

Lockdown in Littlebury

News in Littlebury Parish – w/c 20th April 2020

Mary Wright celebrated her birthday on 15th April. Her son, Richard, writes: Here is Mum today on her 96th birthday together with the plant from the village. Mum says a grateful thanks to everyone on this special day.



Dear everyone , Josie and our family wanted to thank you all so much for the wonderful signs and banners yesterday to help celebrate her lockdown birthday. We are very touched and grateful to you all!
It was wonderful to have a walk around the village and wave to some of you through the windows :)
Roll on the next birthday! We will be ready with our sign to celebrate....Love Penny

If you are celebrating a lock-down birthday, please post on the Littlebury News and Banter WhatsApp group, or let a member of the Littlebury Support group know a day or two beforehand, so we can celebrate with you!

Dear Friends, Unfortunately I cannot hold my book signing at Harts for obvious reasons. I will have to launch myself at you in other ways. Not a gripping thriller but may while away a few hours? Worth a try? Love, Jan.

AFTER CHARLIE - MUCKING OUT AND TUCKING IN by Jan Menell

Mother, wife, midwife and animal lover extraordinaire, Maggie Edwards is back! In Jan Menell's second novel, Maggie finds herself well and truly at the heart of village life, with all the ups and downs that involves. Following the death of an elderly villager, Maggie develops an abiding relationship with the village elders, learning and imparting knowledge in equal measure. She also finds a special synergy growing between herself and the mothers she cares for in her role as a midwife. A preoccupation with her job, the elders and the assortment of animals she acquires help to ease the sadness

Maggie faces over her own miscarriages and her desire for another child. And the arrival of her mother in the village proves even more distracting...

With vandalised allotments, village fetes, blossoming romances and enduring friendships, *After Charlie* is a charming tale of a very English village, a cast of engaging characters and one woman's ever-increasing menagerie.

After Charlie is available to order at <https://www.troubador.co.uk/bookshop/contemporary/after-charlie/> at £8.50 for a printed copy or £3.99 as an e-book. Jan also has a few copies herself which she is happy to sign.



Dear friends,

Since the lockdown I seem to have made a new friend. Every day when I am sitting at my desk in the study a little bird comes to visit me. He sits on my window sill and knocks on the glass with his beak. I'm no ornithologist but the bird appears to be a long-tailed tit, also known as a 'flying lollipop bird'. It is lovely to see something of the joy of creation at this time of worry, fear and isolation. I feel that is like a blessing of God just for me. It reminds me that there is a world of beauty out there and that it hasn't gone away.

This Sunday's gospel reading will be about another friendly visitor. It concerns Jesus visiting his disciples after the resurrection. The disciples rejoiced when they saw Jesus. Even though they had been through a dark and dismal time with the death and burial of Jesus, they could now be joyful because out of death had come new life. Jesus left his Holy Spirit with the disciples so that they could carry on with the redeeming work of Jesus and here we are 2000 years later still talking about it. Jesus' death created a new hopeful future.

Whether you are a person of faith or not, I urge you to remember that what is currently happening is a chance to reflect on how we live our lives and what we want to change when this is all over. We have to be hopeful for the future because who knows what we can learn from this current situation. Through this terrible and devastating virus our hope is that something good can come out of it.

The story of Jesus' death and resurrection should give us cause for hope and celebration.

With love, Alex.

vicar.camvillages@gmail.com

Our Website: <https://camvillages.org.uk>

We'd love to hear from You!

We have been without a Churchwarden for a few months in Littlebury, but people have been helping to share the work. We are very grateful to all those who give their time however this only works on a temporary basis.

We are looking for a Churchwarden to join our team, as we seek to develop our community and share the love of God. The members of the Parochial Church Council support each other in organising fund raising events to offset day to day running costs and maintenance of our church building and we have a fabric/building officer who oversees this aspect together with an experienced Church Treasurer to manage the finances.

Janice Rust currently undertakes Verger duties and, with the team of dedicated Sidesmen and Readers, will be ready to resume as soon as services can take place.

