

# The Chimes

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**July & August 2026** No 380

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## EDITORIAL

As you know, the Chimes team takes a little break in August, so we've tried to squeeze everything you need to know for the coming months into this issue. You'll also find an interesting feature from local historian David Mullin, exploring some of the area's fascinating standing stones.

We're always looking for volunteers to help with the magazine, particularly in the Gorsley area, as our current sub-editor will soon be moving away. If you'd like to find out more about the role, please do get in touch.

In this issue, I've included a double-page spread highlighting community support. I hope to make this a regular feature, shining a light on local businesses, groups and individuals who could benefit from a little extra awareness and encouragement. We all know how easily large corporations can overshadow independent businesses, so I'd love to help champion the brilliant people within our community - especially those who are just starting out, facing particular challenges, or simply don't have the means to advertise, as this issue's feature demonstrates.

If you feel this spotlight could benefit your business, group or organisation, please get in touch with me directly. You'll find my email address on page 62.

**Tash T-J**

(Cover - Dibble from Pig Experiences at Briery Hill Llamas - Editor, May 2026)

The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt, please contact your sub-editor their details are in the heading of each section. PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in *The Chimes* will be limited to a two-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend later, Thank you.

## A VIEW FROM THE HILL

### Trees

We all look forward to springtime and the early flowers with a hope for warmer weather. However, that is only part of the picture; trees make a very important contribution to spring beauty. Their fresh greens in sunlight can be amazing, particularly beech, my most favourite. The photo shows the end of my 'lawn' fringed by horse chestnut, handkerchief, silver birch, rowan, lilac and weeping willow (nibbled around its bottom) trees. With their blossoms out there is a great buzz of insect activity around them and sweet smells wafting through. Another point, which I find rather telling, is that I planted all the trees shown, which underlines the fact that I am getting on a bit!

Peter Lockwood



## COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

### LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY- UPCOMING TALKS

1st July 2026 - Heather Hurley: Railways of Herefordshire

5th August 2026 - Dick Fowler: From Staunton to Caracas - The South American struggle for independence -Please note change to published programme

The Society meets at 7 for 7:30pm at Linton Village Hall. All are welcome. Guest fee is £5 per talk. For further information please contact Chairman, Roger Davies [rogerdavies1@sky.com](mailto:rogerdavies1@sky.com) or Secretary, Teresa Squires [sec.lintonhistosoc@gmail.com](mailto:sec.lintonhistosoc@gmail.com)

### The Ashbourne Family Saga

This is a novel set in the latter years of the 19th Century based on a fictitious family from Lea and Weston-under-Penyard. This is not factual history neither is it over romanticized, but you will absorb facts as though you were there. It is history made easy. Read the story so far only in the Chimes Online.

To access, go to [www.thechimes.org.uk](http://www.thechimes.org.uk), then select Extras, Info & Blogs, then Historical Blog.

Dorian Osborne

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## ROB THE RAINMAN

May's total was 36.9mm, down 30% on the average and so continuing the dry spring theme. A very wet day on the 2nd with 15.5mm, after which there was a dryish period until the middle of the month, when it did turn wetter but with no great amount of rain. It also turned much colder with that old friend, the (still chilly) northeast wind turning up once more. Then a high-pressure system moved in around the 18th, and the wind came directly from

the south. The heat started to build until an official heat wave was declared from the 22nd to the 27th. And it was unprecedented for May with temperatures hitting new records, which would have been awfully fierce for high summer, let alone late spring. The early hours of the 28th saw one of nature's light shows with accompanying soundtrack, and it made the owd cottage tremble a time or two. The met. Spring rainfall total was 88.1mm, which was just half the average, so a second dry spring following last year's very dry one (down 80% on the average that year). Spring 2025 still retains the sunniest and warmest records, but spring 2026 is up there in the top 5 for both, with the warmest category boosted by the May heat wave.

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## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



Sub-editor:  
Mike Clayton

07803 975398

aichimes@outlook.com

### CHURCH NEWS

#### REGULAR SERVICES

1st Sunday Evensong at 4.30pm  
2nd Sunday Parish Communion at 10.30am  
3rd Sunday Village Praise at 10.30am  
4th Sunday Parish Communion at 10.30am  
Every Monday A short service of Evening Prayer at 5.30pm

#### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Seven nomination forms were received and accepted for election to the Parochial Church Council. Mr James Harding Churchwarden, Mrs Allison Oastler Treasurer. Mr Alan Oastler, minute secretary. Mrs Lindy Lathan, Mrs Jennifer Phillips, Mrs Hazel Leighton, Mrs Sue Harding, correspondence secretary, Mr Andrew Stuart-Lyon. Accounts had been audited and accepted. Thanks were expressed to all those who gave their support and time volunteering in many ways.

#### MAINTENANCE

Work to be carried out this next year includes refurbishment of exterior Church doors, an update to the audio system and maintenance to the retaining wall.

#### ORDINATION

Reverend Ewan Gillings, who has been a Deacon in the Ariconium Benefice since 2025 will be ordained as Priest by the Bishop of Oswestry on Monday, July 6th at 6pm in Weston under Penyard Church.

### VILLAGE NEWS & EVENTS

#### VILLAGE HALL FUNDRAISING

Update on Village Hall Fundraising - We are now within a few thousand pounds of our target. The last big push will be the Summer Fete in July. Contributions can be made by bank transfer to Aston Ingham Village Hall (Sort Code: 60-83-01, Account Number: 20542755), and a donations box for cash or cheques will also be available at village events.

## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

#### ASTON INGHAM SUMMER INDOOR FETE

Come and join us for the Aston Ingham Summer Indoor Fete on Saturday, 11th July 2026, from 5pm to 10pm. This is the last fundraising event before we close the hall for the renovations.

Entry is free, and there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Visitors will be able to take part in a variety of traditional games and activities, including a tombola, shove ha'penny, and many more.

Hot food will be available to purchase, and the bar will be running throughout.

Whether you're here to catch up with friends and neighbours, or simply enjoy a relaxed summer evening, we'd love to see you there.

All money raised during the event will go towards the Village Hall Renovation Fund, helping to maintain and improve this valuable community facility for future generations.

We look forward to welcoming you on 11th July!



## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

### COFFEE MORNING AND PETROL HEADS



Visitors to the Aston Ingham Coffee Morning on 29th May were treated to more than just the usual delicious coffee and cakes. A wonderful selection of classic cars was on display, attracting the attention of coffee morning regulars and many passers-by throughout the morning.

The beautifully maintained vehicles proved to be a popular attraction, with visitors enjoying the opportunity to admire the cars and chat with their owners about these cherished classics.

Many thanks to everyone who brought their vehicles along and helped make the morning such an enjoyable and memorable event.

### OPEN GARDEN SUCCESS

On 7th June, Julia Askew kindly opened her garden as part of the National Gardens Scheme, welcoming more than 80 visitors throughout the day. The event was a great success, raising an impressive £400 for the National Gardens Scheme.

As always, the village community showed its wonderful spirit of support. Alongside the open garden, a plant sale and refreshments, including tea, coffee and homemade cakes, were available at the Village Hall. Thanks to the generosity of visitors and volunteers, a further £270 was raised for the Village Hall Restoration Fund.

A sincere thank you to Julia and to everyone who contributed their time, donations and support to make the day such a success.



## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

### A PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

At the June meeting of the Aston Ingham WI, members were captivated by a talk from Chris O'Grady about his extraordinary pilgrimage from Pershore to Rome - a journey of some 1,200 miles.

Having secured four months' unpaid leave from his job at a printing company, Chris set off with very few possessions: a tent, a single pair of walking boots, and a set of cards explaining that he was travelling as a pilgrim. He aimed to travel simply and rely, where possible, on the kindness of strangers.

