

Abbots Bromley Surgery and Dispensary
School House Lane (Tel: 01283 840228)

Day	Doors Open	Booking for morning surgery	Booking for evening surgery	Doors Closed
Mon	08:00	08:30 – 10:30	16:30 – 17:30	18:30
Tues	08:00	08:30 – 10:30	16:30 – 17:30	18:30
Wed	08:00	08:30 – 10:30	No evening surgery	18:30
Thur	08:00	08:30 – 10:30	16:30 – 17:30	18:30
Fri	08:00	08:30 – 10:30	No evening surgery	18:30
Dispensary				
Mon – Fri		08:30 – 12:00	15:00 – 18:30	

We are open for enquiries from 8:00am until 6:30pm Monday to Friday.

Postal Services for Abbots Bromley

“Collect+” is available at The Cash Stores to send & receive parcels.
 See www.collectplus.co.uk for details, or call Cash Stores on 840210.

See www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder for Post Office branch details.

Uttoxeter:	13 Carter Street, Uttoxeter, ST14 8HE
Rugeley:	6 Anson Street, Rugeley, WS15 2BB
Hixon:	Smithy Lane, Hixon, Stafford, ST18 0PP
Draycott:	The Stores, Draycott In The Clay, DE6 5GZ

Mobile Library

Visits **Fridays** every two weeks

2019 – 12th April, 26th April, 10th May, 24th May, 7th June, 21st June, 5th July, 19th July, 2nd August, 16th August, 30th August, 13th September, 27th September, 11th October, 25th October, 8th November, 22nd November, 6th December, 20th December

2020 – 3rd January, 17th January, 31st January, 14th February, 28th February, 13th March, 27th March

Abbots Bromley Bagot Arms 11:30 - 12:30

Police

Emergency calls (including First Responders)	999
Non emergency calls	101

PARISH NEWS

for Abbots Bromley
and Blithfield



MINISTERIAL LETTER FROM COLTON

The Removal of Certainties

The whole world has been shaken in unknowable ways by Covid-19. No-one – tyrants, Presidents, Prime Ministers, Monarchs, oligarchs or international crime syndicate monsters – has a clue as to what the world will look like in 12 months’ time. Yet they, I and maybe you build our lives on things we tend to regard as certain. It’s been an eye-opener to see it in myself. Visiting friends and relatives, and holidays, all find their way into long term diary plans.

What now ...? For the first time in my life all my diary plans may evaporate before I get there.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about uncertain living. “Do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” There was a long story behind this teaching, nudging us to be more concerned with today than tomorrow.

In around 1,300 BC, God used Moses to get the captive Hebrews out of Egypt, followed by 40 years in the wilderness to ready them to enter the land God had promised. It seemed totally daft to many of them, lacking in human logic and not a place any normal human being would choose for a 40 year wait. They rebelled early on, turning to extreme immorality and gross idol-worship.

Jesus came later to launch his Church. As that started to grow in the Mediterranean and Middle East, unknown Christians wrote a letter to Hebrew Christians – now in our New Testament – warning them to “take care, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’, that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. As it is said, ‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.’”

Turning to 2020, our nation is throwing away many of its inherited values – largely derived from the Bible. They are being discarded aimlessly by our society at all levels. There is little that’s coherent to replace them.

Perhaps it’s decision-time for us all.

The prayer I want to use now, and beyond Covid-19, is:

May I leave tomorrow to you?
May I hear your voice today?
Soften my heart, and
May I do what you want always.

God bless our communities, David Brown

A message from the St. Nicholas Welcome Team

Abbots Bromley is a friendly lively busy village and we would like to help new residents settle in and take part.

Have you a new neighbour recently moved to the Village?

How about dropping in a copy of our *Parish News* magazine to make them feel welcome or please ring Anthea on 840624 or Maureen on 840936 and we would be happy to assist.

