

# THE LINK



THE UNITED PARISH OF  
HOLY TRINITY, ABBOTS LEIGH  
WITH  
ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, LEIGH WOODS

Website:

[www.theparishchurch.com](http://www.theparishchurch.com)

APRIL 2026

£1.00

# Dates for the Diary



## APRIL

<b>Fri 3</b>	Abbots Leigh Running Club Good Friday run	<b>Page 13</b>
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### Weekly village hall events

**Mondays** 10-11am: Exercise Class for the older adult. [www.exercisewithlailibrooks.com](http://www.exercisewithlailibrooks.com)

**Wednesdays** 12.10-12.55: Exercise Class

**Thursdays** 10am-12.30: Art Group  
6.30-8.30pm: Yoga

### Monthly events

**1st Tuesday:** Men's Social Group,  
The George 5-7pm

**2nd Tuesday:** WI 7.30-9.30pm, Village Hall

## YOUR LINK

*The Link is commissioned by the United Parish Parochial Church Council to be a blessing to the whole parish. We hope to provide a platform for a variety of advertisements and opinions, but these don't all represent the PCC's views.*

### **Subscriptions – suggested donation minimum £10.**

Thanks to all who pay by BACS - to UPALandLW Sort code **40-52-40**.

Account No. **00010334**. Please include LINK in your reference (these details are correct and do work despite messages you may get on your screen. Some banks don't recognise our account name but payments do reach us!)

If paying by cash (or cheque to UPALandLW) please put in an envelope and give it to your deliverer or Siân Narracott, Trinity House, Harris Lane, Abbots Leigh, BS8 3QX.

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From our new vicar, the Reverend Rosemary Radcliffe

## A range of emotions to be experienced

Hello, how's your Lent been? Were you able to maintain a new habit or practice self-discipline? In church, we've been thinking about some of the precious qualities that God has given us through the power of the Holy Spirit:

*the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*

*Galatians 5:22-23*



The world needs more of all those at the moment and our hearts grieve at the hatred, pain and suffering that exists throughout creation.

As we approach Easter, my thoughts have turned to the different services that will be taking place in churches all over Bristol, from the excitement of Palm Sunday to the sombre stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday; contemplative services of reflection on Good Friday afternoon, and then we find joy again on Easter Sunday.

Such a range of emotions to be experienced, what do we do with it all? What difference can we make in the world as we travel through it? Individually and collectively? How does how we behave affect others, and ourselves? The choices we have made make a difference.

Jesus had a choice, he prayed deeply on that final Thursday, in the Garden of Gethsemane, whilst his disciples, his friends slept. He knew what was coming: "*My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death*", he said, and although he asked God to "*take this cup from me*" Jesus chose "*Yet not what I will, but what you will.*"

Jesus chose us. All of us, throughout time and space, because he loves us. Loves us, whoever we are and whatever we've done. He sorrows for all the pain and suffering that we have lived through, and seeks to comfort us and stays with us through it.

That's just part of the story though, if you want to know more then please get in touch or pop along to one of our services.

May God Bless you, all those you love, and all those you find it hard to love, today and always, Amen.

Reverend Rosemary Radcliffe  
Email: [RevRosemaryRadcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:RevRosemaryRadcliffe@gmail.com)

**Request Service** On Sunday, May 10 at 6.30pm there will be a return of the very popular Request Service in St Mary's Church, Leigh Woods. It is an informal hour when people share their favourite poems and hymns.

If you would like to read a poem or choose a favourite hymn, please let Alan Shellard know: email [alanshellard@gmail.com](mailto:alanshellard@gmail.com) or phone 0117 974 1494. The reading can be on any subject and should last no more than five minutes. A very rewarding way to spend a spring evening!

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## Children's Society collection boxes

Easter is the time to open the Children's Society boxes once again.

If you have a box, please could you contact me with a time that would be convenient for me to come over and swap your box for an empty one. Even if there isn't much money in your box, it all adds up.

If you don't have a box and would like one to collect your pennies for this worthwhile cause, let me know and I can provide you with one.

Many thanks on behalf of the Children's Society.  
christina@imagexsys.co.uk / 07765 971948

*Christina Taylor*

## Mobile library visits

The Mobile Library visits every two weeks.

