

Church & Parish

News and Events in
Armitage with Handsacre



No.207 SEPTEMBER 2017

HELPING TO BUILD AND MAINTAIN THE COMMUNITY



Fr. Roger Writes Princess Diana RIP

It is twenty years since the tragic death of Princess Diana. Her death affected her family and the whole nation as well as. The vast majority of people experienced a personal bereavement. Mountains of flowers were left outside Buckingham Palace and Kensington Palace as tokens of love and loss. On the day of her funeral crowds lined the route of her funeral procession and throughout the country there was an unusual quiet as people stayed indoors and watched the funeral on television.

At the time of her death, the media coverage was unprecedented. My own thoughts were that it was good to respond to public interest. However, criticism of the queen and the royal family in the way they managed their grief was misguided. The media's criticism related to what journalists wanted the royal family to do rather than leaving them to find their own way of coping with their bereavement.

The twentieth anniversary of their mother's death has prompted a response from her two sons. Prince William and Prince Harry have spoken openly and frankly about the impact of the loss of their mother. By sharing how they have coped with grief gives others the reassurance that even royalty have the same reactions to death as we do.

Nowadays the death of a loved one or close friend still hits us hard.

Unlike previous generations a death in the family does not mean that we draw the curtains and cut ourselves off from the world as people can be a great comfort. Help can also be accessed from a variety of agencies that will help people work through their own bereavement. For many the help that is offered comes as a complete surprise because it is tailor made to suit the individual. It is designed to help the person cope with their loss rather than telling them what to do.

There are things that you and I can do to help and the following story illustrates this. It has its roots in the Christian faith but let us not forget that Christians are also seriously affected by death. The story takes the form of a letter written by a man to his aunt who was terminally ill and frightened of death.

"It is now thirty five years since I, as a little boy of six, was left quite alone in the world. You sent me word that you would give me a home and be a mother to me. I remember my tears and anxiety as I made my journey to your house. I remember you were waiting at the door, that you put your arms tight around me and held me. You had a fire burning in the grate and a hot supper waiting on the stove. After supper you took me to my new room. You heard me say my prayers. Then you sat with me until I fell asleep.

You probably realise why I am trying to recall this now. Very soon God is going to send for you and take you to a new home. I'm trying to tell you that you needn't be afraid of the summons, or of the strange journey or of the dark messenger of death. God can be trusted. God can be trusted to do as much for you as you did for me so many years ago. At the end of the road you'll find love and a welcome waiting. You'll be safe in God's love."

PARISH CHURCH

Weekly Services & Activities

Sunday : 8.00am: Communion
10.30am Family Communion
6.00pm Evensong
Monday : 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday : Morning Prayer
Thursday : 9.15am Communion

CHURCH DIARY for SEPTEMBER

3rd Sun : 12th Sunday after Trinity Usual Services
4th Mon : 7.30pm Prayer and Praise at 32 Hood Lane
9th Sat : 10am-6pm Ride and Stride
10th Sun : 13th Sunday after Trinity Usual Services
17th Sun : 14th Sunday after Trinity Usual Services
19th Tue : 7.30pm P.C.C. Meeting
24th Sun : 15th Sunday after Trinity Usual Services

Parish Church telephone: 07936 836380

Parish Church website: www.achurchnearyou.com/armitage-st-john-the-baptist

Editor: Danny Briggs tel: 490114 email: dannybriggs905@gmail.com

Adverts: Malcolm Adams tel: 490875

Village website: www.armitagewithhandsacre.co.uk

ROTAS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

DATE	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT	SIDESMAN	CLEANING	FLOWERS
3rd	Mr. P. Conway	Mrs. P. Meggy	Mr. K. Parsons	Mr. & Mrs. T. Harvey	Mrs. B. Conway
10th	Mrs. E. Mills	Mr. D. Lee	Mrs. E. Harvey	Mrs. C. Berry	Mrs. D. Conway
17th	Mrs. H. Bartnicki	Mr. P. Upton	Mrs. I. Guest	Mrs. H. Bartnicki	Mrs. G. Thomas
24th	Dr. B. Lucas	Ms. C. Chambers	Mrs. E. Mills	Mrs. J. Smith	Mrs. B. Boyd
1st	Miss E. Chambers	Mrs. M. Adams	Mr. K. Parsons	Volunteers	HARVEST
8th	Mrs. C. Parsons	Mr. P. Conway	Mrs. E. Harvey	Mr. & Mrs. K. Parsons	Mrs. D. Bradbury

PLEASE RING 01543 490588 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR NAME ON THE ROTA.

