



Mar 2025

issue no 131

£2.00 (Village residents free)

Springtime in Packington

Big Breakfast Success

A huge thank you to everyone who made this year's **Big Breakfast** on **Saturday 1st March** such a wonderful success!



The sun was shining brightly and we were all greeted with a warm welcome as we gathered to support this fantastic event.

Full details on pages 4 and 5.

Aldi Ashby 20 – Road Closures

On **Sunday 23rd March**, the 20-mile road race will once again pass through Packington. Road closures are expected to be in place between approximately **8.00am** and **3.00pm**. There will be no access out of the village along Measham Road during these times and no access into the village from Normanton onto Heather Lane.

All village residents should have received a leaflet outlining the details of the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order. For full details of road closures, please visit:

www.ashby20.co.uk/road-closures

Richard Bebbington – Race Director
info@ashby20.co.uk

Hosted by the Ashby Rotary Satellite Group

The Great Packington Easter Egg Hunt

Monday 22nd April 2-4pm

£1 for children
£2 for adults

Prize for closest number of eggs found
Collect maps & start at the Recreation Ground from 2pm

All money raised going to a new swing for the Recreation Ground

Next Edition: Copy by Tue 13th May
Out Friday 23rd May 2025



Packington Post
www.packington.info

Packington Parish Council

Fly Tipping

As most of you will be aware there is an ongoing issue of fly tipping around the village and country in general. Please report any fly tipping you see using the details below.

Litter Picking

The Parish Council would like to thank all parishioners who undertake litter picking in and around the village. You are all doing a really great job and helping to keep our village looking lovely. This does not go unnoticed, and it is very much appreciated.

Dog Fouling

We would like to remind all dog owners that it is your responsibility to pick up after your dog. The village has seen an increase in dog fouling which has been left. Apart from being an unpleasant nuisance if you step in it, dog mess can be a health hazard.

Victoria Webster
Parish Council Clerk
 clerk@packingtonpc.org.uk

The Parish Council would like to urge anyone witnessing any of the above to report as soon as possible. To do so, please visit www.nwleics.gov.uk and select 'comments, complaints and compliments'

Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st April at 7.00pm.

Move contact info beneath meeting details
NW Leicestershire Police Update

Acquisitive Crime Update

We have had two recent, separate incidents in Homecroft Drive Packington. **Vehicle Interference** and an **Attempted Burglary**.

A cutting tool was used on the side door and entry gained to a van between **6.00pm** on **3rd March** and **7.00am** on **4th March**. A similar tool was used on an integral garage door. The offenders were probably disturbed and no entry was gained. This was between **12.30am** and **5.00am** on **3rd March**. The Beat Team will prioritise their patrols in the general area.

French Door Safety

Offenders often gain entry from the rear of a house via UPVC French Doors by snapping out the lock barrel in the outer handles. The image below shows a simple device in the form of a tube that slides over the internal handles of French Doors and prevents the handles being turned from the outside even if the outside lock is snapped.



There are a number of similar devices available online you may wish to consider and have a starting price of around £25.00.

Road Safety Beat Priority Reinforcement

On **Friday 7th March**, the Ashby Beat team conducted a speeding operation in Packington. Officers positioned themselves on a section of **Ashby Road** in the village which has a **30 mph** limit.

Traffic was moderate with **106** vehicles passing through the speed check. It was encouraging to find that only **5** of those vehicles were travelling in excess of **30 mph**.

We would encourage the **5 offending drivers** to make conscious choices on the road and prioritise their safety and the safety of other road users and pedestrians. Action will be taken against those who exceeded the speed limit and the results fed back to the Force Road Safety Unit. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the **101 drivers** who adhered to the speed limit.

Please slow down and save lives. Speed limits are there for a reason.

REMEMBER – "A FAST DRIVE COULD BE YOUR LAST DRIVE!"

Nick Haylings - PCSO 6003
Leicestershire Police - 0116 222 2222

Packington Traffic Calming Group

The group have been a little quiet recently as we are currently awaiting a consultation appointment with Edwards & Edwards Consultancy which has been arranged for **Thursday 27th March**.

