United Benefice
of Rostherne with Bollington
St John High Legh & St Paul Over Tabley

Parish Magazine

February 2021

Vicar:
The Revd Philip Robinson - 01565 830595
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Feb 2021	W/c 7 February	W/c 14 February	W/c 21 February	W/c 28 February
Sun	2nd Sunday before Lent Psalm 104: 26-end Proverbs 8: 1, 22-31 Colossians 1: 15-20 John 1: 1-14	Sunday Next Before Lent Psalm 50: 1-6 2 Kings 2: 1-12 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6 Mark 9: 2-9	1st Sunday of Lent Psalm 25: 1-9 Genesis 9: 8-17 1 Peter 3: 18-end Mark 1: 9-15	2nd Sunday of Lent Psalm 22: 23-end Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 Romans 4: 13-end Mark 8: 31-end
Mon	Psalm 30 Ecclesiastes 7: 1-14 John 19: 1-16	Psalm 44 Jeremiah Chapter 1 John 3: 1-21	Psalm 11 Jeremiah 4: 19-end John 5: 1-18	St David's Day Psalm 32 Jeremiah 7: 21-end John 6: 41-51
Tues	Psalm 36 Ecclesiastes 7: 15-end John 19: 17-30	Psalm 48 Jeremiah 2: 1-13 John 3: 22-end	Psalm 44 Jeremiah 5: 1-19 John 5: 19-29	Psalm 50 Jeremiah 8: 1-15 John 6: 52 - 59
Wed	Psalm 34 Ecclesiastes Chapter 8 John 19: 31-end	Ash Wednesday Psalm 38 Daniel 9: 3-6, 17-19 1 Timothy 6: 6-19	Psalm 6 Jeremiah 5: 20-end John 5: 30-end	Psalm 35 Jeremiah 8: 18-9:11 John 6: 60-end
Thurs	Psalm 37 Ecclesiastes Chapter 9 John 20: 1-10	Psalm 77 Jeremiah 2: 14-32 John 4: 1-26	Psalm 42 Jeremiah 6: 9-21 John 6: 1-15	Psalm 34 Jeremiah 9: 12-24 John 7: 1-13
Fri	Psalm 31 Ecclesiastes 11: 1-8 John 20: 11-18	Psalm 3 Jeremiah 3: 6-22 John 4: 27-42	Psalm 22 Jeremiah 6: 22-end John 6: 16-27	Psalm 41 Jeremiah 10: 1-16 John 7: 14-24
Sat	Psalm 42 Ecclesiastes 11: 9-12: end John 20: 19-end	Psalm 71 Jeremiah 4: 1-18 John 4: 43-end	Psalm 63 Jeremiah 7: 1-20 John 6: 27-40	Psalm 25 Jeremiah 10: 17-24 John 7: 25-36

CONTACTS

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	Mr E Wakefield	01565 830127
Organist	Mr A Bailey	01606 834330
Tower Captain	Mr C Teltlow	0161 928 2137

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	Mrs H Girardier	01925 754717
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Other Useful Contact Numbers

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High Legh Primary School

Headteacher	Mrs Louise Tottle	01925 753713

Parish Councils

Agden - Clerk	Alex Lenihan	07775 766176
High Legh - Clerk	Mrs Doreen Walker	01925 754818
Little Bollington - Clerk	Mr M Reed	07766 083765
Mere - Clerk	Miss K Whitlow	
Millington Clerk	Ms Sharon Booth	07388 917 569
Rostherne - Clerk	Ms Sharon Booth	07388 917 569
Tabley - Clerk	Ms Sharon Booth	07388 917 569
Cheshire East Cllrs.	Ms Charlotte Leach (Mobb)	07791 291 521
	Ms Kate Parkinson (H.L.)	07565158 989
Bucklow Manor Care Home	Ms Donna Booth	01565 830396
Children's Adventure Farm Trust	Ms Helen Crowther	01565 830447
Egerton Hall Bookings	Jo Fenton	07584 854 822
Fire Station		01565 633369
High Legh Village Hall	Helen Wright	07703 194052
Manchester Airport	Comm Outreach Team	08000 967 967
Mere & Tabley Comm Club		01565 830229
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Rostherne Art Group	Mrs Joan Gate	01565 830134
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Tatton Estate Office	Fisher German	01565 757970
W.I. High Legh	Mrs Jean Evans	01925 755979
W.I. Little Bollington	Mrs P Winward	01565 830467

Prayer for February

With Valentine's Day coming in the middle of this month it is a good time to think about the virtue of love.

