

The Chimes

The ChimesOnline

www.thechimes.org.uk

Serving: Aston Crews, Aston Ingham, Bromsash, Gorsley, Kilcot,
Lea, Linton, Phocle Green, Upton Bishop

September 2025 No 371

Your magazine for local news and services



Copy deadline for October edition: Saturday 6th September

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CONTENTS

A View from the Hill	4	Lea Parish Council News	33
Combined Village News	5	Linton News	35
Rob The Rainman	6	Linton PC News	45
Aston Ingham & Kilcot News	8	Upton Bishop News	47
Aston Ingham PC News	13	Upton Bishop PC News	52
Gorsley News	14	Rector's Letter	54
Lea News	22	Church Services September	55

EDITORIAL

The list of Eco Warriors has many well known names from Rachel Carson with her 1962 book "Silent Spring" to Chico Mendez with his heroic Brazilian Rainforest escapades, to Daniel Hooper AKA "Swampy" the tree hugger, to David Attenborough for his many groundbreaking media series, to Greta Thunberg the latest in the line. All of these have backed up their environmental beliefs with concrete actions.

I am sure that many local "warriors" live in our parishes who back up their ideas with actions whether in their homes or in larger projects with other like-minded neighbours. I am also sure that there are many of us with great ideas but for some reason or another don't make it to the action part, me included.

I believe that this is where inspiration plays a huge part in stimulating us to "go that extra mile".

On pages 30 and 31 of this edition of *The Chimes* you will find details of "The Greener Living Show" which is being promoted by Linton Parish Council. By the looks of the content of the show, I for one, will be going along to be inspired how about you?

"Environment is no one's property to destroy; it's everyone's responsibility to protect."

Mohith Agadi - Author of "A Dose of Space"

Steve Tommey

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 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in *The Chimes* will be limited to a 2-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend. Thank you

A VIEW FROM THE HILL

A VIEW FROM THE HILL

Heatwaves

Too hot for some recently? More to come, if not this year maybe next? We are being told to expect more so what does it mean to us?

Our gardens, with regard to what we grow, may change. Some of our plants will not survive successive hot dry spells and some of those that do will require huge amounts of water being given to them. Not good when water becomes rationed. Many vegetables do not grow to their full potential in hot dry weather. Farmers' cereal crops have suffered this year and are giving low yields. If what the experts are telling us is true, perhaps we may need to change what we grow: perhaps some 'new to us' plants or different varieties of what we grow. I am not trying to be alarmist but, when we peruse our seed catalogues this winter, perhaps we should consider the characteristics of some of the products before ordering what we 'normally have'. It looks as though we can expect a new normal.

Peter Lockwood



COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

THE GREENER LIVING SHOW - Saturday 18th October 2025

Sponsored by Linton Village Council this event is a "must see" for all of the parishes. Details can be found on Page 30.

LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY- UPCOMING TALKS

3rd September - Tony Conder — A History of Gloucestershire Inland Waterways

1st October - Simon Draper — Place Names (given in memory of Lee Hines)

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 The Chairman Roger Davies (rogerdavies1@sky.com) or the Secretary, Teresa Squires ([sec. lintonhistosoc@gmail.com](mailto:lintonhistosoc@gmail.com))

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ROB THE RAINMAN

RAINFALL REPORT

June's total was 22.1mm, this being 43% of the average. An unsettled first week, windy/breezy with bits and bobs of rain. Then clearing up before a decent 7.8mm of rain on the 12th. Following this it warmed up again into a heatwave from the 18th to the 21st, the first day of summer – good start. Then unsettled with more bits and bobs of rain and quite breezy too. The month went out on a second heatwave from the 29th. Whilst it was another very sunny month etc. the only record set was that it was the warmest June for England on record, beating 1976 into second place.

July's total was 21.9mm, again just less than half the average (45%). The 1st was the last day of the late June heatwave and it remained largely dry for the first two weeks. Warm also and building up to — you guessed it — another heatwave from the 10th to the 13th. Then cooler, cloudy, breezy, humid with the bits and bobs of rain repeat. Dry from the 20th to 26th and then the month closed out on, whilst not a significant but more a useful, amount of rain with 13.9mm over the last five days. Up there with the warmest and sunniest etc. but not a record-breaking July.

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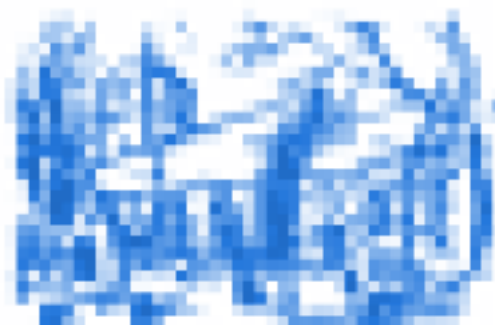
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ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



Sub-editor:
Mike Clayton

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Church News

Church Volunteers/Parishioners

All volunteers are welcome to the afternoon Harvest Tea at Aston Ingham Village Hall on **Saturday, October 4th** 3pm- 4.30 pm. All Parishioners are also welcome to come and meet Ewan Gillings our recently installed Deacon for Aston Ingham.

Harvest Festival

All welcome to Aston Ingham Church on **Sunday October 5th** at 6.30pm

Village Praise

Thank you to Nic Walker who freely gives his time to Aston Ingham Church. Nic has recently been commissioned as local Worship Leader.

Food Bank

Thank you to all who regularly donate to help those in need. Donations are taken to local food bank.

St Anne's Well

A faculty application from Hereford Diocese has been made for a safety handrail.

This is for the steps leading down to the Village Well. Thank you to the church volunteer for the installation.

Village News & Events

Happy Birthday to the Aston Ingham Pop Up Pub!

June 2025 saw the second birthday of our Pop-Up pub. The pub goes from strength to strength, and especially with the closing of the Penny Farthing, it provides a brilliant place to come and relax and discuss the topics of the day. Well done, Tania and the committee, for getting this going!

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ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

What's the connection between coffee mornings and toilets?

For some time, the Village Hall has been part of the global toilet twinning movement that allows individuals to "twin" their toilet with a latrine in a poor community, helping to raise funds for clean water and sanitation. By participating, you not only fund a toilet but also support community education and hygiene programs, which are vital for improving health and reducing poverty. The latest coffee morning raised enough money to buy 4 new loos in 4 different countries.

