

# **NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS** **FROM HILMARTON PARISH**

*BEVERSBROOK - CATCOMBE - CLEVANCY - CORTON*  
*GOATACRE - HIGHWAY - HILMARTON*  
*HOPPINGSTONES - UPPER & LOWER LITTLECOT*  
*NEW ZEALAND - RODWELL - WITCOMB*

**WINTER 2020/21 NUMBER 9 - VOLUME 10**



The Parish Council - St.Laurence Church - The School - Goatacre Sports & Social Club - The Chapel - Moviola  
- Phoenix Group - Smile - Gardening Club - Pre-School & Toddlers - Bell Ringers - The Village Crafters -  
Goatacre Cricket Club

## **CHURCH AUCTION**

Plans for the Church Auction are still progressing – Obviously in these uncertain times we cannot fix a date at the moment but will keep you informed.

Thank you to all, that have already donated items and promises – We can at least start cataloguing all the items. Lots of lovely things for you to bid on when the time comes.

Please feel free to contact us with any more items or promises, all will be gratefully received and will go towards helping to support our wonderful Parish Church.

John and Jacquie Henly

07850 567068

[Jacquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:Jacquie88@btinternet.com) [johnhenly88@btinternet.com](mailto:johnhenly88@btinternet.com)

## **2021 NEW YEAR HAMPER RAFFLE**

This year St Laurence Church members have not been able to organise their usual Christmas Raffle but we didn't want to miss the opportunity of raising much needed funds to keep our beautiful Church going.

We thought a **NEW YEAR HAMPER RAFFLE** would be a great start to 2021 and something to look forward to in hopefully more settled times.

Rather than a traditional raffle we thought a **'Raffle of Hampers'** would be a nice change, covering a range themes: So far we have had generous offers to make up Scottish, English, Welsh, Italian, Breakfast, Cream Tea and Chocolate Hampers. We are sure we will have more to come too. If you would like to donate a hamper then please get in touch (see contact details below)

Most importantly - we would like your help in safely selling and buying the raffle tickets. If you can help out and have friends or family you can sell to please contact: John or Jacquie Henly Mobile: 07850 567068

[Jacquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:Jacquie88@btinternet.com) [johnhenly88@btinternet.com](mailto:johnhenly88@btinternet.com)

Tickets will cost £5.00 per book (£1 each)

The Raffle will be drawn on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021 in the Church Porch at 1pm