The roads, however, would appear to be not so quiet, with some motorists still travelling at excessive speeds! The Mobile Police Camera Van has confirmed the following figures following their recent visits:

October 2024	11 visits, 51 offences
November 2024	7 visits, 12 offences
December 2024	2 visits, 3 offences
January 2025	1 visit, 16 offences



Leicestershire County Council have confirmed that we have been accepted onto the 2025 Community Speed Watch Scheme and this will take place in the village later this year. This is an ideal time for residents to be proactive and help improve traffic safety in our village. If anyone is able to spare a little of their time to assist with the scheme please do get in touch – we would be very grateful for any help and will always accommodate your time preferences to make it more convenient for you. The more volunteers we have, the easier it will be to organise! Further details to follow.

For any comments or suggestions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact:

PTCG Chair - Jonathan Alexander
jonathan.alexander.uk@outlook.com

PTCG Secretary - Nicola Beanland
nicolabeanland37@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor

Many of you will be familiar with John, the cheerful village School Crossing Patrol who requested we print the following letter (also sent to other organisations) after he encountered a dangerous incident whilst on duty.

The incident has been reported to the police.

“Today, 28th January 2025, whilst on my afternoon shift, about 5-10 minutes before my shift ended, I was standing in the middle of the road crossing two families and their children, when I noticed a small white building van coming from Measham Road at speed. It overtook a white car which was doing the speed limit.

“The young lad that was driving the van didn’t even brake and continued to travel at speed towards me and the two families. Luckily, we all managed to make it across the road.

“Unfortunately, I couldn’t see the registration of the van as it was going too fast.

“This has been very upsetting to me. I keep thinking about what could have happened to both me and the two families that I was crossing at the time. Because I was really mad and in a state of shock, I had to go for a walk when I got home to calm myself down before my wife came home.

“It makes you wonder when are the council going to step up to the plate and do something about the speeding, or are they waiting for a fatality or serious injury to people before they do anything.

“They seem to have the funds for various projects (which you read about in the Ashby Times) but not for putting much needed speed bumps or traffic calming measures in Packington village down by the school.”

John Burton
Packington School Crossing Patrol

Big Breakfast Success

continued from page 1

The kitchen volunteers truly outdid themselves, serving an incredible 275 covers, with 190 of those being full breakfasts! That is no small feat, and I am incredibly grateful to all those who worked tirelessly in the kitchen.



Of course, none of this would have been possible without the amazing front-of-house team who ensured everything ran smoothly.



The atmosphere was absolutely lovely, with so many people happily chatting, enjoying delicious food and sharing good company. It was heartwarming to see the community come together in such a positive way.



This event simply wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of all the volunteers and the generous supporters who came along to enjoy a hearty breakfast.



One person mentioned to me how well-organised everything was, and that's something that can only happen when everyone works together. From the preparations on Friday evening to the early hours of Saturday morning, and then, of course, the big cleanup afterwards, it's the teamwork and collective effort of so many that made the day such a success.



So, the big question is, how much did we all raise for LOROS?

Well, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we received donations of Heinz baked beans from the Rotary Club, mushrooms from Livesey Brothers, and many other items such as marmalade, sauces and jams, all of which helped us increase the funds we could donate to the charity. After covering the costs for all the food provided by our fantastic local supplier, Daybreak Services, which included sausages, bacon, black pudding, bread, tomatoes and much more, the grand total raised for **LOROS** was a remarkable **£2,750.00!**



A wonderful amount which will go towards helping improve the lives of many people, and that's all thanks to each and every person who contributed in some way.

A massive thank you to every single person involved on the day.

Debbie Hamilton
07971 047283



Packington Film Club

After a great turn out for our February and March films, we are now looking forward to **Friday 11th April** when we will be showing **A Haunting in Venice** with Kenneth Branagh.



In eerie, post-World War II Venice on All Hallows' Eve, Hercule Poirot is now retired and living in self-imposed exile in the world's most glamorous city. But when Poirot reluctantly attends a séance at a decaying, haunted palazzo, one of the guests is murdered, thrusting the detective into a sinister world of shadows and secrets.

After our murder mystery, we move to a comedy crime caper on **Friday 9th May** with the film, **Going in Style** starring Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman.



Desperate to pay their bills and support their loved ones, lifelong pals Willy Davis, Albert Gardner, and Joe Harding risk it all by robbing the bank that absconded with the pension money that they earned from working there for years.

Tickets remain priced at £5 for adults and £3 for children under 12, both inclusive of refreshments which are available prior to the start of the film. No pre-booking needed, just turn up at the Memorial Hall where we look forward to seeing you all.