Father God thank you that you love and value everyone. Help us to follow the commandment of Jesus 'to love one another as he has loved us'.
Please give us an awareness of your wonderful love for us so that an attitude of love may pervade our whole existence. Give us wisdom, patience, respect and kindness so that we follow the commandant of love in all our relationships.

Services During February

Following meetings of all three Parochial Church Councils during the second week of January, decisions were taken to suspend all services until mid March in view of the high number of Covid-19 cases and the infectiousness of the new variants.

*However**, Funerals will go ahead in church following Covid-19 guidelines.***

Only emergency weddings are permitted at present.

Sunday Services

Although we cannot meet together in person, we continue to stream a **recorded service each Sunday.**

New this Lockdown is a **live Zoom Service** every Sunday which you can join from 10.15 ready to begin at 10.30. There is time to chat before the service and afterwards everyone is welcome to stay on and have a cup of coffee or tea together.

The **Storytelling Service** continues on the 2nd and 4th Sundays as a recorded service with all the usual content and craft suggestions.

Please sign up for our weekly **News and Prayer Update** to receive the links and full details for these services. Contact Revd Patricia:
Tel 01565 830 595 or email pmrobinson51@gmail.com

Midweek Services

On **Wednesday mornings at 09.00** you can join **Celtic Morning Prayer.** This is live online via Zoom.

For details of the links for this service please contact Revd Trish Cope
Tel: 07703 470101; 01925 754787 or email trishcope2012@btinternet.com

On **Thursday Evenings at 19.00** you can join a **Telephone Service for Evening Worship**.

We hope that this will be particularly helpful for those who do not use the internet, but everyone is welcome to join. Please contact our Reader Mrs Chris Stanisstreet for details of how to join.

Tel: 01925 755 559 Email: stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk

Letter from the Ministry Team

I wonder when you took your Christmas decorations down. Was it at the "usual" time?

Traditionally Christmas decorations come down on 6th January at the end of the twelve days of Christmas.

But John and I looked at our tree and decided it was still in good condition with no needle-drop nor dropping, so we would leave it up. Whilst some of the other floral decorations were ready for the green bin, the tree with its lights and decorations maintained a bit of light and cheer in the darkness of mid-January. And so, we have deferred taking down the tree until February 2nd which is the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple known as Candlemas. This day remembers when Simeon recognised Jesus as "the light to lighten the Gentiles".

Contemporary practice has extended the twelve days of celebration to forty days. For twelve days during Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus and for a further four weeks we have the season of Epiphany with accounts of the ways in which Jesus was revealed to the world as the Son of God. The combined seasons end with Candlemas.

If you walk past St John's you will see that although most of our Christmas decorations have been taken down, the crib and the star remain. The crib is a reminder that Christmas was the time when the light of the world came into being here on earth and the star is a reminder of our call to seek and follow Jesus Christ light of the world. They will remain until Candlemas.

Candlemas is seen as a pivotal moment when we turn from the crib to the cross. We turn from a period of celebration to one of discipline and self-sacrifice. We seem to turn from light to darkness, although the natural world is turning the other way with the light of day extending. However, light and dark are both sides of the same coin. Whether we think about the light and dark of each day or the light and dark of contrasting seasons in the year or the visual image caused by the contrasting use of dark and light in art, it appears that you can't have one without the other! Martin Luther King is quoted as saying:

"We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light. Light thinks it travels faster than anything but it is wrong. No matter how fast light travels, it finds the darkness has always got there first, and is waiting for it."

Christians are called to take the light of Christ with us to overcome the darkness we find in the world.

…….. / cont'd

…. **Letter from the Ministry Team (cont'd)**

Despite the darkness around us - of winter, social isolation, illness and bereavement, all of which are very much in our lives at the moment, we recognise that the light of love still shines both now and ahead.

The snowdrop, sometimes called "Mary's taper", looks like a candle flame, shining in the ground, as its pointed flower bud pushes up through the ground and into the air. Snowdrops are also known as Candlemas Bells because the white of the snowdrop symbolizes the innocence and purity of Mary; and because it is the first flower to bloom at the end of winter and the beginning of spring, it represents hope. Hope is a powerful life force that enables us to face and over-come the challenges of life and it is with the hope of Easter in our hearts that we will face the coming months.