### April visits:

April 9 & 23 (Thursdays)  
Church Road, Leigh Woods,  
1.30-2pm;  
Church Road, Abbots Leigh,  
2.10-3.10pm.

Please note that stops and timings may be subject to change. For more information call 01275 888 864 or email mobile.library@n-somerset.gov.uk. Visit [www.librarieswest.org.uk](http://www.librarieswest.org.uk) or the LibrariesWest App.



## CHURCH CONTACTS

**PARISH ADMIN:** Contact Wendy Mortimer (Area Dean's secretary) for enquiries about weddings, funerals or baptisms

Email: [office@allsaintsclifton.org](mailto:office@allsaintsclifton.org) Tel: 0117 9741355

For inquiries about Holy Trinity or St Mary's please contact Michael Bothamley (Churchwarden)  
Email: [michaelbothamley@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelbothamley@hotmail.com) Tel: 07747101752

If you have information about those who are ill, at home or in hospital, who would like to be visited, please contact our Pastoral Team co-ordinator Alan Shellard,  
tel: 0117 974 1494 [alanshellard@gmail.com](mailto:alanshellard@gmail.com)

**Websites:** Leigh Woods [leighwoods.org](http://leighwoods.org) - St Mary's, BS8 3PG  
Abbots Leigh [www.abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](http://www.abbotsleighparish.gov.uk) - Holy Trinity, BS8 3QU  
United Parish website: [www.theparishchurch.com](http://www.theparishchurch.com)

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL WEBSITE:** [www.theparishchurch.com](http://www.theparishchurch.com)  
Keep up-to-date on the events and highlights of our united parish.

### Abbots Leigh churchwardens

### Leigh Woods churchwardens:

Michael Bothamley 07747 101752

Alan Shellard 0117 974 1494

Ginny Owen 07477 581337 (Sacristan)

### Deputies:

**Treasurers:** Carole Nicholls 01275 373888

Michael Bothamley 07747 101752

**United Parish Treasurer:** Siân Narracott [sian.narracott@googlemail.com](mailto:sian.narracott@googlemail.com) 01275 375619

**Organist:** John Talbot 0117 942 8344

## Abbots Pool Working Party

# Signs of spring at pool



The pool is beginning to show signs of spring. The first lilies are appearing, the trees are starting to bud, and the toads have been especially busy, particularly around the fallen tree in the main pool.

Please remember that toad spawn and toads are toxic to dogs at all life stages, including eggs and tadpoles, and can cause severe illness or even death if ingested.

Dogs swimming in ponds can also trample spawn and damage delicate aquatic ecosystems. For these reasons, please keep dogs out of the main pool.

The impact of dogs jumping into the water - and the pesticides from tick collars - is harmful at any time of the year to the creatures that live in the pool.

However the lower pools are fine to have a splash about in as there is very little life in them.

In March, the Working Party removed a build-up of mud along the dam, which had begun to grow grass and nettles and was reducing the width. We repaired the dead hedges leading down to the lower pools, removed laurels, dug out ditches, and once again got stuck into the undergrowth, removing another three large bags of rubbish.

The next working party will be on **April 12, 10am-noon**, meeting in the car park. We'll be focusing on further dead-hedging repairs. If you'd like to join us, message Jo on 07989 514048 to be added to the WhatsApp group, where we share updates and the month's planned jobs.



## ST MARY'S CHURCH GARDENING

Join us on Saturday, April 11 and Saturday May 9, from 10am to noon. All ages welcome. Please bring gloves (and tools, if you wish). Meet neighbours and help to keep the church gardens looking cared for.



## WEST OF ENGLAND HERB GROUP

On Tuesday, April 28, at 7.30pm at Abbots Leigh village hall, Ann Freeman will give a talk titled 'Maurice Messegue - an unusual Herbalist (1921-2017)'.

Visitors welcome, £7 per meeting.

## News from Abbots Leigh Parish Council

### Traffic matters

North Somerset Council has confirmed they are preparing, at service level, an agreement with parish councils for the installation of speed indicator devices (SIDs). Parish councils would fund any permanent SID and they have been invited to say which model they prefer and also where they would like the SIDs to be installed.

