take place - follow the directions given by stewards.

### Live streaming

We understand that not everyone will be able, or wish to join us in the Cathedral for services at the moment. We will stream our 9.30am Sunday Eucharist live on our Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/Lincoln.Cathedral>

### Daily worship

Our daily pattern of worship is as follows:

#### Monday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.  
5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Tuesday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.  
8.30am – Holy Communion.  
5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Wednesday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine. 5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Thursday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine  
8.30am – Holy Communion  
5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Friday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.  
5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Saturday

8am – Morning Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine  
5.30pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

#### Sunday

7.45am – Litany – St Hugh's Shrine.  
8am – Holy communion (BCP) – St Hugh's Shrine.  
9.30am – Holy Communion – Nave.  
3.45pm – Evening Prayer – St Hugh's Shrine.

### Cathedral open for general visits

Lincoln Cathedral is now open to tourists, pilgrims and general visitors.

To welcome back visitors and to thank everyone for their continuing support, there is a reduced admission of £5 per adult and children under 16 will be free. As always, admission is free on Sundays.

The doors will be open to visitors from 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday and 11am to 3.30pm on Sundays.

The majority of the Cathedral, including the Cathedral Shop and toilets, will be open for visitors, although the library, some chapels and the Refectory will remain closed.

## The Chapter Letter 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020: There is more to life than death

### From the Dean:

We are delighted at the recent announcement that Canon Nick Brown is to be our new Precentor. He will be joining us on 18th December. I have invited him to introduce himself to you all.

Although I grew up in Dorset my parents met in Lincolnshire, my mother having been born not too far from the Cathedral and baptised in St Mary and St Nicholas church on Newport – so moving to Lincoln is something of a homecoming. I was lucky to have three interests which stimulated me throughout my childhood: singing as a chorister, railways, and churches. In the context of these three childhood interests, I distinctly remember one organist I met as a young boy making a somewhat weary comment that often, it was only railways that provided a common interest between organists and deans in many a cathedral close! However, I have been lucky enough to have incorporated all three into various parts of my working life – and I hope I share more in common with my new colleagues than just railways...

After reading music at Royal Holloway University of London, I combined continued ongoing academic study in church music history, some teaching and involvement in railways before concentrating my efforts on management within the railway sector; one of my happiest times was spent managing a heritage and community railway – working with a combined paid and volunteer staff of more than 500 and being paid to play with steam trains! Throughout this time I continued to be involved in church music as a conductor, singer and organist, and it was in a church choir that I met Lucy – getting married in 2003.

After training for ordination in Oxford I served my title as Assistant Curate in the Wiltshire market and garrison town of Warminster along with the nearby village of Upton Scudamore. Whilst in the Diocese of Salisbury I spent some time seconded to the Ministry Department of the diocese, and from time to time deputised for the Precentor in leading services in Salisbury Cathedral.

While we were in Warminster, our family grew with the additions of Ben (now 10) and Ollie (now 8). Ben is passionate about railways and is looking forward to building a new model railway in 2 Pottergate(!) and also likes mediaeval architecture – luckily including churches, cathedrals and castles. Ollie likes dinosaurs (and other prehistoric life), loves the family's puppy dog (Emma) and is often seen attached to a piece of technology.

Having worked as a business analyst before Ben and Ollie's arrivals, Lucy has built up a bookkeeping and accountancy business and serves as a member of the Advisory Council of the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers, convening the Lincolnshire Branch of ICB and also chairing their Sanctions Review Board. In her spare time she 'enjoys' running and in the last couple of years has completed a couple of ultra marathons, including Race to the Tower in the Cotswolds.