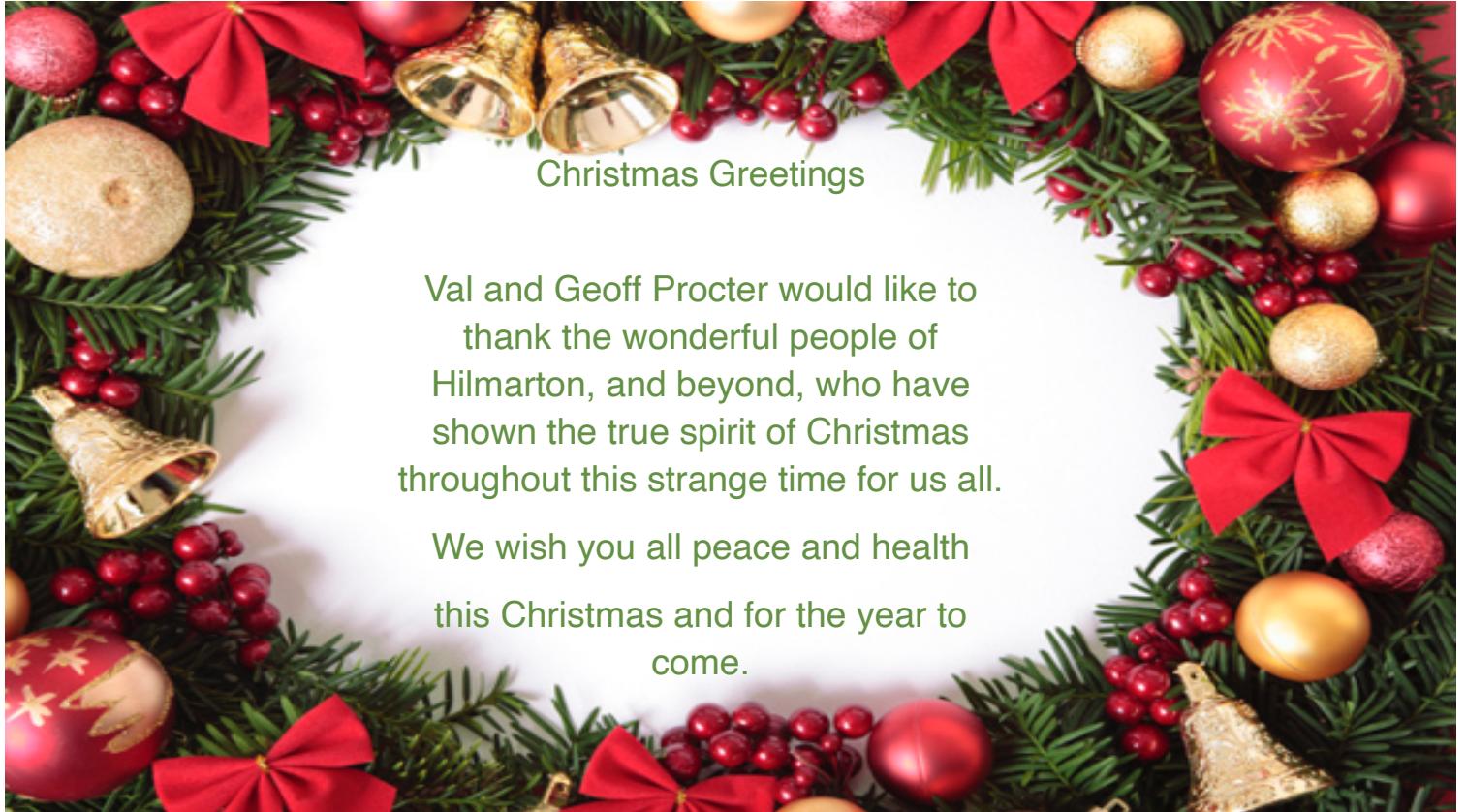
Thank you in advance for your support!



This Newsletter is produced for Hilmarton Parish Council  
Private entries may be accepted for inclusion, subject to available space.  
Donations are suggested. The donation can go to your chosen Parish Group.  
Copy and donation please to Jacquie Henly 760401, Jays Cottage, Compton Road,  
Hilmarton.

#### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

The Library Bus will be at the School  
Hall carpark in Poynder Place  
**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER  
NOTICE**



### Christmas Greetings

Val and Geoff Procter would like to  
thank the wonderful people of  
Hilmarton, and beyond, who have  
shown the true spirit of Christmas  
throughout this strange time for us all.

We wish you all peace and health  
this Christmas and for the year to  
come.

#### **HILMARTON ADVENT WINDOW PROJECT**

As many of the usual Christmas Festivities and Church services will be very different this year we have launched the Hilmarton village Advent Window event.

Every day from 1<sup>st</sup> December to 25<sup>th</sup> December at least one newly decorated window somewhere in the village will be revealed. These windows will then stay on display until New Year's Eve.

Please walk around and look at the windows. See if you can find the one that changes every day.

There will be a Window Hunt sheet for children and a Window Treasure Hunt for adults. Treasure Hunt sheets and maps, giving approximate locations of windows, will be available from the end of November via the Neighbourhood News Facebook page, [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) (on the Hilmarton page), by emailing [beneficeofwoodhill.co.uk](mailto:beneficeofwoodhill.co.uk) and requesting one or by contacting Elaine Leighton (48 Poynder Place) or Val Procter in person.

Please respect current COVID 19 restrictions when viewing windows. All windows should be visible without going onto private property.

