

Welcome to Angela and Otto!

I came to live at Ammerdown as 'House for Duty' in January, to be a welcomer, a leader of quiet days, a listener, a spiritual director, chaplain and general dogsbody! And then we went back into full lockdown!

I have yet to welcome residents! But, I have been leading prayers, a part of Zoom meetings, Quiet Days, Carers' and TLC days and superb Zoom day conferences with Sue Glanville on Ety Hillesum and Pádraig Ó Tuama, 'Remembering Well with Poetry and Prayer,' a wonderful weekend with Malcolm Guite on Poetry and Prayer and insights into reconciliation with, 'Return to the Golden City,' a film and workshop with Vicki Burke and more. At the moment, Christine and I are planning Holy Week and Easter events.



I am a 'people person' so, in some ways I have had to adapt and find my energy from different sources, walking my dog, Otto, in the Ammerdown Estate, walks with my good friend, Jane in the local area, reading and watching films.

I am looking forward to May 17th when we can welcome people once again to this lovely place.

Angela

Canon Angela Townshend

**Ammerdown now has two House for Duty Roles. We are currently advertising!
Please contact Christine for details: christine.clinch@ammerdown.org.**

Making Ammerdown Greener

This Lent, Ammerdown has run a weekly Lent Group, Caring for Creation, based on ecological issues. Eighteen have registered and a mixture of us meet each Wednesday from 10.00 to 11.00 to learn about and be challenged by climate change - what it means and how we can be involved. On March 3rd, we looked at Global Warming and heard that it is now being called Global Heating! We looked at what we could do and we came up with showering less often, eating less meat or becoming vegetarian, using less plastic, recycling, using a bar of shampoo, washing clothes less often, using alternative forms of transport and more. One member of the group suggested that Ammerdown should become vegetarian. We had a lively discussion! What do you think? How can we make Ammerdown greener?



We are continuing our Lent Group until 24th March. If you would like to join in, you would be very welcome.

Please contact Christine.clinch@ammerdown.org for the Zoom link.



100 Club

The 100 club is a monthly draw where you pay a minimum donation of £12 for the year, to be assigned a number. Each month one number is drawn and the winner receives £50 of the money. The rest is donated to the Ammerdown charity. A cheque is posted to the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. Please contact the centre for information on joining the club.

Deb Tutchell –December 2020

Ken Riley- January 2021

Margaret Guard - February 2021

Volunteer day!

As the weather gets warmer, we want the garden to be as beautiful as it can be. Will you join us for a day in the garden – or a morning – or an afternoon? The planned day of sunshine is Friday 16th April 10am – 4pm. Please bring a packed lunch if you come for the whole day. We will provide tea and coffee and cake, of course! Please let us know if you are coming – email admin@ammerdown.org or call 01761 433 709. There will be restrictions on numbers to keep everyone safe and socially distanced. Our mission is the cobblestones! Please bring any tools which will help bring them back to their former glory. Thank you for your willingness to help!



Don't miss out!

A Zoom course to help us reflect on this past year and the changes it has brought.

Adapting to our Changing World with Sue Brayne, Saturday 27th March, 10am – 12 noon, Cost £20

This one-day zoom workshop provides a much-needed opportunity to come together so we can explore how the immense changes taking place are profoundly affecting us all on a personal and collective level.

Even though things appear to be challenging, there are positive and creative ways in which we can become much more conscious and wiser around how we react to what's happening. This helps us to build resilience and hope and to find meaning and purpose as our tenuous future unfolds. It also helps us to focus on what's really important and to build relationships which are solid and supportive.

It would be wonderful if you were able to join us.

To make a booking please call on 01761 433709 to book over the phone.



Folksy are back!

Folksy are delighted to be returning to Ammerdown this summer with their production of William Shakespeare's The Tempest, on Sunday 22nd August at 7pm.



Prospero conjures up a storm and torments the survivors of a shipwreck, including his treacherous brother, Antonio. Meanwhile Prospero's slave, Caliban, plots to rid himself of his master but is thwarted by Prospero's spirit-servant Ariel. Ferdinand then falls in love with Prospero's daughter Miranda. Will Prospero grant Ariel her freedom and be restored to his dukedom? Will Ferdinand and Miranda's love overcome all? Folksy's wonderful production is filled with live music, colourful characters, enchantment and a little touch of magic.

To book tickets please visit www.folksytheatre.co.uk and follow them on Twitter @folksytheatre, Instagram folksytheatre and Facebook Folksy Theatre.



If you shop with Amazon, please consider choosing Ammerdown as your Amazon Smile Charity.



Interfaith News! Faith Community Grants awarded!

Ammerdown is the Faith Partner of The Voice and Influence Partnership. Together we have recently awarded six community grants. This has been an exhilarating experience, discussing the applications with the five volunteer working group to select the projects to be supported and then connecting with the people involved in each of the projects. These include UWE Multi-Faith Chaplaincy - developing a Talk Corner for International

Students; God's House International - offering support for single parents and ex-offenders; Bristol Methodist Centre offering a safe service in times of Covid to the homeless; Black2Nature with their Walk 4 Faith programme, producing videos of faith leaders in different BAME languages, explaining the importance of looking after our health, including our mental health, and encouraging regular walking; The Bristol Sikh Temple developing its virtual connection with the community; and Bristol Bethel Apostolic Church connecting to more members of the community with the provision of tablets particularly to young adults and seniors.

The Ammerdown Team



The Ammerdown Centre Spring Newsletter 2021



Dear Friends

Ammerdown is coming back to life! The garden is full of daffodils and primroses and birdsong. Pink blossom and new, green leaves are appearing on the trees. Paint brushes and rollers are being put to work. Rivers Home Education children are filling the building with laughter and learning. Our Staff are returning from furlough for training and preparation for our opening. Our Ammerdown Quarterly News, full of zooms, day and residential courses is ready to be delivered.

The last year has been tough! At Ammerdown, we have lost almost a whole year's business; we have had to

say goodbye to some of our Staff members; we have not been able to do what we love – welcoming people to this beautiful, peaceful place. The last year has meant loneliness, separation, tiredness, illness and death for many. This has been a hard place to be. But we are a people of hope and as Spring emerges from the darkness of winter and our days become longer, we hold on to the Easter message that out of death comes new life: Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

We hope to open our doors at Ammerdown on Monday 17th May. Please be assured that we are following government guidelines at all times and will continue to do so as we welcome you so that your stay with us will be both safe and comfortable. We can't wait to see you!

Christine

Christine Clinch, Lead Manager



The Paintbrushes are out!

Whilst we could not open, we have taken the opportunity to update and redecorate parts of Ammerdown. On your return you'll see that the chapel is lighter and now almost seamlessly connects with the garden, thanks to the installation of clear glass windows. Paint and a deep clean mean that the chapel is now bright, clean and fresh awaiting your return.

The TV room was another area which we have wanted to update for a while. We have added a much needed archive storage area at one end of the room. The old outdated brown hanging lights have been replaced with new, modern lighting, the walls painted in a lovely Jade colour and the carpet is on its way!

Our main project has been updating the bedrooms. We are painting, fitting new carpets and purchasing brand new beds for all the bedrooms. So far 6 bedrooms have been completed! Health and Safety has also been a priority. Your safety is very important to us whilst you stay at Ammerdown. We are working alongside a company called Citation to make sure we achieve all the standards required.

Looking forward to showing you around!

Debbie

Debbie Tutchell, Deputy Lead Manager