The Speedwatch volunteers are hoping to get some teams out this month. New members are very welcome to become part of this team, so please contact [ros@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:ros@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk) if you could help for an hour a month.

### Reminder of Temporary Traffic Regulation Order

With effect from March 23, NSC has imposed a temporary 30mph speed limit order for Abbots Leigh Road and Rownham Hill. This is for road works as part of the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). Although this order will be in force for a maximum period of 18 months, the restrictions may not be implemented for the whole of the period, only for as long as required, which is anticipated to be four weeks. For further information go to: [www.n-somerset.gov.uk/roadworks](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/roadworks)

### Changes to the bus timetable

Changes to bus services across the area will be effective from 5 April. For the X4 route between Bristol and Portishead, there will be no reduction in service frequency although bus times may be changed slightly. Details at [travelWEST.info/ServiceChanges](http://travelWEST.info/ServiceChanges).

### Community Payback Team

We are grateful to the Community Payback Team who have been coming every four weeks, and have now started doing work in Pill as well. They have been helping keep our footways and cycleways cleared back where they can do so without the traffic getting too close to them. They have cleared the cycleway between Harris Lane and Sandy Lane and are clearing the raised footway between Leigh Court Drive and Blackmoor Road. Ideas for other tasks would be very welcome.

## Planning Applications

Application	Site	Proposal	PC Comment	NSC
outcome 25/P/2595/ FUL	Bristol and Clifton Golf Club Land West of Weir Lane Failand	Proposed academy golf facility and creation of irrigation ponds	Object. Lorry movements would make the road unusable for two years for other road users. The environmental impact on the local water courses which drain into the Abbots Pool Local Nature Reserve would have a disastrous effect on the local wildlife.	Registered
25/P/2307/ EA1	Land West of Pill Road Abbots Leigh (Opposite St Katherine's School)	Formal Screening Opinion request to determine if proposed development is EIA development. Works proposed: Residential development of up to 100 dwellings and a 72-bed care home. NOT A PLANNING APPLICATION	Object: The site immediately abuts Leigh Wood/ Markham Bottom, a DEFRA designated ancient and semi natural ancient woodland through which Markham Brook flows; therefore a full environmental impact assessment (EIA) should be carried out.	TBC
25/P/2375/ CRA	Kingcott Farm Beggar Bush Lane BS8 3TF	Application to determine if prior approval is required for the change of use of three existing barns into office accommodation (Use Class E).	No Comment	Prior approval is required and is granted

## Villagers join in spring clean

The 22nd Annual Abbots Leigh Village Spring Clean and Litter Pick took place on Sunday morning, March 22.

A total of 29 volunteers joined in the clean-up around the village streets, verges and hedgerows, followed by a well-earned snack lunch at The George.



Some of the litter pickers, above, and the haul, right



### Parish Council meetings

Residents are very welcome to attend Parish Council meetings, usually held on the second Monday of each month. If you would like to discuss a parish matter at the beginning of the meeting, contact Nic Rice, Clerk to the Parish Council, in advance.

Our next meeting is on Monday, April 13 at 7pm in the John Butler Room in the village hall. The agenda and minutes are available on the village website.

### Meet the Parish Councillors

Surgeries are held on the second Saturday of the month, 9.30-10.30am, in the Bike Shed Café, when at least two parish councillors are available to chat with residents about village matters. The next surgery is scheduled for Saturday, April 11.

The annual parish meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 13 in the village hall.

### Parish Councillors

**Simon Talbot-Ponsonby** (Chair) Planning, Village Hall, Old School Field, Skittle Alley

**Kamala Das** (Vice-chair) Highways, Cycle Network, Verges

**Ros Delany** Community Groups, Civic Society Liaison, Link Contributions, Village Green, Abbots Leigh Charities

**Jenna Ho Marris** (also North Somerset Councillor) Liaison with District Council, Recycling and Rubbish (including litter pick), Community Innovation

**Martin Walker** Finance, Abbots Pool, Public Footpaths, Website

**Nic Rice** Clerk to the Council who works out of the Resource Centre in Pill. Secretariat, Insurance, Police Coordination, Village Orderly  
If you have a concern or query, contact the relevant councillor via email.