#### **TEN SCORE CLUB WINNERS - Drawn September/October/November**

August Ron Jacomb - Sheila Beasley - Graham Moxey - Ian Bisset - John Henly - Elaine Leighton - Pat Edwards  
Brian Edwards.

September Chloe Kew - Sally Fox - Peter Delamere - Peter Delamere (both donated to the Church) - Graham  
Moxey - Ron Jacomb - Ruth Allen - Val Procter.

October Priscilla Moxey - Ruth Allen - Ian Bisset - Sharon Bisset - Lauren Henly - Val Callaway - Linda Miller  
Phyl Davis.

News from the Tower.

Very little to report from the bell ringers in this strange time. We have not rung since the start of the first lockdown and are unlikely to be doing so soon. It is possible to ring for services but we would need to only ring three bells and ring wearing face coverings and we have decided not to do that.

When it was permitted we had some socially distanced meetings in the churchyard and have been keeping in touch with each other.

Doug and John have been winding the clock and keeping an eye on the bells so everything is in order when we are able to return to ringing.

Elaine

Church services and times.

We were just planning a return to church services when this second lockdown was announced. A risk assessment has been completed, the church is being cleaned and all the social distancing, Covid measures are being put in place. If, as is planned, we can return to worship in church buildings at the beginning of December we have 2 services planned for the month of December in St Laurence's Church, Hilmarton.

13<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am - either Morning Prayer or Communion

24<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am - Communion

**Both these services will need to be confirmed closer to the date.**

We are hoping to have 2 services per month in Jan and Feb, one of which will be an All-Age service and the other a Communion service, both at 10.30am. I am sorry we can't give definite dates but everything changes so quickly.

During this time we will continue to record some worship services and you can watch these on our Facebook page or via Vimeo.

We are recording a virtual Nativity this year, details of how to view this will be in the same places.

If you would like to be kept informed of what we are doing and, in the future, when we will be returning to our church building please use the following methods:

Like and follow our Facebook page: Benefice of Lyneham and Woodhill

Find us on [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) and search for Hilmarton church

Email [beneficeofwoodhill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:beneficeofwoodhill@yahoo.co.uk) and ask to be added to the email list – I

promise you will typically only get 2 emails a week and you can change your mind at any point.

Elaine

**ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE SPRING EDITION BY 16th FEBRUARY PLEASE** To [melwilkins@live.com](mailto:melwilkins@live.com) - 760572  
Jacquie Henly, Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton. 760401 - [jacquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:jacquie88@btinternet.com) or Geoff Procter Breda  
Cottage, Church Road, Hilmarton 760312 - [geoffphilmarton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:geoffphilmarton@hotmail.co.uk). ALL ENTRIES IN 'WORD' Format please.

## **WILD FLOWER AREA - COMPTON ROAD HILMARTON**

A very big THANK YOU to Chris Townsend and Peter Wiltshire, both local farmers, for cutting and preparing the ground in preparation for the sowing of wild flowers.

The Parish Council had been planning to sow seeds for over a year! Unfortunately all our plans were halted with the first lockdown in March. However with some research and advice from the seed suppliers we have bought wild flower seed mixes that should show results in Spring 2021.

All the seeds have now been sown; John and Jasmine McFadzean, Lauren Henly and James Stewart, John and I managed to get all the seeds sown shortly after the ground was prepared, and they were nicely watered in with rain that evening.

It has been suggested that Spring bulbs would look pretty too, so we thought it might be a nice idea to get the whole community involved. If you have any spare bulbs or would like to purchase some, then please feel free to plant them randomly in the wide verge on the Compton Road. You will need to plant them in the next week or so (now is an ideal time as the ground is still reasonably soft)

All we ask is if you can plant at least one metre in from the roadside. This will help avoid them being run over by vehicles if they try to pass each other along that stretch of road. If you could also let me know if you would like to take part it would be appreciated.



## **HILMARTON PARISH COUNCIL CASUAL VACANCY**

Hilmarton Parish Council has Casual Vacancies to be filled by co-option

If you are interested in joining a diverse eleven-person team looking after the parish, please contact the Clerk – see details below.