At the beginning of 2013, we moved to Lincolnshire when I became Rector of Louth – leading the parish (and more recently deanery) through times of significant change and, more recently, challenge. It has been a joy to see the choral tradition at St James's in Louth rekindled, and to see the church engage deeply in the local community through the work of Trinity Centre and other outreach activities. More recently, as well as being Rural Dean of Louthesk, I have served as a member of the Bishops Diocesan Council of Trustees as well contributing to the ongoing work of the Deployment Group within the 'Resourcing a Sustainable Church' work of the past year or so. Alongside this, I have continued to maintain an active interest in academic study – with my current research focused on the spiritual experience and theological potential of adult singers in the

liturgy. I hope to write up this research over the coming couple of years as part of my work towards a PhD at the University of Durham.

REVD CANON NICK BROWN

## **Worship & Mission**

### **Choir half term**

Please note that until 1 November, our choir are on their half-term break so there will no choral evensong during this time, it will be evening prayer instead.

On Sunday 25 October there will be a cantor and organist, but no choir.

Choral evensong will resume on Tuesday 3 November.

### **Please remember**

Sunday Eucharist moves to 10am from 1 November

### **Additional services**

We are very pleased to share that there is further provision for Holy Communion as we re-introduce some more of our regular services.

From 1 November, there will be a service of Holy Communion at 12.30pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This will take place in the Retro Choir.

### **All Soul's Day – Eucharist for the Commemoration of the faithful departed**

Monday 2 November, 5.30pm

This year, due to Covid restrictions, we are unable to invite you to simply add names to a written list.

If you would like a loved one remembered on that day please email the vergers

office: [Paul.Birkinshaw@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:Paul.Birkinshaw@lincolncathedral.com)

Or write the details in clear handwriting on a slip of paper and post in the box that will be at the back of the Cathedral as you leave on Sunday.

### **St Hugh's Day**

Tuesday 17 November is a significant day in the life of the cathedral foundation as we celebrate St Hugh's Day in this 800th year of his canonisation.

At the 5.30 Evensong we will be installing two of our new Chapter members as Lay Canons and three non-residentiary canons to join the Cathedral Foundation. Rather belatedly we will also be installing our Clericus Fabricae, Michael Sheppard.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

10.40am, 8 November

This is by ticket only. Due to social distancing we are limited to 60 pairs of tickets.

The fairest way to do this is to conduct a draw from all the applications. If you would like to apply please place your name in an envelope and either put in the box at the back of church on Sunday or send to the Vergers Vestry by 31 October. Those that have been successful will be sent tickets by post.

\*\*



**LRSN is a volunteer-led organisation that provides pastoral and practical support to farming and rural people during periods of anxiety, stress and problems relating to their families and businesses.**

LRSN is open for business and ready, willing and able to help you, whatever your problem, wherever you are in Lincolnshire. If you or someone you know needs to talk through an issue, please contact us using our helpline number, 0800 138 1710. Visit [www.lrsn.co.uk](http://www.lrsn.co.uk)

\*\*

**Take 1 minute a day to report your health daily on the COVID-19 Symptom Study app even if you are well. Help science beat the virus.**

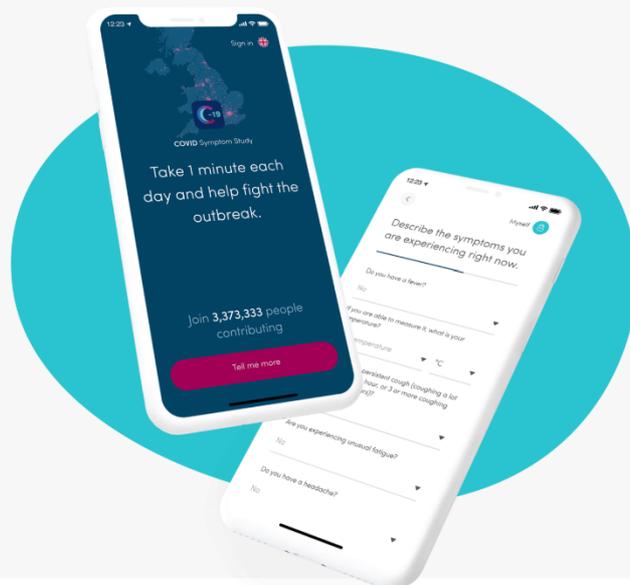
Find out more at <https://covid.joinzoe.com/>

# 4,342,924

## CONTRIBUTORS

People of all ages and backgrounds are joining together to fight COVID. <sup>11</sup><sub>SEP</sub> Support the NHS, help scientific research and help get us out of lockdown safely.