The Parish Council has had to change to Government-recognised email and website addresses. The Parish website is now [abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](http://abbotsleighparish.gov.uk) and parish email addresses are now:

[simon@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:simon@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)  
[ros@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:ros@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)  
[martin@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:martin@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)

[kamala@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:kamala@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)  
[jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)  
[villagehall@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:villagehall@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk)

Contact the Parish Clerk on [parishclerk@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk) or phone 01275 374442



Message from Pill Ward Councillor Jenna Ho Marris

## Council tax is going up - by 9%?!

I would like to apologise for the shock of seeing a 9% increase on your council tax bill. I know it will have made financial planning difficult in circumstances when oil prices, and everything else, surprises us daily. We have not taken this decision lightly.

The average Band D in North Somerset will now pay £1,955 2026/27 for council services (up from £1,794 2025/26), or £13.44 per month more. In Abbots Leigh the average Band D will pay £2,438 (or £4,876 for Band H, an increase of £30.60 per month). This does not include charges for police and fire services. North Somerset has the fourth lowest council tax in the South West. We still pay less than Bristol residents.

**Why is this happening?** In the weeks leading up to the Budget, the Government Settlement for North Somerset was finally revealed. As a result of the Government's Fair Funding Review (or 'Unfair' Funding Review), our funding would be cut by £18.6m over three years. One factor is that Fair Funding was calculated assuming that all councils have a Band D council tax charge of £2,060, yet North Somerset's average Band D charge (last year) was only £1,794. So the Government was assuming NSC would be able to make up the shortfall by increasing its council tax. But, councils can only ever increase council tax each year by a maximum of 5%. NSC therefore asked for flexibility to increase its council tax beyond 5%. What felt like only days before the Budget meeting, we were told we could increase council tax by an additional 4%, which means a 9% increase in total. It is no surprise that a Fair Funding cut of £6m this year exactly matches the amount raised by increasing council tax to 9%... Only six other councils were granted council tax flexibility - the other 9% hike is Worcestershire County Council (Reform controlled).

**What exactly is the council spending its money on?** The biggest cost pressure is social care for adults and children, accounting for £62 in every £100 of spend. Costs are going up and people have more complex needs. I have written before about adults, but the situation is worse for children's social care. For example, if five children in North Somerset go into care, this will cost the council £3,200 to £18,000 per week, or £1m/4.6m per year depending on support. In this country, 80% of children's residential care homes are run by for-profit companies. In 2022 a Competition and Markets Authority report found the largest 15 providers earned 23% profit per year while the care (and children's outcomes) was not good. Meanwhile if a foster family can be found, the cost of fostering to the council is £23,000 per year.

**What is NSC doing?** The current system is not sustainable - we all recognise this. The council has started a transformation programme. I recently met the new programme lead, who spoke about "agile" and "continuous improvement". This is the first time I have ever heard these words in the Town Hall and I am delighted.

Council finances are on a knife edge yet care for vulnerable families, libraries, safe and clean roads, and other council services are needed more than ever. You might like to write to your MP to seek more support for local government.

**Get in touch** Email [jenna.homarris@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jenna.homarris@n-somerset.gov.uk) or [jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk](mailto:jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk) or call 07385 010 137 (leave a message). I am often available Friday mornings at our lovely Bike Shed - get in touch.

*Councillor Jenna Ho Marris*



## News from Leigh Woods Residents Group

### Leigh Woods National Trust



This year's coppicing by NT has started in Leigh Woods on a parcel close to the Iron Age fort. The straight, tall 'stools' are harvested by cutting them down to ground level. Additionally, some more substantial trees are being felled to make the area lighter.

In keeping with sustainable and traditional practices, the cut material is to be used to create a second large dead-hedge to protect the new growth from deer and the seasonal grazing cattle. The work is labour intensive but preferred to using commercial fencing posts and plastic netting. Last year's dead-hedge on the parcel closer to the Parish Wall resisted the cattle, except on one side where netting had been used. The pollarding and harvesting cycle has been practiced for centuries in Leigh Woods and a few local woodsmen were still making a living from it within the memory of some current residents of Leigh Woods!