Fake or Fortune - A talk from Chris O'Grady



Chris entertained us with a light-hearted and fascinating talk about buying art and antiques. It turns out it is a bit like hunting for treasure - equal parts excitement, guesswork, and risk.

Chris described the delight of once paying 60 euros for a drawing in a French flea market, only to discover its real value at a little over £2000. That's the gamble, though. Part of the fun is the mystery: Is this a genuine 18th-century antique or a cleverly disguised modern copy? Sometimes a bit of dirt and wear adds to the allure - until it doesn't. Another excellent WI speaker.

Aston Ingham's Participation in National Volunteers Week 2025

On 7th June in Aston Ingham Village Hall, 8 local organisations showcased the work of their volunteers. The work was clearly visible on the range of displays exhibited, and it was more than impressive. Experiencing the sheer amount of voluntary work in this format made it clear that organisations would find it impossible to exist without the steadfast volunteers who give up their time for the good of the community.

Raising awareness of the volume of the work our volunteers undertake regularly was the main objective, which was achieved. However, the footfall was extremely low, which was disappointing.

If you were unable to attend, we hope that the photo gallery on the Chimes website will help to provide a flavour of this unique occasion.

Thank you to the volunteers who took part, to the Parish Council for sponsoring the publicity and refreshments, and to the Village Hall Committee for the free hire of the room.



ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

Forthcoming events at the Village Hall

What's On	When	Details	Information & Booking
Village Hall Committee Meeting	Tuesday 2nd September at 11:30	Monthly meeting of the Village Hall Committee.	Sue Harding 01989 720528
Country Dancing	Friday 5th September at 7 pm	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
Aston Ingham W.I. July	Tuesday 9th September at 1:45am	Our speaker will be Mike Warburton, his subject 'How to evict a Government Minister.' Everyone is welcome.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Crochet Club	Tuesday 11th September at 2pm	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	Thursday 12th 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
Knit and Natter	Tuesday 18th July at 2pm	All are welcome, you don't have to knit, just come along and join in the natter. £2.50 per person includes refreshments.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Whisky River Band	Saturday 20th September	Returning as a four-piece band. They will be entertaining us with a wide selection of folk music. Bangers & mash supper is included in the price of £15	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Book Club and Coffee Morning	Friday 26th September at 10:30am	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
Pop Up Pub	Saturday 27th July at 7pm.	Come & join us for a relaxed evening of chat and laughter, and a very informal and light-hearted chat around the topics of the day.	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Aston Ingham Reading Group	First Saturday of every month 09:30 – 11:00am	September 6 th - Glassmaker by Tracy Chevalier	Jan Falkiner 07899 728346

ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

Return of the Whisky River Band

By popular demand, Whisky River returns on Saturday, 20th September as a four-piece band. They will be entertaining us with a wide selection of folk music. Bangers & mash supper is included in the price of £15. Contact Janet Potter for tickets, as you will need to reserve a place, as this event always sells out.

Dates for your diary

Please come along to join us in a SING A LONG OF 60'S & 70'S MUSIC on Saturday 22nd November at 7pm. More details in next month's Chimes.

There will now be a bar at all Village Hall Events & we take cards as well as cash.

To book Village Hall Events, please contact Janet on 01452 830556 or 07340 078520

General Village Information

To hire Aston Ingham Village Hall, contact Sue Harding 01989 720528 or email suejharding1948@gmail.com

100 Club

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

July winners: 1st T Clayton - £17, 2nd - J Yates - £13, 3rd - W Newborough - £7

Wheelchair availability

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

Cards wanted

Wanted CHRISTMAS & 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 more details, please contact Janet 01452 830556 or 07340 078520.

Church Cleaning

If anyone would like to join our cleaning rota, please contact 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

ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

Stephen Burns



I am sorry to pass on the news of the death of my dear husband Stephen, who passed away at the end of June. Stephen was well known in the area and very active in Aston Ingham village life until sadly the early onset of Alzheimer's Disease took its toll. We moved to Southlea, Aston Crews, at the end of 1995 and immediately felt welcomed into the community. Stephen eventually became a member of Aston Ingham Parish Council and served for a number of years until 2017 when his disease began to impact on his role. Over the years he helped out at the Village Hall and was active in a backstage role with "Asdram" for several seasons. We also opened our garden for the Aston Ingham Open Gardens for a few years and he really enjoyed showing people around the gardens but more importantly showing them his beloved rare breed livestock of which he was really proud. On one occasion he had to spend the afternoon rounding up Tamworth piglets who kept escaping into the borders, which caused much amusement for the visitors. Of course, he also was a great support to me in my role as editor of *The Chimes*. He would rush into the printers with the final edition on a memory stick, then collect the completed copies, help me sort them on the kitchen table and then drive around taking them to the local distributors (we are much more organised now!).

His funeral took place on 29th July at St John the Baptist, Aston Ingham and was conducted by Neil Patterson our former Rector, now Canon at Bristol Cathedral, who knew Stephen quite well. The church was full which both pleased and surprised me and was testament to how much Stephen was liked and respected. Many thanks also to the Aston Ingham WI who provided excellent catering for the Wake, it was much appreciated. I wasn't able to speak to everyone who came but would like to say thank you to you all.

Francine

ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Aston Ingham Parish Council News – end of July '25

Our full Agenda, backed up by detailed Briefing Notes gives a clear picture of our past month's work. It may be a timely reminder to say that the Briefing Notes are in the public domain and placed on the Parish Council website along with the agenda, three full days ahead of the meeting.

I would highly recommend reading the Briefing Notes, which contain important, detailed information on work completed as well as work ongoing, which I know that parishioners often discuss informally. Councillors come to the meeting having read the Notes and this makes for more efficient meetings.

Our Ward Councillor Harry Bramer attended the meeting and brought with him Councillor Dan Hurcumb. Having accessed the Briefing Notes Harry had perceived that Cllr Hurcumb would provide some additional and specific information to further our cause. We were able to get up to the minute information about some important new structures and appointments at Hereford Council which will aid and speed up our work. This will have a direct and positive consequence to you as parishioners, as our delivery improves further. Harry's report was published in the Notes and will also be appearing on our website shortly.