**Take 1-min to report your health daily, even if you are well.**



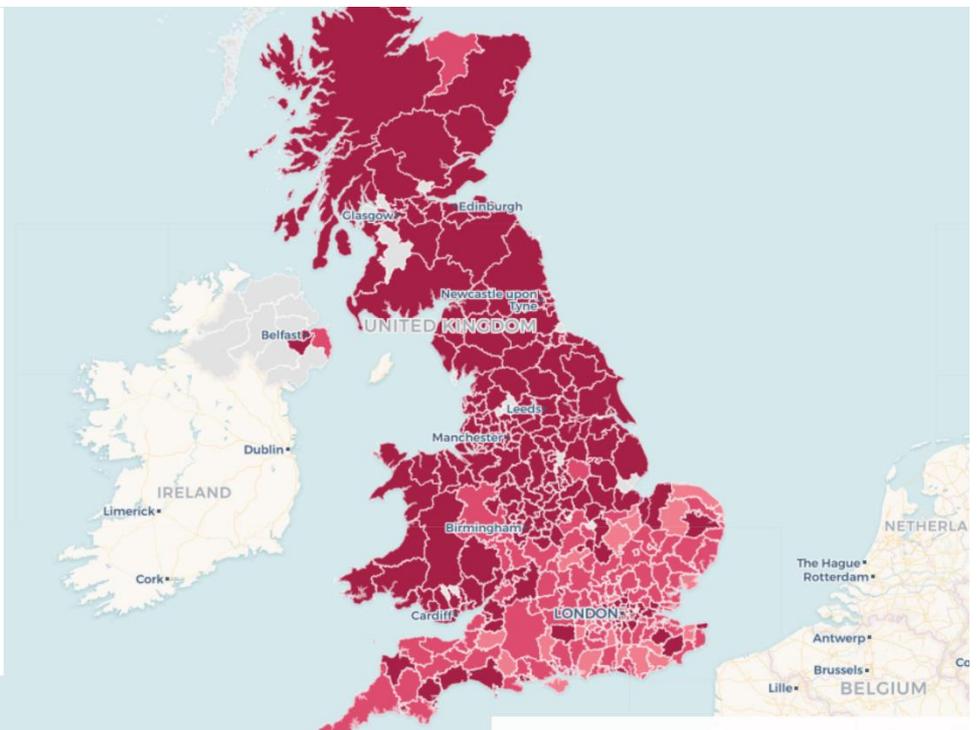
# 589,198

people are currently predicted to have symptomatic COVID in the UK

Estimated cases per million

- Not enough data
- 0 - 1000 cases pm
- 1000 - 2000 cases pm
- 2000 - 3000 cases pm
- 3000 - 5000 cases pm
- 5000 + cases pm

Last update: 31 of October, 5:00am BST



## Topical Prayers

The Church of England website offers words you can use in your prayers for all kinds of situations ranging from the everyday to personal situations, family events and prayers for others. If you need some help finding the right words, please go to the Church of England website here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers>

## Every year, the Legion calls on the nation to unite in commemorating Remembrance Sunday.

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic and in light of the risks posed, the annual Remembrance Sunday March Past the Cenotaph will not take place this year.

We recognise this will be deeply disappointing for all who were due to take part and it is not a step that has been taken lightly. This decision has been taken by the Government based on expert advice to protect the health and well-being of those who would have been travelling to and participating in the event. The Government led Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph will continue to go ahead as a closed ceremony.

Despite the changes this year, we are encouraging people across the nations to ensure Remembrance Sunday is still marked appropriately by taking part in remote and socially distanced Remembrance activity, whether that be watching the service on television or pausing for the Two Minute Silence in their home or on their doorsteps.