On Forestry England's patch, the reconfigured Yer Tiz cycle trail has opened through to the car park. Connor's new retro-style catering trailer is doing good business there at weekends, benefitting from the influx of new families using the cycle trail.

*Haydn Davies, NT Volunteer*

### Cuban Salsa in Leigh Woods

Abelardo, a Cuban dance teacher from Havana now living in Leigh Woods, brings the spirit and rhythm of authentic Cuban salsa to St Mary's Church every Tuesday. His classes are lively, welcoming and full of fun and energy. Beginners classes start at 6:30, followed by Improvers at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome - all ages and abilities - and there's no need to bring a partner.

On May 9, Abelardo's exhibit as part of the Dance Out events at the RWA, Bristol, goes live. Gp along to watch and celebrate! Weather permitting, you may even see him dancing on stilts as part of the live exhibits over the weekend.

### Real Tennis at Clifton College Playing fields.

Call, or drop in, to make a date to give this fun and interesting game a try with the Pros - Zak or Ben: 0117 973 3444, email@bristolrealtennisclub.org.uk, [www.bristolrealtennisclub.com](http://www.bristolrealtennisclub.com)

The National League match on Saturday, March 7 between Bristol and Middlesex Real Tennis Clubs resulted in a 3-0 win for Bristol, meaning they stay at the top of National League Division 7 and are straight through to the finals.

### Leigh Woods Residents Group

We are always looking for new members, so if you are willing to get involved and help Leigh Woods social cohesion, have ideas, enjoy and want to give back to your community get in touch with Alex Burgh [alex@alexburgh.co.uk](mailto:alex@alexburgh.co.uk), Lynne Bothamley [lynne.bothamley@btinternet.com](mailto:lynne.bothamley@btinternet.com) or any of the LWRG. We only meet occasionally, usually when there is an event coming up; it's fun and good for our community.

## Helping nature to thrive in our countryside

*Beatrice Comins, Biodiversity Engagement Officer of Bristol Zoological Society, on the wildlife of Leigh Woods*

Leigh Woods is not only an important site where wildlife can thrive, but its connectivity to nearby sites is also very important for nature to be able to move through the countryside. In 2010, John Lawton chaired an independent review for the government and published a report called 'Making Space for Nature'. It called for wildlife sites to be 'bigger, better and more joined up' with the goal to create a Nature Recovery Network across the country.

Leigh Woods not only offers many plants and animals a valuable habitat, but also the opportunity for those species and their genes to move between other sites. Ashton Court, is another Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which is very close to Leigh Woods so that birds, bats, insects, pollen and seeds can move between the sites. Parts of Leigh Woods are also part of the Avon Gorge SSSI and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) connecting to the cliffs and Downs on the Bristol-side. Further into North



**Great spotted woodpecker in its nest on the Downs (Kathi Held)**

Somerset, there are other sites such as Abbots Pool woods, Failand woods, Tyntesfield and Ashton Hill which all connect to help the resilience of wildlife. Gardens, window boxes, hedgerows and sensitively-managed farmland all provide important corridors between these sites and prevent them from become isolated 'islands'.

In Leigh Woods, the National Trust and Forestry England work hard to create the right habitats for many species. The coppiced hazel provides the perfect habitat for dormice, as well as the hazelnuts they eat to fatten up before hibernating. The old, pollarded oaks provide ecosystems in themselves - a single oak is said to support over 2,300 species! All the veteran trees have features, such as holes, hollow trunks and fungi, that are valuable for wildlife. The understorey provides important shelter including scrub, like brambles, hawthorn, spindle and blackthorn, for small mammals, reptiles, birds and insects.

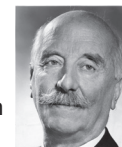
The sides of the rides and paths in Leigh Woods are often cleared to make them welcoming to visitors but also to create open sunny spaces for flowering plants and insects. Alongside the early spring flowers and blossom that appeared in March, look out for bugle with its spikes of purple flowers. Lords and ladies are now 'flowering' and will later produce bright red berries. And keep an eye out for the early purple orchid which flowers from late-March until June and has large bright purple-crimson spikes.