AUGUST PARISH NEWS DISTRIBUTION DISRUPTION

August’s *Parish News* can be found online at www.achurchnearyou.com/abbots-bromley-st-nicholas This has had contact information removed in order to allay data privacy concerns.

Visit www.facebook.com/stnicholaschurchabbotsbromley to see any latest comments from St. Nicholas’ Church. You can view this page without a Facebook account.

For those who require the usual hardcopy it will be available for collection from Cash Stores (Top Shop) free to subscribers or 50p per copy. Remember to use virus transmission precautions if handling these.

Normal service will be resumed as soon as possible.

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHURCHYARD

In the pond of my childhood there was room for geese, newts, carp and cattle, to say nothing of the myriad aquatic creatures and the swallows skimming above the water for insects. I can remember the excitement that we felt when we escaped from the house into the outside world and its delights. I guess that we have all had similar feelings this Springtime.

During the pandemic lockdown, my daily exercise has frequently taken me on the circular route from Top Shop via Mill Green to Seedcroft. On the first outing, there were so many families out walking, so many children on the move, that I rode past the pond there and arrived at the houses without seeing it. No matter, there was always tomorrow....

The next day, Palm Sunday, I went back, approaching it from the opposite direction. Dead bulrushes showed where last year's growth had been cut back and there in the water were the golden kingcups that I had come to see. Behind the pond grows a great oak. At that moment the leaves were not fully out and you could see the thousands of catkins that are so amazingly provided to ensure the future of oak trees. Everywhere around, the bare hedgerows were coming into new life as the blackthorn washed over them.

By the time that I met Beccy up there, the kingcups had grown in number and alongside them were the blue-green leaves of bog irises. In time, they would take over every inch of the pond. Trees and hedges were magnificent in their fresh green with whitethorn everywhere. By late May, when Liz and I had a long conversation beside the pond, the yellow blooms filled it and the ditch behind it. When last I visited, in early July, the pond had become completely invisible from the road. The new growth around it is waist-high. Above it towers the oak tree with its lovely mid-Summer canopy. Bramble blossom has replaced the blackthorn.

Sharing our interests with other people is what make us come alive. That is what has been so important during these unusual times of social isolation. In the old days of my big pond, there was the loving and quarrelling of brother and sisters. How precious the sharing seems now as they live on – in my heart.

Jean Biggs

ABBOTS BROMLEY NEWS AND NOTICES

ABBOTS BROMLEY W.I.

Members are still keeping in touch by email and meeting using Zoom on a Wednesday morning.

Quizzes have been included, and daily 'chuckles' produced by one member, to keep our sense of fun going. They are obviously enjoyed as the responses are varied and humorous.

The August annual walk may be organised if members are happy to keep their distance and perhaps take a picnic? Masks may be worn? At least it will be an outdoor activity.

We look forward to meeting normally again as soon as possible.

SUPPORT A.B.S.A. WITH USED INK CARTRIDGES

WANTED: Genuine (not compatible) used ink cartridges

HP – Frama – Dell – Pitney Bowes – Canon – Neopost – Kodak
NOT Epson and Brother cartridges please

These will be sent for recycling with **Recycle 4 Charity** who will donate £1 for each cartridge received to the Abbots Bromley Sports Association.

Please put cartridges through the front door of **Middleton House** (on the corner of Bagot Street & Goose Lane) **enclosed in a small plastic bag or cling film** please! Thank you!

ABBOTS BROMLEY PRODUCE GUILD

Regretfully, given the current situation, we have decided that this year's **Annual Show in September** will have to be **cancelled**.

Thank you to all of you who have supported the event in the past. We very much look forward to seeing you again next year.

EVERGREENS

It is August 2020 and we are still unable to meet together, but we all hope that you are keeping safe and well. We feel it is too early to decide how and when we will commence our programmed meetings in Church House, but will be in touch regarding this at some point in the future.