We asked about the white road markings which have appeared recently on the B4222, arousing a range of speculative thoughts. Cllr Hurcumb explained that some resurfacing is in the pipeline, but not before October. We will be informed two weeks ahead of any planned action and will convey that message to you immediately via our website.

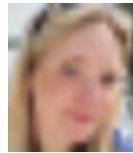
Although there will be no Parish Council Meeting in August, three Cllrs are meeting with Terry Griffiths, our Lengthsman, to scope the Drainage Grant Application, due at the Council by the end of September. This past year has seen significant drainage work completed, some of which have waited too long for action. This is as a result of our association with a Lengthsman working alongside Balfour Beatty. We expect this improvement to continue and streamline further.

Our Agenda and Briefing notes will be appearing on the website three days ahead of the next meeting on Tuesday 30th. September. To access the Briefing Notes :

1. Log into the Parish Council website at <https://astoningham-pc.gov.uk>
2. Click on to 'Council Business' which can be found on the top bar in a green band
3. Scroll down and click on 'Parish Council Meetings'
4. At the bottom of the page you will find 'Notes' in blue writing near the forthcoming PC meeting date. These are the Briefing notes. Click on to the blue writing 'Notes'

Magie Pettit Chair

GORSLEY NEWS



Sub-editor:
Laura Carroll

07837 485929

laurajones13@hotmail.com

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!



After many years of looking out from my office window across to the Sugar Tump, the one distraction has been the sorry condition of the bench in memory of George and Edie Davis.

With agreement from the Davis family and the help of Stuart Bailey and Mark Rusby, I have now renovated the bench back to its former glory. Sugar Tump is a super spot to watch the world go by. I do hope villagers and their friends will now take the opportunity to relax and enjoy the transformed bench.

Michael David



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GORSLEY NEWS

GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

Notice: Gorsley Village Hall needs a new treasurer/booking clerk with effect from 1st November latest. Apply to Nigel Poole (Chairman) on 01989 720750 or 07802 334066. This vacancy can be split into separate posts, but both are essential to the running of 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.

100 Club winners for June are: Christine Williams - £25.00, Roger Morris - £10.00, Terry King - £5.00. Funds raised by the 100 Club are for improvements to the village hall, including lighting and heating.

For more information please contact: gorsleyvh@gmail.com

Hall Secretary, Anne Course: oldmole@btinternet.com

Hall Bookings Secretary, Margaret Evans: margaretaevans@yahoo.com



HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS QUIZ NIGHT

Following last year's hugely popular and fun evening, we will be holding another on **November 1st** at 7pm at the Gorsley Village Hall.

£5 per person. (Fancy dress optional... but quite fun!) There'll be a cash bar, nibbles, various prizes and a raffle. Teams of up to four people – adults only, Limited tables available. Please text or call Jo on 07910 745730 to make a reservation or for more info.

HUGE THANKS!

The Linton Road Fundraising Group (a.k.a. Gorsley Aviation Society GAS) would like to give a massive thanks to all those who attended the Pink Quiz at the Gorsley Village Hall on 28th June. As a result, we had the great pleasure of donating £840 to the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity.

Many of us will have witnessed the work of this amazing charity. Within our group, one of our members is currently receiving the excellent support this charity offers.

GORSLEY NEWS

We'd also like to take the opportunity of congratulating group member, Stuart Slim, who took part in the gruelling Gower Peninsula Mighty Hike Full Marathon on 5th July, raising a whopping £1,586 to Macmillan Cancer Support. Many thanks again to all.

Martyn Poynor

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GORSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Everyone is welcome to our Sunday morning service at 10.30am. Separate creche, 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, and YouTube cannot go as far as serve you the coffee and conversation which takes place after the service. It would be great to see you!

www.gorsleybaptist.church 01989 720312 office@gorsleybaptist.church

CHRIST CHURCH GORSLEY

We extend a very warm welcome to our regular 10:30am Sunday morning services throughout September. For further details of any of our services this summer, please contact us at gorsleychurch@btinternet.com

GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

We are a group of people who enjoy gardens and gardening. We meet up once a month. In spring and summer we visit gardens and in autumn and winter we follow a programme of talks from gardening experts. Our talks are held on Monday evenings in Gorsley Village Hall.

Visitors and new members are always made very welcome. If you think you might be interested in joining our club or would like to know a bit more about us, please call Charlotte on 01989 780760 or email us at:

gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com

See the October edition of *The Chimes* for our 2025-26 programme.

An update will be provided in the October issue of *The Chimes* regarding The Gorsley Show, organised by the Garden Club.



NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB Friendship, Talks, and Good Company

As we head into the final stretch of 2025, it's hard to believe how quickly the year has flown by. The Newent & District Probus Club has enjoyed a vibrant and successful year, welcoming several new members and hosting a fascinating variety of talks. Recent subjects have ranged from the mysterious Knights Templars, to the space-age journey of Yuri Gagarin, to the history of WW2 tanks.

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GORSLEY NEWS

Our calendar remains busy, with preparations underway for our much-anticipated Christmas Lunch in early December, as well as a host of social activities planned for the rest of the year and into 2026.

If you're a retired or semi-retired man seeking fresh interests and new friendships during the autumn and winter months, the Newent & District Probus Club could be just the thing for you. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10am in Gorsley Village Hall, beginning with tea and coffee, followed by an engaging guest speaker on an ever-changing range of topics. Upcoming talks include A417 – The Missing Link, Miscarriages of Justice, and Life on the Ice in the Mid-Seventies.

But our club is about much more than talks – our lively social programme, open to members and their partners, includes monthly pub lunches, summer garden parties, skittles and quiz evenings, and trips to places of interest.

We're a friendly, welcoming bunch. Why not come along to a meeting with no obligation, see what we're all about, and perhaps make some new friends?

For more information, please visit our website: newentprobus.com or contact our Club Secretary: newentprobus23@gmail.com

KILCOT & GORSLEY WI

An update will be provided in the October issue of The Chimes regarding The Gorsley Show, organised by the Garden Club, at which Kilcot & Gorsley WI served up tea and cakes!