You will have the opportunity to get involved in the life of your Parish, your local environment, recreational facilities, local highways, planning and housing issues; just a few of the areas where we get involved to help make a difference in our community.

You need to be willing to give up some of your time. This is a voluntary position and you will be expected to attend all Full Parish Council meetings, which are usually held in March, May, September and December on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month. Other meetings may be arranged if necessary.

Please apply in writing to the Clerk before Friday 11th December giving your reasons for wishing to become a Councillor and what you think you have to offer by becoming a member of Hilmarton Parish Council.

Jacquie – Clerk for Hilmarton Parish Council

Jays Cottage, Compton Road, Hilmarton, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 8SG

[Jacquie88@btinternet.com](mailto:Jacquie88@btinternet.com) Mobile 07850 567068

**TRISH JOEL wishes all her friends and neighbours a peaceful and happy Christmas and a healthy 2021.**

Ian May will not be sending or giving Christmas cards this year, 2020. I will instead make a donation to a local charity.  
I wish all Family, Friends, Neighbours and acquaintances A MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR  
On strange Christmases  
'Lockdown'

I would like to thank Mr & Mrs Wilkins, who have the garden next to mine, for cutting my hedge all summer and autumn when I was unable to do it.  
Ian May - Clevancy

## GOATACRE CRICKET CLUB

After a difficult year, where we feel fortunate to have played as much cricket as we did, we remain in uncertain times, although news of a possible vaccine has lifted the mood considerably.

Our fund raising events have been completely wiped out, but thanks to various grants and support from many kind individuals we have kept our head above water and look forward to the future with optimism.

The latest event to go by the wayside is our popular Christmas Auction, which Pat Murphy has organised for around 40 years. So we have decided to hold a Virtual Auction on our website, which will run from November 16<sup>th</sup> until December 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to the many individuals and companies who have donated lots and services for this.

Please try and support this by going to [www.goatacre.play-cricket.com](http://www.goatacre.play-cricket.com) and following the link to view the auction and instructions on how to bid. All items once paid for will be available before Christmas. Thank you for your support.

A big thank you to all who assist in the production and distribution of our quarterly Parish Newsletter.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year - let's hope 2021 will hopefully see a return to 'near normality'.

## HILMARTON PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Due to Covid 19 there has been little progress on developing our Hilmarton Parish Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Even though the Government are proposing major changes to planning policy, our steering group have decided to continue with the production of a NP once Covid restrictions allow.

This will probably mean we are unable to re-commence until the Spring, hopefully having a NP in place by the end of 2021.



Dear Moviegoers,

As you will know COVID 19 has stopped us showing any movies this year.

We would like to thank those of you who have made donations to Hilmarton Moviola to ensure we can keep our cinema hall viable in these troubled times.

Subject to us being able to ensure the safety and comfort of our audience we plan to put a programme together for next year but will let you know of our progress.

**SCENE HILMARTON MOVIOLA**

<b>PROD N<sup>o</sup></b>	<b>Happy Christmas</b>	<b>TAKE</b>
<b>DIRECTOR</b>		1

*Wishing you all a happy , safe and peaceful  
Christmas and New year*

## On strange Christmases

'Lockdown' made it to word of the year, and I'm aware that there are some other objects, words and ideas which will be very 2020 (at least for me).

Earlier in the year the phrase 'new normal' came up quite a bit, but we seem to have left that behind as returning to the old normal has receded into the distance.

At the moment I keep hearing 'strange' especially attached to 'season' or 'Christmas.' And there probably will be some unusual aspects about this Christmas.

Like Easter the strange elements of the next festival will be an experience that Christians will share with many people of other faiths: I think all of the faith communities I can think of have had celebrations curtailed and constrained.

For most human beings a festival brings special foods, the sharing of gifts and rituals and the gatherings of friends and family. Whether it was Eid or Rosh Hashanah, Samhain or as I write this, Diwali, Muslims, Jews, Pagans, Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and Buddhists have all had to encounter Covid-19 restraints on the celebrations we treasure.

