

The Chimes

The Chimes Online

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Serving: Aston Crews, Aston Ingham, Bromsash, Gorsley, Kilcot,
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May 2024 No 358

Your magazine for local news and services



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EDITORIAL

I am writing this looking out over the lush rolling Herefordshire countryside, over to Bromsash and beyond right over to Wales. The contrast of colours is stunning, brilliant yellow of oilseed rape (love it or hate it!), lush green of pasture land, paler green of emerging seedings and the red Herefordshire soil still waiting to be planted.....if only it would stop raining! Rain (or hail) seems to be a daily occurrence. But enough about the weather. I am pleased to report that, after a moment of crisis, the outlook for The Chimes looks very rosy now. We have two new editors and new up to date software (but I will confess that I haven't yet summoned up enough courage to use it, so this edition has been produced with our tried and tested PagePlus). However we still have vacancies for a sub editor for Aston Ingham and an Advertising Co-ordinator. Full details can be found on pages 28 and 29. The workload is not onerous and we are a friendly team waiting to hear from you. So I hope the weather will improve soon and we can all look forward to a lovely late Spring and early Summer. Take care.

Francine

COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

LOCAL HISTORY ARTICLE

The Ashbourne Family Saga continues in the chimes online, in which and following the ball at the residence of General and Lady Fitzmayor, Annabell receives a number of potential suitors at the house in Western-under-Penyard. Will she choose one of them?

See **The Chimes Online** at <http://www.thechimes.org.uk> and select info, Extras & Blogs, then historical blog.

Dorian Osborne

LINTON AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY - PROGRAMME

8th May 2024 Jonquil Dodd: The most divisive President? Abraham Lincoln and Presidential Election of 1860

5th June 2024 Founders' Lecture: Simon Draper: Place-Names in the Gloucestershire and Herefordshire landscape. (Given in memory of Lee Hines)

3rd July 2024 John Powell: Quakers in Ross

7th August 2024 Chris Lathan: Isaac Newton: Scientist, Theologian, Magician and Crime Fighter?

4th September 2024 Heather Hurley: Green Lanes

2nd October 2024 Ray Wilson: The Industrial Heritage of the Forest of Dean

6th November 2024 Philip Bowen: The Decline of the Aristocracy and the Country House

4th December 2024 Gillian White: The Hugely Huggable History of the Teddy Bear

For further information please contact Ernst Zillekens, ldhschair@gmail.com

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A VIEW FROM THE HILL

SPRING!

We have just had the Spring Equinox, the first day of spring, and it appears to me that we have had spring for a long time already this year. After such a mild (but wet) winter, nature has taken off early, early for what we are used to. Global warming in action? Snowdrops, daffodils, primroses and birds singing love songs to each other, it is all taking off. It is wonderful to observe. I think then of what my father would say after a spell of good weather (he was a farmer) 'we shall pay for it later'. And that's the point, what will global warming do to our and nature's futures?

I am not going to speculate on this vast issue, but I will enjoy what we have whilst at the same time play my part to help prevent extreme changes to our climate. Nature carries on as it sees fit; bumble bees have been about; lambs are in their fields with the ewes grazing the new shoots of grass and people have been mowing lawns. But it is all so early. Enjoy your spring but also consider ours and our children's futures.

Peter Lockwood



ROB THE RAINMAN



RAINFALL REPORT

March's total was 123.6mm which was about 140% more than the average so, er, a somewhat wet month yet again. This was more than last year but that very wet March followed a very dry February whereas this year it followed a very wet February. So the rain just kept coming except that on the 1st it was as the white stuff as we had a fall of wet snow of a couple of lying centimetres or so which gave 16.8mm. And this early part of the month was also chilly with a couple of overnight frosts and a chilly north to north-easterly wind. But of course astronomically it was still winter as the vernal equinox (the day and night length being the same) wasn't until the 20th of the month (this year, it varies) which used to be the first day of spring (the meteorological 3 monthly seasons are based on the annual temperature cycle). Mind you, the 1st or the 20th the weather was still lousy. From the 8th all but 5 days had some rain recorded and for the 3 days of the 26 to the 28th we had 42.3mm (24.1mm alone on the 27th). Over that time I noted just 3 nice sunny days and one of those was Easter Saturday but both Good Friday and Easter Sunday were dull and the latter came with a chilly wind. It's all beginning to feel a bit biblical!