"When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart." Howard Thurman

https://www.bread.org/sites/default/files/downloads/howard-thurman.pdf

Recent Funerals

Christine Margaret Johnson - known as Chris:.
31st May 1947 - 14thJanuary 2021.
Chris was well known locally as head of the history department at Lymm High School and very much appreciated for her contributions to community life through the Parish Plan and Village Appearance Group and as Chair of Governors at High Legh Primary School. She will be missed greatly especially by her family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with Tony, David, Sally and all the family.

Trish

Anna Vernon Smyth BA., MLS., MCILIP. Aged 89

When I arrived in Rostherne, Anna was already a well established and faithful member of the congregation. As I got to know her, I began to appreciate that she had led a fascinating life.

A ballet dancer who had occasionally been part of the chorus line of the Benny Hill Show, a Nurse in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps and later a Librarian, she had lived in Belfast, London, Germany and Africa and was immensely knowledgeable on a wide range of subjects.

Archery was a passion she had shared with her late husband, and I would refer to her as 'the fair toxophilite' after the title of a painting by William Powell Frith, a copy of which hung in her living room.
When we were preparing to build the toilet extension at St Mary's, the planning authority stipulated that we employ an archaeologist to supervise the excavations for the foundations. Anna then revealed that she had a degree in the subject and suggested that she become the resident church archaeologist. This was going to save the church a considerable amount of money, but I was concerned that this frail lady in her 80's would have to be on site through a cold and wet winter.
I suggested that I provide her with a booth for shelter and a supply of hot drinks, offers she politely declined.

When the builders began to uncover disarticulated human remains, they were amazed when this elderly lady got down on her hands and knees in the trench with a trowel and began to gently uncover and record the them. Due to the number of remains uncovered, both outside and inside the building, this became a protracted process. Anna, however, was full of enthusiasm and declared that she was having the time of her life.
Anna will be missed by everyone at St Mary's as well as by her children and grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time.

Philip.

March Magazine

We would love to hear from any reader with contributions of interest.

Please send any items to your usual Editor or to parishmagrwlb@gmail.com by the end of the day on

Friday 19th February 2021.

We will continue to have the pdf version of the magazine for the time being. As things are at the moment we cannot ask our volunteers to deliver magazines. You can ask for one to be sent to you or pick one up from Abbey Leys Farm Shop, Fenton's Farm Foods or the BP Filling Station opposite The Swan.

Tony the Fish Man at Fenton Farm Foods

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Coffee and Chat

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The link for January is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89014498190?pwd=WXJWU0JySGNqR05VRU1qOE1jbGwxQT09

If you require the ID and Passcode please let Patricia know.

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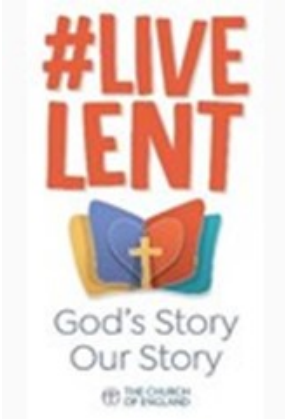
During Lent

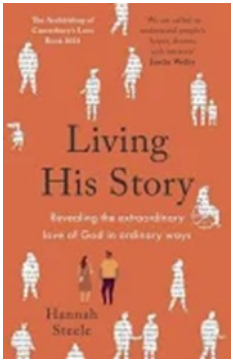
LiveLent: God's Story Our Story



invites each of us to reflect on our own story of God and how we might share it through our everyday lives as part of our Christian witness.

All through Lent and up to Easter Day there is a short Bible reading, a reflection and a prayer.

You can also access it on line or buy your own copy. Let us know if you would like a copy and we will arrange to let you have one.



#LiveLent: God's Story Our Story is based on the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for this year.-

Living His Story - Revealing the extraordinary love of God in ordinary ways by Hannah Steele

This book is particularly appropriate as it was written during the pandemic and demonstrates ways in which we can all convey God's love to others.

Copies are available from various booksellers but the best price we have seen is £7.99 from the Publishers SPCK.

Lent Course 2021

This will be based on the booklet above and take place online on **Tuesday evenings.**

Sessions will start at **19.00** and last up to an hour and a half.

The first session will be on **Tuesday 23 February 2021.** There will be opportunities to discuss what we have read over the week before and there are questions that can be used as points for discussion.