There was strangeness in the first Christmas too. Mary and Joseph obeying the law to go to Bethlehem faced a difficult and lonely birth without family and friends around them. Like many of us, there seems to have been comfort and support from companion animals and strangers bringing sustenance. In all that small, constrained and strange first Christmas was the seeds of the joy and celebration that we mark now – yes different in all the cultural expressions of the feast of the nativity to this day yet always a day of delight in the birth of a child, the offer of hope and healing and the promise of salvation.

Lots of imagination is already going into finding ways in the villages of giving communities places to mark and celebrate Christmas – maybe the strangeness of being unable to realise our cherished plans will help us to think about what in food, or sharing gifts or gathering with those we love is dearest and most important to us.

Perhaps the strangeness of going without, especially for those of us who have been blessed with many good Christmases will help us remember those for whom this has always been a difficult season.

Above all may we find that we need 'let nothing us dismay for Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day' and that this promise will be as true in 2020 as it was that very first Christmas.

## Reverend Rachma Abbott

### **Governor Vacancies – Hilmarton Primary School**

There are several vacancies for members of the Governing Body of Hilmarton Primary School. We are looking for people with Management experience. We would also be interested in anyone with a background in Education. We have a supportive, friendly team and are looking for people with different backgrounds and experience to complement each other.

The governors meet six times per year at FGB (Full Governing Board) meetings. Governors are also expected to be on at least one sub-committee which also meet six times a year. The main sub-committees at Hilmarton are Curriculum & Staffing and Finance & Premises.

If you have some free time and are interested in working as part of a friendly team dedicated to ensuring the best possible educational opportunities and outcomes for all pupils, we look forward to hearing from you. Please contact any of the following:

- Sam Churchill (Headteacher): [head@hilmarton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:head@hilmarton.wilts.sch.uk)
- Simon Purtell (Chair): [spurtell@hilmarton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:spurtell@hilmarton.wilts.sch.uk)

## Winter 2020 Introductions and Remembering – Revd. Karen Rizzello

Dear Reader,

Can I begin this newsletter by introducing myself? My name is Reverend Karen Rizzello and I am the new Associate Priest for the Lyneham and Woodhill benefice. I am also lucky enough to be living at the vicarage in Lyneham which gives me a wonderful opportunity to meet you as neighbours.

I served my curacy in the Whitton Benefice, which is in the neighbouring Marlborough Deanery, and I was trained for ministry at Sarum College in Salisbury. Whitton is a rural Benefice with 6 churches including the villages of Aldbourne, Axford, Baydon, Chilton Foliat, Froxfield and Ramsbury.

Although I moved into the Lyneham vicarage at the end of July I haven't been out very much. I have been recovering from some planned surgery to the hip which unfortunately was affected by medical complications from other issues making me vulnerable during the Covid19 epidemic and keeping me out of circulation for a lot longer than expected.

I am writing this in November, in the second lockdown. I returned to public ministry on October 18<sup>th</sup> and I have been working reduced hours while I resolve those medical complications. I am gradually increasing my hours to my usual part-time commitment of Sunday and two other days each week.

In these times of Covid19 it is hard to predict how November and December will be for all of us. The government is telling us we need to get our R number down to 1 or below but that we have the good news of a possible vaccine.

We have managed to see some worship via the internet and outside to serve the very important Remembrance and All Souls services.

I cannot help reflecting on this year and our need for remembrance as individuals and families. We will remember in the context of our war heroes but also for all those we have lost over the past year and in previous years to Covid19 and other illnesses. For those who have been unable to be with their dying friend or relative this time will be particularly challenging. In lockdown we have all been dealing with the pain of separation and isolation as individuals and as a community.

But take heart. Things will get better; we will get through this time of trial. We are on the brink of getting approval for the first vaccination for Covid19. We will come out of lockdown. Spring will follow Winter and the Sun will shine again.

I take comfort from the book of Isaiah; we are assured of God's tender love and faithfulness, 'He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.' (Is.40v11).

*God Bless, Revd. Karen*