

**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
<b>Dispensary</b>				
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](http://www.collectplus.co.uk) for details, or call Cash Stores on 840210.

See [www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder](http://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 <b>Fridays</b>	<b>2020</b> – 28 <sup>th</sup> August, 11 <sup>th</sup> September,
every two weeks	25 <sup>th</sup> September, 9 <sup>th</sup> October, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October,
for the return of	6 <sup>th</sup> November, 20 <sup>th</sup> November, 4 <sup>th</sup> December,
books and to place	18 <sup>th</sup> December,
orders for 'Order	<b>2021</b> – 15 <sup>th</sup> January, 29 <sup>th</sup> January, 12 <sup>th</sup> February,
& Collect'	26 <sup>th</sup> February, 12 <sup>th</sup> March, 26 <sup>th</sup> March

<b>Abbots Bromley</b>	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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November 2020

### **MINISTERIAL LETTER FROM COLTON**

Dear friends,

November is a time for remembering. Beginning with All Saints and All Souls, and continuing through the events of Remembrance Sunday, this season gives time and space in which we both remember with gratitude and reflect on loss and sacrifice.

One of my favourite books is 'Sleeping with Bread' by Dennis, Shelia and Matthew Linn. It describes the Christian practice of the examen which, though part of Ignatian spirituality, can be practiced by people of all faiths and none. It is a way of remembering that enables us to embrace what brings us life with gratitude, whilst at the same time recognising those parts of life which are challenging.

An examen is simple. We pause to ask two simple questions of the day. For what event or moment in my day am I most grateful? For what event or moment in my day am I least grateful? We might then like to think about what was said or done in those moments that made them so special or difficult. We can do this on our own, in our families or in groups. Some people like to write the answers down to keep a record. Over time it is often possible to see a pattern in our memories of those things which always bring us joy and those things which we routinely find difficult. Emerging patterns can help us adjust our lives. Those who believe in God can then take both the good and the difficult to God in prayer.

There is a benefit to practicing this way of remembering on a daily basis but it can also be done at specific times of the year. In this season, when we recollect so much, we might look back on the sacrifices of war and ask ourselves what we are most grateful for as well as the more difficult question about what challenges us. Personally, we recall individual losses. These could be loved ones who have died, but might be other types of loss: income, employment, failing health for ourselves or others, or the clubs and societies that enrich our lives. An examen of this sort celebrates the good alongside a recognition of the pain of loss.

Thanksgiving for all that is good encourages us to remember that even in difficult times we can find joy. St. Paul writing from his final imprisonment was able to exhort others to, 'Rejoice in the Lord always and again I will

say rejoice!' (Philippians 4:4). Grieving is also normal and acknowledging is important. One third of the psalms in the Bible are laments which direct grief, anger and pain to God. As someone recently said such lament is a 'deeply faithful act' because it trusts that God has hold of us even in the most difficult of times.

As we pause to remember this year, perhaps we can hold in balance our blessings and losses, acknowledging both. May we celebrate the one and lament the other whilst trusting God for them all.

With blessings, Anne Noble

### **THOUGHTS FROM THE CHURCHYARD**

War-graves in a vast cemetery may fill the visitor with a sense of despair for humanity. The scale of the loss is so great that grief for the individual - unless you have a personal link - seems out of the question, and then you notice the inscription of some date or battle or regiment and the lost serviceman or woman becomes more real to your mind.

A single war-grave in a country churchyard can awaken sympathy for the dead and for those whom that person left behind. At Abbots Bromley, with its war-grave of Private C.T. Preedy, one of three of the family recorded on the War Memorial, you can imagine the magnitude of their loss and hear from their relatives how the poor man came to die in hospital and so be buried here, in his home place.

Long ago, we found a British war-grave in a tiny corner of the Famine Graveyard that lies south of the road between Waterford and Cork. The place is a terrible reminder of national and political failures, a resting-place for thousands whose names are not recorded. The war-grave is the resting-place of a serviceman whose body was recovered from the Atlantic. All were at last given due honour when Pope John Paul II held a great Mass there during his visit to Ireland.

[cont.]