After taking the ferry from Plymouth to Caen and spending time with a French friend, Chris continued his journey through France and into Italy. Along the way, he experienced countless acts of generosity. A woman invited him to lunch on his first day of walking, a village mayor offered him accommodation in the village hall and provided supper, and hostels welcomed him throughout his travels. To cross into Italy, he even managed to hitch a lift on a coach through the Mont Blanc Tunnel.

After 107 days on the road, Chris finally arrived in Rome, having completed an unforgettable journey. Remarkably, despite carrying a tent, he spent only two nights sleeping in it - a testament to the kindness and hospitality he encountered along the way.

Members thoroughly enjoyed hearing about Chris's adventure and the many memorable people he met during his pilgrimage.

### VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

May 1st - The Greens, 2nd - Dave Cornish, 3rd - Colin Leighton  
We have room for more players. If you have not yet joined and would like to, please get in touch at [treasurer-AIVH@hotmail.com](mailto:treasurer-AIVH@hotmail.com)

### WHEELCHAIR AVAILABILITY

We have a wheelchair stored in the Village Hall for communal use.  
Contact Janet Potter

### CARDS WANTED

Wanted: Christmas and greeting cards to recycle into new cards. We now have our own group of ladies making cards for the Cobalt Unit. We have a box in the hall lobby for your old cards & stamps & a card stand with cards for sale. For info, contact Janet 01452 830556 or 07340 078520.

### CHURCH CLEANING

If anyone would like to join our cleaning rota, please get in touch with Janet 01452 830556. We split the Church into sections to make it easier and to ensure that no one person has too much to do. The more helpers, the less work for everyone.

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## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

What's On	When	Details	Information & Booking
Country Dancing	Friday 3th July at 7pm	If you'd like to join us, you'd be most welcome. Any age, ability, or gender. No partner needed. £3 per person.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Village Hall Committee Meeting	Tuesday 7th July at 11:30am	Monthly meeting of the Village Hall Committee.	Sue Harding 01989 720528
Crochet Club	Thursday 9th July at 2pm	This group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the committee room at the Village Hall. All are welcome; you don't have to crochet, but we have a teacher on hand if you would like to learn. Come and join a great group! £2.50 per person includes refreshments.	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Short Mat Bowls	Friday 10th July at 2pm	If you'd like to join us, please come along, you'd be very welcome. We are a very friendly group, and our bowling is non-competitive. £3 per person.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Aston Ingham W.I.	Tuesday 14th July at 1:45am	The speaker will be Brian Miller Hall, talking about his bees. Everyone is welcome.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Summer Indoor Fete	Saturday 11th July at 5pm	Food, drinks and Games will be available. This will be our final fundraiser before the hall is closed for the repairs, so please come with spending in mind so that we can reach our refurbishment targets.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Pop-Up Pub	Saturday 18th July	Usual pop-up pub with a great selection of beers, wines, soft and zero alcohol drinks and snacks.	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Knit and Natter	Tuesday 21st June at 2pm	All welcome, you don't have to knit, just come along & join in the natter.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Book Club and Coffee Morning	Friday 31st June at 10:30am	Bacon Butties available, cooked to order. There will be the usual selection of cakes. Puzzles & books can be borrowed & Cobalt Charity cards are available to purchase.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Aston Ingham Reading Group	First Saturday of the month 09:30-11am	July – Watership Down by Richard Adams August – Island of the Sea Women by Lisa See	Jan Falkiner 07899 728346

### FUTURE EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Please note the hall will be closed in August for hall repairs

- Oct 10th Quiz Night
- Dec 11th Sing along
- Dec 18th Christmas Coffee Morning

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## GORSELY NEWS




Sub-editor:  
**Laura Carroll**

**07837 485929**

**laurajones13@hotmail.com**

If you have any special news, events or ideas about what you would like to see in the Gorsley section of the magazine, please get in touch!



## GORSLEY FLOWER, PRODUCE, ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

**2pm SATURDAY 22nd AUGUST at GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL**

Following the success of the 2025 Centenary Gorsley Show, we are proud to announce that we are well on the way with the 2026 show, and we hope that once again the show will have a broad appeal. This year we have eight divisions: Flowers, Floral Art, Fruit and Vegetables, Baking and Preserves, Sunflowers, Children's Classes, Arts and Crafts and Photography. The Sunflower classes are new - for adults who experience a disability - see Division 8 in the Show Schedule and show rules 2 and 3. The closing date for entries is **Wednesday 19th August**. The Show Schedule (which includes the entry form) is available from Gorsley Community Shop - this is also the drop off point for entry forms, or can be downloaded from [www.gorsley.com/show.html](http://www.gorsley.com/show.html)

Gorsley residents, members of Gorsley-based organisations, children attending Gorsley Goffs school, and their families are all eligible to enter. All entries must be delivered to Gorsley Village Hall from 9-10.20am on Saturday 22nd August so that judging can commence. The Show will open to the public at 2pm (admission 50p, Sunflower Division entrants & under 18s free). Public parking is at the field adjacent to the bungalows near the Baptist Chapel. Please do not park at the shop/Orchard Coffee House car parks. Prizes presented at 3.45pm. Kilcot and Gorsley's Women's Institute will be serving homemade cakes and drinks. There will also be a grand raffle, which will include prizes donated by local businesses. We'd love everyone to come along and help us make Saturday, the 22nd August, a day to remember. We look forward to seeing you there! Any questions, please contact us at [gorsleyshow@gmail.com](mailto:gorsleyshow@gmail.com) or call Jill on 01989 721044

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## GORSLEY NEWS

### THE CHIMES NEED YOU!!

I will shortly be moving away from Gorsley onto pastures new, so The Chimes are looking for a replacement Gorsley Sub-Editor. Do you have an eye for detail, and are you able to edit basic Word documents on a laptop/PC? Do you have a few hours per month to spare for The Chimes to help collate the news and events for the Gorsley section of the magazine? If so, please get in touch via [laurajones13@hotmail.com](mailto:laurajones13@hotmail.com), and I will put you in touch with the friendly team of volunteers who run The Chimes. It's a great way to get more involved with what's going in Gorsley and the local area!

# WE NEED YOU!

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### PINK QUIZ - THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all those who made the Pink Quiz at Gorsley Village Hall such a fun evening. With your participation and generous contributions, the evening raised an amazing £600 for Breast Cancer Now. A fantastic evening and a fantastic donation. Thank you.

Later this year, we look forward to welcoming you to the Halloween Quiz, where we will again be raising money for another good cause. Details to follow.

### GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

Our committee meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. We always welcome new people to help us put on a programme of activities to involve the village and to raise money for the hall's maintenance.

For more info, please contact: [gorsleyvh@gmail.com](mailto:gorsleyvh@gmail.com)  
Hall Secretary, Anne Course: [oldmole@btinternet.com](mailto:oldmole@btinternet.com)  
Treasurer, Sue Scregg: [suevillagehall@yahoo.com](mailto:suevillagehall@yahoo.com)

### 100 CLUB

The winners of the June draw will be reported in the next issue of The Chimes.

### 100 Club Renewal

The Club runs from August to July each year, so the £12 subscription for the next year is due by 1st August. We will be contacting everyone in the next few weeks to ask you to transfer the money into the Village Hall bank account.

We don't quite have the full quota of 100 players, so new participants are very welcome. If you would like to join, please get in touch with Sue, the Treasurer, at [suevillagehall@yahoo.com](mailto:suevillagehall@yahoo.com)

## GORSLEY NEWS

### GORSLEY COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE

We are your community-minded shop, ready with your summer supplies. Drinks, speciality Hillbrook's ice creams, ice lollies, and more. Plants and bedding are available, as well as ordering in advance bunches of flowers. For our Gorsley Post Office, we continue to offer Travel Money Cards and currency options for your travel needs. Inquire at our Post Office or online at [www.postoffice.co.uk](http://www.postoffice.co.uk)

As a reminder, we are always looking for enthusiastic and community-minded volunteers to work alongside our wonderful team of volunteers and staff, as we continue to ensure a smooth running of our much-loved community shop. Could this be you? Enquire in the shop, or even give us a call or email [info@gorsleycommunityshop.co.uk](mailto:info@gorsleycommunityshop.co.uk) 01989 721233.

**DID YOU KNOW?** A £10 a week spend in the shop keeps us providing this amazing service for our beloved community and the surrounding areas. Looking forward to seeing you this summer! Paul Parker (Shop Manager)

### GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

Visitors and new members are always very welcome. If you think you might be interested in joining our club or would just like to know a bit more about us, please call Charlotte 01989780760 or email [gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com)

### GORSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday morning service at 10.30am. Separate crèche, children and youth activities take place at the same time, so there is something appropriate for the whole family. If you want to see if our service is to your liking, all services are also live recorded and available on YouTube. We would love to get to know you; however, YouTube cannot go as far as serving you the coffee and conversation which takes place after the service. It would be great to see you. 01989 720312 [office@gorsleybaptist.church](mailto:office@gorsleybaptist.church) [www.gorsleybaptist.church](http://www.gorsleybaptist.church)

### CHRIST CHURCH GORSLEY

As July begins and forty-eight teams from across the globe take part in the World Cup, even the non-football fans amongst us can enjoy the skill and determination of the young footballers striving to win for their country.

Here at Christ Church, as this summer continues, we extend a very warm welcome to our regular weekly Sunday morning services at 10:30am. Please note that on the 26th of July, Bishop Anthony will lead us in a service of Holy Communion. On the 23rd of August at 6pm, we will have Evensong (so no morning service on that day). And on the 30th of August, our usual fifth Sunday Cafe Church will take place. It's always a very sociable time (with coffee and croissants)!

For full details of any of the services at Christ Church, contact [gorsleychurch@btinternet.com](mailto:gorsleychurch@btinternet.com) or find us on [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

## GORSLEY NEWS

### NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Members of the Newent & District Probus Club recently enjoyed two fascinating talks covering very different subjects, both of which sparked lively discussion.



The first, presented by Jan and Nick Nelson, provided an introduction to the world of philately. Members learned how the introduction of the Penny Black in 1840 transformed postal communication by introducing a simple, affordable system where the sender paid a fixed postage charge. The talk also explored the many different types of stamps and postal memorabilia collected by enthusiasts today, as well as the international competitions that bring collectors together from around the world.

Our second speaker, Bruce Williamson, took members behind the scenes of the Cold War. His talk revealed some of the lesser-known reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering operations carried out by both NATO and the United States. From high-altitude photographic missions to airborne nuclear deterrent patrols, the presentation provided a fascinating insight into a period of history that shaped the modern world.

These talks are typical of the wide variety of subjects enjoyed by members throughout the year. Upcoming presentations include Richard Nixon – Crook or Statesman? Small Modular Reactors and the Future of Power Generation, and English China Clay.

The club meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10.00am in Gorsley Village Hall. Meetings begin with tea and coffee, followed by a guest speaker and an opportunity to socialise with fellow members.

New members are always welcome. If you are retired or semi-retired and would enjoy stimulating talks, friendship and an active social programme, why not come along and see what the club has to offer?

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**GORSLEY NEWS**

**KILCOT & GORSLEY WI**

Visitors are welcome, we are very informal and don't sing Jerusalem except on special occasions! For more information, call Anne Course 07951 819051

**\*\*NEW\*\* TABLE TENNIS / CROQUET**

Wednesday afternoons from 2.30pm - we start with table tennis and, if the weather permits, follow with croquet. The cost is just £2 and EVERYONE, all skill levels, are welcome!

**COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

The library is located in the shed next to Gorsley Village Hall – mind your head as you go in! There is a good selection of books, DVDs, video games and jigsaws to borrow on a 'trust-based' system.

**KARATE**

Karate classes take place at Gorsley Village Hall on Friday evenings from 6.30pm. For further details, please contact Pam Bennett: farimonds@gmail.com

**BINGO**

Bingo is held at Gorsley Village Hall on every 4th Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The cost is £5 for 6 games with a break halfway through.

**PILATES**

6-week classes are held on Wednesday evenings at Gorsley Village Hall. Please contact Alex Hall for upcoming dates/further details: www.alexhallphysiopilate.wixsite.com/website alexhallphysiopilates@outlook.com

**YOGA**

Thursday mornings at Gorsley Village Hall: Mat Yoga 9.30-10.30am and Chair Yoga 10.45-11.30am. For more details and to book a place contact Jeni jeni@jenihowland.com

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**LEA NEWS**



**Sub-editor:  
 Angela Kirton**

**07474 378806**

**kirtona150@gmail.com**

**NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH**

Hello everyone, and hope you are enjoying the summer so far! We have had a busy few weeks fundraising with a super performance from Drybrook Ladies Choir, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended; they gave us a wonderful evening of music of all genres, from classical to pop! Our spirits were well and truly lifted after that!



We also had a lovely Open Garden event courtesy of Captain Martin and Sarah Lowe at Castle End. Despite the weather, this was well attended and supported! Our heartfelt thanks go to all who supported, baked, provided food and helped out at these two events! We now have a well-earned rest until our Quiz Night in September.

Our Children's church also has a break now with no services for July and August, and will resume in September. Just a reminder also that all our services apart from Children's Church are now beginning at 9.30am. Also, certain non-biodegradable materials are not allowed in the churchyard and will be removed. Please see the notices in the porch at the church. Also, please note that these are Diocese regulations and we are bound by them.

Open the Book now also takes a break until September and the new school term. We are always looking for new people to help us with Open the Book, either by narrating or acting in the stories. These are very short Bible stories taking around 15 minutes to perform, currently on a fortnightly basis through the school term on a Thursday morning. Please call me on 01989 750808 if you are interested in joining us!

Our sympathies and prayers are with the family of Jean Williams, who passed away recently. Our congratulations go to our curate Ewan Gillings on his ordination by the Bishop of Ludlow on 6th July. Our very best wishes go to Mrs Vines on her retirement as head of Lea school. We know she will be very much missed.

Have a lovely summer, everyone, and see you in September. God Bless all.

Marion Martin, Churchwarden



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**LEA NEWS**

**SUMMER FUN AT RUDHALL VIEW**  
The Rudhall View playing field will once again host 2 FREE play sessions for all children in The Lea. Come along and join the fun on Thursday, 30th July and again on Thursday, 20th August. Funded by the Nourse Charity, all are welcome.

**LEA PLAY AND CHAT**  
We are celebrating summer at Play and Chat through outdoor play, sand and a splash of water! We investigated mini beasts with beautiful paintings and crafts. We took off our shoes and socks to make special footprint cards for Daddies and Grandads, and ended the term with an Ice cream snack and singing.



**Come out and PLAY at Rudhall View**  
Thursdays 30<sup>th</sup> July & 20<sup>th</sup> August  
1.30-3.30pm  
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Thank you to Nourse Charity for funding these sessions!

