

*Life and faith in rural Britain...*

# COUNTRYWAY



## COVID-19: A Child's-Eye View

**Erin is seven years old and lives in Wellesbourne, Warwickshire. She enjoys watching television, singing and dancing. Erin is a member of Playbox Theatre and loves going to their workshops. Just four weeks ago, Erin became the proud owner of a kitten called Albus. Since getting Albus, most of her time is spent giving him cuddles or being chased around the lounge as he tries to bite her feet! She also likes spending time scootering in the park or lying on the hammock!**

It's been weird not going to church, but we've been doing these virtual church services. The good part is that children have been able to join in: I've read a lesson and a prayer. Lots of us from around Wellesbourne have been able to take part and it's really good fun. We all do our sections and then they get edited together for the service. We now have the words on the screen for the songs, so we can join in at home. I watched the last service at Nan and Grandad's house. I missed them the most during lockdown and it is great to be able to have a hug and stay over at theirs now. I told everyone at church about me being able to stay over with them before I read my prayer. It was such good news!

I have missed seeing the people from church and I have missed singing and dancing with my friends. When this is all over, I am going to join a choir. Reverend Barry says that he is going to start a choir that is suitable for my age, so I hope that will work out.

During lockdown, I enjoyed walking with my dad in the sunshine and getting up late as I didn't have to go to school. I've probably seen more of the countryside around me since lockdown, as me and my dad did some mystery trips and walks. I've discovered Dover's Hill and it's really nice. It's only about twenty minutes from Wellesbourne. When we first went there it was really quiet but now it is way too busy. I've also got better and better at bike riding and scootering and I've got some new moves that are really good.

I haven't seen many people due to COVID-19. We didn't go into Stratford-on-Avon like we used to; we only went as far as the local supermarkets and I never went in. Dad and I would wait in the car while Mum did the shopping, but it got us out of the house on rainy days. My mum works for the NHS and has been working from home. It was really hard having her home but not being able to hug her whenever I wanted to. I did sneak in occasionally and I think I have probably met most of the people she works with!

School has been really good because our school has been using this thing called 'virtual classrooms'. It's really good because they set things up and you can show the teachers what you have done. But I'm really looking forward to going back to school in September. I will be in year three and that means I can go on the big playground and I can't wait to see my friends!

*This article first appeared in Country Way 85: Being Church, October 2020. Go to [arthurrankcentre.org.uk/country-way](http://arthurrankcentre.org.uk/country-way) for more information about how to subscribe.*