In the overgrown churchyard at Cantley, I had no expectation of finding a memorial to anyone I had known. Then, I caught sight of a war-grave and at once became interested. The name was:

Captain ERNEST ROBERT BROWNE, RNR, DSC  
Skipper, HMS CROMONA, died 7<sup>th</sup> April 1919

He seems to have been in his mid-thirties and now he was back in his home place which, as the crow flies, is about ten miles from Yarmouth Roads. Was he a victim of Spanish 'flu, or had fighting continued in some benighted spot after the Armistice? His family details are easy to find. His war-service would be better interpreted if Tom Wheeldon were writing this, for his decoration was awarded for "Service in Action with Enemy Submarines" off the Belgian coast (Gazetted 18<sup>th</sup> June 1918.) He was the Skipper of a Drifter and he seems to have attacked an enemy submarine and lived to tell the tale.

If you have read thus far you will, like me, be able to add new names on Remembrance Day to those already in your thoughts.


We will remember Them.

Jean Biggs

### **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!

### **NOVEMBER 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.

November's *Parish News* can be found online at **[www.achurchnearyou.com/abbots-bromley-st-nicholas](http://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](https://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

### **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.

## **ABBOTS BROMLEY NEWS AND NOTICES**

### **ABBOTS BROMLEY W.I.**

Members are continuing to keep in touch with amusing daily bulletins to keep us smiling. There are a number of suitable replies, mainly puns.

Each Wednesday several ladies are meeting by Zoom, and no doubt catching up on local gossip.

The National Federation of W.I. is offering courses to enjoy online. These vary from Vegetarian Cookery, Improving Photography, Art from Fabric Scraps and others.

There is no likelihood in the near future of the normal meetings taking place, but it is hoped that members can communicate in small numbers.

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

Given the Covid-19 restrictions, it is with much regret that the W.I. Committee has decided that it will not be possible to hold the Tree Festival this year.

Nevertheless, we are hoping that next year it may be possible to extend the 'Abbots Bromley Festival Season' to include other noticeable periods in the year such as Easter. Watch this space.

### **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 28<sup>th</sup> August and fortnightly thereafter [including 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November].

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

## **EVERGREENS**

November greetings from the Committee of Evergreens; still unable to meet together, but hoping that you are keeping safe and well.

It is looking more and more doubtful that we will be able to meet up in Church House for the foreseeable future. However, we still do have our date booked for the Christmas meal at **Marsh Farm** which is currently open and serving meals under the Covid-19 Rules Guidelines. This is, of course, dependent on there being no changes in restrictions in our area.

With this in mind we have contacted Mary and Sarah who are willing to do the meal for us on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December** provided we book in tables of 2, 4 and 6 with a minimum number of 16 and a maximum of 25. Masks would need to be worn at all times *except* when sitting at the tables, meals would be served at the tables, and movement around the room during the meal would have to be kept to a minimum. The cost would be £18.00 per head. We have been supplied with the Christmas menu, and you would be able to take your own drinks.

Val Jones has kindly agreed to co-ordinate this should some members be interested in doing this, and are prepared to fit into a 'bubble' table of 6, 4 or 2 with a lead person giving personal details to allow for 'Track and Trace'.

This would be a nice opportunity for members who are willing to meet up just before Christmas at the end of what has been a very different and difficult year for us all.

Before we commit to Marsh Farm we need to have an idea of people who would like to go. So to this end would you please contact Val Jones on 840592 in the first instance so we can decide to whether to go ahead or not.

Best wishes, and stay safe and well,

Sandra Cottrell, Secretary Tel: 01543 262354

### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2020**

The Abbots Bromley Branch and Women's Section of the Royal British Legion will be conducting a short Service of Remembrance on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 11:00am** at the **A.B. War Memorial**.

Due to the Government Covid-19 guidance, there will be no road closure in place for the event and subsequently no street parade.

Following the success of the VJ75 Commemoration, a small commemoration party will conduct the service on the village green adjacent to the memorial.

If residents care to witness the event they are recommended to do so whilst observing social distancing guidance and with consideration for their own safety.

The laying of wreaths will be carried out. If anyone wishes to lay a wreath (or other token of their respect) they will be invited to position themselves at an appropriate location near to the memorial. Advice on this will be communicated on the day.