As restrictions are slowly changing, we have made tentative enquiries of The Dun Cow regarding the meal that was originally on the Programme for September. At this moment in time [early July] they would not be able to accommodate our numbers, although they are currently open and operating within the guidelines. They have said, however, that should guidelines ease even more between now and 8th September they would be happy to provide lunch for us with all the necessary safety measures in place. This being the case it would be helpful if we could get an idea of how many members would be interested. If you are interested in going for the meal, please could you give Val Jones a call on 840592 to enable us to get an idea of numbers, should things change and we are able to go. Thank you.

Remember take care and stay safe, and we look forward to meeting up again in Church House as soon as it is safe to do so.

Sandra Cottrell, Secretary Tel: 01543 262354

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

The mobile library service is currently suspended because of Covid-19. Staffordshire County Council are aiming to restart the service from the end of the Summer. The visit dates for '20/'21 have not yet been released, but will be added to the rear cover of the *Parish News* as soon as they are available.

In the meantime, Uttoxeter and Rugeley libraries are due to reopen on Monday 27th July. For further detail and information about Covid-19 precautions see www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries or call 0300 111 8000

NOSTALGIA TEAM'S REQUEST FOR OLD PARISH NEWS

The Abbots Bromley Nostalgia Team are currently researching funerals held in St. Nicholas' church with a view to documenting the churchyard.

If anyone has old copies of the *Parish News* they are willing to donate it may help fill gaps in their knowledge. Those from the 1990s, and in especially 1995, are of particular interest.

Their collection so far comprises: probably every edition since 2000 to the present day maybe with a few gaps*, the oldest edition is from 1898, several editions from the beginning of 1900, a couple of editions from during the 1914-18 war, one or two editions from the 1920s, all editions from 1933, and some from during the Second World War.

In addition the Nostalgia Team would find useful any Order of Service sheets for funerals and marriages.

With thanks in advance. Items may be left at the following locations:

Mr. T. Wheeldon, Callander House, Bagot Street
Mrs. E. Summers, 4 Hillside
Mrs. J. Needham, 6 Hillside

* - including the following missing editions:

Sept 2001, Oct 2001, May 2002, Aug 2002, Aug 2004, Mar 2007
(Aug 2011, Sept 2011 held electronically, paper copies required)

JOHN & JEAN NEEDHAM GOLDEN WEDDING

Congratulations to John & Jean Needham who celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday 27th June with a wedding blessing service conducted for them by Rev'd Simon Davis. 50 years of marriage is a special achievement.

RADMOREWOOD LANE ROAD CLOSURE

The single track lanes, comprising: School House Lane north from Bagots View, Woodmill Lane, and Radmorewood Lane to its south-easterly junction with Radmore Lane, are due to be closed from Monday 3rd August to Friday 7th August. This is to allow preparation for resurfacing, improvements to drainage, siding out, and patching around ironwork to be carried out on behalf of Staffordshire County Council. The latest information can be found on roadworks.org (which redirects to <https://one.network/>)

ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Coping with Covid-19

The Parish Council would like to help any residents who require support during this uncertain and worrying period.

If you are self-isolating and unable to get out to buy groceries, go for a walk or pick up prescriptions or if you are an NHS worker struggling to get to the shops then do get in touch with the Parish Clerk and we, or one of the volunteers who have come forward, will do what we can to help.

Many of the pubs and cafes in the village are offering take-away meals and the Cash Stores (Top Shop) is offering free delivery of supplies to those that are vulnerable so do give them a call on 01283 840210.

Please check that your neighbours are ok. If you haven't seen them for a while pick up the phone and give them a call to see if they need any supplies or direct them to the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Clerk,

Marsh Farm, Uttoxeter Road, Abbots Bromley, Staffs. WS15 3EJ

Email: parish.council@abbotsbromley.com

A.B.S.A. DONATION FOR MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

Abbots Bromley Sports Association are delighted to announce that they have been awarded £20,543 from the Football Foundation towards the costs of specialist maintenance equipment for the new grounds on Lichfield Road. A.B.S.A. must raise an additional £7,000 to cover all the costs of the equipment and are looking to the community to support their fundraising endeavours so they can make these purchases as soon as possible.

