

HARDWICK DEANERY NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2021

Bishop for Sport

This year has been an outstanding year for the sportsmen and women who have showcased their extraordinary skill, speed, strength, and stamina in the sports arena and who have shared with a global audience the triumph and heartbreak that can follow.

Sports enthusiasts have been glued to football, the Tour de France, cricket and of course the Olympic Games.

Last year, before the long year of lockdown started Bishop Libby became lead Bishop for Sport. At that time, we were expecting sporting events to take place as normal; Wimbledon, cricket, the Olympic Games, the football European Championships, not to mention a whole host of school sports days.

At the time of her appointment Bishop Libby spoke about the way in which we can use sport to spread the Kingdom of God and the gospel. Bishop Libby also noted the impact sport has on us as individuals and how it helps us to find identity and purpose and companionship, and to grow in confidence.

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St Helen's Pinxton

Sport is something that builds self-esteem, a sense of achievement and it helps us build relationships with team-mates, our opponent's, the local community and crucially it brings people together from all backgrounds and all faiths.

There is diversity from which we hope will come understanding and acceptance. And this is what the gospel does too. Christian engagement with sport is not new.

Eric Liddell, a Scot who played rugby and competed at the 1924 Paris Olympics changed disciplines to the 400 meters because the heats for his preferred distance of 100 meters were on a Sunday – his faith was so important to him he wouldn't sacrifice the Sabbath for a chance of glory in the 100 meters. He won the 400 meters gold medal. Eric Liddell was a Christian missionary in China.

Harold Abrahams whose father was a Lithuanian Jewish immigrant also competed in the 1924 Olympics; he won gold in the 100 meters. Abrahams attended Repton School. These two athletes epitomise competition, principle, faith and yes, diversity too.

It is a measure of how much sport can do to help us understand and celebrate people's differences that on 20th June 2021, the Session of the International Olympic Committee approved a change in the Olympic motto that recognises the unifying power of sport and the importance of solidarity.

The change adds the word 'together' to the original Olympic motto – Citius, Altius, Fortius. The motto is now Citius, Altius, Fortius – Communiter.

Faster, Higher, Stronger - Together.

Listening to Bishop Libby as she led Radio 4's Sunday Worship on 4th July it was interesting to hear her reference sport as she did last year. Bishop Libby said, 'I've always delighted in watching my favourite teams in action – even more so, since I became lead Bishop for Sport'.

'Despite all the changes and uncertainties, new memories will be made, new records broken, and new heights reached, as we watch the best of the best'.

Last year commenting on the athletes themselves, Bishop Libby said 'It's a sign of the wonder and glory of God that our bodies can do such extraordinary things'.





Revd Ellie Launders-Brown

I'm Ellie Launders-Brown, and I am training for ordination at St Mellitus College South West Centre based in Plymouth. I will be serving my curacy in the East Scarsdale benefice consisting of the parishes of Shirebrook, Pleasley, Upper Langwith and Whaley Thorns. I grew up in a village called Whitburn, on the North East Coast just to the north of Sunderland. Before training for ordination, I was an aircraft engineer, spending 14 years in the Royal Navy and a further 12 years as a civilian contractor.

I was baptised in the Methodist church, but I desperately wanted to sing, so after being told by my junior school music teacher I had the most untrainable voice he'd ever heard I went to join the choir at my local parish church.

It was during my time in the choir that I first felt God's calling on my life, but at that point, women couldn't be ordained into the priesthood, and I had neither the maturity nor the experience to know how to respond to that calling.

I have been with my partner Jo for 25 years and in a civil partnership 15 years. She was born in Derbyshire and is delighted to be returning home. We have two Labradors, Toby and Gypsy. Reconciling faith and sexuality was a difficult time and being banished from the church simply because of who I am, hurt me and cut deeply. I felt dis-guarded and abandoned, but God never gave up on me and still kept calling me into ordained ministry. When I finally answered this calling with a "yes", I suddenly felt free, protected, needed and loved and I knew where my life was going, and that God had a plan for my life.

Inclusion is important to me, and it is what drives me forward in my ministry. I firmly believe that we are all "fearfully and wonderfully made" (psalm 139:14), and I look to seek out and welcome all who have been or feel excluded from hearing God's message and make the church an inclusive and safe place for everyone.

I have a passion for choral music, nature and God's creation and following the highs and mainly lows of Sunderland Football Club. My favourite Bible passage: Isaiah 43:1 "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

My favourite hymn is And Can It Be by Charles Wesley. When I answered God's call, the release and clarity that I felt resonated with the words of the chorus:

My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth and followed thee.



