



Holy Trinity Church

Services for March

3rd Mar 11.15 Morning Worship

10th Mar 11.15 Holy Communion

17th Mar 11.15 Said service

24th Mar 11.15 Holy Communion

31st Mar 11.15 Mothering Sunday

Holy Trinity Church

Sunday services throughout this month of Lent focus on the Beatitudes: for those interested in learning more, Teresa is holding weekly reflection home meetings: Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.

Village Hall

Sun March 3rd: monthly roast dinner with all the trimmings: 1pm for a 1.30 pm start. But only if you have already booked!

Parish Council

Next PC meeting is on 21st March in the Village Hall, starting at 7 pm

Connecting Generations

Wed Mar 20th 14.30 Monthly Meeting - to be held at the Newton Farm cafe

What a difference a year makes



This time last year we had the 'Beast from the East' — this year, the warmest February on record. The snowdrops have been, the crocuses and daffodils are out, and everyone seems to have a spring in their step.

When does spring start?

It depends on your definition: meteorological spring starts today, March 1st; astronomical spring not until the 20th.

Astronomical seasons refer to the position of Earth's orbit in relation to the sun, taking into account equinoxes and solstices, and thus their dates vary from year to year. Meteorological seasons divide the year into four equal periods, so the dates remain constant. Here in Newton St Loe, it certainly feels like spring 2019 started in mid-February!

Bath Spa University

A very special treat for the beginning of next month: a performance of Handel's Messiah at the Michael Tippett Centre on Wed 17th April at 7.30 pm. All very welcome — tickets (only £10 each) can be [booked here](#).

Bath Business School

The Business School in partnership with Netitude invite you to a Creative Networking event focusing on Cyber Security for SMEs. At The Commons, Friday 10th May from 7 - 10.30 pm. All welcome to this free event, book by [clicking here](#). Lots of prior notice, but this is an important subject often overlooked by SMEs.

Rory's Reminders

Recycling collections every Friday: please put your recycling in the appropriate bins and put them out by 8 pm the previous evening

Fortnightly refuse collections (in your black wheelie bins) on Friday 8th Mar and Friday 22nd March

Fortnightly garden waste collections (in your green wheelie bins) on Friday 15th March and 1st April

The recycling centres in Bath and at Pixash lane are open weekdays from 8 through 4 pm, on Saturdays from 9 through 3.45pm, and on Sundays from 9 through 1 pm.

Mobile Library

New times: 15.25 - 15.35, outside the Village Shop, on Mar 13th and 27th

May Day committee

Come, find out what's planned for this year's event, and help! Meeting on Tues 5th March at 6pm in the Village Hall

News about our Newsletter distribution

If you haven't signed up already to get your own email copy of this monthly newsletter, please simply send an email to newtonstloenewsletter@gmail.com

Printed copies are available for collection should you wish one — either in the church, at the village hall or from the Lodge.

The new three parish bi-monthly newsletter SCAN is in preparation now, and will be delivered to all households for the beginning of April.

Meanwhile, if you have received this newsletter but know of neighbours who have not, please ask them to send me a message [here](#) asking to be added to the distribution list. If they don't have email, it would be much appreciated if you could print out a copy for them and drop it round. The good volunteers at Connecting Generations will also be very happy to show people how to download this on to a tablet or similar — just call in on their next session.

News from Neighbourhood Watch

The police report a significant upsurge in fraudulent calling — in particular to the elderly and infirm. Specific examples in and around Bath have defrauded individuals of many thousands of pounds. The callers, pretending to be police officers from London, claim to be investigating fraudulent activity on their bank accounts — and requesting the target to withdraw cash from his account and to record the serial numbers. The offender then says these are counterfeit notes and arranges for a courier to pick up the cash — after the exchange of passwords — giving the victim a worthless receipt.

The scammers also suggest that the victims report the activity to the police using the 999 service. However, they then stay on the line while the 999 call attempt is made, and pretend to be the emergency services. Always try and make any such call on a separate line, preferably a mobile phone.

The Metropolitan Police have produced an excellent booklet entitled '[The Little Book of Big Scams](#)', covering the many types of fraudulent activity being seen today. The information on computer and banking scams is particularly relevant and new to many. Download your copy today and stay safe. Let us keep Newton St Loe crime free.

For people concerned about the potential fraudulent activity in on-line scams (and we **all** fall into this category), come along to the next Connecting Generations meeting (Farm Cafe, Wed March 20th) and we'll show you how to keep yourself safe.

News from the Village Hall

The village hall is going to be holding a Sunday Roast dinner on the 3rd March, 1 p.m. for a 1.30 start. Roast Pork with all the trimmings plus a dessert, all for £10/adult or £6 per child. All welcome, but only if you have booked as we are full!

