

THE PARISH MAGAZINE
Ashford in the Water
and Sheldon

<https://ashfordparishchurch.com>

March 2026

ASHFORD SERVICES

March

Sunday 1st March: 2nd Sunday of Lent - 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 8th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent - 9.30am Sung Eucharist in Ashford,
joined by Gt Longstone

Sunday 15th March: Mothering Sunday - 9.30am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 22nd March: Passion Sunday - 9.30am Devotional Service, joined by
Sheldon

Sunday 29th March: Palm Sunday - 9.30am Sung Eucharist

April

Sunday 5th April: Easter Day – 9.30am Sung Eucharist



February butterfly amongst the crocuses in Ashford

A prayer for peace in the Middle East:

**Heavenly Father,
You are the source of all peace and the healer of every wound.
Look with mercy upon the peoples of the Middle East —
upon every family, every child, every heart longing for safety.
Pour out your Spirit of reconciliation,
that enemies may speak to one another as brothers and sisters,
and that justice may prepare the way for lasting peace.
Protect the innocent, comfort the grieving,
and strengthen those who work for dialogue and understanding.
May the light of Christ guide leaders to choose the path of compassion,
and to bring an end to suffering.
Amen**



February views of the
River Wye in Ashford



A reflection for March from David Beale, Reader at St Giles, Great Longstone

Dear Friends

As a lifelong fan of the iconic science fiction series Star Trek, it has always amused me that the grammar police came out in force over the split infinitive in the Starship Enterprise's mission statement "to boldly go." Apparently, for some, it marred Star Trek forever. It's interesting, isn't it, the things that can irk and provoke us; Is it Mother's Day or Mothering Sunday? Remembrance Sunday or Poppy Day? The Isles of Scilly or the Scilly Isles? Let's not get started on the subject of flags on lampposts, who we vote for, whether we were right to choose Brexit, or whether it's a good thing to be woke (believe me, it really is!). People seem to argue all the time and, particularly on social media, they readily fall into arguments about the most trivial things. The gloves quickly come off when someone's opinion or narrative is challenged – discussions soon become personal - spats too often descend into real unpleasantness. Sadly, relationships can be fractured or broken because people hold different views. And of course, not everything is trivial, some things really matter: e.g. standards in public life; the right to justice; the protection of the vulnerable; the care of our fragile planet - some things



really do matter. The church is not immune from heated discussions and relational fracture as it faces a turbulent period, characterised by deep divisions over sexual ethics, a crisis of confidence in safeguarding, and intense scrutiny of its leadership and institutional role. People seldom agree on everything – to be human is to learn to live with disagreement. The challenge is to disagree well, to listen to those with whom we disagree; to love those who think differently and hold different opinions to us. None of this is to devalue the importance of truth. We follow Jesus who proclaimed, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). It's worth noting that being right is not one of the fruits of the Spirit. Jesus is right and true, but the fruits of the Spirit listed by St Paul as the characteristics of Jesus' followers are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). How can we live so that we manifest these attributes in our pursuit of truth and in our conversations and interactions with others? As I write this, we are just about to enter the season of Lent, which for Christians, is a time of prayer and self-examination, so it's a perfect time to ask ourselves the question, 'how can we draw closer to Jesus so that we mirror his love more graciously'? In some translations, one of the fruits of the Spirit, "patience" is translated as "forbearance". There is a subtle difference. Patience implies a

more passive response. We wait in the face of boredom, and calmly endure difficult circumstances. Forbearance seems more active, describing restraint or tolerance, particularly choosing not to react to provocations, offences, or people's flaws. As a fruit of the Spirit, it connects together patience and self-control. Someone with forbearance suffers fools gladly, because, frankly, why let someone else's foolishness interfere or impede one's gladness? We try to be more patient with others because we are encouraged to exercise forbearance. As Jesus' followers, we endeavour to listen more than we speak, we seek to learn, to understand the viewpoints of others, we build friendships with those who think differently to us. In doing these things we are sharing the Father's love; who loves us not because we are right but because we are His children. This month, during Lent, let's boldly but gently go to practice patience, exercise forbearance, and may the truth of God's love for us grow in our hearts.