Revd Dwayne Engh

The Revd Dwayne Engh has joined the Diocese as the new Ordained Ministries Development Officer. Dwayne will be looking after IME2 (curate training) and continuing ministerial development (CMD).

He was previously an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands and the Ministerial Development Associate, supporting clergy training in the Diocese of Coventry. Dwayne would like to get to know the diocese better and can offer cover (up to twice a month at most) if anyone needs to take time off or people are in vacancy. You can contact Dwayne directly by email at dwayne.engh@derby.anglican.org

Jo Henderson-Merrygold joins the Diocese as the new Lay Ministries Development Officer and Warden of Readers. Jo is a Methodist Local Preacher and lay theologian with Biblical Studies PhD at the University of Sheffield. Jo is looking forward to getting to know those currently serving in lay ministries and hopes to host a festival of lay ministries as soon as possible. You can contact Jo directly on

jo.henderson-merrygold@derby.anglican.org



A Crafty Lockdown

After lockdown in March last year, I had the 'luxury' of being able to do anything I liked and not dashing here and there every day. I could sit crocheting or knitting while watching TV for hours on end. I'm fairly ok in my own company and I'm very crafty and can always find something to occupy myself. After two or three weeks of this 'luxury' I decided that I should do something constructive that would raise money to help build a desperately needed accessible toilet in our church.

I decided to make fabric masks. I tried about ten different patterns that I saw on You Tube and finally settled in the style in the photo below. I already had a good stock of fabric remnants and a 100 mtr roll of elastic so off I went! After making a few masks I got very fast and, once cut out, could make one up in 15 mins. I expected to make thousands in no time. But my body had different ideas. I'm in my late 70's and hadn't much sewing for a few years and it didn't take me long to find that I could only sit sewing for about an hour at a time. My back was aching and one leg and one hand kept 'going dead'. I had to spend an hour sewing and then back to crocheting and knitting by the TV.

After a few weeks a lady from our Co-op heard that I was making masks and asked if I'd like to sell them in the shop, so I took up her offer and soon they were selling well. I asked our local One Stop Shop at the other end of our village if they would sell them for me and they did. I had so much fun making the masks. I had lots of colours and on some I sewed decorations and lace flowers and added a bit of bling here and there. I sell them at £3 each or £5 for two and so far have made £530 towards our toilet fund.



A crochet baby blanket.



A crochet throw.



The lovely Deanne modelling one of her facemasks.

In the last year I've spent a lot of time sitting and made quite a lot of crocheted blankets, of all sizes. I had the idea of selling them but a young friend, who has Asbergers syndrome, belongs to a group that supports young mothers with things for their babies. After hearing about the group, I thought that their need was greater than our toilet and gave the blankets to them. All in all, it's been a quiet year, but I now have the satisfaction of knowing that I've added to our toilet fund and helped some new mothers too, so my Covid experience wasn't wasted.

If you would like a special baby blanket or a larger one to use as a throw Deanne is taking orders. The blankets are priced at the cost of the wool to make it plus £5 – bargain!

You can contact Deanne on 01773 583134.

Deanne Beardsmore

Deanne Beardsmore PCC Secretary, St Helen Pinxton

Bolsover Parish Church - Singing in the sunshine

Patiently adhering to the Church of England COVID Guidelines, risk assessment etc., we are at least back in our Church. Yes it is sad we still cannot sing but we have a wonderful organist and choir (small) whose contribution is so valuable to our Sunday Morning Services. We are also able to enjoy the sound of the Church Bells and under the Team Captain the number of Bell Ringers is on the increase.

Despite the restrictions we are seeing our congregation numbers growing with many of the regular parishioners returning (apart from the high risk, disabled individuals), and new members joining our services. These include people who have moved to live in the newly developed homes around Bolsover.

Although we cannot mingle, have refreshments etc., we can see each other, from behind the masks, and we can smile and welcome through our eyes and other gestures, so the congregation know we are here for each other and for those who cannot make it to Church.

We continue to keep the housebound involved in their Church via the recorded Eucharist Services and the Daily Evening Prayer, which we thank Revd Rachel Gouldthorpe and Revd Rachel Williams for, and all those involved in this process.

We were able to celebrate a housebound member of our congregation's 95th Birthday by a small number, led by Revd Rachel Gouldthorpe meeting and singing Happy Birthday outside her downstairs flat window. It was lovely to see her happy. I hasten to add that throughout the pandemic this lady and a 96-year-old gentleman (both members of the Church) have kept our spirits up with their positive attitude whenever we have visited them communicating through their windows.