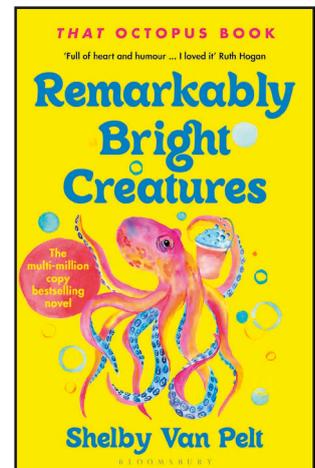
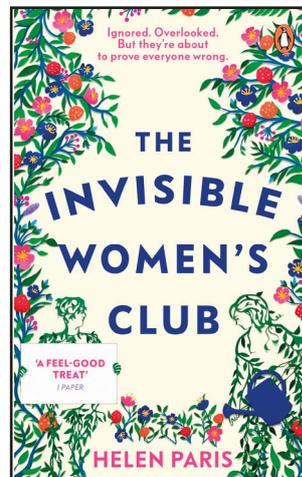
Please note our doors will not open until **7.00pm** to allow us time to set up the hall.

Packington Film Club Committee
carolgaham1@aol.com

Book Club

If you enjoy reading but are stuck in a rut or can't think what to read next, we'd love to meet you. We don't take things too seriously – the only qualification is that you enjoy reading.

On **Wednesday 26th March** we are reading **The Invisible Women's Club** by **Helen Paris** – "Ignored. Overlooked. But they're about to prove everyone wrong..."



On **Wednesday 30th April** it's **Remarkably Bright Creatures** by **Shelby van Pelt** – "Curl up with 'that octopus book' everyone is talking about".

We meet once a month, on the **last Wednesday of the month** at **7.30pm**, in the **meeting room** at **Packington Memorial Hall**. Just read the book then come along and join us, you'll be made very welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided.

For further information, please contact

Helen Edgington 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com

History Group

This is an update on the Packington Village History Group (PVHG) Construction Survey project to list and date all the existing residential buildings in Packington.

PVHG is making good progress on this project and has already dated more than half the residential properties in Packington.

One of the first problems encountered was establishing exactly how many individual residential buildings there actually are in Packington. We currently have a figure of 381 separate residences but this does not necessarily equate to actual buildings. Of course, semi-detached buildings and terrace buildings are usually built as a single construction, but not always. A walk down High Street will quickly prove this point. House numbering may have gaps where previous dwellings have been demolished or additional properties added later which then receive a name rather than a number as on Mill Street. On Ashby Road the house numbering is predominantly even numbers only, anticipating the eventual building of houses on the fields opposite. Our admiration for our local postmen and postwomen has greatly increased since this project started!

We have already ascertained from results so far that at least 60 new dwellings have been built in Packington in the last ten years. Less than a handful of these were “affordable homes” and therefore unlikely to be bought by young families. This compares with the 1960/70s when nearly all of the houses and bungalows built were bought by newlyweds and couples with young families, hence the need for an extra classroom at Packington School a few years later.

If the village population continues to age at its current rate, it's not inconceivable that the next major construction project in Packington may be a MCarthy & Stone block of retirement flats!

PVHG hope to conclude our “Dating of residential buildings in Packington” project this summer. At present we have dated almost all of the post second world war property in Packington. If you haven't already been in touch, and live in a pre-1945 property on High Street, Mill Street,

Normanton Road or Spring Lane, and can help us with the date your property was built we would be very glad to hear from you.

Please contact:

Adrian Mongredien
survey@pvhg.uk

The findings from this project will be stored by the History Group for future residents of Packington to be aware of the history, growth, and development of their local community.

Board Games

If you enjoy board games but can never find anyone to play with – come along and join us in the **Meeting Room at Packington Memorial Hall**. If you have a game you'd like to share, just bring it along - we love to learn new games - our new favourite is Mexican Train! We break for tea, coffee and biscuits and there is lots of fun and chat. Everyone is welcome to come along. There is a small charge of **£2.00**.



We meet on the **2nd and 4th Thursdays** of the month from **1.00pm – 3.30pm**. The last session before the summer break is on **24th April**. For further information, please contact:

Helen Edgington 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com

Across - 4.umbrella 6.kite 8.melts 10.nest 12.shower
13.march 15.aprilfools 16.seasons Down - 1.april 2.puddle
3.warm 5.rain 7.easter 9.tulip 11.serene 14.may

See Page 12 for Crossword

Packington Horticultural Society

Handmade, Homegrown and Local – Discover Unique Finds at the Spring Fair Shopping Event.