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, we are working hard with our members, staff, volunteers and partners to create a range of ways for people to get involved in this year's Poppy Appeal. From buying a poppy in your local supermarket or making an online donation, to doing your own fundraising with family and friends.

Like so many things this year, the Appeal has had to adapt to the threat of Covid-19. We're calling on the public to support us like never before, because every poppy counts.

## Remembrance ideas for 2020

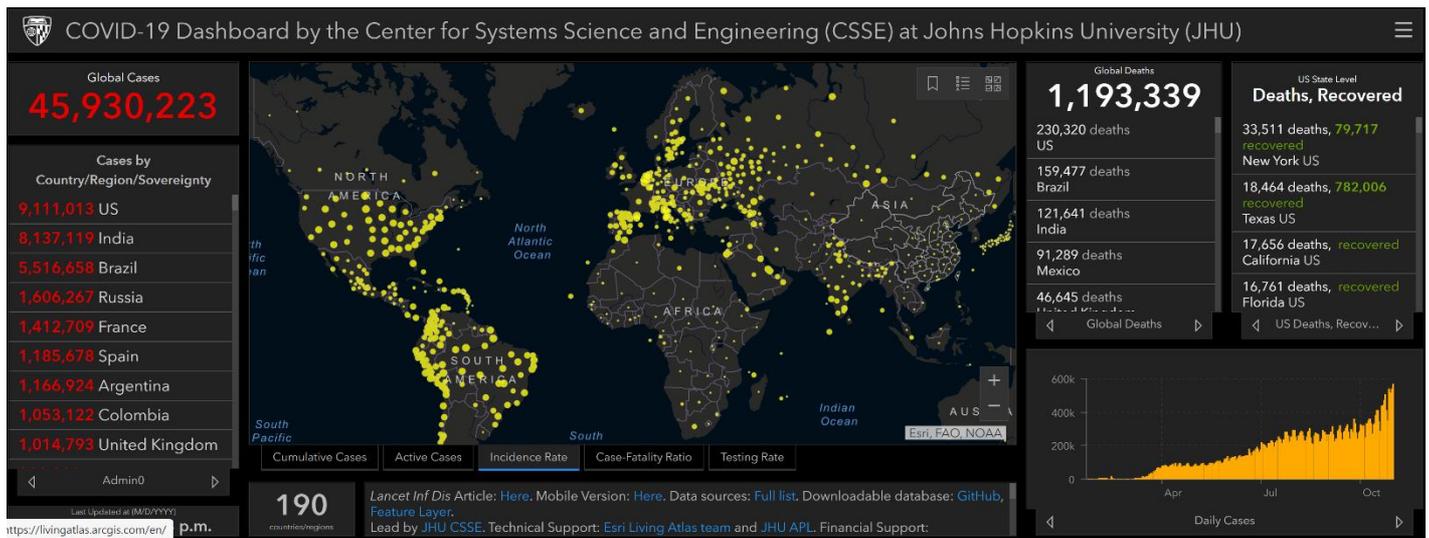
As a result of Covid-19 restrictions, it may be necessary for individuals and communities to consider new ways of performing Remembrance activities, whether at Remembrancetide or any other time of the year.

To give you a helping hand, we've put together a wide-range of suggested Covid safe activities that are inexpensive to create:

- Hold a small Remembrance service in your garden.
- Create a Remembrance space in your garden by planting plants that have a connection to Remembrance.
- Use Zoom, Facebook or another online meeting resource to host an online Remembrance service or activity.
- Set up a community Remembrance forum to discuss different residents' Remembrance stories.
- Create an online exhibition of Remembrance related photos from local residents that schools or others could use to discuss local Remembrance activities.
- Do an online interview with a local veteran or someone currently serving to discuss what service and sacrifice means to them. You could send people the link and create an online audience.
- Open an online book of Remembrance that family, friends and others can sign as a mark of Remembrance.
- Write letters of Remembrance to veterans or serving personnel.
- Use our **Remembrance education activities** to help children learn about Remembrance.
- Create your own Remembrance art piece using our **teaching resources** – children and families could be asked to display something in their window like the rainbows for the NHS.