Forthcoming events at the Farm Shop

Step into Spring Date: Tuesday 19th March Time: 12 noon Price £15 pp

This wonderful seven mile circular guided walk will start at 12 noon outside the farm shop. From here we will head out towards Stanton Prior, on to Priston, take in Priston Mill and then back to the farm shop for a well-deserved cup of tea or two and slice of cake! This is a moderate walk and challenging in parts, but it will be worth it for the magnificent scenery and tranquillity. To book please 'phone Roz on 01225 873707 Ex 3, E: roz@newtonfarmfoods.co.uk or pop into the shop.

Spring Floral Workshop Date: Thursday 28th March Time: 10am – 12 noon Price: £45

Ever bought or received a bunch of flowers and not known how to display them or make them look stunning? If so, then this is the workshop for you. With Mother's Day on the horizon, why not try your hand at creating a beautiful hand-tied bouquet. Price: £45 includes refreshments, tuition, fresh flowers, materials, equipment and a wonderful container to display them in. Spaces are limited so book early to avoid disappointment. Pre-booking and pre-payment is required. To book a place or for further information please call Roz on 01225 873707, Email roz@newtonfarmfoods.co.uk or call into the shop.

Pop-up flower shop Date: Saturday 30th March Time: from 10am

Local market gardener, Sarah Wilson, Compton Garden Flowers will be setting up a beautiful floral pop-up shop. Customers will be invited to select their favourite flowers, for Sarah to transform them into a stunning hand-tied bouquet to suit personal style, taste and budget.

Discount cards

The Farm Shop and cafe have a special discount scheme for Newton St Loe Residents — if you haven't got your card yet, please call in at the farm shop and register

News from Connecting Generations

Our next Newton St Loe meeting will be on Wed 20th March at 2.30 pm in a changed location — the farm shop cafe. We are also encouraging neighbours from Corston and Englishcombe to join us

This year, the team continue to be in great demand at St John's Hospice in Bath, as well as now at Stratton House in Lower Weston. We are expanding to a number of other care homes in Bath this spring, and locally are looking at combining our rural village program with requests we have in Corston.

Currently we have an excess of volunteers over people wanting help, so are keen to get the message out to a wider audience. Please get in touch if you can help, or come along to our next session.

Of particular interest is the extension to assist the disadvantaged and unemployed to help them use technology to write a CV, make job applications, apply for benefits and so forth. So many of our governmental and social services are now becoming 'Digital by Default' — but often those most in need are unable to use the technology owing to lack of expertise and understanding.

The government this week has published an important study [Exploring the UK's digital divide](#) looking at why around 10% of adults (5 million people) aren't using the internet. Lack of familiarity of the benefits, together with a lack of digital skills, are identified as the main reasons:

Who are the internet non-users and why?

- Adults over the age of 65 years have consistently made up the largest proportion of the adult internet non-users, and over half of all adult internet non-users were over the age of 75 years in 2018
- Across all age groups, disabled adults make up a large proportion of adult internet non-users. In 2017, 56% of adult internet non-users were disabled, much higher than the proportion of disabled adults in the UK population as a whole, which in 2016 to 2017 was estimated to be 22%
- Among those of "working age", the economically inactive due to long term sick leave or disability are the most likely to be internet non-users. The proportion of non-internet users that fell into this group was 22.3%, which is way above any other grouping (e.g. 3% of non-users are self-employed, 2.7% are unemployed and 3.3% are just generally inactive)
- Only 12% of those aged between 11 and 18 years (700,000) reported having no internet access at home from a computer or tablet, while a further 60,000 reported having no home internet access at all. Of those in this age group, 68% who did have home internet access reported that they would find it difficult to complete school work without it
- In 2011, there were wide disparities in recent internet use among the different ethnic groups, however, in 2018, this gap had narrowed. This is particularly the case for adults of Bangladeshi ethnicity. In 2011, 31.4% of them were internet non-users, higher than the figure for UK adults overall (20.3%). In 2018, the figure for Bangladeshi internet non-users had dropped to 8.0%, a figure that is now lower than for the UK overall (10.0%)
- People who live alone are less likely to have an internet connection at home than their peers. In 2018, 9% of households with a single adult aged between 16 and 64 years did not have an internet connection compared with only 1% of households with two adults aged between 16 and 64 years. Similarly, 41% of households with a single adult aged 65 years and over had no household internet connection compared with 13% of households with two adults, at least one of whom was 65 years or older
- There is a regional variation in basic digital skills. In 2018, Wales had the lowest proportion of people with all five basic digital skills (66%) and the highest proportion of those with zero basic digital skills (19%), while the reverse was true for the South East of England (86% and 5% respectively).