Packington Horticultural Society's (PHS) annual **Spring Fair** returns to **Packington Memorial Hall** on **Sunday 6th April**. Doors open from **10.00am to 1.00pm** with complimentary tea and coffee available for all visitors.

Enjoy a delightful selection of local craft, gift, and food stalls, offering unique finds and tasty treats while supporting local businesses.



Don't miss the chance to enter our raffle, where you could win a fantastic prize generously donated by one of our talented stallholders. All raffle proceeds contribute to the PHS charity fund, which supports local community projects.

The PHS plant stall will be brimming with a variety of plants, along with expert advice for those interested in participating in the Annual Village Show on **Saturday 6th September**.

Have any surplus plants, seeds, or cuttings you'd be happy to donate? Then please bring them along for the plant stall to help fellow gardening enthusiasts!

Everyone is welcome - whether you're a returning visitor or joining us for the first time, we look forward to seeing you there!

For more details about this and other PHS events, visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/packingtonshow or search **Packington Village Show**.

About Packington Horticultural Society

Packington Horticultural Society (PHS) has been organising a village show since the 1940s. Although the original purpose of making and providing clothes and personal effects to troops returning from the war has diminished, the concept of a village show has remained and evolved to feature home grown vegetables and flowers, home baked goods plus items of craftwork, which is what you see today.

To complement the annual show, PHS has more recently begun organising further events for the community including a Spring Fair, Christmas wreath making workshops, flower arranging demonstrations and trips to RHS gardens.

Packington Village Show and the events throughout the year are planned, organised and presented by a small group of volunteers to raise money for various village organisations including the Seniors' Lunch Club, Rainbows, Brownies, Table Tennis Club, Church and other local activities.

For further information about the PHS or any of its events, please contact:

Amy Powell 07739 365205
amyl_powell@yahoo.com

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
ProCon 2023
LEICESTERSHIRE PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION AWARDS 2023
Medium Residential Scheme Award **WINNER**

Holy Rood Coffee Morning

On the **4th Wednesday** of every month between **10.00am** and **12noon**, Holy Rood church opens its doors for its monthly coffee morning. Everyone is welcome to pop along to enjoy a nice cup of tea, coffee or hot chocolate served with a choice of homemade cake. There is also a selection of books and jigsaws for you to borrow or swap.

Next dates are **26th March** and **23rd April**.

For more information, please contact:
Anne Wathes 01530 414621

Classic and Exotic Car Meet

On **Monday 7th April**, the **Packington Classic and Exotic Car Meet** will return to the car park of the **Bull & Lion**. Pop along from **6.00pm** onwards to look around the interesting collection of cars and bikes on show. Or maybe take your own?



Toastie Thursday

Holy Rood church will would like to welcome you on **Thursday 17th April** from **12noon -2.00pm** for cheese toasties, toast and cake. All ages are welcome to come along and try out our Easter activities which include cakes and biscuits decorating plus much more!

For more information, please contact:
Anne Wathes 01530 414621

Packington Easter Egg Hunt

The **Great Packington Easter Egg Hunt** is returning on **Monday 22nd April** between **2.00pm** and **4.00pm** starting at the **Recreational Ground**.

There is a small fee of £1.00 for children

and £2.00 for adults to enter and all money raised will go towards the purchase of a new swing for the Recreational Ground. For more information, please contact:

Anthony Cash
Ashby Rotary Satellite Group
ministryofmaterials@icloud.com

Parish Council AGM

This year's **Annual General Meeting** for **Packington Parish Council** is expected to be held on **Tuesday 6th May** at **Packington Memorial Hall**. Further details will be available shortly.

Open Gardens

Perhaps we are a little mad, but Anne and I have volunteered to organise the annual village Open Gardens again on **Bank Holiday Monday 25th August**.

Last year was a great success and it goes without saying that we shall need lots of help once more. We have already had some wonderful people come forward who are willing to open their gardens but more of course are needed.



We shall also welcome other offers of help, with the organising beforehand, baking cakes for the teas or assisting on the day for an hour or two in any way. Bright ideas as to any improvements we could make will also be appreciated!