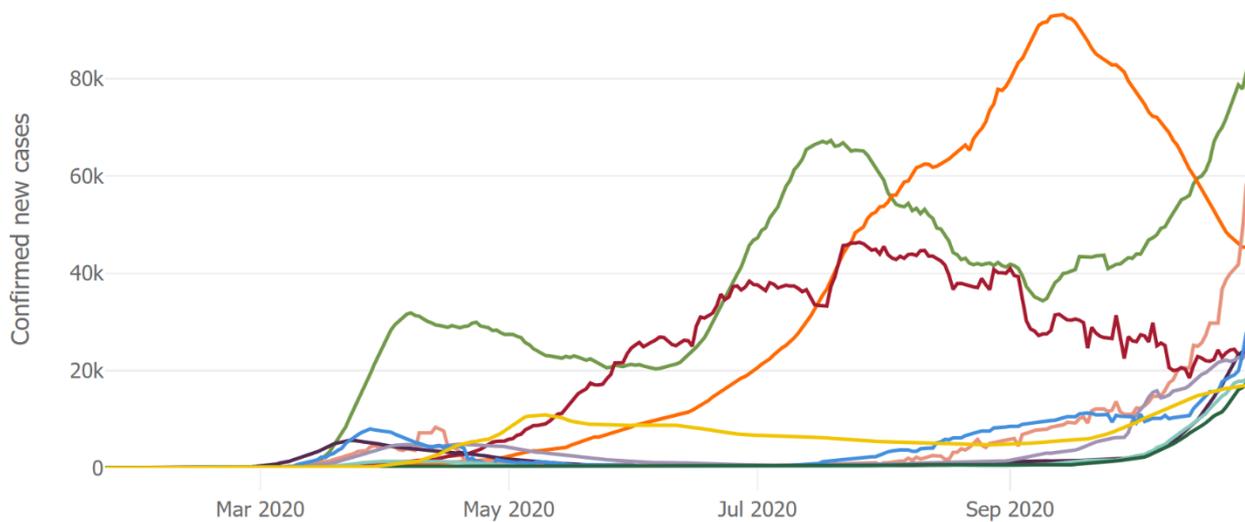
## Latest figures

The Johns Hopkins [Covid-19 Dashboard](#) appears to be one of the best source for statistics on the spread of the virus. It is possible to see statistics and graphs for 188 countries with the latest known information.



## DAILY CONFIRMED NEW CASES (7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE)

Outbreak evolution for the current 10 most affected countries



Click any country below to hide/show from the graph:

- |                                 |   |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> US     | <input type="checkbox"/> India          | <input type="checkbox"/> France | <input type="checkbox"/> Brazil  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Italy  | <input type="checkbox"/> United Kingdom | <input type="checkbox"/> Spain  | <input type="checkbox"/> Belgium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poland | <input type="checkbox"/> Russia         |                                 |                                  |

## Mental health

- The Church of England has produced some mental health reflections to help you in this time of uncertainty. You can access them at: [cofe.io/MentalHealth](https://cofe.io/MentalHealth).
- The Mental Health Foundation has also produced some useful resources, which can be found at: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus>
- You can find a host of other [mental health resources](#) from a variety of different organisations and charities. <https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/toolkit/coronavirus-and-isolation-supporting-yourself-and-your-colleagues/>  
<https://www.mind.org.uk>
- Some helpful books and resources are also available from [Sacristy Press](#) at <https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/coronavirus-church-resources#>

Further links to mental health charities can be found on the NHS webpages at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/>

## Singing safety

Below is the latest update from Government regarding singing:

- There should be no group singing by worshippers. Places of worship should take account of the [Performing Arts guidance](#).
- Small groups of professional or non-professional singers will be able to sing in front of worshippers both outdoors and indoors from 15 August. Singing in groups should be limited to a small set group of people and should not include audience participation
- Where music plays a big part in worship, and recordings are available, we suggest you consider using these as an alternative to live singing.
- Any instrument played during worship should be cleaned thoroughly before and after use.