From the above we can deduce that age, skills (lack of), disability, sickness and gender all have a role to play. We should point out that age and disability often go hand in hand, — for example poor eyesight is something that happens to a lot of us as we get older and past a certain point it can make internet access extremely difficult.

However, when UK households were asked to give reasons for not having internet access at home, some 64% said they didn't need it, while only 20% identified a lack of skills as a problem. But this begs the question that, if they don't have the skills, how do they know they don't need it?

News from the Parish Council

Your next parish council meeting takes place this month on the 21st March starting at 7pm in the village hall. Everyone is welcome and the agenda will be posted on the village noticeboards and on the parish council website.

The clerk, Crispin Taylor, particularly asks the newsletter to stress that, with council elections taking place on Thursday 2nd May, almost anyone aged 18 or over living or working in or near Newton St Loe — including staff and residents of Bath Spa University — is eligible to stand. The parish council is not party political and is very keen to encourage diversity in its membership.

Details of the election process are at <https://newtonstloe-pc.gov.uk/2019-elections/> The deadline for delivering nominations to the Returning Officer at Bath and North East Somerset Council is 4 p.m. on Wednesday 3 April.

Anyone thinking about standing for election, or nominating a candidate, is welcome to contact the Clerk, Crispin Taylor, on 07443 583695 for further information.

Parish councils are the first tier of local government. They raise money from people in the parish by levying a parish precept which is collected as part of your property rates. They spend that money to provide services which they judge to be of importance to the parish community. As representatives of the first tier of local government and the closest to their communities, local councillors are best placed to engage with their residents and find out what the real local issues are and how to overcome them.

There are currently 120,000 councillors serving on some 10,000 local councils in England.

MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A LOCAL COUNCILLOR



**IF YOU CARE ABOUT
WHERE YOU LIVE AND ARE
PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR
COMMUNITY, WE NEED YOU**

**JOIN US AND MAKE A
LOCAL CHANGE**

MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

WHAT DO LOCAL COUNCILS DO?

Your local council has an overall responsibility for the well-being of your local community. Their work falls into three main categories:

- Delivery of services
- Improve quality of life for residents
- Give communities a democratic voice

BECOMING A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make a real change. Councillors are community leaders and represent the interests of the communities they serve.

Local councillors have three main responsibilities:

- Decision-making
- Monitoring
- Getting involved locally

GETTING ELECTED

To stand for election to a local council you must:

- Be a UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union
- Be at least 18 years old
- Be an elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary.

News from Bath Spa University

Handels' Messiah, sung by the University Choir



The University Choir will be performing Handel's 'Messiah' in the main hall of the Michael Tippett Centre on the Newton St Loe campus, on Wednesday 17th April, 7.30. Tickets cost £10, and are available to buy online on the BathSpaLive website: <https://www.bathspalive.com/Online/default.asp>. Neighbours are warmly invited to join our University Chamber Choir for this much-loved Easter oratorio, one of the greatest choral compositions.

Repair works to the upper lake dam



The University has begun works on the dam at the bottom of the upper Lake to repair leaks which have been worsening in recent months. The work means it is no longer possible to walk the whole circular path, although most of the route is available from the Castle end. It is also possible to reach the lower fishing lake via the path down to the Lake from behind the Main House. The work is anticipated to last up to 8 weeks.

Smart City initiatives in Bristol and Mexico City



Bath Spa University is to receive over £540,000 in funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to address major knowledge gaps in the implementation of Smart City initiatives in Bristol and Mexico City.

Dr Ian Thornhill, Senior Lecturer in Nature Conservation and Environmental Management in Bath Spa University's biology department, has been awarded more than £540,000 by the ESRC, via the Newton Fund and the Mexican Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnologia (CONACyT), for his project entitled 'Resilient people need resilient ecosystems', also known as 'RESPIRES'.

Videos in support of the Visit Bath Campaign, Feel-Good Bath



Students from Bath Spa University have produced a series of eight videos to support Visit Bath's campaign, [Feel-Good Bath](#). 75 BA (Hons) [Film, TV and Digital Production](#) students worked in groups to create films with supporting digital and written content – covering themes such as food, mindfulness, outdoors, spa and retail therapy – to promote a broad mix of feel-good and wellbeing activities available to residents and visitors.

News from the Newton St Loe Choir — If you enjoy singing, why not come along to a singing workshop?

Come along (no experience necessary) to a workshop run by Anna Bernard and Penny Cowman to be held at Corston Church on Saturday April 6th from noon to 2.30 pm (light lunch provided). The plan is to seek interest in establishing a benefice choir for special events — from the churches in Saltford, Corston and Newton St Loe — to sing a few times each year in the different churches.