For more information contact Jo Dainty [everydayplayjd@gmail.com](mailto:everydayplayjd@gmail.com)

**FORTH COMING EVENTS FREE FOR ALL:**  
**PICNIC IN THE PARK** - Thursday 23rd July - Weston-Under-Penyard playing field 11.00-2.00pm. Meet Rob with his Tractor, Ross Community Police and Rachel, a very talented Face Paint Artist (small donation). Bring your friends and family for a fun Picnic.  
**RAMBLE IN THE FOREST** - Thursday 27th August - Beechenhurst Park, Forest of Dean 11.00-2.00pm. Meet at GO APE for a short walk, then back to the park to picnic (Pay and Display car park). Enjoy the fresh air with friends. For more info, contact Carolyn 07765 555588

**LEA VILLAGE HALL**  
We are really pleased to see so many children's parties taking place at the hall, so thank you to the families utilising our facilities. During the summer holidays, I'm sure the playground area will be well used too, but if you find any damage or defects, please let us know. It is checked weekly, but it's best to report issues as they occur.  
Also, if you are using the hall, just inside on the counter, there is a "Report book" for use should there be a problem to inform the Trustees. Only recently did the door lock on the Accessible Toilet break, but we were unaware until the cleaner came in! Hopefully, this is fine now, and also, some adjustments to other locks on toilet doors have been made.  
On a more delicate topic about hiring, are you aware that Lea Village Hall is available for Funeral Wakes? If the deceased person had been a Lea resident,



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## LEA NEWS

we do not charge for this facility. Just contact Liz Reeson (Booking Secretary), and she will check out availability. [ereeson@hotmail.com](mailto:ereeson@hotmail.com)

Over the summer months, Regular User groups continue, but Lea Lunch Club takes a break until 30th September. You can always check what's going on by looking at our website [www.leavillagehall.com](http://www.leavillagehall.com) and then clicking availability.

Please note that on Friday 30th October (Halloween), the Everyday Play session is back from 1.30-3.30pm at the hall, and will take place inside if the weather is inclement. It's FREE to all Lea children. Hope you have a very good summer.  
 Sylvia Nicholls, Chair of Lea Village Hall Committee

## VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

The Village Summer Fair and Fun day is taking place on Sunday 12th July at the Village Hall – see poster for details, all queries to Lea Residents Association call 07539 118351 or email [TheLeaRA@outlook.com](mailto:TheLeaRA@outlook.com)

Just as a reminder, here are the regular clubs/ organisations that meet in the Village Hall; contact details for the leaders are published on notice boards and in the events section on the Village Hall website: [leavillagehall.com](http://leavillagehall.com)

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Mondays - Yoga 9.30-10.30am; Brownies 5.45-7.15pm in term time  
Tuesdays - Pilates 6-7pm; Short Mat Bowls 7.15-9.15pm  
Wednesdays - Let's Talk Spanish 3.30pm  
Thursdays - 60+ Keep Fit 11.30-1.00pm; Yoga 6-7.30pm; Let's Talk Spanish 10am and 3pm. Fridays - Friday Painters 9.30-12noon

## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AT THE HALL

First Wednesday of the month: Lea Café 10.00-11.30am  
Last Wednesday of the month: Lea Lunch Club.  
Regular monthly Bingo on Wednesdays: 15th July from 7.00pm, Eyes Down 7.30pm.

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## LEA NEWS

### LEA VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

Winners for May: 1st Prize £25 – Mr & Mrs D Stockings  
2nd Prize £10 – Jean Whitehouse, 3rd Prize £5 – Di Brice

### LEA CAFÉ ANNUAL DAY TRIP

On June 3rd, a large group of Lea café regulars and friends set off by coach for a day out in rural Wiltshire. As usual, we anticipated an immaculately planned programme of activities put together by Gill and Nigel, and if anything, our expectations were surpassed!



The first activity on the coach was a quiz all about the villages of Corsham, Lacock and Box, our three destinations. This was a fun way to introduce us to these very pretty, but also surprisingly interesting, Wiltshire villages. I had no idea that beneath Corsham lies a huge nuclear bunker that was intended to house 4,000 people for 3 months in the event of a nuclear war!!

In Corsham, we enjoyed a guided tour of the historic Corsham Court with its beautiful Elizabethan architecture and Georgian interiors. Our tour guide was a member of the Methuen family, who have owned the Court since 1745. We then had time for a walk around the Court Gardens, or Corsham village itself, before rejoining the coach for our next destination.



Lacock is a quintessential picture-postcard Wiltshire village, now mostly owned by the National Trust. With its honey-coloured stone-built Georgian cottages, it was no surprise to learn that Lacock has been the location for many historical dramas such as Downton Abbey, Pride and Prejudice, Wolf Hall and the Harry Potter films. Gill had provided a map for us to use to 'spot the film location', which made our exploration fun.

On our way to our third destination, the hillside village of Box, Gill revealed that we were about to be treated to afternoon tea, prepared and served by three of Gill's very best friends, whom she has known since her childhood days in Corsham. This was a lovely surprise for us and so amazingly generous of Gill's friends to feed a coach full of day trippers with tea and coffee, tasty sandwiches and delicious cakes and scones. To top it all, Gill's friends had arranged for us to be entertained throughout by two local musicians playing delightful music! This all added up to a brilliant day out, and I am sure everyone on the coach went home tired, but very happy and grateful to Gill and Nigel for arranging such a wonderful day out.

Angela Kirton

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## LEA NEWS

Gill would like everyone to know that the July Coffee Morning will be back to normal on July 1st from 10am at the village hall, but there will be no August coffee morning due to the hall being used by a dance group. Any questions, contact Gill 01989 750442 or [gilldavis55@hotmail.com](mailto:gilldavis55@hotmail.com)

### LEA LUNCH CLUB

The lunch club is taking a break over the summer months, but they meet again on Wednesday 30th September at 12.30pm in the village hall. There is a waiting list for lunch, so if you're interested in coming along, please speak to Nicky 07718 065946. Priority is always given to Lea residents.

### LEA FRIDAY PAINTERS

Join us at our regular Friday morning meetings at the village hall, starting at 9.00am. Hope to see you there. For any queries, contact Di Brice 01989 750403.

### LEA ALLOTMENTS

#### DOES GROWING SOME OF YOUR OWN PRODUCE APPEAL TO YOU?

We have allotment plots available in the village of Lea, set in beautiful surroundings next to the church and open farmland. There is a shared picnic bench in our communal area, and a shed housing mowers and a strimmer for all to use. Water is onsite, and there is room for a small shed and compost area on all plots. Costs: Full plot £30, half plots £15 per year.

We are a small group of enthusiastic gardeners committed to "growing our own" and enjoying fresh-grown produce, open space and the community of like-minded people. If you have a few hours to spare each week, enjoy gardening but don't have the space and live in Lea or nearby villages, please contact us to have a chat. Phone Graham 07385 903240 or Dawn 07367 511948

### THE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

The agenda and full minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the Lea Parish Council website [www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Anyone in the parish can contact the council by emailing [clerk@leaparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@leaparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 29th July at 7pm in the Village Hall. Please come along or submit any questions/queries via the Clerk at the email address above. Meet your councillors and become involved in the village management.

## COMMUNITY

New editor Tash caught up with Lisa from Briery Hill Llamas to talk about an incredibly difficult few months – and how our community can help.

### Tell us about yourselves and what you normally do?

We're a small family-run farm, centred around our much-loved llamas. We offer llama walks, animal experiences, afternoon teas, and workshops, all built around positive reinforcement training and a deep understanding of camelid behaviour. I'm also a Certified Animal Assisted Intervention Specialist, so sharing the well-being benefits of our animals is a huge part of what we do.



### What happened, and why do you need community support?

Earlier this year, one of our llamas, Stardust, became seriously unwell. After weeks of care at the Royal Veterinary College, we had to make the heartbreaking decision to let him go. Tests confirmed TB, which meant mandatory testing across all our animals. Seven more llamas tested positive, and we lost them over two devastating days. Alongside the emotional toll, we've been left with vet bills nearing £15,000 and no financial support, while also being unable to run our main llama walk experiences until the end of 2026 or into 2027.