We watch and wait for the lifting of more restrictions, but meanwhile with open hearts we will continue with what is safely allowed to meet our spiritual needs.

Maureen Coupe Warden, Bolsover Parish Church



Revd Rachel Gouldthorpe and Bob with Members of Bolsover Parish Church

Diocesan Synod Election Results	
Clergy	Laity
Revd Karen Bradley	Mr John Atkin
Revd Alex Mann	Miss Ailsa Cooling
	Mr John Cooper
	Mrs Di Fretwell
	Mr James Taylor
	Dr Allan Voice

Congratulations to our new Diocesan Synod representatives and every blessing for your term of office.

Building Mission and Ministry – with Building Bricks

You may have heard of 'Brick Testament' which uses Lego bricks and people to tell the stories of the bible below is the Last Supper. This idea came to mind when I was thinking about how I could offer bible-based assemblies to the local primary school during lockdown.



Lego however is expensive, and Wilko's do a cheaper version called 'Blox', so that was the way I decided to go, plus a little plasticine in order to make some additions. Whilst it was time consuming, it was great fun to be able to make short films and send them into school for the children to watch during their assembly. The feedback has also been very positive. I'm not taking requests for stories yet but even Wallace and Gromit started small so watch this space!

Revd Alex Mann Heath and Holmewood



The National Health Service GC

The National Health Services of the United Kingdom have been awarded the George Cross by Her Majesty The Queen. The award comes in recognition of 73 years of dedicated service, including for the courageous efforts of healthcare workers across the country battling the COVID-19 pandemic. The George Cross – the highest civilian gallantry award, equivalent to the military Victoria Cross, has only been bestowed collectively twice before, and its award to the NHS marks the second time it has been awarded collectively by Queen Elizabeth II. It is given for acts of the greatest heroism or of the most conspicuous courage in circumstances of extreme danger.

The George Cross was first bestowed collectively to the people of Malta on 15 April 1942 by King George VI and was granted to the Royal Ulster Constabulary (the forerunner of the Police Service of Northern Ireland) on 23 November 1999.

The George Cross was instituted by His Majesty King George VI on 24th September 1940, during the height of the Blitz. The George Cross, which may be awarded posthumously, is granted in recognition of 'acts of the greatest heroism or of the most conspicuous courage in circumstances of extreme danger'. Since its inception there have been only 407 recipients.



The George Cross is inscribed with the words 'For Gallantry'

The medal is primarily a civilian award however, the George Cross may be awarded to military personnel for gallant conduct which is not in the face of the enemy.

Nature in the Churchyard



Stretton Handley Church of England Primary School

Stretton Handley Primary school is no stranger to the outdoors – they have a Learning Garden that includes a bird hide overlooking a woodland area and a pond, bird boxes, a weather station and an outdoor classroom surrounded by a sensory garden. Given their interest in wildlife it was no surprise when on Friday 11th June, the children were involved in a study of wildlife in local churchyards. The older children went to Holy Trinity in Brackenfield and the young ones walked down to St. Mark's Church, Handley.

The children had a lovely time with their magnifying glass, nets and containers and were able to identify lots of different plants and bugs while enjoying the fresh air and even the weather stayed fine for them.

We hope things like this will be enjoyed more in the future when lockdown rules are lifted completely in the coming weeks – of course the children may have to wait until September for their next wildlife adventure which will be eagerly anticipated.

A little bit about the school......

Stretton Handley is a smaller than average village school, situated close to Ogston Reservoir, set in beautiful rural surroundings in Woolley Moor. As a Church of England school, we have a strong Christian ethos. we admit children from the age of 4 to 11. There are three main classrooms, a group work/ICT area and a central, well-equipped hall, there is a hard-court playground and extensive grassed playing fields.

The school, which is set in rural surroundings, has developed a local history/nature walk, The Woolley Moor Trail. This walk is enjoyed by many visitors to the area and an online version of the trail can be viewed on the school website http://www.strettonhandley.derbyshire.sch.uk/



Heritage Open Days

Come and enjoy a Cream Tea during Churches Heritage Weekend.

On Saturday 11th September St. John the Baptist Churchy Ault Hucknall will be serving cream teas 2pm – 4pm. St. Leonard Church Scarcliffe will be serving cream teas on Sunday 12th September 3pm – 5pm.

For further information contact Revd Judy Henderson Smith 07920036867.

We look forward to welcoming you.