Ashford in the Water Parish Council

For information about the village and surrounding area, and the activities of the Parish Council, please visit <http://www.ashford-in-the-water-pc.gov.uk>



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Protecting Children in a Digital World

Do you ever feel that it's a challenge bringing children up in a world surrounded by technology that's becoming more sophisticated by the day? Or wonder what they're watching online and whether it's age appropriate? Or wonder if the amount of time they spend on devices is damaging their physical and mental health?

If the answer's yes to any of those questions, you're not alone.

John Whitby, Member of Parliament for Derbyshire Dales, is hosting an event on Thursday 5th March, and would be delighted if you would join him, and his guest speakers, and be part of a conversation about **Protecting children in a digital world**.

The Government recently announced a consultation, which includes banning children under 16 from accessing social media, cracking down on addictive features designed to keep children hooked, and having proper, enforceable age checks online. Please come along and help shape that consultation and be part of a group of people that helps to change the law to keep our children safe in a digital world.



'Protecting children in a digital world'

Guest speakers: **John Whitby** - Member of Parliament for Derbyshire Dales
Esther Ghey - Campaigner, Author & Public Speaker
Emma Mills - Headteacher at Birchwood Community High School
Dr Laura Spells - CAMHS Specialty Doctor
Dr Sanjiv Nichani - Senior Consultant Paediatrician

Medway Centre, New Street, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1DY
Arrivals from 1:30pm - Panel event starts promptly at 2:00pm

Space is limited and entry tickets will be issued on a first come, first served basis. To reserve your space, please email your name and organisation to: john.whitby.mp@parliament.uk

ENTRY TICKETS WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU WHEN YOUR SEAT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED

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Farming News



January seemed to go on forever, and February has flown by. We had two nice sunny days this week and everyone felt better. The birds were singing, the daffodils came out and now we are back with the dreary damp weather. How the ground dried up on those two days and yes it's back to sludgy, wet fields again. The cattle are fed up, even I have a vitamin D deficiency !! The suckler cows are looking well and fit. We start calving in the middle of March so I hope we get some decent weather then for calving and lambing as it does make such a difference to our daily lives. Today we had to have a favourite cow put down. She wasn't in calf so had come on heat and a cow mounted her and she collapsed and struggled to stand again due to a pelvic strain. The vet now has to be present when Redferns come to take her away, so rather a juggling act to get both to agree to a similar time to come to the farm. More unnecessary expense. When the girl came to shoot her and take her away she

couldn't believe how old she was [15] and how well she looked. She admitted she had never collected such an old cow looking so well, fit and fat! Testament to Neil and Will's stockmanship and care. Next job is TB again - how 6 months flies by. We shall start second week of March with the suckler cows just before they calve, so they are not put through much stress as this can cause abortions and we don't need that stress! Come on, roll on Spring!



Vocal robin on Greaves Lane



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Ashford WI

Last month's Ashford WI meeting began with our Annual General Meeting, which saw us review the year's activities and finances before electing our Committee for the next year.

We followed this with a group discussion on all things WI: what works well for us, what we would like to change and what we would like to try. It was a really good discussion with lots of exciting suggestions and ideas.

We ended the afternoon with some delicious home-made scones and a cryptic quiz where all the answers were names of our members!

At the end of January, 10 of us met for lunch at the Ashford Arms, in lieu of a Christmas lunch or dinner. We had a very good meal, taking full advantage of the Ashford Arms loyalty offers. Given it was a late January midweek occasion we were unsure why the restaurant was so very busy, but all agreed it was an enjoyable occasion. And no one missed the crackers!

Next month's meeting has been put back to Thursday, March 12th due to the kitchen refit at the village hall. Our speaker will be Ian Pykett, who will give a talk on notable people of Ashford.

If you would like to join the Ashford in the Water WI, please email us on: AshfordWI28@gmail.com New members are always very welcome.