Work is progressing on the creation of the senior and junior football pitches, levelling the ground, installing drainage, reinstating the topsoil, and seeding with grass. For the latest updates see www.facebook.com/absportsground

FOODBANK

Please keep supporting Rugeley Foodbank. For further information, including how to help and what items to donate, please visit <https://rugeley.foodbank.org.uk/>

The Foodbank have collection points in the front of store at:
Waitrose, Trinity Road, Uttoxeter ST14 8AQ
Tesco, Power Station Road, Rugeley, WS15 2HS

The following items are urgently needed: Long-life milk, Sandwich meat (ham etc.), Jam or marmalade, Long-Life orange or fruit juice, Fruit squash, Rice - pre-cooked or regular, Canned rice pudding, Canned fruit, Custard, Instant mash, Coffee, Ladies and gents toiletries, Loo rolls, and Nappies (size 4-6+ especially). They have plenty of: Beans, Soup, and Tinned fish.

A.B. VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB DRAW

The following are the winners of July's 200 club draws.

Month	No.	Name	Amount
July	144	Theresa Cooke	£25
"	27	David Cowell	£25
"	182	Johnathan Barker	£25
"	126	Chris Ray	£50

ST. NICHOLAS' SUMMER "OPEN HOURS"

It is good news that churches can open for private prayer. During the Summer the church will be open for quiet moments and private prayer, generally from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

There will be limitations on normal access as the Covid-19 cleaning regime for churches is strict and focused on the church being clean, safe and available for services. Visitors will not be able to walk around the church interior. Access will be restricted to the small block of pews adjacent to the tower. We are sorry, but access to the Horns and font corner (where the toys are located) will NOT be available during this time. A hand sanitiser station is provided for all visitors and social distancing must be kept at all times in accordance with the latest Government guidelines.

Please remember that the church is largely run on a volunteer basis and many of our volunteers are of an age or health status that makes them vulnerable. Any younger, healthy volunteers who would like to join the team would be very welcome!

We look forward to better times, when it is safe to resume the freedoms we took so much for granted.

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH - CHURCHYARD UPDATE

A big thank you to everyone who keeps our churchyard open as a welcoming space. Churchyards are precious places that hold connection to our past. For the recently bereaved they can be places of solace, evoking deep emotional attachment as we recall our loved ones who have died.

Managing the churchyard is a delicate task as it means balancing Diocesan legal responsibilities, practicalities for a safe and tidy churchyard, and the pastoral needs of the community. The local Church, mostly run by local volunteers, has the role of keeping the churchyard under the Diocesan regulations. We realise we owe the community an apology for not having a reminder campaign of "what is what" for some time so with this in mind we are having a "Summer amnesty" to remind everyone of what is permitted for the common good, and give plenty of time for the tidying of graves to match the guidelines.

Summer Amnesty to the end of September 2020

The Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) is asking families to please take home any ornaments/extra vases etc. not authorised by permit by the end of September this year. We hope that giving all the Summer for this will allow time for everyone to comply. If you are not sure what is permitted please get in touch.



Thank you for your cooperation towards the churchyard being maintained as a gift for all the community, now and for the generations to come.

St. Nicholas' P.C.C., June 2020

From the Diocese of Lichfield Churchyard Regulations

"No balloons or other portable items* are to be left on a grave save that such items may be left in position for the period of one calendar month after interment. If the items are not then removed by those who placed them on the grave they should be removed by the churchwardens or a person authorised by them."

** "other portable items" includes garden ornaments, extra vases and any figures that have not been authorised by permit. Sorry, but the planting out of graves is also not permitted.*

Application forms to place monuments in churchyards can be found on the Diocesan website or from local monumental masons.