### TB sounds worrying – is there still any risk when visiting?

The farm is working closely with UKHSA (which was Public Health England), the Animal and Plant Health Agency, and although this only restricts animal movements on and off site we agreed to halt contact with the llamas at this time. Experiences currently on offer, such as workshops and afternoon teas, are safe to attend and do not involve contact with animals under restriction. Llama walks are temporarily paused as a precaution until the farm completes the required rounds of clear testing.

[www.BrieryHillLlamas.co.uk](http://www.BrieryHillLlamas.co.uk)

## SPOTLIGHT

For llama farmers, a TB breakdown means income stops abruptly overnight with no further assistance from the government. They cannot sell milk, move animals, or send stock for meat, leaving businesses in limbo for months.

The restrictions imposed on camelids are also considerably longer than those applied to cattle. Camelids are tested at 90-day intervals, compared with 60 days for cattle. Additional skin and blood testing can extend this timescale further, with farmers sometimes receiving only a couple of days' notice before another testing period begins. In practice, this can add many more weeks to an already lengthy process. This is particularly frustrating because camelids are widely regarded as dead-end hosts of TB and are not generally considered significant spreaders of the disease.

### How can the community help?

Right now, support means everything. You can help by booking; Needle felting workshops using our own llama fibre, Pig enrichment experiences or Our five-star rated afternoon teas. These not only bring in vital income but also help keep the farm going during a time when our usual activities are paused. Keep an eye out for any additional experiences or open days as we adapt.



### How can we book?

Bookings can be made directly by emailing: [info@brieryhillllamas.co.uk](mailto:info@brieryhillllamas.co.uk) You'll be warmly welcomed – and very well fed if you opt for afternoon tea!

### Is there anything else people can do?

We've set up a GoFundMe to help cover the unexpected vet costs and ongoing care for our remaining animals, so if you want to help but an experience or workshop isn't your cup of tea, even a small donation is a big help right now. Even sharing the Facebook page makes a real difference. <https://gofund.me/abfd3bd84> or scan the QR code



### How can we stay up to date?

Follow along via our Social media eg Facebook, Instagram or our website for updates, new experiences, and ways to support us through this incredibly tough time.

## IN & OUT OF THE FOREST

Two of the stones which mark the boundary of the Forest of Dean at The Lea. Read on to discover their story.

*'He established many deer preserves and set up many laws concerning them such that whoever killed a hart or a hind should be blinded. He forbade hunting of harts and also of boars. He loved the wild deer as if he were their father.'*

Lines translated from the Old English poem 'The Rime of King William' published in 1087

From the Domesday Book, we learn that Dean was a royal estate before the Norman Conquest. William the Conqueror brought Forest Law to England and, sometime before 1086, made Dean a Royal Forest.

The Forest of Dean was well wooded, but a Forest was not necessarily a place of trees. It was a place where the vegetation (verte) and the deer and wild boar (venison), which relied on it for food and shelter, were protected.

The supposed reason for Forests was the Norman Kings' love of hunting, but there were also others: Forests were a store of meat on the hoof, which could be drawn upon to feed the royal household; they concentrated power and patronage in the hands of the king; and they were an important source of royal income, from fees for permitting activities that would otherwise be unlawful, and fines for breaches of Forest Law.

*What might this have to do with readers of The Chimes?*

The first Royal Forests were places where few people lived. The extent of the Forest of Dean in 1086 is uncertain, but we know that few settlements were within it. This was to change. When the Crown was strong, new Forests were created and existing ones enlarged until about one third of England, much of it farmland, was designated Forest.

Sometime between Domesday and the death of King John in 1216, the Forest of Dean expanded in almost all directions. The northern boundary now ran from



## PART 1

Ross to Bollitree, Bromsash, a wayside cross near Linton, Gorsley, Newent and down the valley of the river Leadon to Gloucester. Most of where we now live was subject to Forest Law. Many of the ordinary tasks necessary to grow crops and raise livestock were difficult or impossible to carry out without breaking that law. For the Crown, this meant more income from fees and fines.

In 1215, the barons forced King John to sign Magna Carta. When he died the following year, Henry III came to the throne at the age of nine. In 1217, he was forced to issue the Charter of the Forest. This eased the most oppressive restrictions imposed by the Forest Law and reduced the area designated Forest. Any relief was short-lived. On reaching the age of majority, the king revoked the Charter, in 1297 Edward I, desperately short of money, was forced by his nobles to confirm both Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest. There followed thirty years of confusion and dispute, until, in 1327, by Act of Parliament, the ancient, reduced, Forest boundaries were confirmed. Little or nothing of Herefordshire now lay within the Forest of Dean.

And that is how things remained, until Charles I took it into his head to revive medieval Forest Law. In July 1634, an Eyre, the highest Forest Law court, was held, at which the King's Counsel persuaded, cajoled and intimidated the jury and judges into agreeing that the act of 1327 had been misapplied to the Forest



of Dean. Henceforth, the enlarged boundaries were, once again, to be enforced. Our predecessors' lands were back in the Forest. As a concession, the King's Counsel graciously agreed that offences committed in the intervening three hundred years would not be enquired into.

The reimposition of Forest Law did not endear Charles to his subjects. In 1640, he abandoned the policy and, in the following year, an Act of Parliament decreed that the boundaries of Royal Forests should be as they were 'commonly known, reputed and taken to be, in the 20th year of James I', that is 1623. In Dean's case, these were the ancient, reduced boundaries. Once again, the residents of surrounding lands, including The Lea, were free from the burdens of Forest Law.

-David Mullin



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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS



Sub-editor:  
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### LIVING HISTORY AT LINTON VILLAGE HALL

Living history was very much in evidence when local basket maker, Clyde Hoare, gave a master class to Linton & District History Society members and their guests at their June meeting, held in Linton Village Hall. Clyde is one of 8 craftspeople based at the Wobage Farm Workshop, originally set up by Mick and Sheila Casson in 1977. The audience enjoyed a highly detailed explanation of all aspects of basket weaving and its long history.



All were exquisitely illustrated by Clyde, creating a garden structure from scratch on stage bearing all the essential features of the fish trap putchers seen for millennia on the River Severn. Clyde is totally self-sufficient in his trade and grows his own collection of willow withies (or rods) either on the ancient Perry Orchard at Wobage Farm or in Kilcot. Varieties displayed on the night included Slender Tip, Harrisons, Welsh White and the wonderfully named Dicky Meadows. Clyde had become a full-time basket maker after being awarded a bursary by the Worshipful Company of Basket Makers. The bursary enabled him to study for two years with the famed Joe Hogan in Ireland and later with Sally Goymer in Cheltenham. The speaker received rapturous applause at the end of a fascinating slide-free lecture. Clyde's basketry work can be seen at Wobage during the forthcoming Far Open Forest & Rivers Art Trail running between 4th and 12th July.

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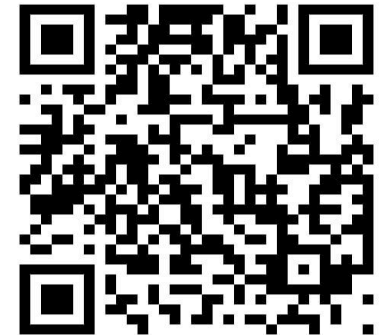


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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

### LIGHT UP LINTON

Following the success of this event in previous years, we are excited to announce that we are hoping to bring back Light Up Linton in 2026 - on Friday 23rd, Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October. Plans are being developed and more information will be shared over the coming months. At this stage we are keen to gather a list of local charities with which we could share the proceeds, as we have done in previous years. If you have any suggestions as to who could benefit, please e-mail them to [lightuplinton@gmail.com](mailto:lightuplinton@gmail.com) or send a message to the Light up Linton Facebook page.



This is a fantastic event which brings together many in the community. Thank you to everyone who has supported it over the years. Volunteers are always needed and are key to the success of the event. If you would like to get involved or provide sponsorship, please send a message to the e-mail address above or the Facebook page.

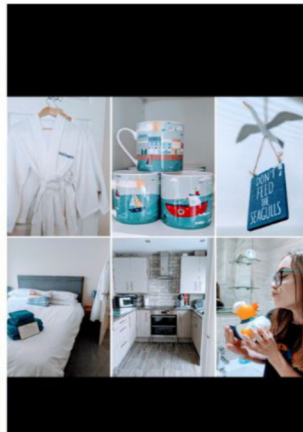


### OLD LINTON FESTIVAL POSTERS

This year has seen the final Linton Festival. The first was held in 2001. Do you have any old posters advertising the festival? In particular, we are looking for posters covering the 2002, 2004 and 2005 festivals. If you do, can we scan them and create digital copies? Please contact Gemma at the Alma 01989 720355 or Roger Davies 0777 1812 793 if you can help or require further information.



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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

### LINTON VILLAGE HALL - WHAT'S COMING UP

#### AULINE-JEAN MELBOURNE 'HOLLYWOOD' FRIDAY 31ST JULY

7pm start, doors open 6.30pm. Tickets: Adult £12, Child £6. Following the fantastically well-received sell-out of Sarah McQuaid, we are delighted to present: Auline-Jean Melbourne. Auline is a London-based classical soprano soloist who has an extensive repertoire of songs to suit all special occasions. She brings her new show called 'Hollywood' - classic style, a mix of Hollywood musical classics and pure classical repertoire. It's intimate, cinematic, and emotionally immersive. Simply email



LVH@lintonvillage.com to book your place. Below is a link to a video that gives you a taste: [www.auline-jean.squarespace.com/youtube-link](http://www.auline-jean.squarespace.com/youtube-link)

The friendly Cash Bar is well-stocked with quaffable delights, including great wines and beers, prosecco, champagne and cider. Alcohol free varieties are also available.

### GMT FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

A collaboration between 3 seasoned musicians for an evening of intimate acoustic music featuring original songs, music and chat. 7pm start, 6.30 doors.



**Patsy Gamble - Sax/Vocal**  
**Muddy Manninen - Guitar**  
**Keith Thompson - Guitar/Vocal**

**Patsy Gamble:** saxophone/vocals. A long-standing member of the Keith Thompson Band, and together they have performed all over the UK, Poland, Switzerland, Germany, etc. She has also recorded with many artists, including Mick Jagger, Paul Weller, Suggs, Jasper Carrott and others.

**Muddy Manninen:** Guitar. Best known for his ten-year stint with Wishbone Ash. After settling in Gloucestershire, he has made two solo albums and collaborated with several artists and continues to delight audiences with his stylish guitar playing.

**Keith Thompson:** Guitar/Vocals. Keith and this band have repeatedly toured in Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Poland, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the USA & UK and appeared at several major festivals in Croatia, including Baska International Guitar Festival, Umag and Kastav Blues Festivals. Also performed on the folk circuit with the Jigantics for six years. Tickets £12 from [LVH@lintonvillage.com](mailto:LVH@lintonvillage.com)

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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

### NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

For up-to-date news on St Mary's Church please go to the website  
[www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church](http://www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church)

### COMMUNION SERVICES

Communion Services are on the first Sunday of every month. This means **5th July** and **2nd August**. Hopefully both these services will be preceded by bells.

### BIBLE BOOK CLUB

Bible Book Club is on **Sunday, 12th July** and **Sunday, 8th August** where we meet to discuss a book of the Bible. So far, we have explored a range of books from both the Old and New Testaments, including Matthew's Gospel, the letters of John and several history books. The morning starts at 10.30am with cake and freshly brewed tea & coffee before moving on at about 11am to discussion and videos. The sessions usually finish about midday.

### THIRD SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR 19THST JULY

On the Third Sunday of every month, we try and have a service which picks up on a theme being marked in the larger church family. Since 19th July coincides with the Men's Football World Cup Final, we may be looking at an international Theme.

### PATRONAL FESTIVAL

To celebrate our Patronal Festival on Sunday 16th August St Mary's will be holding a Songs of Praise service. Any readers of The Chimes are welcome to suggest a favourite hymn or worship song along with their reasons. There are forms available in the church to fill in. The most popular will be chosen for the service. We are able to make use of the TV system for any songs which are not suitable to be accompanied by the organ. All suggestions must be received by Charlotte before 1st August to give us time to sort out a programme. The service will start at 4.30pm and be followed by tea and cake. It is also hoped to have a linked display and readings about church music through the ages.

### CREAM TEA AND DOG SHOW

The annual Cream Tea and Dog Show will take place on the August Bank Holiday Monday 31st August at Linton Village Hall, starting at 3pm. We are planning to welcome a representative from Guide Dogs for the Blind and a speaker on Hydrotherapy Treatment for Dogs. Cream Teas are £5 a head and entry to the Dog Show is £1 a class. Although we will endeavour to find space for everyone who turns up, you can book a table in advance by emailing Charlotte Newton [c.newton365@btinternet.com](mailto:c.newton365@btinternet.com)

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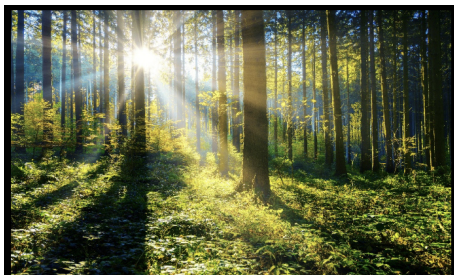
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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

### MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

The church has recently obtained permission to have running water piped into the church. We are currently looking into applying for grants. Once we have water it is hoped that we can look at having a WC in the vestry.

### MUSIC AT LINTON CHURCH

There are two more concerts arranged for Linton Church this year: on July 4th the Cadenza Singers bring a programme of song, instrumentals and readings, and on October 3rd Forest Baroque return with a programme for strings and woodwind.

All events are free to attend (retiring collection) and start at 7pm. Do try to support them because we do depend on donations to pay necessary expenses and hopefully to help with the St Mary's modernisation programme as well. They can't continue into 2027 without your loyal support.

### THE LINTON VILLAGE FOUNTAIN

The inscription on the 1880 village fountain in Linton, Herefordshire, commemorates its installation by vicar Edward Palin, the incumbent of St Mary's Church from 1865 to 1903, and reads:

This fountain and its connecting water supply were erected in 1880 at the expense of Edward Palin, vicar of this parish 1865-1903 RIP. "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst." The water fountain is located by the stile outside Wren's Nest.

For centuries, Linton lacked a clean and reliable water supply in its village centre. When the Rev Edward Pailin arrived in the village as its vicar, he decided something needed to be done. He discovered that some two hundred yards from his home, a spring which flowed into Rudhall Brook might be an appropriate water supply and decided to use it to supply the vicarage.

In time, he installed a hydraulic pump to bring the water to his residence. The water was pumped at the rate of a gallon a minute - far more than the vicarage needed - and so in 1880 the surplus water was piped to a newly built water fountain a few yards from





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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

the gateway to the vicarage, to the benefit of the wider community. The Rev Pailin had strong philanthropic instincts and paid for the pipe-work himself. There was one day each week, though, when the water didn't flow for the villagers, and that was on the vicarage wash day when more water was needed for domestic purposes by the Palin household. The inscription on the fountain was installed by Edward Palin's wife, Brita, after his death.

Mains water arrived in Linton in 1962. A piped water supply, of course, is now commonplace, but in 1880 and again in 1962, the impact these events would have had on the villagers of Linton would have been enormous, and one can only imagine the excitement locally that the coming of clean water brought.

### LINTON (SOUTH) PC REPORT

Herefordshire Council have introduced a new Public Realm Service. Please see details via the link: <https://lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk/herfordshire-council-highways-and-public-realm-services/>

There two vacancies on the parish council for co-option. If you are interested in becoming a councillor, please contact the Clerk, Rich Hunt, e-mail [pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk) or telephone 07763793695.

There is a vacancy for a Public Footpath Officer for the Linton area. If interested, please contact the Clerk.










A plot is likely to become available at the parish council-managed allotments in Gorsley. To find out more if interested, please contact the Clerk.

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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS



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UPTON BISHOP WEBSITE ADDRESS [www.uptonbishop.gov.uk](http://www.uptonbishop.gov.uk)

### WHAT'S ON IN UPTON BISHOP AT THE CHURCH

Vicar - David Howell 07903 790049 [revdavidhowell@icloud.com](mailto:revdavidhowell@icloud.com)  
Curate - Ewan Gillings 07568 515628 [revgillings@gmail.com](mailto:revgillings@gmail.com)  
Church Warden - Jane Ayres 07989 572356 [jane.e.ayres@me.com](mailto:jane.e.ayres@me.com)  
The Church is open every day, a quiet space for all to enjoy.  
The Churchyard also offers a peaceful spot to walk or sit and enjoy nature  
Dogs are welcome in the churchyard on a lead, but please clear up after them.

### CHURCHYARD NEWS

Now, No Mow May is over, Andy our gardener will be strimming around the ancient graves again. Please bear with him as it can look a little untidy until the foliage settles down again. Visitors will notice that the path from the lychgate has been levelled and resurfaced. This makes it much easier for those with mobility issues to access the church.



### CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK. £653 raised, thanks to the huge generosity of Upton Bishop. Special thanks to Alice for her dedication (and stamina!), to the Social Group and to UB gardeners. The funds help set up urban 'vertical farms' so poor mothers can grow food against alley walls. It makes a difference..

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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS

### AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL

The Upton Bishop Fete will be held on Saturday, 5th July. There will be teas, produce, stalls and games. Featured will be a Teddy Tombola, so why not have a sort through those soft toys that are taking up more than their fair share of space? Donations will be very welcome. Please contact Olivia on 07496 685960.



**Tues 28th July**  
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07989572356

On August 1st the Millennium Hall and grounds will be open from 4.30pm until 8pm for a Village Picnic and Games. Bring along a picnic, we'll provide tea, coffee and soft drinks and a variety of games. All are very welcome to bring along balls, bikes, skateboards or cards and board games for a fun and relaxing evening, making the most of our facilities.

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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS

**SOCIAL SOCIAL AFTERNOON** Monday July 20th, 2.30pm- 4.30pm. We look forward to seeing you all for cake and chat. There will be no Social Afternoon in August.

**QUILTERS** 3rd Thursday of the month, 2-4pm. Call Sue Jones 07505 977944

**WOMEN'S CIRCLE** Offering a safe, non-judgemental space for women to connect, heal and learn from each other. Open to all women. Please contact Amy 07867 761108.

**BABY SENSORY** Monday mornings during term time. Call Annabel 07341 956056 or [hereford@babysensory.co.uk](mailto:hereford@babysensory.co.uk)

**LITTLE SWALLOWS** Friday mornings. Activities for under 5s. Call Nicky 01989 780211

**FIT AND ACTIVE KEEP FIT** Tuesdays, 10-11am. Call Jane Fray 01989 780383 or Michaela Johnson 07706 101164. The class is designed to help improve your fitness, strength, balance and coordination to some great music! You work at your own pace. The first session is free; after that, the cost is £6 per session for a block monthly booking and £8 per session, pay as you go.

**INDOOR SHORT-MAT BOWLS** Tuesday 21st July and 18th August 7-9pm £3 per person includes tea/coffee and biscuits. All abilities very welcome. Call Dave Powell 07794 429090 or just come along!

**BADMINTON CLUB** Thursdays 8-10pm all ages and skills. Call Steve Cracknell 01989 720577

**TANGO** Fridays, but not every Friday. Check with Beryl Kirk 07743 778799 or [bakirk@live.co.uk](mailto:bakirk@live.co.uk)

**THE MILLENNIUM HALL**  
 If you are interested in joining the Millennium Hall team, please get in touch: 07496 685960

**HIRING THE HALL** There is space in the diary for new events, so please go online to book a date: visit [uptonbishop.gov.uk](http://uptonbishop.gov.uk) and click on 'Millennium Hall' for booking info, or contact [pollyannakay@gmail.com](mailto:pollyannakay@gmail.com)

**UPTON BISHOP WI JUNE - WI** has had a busy time recently. The Herefordshire annual meeting took place at Ledbury Rugby Club, with a superb speaker, David Coombs of Brecon Mountain Rescue. Our own Barbara Church has been a member of Upton Bishop WI for close to 40 years, and this was celebrated with the award of a special certificate. The National Federation has also held its annual meeting, with Upton Bishop WI acting as the voting delegate for our area. As the meeting was an online-only event, Caroline Miller held a "watch party" at her home, and we thank her for her excellent hospitality. Unusually, two resolutions were presented for members'



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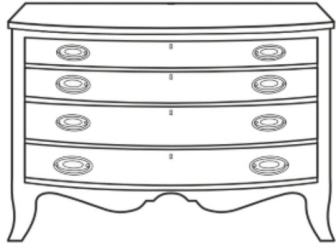
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**UPTON BISHOP NEWS**

approval, with both overwhelmingly carried, and so we expect to embark on a new campaign in the not-too-distant future.

Our craft group had a mixed craft day. We could have a go at needle-felting or build on our new crochet skills, with a bit of show-and-tell thrown in.



It was UBWI's 107th birthday celebration this month. Members took part enthusiastically in a circle dancing demonstration presented by Annet Hawkins and Gill from Ross Circle Dancers. Annet taught 5 different dances, one of which could be done in hand gestures alone for seated members. There was a lot of hilarity whenever the steps went wrong, and that added to the fun. The dancing was followed by refreshments, including a delicious chocolate birthday cake made by Lindsay, who cut the cake while we all sang "Happy Birthday".

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 7-9pm at The Hub, St Mary's Garden Village, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7WP. New members are always welcome, entry donation of £5, cake and raffle. We look forward to seeing you. For details and to find out more about the numerous activities organised by the National and Herefordshire Federations of WIs, contact 01989 569881 or e-mail [Upton\\_Bishop\\_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk](mailto:Upton_Bishop_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk)

**UPTON BISHOP NEWS**  
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**BEST WISHES** to everyone who is not too well, or who is undergoing or waiting for treatment.

**2026 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Residents were given a resume of everything that has happened in the village at the 2026 Annual Parish meeting, which was held on May 26th. It has been a busy year for Upton Bishop with a produce show, Christmas fayre, quiz and bingo evenings, dramatic and musical performances and regular monthly sports and social events and church activities. Mark Rusby, who chaired the APM, thanked everyone who has contributed to village life over the last year. He highlighted the work of the councillors who have commented on planning applications, overseen tasks undertaken by the lengthsman and submitted papers to Herefordshire to try to improve the state of the highways across the parish. The council were also able to draw extra funding from Herefordshire Council to complete a major repair of a culvert on Mulhampton Lane. Away from the roads, there has also been more extensive work carried out to improve footpaths and byways. This has included opening pathways, repairing stiles, installing gates and steps.

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## UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON JUNE 9TH

Five councillors, the clerk, and ten members of the public attended the Parish Council meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were approved. The ward councillor's report is on the website.