If the wreath laying arrangement is not comfortable for some, they may independently return to the memorial later in the day to lay their wreath privately.

With no church service to follow, everyone will disperse on completion.

We hope that this arrangement will allow the proper recognition to be given to those who gave their lives for us. *"We will remember them"*.

Tom Wheeldon

### **PRODUCE GUILD**

The Guild last met in March for our AGM. We had a full programme of events in place for the coming year, all of which had to be cancelled.

We did manage to have our potato competition in September when 16 members had a 'do it yourself day'. They emptied and weighed their potatoes in their own gardens and emailed the results to me (some with photographs). A few who lived near to each other walked to each other's garden to witness the event. The winner, for the second year running was Gordon Jolly with 7lb 10oz (3.46kg). His prize of a bottle of wine was delivered to his doorstep.

We managed to hold a committee meeting at the end of September. This was held outdoors in my garden and, because of Covid-19 restrictions, there were just 6 of us. Most of the speakers that had been booked have rescheduled for next year. Regretfully we will not be holding our Christmas Celebration evening or New Year Dinner unless restrictions change significantly.

We are looking forward to getting back to normal, whenever that may be. Let's hope it's soon!

If you would like to know more about the Produce Guild, please contact me, Kath Cadman, on 840606.

Stay safe and well everyone, Kath Cadman, Secretary

### **SCOUT GROUP FIREWORKS**

The Abbots Bromley Scout Group plan to let off some celebratory fireworks on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November at around 7:00pm. They are conscious of Covid-19 precautions & restrictions and are wary of drawing a large crowd, but with these things in mind they welcome anyone who wishes to observe the fireworks in a socially distanced and responsible manner.

It is to be stressed that the "Scout Group Bonfire Night & Fireworks" which has been organised in previous years as a fundraiser for the Scout Group is not being held in 2020 because of the pandemic situation.

### **ST. NICHOLAS' FINANCE APPEAL**

Winter is coming and the Church needs your help. Attendance understandably is low because of the pandemic and our finances are suffering. I know lots of people are struggling too but I am appealing to you to help us if you can during this difficult time by donating through our Just Giving page, in the boxes in church which is open during the day from 10:00am to 4:00pm, or by posting envelopes through the door of Gill Grundy who can be reached on 840208. All donations however small would be welcome.

The services at church are operating in a very safe manner and communion is given whenever possible (under Covid-19 precautions) so we would be happy to see you.

Maureen Allaker, Gift Aid Secretary

### **ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH JUST GIVING PAGE**

Following advice from Lichfield Diocese, Revd Davis has set up a fundraising page at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/abbotsbromleychurch](http://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.

### **A.B. VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB DRAW**

The following are the winners of September's & October's 200 club draws.

Month	No.	Name	Amount
September	98	Ken Norman	£25
"	64	J.W. Ray	£25
"	1	Edward Froggatt	£25
"	95	Bob Heaver	£50
October	132	Irene Strudwick	£25
"	103	Unallocated	£25
"	117	Sara Brown	£25
"	29	Malcolm Brown	£50

### **HOME-MADE JAMS AND MARMALADE**

As an on-going fund raising effort for St. Nicholas' Church, I have been making jam over the summer months and still have marmalade from last spring. We have decided to have a sales table in church, so that anyone can purchase whenever St. Nicholas is open. Please put monies in the small safe at the side of the table. If you cannot see your favourite flavour, leave a note for me and I will see what I have in my store.

Alternatively, try a different jam! My husband recommends the rhubarb and ginger, as a change from marmalade, on toast. All the money goes into the funds for the upkeep of our beautiful village church.

Anthea Blower Tel: 840624

### **ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCHYARD MOWING**

Contractors are invited to tender for mowing the churchyard in 2021

For details of what is required please contact the Churchwarden

Mrs. Anthea Blower 840264

Tenders should be submitted by the end of 2020

### **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCHYARD "THANK YOU"**

A big "thank you" to all who responded to our plea for a churchyard tidy-up over the Summer. We are heading in the right direction towards being compliant with the Diocesan requirements for churchyards. There is still a bit of a way to go and also a small number of next-of-kin with whom we have not so far managed to make contact. This community effort is greatly appreciated by many. Remember, wreathes for the season of remembrance and Christmas are welcome, but please plan to have the grave spaces clear of them by the end of January.