Songbirds, such as blue and great tits, finches and wrens will be busy making nests now. Male wrens typically make 6-12 nests in their breeding territory to attract females. Listen for the spring song of chiff-chaffs and watch for them as they build their nests. Woodpeckers, green and great-spotted, may be drumming to mark their territory or create their nest holes in standing dead wood. Dormice become active in May, after hibernation, when they start feeding on the tree blossom of the hawthorn and oak. If the weather is mild you may see a variety of bats as they emerge for spring foraging – particularly down by the water at Paradise Bottom. As daylight fades, noctules and pipistrelles are the first to show themselves at dusk.

## Leigh Woods History

### Home to a champion of classical music

One of the most influential people in British classical music during the last century, Sir Adrian Boult (pictured right) conducted the first public performance of Holst's *The Planets* suite as well as conducting coronation music for both King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II.



At the onset of the Second World War, Sir Adrian was the BBC's director of music and chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Bristol was initially considered to be a safe wartime base for the orchestra and Sir Adrian and his wife were put up in Woodleigh as their private residence. As we now know, Bristol turned out not to be safe from aerial bombardment and the orchestra moved on, to Bedford, in 1941. Before they left, Sir Adrian was able to conduct a number of performances at the Colston Hall as well as joining the local Home Guard and apparently donating his protective helmets to staff at the Clifton Suspension Bridge.

Find out more about Sir Adrian's time in Leigh Woods at: [www.ahousehistory.com](http://www.ahousehistory.com).

*Ashley Coates*



People might be interested in why Abbots Leigh with Leigh Woods is in the Diocese of Bristol. Historically all parishes our side of the Avon, other than Abbots Leigh, were in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, including Leigh Woods, which was carved out of the parish of Long Ashton in 1892. However, Abbots Leigh was owned by the Abbots of Bristol prior to the dissolution of the monasteries and it was where they got their meat, fish and fowl, so for that historic reason when the Diocese of Bristol was created Abbots Leigh went there. Then, when Leigh Woods joined Abbots Leigh to form the current united parish more than 50 years ago, it moved from Bath and Wells to Bristol.



### Master and Commander



**When:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026

**Where:** St Mary's Church, Leigh Woods

**Time:** Doors open 6.45pm. Film starts

7.30pm. Complimentary glass of wine or soft drink included in ticket price.

**Tickets:** Valid season tickets or £6 each showing, payable on the door. Please have correct change if possible.

*An action-packed film based on the Napoleonic War novels by Patrick O'Brien. In 1805, a British Captain is ordered to hunt down and capture a mighty French warship. This takes him and his crew on a dangerous mission across the oceans. Great acting, brilliant cinematography and wonderful music. Nominated for two Oscars.*

Stars: Russell Crowe, Paul Bettany, Billy Boyd Director: Peter Weir  
BBFC rating 12A: USA 2003: 138 mins All films shown with sub-titles.

For information: contact [angelaprobryn@gmail.com](mailto:angelaprobryn@gmail.com). You are welcome to invite friends and neighbours.

## Church services

	CHURCH	SERVICE	READERS	READINGS
<b>3 Apr</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Red</b>		
10–11am	Holy Trinity	All-age family service*		
2-3pm	Holy Trinity	Church open for reflections & live music		
<b>5 Apr</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>White/gold</b>		
10.30am	St Mary's	Family Communion**	Talbot family	Acts 10: 34-43
			Alan Shellard	John 20: 1-18
<b>12 Apr</b>	<b>Easter 2</b>	<b>White/gold</b>		
10.30am	St Mary's	Parish Communion	David Linstead	Acts 2: 14a,22-32
			Michael Bothamley	John 20: 19-end
<b>19 Apr</b>	<b>Easter 3</b>	<b>White/gold</b>		
10.30am	Holy Trinity	Parish Communion	Annabel Watkinson	1 Peter 1: 17-23
			Nick Ball	Luke 24: 13-35
<b>26 Apr</b>	<b>Easter 4</b>	<b>White/gold</b>		
10.30am	St Mary's	Family Communion	Talbot family	John 10: 1-10
6.30pm	St Mary's	Taizé	TBA	TBA
<b>3 May</b>	<b>Easter 5</b>	<b>White/gold</b>		
9.30am	Holy Trinity	Family Worship	Talbot family	John 14: 1-14
10.30am	Holy Trinity	Parish Communion	Heather Wraith	Acts 7: 55-end
			David Wraith	John 14: 1-14

\*Activities and refreshments, all welcome

\*\*Child-friendly activities & Easter egg hunt after the service

### Websites:

Leigh Woods  
leighwoods.org  
St Mary's, BS8 3PG

Abbots Leigh  
www.abbotsleigh.org.uk  
Holy Trinity, BS8 3QU

Parish website:  
www.theparishchurch.com

## ABBOTS LEIGH CIVIC SOCIETY

Spring is upon us and there are some exciting events ahead.