A member of the public was concerned about a tree growing in bushes adjacent to the road towards Old Gore, which is a potential hazard. It will be investigated and dealt with by the lengthsman if appropriate. In response to a question, it was confirmed that a councillor who fails to attend any council meetings for a continuous period of six months will be disqualified unless the absence has been approved by the council.

Councillors considered the Internal Audit Report from Mulberry Local Authority Services Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2026, and noted the findings. The Annual Governance Statement was approved and the Chair and Clerk/RFO were authorised to sign it on behalf of the council. The accounting statements were approved and signed. Public inspection of the accounts will be from June 15th to July 24th and the Clerk was authorised to submit the completed AGAR to PKF Littlejohn by 30 June 2026. The clerk was thanked for all her work in preparing the accounts. The Council is preparing VAT refund claims totalling £1,968.99

The annual insurance renewal with Zurich Municipal was approved. Ownership of the allotment sheds needs further investigation. The lengthsman has been cutting grass and ensuring road signs are visible. Following a direct approach to the lengthsman from a parishioner, the public are asked to raise all issues about the lengthsman with the Council. The Council is applying for a £1,239.76 Public Rights of Way grant for five sites in the village

A proposed Public Path Diversion Order has been submitted for Footpath UB14. Substantive consideration and any response to Herefordshire Council was deferred to the July 2026 meeting pending Cllr Parr's return as Parish Footpaths Officer. Response deadline is July 15th.

Councillors considered the relocation of the village defibrillator currently hosted at the Moody Cow, following the landlord's retirement on 21 July 2026. The Council's responsibility for the defibrillator was agreed in principle. The preferred new location is outside the shop at Chicory Crops, and the owners are in agreement. The Council will pay the relocation and running costs going forward.

Council has submitted a written question regarding broadband connectivity in Phocle Green to the HC Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee on June 23rd. It was agreed the Moody Cow pub should be registered as an Asset of Community Value with Herefordshire Council. There is no cost for registration. The Council has £34,670.80 in the bank, and all invoices were approved for payment.

The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, July 7th at 7pm at the Millennium Hall. Any parishioner can contact the UBPC at [clerk@uptonbishop.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@uptonbishop.gov.uk) Parish Council meeting minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

## RECTOR'S LETTER



The prophet Isaiah wrote, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" There are many "new things" that the church has done over its nearly two millennia of existence, and this continues to the present age.

As your local church, we are always looking for new ways of engaging with newcomers to faith, with people wrestling with the "Big Questions" of life, with those who have stopped attending church and would like to come back, and with people who perhaps come to Christmas or Easter services and find themselves thinking, "Is there something more to all of this?"

From July, we are introducing several new services during the week, which we hope will be of interest both to those already attending our services and also to those who do not come to church. These services span a whole range of traditions and formalities, and there is hopefully something for everyone. You are invited into God's house, regardless of who you are, because you are loved by God. These services will begin this July, and they will last around half an hour. The services are listed below, but further information is available at [www.ariconium.church/new-services](http://www.ariconium.church/new-services)

**Every Thursday at 9am, on Zoom**, we have a service of Morning Prayer. This is an opportunity for those who are unable to make it to church physically to nonetheless join in with our worship. The service is in modern language and is very easy to follow. The details for how to join in this service are on the church's Pew Sheet, and can also be found at [www.ariconium.church/morning-prayer](http://www.ariconium.church/morning-prayer)

**1st Wednesday at 9.30am at Upton Bishop**, there is a service of Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer. This service uses the traditional language of the church that has been used since the 16th century, and allows you to almost step back in time and see a service as it would have been nearly 500 years ago. This is followed by an informal Prayer Group, where people will offer prayers for your own particular needs or concerns.

**2nd Wednesday at 5pm at Lea**, there is a service of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. For those of you who attended our Holy Week walks, this is the service that we had when we arrived at each church. Christians believe that, at Communion, Christ is truly present in the Bread and the Wine that the priest offers. In this service, we are invited to spend time in Christ's presence in the Host, the bread which has been offered at communion. It is a very quiet, prayerful service, where we are allowed to take a break from the busyness of the day and reflect quietly.

**3rd Wednesday at 5pm at Weston**, there is an informal Bible Study called "The Gospel this Week". This is a relaxed discussion where we look at the readings that will be used in church on the following Sunday, and discuss what we think they mean, how we are to interpret them, and what they mean for us in the present. This is an opportunity to ask questions and seek answers to issues in Scripture, in an informal environment, with the customary tea and biscuits.

**4th Wednesday at 5pm at Linton**, there is a service of Guided Meditation. In this service, we are guided through a reading from Scripture, a deep question, or a contemporary issue in our world through a Christian lens. It is an opportunity, in an informal way, to take time to relax, see things from a new perspective, and hopefully learn something new about God and ourselves.

Finally, **every Saturday at 5pm**, there is a service of Holy Communion for those who are unable to attend a service at church on Sunday because of other commitments. This is a simple said service, with no sermon, and is designed to allow people who want to receive Communion to do so, even if they are unable to make it to church on Sunday. This service will move around the parishes in the Benefice as follows: **1st Saturday at Weston, 2nd Saturday at Linton, 3rd Saturday at Aston Ingham, and 4th Saturday at Lea.**

David and I hope that these services - our "new thing" - will be well received, and we look forward to seeing you at them. If you have any further questions or any feedback on the services, we would be very happy to hear from you. Ewan

## CHURCH SERVICES

Date	Aston Ingham	Lea	Linton	Upton Bishop
<b>5th July</b>	Evensong	Family Communion	Parish Communion	All Age Worship
1st Sunday after Trinity	4.30pm	9.30am	11.00am	11.00am
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 21. 34-38, 42-49, 58-end. Romans 7. 15-25a. Matthew 11. 16-19, 25-end.			
<b>12th July</b>	Parish Communion	Parish Communion 1662 BCP	Bible Book Club	Parish Communion
2nd Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	9.30am NEW TIME	10.30am	11.00am NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 25. 19-end. Romans 8. 1-11. Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23			
<b>19th July</b>	Village Praise	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	Sung Parish Communion
3rd Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	9.30am	11.00am	11.00am NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 28. 10-19a. Romans 8. 12-25. Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43.			
<b>26th July</b>	Parish Communion	Children's Church	Morning Worship	Mattins 1662 BCP
4th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	10.00am	11.00am	11.00am NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 29. 15-28. Romans 8. 26-end. Matthew 13. 31-33, 44-52.			
<b>2nd Aug</b>	Evensong	Family Communion	Parish Communion	All Age Worship
1st Sunday after Trinity	4.30pm	9.30am	11.00am	11.00am
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 32. 22-31. Romans 9. 1-5. Matthew 14. 13-21.			
<b>9th Aug</b>	Parish Communion	Mattins 1662 BCP	Bible Book Club	Parish Communion
2nd Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	9.30am NEW TIME	10.30am	11.00am NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 37. 1-4, 12-28. Romans 10. 5-15. Matthew 14. 22-33.			
<b>16th Aug</b>	Village Praise	Parish Communion	Songs of Praise	Sung Parish Communion
3rd Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	9.30am	4.30pm	11.00am NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 45. 1-15. Romans 11. 1-2a, 29-32. Matthew 15. 10-20.			
<b>23rd Aug</b>	Parish Communion	Children's Church	Morning Worship	Evensong 1662 BCP
4th Sunday after Trinity	10.30am	10.00am	11.00am	4.30pm NEW TIME
<b>Readings</b>	Exodus 1. 8-thru 2. 10. Romans 12. 1-8. Matthew 16. 13-20.			
<b>30th Aug</b>	<b>ARICONIUM BENEFICE WELL BLESSING SERVICE at ASTON INGHAM 10.30am</b>			
<b>Readings</b>	Exodus 3. 1-15. Romans 12. 9-end. Matthew 16. 21-end.			

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# The Chimes

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