For more information or to offer assistance, please contact either myself or Anne on:

Lesley Birtwistle
01530 413309 or 077791 22797

Anne Wathes
01530 414621 or 07525 377860

Packington Primary School

Young Voices

A group of our pupils attended the Young Voices concert at Resorts World Birmingham in January, where they sang along with a choir of up to 9000 other children. The atmosphere was amazing and the children, staff and families all had a memorable experience. Staff were impressed with the behaviour of our pupils, who all represented Packington superbly.



Packington Cross Country

We recently held our own small school's cross-country event in Packington for the first time since 2018 and would like to thank all residents for their patience with the extra visitors this attracted on the morning. Children from 15 local schools were invited to attend and we had a great turn out of runners across all primary school ages. The sun was shining and the morning was a great success. We received lots of lovely comments from those attending and we couldn't have done any of it without our wonderful team of volunteers. Huge thanks to all involved, including our brilliant PSA who served refreshments all morning.

North West Leicestershire Cross Country

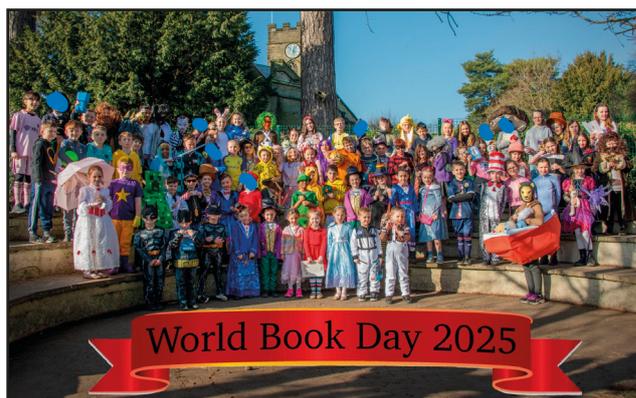
During the Autumn and Spring, a group of our pupils took part in the NW Leicestershire Cross Country League. We had some amazing results across the board with two of our pupils being invited to the presentation evening to receive their medals/trophies. Three boys were also invited to represent NW Leicestershire at the county race on Saturday 22nd February.

National Justice Museum Trip

Our Year 3/4 class visited the National Justice Museum as part of their topic on 'Crime and Punishment Through Time'. During the trip, the children took part in a courtroom workshop where they took on various roles including judge, jury, prosecution and defence. They reviewed two cases of theft by Victorian children and at the end, reached their verdict and discussed sentencing options. Everyone had a great time and it really brought the topic to life!

World Book Day

We all had a great time dressing up for World Book Day in school on Thursday 6th March. We celebrated the magic of books with costumes, stories and a fabulous book swap! There were some fantastic, imaginative costumes and we had some lovely books donated. A big 'well done' to our costume prize winners from each class.



Coming up:

We will be raising money for Comic Relief and looking forward to a visit from a Gladiator to talk about our health and fitness. In April we have our traditional Easter Egg Hunt arranged by our PSA (who also arrange for real lambs to visit) and our Easter service in Holy Rood church.

Packington Primary School
office@packingtons.leics.sch.uk
 01530 412425

**Packington Primary School will close
 on Friday 11th April for the Easter
 holiday and will reopen on Monday
 28th April.**

Church News and Special Services

You have no doubt heard that sadly, our church heating system has failed its electrical test and will have to be replaced. Inevitably, it will be several months before this work can be carried out. However, we have acquired several infra-red heaters as a temporary measure and so we are able to continue to hold our regular services. Deserving special mention:

Mothering Sunday 30th March

Yes, it is Mothering Sunday! So, do come along with the family for an informal service suitable for all ages, when children will have the opportunity to give a posy of flowers or a plant to their Mums and other carers.

Good Friday 18th April – 6.30pm

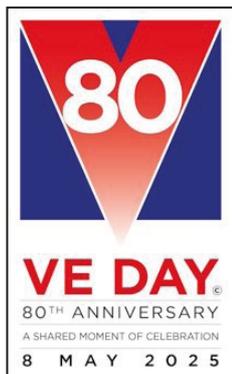
The Way of The Cross - A special service of readings, prayers and hymns, when we reflect on the events of the first Good Friday and the impact which they have had throughout the world and down the centuries.

Easter Sunday 20th April

Not just a day for exchanging Easter Eggs and entering the fun of Easter Egg hunts! Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection.

Sunday 11th May 10.30am

A special Songs of Praise service of celebration and commemoration to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day – the end of World War 2 in Europe.



Lesley Birtwistle
01530 413309

Pebble Pool

In a quiet corner of Holy Rood church there is a prayer table that you are welcome to visit during the daytime to pray and reflect. There are books available in which you will find prayers for all kinds of needs should you need assistance.

In addition to this, we now have The Pebble Pool. Each pebble placed in the water can represent either a prayer for yourself, for others, a situation that is weighing heavy on you or serve as an act of remembrance.

To use, take a stone from the pile to represent your life and place into the bowl of water – thus placing yourself in the healing love of God. Then choose another stone. You may wish to sit quietly with the stone in your hand and say a prayer before placing it alongside your first stone in the water.

Elisabeth and David Harrison
eanddharrison@hotmail.com

Upcoming Church Service Dates

All church services start at **10.00am** on a Sunday with the exception of the **Maundy Thursday** service on **17th April** at **7.00pm**, the **Good Friday** service on **18th April** at **6.30pm** and the **Songs of Praise** service on **11th May** at **10.30am**.

Holy Rood Church, Packington

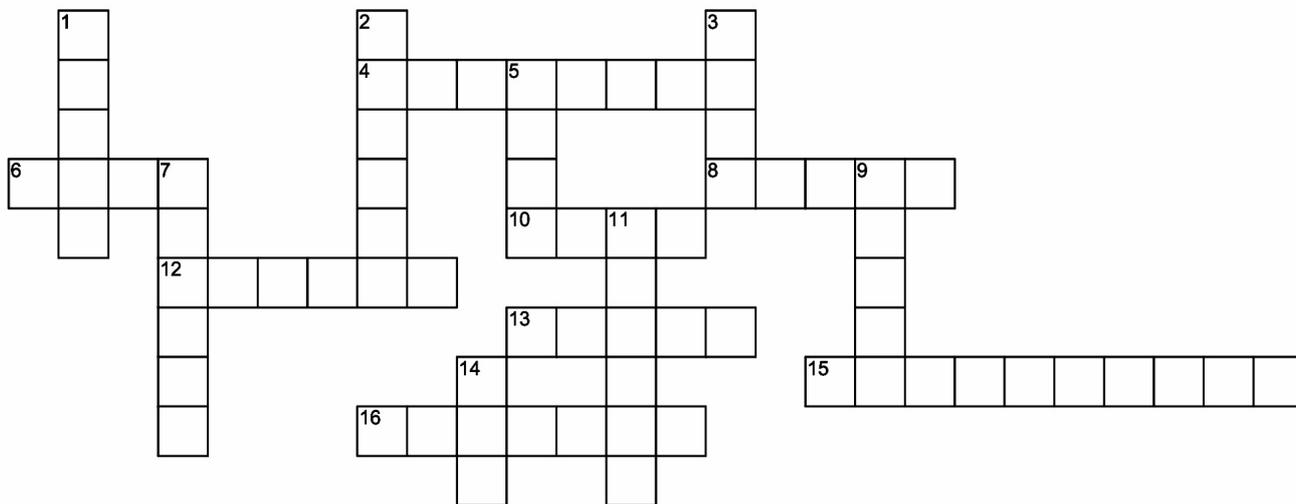
23 rd March	Holy Communion
30 th March	Family Service
6 th April	Breakfast Church
3 th April	Palm Sunday Service
18 th April	Good Friday Way of the Cross
20 th April	Easter Holy Communion
27 th April	Holy Communion
4 th May	Breakfast Church
11 th May	Songs of Praise

Holy Trinity Church, Normanton-le-Heath

16 th March	Holy Communion
6 th April	Morning Prayer
17 th April	Maundy Thursday
20 th April	Easter Holy Communion

Coffee Break Crossword

Answers on page 7



Across

- 4. Protective cover held by a hand
- 6. Something for a windy day
- 8. Chocolate does this in the sun
- 10. Easter treat of cereal and chocolate
- 12. Brief period of rain
- 13. Soldiers do this
- 15. A trickster's Spring morning
- 16. Periods of the year add flavour

Down

- 1. A lady's name perhaps
- 2. A small accumulation of water
- 3. Neither hot or cold
- 5. Drops of water that fall from clouds
- 7. A time for hunting eggs
- 9. A Spring flower
- 11. A quiet, Spring morning
- 14. Expressing possibility

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