We need a Churchwarden to promote church life in the village, assist with enquiries and a small amount of paperwork. Churchwardens have an overview, support me and would join the PCC as an ex officio member which meets five times a year. Want to know more? Please contact me, Revd Alex Jeewan, Team Vicar on 01799 531153



A huge thank you to Martyn Porter, who ensured the Church bells rang out in Littlebury to celebrate Easter Sunday.

A plea from our local Charity Shops

Please don't leave donations outside our doors at the moment. Our staff have been told they're not allowed to touch anything left outside under any circumstances. We appreciate people have time to clear things out and want to donate. But the items being left are just going to be thrown away and are classed as fly tipping. Our shops will be closed until further notice, so please keep your donations at home until this is all over.



Dizzy Jewellery

If you are looking for a really personal, locally made gift, Lisa Porter makes beautiful jewellery right here in Littlebury. Find her shop on www.notonthehighstreet.com

If you would like to order, email Lisa directly on dizzyjewellery@gmail.com
<https://www.notonthehighstreet.com/dizzy>



Five Star cars are still operating and will provide a taxi to service to Addenbokes. They are also currently offering a collection service from Boots, Wells chemist and Waitrose in Saffron Walden. Call 01799 522445 for a price.

Are you 'Shielding'?

The NHS should have contacted you if you're 'extremely vulnerable' for example if you have severe asthma or cancer. If you think you're extremely vulnerable but the NHS hasn't contacted you, contact your GP or hospital clinician. You can find out more about shielding on GOV.UK.

If you need help to get care or essential supplies like food, you should register, even if you already have support in place - you don't need to have been contacted by the NHS. You can register yourself or someone else on GOV.UK. Supermarkets are using Government lists to help them identify vulnerable customers to provide priority access to delivery slots and other support.

A message from Dom at Saffron Ice Cream

Hello everyone! I hope you had a lovely Easter and left some room for your Easter eggs after your ice cream!!!... Or maybe you had them both together?!

A little update for you... A few flavours now aren't available but there are a few new ones I've added for you to enjoy.... I'm delighted to let you know that I've started making a bit of ice cream by myself in the evenings to keep up with demand (like the good old days 10 years ago!) So you lovely lot are now supporting not only myself, but some of our local suppliers / growers / producers who supply to me! Good on you! Orders by text please (07792409381) and order cut off 3pm of a day. Delivery to Littlebury and Great Chesterford on a Monday. As always, my continued thanks to each and every one of you!



Littlebury Support Group

If you need help with shopping, posting of mail, prescription collections, dog walking or anything else, just call one of these numbers and they will put you in touch with a volunteer from our community. If you would like someone to call you every day or every few days to check if you need anything, or just for a chat, please let one of us know.

To join the 'News and Banter' or 'Littlebury 999' group, send a WhatsApp message to Keith Winter .

Paul Fennelly	07970 707978
Laura Webster	07863 204637
Tom Ewart	07810 207901
Lindsey Coyne	07764 301032
Andy Figge	07814 189916
Keith Winter	07980 210463
Jean Cowell	01799 524072 jean.cowell@littlebury.org.uk
Joanna Hancock	01799 520469 joannacl.hancock@gmail.com

If you have news, information, photographs or anything else to share in a future newsletter, or know of anyone else who would like to receive a copy, please email joannacl.hancock@gmail.com

Littlebury Ladies

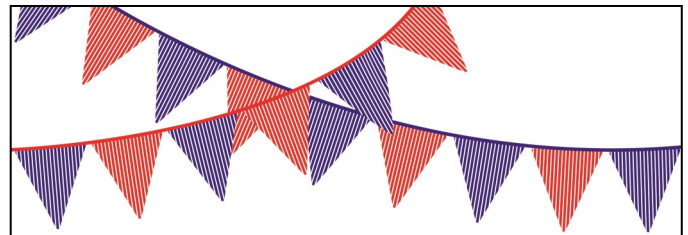
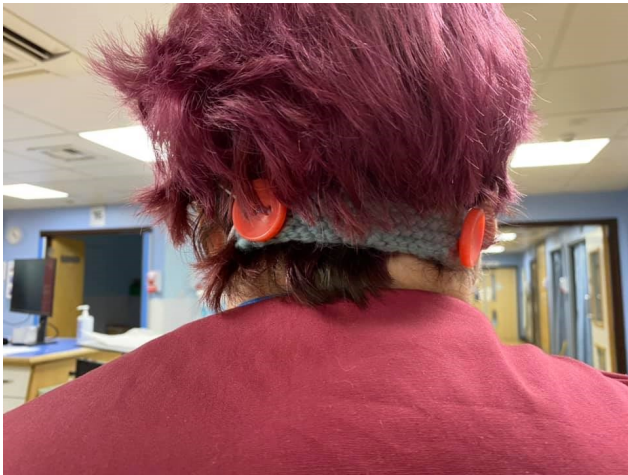
Those of you that come to Littlebury Ladies may remember Nick Patterson speaking to us about his family history, which included the story of his Mother and Aunt Lore who came to England on the Kindertransport in 1939. After Lore sadly passed away last month an obituary was published in the Guardian; you can read it here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/15/tributes-paid-to-woman-who-escaped-to-uk-from-nazi-germany-in-1939>