If you are interested in the heritage that surrounds us in abundance in our part of the world, why not venture a bit further afield? As part of Heritage Open Day's in September you can visit Creswell Crags and have a picnic through time, enjoy a tour of the tower at St John the Evangelist Tideswell, also known as the Cathedral in the Peak, or enjoy the attractions at the Tapton Lock festival in Chesterfield. You can even go drain-spotting in Sheffield. As you follow the guided walk, the Victorian pavements will yield a rich heritage of engineering in the most unlikely of places – the city's drainage grates.

Further information on all the Heritage Open Day activities can be found on their website at:

https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Bishop Libby Join's the Bishop's Prison Team

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Revd Rachel Treweek, has created a collaborative team to support her in her role as Anglican Bishop for HM Prisons in England and Wales. Bishop Rachel is tasked with supporting the network of 300 Anglican Prison Chaplains who share in the front-line care of prisoners, as well as developing relationships and being involved with people and issues across the breadth of the Criminal Justice System. This includes probation and community services, as well as many different charities and organisations.

In all of this, Bishop Rachel seeks to use her role as a Lords Spiritual in the House of Lords, not least working for a change to systems and sentencing for the most vulnerable people in our communities, whilst not losing sight of appropriate justice for victims of crime.

Bishop Libby will support Bishop Rachel in work with young offenders, which will be a natural extension to her work as vice-chair of The Children's Society.

Bishop Libby said, 'I am delighted to be joining this team and look forward to working with Bishop Rachel and Bishop Michael with other partners working across the criminal justice system. I have a particular passion to see restorative justice leading to transformed lives with meaningful integration and contribution to community. Sharing with this team complements the work I currently engage with through The Children's Society in our shared commitment to the most vulnerable, and at risk, children and young people in our land'.

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, Bishop of Lichfield, will support with the male estate and bring his experience of being in a diocese with a number of prisons. The Team will work closely with the Revd Helen Dearnley, HMPPS Anglican Chaplaincy Advisor.

Bishop Rachel said, 'I will be involved across the breadth of the prison estate, but I am hoping that this collaborative approach will enable more prisons to be visited and will provide deeper insight and shared learning. We will of course be working in close liaison with bishops in every diocese where prisons are situated and who remain responsible for the licensing and everyday pastoral care of their Anglican prison chaplains.'

The new episcopal prison team marked the beginning of their work together on Thursday 29 July 2021 with a joint visit to the Diocese of Lichfield where each visited separate prisons.

Bishop Rachel visited HMP Featherstone and HMP Oakwood; Bishop Michael visited HMP Brinsford, and Bishop Libby visited HMP Werrington.

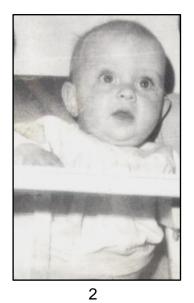
Over the last few years Bishop Rachel was Bishop for Women's Prisons and has undertaken a huge amount in campaigning for prison reform and community rehabilitation for women in the criminal justice system, or at risk of offending. She now wants to develop that collaborative way of working.



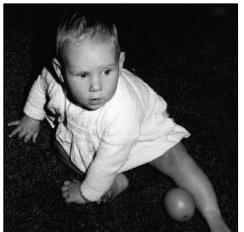
The Bishop's Prison Team outside HMP Werrington on their joint visit to the Diocese of Lichfield.

L – R Bishop Libby, Revd Helen Dearnley (HMPPS Anglican Chaplaincy Advisor), Bishop Rachel and Bishop Michael











Here are pictures of Revd Sally Mason, Revd John Draycott, Revd Rachel Gouldthorpe, Revd Alex Mann, Revd Ian Whitehead, Revd Imogen Black, Revd Karen Bradley and Ailsa Cooling.

Can you put the name to the bonny baby?

Answers at the bottom of the newsletter – no cheating!



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Well, who would have thought it, that Covid would still be here, At least some folks are happy now, they can go out for a beer, Most of us have had our jabs, which helps us to be fair, But it still makes it hard when in church, to make our daily prayer.

Still wearing our face masks, to protect us from harm,
But we must try and do as told, Carry On and Stay Calm,
We can't sing along with the choir, I feel rather left in the dark,
Because my music master once told me, I have the voice of a lark. (A Pillark)

But things hopefully will be improving, from the nineteenth of July,
To many of the restrictions, we can finally say goodbye,
A friendly chat with our church friends, a piece of cake and cup of tea,
Is that Prosecco still in the fridge Rachel, let's just wait and see.

