



Abbots Langley in Lockdown

It is 1 March 2020 we know about Covid-19 in China and Italy. It is quiet in Abbots Langley. The Royal Oak is open on Kitters Green, but a robin is sounding a warning at what is happening.



Lockdown began on 23 March and I along with other people slipped gingerly to the shops in the High Street and then got on with household chores, cleaning windows and in a month of fine weather caught up with the garden.

It wasn't until 22 April that I started taking photographs of what was happening in the village and on walks on the surrounding countryside. Not many people were about.



Walking the dog on the Horses' Field was a good thing for exercise, but the playgrounds were all closed.



There were queues and restrictions of the number of people in shops.



The number 8 bus was running, but not the 318. Many delivery vans appeared.



Social distancing on Ovaltine land, but not everywhere.



On 26 April the weather was still fine and the cars were all at home.



On 27 April Robin Mann asked for a frontpage picture for the Journal, but the weather had broken.



On 30 April we have the required scene but not the weather of the previous 6 weeks. On 1 May the sun came out again and the puddles dried up.



By 8 May many shops were open again. There was unusually no queue outside Simmons, where many people bought cakes to celebrate VE75.



Rainbows started to fade in the sunshine and people put up flags and decorated their houses.



There were street parties in family bubbles.



Meanwhile in the Henderson Hub, Teddy was reading a story. I think Wendy Ash turned the pages.



In June Hubbyteddy must have read about Thomas and started trainspotting and then having a party.



Then Boris said we should all exercise and the Hub is urging us to paint.



The walks in the countryside continue with changing views, wildflowers and butterflies.



Some things make us a feel a whole lot better!



Mike Quinton, 1 September 2020

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Abbots Langley Local History Society