The second 'running' of the Abbots Leigh Running Club's Good Friday run is on **Friday, April 3**. Meeting outside the Bike Shed café at 9am for a casual canter around the area – all paces acceptable! Civic Society sponsored refreshments back at the Bike Shed at the finish.

Next is the Charity Quiz night at The George on **Friday, April 10**, to raise funds for Alzheimer's Research – call 01275 376 985 to book in a team (max 6) with entry fee of £10 per head.

The 2026 Festival in the Field (in the Old School field) is scheduled to take place from 2-5pm on **Sunday, June 7**. There'll be the usual well-stocked village bar, live music, welly wanging, bake-off with cakes a-plenty and the prize boules competition. If you have some time to offer in the run-up to the event or for the take-down afterwards then we'd love to hear from you. Otherwise please come along and enjoy the fun.

### How can I get involved?

We always welcome suggestions and ideas so please do get in touch. Please ignore any historic email addresses and only use [abbotsleighcivicsociety@gmail.com](mailto:abbotsleighcivicsociety@gmail.com) to get in touch if you'd like to enquire or help out – we look forward to hearing from you!

*Henry, Eleni, Neil, Rosie, Jon, Adri and Rachael  
(Abbots Leigh Civic Society Committee)*



Last year's Good Friday runners

## ABBOTS LEIGH WI



At the meeting on Tuesday, April 14, at 7.30pm in Abbots Leigh Village Hall, Kerris Harrop will be giving an illustrated talk about Ladies Mile.

At the meeting on May 12 we will discuss this year's resolutions, which will be voted on at the annual meeting in June. They are 'Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion' and 'Action on women's homelessness'.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month. Visitors are always very welcome.

*Louise Wall [louiseaw@aol.com](mailto:louiseaw@aol.com)*

## TEA TIME SPECIAL

Monday, April 20: Our speaker at Tea Time Special is Sandy Bateman, who will tell us all about 'The Extraordinary Life Of Hannah More', who was at the hub of the cultural, political, and religious life of England in the 1800s. A true Bristol heroine!

*Are you free on a Monday afternoon? Come for a chat, a cup of tea and delicious cake. We meet in the vestry at St Mary's Church, Leigh Woods, at 2.30pm on the third Monday of each month. Inclusive price of £2.50.*

*[alanshellard@gmail.com](mailto:alanshellard@gmail.com)*



## Link subscription 2026

Dear Link readers.

We hope you are enjoying this month's edition of The Link, bringing all the news to our communities in Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods.

Donations for this year's Link deliveries are now due and you will be pleased to know we have been able to hold the suggested price to £10 for yet another year.

Very many thanks to all involved in the production and distribution of The Link, and to our contributors and advertisers - and particularly our readers!

Please make your donation by cash to your deliverer or **BACS payments to UPALandLW. Sort code 40-52-40 Account no. 00010334.** (Please be advised that these details are correct and do work despite messages you may get on your screen!)

### Village Agent For Abbots Leigh & Leigh Woods

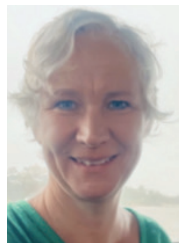
My name is Sian Taylor and I am the Village Agent for Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods.

#### What is a Village Agent?

My role is to connect people living in rural areas with advice and support services that help them maintain independent living. I provide a friendly, free and confidential service for anyone aged 50 and over.

I can provide information and advice on many different matters and concerns, such as: Help to stay living in your own home; information about care and support services; details of local social groups and activities, and what support is available.

Please call me on 0798 5017655 or email [sian@wern.org.uk](mailto:sian@wern.org.uk). I'm always happy to help.



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