

THE LINK



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

Website:

www.theparishchurch.com

MAY 2026

£1.00

Dates for the Diary



MAY

Thurs 7	Mobile Library visit	Page 4
Sat 9	Parish Council Surgery, Bike Shed 9.30-10.30am	Page 7
Sat 9	St Mary's Church gardening/clearing up	Page 5
Sun 10	Abbots Pool working party: 10am-noon	Page 5
Sun 10	St Mary's Church, Request Service	Page 3
Mon 11	Abbots Leigh Parish Council, 7pm	Page 7
Tues 12	Abbots Leigh WI	Page 13
Wed 13	Annual Parish Meeting, AL Village Hall	Page 7
Mon 18	Tea Time Special	Page 13
Tues 19	Herb Group, Abbots Leigh Village Hall	Page 5
Thurs 21	Mobile Library visit	Page 4
Wed 27	Community Cinema: A Complete Unknown	Page 11

Weekly village hall events

Mondays 10-11am: Exercise Class for the older adult. 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.

Editor: Mick Scanlan Email: Linkeditor2024@gmail.com tel 01275 372788
Copy deadline: Noon on the 17th of the month before publication
Advertisements: Robert Narracott, Trinity House, Harris Lane Abbots Leigh BS8 3QX 07773 368311 robert.narracott@gmail.com
Distribution: Abbots Leigh: Mary or Richard Oliver 07769 341875 maryinnottingham@gmail.com
 Leigh Woods: Mark Rayson 0117 973 1842 mark@mrconsulting.biz

Printed by **Adroit Print & Design** www.adroitprint.org.uk

From our new vicar, the Reverend Rosemary Radcliffe

Springtime blessings



The birds are singing, the trees have been bursting with blossom, and the sun has been shining. Spring is here! I hope and pray that your hearts feel lighter as the days grow longer, and you are able to fill them with joy and peace, and grace.

I wonder, what brings you those feelings? Does listening to music bring you pleasure? What's your favourite style? Some people like blues, jazz, classical, others rock, indie, ska, some country and western, or are you a secret rapper?

I find music is so important. It helps us regulate our moods, uplifting us, giving us energy, and consoling us when we need to cry. We can feel music with our bodies, the vibrations of an organ playing loudly or a live band with the amps turned up. We use songs to teach, it's hard to illustrate via paper but if you were asked to say the alphabet out loud, I expect that there would be a particular cadence or rhythm to how you do it.

The Bible has songs in different places, particularly in the Psalms, which include a range of stories telling of lament, of joy, some have even become famous through popular songs throughout the years: "By the Rivers of Babylon" (who now has that tune running through their head?) I wonder how many of us have a favourite song from our childhood or teenage years that, when you hear it, brings memories of significant moments in your life. For instance, the first album I owned was "Now That's What I Call Music" and "Hey Mickey" by Toni Basil was the first single I bought; whenever I hear bits of it on the radio I find myself singing along unintentionally and enjoying myself as I did when I first listened.

To recognise the importance of music in our lives, on **Sunday, May 10, from 6:30pm**, at St Mary's Church in Leigh Woods, we will be holding a request evening. You are invited to request in advance a particular hymn, story or poem that can be shared with others, and it would be wonderful to have an explanation of why it's important to you.

If you would like to take part, and contribute a song or reading please do get in touch with myself (RevRosemaryRadcliffe@gmail.com) or Alan Shellard (alanshellard@gmail.com) and let us know.

You are also very welcome to just turn up and join in. There will be cake!

*"Bless, O Lord, us Thy servants, who minister in Thy temple.
 Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts,
 and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

Chorister's Prayer

Email: RevRosemaryRadcliffe@gmail.com

Church Services: Page 12

Children's Society collection boxes

It is 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.

May visits:

May 7 & 21 (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 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 Tel: 0117 9741355

For inquiries about Holy Trinity or St Mary's please contact Michael Bothamley (Churchwarden)
Email: 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

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

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL WEBSITE: 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 01275 375619

Organist: John Talbot 0117 942 8344

Abbots Pool Working Party

A surprisingly sunny April day for working party

Despite a rather gloomy forecast, our April working party was treated to a mostly sunny and very enjoyable day down at the pool. It's always heartening to see so many people making the most of the nature reserve at this time of year.

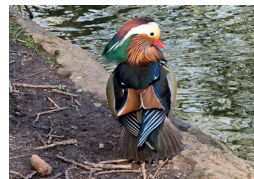
Tadpoles are beginning to appear, the ducklings are out and about, and spring is clearly settling in.

One of our main tasks in April was continuing the work of firming up the dead hedges ahead of the busy summer season. This will be an ongoing project over the next few weeks, and we're grateful to the locals and visitors who lent a hand with logmoving and sawing. Every bit of help makes a real difference.

Volunteers also tackled litter picking, gave the cascade a much-needed cutback, and cleared the weeds and brambles that were starting to obscure this picturesque feature. By the end of the morning, the biscuits and coffee were very well earned!

Next working party: Sunday May 10, 10am-noon

All are welcome - come along if you'd like to help care for this beautiful, shared space.



Abbots Pool has been graced by a visiting pair of Mandarin ducks this spring. To protect local wildlife, clear signs have been put up at the pond asking people and dogs not to enter the water.

Photos: Tom Scanlan



ST MARY'S CHURCH GARDENING

Join us on Saturday, May 9 and Saturday, June 13, 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, May 19, at 7.30pm at Abbots Leigh Village Hall, aromatherapist Ellen Rowland, of AmberLuna Apothecary in Bristol, will give a talk on 'The Healing Power of Scent'. Visitors welcome, £7 per meeting.

News from Abbots Leigh Parish Council

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order

The 13th edition of Love Saves the Day Festival returns to the Ashton Court Estate on the Bank Holiday weekend of Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24. As a result of this, North Somerset Council has issued temporary traffic regulation orders to cover this event for various roads in Leigh Woods, Failand and Long Ashton.

Volunteering opportunities in Abbots Leigh

The Heywood Surgery in Pill is looking for volunteers to drive those residents who no longer drive or are unable to use the bus to get to their much needed medical and dental appointments.

Lady Nortons Charities is looking for a volunteer to join the committee. Set up in the early 18th century by Frances, Lady Norton for the benefit of residents of Abbots Leigh, the charity has a short meeting once a year, usually in November, to consider the disbursement of small grants.

Can you spare a bit of time to help with either of these two initiatives? If so, please contact ros@abbotsleigh.org.uk in the first instance if you would like to know more.

Community Payback Team

The Community Payback Team is still coming to do good works for us every four weeks.

The team has cleared the elevated footway between Leigh Court Drive and Blackmore Road and also tidied up most of the verge above the Poundbatch Farm lay-by following the tree works carried out by North Somerset Council and subsequent clearance on behalf of the Parish Council.

Planning Applications

Application	Site	Proposal	PC Comment	
26/P/0550/ FUL	Leigh Court Farm Pill Road BS8 3RA	Proposed retention of timber chalet dwelling for farm manager for 5-year period or on cessation of the farm enterprise.	Support	
26/P/0432/ LDP	Land North West Of Stoke Leigh Lodge	Certificate of lawful development for proposed erection of freestanding agricultural polytunnel measuring approx 3.05 x 9.14 metres, with a maximum height of approx 2.13 metres.	Object, this is a permanent building not subject to agricultural permitted development rights which should be subject to a full planning application	
26/P/0425/ LDP	Grangewood House, Manor Road BS8 3RP	Certificate of lawful development for erection of a single-storey swimming pool house to north of the main property, directly behind existing garage.	Object. This application for a very large building in green belt should be subject to the scrutiny of a planning application	
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

Recycling smaller items

There are a variety of smaller items that can be collected as part of the weekly recycling. These items include small electrical items such as toasters, kettles and irons; spectacles and sunglasses; mobile phones; batteries; vapes; shoes and clothes that are in a reusable condition.

Clothes that are past their best can be bagged up and dropped off at the St Peter's Hospice charity shop in Pill where they can be sold on as rags.

Please bag each of the above items separately in a carrier bag or clear plastic bag and tie loosely to keep them dry.

North Somerset Council is unable to take certain items including disposable coffee cups; light bulbs; wrapping paper (only plain brown wrapping paper); broken glass, pyrex and drinking glasses; and tissues and paper towels.

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, May 11 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 from 9.30am to 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, May 9. Dates of these surgeries are also on the website.

Please note the annual parish meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 13 in the village hall, when residents can meet with the councillors on an informal basis.

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 and parish email addresses are now:

simon@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

kamala@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

ros@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

martin@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

villagehall@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk

Contact the Parish Clerk on parishclerk@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk or phone 01275 374442



Message from Pill Ward Councillor Jenna Ho Marris

From May 1, renting is changing

The national Renters Rights Act comes into force from May 1 and these are some of the changes:

- No more Section 21 'no fault no reason' evictions. This means landlords will have to give one of the listed reasons for evicting a tenant (which still includes anti social behaviour, non payment of rent, selling up, moving in etc) giving the correct notice period.
- All tenancies automatically become 'periodic' (rolling) tenancies. This means there is no end date unless a tenant gives 2 months' notice, or a landlord obtains a legal eviction.
- No more bidding wars. A property must be rented at the advertised price.
- Pets cannot be unreasonably refused. Tenants still need to seek permission.
- Councils will be empowered to fine and prosecute landlords who don't comply.

All of us have rented at some point or another, and some of us are landlords (I've been both at the same time) - and we all have family and friends who are renters or landlords. Around 20% of the 100,000 properties in North Somerset are private rented.

With my housing and health roles, I've realised how common housing disrepair and unresponsive landlords are. These new laws will make a difference, but only if both tenants and landlords know what is happening - I'm thinking of my 12 nephews and nieces renting in London and elsewhere, some with awful landlords but they won't let me get involved...

Very sensibly, North Somerset has joined with Bristol, South Gloucestershire and Bath & NE Somerset Councils to fund a campaign for our area - see <https://we-rent.org.uk/> for some excellent resources for both tenants and landlords (download the manual).

The National Residential Landlords Association has a very handy timeline and provides good training: <https://www.nrla.org.uk/resources/renters-rights> and detailed information can be found in the Government Guide: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-renters-rights-act/>.

Get in touch If you need to contact me please email jenna.homarris@n-somerset.gov.uk or jenna@abbotsleighparish.gov.uk or call 07385 010 137 (leave a message). I am often available Friday mornings at the Bike Shed - get in touch.

*Councillor Jenna Ho Marris
Green Party Councillor for Pill Ward, North Somerset
Cabinet Member for Homes and Health
Chair, North Somerset Health & Wellbeing Board
Chair, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire
Integrated Care Partnership*

I've realised how common housing disrepair and unresponsive landlords are. These new laws will make a difference, but only if both tenants and landlords know what is happening



News from Leigh Woods Residents Group

Save the date - June 27

The Leigh Woods Residents Summer BBQ in the grounds of St Mary's, 12.30pm to 3pm. Food served 1pm - all ages are welcome. Come and enjoy some fun, food and great company.

Look out for the flyer through your letterbox for details and/or reply to Alex@alexburgh.co.uk so we can work out numbers.

Leigh Woods Residents Group

Get involved with helping Leigh Woods social events and become a member. We only meet occasionally, usually when there is an event coming up; it's fun and good for our community. Get in touch with any of the LWRG members or email Alex@alexburgh.co.uk, lynne.bothamley@btinternet.com, trish.bedford@gmail.com or annalucyboss@gmail.com

National Trust news: Spring birds return, peregrine falcons spotted

The late spring is a quieter time of year for the NT and its volunteers. The coppicing work close to the Iron Age fort should be finished by the time you read this. We are using native untreated chestnut fencing to supplement the latest dead hedge and keep cattle out.

New oak posts and signage is going in on the Purple Trail, along with locally sourced and sawn oak benches across the woods. We have finished general bramble and tree management until next winter to avoid disturbing nesting birds. It was gratifying to learn that Historic England complimented NT on its management of the hill fort.

April/May is also a time for post-winter operations, cleaning machines, tools and workshops. We will get some fencing and public footpath work done across the NT sites covered from Leigh Woods, including most locally Burwalls and Failand.

We started our butterfly surveys in April and we will update you with results.

The results from the monthly bird surveys in March and April showed the expected return of our spring seasonal species. Many of them are small, ground feeding and inconspicuous, so you'll need sharp eyes to spot the dunnock and tree creeper. Your ears are probably a better bet to initially identify them!

Excitingly, our surveyors saw three peregrine falcons in March, and we are not sure where they might be nesting this year. It is often on the cliffs above one of the two locked NT managed quarries on the Avon towpath. But they of course do sometimes nest on the other side of the Avon. They can often be seen aerially jousting with crows that compete for similar locations.

On Forestry England's patch you may have seen that Sadik Al-Hassan, the local MP, was present for the inauguration of the reconfigured Yer Tiz cycle trail.

Haydn Davies, NT Volunteer



National Trust

Bluebells, badgers, bats and birds

Anna Stevens, Avon Gorge & Downs Biodiversity Engagement Manager, tells us about some of the sights to be seen on a wildlife walk through Leigh Woods



May in Leigh Woods reveals nature in all its glory with spring-flowering plants now in full bloom. Look out for the carpets of bluebells in the dog-leg section of the woodland on the main track down to Paradise Bottom.

As you venture into this lesser known part of the woodland you come across swathes of these beautiful blue nodding heads – a true example of English bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*).

English bluebells are a fabulous indicator of ancient woodland as they drop their seed and therefore take a very long time to slowly spread. Carpets of this species tell us a woodland has been in existence here for 500 years or even longer.

If you head right out to the edge of the dog-leg towards the meadows beyond you will discover another wonderful indicator of ancient woodland – raised earthy banks at the edges where the woodlands meet the grassland. Native trees and typical hedgerow shrubs grow here and it is a perfect situation for an extensive badger sett, with multiple entrances and exits. Peer over the hedgerow and you may see faint tracks through the meadow grass where badgers set out on their nightly hunt for food, following the routes taken by previous generations. Setts too are passed down from generation to generation - there is an enormous sett visible in the earthy bank here.

Head over to the National Trust section of the woodland, dropping down over the far side of Stokeleigh Camp, and look out for the unusual sight of wild green hellebores (*Helleborus viridis*) nestling on the camp slope. A rare plant in the wild, it loves to grow on Leigh Woods' limestone soils. Nearby you might notice the Goldilocks buttercup (*Ranunculus auricomus*) peeping out too, with its very distinctive long raggedy leaves.

Other plants in the woodland to keep a keen eye out for at this time of year are ramsons (*Allium ursinum*) - the flowering spikes of the wild garlic near the car park; the pretty blue-violet flowers of ground ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*); lords and ladies (*Arum maculatum*) with their strange pale green sheath surrounding a spike of small yellow flowers; and the five-petaled asymmetrical blue-purple flowers of the common dog violet (*Viola riviniana*) with its heart-shaped leaves.

Hibernating mammals begin to make an appearance in May too, with dormice waking up from the torpor of their ground hibernation nests, venturing into the coppiced lime and hazel trees and the dormice boxes. Bats come out of hibernation to forage over the water at Paradise Bottom – head down just before dusk to watch the pipistrelles as they feed on flying insects.

The chiff-chaffs have returned now to the woodland and are sitting on broods in their low-lying scrub nests, while blackcaps from Europe join us to sing their flutey songs and song thrushes make themselves loudly known from the top perches of the tallest trees. Great tits, blue tits and coal tits can sometimes be found looking up anxiously as you check a dormouse nest box, as they unexpectedly sit on their nest inside.

Leigh Woods History: Is the Smyth treasure buried in your garden?

The Smyth family of Ashton Court once owned the full Leigh Woods area right up to the present Leigh Court boundary. Thomas Smyth (1609-1642) was a Member of Parliament for Bridgwater, then Somerset, and then Bridgwater again during the Long Parliament. He was a Royalist during the English Civil War (1642-1651), and served in the Royalist army. It is said that he ordered his steward to bury precious family items somewhere on the estate to protect them from Cromwell's army. He died young and is buried in his family vault under the chancel at All Saints, Long Ashton. The story goes that the family treasures were never recovered.

So, is this treasured buried in your garden? Time to start digging?

Ashley Coates

Author of Know Bristol: A Compendium of 365 Bristolian Facts

Dance classes

Abelardo teaches Cuban Salsa every Tuesday in St Mary's Church vestry. Everyone is welcome Tuesday. Beginners from 6.30pm, improvers from 7.30pm. See the website salsaislife.co.uk for more information and details of costs.

Real tennis

Did you know there are only 45 real tennis courts worldwide? Bristol Real Tennis Club is based at Clifton College playing fields. Visitors are welcome to drop in - there maybe a game you can sit and watch. Make a date to give it a try with club pros Zak or Ben. Or call 0117 973 3444, email@bristolrealtennisclub.org.uk or visit the website at www.bristolrealtennisclub.com



A Complete Unknown

When: Wednesday, May 27, 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.

This film charts the rise of Bob Dylan, from his arrival in New York in 1961 as a complete unknown to when he turns electric in 1965. It's a trip down 1960s memory lane. Timothy Chalamet is captivating as Dylan. He and Monica Barbaro, as Joan Baez, sing and play the songs themselves.

Stars: Timothée Chalamet, Edward Norton, Monica Barbaro, Elle Fanning

Director: James Mangold: BBFC rating 15: USA 2024: 140 mins

All films shown with sub-titles.

For information: contact angelaprobyn@gmail.com. You are welcome to invite friends and neighbours.



Timothy Chalamet as Bob Dylan

Church services

	CHURCH	SERVICE	READERS	READINGS
3 May	Easter 5	White		
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
10 May	Easter 6	White		
10.30am	St Mary's	Parish Communion	Christina Lopez	Acts 17: 22-31
			Gill Millar	John 14: 15-21
6.30pm	St Mary's	Request Service	TBA	TBA
17 May	Easter 7	White		
10.30am	Holy Trinity	Parish Communion*	Robert Narracott	Acts 1: 6-14
			Nick Ball	John 17: 1-11
24 May	Pentecost	Red		
10.30am	St Mary's	Family Communion**	Sue Hartley	Acts 2: 1-21
			John Viney	John 20: 19-23
6.30pm	St Mary's	Taizé	TBA	TBA
31 May	Trinity Sunday	White		
10.30am	Holy Trinity-Patrolal Festival	Family Communion	Talbot family	Isaiah 40: 28-31
			Nick Ball	Matt. 28: 16-end
7 June	Trinity 1	Green		
9.30am	Holy Trinity	Family Worship	Nicky Walker	Matt. 9: 9-13
10.30am	Holy Trinity	Parish Communion	TBA	Rom. 4: 13-end
			TBA	Matt. 9: 9-13; 18-26

*Please note the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place on Sunday, May 17, at Holy Trinity, Abbots Leigh at noon, after Parish Communion

** Family picnic after Family Communion at St Mary's

ABBOTS LEIGH CIVIC SOCIETY



What's been happening?

The Abbots Leigh Runners all enjoyed their Good Friday run with pastries and coffee afterwards at the Bike Shed cafe. The Running Club now reverts to the regular Monday 6pm starts – starting (and finishing) at The George - all welcome.

There was a great turn-out at Jess' Charity Quiz night at The George on Friday, April 10, which raised over £1,000 for Alzheimer's Research UK – congratulations to the winning team!

What's ahead?

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 aplenty, the prize boules competition and, of course, the Abbots Leigh Dog Show, with a range of competition classes and where your dog can compete to become Abbots Leigh's Top Dog for 2026.

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 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)*

ABBOTS LEIGH WI



At the meeting on Tuesday, 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'.

In June we will welcome Geoff Vian who will give a talk on the RNLI.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Abbots Leigh Village Hall. Visitors are always very welcome.

Louise Wall louiseaw@aol.com

TEA TIME SPECIAL

Monday, May 18, 2.30pm: Ginny Owen, from the local West of England Herb Group, will talk about "Herbs for Health".

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

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

Sian Taylor is the Village Agent for Abbots Leigh & Leigh Woods. She can connect people with advice and support services to help them maintain independent living. Call 0798 5017655 or email sian@wern.org.uk.

**** ADVERTISE YOUR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES ****

Contact **ROBERT NARRACOTT** - 07773 368311 - robert.narracott@gmail.com

If you wish to advertise in this section of The Link please note adverts are priced at a discount if for charity purposes and / or not for commercial profit. The minimum period is one month. There is no maximum period. Accurate prices can be given on request.

CITY OF BRISTOL CHOIR'S EPIC SEASON FINALE - VERDI REQUIEM SATURDAY 20 JUNE 7.30PM BRISTOL BEACON

With **Exultate Singers, Bristol Metropolitan Orchestra, and star-studded soloists**, this operatic drama reaches profound emotional depth and spiritual intensity - a monumental work of beauty and power and highly celebrated Requiem Mass. Wagner's overture to the opera *Rienzi* starts a stunning evening. Tickets £18-£30, half price under 18s and students, from Bristol Beacon, www.bristolbeacon.org and 0117 2034040



PIANO TUITION John Talbot, experienced professional teacher, organist & choirmaster of the United Parish, currently has vacancies for pupils of all ages and levels at his Westbury Park practice. Tel. 0117 942 8344

adroitprint

Unit 3 Avon House, Blackfriars Road, Nailsea BS48 4DJ
Sales: 01275 810 338 sales@adroitprint.org.uk
www.adroitprint.org.uk

NOW AVAILABLE - LARGE FORMAT PRINTING A0, A1, A2, BANNERS, STICKERS AND CANVAS PRINTING

AdroitPrint in Nailsea offers the complete range of printing from digital printing right through to full colour lithographic printing.
Anything you need printed, we can print it.