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

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: alexhallphysiopilates@outlook.com <https://alexhallphysiopilate.wixsite.com/website>

YOGA

Thursday mornings at Gorsley Village Hall: Mat Yoga 9.30-10.30am and Chair Yoga 10.45-11.30am.

Contact Jeni: jeni@jenihowland.com for more details and to book a place.

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GORSLEY NEWS

Synergy Chorus

This year Synergy's competitive spirit took them to Northern Ireland to compete in the Bangor International Choral Festival.

Synergy Howlers quartet competed in 2 classes, winning the Barbershop Ensemble category, and finishing as Runners Up in the Light Entertainment category where we were competing against much larger groups. Similarly, Synergy Chorus won the Barbershop Chorus category, were Runners Up in the main Open Chorus category, were awarded the shield for the best 'overseas' choir, and the trophy for the best individual piece performed in the festival. Understandably, we were pretty pleased!

Nearly all our bookings during the past year, for weddings, parties, concerts, etc. have been in Wales, but we would love to entertain folks on this side of the Wye also. With this in mind The Synergy Howlers Quartet will be performing at **Gorsley Village Hall** on **October 11th** as a part of a "Puddings Evening".

The evening starts at 7.30 p.m. and tickets are £15 on sale from the Gorsley Community Post Office and Shop.



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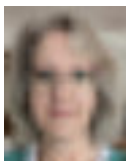
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LEA NEWS

Sub-editor:
Angela Kirton

07474 378806

kirtona150@gmail.com



NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH

Hello everyone, I hope you have all had a good summer and enjoyed the sunshine this year! Our summer 'break' from the Entertainments agenda started with the Flower Festival and concert on the last weekend of June. I'm delighted to say that both events were well attended and we raised over £1100. My grateful thanks go to all who arranged flowers, stewarded, served refreshments, baked cakes, sponsored flower displays, donated plants and money - we couldn't do it without you all!

At this point I would like to say 'Welcome' to the new people at Castle End Farm, thank you Paula for your lovely scrummy Rhubarb cake! It was delicious - I had 2 pieces at least!! Also a huge thank you to Forest Baroque for their superb concert at the end of the festival. It was a fitting end to the whole weekend.

We would like to give a huge welcome to our new Curate Ewan Gillings and best wishes for his time in the Ariconium Benefice.

We now go into our Autumn and Winter projects and the next event is the Quiz Night on **Friday 26th September** at Lea Village Hall, please see posters nearer the time with contact details. We will be holding a Harvest Festival Service on **5th October**, all welcome.

All of us on Lea PCC would like to say a HUGE thank you and welcome to our new Fabric Officer Bob Taylor and his wife Anne, who have done a fantastic job



PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

LEA NEWS

on the footpaths through the churchyard - see photos! Wow, never seen the churchyard paths look so good and neat and tidy!

Children's' Church will be starting again on **September 28th** at 10am.

We send our deepest sympathies and condolences to Alan Keef and family on the loss of his wife, Frances, recently. She will be sadly missed.

Our Treasurer, Alice Basey, undertook the Nijmegen challenge recently, a report and photos follow this.

It's that time of year again when Operation Christmas Child starts, with the filling and sending of shoeboxes to children overseas, to countries ravaged by war or famine or in need of support. If you would like to participate in this, leaflets are available in Lea Church at the back. If physically doing a box is not your thing, you can always do a shoebox on-line, just go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> and click through to the Operation Christmas Child section. It's huge fun deciding what to include, you are given choices suitable for the age group & gender you wish to do a box for, and volunteers will fill the boxes with your choice. At the time of writing, I haven't been told yet where the boxes will go to. Please do not hesitate to contact me on 01989 750808 if you have any questions or queries. If you do an on-line box, please let me know, so I can include it in my returns. Thank you and God Bless you for your kindness. See you in October!

Marion Martin, Churchwarden

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LEA NEWS

WALKING WITH THE WORLD IN THE NETHERLANDS

By Alice Basey

During the week commencing 14th July I completed the 50km route of the Vierdaagse 'Walk of the World' in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. It is a very historical challenge and now in its 107th year. It was born out of a Dutch military test of endurance, but now the number of civilians outweighs the military about 5:1. This year was my sixth time completing the walk after a long break away. The regulation distance for my age and gender is to walk 40km a day for four consecutive days. This year, however, I had to up my game if I wished to walk with Nicky Keef's son, Jack. Being young and male, his regulation distance is the 50km



route. I have always wanted to walk the longer route, and I couldn't have had better company for this extra challenge.

It is very difficult to describe the event to those who haven't experienced it. It's only walking, but 200km on roads for four days is physically hard work. It takes about 12 hours to complete each day. But is so much fun. Registration is open to 47,000 participants, about 43,000 from 80+ countries completed the challenge. The 50km route starts

at 4am (3am UK time) and from the start there are people to cheer you on. There are stretches of countryside where it is beautiful and quiet. People walk, talk and laugh. The towns are madness; each aiming to hold the biggest and best party for the walkers and themselves. Children line the edges of the pavements either wanting 'high fives' or holding boxes of free food for the walkers to take.

On the last day, with many nursing blisters (and worse), there is a mixed feeling about finally arriving on the Via Gladiola (the gladiola is the flower of the event), which is the final few kilometres to the finish line. Your body desperately wants to get to the end and rest, but your heart is sad that all too soon it will all be over...until next year!

Many of you were kind enough to sponsor me in raising funds for Lea church:



LEA NEWS

I am grateful for your support and interest. I have raised £960. Some of you even opted to be part of my WhatsApp supporters' group. I loved sending out messages, photos and videos to you, I thoroughly enjoyed having you all along with me.

If any of you are feeling inspired, the Vierdaagse is a walk for everyone. At 47 years old I am the average age of all the participants! The oldest person who completed it this year was 94, I assume they were doing the shorter 30km route.

The highest award given out this year was 65, this means that someone has completed the challenge 65 times in their life!

Thank you for your support!