PUZZLE CORNER

MARCH QUIZ



1. Which Saint's day is on 1st March?
2. The lives of the four March sisters feature in which famous novel?
3. Which annual health awareness day takes place on the second Wednesday in March?
4. March is named after Mars. What is Mars the Roman god of?
5. The Ides of March is a day on the Roman calendar that corresponds to which date?
6. March is called *maaliskuu* in which European language?
7. On the first Thursday in March every child in full time education in the UK is given a voucher to spend on what?
8. On which date in March is St Patrick's Day?

9. 'Dear March- Come in' was a poem by which reclusive American 19th century poet?

10. St Piran's Day, held on 5th March, is the national day of where?

Answers on last page.

POT LUCK

A recipe from a reader in Canada!



NANAIMO BARS

Ingredients

For the biscuit base:

125g softened butter

50g caster sugar

5tbsp cocoa powder

1 egg beaten

200g digestive biscuits (crushed into crumbs)

100g dessicated coconut

50g chopped almonds (optional)

For the custard icing:

100g butter (softened)

4 tbsp double cream

3 tbsp custard powder

250 g icing sugar

For the custard icing:

150 g dark chocolate

50g butter

1. In a bowl, over a pan of simmering water, melt the butter with the sugar and cocoa powder, stirring occasionally until smooth. Whisk in the egg for 2-3 minutes until the mixture has thickened. Remove from heat and mix in biscuit crumbs, coconut and almonds if using, then press into the base of a lined 20cm square tin. Chill for 10 minutes.

2. Make the custard icing for the middle layer: whisk together the butter, cream and custard powder until light and fluffy, then gradually add the icing sugar until fully incorporated. Spread over the bottom layer and chill in the fridge for at least 10 mins until the custard is no longer soft.

3. Melt the chocolate and butter together in the microwave or over simmering water, then spread over the chilled bars and put back in the fridge. Leave until the chocolate has fully set (about 2 hours). Take the mixture out of the tin and slice into squares to serve.



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SAVE THE DATES



Saturday 30th May. 3pm
Sheep washing & Duck race
at Sheepwash Bridge



Saturday 6th June. 2pm
Village party on Hall Orchard
Music, Games, BBQ, Tug of War



BAKEWELL MEDICAL CENTRE

www.bakewellmedicalcentre.co.uk

01629 816636

Normal Surgery Opening Times:

Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm (unless it's a bank holiday)
We do not close for lunch.

Closed

The surgery will be closed for training at 1.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Whitworth Urgent Treatment Centre at Whitworth Hospital is open from 8am to 8pm 7 days a week.

Please remember if you need to seek medical advice and the surgery is closed contact **111**.

Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Appointment Times: Clinicians are still available for consultations and medical advice. Please contact the surgery and a GP or Nurse will call you back to discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange to see you in person. Many problems can be dealt with over the telephone.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service? This allows you to book or cancel appointments online (during normal service) and order your repeat medications. You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

Reception: 01246 582216 District Nursing Team: 01332 564900

Health Visitor: 01246515100

Normal Surgery Opening Times Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 08:00am to 6.30pm, (Closed Bank Holidays) (*Phones 8.00am – 6.30pm Mon to Fri*)

Ordering Repeat Medication - You can order repeat medications in the following ways:

- In writing or with our on-line access service
- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post

Please allow three working days before collection and collect between 8am and 5pm

Prescriptions can be collected from reception inside the surgery.

Samples – if you need to leave a sample with us, please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag if provided either through the letterbox or at reception.

Test Results – **Please ring for test results after 2.30pm** as we do not receive test results back from the hospital until lunchtime.

For Urgent Calls when we are closed, please call 111

March Quiz answers

1. St David 2. 'Little Women' by Louisa May Alcott 3. National No Smoking Day 4. War 5. March 15th 6. Finnish 7. Books - it is World Book Day 8. March 17th 9. Emily Dickinson
10. Cornwall

Photo acknowledgement:

Many thanks to Jan Gibson for the front page photo of the butterfly taken in her garden.

The deadline for the April magazine is 23rd March 2025.

Please send any poems, photos, articles, recipes, puzzles, thoughts or reminiscences to the editor at stone.mary@sky.com. Thank you!