A message from Vicky Barnes:

A huge thank you for the mask holders!
They have gone down a storm with
Team Emergency Department xx

If you would like to support our NHS workers by knitting or crocheting mask holders for the staff at Princess Alexandra Hospital, please contact Lisa Porter for the pattern: dizzyjewellery@gmail.com



VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations

**STAY AT HOME
STREET PARTY!**

Littlebury
Friday 8th May 2020
2pm Start

Decorate your house in red, white and
blue and enjoy a picnic in front of your house

Help to commemorate the end of WW2 in Europe
with your family and neighbours!

From Uttlesford District Council

Garden waste collections starting again

Our Garden Waste Service will be starting again from the week beginning Monday 20 April, after a short break to ensure the health of the public and staff, and so that the teams could prioritise the remainder of the waste and recycling service. We'll start by collecting bins on the 'North collection' round and, on the following week, we'll be collecting bins on the 'South collection' round. To find out which round you are on just look on your confirmation letter which you should have received in February.

We would like to thank residents for being patient at this difficult time. If you have already paid for the service this year, your collections will start immediately. If you have not yet made payment for the year, you will need to do so in order for your collections to recommence. You can sign up for the service using our online form and make a payment online, or by calling our Customer Service Centre.

We are aware that due to the coronavirus situation we missed a few collections at the end of March. We will extend your garden waste subscription automatically to cover the time the service was not running to ensure that you get a full 12 months worth of collections for your annual payment.

Bonfires during the Coronavirus outbreak

Please avoid having any bonfires whilst the Coronavirus controls are in place if smoke or smell from them might affect neighbours or aggravate any health conditions. If you are experiencing issues with smoke from a bonfire, you can report it to the Environmental Health Team on 01799 510510. When reporting an issue please provide as much information as possible, such as an address, the time of reported burning, an indication of the items being burnt and the duration and frequency of burning.

For fans of Cambridge Literary Festival

The organisers are launching The Listening Festival, a 'lite' version of the spring festival, online from Friday April 17 to 19. The CLF programme includes:

David Lammy - 11am, Saturday April 18, live streamed on the CLF YouTube site in conversation with *New Statesman* political editor Stephen Bush discussing his new book *Tribes* among other topics – which may include the recently-selected Labour leader Keir Starmer

Judy and Adrian Reith, 6pm, Sunday April 19 Cambridge-based life coaches Judy and Adrian Reith will be in live on CLF YouTube in conversation with Cambridge 105 presenter Leigh Chambers discussing practical steps to achieving goals in *Act3: The Art of Growing Older*. Organisers are asking the audience to send in questions provided to the chair before the event by emailing info@cambridgeliteraryfestival.com.

Launching the #CLFPodcast, journalist, broadcaster and regular CLF chair Alex Clark talks to some favourite names in literature. Up first is Hadley Freeman discussing her journey of discovery with her new book *The Story and Secrets of a Twentieth Century Jewish Family*.

Other events to watch online include: Helen Lewis with *New Statesman* and *Guardian* political writer Sarah Ditum, talking about Helen's new book *Difficult Women*; Caroline Lucas and Ann Pettifor discussing The Burning Case for a Green New Deal; AC Grayling has recorded his event where he explains his view On the Principles of Democracy; James Scudamore talking about his new novel *English Monsters*; and Richard Layard talking to festival favourite and *Guardian* journalist Alex Clark about his new book *How to Create Happiness*.