*If there is demand for a **daytime course** we will provide one - just let a member of the Ministry Team know —Philip, Trish, Patricia, Chris or Stewart,*

LOCKDOWN HIGHLIGHTS

Did you notice all the lights go up across the village at Christmas time? More properties than ever decided to brighten up their home patch in defiance of the gloom in our lives caused by the lockdown and the pandemic - not to mention the dreadful weather. For a while we had some cheer in the village to lift our spirits. On Park View / High Field people went further by setting up a huge Christmas tree with lights on the green in front of their properties. Special thanks are due to Gail and Andy Blackburn and to Thomas Britton and Anna McNamara for their generous contributions of time, work and money to make this possible. The tree had such an uplifting effect that residents decided to leave it in place for the whole month of January. Some also left their garden lights in place, clinging onto this glimmer of hope for a few more weeks.

LOCKDOWN LOWLIGHTS

The long periods of lockdown have resulted in a very high number of visitors coming into or through our village. Most days, until the more recent tighter restrictions and guidelines imposed in January, there was a constant stream of people visiting this beautiful area - despite the poor weather and the excessively muddy paths. Many local people have reported concerns about some of the effects of this influx. The two main concerns have been parking problems and litter.

Car parking has often extended along the entire length of Park Lane. Many have parked on the pavement causing pedestrians to walk in the narrow road. Unfortunately this led to a few altercations and an accident. The Police, the National Trust and our Cheshire East Ward Councillor, Kate Parkinson, are all involved in seeking the best solution. The police have placed warning notices about illegal parking and the imposition of fines. They are undertaking a survey of residents and visitors to understand the views and wishes of all parties. The various agencies are coming together to consider the findings and ideas for solving the problem. Your views, suggestions and ideas are welcome.

The problem of litter has also been worse during lockdown. With many more people passing through the village, there is an inevitable increase in rubbish dropped or left behind. Some of this included coffee cups and other items purchased in Dunham Massey Park. During lockdown, all refreshments in the Park must be sold as take away items. The park cafes will re-open at the first opportunity and the litter problem should then reduce considerably.

The National Trust are aware of these problems and share residents' concerns. They have placed sacks for litter and they are undertaking frequent litter picks of the path from the Park to the Bollin footbridge. The park guides, many of them volunteers, have willingly taken on this extra responsibility and deserve our gratitude. The Trust will also support litter picking in the village by providing equipment (litter grabbers, bags and bag hoops) and disposing of rubbish collected. We hope that residents will volunteer to help keep our village clean and tidy. Please consider offering up a few hours of your time to help clear litter.

These problems are not unique to Little Bollington. Similar problems have been reported during lockdown in villages and rural locations across the country. There is clear evidence that the increased visitor numbers are a direct result of the lockdown, with so many people based at home and looking for places for activity and exercise. The problems should ease when lockdown ends, but the local agencies will monitor the situation and continue to support our community.

Please get in touch with your views on these issues. And please volunteer to help with the litter picking. Many hands will make light work - and will be more effective.

SITE COMPOUND

In January the Cheshire East Strategic Planning Board considered the application for an extension to the temporary planning permission for the site compound near the Bowdon roundabout.

There was concern among the local community about the statement in the application that "it is considered entirely justified and reasonable to grant a permanent permission. However.... we are limiting the application to 5 years" to 2025. The Planning Officers report to the Board stated: "the issue is how long this permission is extended for..... Galliford Try's project plan indicates main works will be complete by July 2022". Regarding HS2 he stated that the planning team "have not seen very special circumstances why they have to be on this site. We need to be convinced that this is the right site for them to be located. We don't have the evidence to recommend that at the moment." The applicant's representative explained that the M56 project had suffered delays, especially due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He added that there is a risk of further delays and the need for further time to decommission the site. He requested an extension to the end of 2023. Some Councillors shared the concern that the M56 works could run on beyond July 2022. The Planning Officer advised that the Board could increase the allowed period, say to December 2022, but that there is no evidence to justify an extension beyond that date.

…../ Cont'd

Board members recognised the need for further time for the site compound for the M56 works. But they were very concerned to protect the Green Belt. The Chair asked the Planning Officer to clarify whether repeated temporary consents, which allowed buildings and hard standings, would lead to a presumption that the land is suitable for development. The Planning Officer confirmed that the underlying policy is Green Belt, which is given very strong protection. This means that at the end of the temporary permissions the site must be returned to open land. He stressed that the Green Belt is a "very high bar" and even temporary use of the land is only allowed in "very exceptional circumstances".

The Board made a proposal for the temporary planning permission for the site compound to be extended to December 2022. It was felt that this would be reasonable, would allow leeway for possible further delays, and would "focus minds to get the work finished by the end of 2022." The proposal added that the other original condition must remain, which requires the site to be restored to open land on completion. The proposal was approved by the Planning Board. It is hoped that this is a fair decision for the applicants and the best outcome for the local community.

FLOODING IN LITTLE BOLLINGTON

This area of Cheshire suffered severe flooding on 20-21 January. This was even worse than the flooding of August 2019 and the worst in living memory – even for those over 80 years old.

The River Bollin in Little Bollington overflowed, with floodwater spreading over vast areas of farmland adjacent to Dunham Massey Park and in Little Bollington. Bollington Mill, next to the river, was utterly devasted. The ground floor was inundated. All residents of the mill were called to evacuate at about 2am due to the property being surrounded by floodwater and inaccessible to emergency
vehicles.

The river rose so high that flood water spread up Park Lane past the Swan With Two Nicks. The pub was devastated with damage to stock and equipment valued at many thousands of pounds. Bollington Hall Farm nearby also suffered internal flooding. The electricity substation was flooded and most of the area suffered a power cut from 12 midnight to 12 noon.

Other areas far from the main river were also badly affected, especially at the south end of Spode Green Lane. With the river system overloaded and heavy rain falling on already saturated ground, the floodwaters could not drain away. Coe Lane turned into a river, gardens were drowned out and two properties were swamped with floodwater leading to families having to evacuate.

Lymm Road was badly flooded outside the church and school. The water was so deep that a hospital doctor driving home after a long and tiring shift, and trying to see through the driving snow, had her car stranded in the floodwater. The church basement was flooded and the school had to be closed.

It was a terrible time for all and devastating for some. The village WhatsApp group sprang into life and friends and neighbours rallied round to offer support to each other. Rev Philip Robinson has managed to visit some of those who were badly affected.

River Bollin around Bollington Mill

February's Food Hero:

Claire Burt Cheesemaker Extraordinaire

While researching this, the first of a new series of articles on local food heroes, I relied on many sources. Amongst them, nostalgically, an article I wrote in April 1995 for Life Magazines. The subject of the piece was the great cheese guru Peter Papprill who, with great energy and almost evangelical fervour, attempted to kick start a cheese revolution from his Cheshire HQ. His support for a dying craft will be remembered by many as a significant turning point for an ancient artisanal cheese-making industry perilously close to extinction.

The Cheshire syndrome, perhaps better than any, encapsulates the parlous state of affairs. In 1930 Cheshire cheese was made on over 1,200 farms but by 1995 we were down to only 3 still making authentic product. Cheshire Blue was then made in Leicestershire by Long Clawson and was nothing like the original made by the Hutchinson-Smith family. Edward and Christine Appleby had been making cheese since 1949 and Mrs Appleby was still supervising production from her kitchen across from the dairy. The business survives to this day and remains at the top of its game. I wrote the piece back then in support of Peter Papprill and his crusading colleagues as thanks to them the great farmhouse cheese industry was saved for posterity. This handful of stalwarts and enterprising young chefs started a virtual cheese revolution, so today's article is dedicated to them and to cheese lovers everywhere.

Cheshire is in fact Britain's oldest cheese, having been made since before Roman times. It was recorded in the Doomsday Book of 1086. For hundreds of years, Cheshire cheese was more famous than Cheddar. William Blake's moving poem Jerusalem set to the stirring music of Sir Hubert Parry was inspired by the apocryphal story that young Jesus, along with Joseph of Arimathea, travelled to what is now England and to Glastonbury during his unknown years. The poem refers to walking on England's mountains green. England boasts many other natural features that have always been the foundation stones of our culture and domestic habits. Great among these are the millions of acres of lush grassland and prolific rainfall, two of the important cornerstones of rich, creamy milk essential for great cheese making. If you are looking for the secret of wonderful Cheshire cheese look no further than luscious milk and dedicated craftsmanship. Given recent events over the pond, it is timely that we start the new series with a woman.

Today, despite the pandemic's threat to the survival of small artisanal cheesemakers across Britain, we are all still able to reap the exquisite rewards of a cheese-making renaissance. Across the nation from the islands of the Hebrides to every corner of Wales and every county of England you can now find, once again, examples of our precious heritage – from Cheddar to Leicestershire and Lancashire almost every county now treasures its own traditional cheese producer. This corner of Cheshire is no exception.