Follow the clicks on the Diocesan website...

www.lichfield.anglican.org/registry/guidance_on_churches_and_churchyards/general_information_about_churchyards/

ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH JUST GIVING PAGE

Following advice from Lichfield Diocese, Rev'd Davis has set up a fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/abbotsbromleychurch at which you could make a donation. Remember, if you pay income tax you can apply Gift Aid effectively to increase your donation by 25% through tax recovery from HMRC.

CHURCH SERVICES IN AUGUST

Thanks to the teams in all the parishes, public worship on Sundays has been relaunched. The straightforward simple services held recently have allowed us to get used to the basics of how we worship under the current and evolving Covid-19 prevention conditions.

We are planning to celebrate Holy Communion in all our churches for the first time since mid-March on Sunday 26th of July. Communion will be in one kind only, the bread, which in the eyes of God’s church has long been accepted as full communion.

Particular care will be taken in preparing the Communion Table and during the consecration prayers to ensure that best hygienic practice is observed by the priests. We must keep to social distancing during the receiving of Communion, so you will not be able to “go up to the rail” as you normally would. All our churches are different in the way they are laid out so each Church will have a different way for you to receive the sacrament. All Churches will distribute Communion from the chancel step area. Depending on the space available between and around the pews there will either be variants on a one-way system around the church that keeps to the 2m distancing or a wait-your-turn “come up one pew ‘bubble’ at a time” approach.

It will be very moving and wonderful to share again in Holy Communion but, given the current complications, we will not be celebrating Holy Communion as regularly as we did before the current crisis. We need to find our feet again and work towards a pattern that will allow the whole benefice access to worship focussed on God’s word and the sacrament.

The weekly service pattern, which we expect to continue for 2 to 8 weeks, will be:

St. Nicholas’	Abbots Bromley	9:45am (open for quiet prayer from 9:15)
St. Leonard’s	Bliethfield	11:15am (open for quiet prayer from 10:45)
St. Mary’s	Colton	11:00am (open for quiet prayer from 10:30)
St. Stephen’s	Great Haywood	10:00am (open for quiet prayer from 9:30)
St. Michael & All Angels’	Colwich	9:45am (open for quiet prayer from 9:15)

HOME-MADE JAMS AND MARMALADE

I still have plenty of home-made jams from last season and marmalade from this year. If anyone wishes to purchase some, please give me a call. All the money raised from the sale of these goes towards the upkeep of our beautiful parish church of St. Nicholas. I hope to be able to make more jams this summer – provided I can obtain the fruit!

Anthea Blower Tel: 840624

HELPERS NEEDED ON CHURCH ROTAS

St. Nicholas’ Church needs helpers, for the smooth running of services, to add their names to the following rotas: sides, ministry, readers, intercessors, chalice, coffee, and flowers. Help and instruction is available for willing volunteers. For further information, please contact Gill Grundy on 840208.

Church Cleaning Volunteers are also needed. Please contact Gill Grundy on 840208 if you can help.

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REFUSE COLLECTION DATES

The 2020 refuse collection schedule for your property, showing types of waste collected and on what dates, can be found online at:

www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/bins-rubbish-recycling/collection-dates

For those without internet access, refuse collection dates for **Abbots Bromley village** will be as follows. Details for out-lying properties may vary by day and type (e.g. *Grey* and *paper* on the *Thursday* of the recycling week below).

Waste for Incinerating (to generate electricity)	Waste for Recycling
<i>Grey</i> bin - non-recyclable, food	<i>Blue</i> bin - plastic, tins, glass jars <i>Brown</i> bin - garden waste (no food) <i>Blue bag</i> - paper
Wednesday 05 August Wednesday 19 August	Wednesday 29 July Wednesday 12 August Wednesday 26 August

The Brown bin (garden waste) collection has been reinstated subject to further review of the Covid-19 situation.

