

# Church of St. Laurence Magazine

Parish including Birchley Heath, Ansley Common  
Ansley Village, Church End

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What a beautiful season autumn is! The changing colours of the leaves - the golds, the browns, the yellows are truly amazing! In the midst of this comes the wonderful and joyful celebration of harvest and what a privilege it has been to share in this with you. Sadly as you read this it will be November and winter is ever closer. Yet in the midst of winter with its long dark nights we celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus, the light in the darkness.

Before I jump too far ahead let's look back For me the past month has been a time of getting to know you and what a joy this has been!. I was very pleased to spend a day in Ansley Common and very touched by the friendship and hospitality I found there. I shall be back for a full day there in January. In the meantime I am very happy to visit there or anywhere whenever I am asked. You don't have to wait three months! This month's visit will be to Birchley Heath. I shall be there on Thursday November 27 from 9a.m. to 4.30 p.m.. Offers of coffee, tea or lunch or simply requests for a visit will be gratefully received.

Thinking of Ansley Common, I am pleased to announce that under the continuing and faithful leadership of David and Marie Cove, we shall be increasing the number of services at St. John's. There will now be a service on the fifth as well as the second and fourth Sundays of each month, plus a service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday at 9a.m. and of Morning Prayer on the third Wednesday also at 9 a.m. Both these services will finish by 9.30 in time to catch the bus to town! So November services are :

Wednesday 5 November 9a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 9 November 10.30 a.m. Remembrance Family Service

Wednesday 19 November 9a.m. Morning Prayer

Sunday 23 November 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 30 November 10.30a.m. Songs of Praise

One of the advantages of having responsibility for both Arley and Ansley is being able to commend events more widely. At St. Wifrid's, Old Arley an Alpha Course is just beginning every Wednesday at 7 for 7.30. You are most welcome to join us. Light refreshments provided.

I am also hoping to arrange a simple prayer calendar for the Ley Group - i.e. Ansley, Arley, Corley and Fillongley so we can support each other in prayer. If you have any areas of church or community life which you would like to be included, please let me know.

Having moved from North Norfolk, where I had overall responsibility for ten churches, it is good to have more time to get out and about to meet people and to get involved. If you feel that I may be able to help in any way, please ask .

Your friend and Vicar,

Peter

St John's Hall Ansley Common Services 10.30 a.m.  
Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> Remembrance. Family service.  
Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> before Advent Holy Communion.

St. Laurence's Church services 10.30 a.m. & 6.30. p.m.

Nov. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Trinity 20	a.m. All Age Worship. p.m. BCP Holy Communion.
Nov. 9 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance	a.m. Service and laying of wreaths. p.m. Evensong.
Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 22	a.m. Tear fund service p.m. Holy Communion.
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> before Advent	a.m. The Lord is Here Communion. p.m. Confirmation
Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup> Advent 1	a.m. Holy Baptism p.m. Evensong

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Ansley Common Fellowship meets
Mondays	Links group meet.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer In the Village Church Hall. Followed by The Senior Citizens, everyone is welcome.
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	Prayer group meets at 10 Nuthurst Cres. at 2.p.m.
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Fellowship meets
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> 7.30 - 10	Line dance at St. John's Church Hall.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Spurgeon Child Care Coffee Evening. Details below.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	St. John's Hall Committee at 2.00 p.m.
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	P.C.C. Meeting. 7 45 p.m. Church Hall.

### **Remembrance Day**

As is the custom the congregation will keep the 2 minutes silence at 11a.m. during the special Remembrance day service. Afterwards they will process to the War Memorial for the laying of the wreaths in honour of those who have given their lives in conflict that we might have freedom.

### **Tear Fund**

This year on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> at the morning service there will be a special service to think of the charity that the Church supports for the help of Children at risk around the world. The service will be led by Mandy and Bill who are our link people for this charity. The cash collection of both services that day will be donated to the charity.

### **From the Registers**

#### **Weddings:**

Carl Southall and Tara Fulleylove were married on 20<sup>th</sup> September, and they will be living in Ansley Common.  
Nicholas Chalmers and Teresa Goodchild were married on 4<sup>th</sup> October, and they will be living in Birchley Heath.  
We wish them every happiness in their lives together.

#### **Funerals:**

The funeral of Charles 'Des' Morris of Birchley Heath took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at the Nuneaton Crematorium. He was 66 and had only recently retired having worked his way from a driver to being a transport manager. Des was always very lively and



loved DIY, and would help anyone, especially if it was a DIY job. He was very much appreciated at his work, liked and loved by all his many friends, neighbours and family.

The funeral of George Goodyear took place at the Heart of England Crematorium on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October. George was well known character around Chapel End, living at Ansley Common most of his married life. His wife Lillian died 15 years ago. George was born in Port Talbot where he grew to love the sea. He was in the navy during WWII when he worked on the Russian Convoys. He was seconded to the army where he was awarded the Africa Star. The remainder of his working life was spent with the N.C.B.