## Broadcasting

- Groups of professional singers are now able to rehearse and record indoors for broadcast (see the [Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport guidance for information on how this can be done safely](#)).

## Congregational activity

- Except for the limited circumstances outlined above, people should avoid singing, shouting, raising voices and/or playing music at a volume that makes normal conversation difficult or that may encourage shouting. This is because of the potential for increased risk of transmission from aerosol and droplets.
- Therefore, spoken responses during worship should also not be in a raised voice.
- Activities such as singing, chanting, shouting and/or playing of instruments that are blown into should be specifically avoided in worship or devotions. This is because there is a possible additional risk of transmission in environments where individuals are singing or chanting as a group, and this applies even if social distancing is being observed or face coverings are used.

# Wash your hands of coronavirus scams!

Friends Against Scams aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams.

**STOP.** Be aware of people offering or selling:

- Virus testing kits
- Vaccines or miracle cures – there is currently no vaccine or cure.
- Overpriced or fake goods to protect yourself from coronavirus such as anti-bacterial products.
- Shopping or medication collection services.
- Home decontamination services.

**CHALLENGE.** Question communications and encourage others to do the same.

- Don't be rushed into making a decision. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Only purchase goods and services from legitimate retailers and take a moment to think before parting with money or personal information.
- Don't assume everyone is genuine. It's okay to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you. If in doubt, speak to someone you trust.
- If someone claims to represent a charity, ask them for ID. Be suspicious of requests for money up front. If someone attempts to pressurise you into accepting a service they are unlikely to be genuine. Check with family and friends before accepting offers of help if you are unsure.

Be a good Friend,  
help to protect  
your family,  
friends and  
neighbours from  
scams.

**Read it.  
Share it.  
Prevent it.**

#ScamAware  
#Coronavirus



**PROTECT.** Contact:

If you think you have been scammed, contact your bank first.  
For advice on scams, call the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on  
**0808 223 11 33.**  
To report a scam, call Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040.**

**NATIONAL  
TRADING  
STANDARDS**

Scams Team

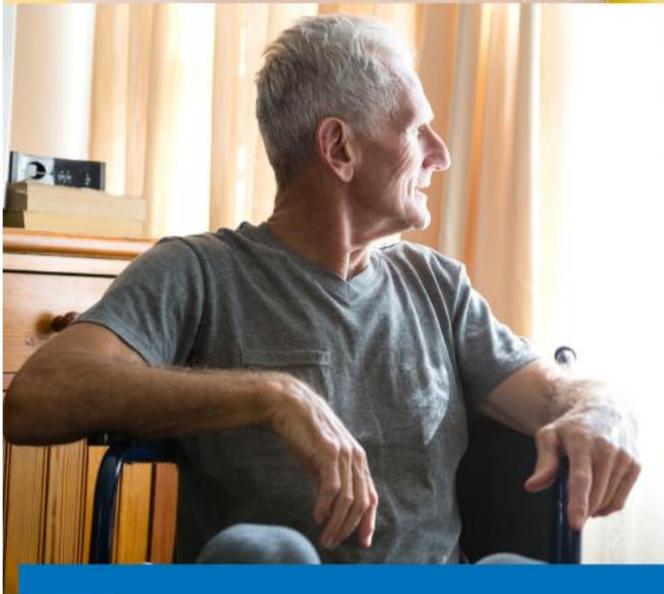
To learn more about different types of scams, visit: [www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk](http://www.FriendsAgainstScams.org.uk)

# IT'S A SCAM

## FRAUDSTERS WANT YOUR MONEY

Beware of criminals posing as police officers,  
bank staff, inland revenue or PPI companies





# Do you need some help while self-isolating?

If you need a hand with collecting shopping or prescriptions, or just want someone to talk to, our NHS Volunteer Responders are here to help.

Call **0808 196 3646** or visit [nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk](https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk)