

## ASHOVER VILLAGE FILMTIME

Ashover Bassett Rooms

Doors open at 7pm for tea/coffee: Film starts 7:30pm  
No need to book Suggested donation £3

Thursday 15th March 2018

### A United Kingdom (12A)

The story of King Seretse Khama of Botswana and how his loving but controversial marriage to a British white woman put his kingdom into political and diplomatic turmoil.

Starring: David Oyelowo, Rosamund Pike, Tom Felton  
Director Amma Asante

## FOREIGN FILMTIME

Thursday 1st March 2018

### Le Havre (PG)

A warm-hearted portrait of this city is the background to the adventures of a young African refugee avoiding deportation officials with the unwavering support of the community. In French with English subtitles.

High Ashes Rural Project in Ashover (HARP)  
is organising a

## 5 Km Obstacle Mud Run on 22 April 2018

Get a team together and have fun - £15 pp entry  
[www.highashes.org.uk](http://www.highashes.org.uk) 07887 612170

## Art and Architecture in Kent and the South Coast

A 6 week course starting 4th April  
on Wednesdays from 10 am to noon  
in the Bassett Rooms, Ashover

Brian Sprakes, a lecturer in medieval art and architecture, will give a series of talks to include the cathedrals of Canterbury, Rochester and Chichester and many churches, priories, hospitals and stately homes.

£45 - Information from Sarah Hillard 01246 590369

ASHOVER



KNIT & NATTER

Mondays, 10am–12

No Experience Necessary  
Wool and Needles Provided  
Knit your own thing or make  
blanket squares to sew together.

## Uppertown Social Centre



Saturday 17th March - 7pm for 8pm - £10 inc. supper

St Patrick's Night featuring Fiddlers Green

Saturday 7th April - from 6 pm - £5 all ages, inc. supper

Easter Family Night and Disco

Saturday 21st April - 7pm for 8pm - £13 all inc. supper

Murphy's Marbles - Irish and Folk

Call Eddie for tickets: 01246 590502 or 07966 154798

You can view this **amber news** on the **amber churches** website and there are free printed copies in churches and local shops. If you would like a copy delivered, please let us know and we will try to oblige. Send news for inclusion in next month's issue to [info@amberchurches.org](mailto:info@amberchurches.org).



## amber news

For the amber churches of  
**Ashover, Brackenfield, Handley and Wessington**  
*working and playing together, with God, for people*  
March 2018

## Church Services in March

### Friday 2nd March

10.00 am	Salem Chapel, Wingerworth	Women's World Day of Prayer Service
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### Sunday 4th March

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Holy Communion (+ children's activities)
10.45 am	Handley Church	Morning Worship

### Mothering Sunday 11th March

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
9.15 am	Wessington Church	Family Service
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Family Service
10.45 am	Handley Church	Family Service

### Sunday 18th March

9.15 am	Wessington Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Holy Communion (+ children's activities)
10.45 am	Handley Church	Holy Communion

### Palm Sunday 25th March

9.15 am	Brackenfield Church	Holy Communion
9.15 am	Wessington Church	Holy Communion
10.45 am	Ashover Church	Holy Communion (+ children's activities)
10.45 am	Handley Church	Morning Worship

### Good Friday 30th March

10.00 am	Wessington Church	Good Friday Service
2.00 pm	Ashover Church	Good Friday Service



## Prayers for All

A small group meets in the Ashover Church Vestry regularly to pray for special concerns. They meet on the first and third Tuesday mornings in the month from 11.30 am to 12 noon (coinciding with the end of the fortnightly Ashover Village Coffee Shop). If you would like prayer for yourself or a certain situation, call our Rector, Ralph Lawrence, in confidence, on the telephone number given below.

## Contact Information

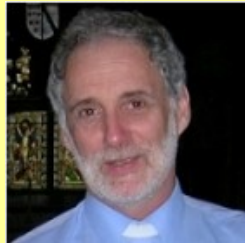
Rector: The Revd Ralph Lawrence 01246 590246  
The Rectory, Narrowleys Lane, Ashover S45 0AU  
All Saints Church Ashover Warden: Sylvia Dyson 01246 861811  
Holy Trinity Brackenfield Warden: Nigel Rogers 01773 836137  
St Mark's Church Handley Warden: Kath Mosely 01246 590720  
Christ Church Wessington Warden: Rita Buckley 01773 835 633

[www.amberchurches.org](http://www.amberchurches.org)

## The Rector Writes ...

Dear Friends,

It is Tuesday afternoon, the sunshine has retreated behind the clouds and winter it seems has returned once more. The deadline for articles for the parish magazine is Wednesday and I'm wondering what to write about, so what's new!