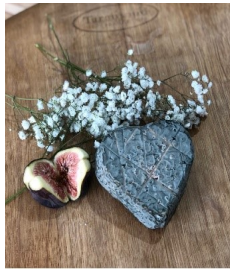
Step forward **Claire Burt**, mother of two (Noah and Esme) and first-generation cheese maker. Altrincham born and bred, Claire founded Burt's cheese in 2009. What started as a hobby with micro production confined to the kitchen soon developed into a business. Claire's bravery is an example of British entrepreneurial spirit at its absolute best. Armed only with a degree in Food Science, a passion for good food and the encouragement of husband Phil she took up the gauntlet and set-to. Remarkably in her first year of business this extraordinary woman won a gold medal at the great Nantwich International Cheese Festival triumphing over 4000 entries from across Europe. Her first cheese is still her pride and joy and although others have followed with great success, little Burt's Blue will remain closest to her heart.

More recently Claire has won a clutch of new awards, including Gold at the British Cheese Awards, Gold at the ICA, Gold at the Artisan Cheese Awards and The Observer Food Monthly Award – all testimony to her great skill.

Claire is now ensconced in her own custom-equipped dairy near Knutsford working alongside former chef Tom Partridge who is now very much an integral part of the production team.

Continued/….

Claire's latest cheese created especially for Valentine's Day is a must for cheese lovers or just lovers everywhere. This heart-shaped wonder is available at local stockists –
The Cheese Yard, Knutsford; the Lambing Shed, Knutsford; The Cheshire Smokehouse, Mobberley; Winter Tarn, Altrincham Market;
Grantham's, Alderley Edge and Booths Knutsford or online www.burtscheese.co.uk



We wish Claire and her team nothing but the best in these challenging economic times.

We would like to encourage our readers to come forward with their own suggestions for someone worthy of nomination for our hero award. We cannot promise to feature everyone but recognise the importance of good, sound local knowledge. It is not enough to know someone or like someone, they must be of real merit and provide outstanding service to our local community. The final decision will remain, ultimately, with the editorial team.

Peter Williams.

LITTLE BOLLINGTON W.I.

At the start of the New Year, members are looking forward to being able to meet together, hopefully, later in the year as the vaccine programme is rolled out. In spite of not being able to hold meetings together, members have kept in contact via WhatsApp, which has proved to be a useful way of keeping in touch . It has been heartening to hear of all the inspirational activities everyone has been doing, from crotchet blankets (Alison) paintings and even a litter pick (Anne). Everyone is showing a resilient spirit, posting humorous anecdotes and wonderful photos and videos designed to keep spirits high.

Some of our members have already been given the vaccination which has been a source of relief to those who have had it, while the rest are waiting patiently for their turn. Everyone has remarked on the efficiency of the medical teams at the vaccine hubs.

We are looking forward to the time when we can meet again in safety , but unfortunately restrictions seem to be likely to be enforced for a while yet. However, as soon as it is safe to do so, meetings will resume.=

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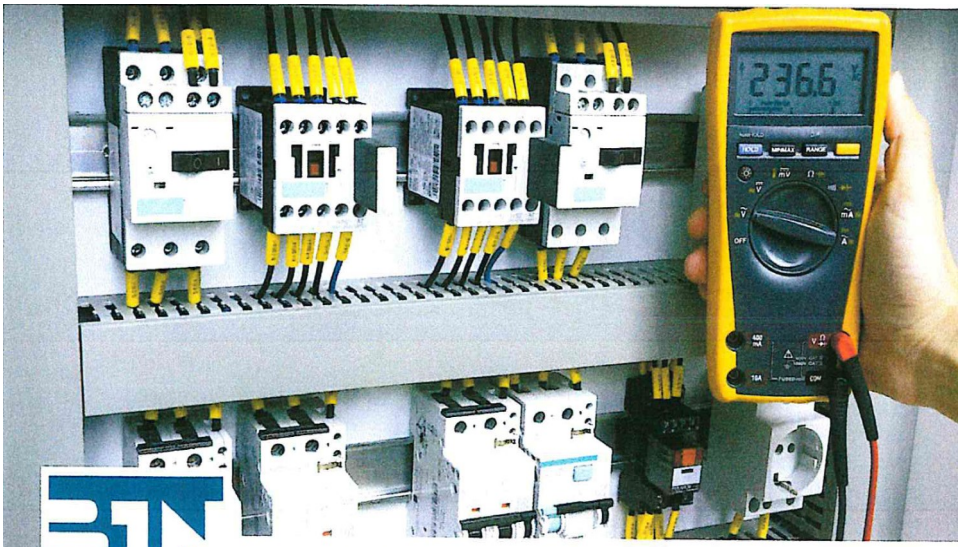

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