



Parish Church of St. Andrew

Kemberton Newsletter December 2022

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“Church Services”

December 11 th	06.00pm	Carol Service
December 24 th	05.00pm	Christmas Eve Holy Communion
January 8 th	11.00am	Holy Communion
January 29 th	11.00am	Morning Worship

“Sidesman”

December 11 th	06.00pm	Mary Wright/ Philip Jones
December 24 th	05.00pm	Philip & Chris Jones
January 8 th	11.00am	Philip & Chris Jones
January 29 th	11.00am	Denise Bidgood

Church Flowers
Church Cleaning

A.Greenwood
Diana & Mary

“IF anyone wants to put something in the “Newsletter”, it would be much appreciated if they send it before the last week of the month. It would also help if this could be emailed rather than a hand delivered note” Thanks

Kemberton News

The Parish Council

There has been no notification of when the proposed solar farm is going on the agenda at Shropshire Council and the news is not good with Southern Planning approving the Solar Farm at Albrighton, Simon Crothall has expanded on this later in the Newsletter.

The Parish Council has received further letters complaining about inappropriate driving through the village and surrounding lanes.

The Council is in the process of trying to get the lanes around Kemberton designated as "Quiet lanes" similar to the lanes round the Hem. To this end it has approached Shropshire Council and it in turn has approached the body in charge of approving quiet lanes, but apparently the body is not large and has a lot of applications.

The Council is also approaching West Mercia Police asking for advice, suggestions.

There is a national campaign called "Operation Snap". West Mercia Police is signed up to.

As part of Operation Snap, members of the public can report and submit digital footage showing potential traffic offences via a secure online form.

This can range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists.

The police can use this footage to prosecute drivers.

Believe it or not but walkers have had comments from drivers when approached about their speed through the village have said "Well the speed limit is 60"

The Highway Code guidance Rule 125 is;

The speed limit is the absolute maximum and does not mean it is safe to drive at that speed irrespective of conditions. Unsafe speed increases the chances of causing a collision (or being unable to avoid one), as well as its severity. Inappropriate speeds are also intimidating, deterring people from walking, cycling, or riding horses. Driving at speeds too fast for the road and traffic conditions is dangerous. You should always reduce your speed when the road layout or condition presents hazards, such as bends sharing the road with pedestrians, particularly children, older adults or disabled people, cyclists and horse riders, horse drawn vehicles and motorcyclists weather conditions make it safer to do so driving at night as it is more difficult to see other road users.

Kemberton Solar Farm

So far, a date has not been announced for the hearing however, there is a possibility it could be in December. For those who have objected, there is not particularly good news in view of the recent decision on the Albrighton Solar Farm (just south of Holyhead road). This was for a 23 Megawatt solar farm (almost identical to the one proposed for Kemberton). The Southern Planning Committee of Shropshire Council has just approved the proposal.

The Albrighton proposal has a much higher proportion of BMV land than Kemberton - 94% (22% Grade 1, 43% Grade 2 and 29% Grade 3a). In addition, it is within the Green Belt and impacts Listed Buildings and footpaths. The only major difference is that in Albrighton the Public Comments showed that there were 78 in support, 22 objecting and 2 neutral as opposed to Kemberton where there was an overwhelming objection. A copy of the Public Reports Pack document is attached for those wanting to understand the arguments behind the decision. Please refer to pages 13 - 81.

It was very clear from the 'Public Support Pack' issued by the Southern Planning Committee that they were of the view that it was imperative the Council hit their Zero Carbon objectives by 2030 and decrease dependence on fossil fuels. They were of a view that there needed to be more renewable energy production in the County to the exclusion of all existing planning policy protecting BMV Agricultural land, the Green Belt, visual aspect etc etc.

Albrighton is potentially a very disappointing outcome for Kemberton and sets a very dangerous precedent despite recent guidance from Government stating that BMV agricultural land should not be used for the development of renewable energy projects.

Updates to the village will be advised when known.

Kemberton Church

A further appeal for plants if anyone would like to donate from their garden. Maybe not the best time of year so if Spring would suit donors better then Sue would be happy to hang on. Contact Sue Barratt sue.barratt@hotmail.com and she will co-ordinate any planting.

Kemberton WI

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 1st December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

This month we will not be having a speaker but under the guidance of two of our Committee members we will have the opportunity to create festive floral decorations for the home. Please bring along a dinner plate to take your creation home with you!