THREE COUNTIES SHOW AWARD FOR LONG SERVICE

There was much cause for celebrating at Rock Farm, Lea on Friday 13th June when their most long serving employee – **Phil Sollis** — was awarded a medal



for working at the farm for 43 years. The presentation made by the Show President, the current Bishop of Hereford, took place in one of the main Marquees at the show ground at Malvern to mark the Official Opening of the Show. At the same time several other farm workers and employees of farming businesses across the Three Counties were presented with similar awards.

Phil's employment at B H Savidge & Son goes back even further than the 43 years stated on the medal. As a schoolboy he used to mow lawns and wash vehicles and machinery for the late Mr Basil Savidge at Woodfields, Weston under Penyard, a place he could walk or cycle to from his home at Springetts Lane at Weston. Much has changed since those days in the early 1980's on Rock Farm, where Phil is now chief Spray Operator.

Mark, Rose and Ben Savidge and the wider family wish to thank Phil for all those decades of dedication, hard work, commitment and input given to their farming business.

A small celebration with the rest of his work colleagues and employers took place on the Friday evening at The Crown Inn, Lea, when drinks, food and much reminiscing over the farming years and seasons was enjoyed.

LEA PLAY AND CHAT

We finished Play and Chat in July with ice cream crafts and ice creams for snack, saying goodbye to a few older children who will be starting school.

We had a very successful picnic in the park, many thanks to Rob Davies for supplying a tractor, Ross Community Police for bringing a very noisy police car and Rachel Smiley for non-stop face painting for three hours. Also, we had lots of fun at our Ramble in the Forest of Dean and picnic.

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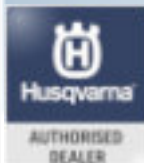
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LEA NEWS

Play and Chat will start again on **September 5th** with all the usual toys, playdough and craft, everyone is welcome. Lea School Hall 9.00 -10.30am.

TABLE SALE September 27th 11.00-1.00 Lea Village Hall, free entry, refreshments

Tables £10.00. Contact Carolyn to book 07765 555588; raising funds to keep this group free for everyone to enjoy.

LEA VILLAGE HALL

Firstly, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for generous donations received from two Lea residents. They reacted to a request to support the purchase of a professional size heated cabinet for use at the Village Hall, and it looks likely to being purchased very soon to aid not just Lea Lunch Club when we restart late September but other hirers too. Thank you so much.

Looking ahead is something we need to do frequently to ensure the premises are up to scratch and well maintained for all our hirers. It's just a small group which maintain it, and its ongoing standard, to meet demand. We have recently been contacted by a couple hoping to hire the venue for their wedding, in 2027. If you are considering doing the same, don't forget to check out the website, where photos reveal possible uses, availability, costs and contact details. It's: www.leavillagehall.com/gallery.html You can always check out availability before ringing our Booking Secretary, Liz Reeson, by looking at the calendar on site.

The Lea Family Fun Day on Saturday 12th July was organised by the Lea Residents Association, a group of volunteers organising events to raise funds for local good causes, whilst ensuring everyone has a great day.

Despite it being one of the hottest days of the year, the event was attended by many local residents, who enjoyed the Petting Zoo, Bouncy Castles, Live Music, numerous trade stands selling cakes biscuits and local crafts. Mr Hearty from the British Heart Foundation was loved by the children, whilst the Forest of Dean Hedgehog Rescue raised awareness of our spikey friends. Thanks to the Ross-on-Wye Fire Service who were in attendance, enabling children to get onto the fire engine.

The licensed bar and Walls ice creams that were available inside the Lea Village Hall were appreciated by all, where the Lea Short Mat Bowling Club were also entertaining visitors of all ages. Following the success of the event, planning has already started for next year's Family Fun Day!

Dates for your diary looking forward are:

Coffee mornings: **3rd September, 1st October, 5th November and 3rd December**, all from 10.00 – 11.30 am

Lunch Club: **24th September, 29th October** and Christmas Special on **10th December**. Bookings via Nicky Keef; there is a waiting list to join so call 07718 065946
(Lea News continues on page 33)



Linton Parish Council's 1st

GREENER LIVING SHOW

Saturday 18th October 1pm to 4pm

at

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free entry

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Join us and a host of experts who will be able to guide you towards better ways of managing home energy for the benefit of the planet and your pocket!

Tea, coffee and cake will be served all afternoon

See here for more detail or google greener living show



The Greener Living Show

Do you want to reduce your energy footprint and /or cut your energy bills? Not sure of the next step? Then come along to the Greener Living Show on Saturday October 18th

The Show is sponsored by Linton Parish Council who extend a warm welcome to anyone who wants to come along. With free entry and parking, the Show runs from 1pm to 4pm in the large hall of Gorsley Baptist Church.

The event has been organised by the members of the Council's Climate Group. This group was set up by the Council in 2019 with the remit of identifying ways in which the Council can support and encourage parishioners in their journey towards a more sustainable future. The group has instigated numerous projects over its lifetime including:

- Procuring a thermal imaging camera – for a nominal fee, available for hire for the investigation of thermal losses from your property
- Running 'Recycling Cafes' in Linton and Gorsley village halls. These cafes have now been superseded by the Greener Living Show and St Mary's Church now holds the receptacles for recycling greeting cards, pens and stamps.
- Improving signage and creating / clearing pathways in the Linton Quarry to improve it as a public amenity



With leading experts and suppliers from Herefordshire and north Gloucestershire, the event will showcase the very best advice and products across all aspects of Home Energy (generating, storing, saving, using). Listening to presentations from the visiting experts or just browsing the stands, you are sure to pick up useful advice, guidance and contacts. And when you are done, you can relax with a delicious slice of cake and a cup of tea!



The Greener Living Show has been inspired by the highly successful eco Festivals run by Colwall Greener in Colwall and thanks is due for their open and enthusiastic support and guidance in setting us along the right path. As a group we have contacted local suppliers and organisations with green credentials. The show aims to offer something for every budget. From those who want to cut their energy bills to those who want to build their own eco house, and everyone in between.

We hope to see you there !



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Monthly Bingo: **17th September, 22nd October, 19th November**, 7.00pm for 7.30 start.

PCC Quiz night: **Friday 26th September**

Everyday Halloween Session for children: **Friday 31st October** at the Village Hall

Lea Residents Association: **Friday 28th November** Quiz night

Sylvia Nicholls

SCAM ALERT

Please take note of a scam, involving the village hall, which recently appeared on social media. Do not send money to the supposed organisers of a fake wedding fayre. There is no such event at the village hall in October. The police have been alerted.