DIARY FOR AUGUST

All of August	Stay alert. Control the virus. Save lives.
Sun 2 Aug	9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 9 Aug	9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 16 Aug	9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 23 Aug	9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 30 Aug	9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sat 12 Sep Produce Guild Annual Show CANCELLED

For latest arrangements please contact your group’s representative.

ROTAS FOR AUGUST

Date	2nd August	9th August	16th August	23rd August	30th August
Minister	LF	LF	LF	AN	LF
Deputy Warden	Gill Grundy	Sue Knipe	Liz Lampard	Anthea Blower	Gill Grundy
Reader & Intercessor	Liz Lampard	Martin Godfrey	Megan Dunmore	Gill Grundy	Anthea Blower
Backup Reader & Intercessor	Megan Dunmore	Gill Grundy	Anthea Blower	Susan Martingale	Chris Ray
Epistle Reading	Romans 9 v1-5	Romans 10 v5-15	Romans 11 v1-2a, 29-32	Romans 12 v1-8	Romans 12 v9-end
Gospel Reading	Matthew 14 v13-21	Matthew 14 v22-33	Matthew 15 v{10-20}, 21-28	Matthew 16 v13-20	Matthew 16 v21-end

If you are unable to do any of the above duties, then please find someone who can by choosing the Back up person first, and mark your replacement on the notices located in the porch. Please also advise Gill Grundy or Anthea Blower.

Thank you.

NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

There are numerous events taking place at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas. For full details, or to book, please contact the NMA.

Tel: 01283 792333 E-mail: info@thenma.org.uk Web: www.thenma.org.uk

UNITED BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICE PATTERN

Subject to confirmation:- PLEASE look at your church notice board and Facebook page for up to date information.

St. Nicholas' Abbots Bromley 9:45am (open for quiet prayer from 9:15)
 St. Leonard's Blithfield 11:15am (open for quiet prayer from 10:45)
 St. Mary's Colton 11:00am (open for quiet prayer from 10:30)
 St. Stephen's Great Haywood 10:00am (open for quiet prayer from 9:30)
 St. Michael & Colwich 9:45am (open for quiet prayer from 9:15)
 All Angels'

All churches will be open half an hour for a time of quiet personal prayer before the start of each service.

This service pattern is expected to last for 2 to 8 weeks.

There is also a range of services regularly posted on our churches Facebook pages.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Not available

CONTACT PARISH NEWS

Please see earlier copies of the *Parish News* for our contact details.

Deadlines / Dates for September's magazine are:

Copy: **Saturday 15th August**
 Print: **Monday 24th August**
 Courier by: **Friday 28th August**

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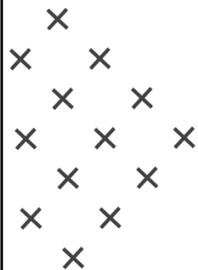


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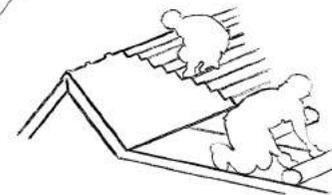
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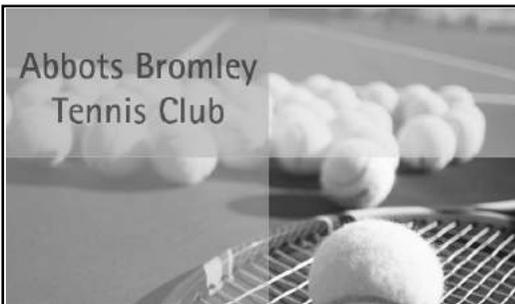
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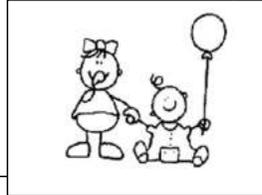
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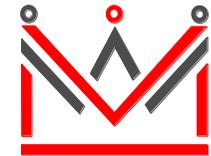
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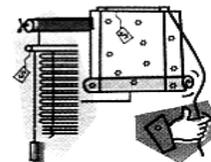
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