We look forward to seeing you then, new members are always welcome.

WI Committee

President: Ishbel McConnachie (01952) 462366

VILLAGE HALL

Winners of the Village Hall 50 Club draw for the past two months were:

October - No 40

November - No 25

QUIZ NIGHT

The recent Quiz Night held at the end of October was a huge success with around 60 people enjoying a sociable (and sometimes brain puzzling !!) evening. The winning team, made up of the Lea and Dawson families, were awarded their prizes at the end of a great night.

As always thanks are due to Colin and Linda Dalziel for all their work in organising and presenting the quiz. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. Thanks also to all who helped on the evening and special thanks to Georgie Dawson who did her usual great job selling raffle tickets.

The Quiz Night raised much needed funds for the Village Hall and all agreed that another one should be held in the spring.

Mike Duce

Committee Chairman

FROM THE RECTORY

CHRISTMAS - fact and fiction

Dear friends

With 1st December we are well into the Christmas season - not at church yet as we try to maintain the Advent season which runs up to Christmas Eve. But with Christmas adverts on tv. and carols in the shops it's hard to avoid Xmas. Even in church we have Christmas Carol services in mid-December - you can check dates and times in the Services Rota.

I suspect that by Boxing Day we have heard enough carols, and tv adverts have moved on from Christmas to summer holidays.

I remember a school nursery Nativity Play in a previous parish before moving here, where baby Jesus arrived in Santa's sleigh ! I was so surprised at this blending of fantasy fact and fiction, that it was only afterwards that I realised the other boys and girls in the scene were angels together with Santa's little helpers.

I think it was an kind attempt to include all the Christmas traditions in one play, but while the parents should have been able to separate the stories (I hoped so) I am not sure whether children are able to do this. The risk is that baby Jesus becomes a cartoon character, or a fictional character like Santa, and so the Nativity story becomes something like a fairy story worthy of Disney or Netflix. There certainly are some good characters and scenes in the story - the journey to Bethlehem on a donkey ; the grumpy innkeeper ; the angels ; the excited shepherds; the exotic Kings ; wicked King Herod who killed the under two year old baby boys in Bethlehem. It makes a great pantomime story

The only sources we have for the Nativity are Matthew's and Luke's accounts in their gospels. Luke wrote that "*Mary treasured all these things in her heart*" and as she was a member of the first church group after the Easter resurrection of Jesus we assume that Luke managed to meet her and hear her story. He wrote in his introduction that "*others also wrote what we have been told by those who saw these things from the beginning.... and I have carefully studied all these matters*"

We will hear that story and sing those carols again this Christmas in our local churches - details in the Services Rota

Wishing you a happy Christmas **Keith Hodson**

CHURCH NEWS

Churches are having to check the times of *Strictly Come Dancing* and the football *World Cup* to avoid unfortunate clashes between their semi-finals & finals and our carol services.

The times and dates of **Christmas Services** can be found in the Services Rota.

Kemberton 's congregation will be joined by choir members of Shifnal Church for some special Christmas carols in the 6pm service on 11th December. A choir is coming and they can (I think) only do 6pm

They are obviously not *Strictly* . . .fans !

Beckbury's carols at 6pm on 18th December will be outdoors unless it is wet, in which case the carol service will be inside the church

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Almighty God
grant that as your Son Jesus Christ came at Christmas
to share in our humanity
so may we share the life of his divinity Amen

THANKSGIVING

Congratulations to Harrison, son of Martin and Tammy whose safe arrival was celebrated with a short service at Beckbury Church on 30th October.

BAPTISMS

None

WEDDINGS

None

CONDOLENCES

None

SIX PARISHES SERVICES TABLE

DECEMBER /JANUARY SERVICES

	Badger	Beckbury	Ryton	Kemberton	Stockton	Sutton Maddock
DEC 4			9.30am Morning Worship			11am Matins
11		9.30am Communion		6pm Carols		4pm Carols
18		6pm Carols Outside if dry	9.30am Communion		11am Communion	
24 Christmas Eve				5pm Communion		7pm Communion
25 Christmas Day	9.30am Communion		10.30am Carols			
JAN 1		N O	S E	R V	E S	
8		10am Family Service		11am Morning Worship		
15			9.30am Communion			11am Morning Worship
22		9.30am Communion			11am Plough Service	
29			9.30am Morning Worship	11am Communion		