At moments like this I reflect on my favourite stories in the Bible and hope that they will provide me with some inspiration. Well, one has supplied me with an idea, but you must judge for yourselves whether it has been an inspiration.

Some years ago I asked a friend to sing the Beatles song, 'With a little help from my friends' during a family service. Partly because I wanted to shatter the illusion that music in church is staid and boring, and also because I had been inspired by a simple line drawing of two men carrying a friend which accompanied the song in a primary school music book designed for assemblies.

The lyrics and the line drawing instantly reminded me of the story in Mark's gospel of the paralysed man who was brought by his friends on a stretcher to see Jesus. Arriving at the house where he was preaching, the friends discovered that the entrance was barred due to the number of people listening to Jesus. Undaunted by this minor obstacle to their faith they climbed the stairs at the side of the house, broke through the roof until they had made a large enough hole to get the man through and down to where Jesus was teaching

This is gate crashing in the extreme. But there is no word of protest from the crowd recorded. Instead the only comment made about the friend's action comes from Jesus himself: 'Seeing their faith, he turned to the paralysed man and said "My son, your sins are forgiven."' From that moment the man's life changed, he was healed, and from that moment the mood of the crowd changed. Hearing what Jesus had said they complained about his right to forgive sins. But the fact remained, the paralysed man who had been air-lifted in to see Jesus walked out of the house a freed man.

It is a wonderful story, one about faith. It is about what happens when ordinary people put their trust in Jesus. But it is also about prayer. It reminds me of the activity that numerous people find themselves doing, sometimes without them really knowing it. A prayer of intercession is what the church calls it. The moment when we feel drawn to pray for others, and there have been many such prayers prayed in recent weeks for the people of Haiti since their country was paralysed by a devastating earthquake. These people we may never personally know, but there are others from our own community who we do know; and the prayer of intercession is designed to carry such people into the presence of Jesus where like the friends of the paralysed man we lay them at his feet. Our prayers don't have to tell Jesus what to do, our faith simply requires that we leave people with him. For it has been said that 'more things are accomplished by prayer than this world knows or even dreams of' and there are many who can testify to the power of prayer, and not all of them would describe themselves as religious.

The power and uniqueness of prayer is something I hope people will contemplate during Lent. To help with the process the church has produced a prayer calendar, a little booklet to be used daily during the weeks leading up to Easter, you'll find one at the back of the church. The prayers are varied and some are intercessory but all in their way are like the two men who brought their friend to Jesus, steps of faith towards God.

Yours sincerely, Ralph

## Care for a Cuppa?

St Mark's Church, Handley

Friday 2nd March

2.00 - 4.30 pm

Come and enjoy a cuppa and cake  
in aid of Ashgate Hospice



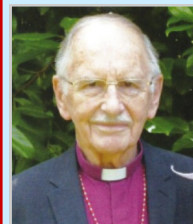
## All God's Creation is Very Good!

Salem Chapel, Wingerworth

Friday 2nd May - 10 am

The 2018 Women's World Day of Prayer service has been written and organised by the women of Suriname. Suriname is classified as the 17th richest country in the world because of its natural resources but local rivers have been damaged by gold mining and mercury pollution.

With over 90% of the country covered by pristine rainforest with a high biodiversity, the women of Suriname have chosen to base their service around the need to balance God's creations with man's creations and to be guided by the theme, "All God's Creation is Very Good!" Come and learn more at the service in Salem Chapel.



## Bishop Bob

On 6th February Ashover Church was full of the family and friends of Bishop Bob Beak gathered together to give thanks and celebrate his long and remarkable life. After a childhood in rural Kent and service as a navigator with the RAF during WWII, he studied for the priesthood instead of taking up his degree course at Cambridge. Though determined to become a missionary in Burma, his path instead led him to Africa where he travelled extensively in Northern Kenya, learning local languages and customs and evangelising the nomadic people. A further posting as Bishop of Marsabit in Northern Kenya reinforced his love for the country. Our churches were fortunate that his retirement led him to Ashover where his unstinting and inspirational service continued. The final hymn summed up everything about him:

"In Christ alone my strength is found  
He is my light, my strength, my song."

## From the Registers

### ASHOVER

Baptisms:

George Marriott, service held 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Henry Durrant, service held 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Funerals:

Bishop Bob Beak, service held 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018

John Gregory, service held 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Mary Needham, service held 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Sandra Tolley, service held 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

### BRACKENFIELD

Baptism:

Ivo Naylor, service held 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Funeral:

Betty Milne, service held 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

### WESSINGTON

Funeral:

Jill Stapleton Aged 65, service held 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018