Response to Help please in the November (and subsequent) editions!

This month has seen some further invaluable research input from Tim Hill, who has now researched in detail the war service of four of the men from Newton St Loe who gave their life in the Great War:

- Lance Corporal John Backhouse
- Private Farnham Deacon
- Private Henry Fear
- Lieutenant Stuart Annesley Wallace

Tim has collected and analysed a huge amount of historical information on these four men, and continues to refine it as well as search for equivalent data for the other soldiers on the memorial.

Your editor is considering how best to enable all NSL residents to both read and contribute to this wealth of research. More will follow in April.

News from Newton St Loe Bellringers

Major news in this month is that we are entering a team from the Diocese into the Ringing World National Youth Contest to be held on Saturday 6th July in Liverpool.

The Ringing World National Youth Contest for the Whitechapel Trophy was first held at St Saviour, Pimlico in March 2011, and was initially conceived as a "one off" event as part of the Centenary celebrations. However, after the resounding success of this first contest, in which twelve teams took part, Ringing World decided to hold the National Youth Contest again and thus it became firmly established as an annual event in the ringing calendar.

Entry is limited to 24 teams, and young ringers (aged under 19) from our locality have been invited, with rehearsals starting this month. Our NSL bellringers are co-ordinating this activity, as well as organising a mini-bus to transport the band.

Bill Pawson returns to Newton St Loe

Many of you remember Bill Pawson and his wife, Audrey, residents of the Lodge at Newton St Loe for nearly half a century.

Bill will be 'returning' to NSL on Sunday 7th April, where a memorial service will be held as part of the 11.15 am service. This will be followed by an interment of his ashes alongside his dearly beloved wife Audrey

Wendy and family hope very much that all their friends and neighbours from Newton St Loe will be able to join them for this last goodbye.

Holy Trinity Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting

The APCM will be held this year on Thursday April 11th starting at 7.30 pm in the church. All welcome to attend, but you need to be on the church electoral roll to vote.

Some interesting events in and around our neighbourhood during March



March 8th, 10am - noon. Art workshop and lunch at Woolley Grange. Create a beautiful work of art inspired by the gardens. Workshop is led by the artist Mandy Mills, who will show you the techniques and methods to make your creativity shine. Materials supplied, and the session ends with a two course lunch — £35 pp



An introduction to frame loom weaving, to be held Saturday 9th March at Julia Davey in Shoscombe. Starting (two sessions) at 10 am or 2.30 pm, you will spend three hours guided tuition on the use of looms. All materials supplied. £45 pp.



Bath half marathon starting from at Great Poultney Street in Bath. The largest charity fundraising event in the south-west: a two lap 13.1 mile traffic-free course, starting at 11 am on March 17th. The 2018 event raised over £1.5 million for charity. Come along and support!



Frome record fair at the Cheese and Grain, Frome. The largest record shop in the south-west — a one-day only event. March 17th from 10 am through 3 pm. Expert sellers will be present from all over the UK; all genres and eras catered for. Free admission



15 minute Vegan: Katy Beskow leads a vegan cookery demo and tasting session. March 22nd at the Bookshop, The Paragon, Bath: doors open at 7.30 pm for an 8 pm start. £15 includes the event and a copy of Katy's new book: 15 minute vegan; on a budget



Cuckoos and Corncrakes — with the Somerset Wildlife Trust. An entertaining evening with a crash course in birdsong! Held at the Cheese and Grain in Frome, Thursday March 28th @ 7pm. Open your ears to birdsong, with Tweet of the Day authors Brett Westwood and Stephen Moss. £20 per head, discount for children



Jazz Jam at Burdall's Yard, Anglo Terrace in Bath. Friday March 29th starting at 8 pm: come listen or bring your own instrument and join in! Organised by Bath Spa University, full price tickets are £5 and students are free



Lady's day — Mother's Day weekend, Saturday and Sunday March 30th/31st at Dyrham Park, from 11 am. In the seventeenth century the original occupants of Dyham Park would have celebrated Lady's Day at the end of March. Get a great taste of the past on this weekend's Mother's Day



An evening with J S Bach at Bath Abbey. The Bath Bach choir returns to its roots showcasing two contrasting genres of Bach's genius. Doors open at 7.30 pm on March 30th: tickets £15 per head. The intimate concert held in the crossing in Bath Abbey will feature choir performances of four motets, together with two of Bach's most scintillating organ works

Get in touch: let me know what you'd like to see in the newsletter and send info to: newtonstloenewsletter@gmail.com