How much we long for full communion, from the Holy Cup to drink,
And celebrate the death of Christ, of who we always think,
No longer social distancing, that will be a great release,
To be able to shake each other's hand, when we can make the Peace.

It will be nice to have our kneelers back, making the pews a little less glum, And thanks to you once more, Dear Lord, because my bum gets numb, Summery clothes we can again now wear, and some outfits are of note, But come on Mo not that one, it's like Joseph's technicoloured dream coat.

Soon the numbers allowed back in church, will hopefully be raised,
And even more pews will be filled, the Lord to be praised,
One idea that has been considered, turn up in football kit,
Because at matches there seems no limit, on the numbers that may visit.

(Borrowed from Mary the Vicar of Ashby Del A Zouch)

Bishop Libby has devised a ten year plan, ways forward for the Church to survive, I only hope she gets it moving fast, some of us may not be alive, The Covid has taken a massive toll, on families, relatives and mates, So many have have lost their earthly lives, and past through the Pearly Gates.

There is so much to look forward to, getting back some sort of normality, Requiring lots of hard work and effort, and this is not a formality, We all need to do our bit, to make our church alive again, Open up the doors, fill all the pews, it will be worth the pain.

The trials that we have undergone, which most of us came through, The future of our church now rests, in the hands of me and you, So all together we must strive, to reach that distant goal, Knowing at the end of this earthly life, The Lord will save our soul.

Amen. God Bless you all.
Stay Safe.

Mick Bust Bolsover Parish Church







Sporting Legends Wordsearch

This summer has been a sports bonanza. There are 50 sporting legends old and new to find – good luck!

PS. The only legends chosen are ones that I like so sorry if your favourite hasn't made the list.

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Adam Peaty
Bill Shankly
Brian Clough
George Best
Jason Kenny
Martin Johnson
Matt Busby
Novak Djokovic
Rebecca Adlington
Stanley Matthews

Alex Higgins
Bjorn Borg
Chris Hoy
Geoff Hurst
Jesse Owens
Jonny Wilkinson
Max Whitlock
Pele
Roger Bannister
Steffi Graf

Andrew Flintoff
Bobby Charlton
Cristiano Ronaldo
Ian Botham
Jessica Ennis Hill
Lasse Viren
Mo Farrah
Peter Scudamore
Roger Federer
Steven Gerrard

Andy Murray
Bobby Moore
Damon Hill
Jack Charlton
John Lowe
Laura Kenny
Muhammad Ali
Phil Taylor
Serena Williams
Steven Redgrave

Arthur Ashe
Bradley Wiggins
Gareth Southgate
Jackie Stewart
John McEnroe
Lennox Lewis
Nick Faldo
Rafael Nadal
Seve Ballesteros
Usain Bolt



A church near you (ACNY) is the Church of England platform that provides key information about all of our churches – every church has its own page on ACNY and there are thousands of views daily however, most churches don't utilise their page or the benefits of the platform.

Sadly, this means that a basic internet search may not give the searcher your details – no good asking Alexa about the church closest to your wild camping site if it isn't where it's at on ACNY! The website contains details of service times, contact details and information about regular activities that take place. You will also find information about fundraising activities, concerts, special events and services and information about important church festivals.

To help you and your church get the most out of your ACNY page Liz Morgan from the digital team and Dave King from the communications team are running a training webinar on Tuesday 5th October, 2pm – 3.30pm

This webinar will give you more information on ACNY and will be tailored for clergy, website managers and parishioners of the Diocese of Derby. There will also be plenty of time for Q&A. You can book a place on the webinar by following the link below:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/getting-the-most-from-your-acny-site-diocese-of-derby-tickets

You can find your ACNY page at https://www.achurchnearyou.com where you will be able to see what details are on there and consider what you might like to do with your page.



Learning in faith bitesize is a new way for you to learn from the courses offered by the Diocese of Derby at home.

These bitesize courses can typically be done in half an hour using nothing more than your laptop or tablet.

You can find details of the courses offered at:

https://derby.anglican.org/en/training/learning-in-faith.html

And finally.....

Wherever you lay your beach towel this summer have a happy, healthy and blessed time.



'Keep your face to the sunshine and you will never see the shadows.'

Helen Keller

1. Revd Karen Bradley, 2. Revd Rachel Gouldthorpe, 3. Revd John Draycott, 4. Revd Ian Whitehead, 5. Ailsa Cooling, 6. Revd Sally Mason, 7. Revd Imogen Black, 8. Revd Alex Mann