LEA VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

June draw

1st prize £25 - T Grindon; 2nd prize £10 - M Jennins; 3rd prize £5 - Louis Wilson

July draw

1- prize £25 - L Williams; 2- prize £10 - R Parks; 3- prize £5 - D Prosser

LEA CAFÉ

The next coffee morning falls on Wednesday, **3rd September**, as always from 10.30am onwards at the village hall. Free tea/coffee, home-made cakes, a warm welcome and good company. Do come along - you can just turn up, no need to book or let anyone know, unless you need a lift. There will be the usual book table, sales table and raffle. Gill Davis: 01989 750442.

LEA LUNCH CLUB

The lunch club will next meet on **24th September at 12.30 – 2.30pm**. Thank you to everyone that comes along each month, we look forward to seeing you all. To enquire about booking a place at the lunch club, please contact Nicky on 07718 065946.

LEA FRIDAY PAINTERS

Join us on 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.

THE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

Please see www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk for information related to the parish. As usual you can make contact with the parish council via clerk@theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk

Forthcoming Parish Council meetings are: Wednesdays **24th September, 26th November** 7.00- 9.00 pm at Lea Village Hall.

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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS



Sub-editor:
John Lancaster

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LINTON VILLAGE HALL

'WHAT'S COMING UP' AT LVH

THE ALMSHOUSE ALLSTARS
Friday 26th September 6.30 for 7pm

Come and enjoy some popular swing tunes played by musicians with a real passion for this music. Their sets include familiar favourites from the 1930s jazz age, ranging from the gorgeous voice of Annie Summers singing 'All of Me' and 'Night and Day' to more raucous saxophone renditions by James Hunt of 'Take the A Train' and 'I got Rhythm'. They'll include some popular blues tunes including a lovely version of 'Stormy Monday Blues' by guitarist and band leader Murray Esplin and even the odd bass solo from Pudleston's own Andy Offer.

Our regular audience may remember this fabulous band played for us last year due to a cancellation. We are thrilled to have them return by popular demand, so get in early for the best seats!

Reserved seating. Cash Bar. Tickets £12 Adult, £6 under 18s. Email: LVH@lintonvillage.com to book.

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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

MY CAR PLAYS TAPES

Friday 3rd October

Live theatre with support from Arts Alive. 'My Car Plays Tapes' is a show about rural touring, by writer and performer and Radio 4 regular John Osborne.



John has been performing rural touring shows across the UK since 2012 and this is a storytelling show about getting older, driving a car that is about to be scrapped and being unexpectedly reunited with your old cassette collection from the 1990s.

From the creator of cult fringe shows 'John Peel's Shed' and 'Circled in the Radio Times'.

'John's story left me and my children spellbound and in tears,' Stewart Lee in The Observer, on Don't Need the Sunshine on Radio 4

'A charmingly idiosyncratic mix of wistfulness and wonder' ★★★★★ The Stage Ages 14+

Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kS4AWINT2_o

Tickets available from the Arts Alive website

FILIPPO DALL'ASTA QUARTET

Saturday 14th November

Experience the vibrant spirit of gypsy jazz with an international flair from virtuoso guitarist **Filippo Dall'Asta**. Our regular audience will remember this



incredible guitarist when he played here last year with his trio, pictured left.

Now leading a brand-new quartet formed in Barcelona, Filippo is joined by powerhouse vocalist **Francesca Confortini**, and two stars of the Spanish jazz scene: **Neter Calafati** on guitar and **Oscar Tinoco** on double bass. Blending the infectious swing of Django Reinhardt with bebop, classical and world music influences, the quartet delivers a thrilling performance of jazz

standards and original compositions. Cash Bar. Doors open 6.30pm, band on about 7pm.

Tickets £15, £6 under 18s, email: LVH@lintonvillage.com

Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kc1lI75EF9Y&ab_channel=FilippoDall%27Asta

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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

Join Linton Village Hall Email Group if you would you like to be first to hear about goings on with priority notice to book. Email LVH@lintonvillage.com We use Mailchimp and only email when we have something to say. You may unsubscribe at any time.

Thinking of starting a new group or activity and need a suitable venue?

We may be able to accommodate you! If you would like to discuss your requirements, please call Carol on 07811 012:593 or email: carol849@btintnet.com

Hall for Hire - Linton Village Hall is available for hire for family parties, classes, business meetings and charity events. The Hall accommodates up to 70 people seated, and 120 standing. Skittle Alley, crockery, glasses, and various equipment are available to hire for outside events. Email: LVH@lintonvillage.com

FUN MUSIC & MOVIES QUIZ

LVH Saturday 27th September Starts 7pm prompt (doors open 6.30pm)

Anyone who has been to one of Ben's previous music quizzes will realise you are in for a treat! Have a fun evening while helping to protect the ancient yews in St. Mary's churchyard. With climatic change and longer rain-free periods our yews are now very much at risk. Vital professional arboricultural work on the trees is expensive and your support may make all the difference. Why not come along as your favourite rock hero/pop icon/classical diva or favourite tenor

Cash bar and raffle. Teams of 4 (max). Prizes for winning team! Entry fee £5 each team member.

Please book your table now by emailing Roger on rogerdavies1@sky.com For more information please contact Roger on 0777 1812793 or email rogerdavies1@sky.com

THE LINTON POUND - AN UPDATE

For some months the historic Linton Pound has been under threat of demolition. With the agreement of Herefordshire Council, a structural engineer was recently asked to report on the condition of the Linton Pound. Whilst the external stonework is very fragile in several places, the inner core of the structure is stable and has not been affected by the works taking place on the adjacent plot. Although the owners of the neighbouring land have introduced safety fencing and stock wiring for the purpose of protecting passers-by, there remain significant safety issues. Parts of that external structure are unstable and present a real danger to people using the footpath that runs adjacent to the Pound. As the land is not owned by anyone, a legal route would need to be followed for the purpose of obtaining permission to work on it. This is a protracted process and so the unavoidable delays facing the project mean that the health and safety requirements of Herefordshire Council cannot be met. Regrettably this means the Council has made the decision to proceed to demolition /continued.