ALSO IF YOU WISH TO PUT FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR FOR ANY SPECIAL OCCASION PLEASE LET ME KNOW. THANK YOU. DI CONWAY.

Time for God

The Church building is open every day from 9am till dusk for you to seek God's comfort at a time of your own choosing.

THE PARISH GUIDE A-Z

is available free to newcomers;
it lists all the tradespeople, shops, and societies
within the village boundary.

Please call 490278 or 07936 836380 to arrange a delivery.

In Memoriam

1st September	Robert Flackett	18th September	Charlotte Smith
3rd September	James (Jim) Preston	20th September	Ian Grimley
	Ethel Flackett		Agnes Palmer
4th September	Anthony Critchley	21st September	Stanley Wagg
6th September	Enid Smith		Gordon Hancock
8th September	Kellie Simpson	24th September	Stephen Heathcote
12th September	Frances Jackson	25th September	John Townsend
	Edward Ferguson		Hannah Hodgkiss
13th September	Ann (Hannah) Brighthouse	27th September	Olive Phillips
17th September	Charles Kenneth Stott		
	Henry Rowley		

Recent Baptisms

Called by God

6th August Martha Howard of Upper Lodge Road
27th August Mason Johnston of Station Road, Rugeley

Recent Weddings

United in love

3rd August Ben McLeod to Rebecca Harvey of Cedar Crescent, Rugeley
12th August Tristan James to Jessica Mason of Market Street, Rugby
19th August Jeremy Roney to Tammie Pascall of Holly Lodge Close, Rugeley

Recent Burial of Ashes Safe in God's care

15th August John Brandwood of Millmore Avenue

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE

The Armitage with Handsacre Parish Council will be holding their next meeting on Thursday 28th September at 7pm at the Pavilion, Millmore Avenue, Armitage. PUBLIC WELCOME.

VILLAGE DAY 2018

A Meeting to start the process of putting together next year's Village Day will be held at the Pavilion, Millmore Avenue on Tuesday October 10th at 7pm. Please come along and get involved. We need your involvement in organising this special event.

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

The draft regulation neighbourhood plan public consultation period finished at the end of July. Thank you to all the people that took the time to read it and the many who made comments. The main topic being the Borrow Pit with concerns for its future and the wildlife it maintains. The opinions of interested public parties e.g. English Heritage, Coal Board, Network Rail etc were very positive towards the plan, it also brought to light future development proposals which need clarification by the Parish Council. The Neighbourhood Plan will now be returned to Lichfield District Council for further scrutiny and with proposals by developers coming to light completion of the Neighbourhood Plan is more urgent. This hopefully will be achieved by early 2018.

Peter Blakeway, Chairman Neighbourhood Plan

Armitage with Handsacre W.I.

The meeting was well attended despite it being the holiday season. Our speaker for the evening was Sue Toni's who is a magistrate. Sue gave us a most interesting insight to what the duties of a magistrate entails and about court life in general. She told us of some of the types of cases she has been involved with some were sad and others amusing. During the evening members were asked to take part in a Case Study. Volunteers were to be the part of the people in court and their representatives. The rest of the members formed into groups to 'Be The Judge' and deliver a verdict on the case. The majority voted Guilty so the accused, Doreen, looks like spending time in jail.

We all agreed it had been a great meeting and Sue was an excellent speaker.

The business got underway after refreshments and the usual items were discussed. Members looked forward to a trip to Cirencester and Cheltenham. Members had donated 30 cakes for St. Giles Hospice which Janet agreed to deliver.

It had been another busy and enjoyable meeting.

We would welcome visitors to our monthly meetings. They take place on the first Tuesday of each month in the summer months at 7pm. Speaker next month is Christine Gregory 'Remembrance Day In Other Countries'.

Armitage Royal British Legion Club

Entertainment Programme

- Saturday 2nd September** Keeley Louise
Saturday 9th September Emily Jones
Saturday 16th September Rachael Cooper
Saturday 23rd September Steve Deval
Saturday 30th September Karaoke, come and give us a song!
Saturday 7th October Disco with DJ Malc!

Armitage Royal British Legion offer a full range of beers, wines and spirits at competitive prices. We also offer Bingo on Sunday and Monday nights, Pool and Crib on Tuesday nights, Thursday Ladies League Darts, Friday League Dominos and Darts.