Revd Simon Davis

## **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.

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

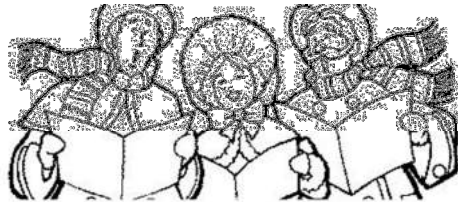
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**HP – Frama – Dell – Pitney Bowes – Canon – Neopost – Kodak**  
**NOT** Epson and Brother cartridges please

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!

## **Christmas Carol Competition**



Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

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 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Entries to The Vicarage, Abbots Bromley  
[revdsimon@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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 11 November Wednesday 25 November	Wednesday 04 November Wednesday 18 November Wednesday 02 December

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

## DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Sun 1 Nov 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)  
Sun 8 Nov 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)  
" 11:00am RBL's Act of Remembrance, AB War Memorial  
Sun 15 Nov 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)  
Sun 22 Nov 9:45am Church Service, St. Nicholas' (quiet prayer from 9:15)  
Sun 29 Nov 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](mailto:info@thenma.org.uk) Web: [www.thenma.org.uk](http://www.thenma.org.uk)



### ROTAS FOR NOVEMBER

Date	1st November	8th November	15th November	22nd November	29th November
Deputy Warden	Gill Grundy	Liz Lampard	Anthea Blower	Gill Grundy	Anthea Blower
Reader & Intercessor	Gill Grundy	Susan Martingale	David Roe	Chris Ray	Martin Godfrey
Backup Reader & Intercessor	Chris Ray	Martin Godfrey	Susan Martingale	Megan Dunmore	Gill Grundy
Epistle Reading	1 John 3 v1-3	1 Thessalonians 4 v13-end	1 Thessalonians 5 v1-11	Ephesians 1 v15-end	1 Corinthians 1 v3-9
Gospel Reading	Matthew 5 v1-12	Matthew 25 v1-13	Matthew 25 v14-30	Matthew 25 v31-end	Mark 13 v24-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. This will be especially relevant in December as extra services may be added.

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.

Visit [www.facebook.com/stnicholaschurchabbotsbromley](http://www.facebook.com/stnicholaschurchabbotsbromley) to see updates for St. Nicholas' Church including any last minute additions or changes to services. You can view this page without a Facebook account.

### FROM THE REGISTERS

Not available

### CONTACT PARISH NEWS

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

Deadlines / Dates for December's magazine are:

<b>Copy:</b>	<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>
Print:	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November
Courier by:	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November

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Contact Rose Maidstone (Booking Secretary) – 07794 422996 between 9-00am & 9-00pm



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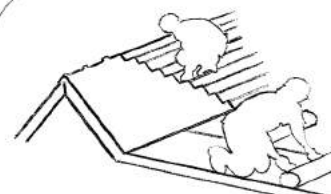
for all enquiries please call:

t: 01283 240 945

m: 07949 207 472

e: [support@rhpsolutions.co.uk](mailto:support@rhpsolutions.co.uk)

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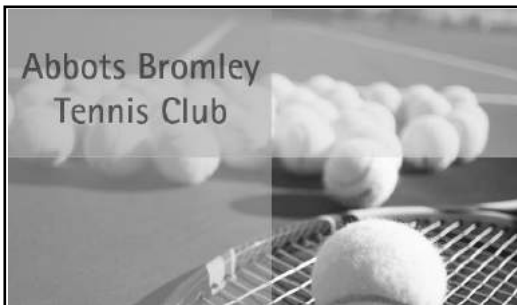
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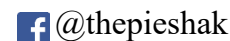
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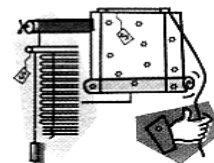
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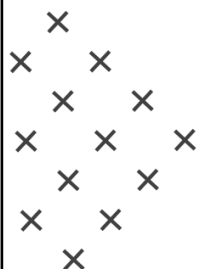
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