See and hear everything at cambridgeliteraryfestival.com



A Country Life for Half the Price David Menell will be appearing on Channel 5 on 21st April at 9pm. Kate Humble and her TV crew came to film his W.I.L.D activities in the Dukes woods whilst making a new series which focuses on families who are looking for a simpler life in the country. For more information about David's W.I.L.D Bushcraft and Outdoor Adventure courses go to <https://wildlore.co.uk/>



Freight trains were busy Easter Saturday on engineering work,
66709 passing Littlebury trailing 1400 tons.
Photo Gordon Ridgwell

Blind Date with a Book

Don't forget there is a selection of books in the telephone box in Littlebury. Each one is wrapped in paper with just a few hints as to the genre and story line.

Please help yourself and enjoy! When you have finished, re-wrap and return it if you can, or feel free to add to the collection with a pre-loved book of your own.



There is NO poop fairy!
Please pick up
after your dog.



It's a good time to order oil

Despite OPEC+ agreeing to reduce production by a massive 10 million barrels a day, oil prices are now at their lowest since 2016. Although domestic demand is high in the UK due to the lockdown, commercial demand across the world has ground to a halt. www.oil-club.co.uk is offering a group rate this weekend of £0.2178ppl (plus VAT) for the Clavering, Duddenhoe End & Littlebury Heating oil club. This rate is valid for orders submitted until 11.30 am on Monday 20th April; 500 litre minimum delivery, delivered within 10 working days.

Current rate on www.boilerjuice.co.uk is £0.227ppl

For comparison—rate paid for 1000 litres from boiler juice on 1st April was £0.377ppl and in January £0.525ppl!

Wimbish Garden Centre

Are offering no contact delivery of veg plants, seeds or herbs for a minimum charge of £30.

(Currently no compost available).

Find our stock list on our facebook page or call 01799 522871.

One World: Together at Home

Tune in to BBC One at 7.45pm on Sunday 19 April for One World:

Together at Home, a virtual concert featuring a star-studded lineup of artists including Lady Gaga, Stevie Wonder, Lang Lang, Elton John, Chris Martin, John Legend and Paul McCartney

Fresh Fish delivery

After the success of last week Fish Burwell Ltd will be delivering every Friday to Catmere End & the surrounding areas. all prices are depending on market price. All of our fish is fresh on a daily basis and suitable for the freezer. All fish will be prepared and portioned to your liking. Please contact us on 01638 664560 between 8am - 1pm to place your order or email us at Fish.burwell@gmail.com.

Knitters and Crocheters have been busy crafting blue hearts to create a cascade from the Church—if you would like the pattern, please email Lisa on dizzyjewellery@gmail.com



Time for us girls by Pam Ayres

*I'm normally a social girl
I love to meet my mates
But lately with the virus here
We can't go out the gates.*

*You see, we are the 'oldies' now
We need to stay inside
If they haven't seen us for a while
They'll think we've upped and died.*

*They'll never know the things we did
Before we got this old
There wasn't any Facebook
So not everything was told.*

*We may seem sweet old ladies
Who would never be uncouth
But we grew up in the 50s -
If you only knew the truth!*

*There was sex and drugs and rock 'n
roll
The pill and miniskirts
We smoked, we drank, we partied
And were quite outrageous flirts.*

*Then we settled down, got married
And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana,
Who on earth did we become?*

*We didn't mind the change of pace
Because our lives were full
But to bury us before we're dead
Is like red rag to a bull!*

*So here you find me stuck inside
For 4 weeks, maybe more
I finally found myself again
Then I had to close the door!*

*It didn't really bother me
I'd while away the hour
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no bloody flour*

*Now Netflix is just wonderful
I like a gutsy thriller
I'm swooning over Idris
Or some random sexy killer.*

*At least I've got a stash of booze
For when I'm being idle
There's wine and whiskey, even gin
If I'm feeling suicidal!*

*So let's all drink to lockdown
To recovery and health
And hope this bloody virus
Doesn't decimate our wealth.*

*We'll all get through the crisis
And be back to join our mates
Just hoping I'm not far too wide
To fit through the flaming gates!*