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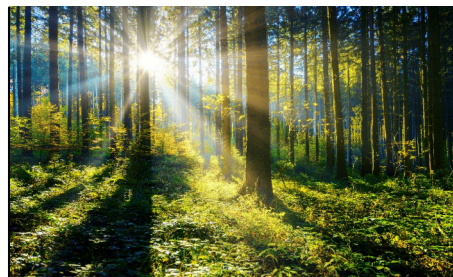
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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

Nevertheless, all is not lost. It is intended to explore the legal options available to enable work to be done on the site. One possible vision is for a structure, inspired by the work of artists like Andy Goldsworthy, using the existing stone (which the Council has stated can be retained) - with the objective of creating a small history garden. This would celebrate the Pound's past, with seating and a history board, permitting visitors to enjoy the outstanding views over the surrounding district and the new tree planting and landscaping being developed below from a spot also enjoyed by our Anglo-Saxon ancestors.

This has been a community effort involving local Linton residents with a deep interest in our local history and the owners of the land adjacent to the Pound who have enabled access and have been supportive of efforts to save the structure for the future. It has also involved Jesse Norman MP, our ward Councillor Harry Bramer, building professionals, council officers, parish councillors, and our local newspaper, the Gazette. Once the issues and challenges have been identified, this could become a project worthy of local celebration.



Impression of Linton Pound in its original form
 Artist: Anna Lancaster

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church

BIBLE BRUNCH

Bible Brunch takes place on Sunday 14th September at Wrens Nest where we examine in detail how Christians can be a **Mouthpiece for Truth and Justice** on our frontlines. Come at 10:30am for freshly made coffee or tea, bacon butties and pastries; followed by a DVD presentation and discussion.

NEXT ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP

The All-age Morning Worship is on Sunday 21st September at 11am. The Gospel Reading set for this Sunday is that intriguing parable of the Shrewd Manager. Was Jesus really condoning sharp practice? The service aims to be relaxed, friendly and accessible to all. Everyone is welcome, refreshments at the end!

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who made the Sung Evensong a lovely event last month: especially the St Mary's Ross Choir, organist and bakers. Also, to all who helped or attended the Dog Show and Cream Tea.



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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

EVENTS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

YPOTRYLL

The next evening of music at Linton Church is on **Saturday 4th October** at 7pm. Free admission and interval drinks as usual! The Ypotryll ensemble is named after a mythical medieval monster, representing European music from the 13th to 15th centuries. You will hear singing, accompanied by psaltery, dulcimer, rebec, harp and other instruments, attempting to recreate the medieval sound world, with just the occasional anachronism!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Linton Harvest Festival will be on **Sunday 5th October** at 11am, followed by the Harvest Lunch. There will be a sheet to sign up to bring and share nearer the time at the back of church.

REMEMBERING

Our annual Remembering Service will be **Sunday 2nd November** at 5:30pm. Details to follow.



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LINTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Covering Bromsash, Gorsley and Linton villages)

LINTON(SOUTH) PARISH COUNCIL

The parish council now has a full complement of ten members following the recent appointment of Helena Sheridan as councillor. Herefordshire Council is issuing a charter for councils at all levels within the county, which aims to develop stronger partnership working between councils and enable community action. It includes several service level agreements. All councils are invited to approve and adopt the charter.

The Speed Indicator Device in Gorsley is operational again after repair. The parish council joined others across the country in appealing central government's decision to end funding for Neighbourhood Development Plan production or revision, but the Housing Minister has concluded that further assistance is not required, and funding will not be reinstated.

There is one vacant plot remaining at Gorsley allotments. If you are interested, please contact Rich Hunt via e-mail: pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk or telephone: 07763 793695.

LINTON VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB WINNERS

June

£5 Anne Wilkinson, £10 Chris Hough, £25 Ben Casson, £100 Mike Bertenshaw

July

£5 Tony Crosbie, £10 Suzanne Hemingway, £25 Peggy Bower

August

£5 Charlotte Crosbie, £10 Jo Broome, £25 Suzanne Hemingway

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UPTON BISHOP NEWS



Sub-editor:
Annette Colwell

07779 676249

nettiec1921@gmail.com

WHAT'S ON IN UPTON BISHOP

AT THE CHURCH:

Vicar - David Howell 01989 568736 Church Warden - Jane Ayres 07989 572356 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.

SERVICES for September in the church

Sunday 7th Morning Worship Sunday 14th Communion

Sunday 21st Communion Sunday 28th All Age Service

All Services at 10.30 unless shown otherwise

If you require gluten free communion bread, please let us know before the start of the service

Be assured of a warm welcome at these services which are suitable for all ages.

EVENSONG every Tuesday, 5.30pm at Graham and Ann Fowler's House.

Ring 780600 for details.

BCP Communion Wednesday 3rd September at 9.30am followed by Prayer Group

AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL:

FOR THE YOUNG:

LEGO@UB CLUB The Lego Club/Coffee morning is held on the first Saturday of each month at 10.30am.

Tea, coffee, cake and chat for parents. Squash, biscuits and lots of Lego for kids.

Free of Charge but donations welcome. Adult fans of Lego (AFOL's) are also especially welcome. Please check social media for venue/time changes.

There will not be a September meeting because of the Craft and Produce show, but there is a special class for Lego constructions and blocks will be available at the show.

BABY SENSORY Monday mornings during term time. Call Annabel 07341 956056 or hereford@babysensory.co.uk

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UPTON BISHOP NEWS

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

FIT AND ACTIVE:

INDOOR SHORT-MAT BOWLS 16th 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.

KEEP FIT Tuesdays, 10-11am. Call Jane Fray 01989 780383 or Michaela Johnson 07706101164. The class is designed to help improve your fitness, strength, balance and co-ordination 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 £8.00 per session pay as you go.

Tuesday September

TANGO Fridays but not every Friday. Check with Beryl Kirk 07743 778799 or bakirk@live.co.uk.

