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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
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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

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Visits **Fridays** every two weeks for the return of books and to place orders for 'Order & Collect'

2020 – 28th August, 11th September, 25th September, 9th October, 23rd October, 6th November, 20th November, 4th December, 18th December,
2021 – 15th January, 29th January, 12th February, 26th February, 12th March, 26th March

Abbots Bromley	Bagot Arms	11:30 - 12:30
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Police

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

PARISH NEWS

for Abbots Bromley
and Blithfield



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October 2020

MINISTERIAL LETTER FROM ABBOTS BROMLEY

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Many church services end with these words. Not go in to a peaceful world, but: 'go in peace'. Our world is turbulent, troubled and divided. If we are to go in peace, we must take our peace with us for we will not find it in the world.

That inner peace – which passes all understanding – is a gift from God.

To serve the Lord: God's peace is not for us alone, it is to be received and shared.

We may feel unworthy, we may feel afraid. No matter, it has never been any different.

God has always used people like you and me, inadequate people, yet willing to be used.

God assured the prophet Isaiah of forgiveness, and asked: Who will go for us?

Isaiah did not hesitate: Here I am, send me! (Isaiah 6v8)

If we want to serve God then, like Isaiah, we must receive forgiveness first. (John 1v9)

We can all perform some act of Christian service, as many of you have been during this pandemic. We can visit a lonely person socially distancing, write a neglected letter, or offer someone an overdue apology. We can ask God to pour his love into our hearts.

Heavenly Father, true and living God, we ask you to grant us your peace, to inspire us with your love and to grant us perseverance in your service.

Amen. Ann Roe, Reader

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.

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHURCHYARD

Before the September edition of the magazine arrived, I was planning to speak out about churchyards. What follows will, I hope, show that I support the writers whole-heartedly. (Their words in italics.)

When I returned from Norfolk at the end of June, our churchyard was looking its early Summer best. Old wreaths and withered flowers had been removed and gravestones tidied. The air was rich with the scent of new-cut grass. Overhead, the breeze fanned the young green of the trees. It was a paradise for animals, birds and humans. "*Churchyards are a welcoming space ...*"

Back in Abbots Bromley, on my first outing into the village by way of the kissing-gate, I knew how lucky I was for my recent walks had taken me through another churchyard, where Nature had run riot. There, a short residential road ends in a slight upward incline to the churchyard entrance. Beyond it, a wilderness of nettles – more like a forest – hides an area of big Victorian memorials. Grassy tracks show the way round the exterior of the very ancient church. Beside the south wall, some plaques record very recent Interments of Ashes. This is a burial-place which has been extended many times – as has ours – and dividing walls are in decay. I caught sight of a man at work in the distance and would have tried to talk to him, to ask whether the villagers realised the disorder of this consecrated place. Unfortunately, I was too late. He had disappeared.

"*Churchyards are precious places that hold connection to our past.*" You have to visit them to make that connection. When clergy and congregation are no longer there, it is very easy to let other people take responsibility for their upkeep. The Sugar Factory has become the patron of its village (but evidently not of the churchyard.) I think it was also the patron of the Bowls Club which, ten years ago, was flourishing. Today, the Club has closed and the bowling green has returned to Nature. You may be wondering at this point what on earth all this has to do with us.

Well, back in the 1970s and 1980s, we began to run out of permitted burial space. The word went that we were looking to a time when our burials would have to take place in Uttoxeter. The only alternative was to buy land and thereby extend the churchyard. At that time, there were no graves in the area that drops south, adjacent to the farmer's field and limited by the

hedge (that replaced an old fence) and the pathway to the kissing-gate. When the land was bought, the Parish Council of the time agreed to play their part by contributing towards the cost of churchyard mowing. Subsequent Councils have – as far as I know – faithfully honoured this agreement. Their support, and many fundraising activities supported by the village, have encouraged all who care for the ground and graves. If the families are the primary carers, there are many helpers. A few days after my return, I caught sight of a familiar figure tidying up beside the brook. It was the Captain of the Tower whose team had lately been working there. There are many whom we all know who bring order, inside and outside the church, after funerals. Just as well, when we have moles digging as fast as they can beside the footpath!

Please don't be offended if I have been inaccurate or annoying. My intentions are good!

Jean Biggs

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

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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!

OCTOBER PARISH NEWS DISTRIBUTION DISRUPTION

We are still following guidance issued by the Church of England that paper copies of parish magazines should not be hand-delivered as a measure against transmission of Covid-19.

We have been attempting to distribute the *Parish News* since May as much as possible by electronic means. However, we have been unable to reach a large proportion of our readership, especially those who must self-isolate and who do not have internet access. Many of our distributors are also self-isolating and are unable to help with communications. We are, to some extent, relying on word-of-mouth and your goodwill to help the *Parish News* reach its usual readership. If there is anyone you know who usually receives the *Parish News* and who is likely to miss out, please provide whatever help you feel you can. Thank you for support during this time.

October'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.

Ed

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Because of the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions regarding social gatherings it will now not be possible to arrange the Annual Memorial Service, usually held near to All Saints Day. This Service has been postponed to a time when it will be safe to gather together and remember our loved ones. Notice of the date, time and place of the re-arranged Service will be placed in the Parish News in due course.

Take care and stay safe.

ABBOTS BROMLEY NEWS AND NOTICES

ABBOTS BROMLEY W.I.

Two casual meetings in the open air have been enjoyed by members during the past month. Fortunately, they took place before the recent restrictions became law.

On the second Monday of August, six ladies walked round the village, had lunch by the reservoir, then several other members joined them at Cobwebs for tea and cakes. This occasion took place at lunchtime instead of the usual evening Annual Walk.