### **Harvest**

The harvest celebrations took the usual format. The Church looked lovely as we thanked God for his bounty to us. We also wish to thank those who contributed to the harvest in any way, donations of produce and flowers, those who decorated the Church, and then moved everything to the hall ready for the sale. Norman, as auctioneer provided an enjoyable Monday evening and £150 was raised for the General fund.

It was good to welcome again the children and many parents from Nursery Hill School on the Monday morning. The children sang their songs and did their 'well practised' pieces to celebrate their harvest in the parish Church. Everyone, particularly the children enjoyed this annual event.

The Harvest Supper was most enjoyable. The food was very good, Peter answered questions posed by the audience, The musical entertainment, provided by Judith who was accompanied by Margaret Kimberley, was excellent. The quiz and the jokes were fun and enjoyed by all. With the raffle a surplus of £76.10 was made which has been placed in the Church Hall funds.

### **Church Lights**

It is with great pleasure that we are now able to say that the two outside lights that Keith Davis so kindly repaired have now been refitted in their correct places and are working correctly. These will be of great benefit now the dark nights are coming.

### **Line Dance**

There will be a line dance class on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Church Hall from 7.30 to 10 p.m. This will be led by Joanne Humpage, who for quite a few years, has been teaching line dancing. Please bring your own drinks. There will be a raffle and the proceeds will be in aid of the St. John's hall kitchen floor which is in urgent need of repair.

### **Spurgeon child Care Coffee Evening and Bring and Buy**

Please come along on Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. to 33 Nuthurst Crescent. Enjoy light refreshments and a chat and help raise funds for Spurgeon Child Care. This is a children's charity that raises funds to help support children in Britain less fortunate than our own.

There will be a bring and buy stall and please bring any collection boxes you may have.

Thank you, for your continued support Margaret Oliver 024 7639 5674.

# ANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

## **CRIME & DISORDER ISSUES**

Local resident's concerns over the ongoing issues relating to Crime and Disorder in Ansley Village in particular continue. The local MP Mike O'Brien following the meeting held in June has undertaken various steps to investigate the matters raised by consulting with third party persons and relevant local agencies. A second meeting at which the local MP will attend to provide residents with an update is scheduled for early October. It was also noted that similar issues are being experienced in Ansley Common.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME**

The presentation held in August proved successful with a large number of residents in attendance who were provided with details as to how such a Scheme can benefit the local community. A number of interested persons kindly offered their assistance as Co-ordinators and an initial meeting to discuss the process of setting up and progressing a Neighbourhood Watch in Ansley Village will take place shortly. The Parish Council would like to hear from any other interested people who would be willing to assist in this local community crime prevention initiative. It has also been agreed that should this Scheme prove to be successful, then the implementation of other Groups elsewhere in the Parish should be initiated.

## **MOBILE POLICE STATION**

Atherstone Police have reported that funding for a mobile police station has now been achieved and that they are currently in the process of tendering out the contract for the building of this specially equipped vehicle.

## **NEW COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICER**

A new officer is now covering Ansley Common, Ansley Village and Hartshill. PC Helen Cook having been transferred has been replaced by PC Chris Smith. PC Ian Aley continues to cover Birchley Heath.

## **ARLEY HURRICANES JUNIOR F.C.**

Permission has once again been extended to the young football team to train and play their matches each weekend at the football pitch area at Ansley Village Recreation Ground and they are wished a successful season.

## **LITTER/FLY TIPPING IN PARISH**

Richard Thomas from NWBC attended the September meeting and gave assurances that various changes will soon be made to the Grounds Maintenance and Street Scene services that are undertaken by NWBC. Additional funding has been made available which has enabled new members of staff to be employed in the department who are now steadily working towards improving the appearance of the Borough as a whole. The issue of fly tipping that is fast becoming an increasing problem across the Borough is also receiving attention with plans to install signs and surveillance cameras at the popular sites in a bid to crack down on this illegal activity. The Parish Council have also called for NWBC's assistance in the resolution of another long standing issue of fly tipping on Network Rail owned land at the rear of the Recreation Ground in Ansley Village. This particular issue has safety implications due to the rubbish being deposited directly above the Arley Tunnel.

## **TRAFFIC CALMING**

Speed survey results taken by WCC in Ansley Village in October 2002 have provided statistical information that shows that 15% of drivers travelling through the Village exceed the 30mph speed limit by 9mph, i.e. 39mph. This is considered by WCC to be slightly higher than normal with a figure of 37mph being more typical. However, the average speed of all 5500 vehicles that passed through the checkpoint during the week long period was 32.8mph. These figures do not show any significant changes since the previous survey was undertaken in 2000. Costs for improvements to the existing traffic calming scheme are currently being obtained. These will enable the Parish Council to assess the financial situation of providing additional measures in a bid to reduce still further the speed of vehicles travelling through Ansley Village.

## **NEXT MEETING DATES**

**NOV 13th    DEC 11th    JAN 8th    FEB 12th**

*Please note that any items, residents would like to be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting, must be forwarded giving details in writing to the Clerk, Mrs Tracy Poynton at 17 Laurel Drive, Hartshill, Nuneaton, CV10 0XP.*