SOCIAL:

SOCIAL AFTERNOON We look forward to seeing you for cake and chat on **Monday 15th September 2.30-4.30pm.**

QUILTERS 3rd Thursday of the month, 2-4pm. Call Sue Jones 07505 977 944

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UPTON BISHOP NEWS

The Craft and Product Show 6th September at the Millennium Hall.
 Competition entries from 9.30am. Doors open to public at 1.30 - £1 entry
 As well the competition entries of fruit, veg, cookery and craft items, to enjoy,
 there will be afternoon teas, cake and produce stall, games and raffle.
 Donations of cakes would be much appreciated.
Afternoon Tea with the Cheltenham Silver Band 13th September at 4.30pm
 Entry is free but donations for refreshments welcome.

Harvest Festival will be on October 5th at 10.30am in
 our beautifully decorated church. Join us to give thanks
 for God's abundant gifts at this traditional service for all
 ages.

"GOOD NEWS" – after a lot of hard work from Olivia
 Boon, we are about to tackle the lack of heating in the
 church. Under-pew heaters will soon be installed and we
 also hope to resurface the churchyard path too before
 the wet weather sets in.

A beautiful new cherry tree has been planted in the Churchyard. Many thanks
 to Scott and Aaron for their kind donation,
 A very big thank you to everyone who supports the church with our fundraising,
 which can make this happen.

Weekly Newsletter – if you would like to receive the weekly newsletter by
 email, which includes church and village information, events and news, please
 let Jane Ayres know and she will add you to the mailing list.

Community Orchard

The weather was good, the volunteers enthusiastic, the blades sharp and rakes
 ready for a mowing session. After a satisfying workout the end of season wild
 flowers and grasses were cut, collected and stacked and the evening rounded
 off with a convivial chat, cider toast and first tasting of the orchard fruit. The next
 event will be The Great Autumn Apple Pressing !

UPTON BISHOP WI

Meets on the **second Tuesday of each month.**

New members are always welcome at The Community Hub, St, Mary's Garden
 Village. To find out more and about the numerous activities organised by the
 National and Herefordshire Federations of WI's, contact 01989 569881 Upton_Bishop_WI@herefordshire.org.uk.

July has been a busy month for us. We welcomed Sarah Giles of Hellens
 Manor who gave us a fascinating talk about the history of the house from its
 early origins right up until the present day. Sarah is a very engaging speaker,
 who has researched her subject in great detail and who pays much attention to
 historical accuracy. She has inspired many of us to visit (or revisit) Hellens in
 the near future. /continued

Afternoon Tea
 with the
Cheltenham Silver Band



Sept 13th - 4.30pm
UB Millennium Hall

Free entry - donations for
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UPTON BISHOP NEWS

A few days later, many of our members attended the Celebration of Life for our much-loved president, Frances Lawford, at the Old Court Hotel. Frances' husband had asked UBWI to arrange flowers for the occasion and we felt honoured to do this for Frances. Our craft and chat subgroup took origami for its topic this month. The members had fun making a selection of flapping birds, and then turned their attention to gift purses, which were much simpler. Delicious cake was provided by our hostess, Sue Smith.

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 to enquire: 07867 761108.

200 CLUB DRAW FOR July, Olivia Boon £20, Enid Rogers £10, Colin Sampson £5 . **FOR August**, Mike Tyers £20, Jane Roberts £10, Angie and Geoff Walker £5.

BEST WISHES to everyone who is not too well, or who is undergoing or waiting for treatment at present.

THE MILLENNIUM HALL

If you are interested in joining the Millennium Hall team, please get in touch: 07496 685 960.

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

If you are hiring the Millennium Hall, please leave it clean and tidy, ready for the next user.

Over the summer, work has been carried out on a number of maintenance jobs and the floor has been refurbished. The Trustees are grateful to everyone who has kindly joined the team who look after the Hall in so many ways: Elizabeth seeing to fire safety, two Peters and Andy carrying out repairs and looking after the floor, Jane and Lorraine keeping an eye on the crockery. We are lucky to have such a lovely village hall but it would be impossible to keep it in good order without the help of the volunteers so thank you to all.

UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL (UBPC)

Any parishioner can contact the UBPC at clerk@uptonbishop.gov.uk Parish Council meeting minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

Six Councillors, the clerk and ten members of the public attended the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on August 5th. Councillors supported Tedgewood Farm's planning application to convert a barn (existing domestic ancillary building) to ancillary accommodation (part retrospective).

The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday September 2nd at 7pm

RECTOR'S LETTER



One of the great benefits of living and ministering in a rural community is the way in which people are involved and interested in what goes on in their local churches in a way which is increasingly uncommon in big towns and cities. One of the best examples of this, apart from Christmas and Easter, is during the harvest, where our churches hold special services in order to come together and give thanks to God for the produce of the earth, and for the men and women who have worked so hard to produce it. Each year is, of course, different, and some harvests are more plentiful than others. This year in particular has been a challenge for many around the country, with the lack of rainfall significantly impacting yield. As beautiful as it is, the countryside can be an isolating and challenging place for many, in particular those who work incredibly long and difficult hours in the fields, and who are reliant on things beyond their control, like the weather, to fall into place – please do pray for all those who are working to bring in this year's harvest.

Much like over the course of our lives as a whole, there are happier times of abundance, and other more difficult times of sadness or personal challenges. Our harvest services remind us that, whatever challenges and difficulties we might face, and however bountiful or otherwise in our own lives may look, there is always something to be grateful about, and to thank God for. Personally, I have spent much of my first two months here in the Benefice thanking God for bringing me here, for allowing me to meet so many wonderful, kind, and caring people, and for the incredibly warm and generous welcome I have received since my arrival.

I am greatly looking forward to enjoying the rest of the summer with you all, and I hope to see many of you at harvest services in the coming weeks, where we can gather together to give thanks for the gifts that God has given us, and pray for our farmers and all those involved in the local production of the food and produce that we are fortunate enough to enjoy. God bless.

Rev Ewan Gillings

Curate, The Ariconium Benefice

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NEW CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR: REV. DAVID HOWELL
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An independent magazine financed by advertisements and donations, published monthly (other than in August & January), with a circulation of 1,600
www.thechimes.org.uk

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The deadline for news to Sub Editors is shown on the front page.

Combined Village Events, should be submitted directly to the Editors by email.

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