During the first week in September about twenty ladies met in a member's garden to enjoy scones and cakes delivered from Marsh Farm. Although the weather was cool, warmth emanated from the cups of tea provided and the discussions to catch up with general news. Social distancing was kept and the occasion was appreciated after so long since the last formal meeting.

'Zooming' on Wednesday mornings is still taking place and the committee meets once a month also by Zoom.

It is hoped that, although the normal meetings cannot take place, members are still able to communicate with each other.

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

From August mobile libraries will visit one or two locations per day for the return of books, and to place orders for 'Order and Collect'. The service to Abbots Bromley, "Mobile Library 1" contact number 07773 791131, [presumably still at the Bagot Arms] will visit from 10:00am to 12:30pm on Friday 28th August and fortnightly thereafter [including 9th and 23rd October].

Alternatively, Uttoxeter and Rugeley libraries are operating limited services. For further detail and information about Covid-19 precautions see www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Libraries or call 0300 111 8000

EVERGREENS

We're still unable to meet together, but hope that you are keeping safe and well.

Greetings from the Committee of Evergreens: as we know several of our members remain unwell, we would like to send best wishes to all those concerned and hope for speedy recoveries. While there are still uncertainties and obvious concerns regarding a slight upward turn in the infection rate, and some areas going back into lockdown, we just hope you and all your families stay safe.

With still no further news of when things will return to a 'new normal' we all look forward eventually to meeting up with you all again in Church House as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime you have the names and numbers of the Committee on the front of your events programme card should you wish to contact any of us.

Sandra Cottrell, Secretary Tel: 01543 262354

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.

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

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.

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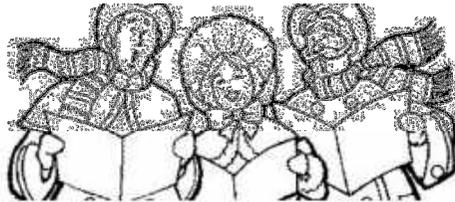


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Christmas Carol Competition



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Here's something to challenge and cheer us up as a very strange Christmas draws near.

Entries from children and adults welcome.

Judging on Tuesday 1st December.

Entries to The Vicarage, Abbots Bromley
revdsimon@gmail.com

Try your hand at writing a new set of words to a well-known tune or write a new tune and words together!

We will try and sing/perform the best entries at a Christmas service.

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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 30 September	Wednesday 07 October
Wednesday 14 October	Wednesday 21 October
Wednesday 28 October	Wednesday 04 November

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

DIARY FOR OCTOBER

Sun 4 Oct 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 11 Oct 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 18 Oct 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)
Sun 25 Oct 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

For latest arrangements please contact your group’s representative.

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

ROTAS FOR OCTOBER

Date	4th October	11th October	18th October	25th October
Deputy Warden	Sue Knipe	Liz Lampard	Anthea Blower	Gill Grundy
Reader & Intercessor	Liz Lampard	Anthea Blower	Megan Dunmore	David Roe
Backup Reader & Intercessor	Anthea Blower	Gill Grundy	David Roe	Martin Godfrey
Epistle Reading	Philippians 3 v4b-14	Philippians 4 v1-9	1 Thessalonians 1 v1-10	1 Thessalonians 2 v1-8
Gospel Reading	Matthew 21 v33-end	Matthew 22 v1-14	Matthew 22 v15-22	Matthew 22 v34-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.

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.

UNITED BENEFICE CHURCH SERVICE PATTERN

Check your **church notice board** and **Facebook page** for up to date information, including the inclusion of holy communion in any of the services.

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 & All Angels'	Colwich	9:45am (open for quiet prayer from 9:15)

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

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 printed copies of the *Parish News* for our contact details.

Deadlines / Dates for November's magazine are:

Copy:	Thursday 15th October
Print:	Monday 26 th October
Courier by:	Friday 30 th October

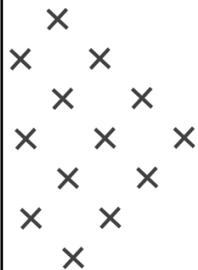


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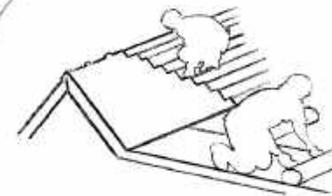
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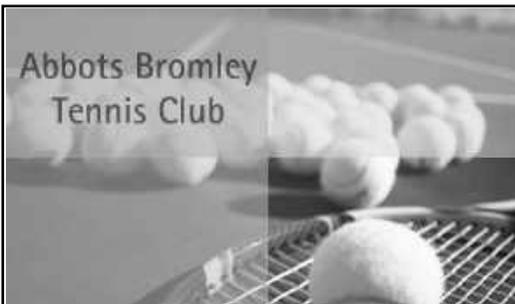
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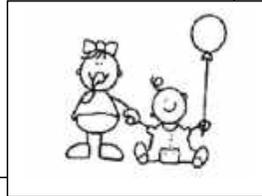
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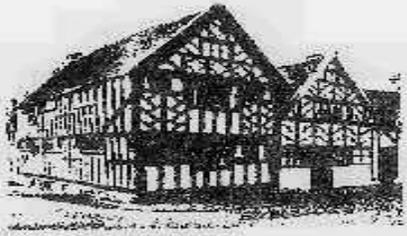

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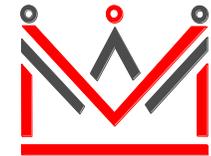
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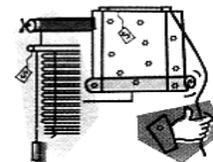
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