Opening Times

Monday 6.30 - 11.30pm, Tuesday 7.00 - 11.30pm
Wednesday 7.00 - 11.30pm, Thursday 5.00 - 11.30pm
Friday 5.00 - 11.30pm, Saturday 12.00 - 11.30pm
Sunday 12.00 - 11.30pm

Membership

You can join Armitage Royal British Legion all year round. Call in and ask for details or contact us on 01543 490038.

Non Members welcome, 50p week days, £1.00 weekends.
Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.



Room hire available, ask for details.
We support many community groups and associations.

The Club at the heart of your Community
10 New Road Armitage WS15 4BN

Interregnum

Armitage with Handsacre is now in a gap between the passing of Rev'd David Thomas and the appointment of our next parish priest.

However your Parochial Church Council, Fr. Roger Gilbert and diligent volunteers will strive to maintain all services and functions as normal. For any enquiries including baptisms, weddings and funerals please call our new parish telephone 07936 836380 or 490588. Thank you.

Live and Local

What is Live and Local?

The Live & Local Rural and Community Touring Scheme supports a network of volunteer organisations who bring their communities together to enjoy high-quality, entertaining and affordable professional live theatre, music and dance for the whole family at their local village hall, church or school. It is a not-for-profit organisation and is made possible by funding from local authorities and the Arts Council England. Many of the acts that appear have toured in larger professional venues locally such as The Garrick and The Gatehouse, and further afield in towns and cities the length and breadth of Britain.

Mavesyn Ridware Village Hall Committee are pleased to announce that they will be hosting two events; one in October 2017 and another in March 2018.

Advance Notice.

Friday 20 October at 7.30pm in Hill Ridware Village Hall.

A Parlour Concert with Mister Keith

This will be a splendid evening of expertly crafted songs, stories and humour by the self-professed originator of 'Victorian Pop'.

Mister Keith and his multi-instrumentalist band interact and engage with the audience whilst bringing them into his world with songs that invoke memories of family, time gone by, first love and lost love. It appeals to the whole family and to all ages from 10 upwards.

Tickets will be available from September from Helen Sharp (01543 490873 or helensharp80@hotmail.com) and Viv Adams (01543 324453 or viv.penz@hotmail.com).

Ridware History Society

Monday 2 October 2017

Paul Garwood – Update on the excavation of Neolithic Enclosures of Alrewas and Mavesyn Ridware

Monday 6 November 2017

Anthony Hunt – The History of Horse Racing at Hednesford

Meet in Hill Ridware Village Hall
at 7.30pm for 8pm start

For information on how to join please contact
Marty Smith 01543 307456; martyanddavid@care4free.net
David Smith; david.gordon@care4free.net
or Meryl Matthey; 01543 490650

CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS

The Chancellor of Lichfield Diocese set down regulations for churchyards which we have to conform to. All stonemasons are aware of the regulations with regard to the stone memorials and should advise you accordingly. It is appreciated that it can be a difficult time when you are having to decide upon a memorial to have the added stress of considering what you can and cannot have, but we have to accept the regulations as they are.

It is not permitted to have kerbs, railings or chipping around the memorial stone. Artificial flowers are not encouraged but we do have artificial flowers within our churchyard. The strict ruling is they should be removed not more than one month after they have been placed upon the grave. Balloons or other portable items should be removed one month after interment.

We are greatly indebted to a loyal group of volunteers who keep the churchyard grass mown during the summer months. It makes their task much easier if everyone adheres to the regulations concerning churchyards.

Parish of Armitage With Handsacre Parochial Church Council

Armitage with Handsacre Bowls Club

I am still without a computer, never realised how much I need it, and now resorting to handwriting this, so will keep it brief.

We are coming towards the end of our outdoor season with only a couple of matches at the beginning of this month.

However, we have our Annual Club Competitions which this year look well supported. Singles will take place on Saturday 16th September and Doubles on Saturday 23rd September. Please arrive by 1.30pm so we draw the names.

If you haven't entered yet please add your name to the lists on the notice board.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1st October Harvest Festival

8th October Harvest Supper

9th December Christmas Tree Festival

12th December Community Carol Service

Thank you!

A donation of £100, from a Memorial Golf Day, was given to the Parish Church by Mr. Allen Kimber, in memory of his parents Allen and Esther.