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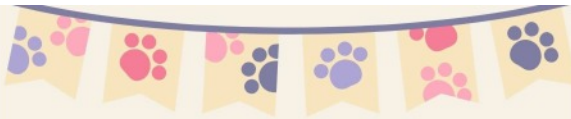


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NEWS

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ASTON INGHAM NEWS

Interim Sub-Editor: Angela Kirton

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Could you spare a few hours a month to support The Chimes? As we go to press, we still have no volunteer to replace Marilyn as sub-editor for the Aston Ingham village news section. I have enjoyed my time as interim sub-editor for the last 3 editions, but I feel the village deserves a sub-editor who lives in Aston Ingham and who knows the local community. I sub-edit The Lea section and I also coordinate the distribution of The Chimes within our village, so I would really like to hand over the Aston Ingham sub-editing to someone who is more knowledgeable about, and involved in, the Aston Ingham community. That someone could perhaps bring fresh ideas to the news section. Do get in touch if you would like to chat informally about this role.

ASTON INGHAM CHURCH NEWS

MAY SERVICES

5th Evensong @4.30pm Reverend David Howell

12th Parish Communion @10.30am Reverend Mike Fass

19th Village Praise @10.30am Nic Walker

26th Parish Communion @10.30am

THANK YOU to everyone who donated food in March for those in need.

CHURCHYARD MOWING

Thank you to everyone who gives their time freely and donates to the upkeep of our Churchyards. Part of the old Churchyard will be left uncut to encourage wildlife & flowers.

CHURCHWARDENS

Allison Oastler 01989 720465; James Harding 01989 720528; Treasurer Allison Oastler

CHURCH FLOWERS

Please could you provide and arrange flowers a few times a year? No experience needed. Contact Sue Harding 01989 720528 for information.

ASTON INGHAM WI

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 14th May at 1.45pm**. Our speaker will be from the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust. All are welcome at our meetings. For more details contact Janet Potter**

PLEASE mention "The Chimes" when contacting advertisers.

ASTON INGHAM NEWS (cont)

KNIT & NATTER

The next Knit & Natter is on **Tuesday 21st May at 2pm** in the Village Hall. All are welcome, you don't have to knit, just come along and join in the natter. Contact Janet Potter**

SHORT MAT BOWLING

Friday 10th May at 2pm in the Village Hall. If you'd like to join us, please just come along, you'd be made very welcome. We are a very friendly group and our bowling is non-competitive. For more details contact Janet Potter**

COUNTRY DANCING

The next Country Dancing will be on **Friday 3rd May at 7pm** in the Village Hall. If you'd like to join us, you'd be most welcome. Any age, ability, or gender. No partner needed. For more details contact Janet Potter**

CROCHET

For details of the next meeting please contact Tania 01989 720229, 07796 955424, email taniaaclayton@yahoo.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL

The next Village Hall Meeting is on **Tuesday 7th May at 11.30am** in the Village Hall Committee Room.

SHANTY EVENING with puddings on **Saturday 20th July at 7pm**. Back by popular demand. Tickets £10. Contact richardjanetpotter@btinternet.com To avoid disappointment please book early as the Shanty group has its own followers.

MIDSUMMER AFTERNOON TEA WITH PROSECCO – JUNE 22ND, 3PM

Is there a special someone that you would like to thank or show your appreciation to: Mother, Sister, Daughter, Dad, Friend? Whoever it is, what would be nicer than a lovely homemade afternoon tea with Prosecco, served up to you in Aston Ingham Village Hall? At £15 a head this is really good value too. To book a table please contact Janet Potter**. Please let us know of any dietary requirements at the time of booking, so that they can be accommodated.

ASCOT LADIES DAY

Thursday 20th June at 12noon. This is held in the Cricket Pavilion (weather permitting) at the Stockings Field. We dress up in our finery (or not) and pretend we're at Ascot. We have a chance to place a bet and watch the racing on the big screen. We start off with a glass of bubbly and a buffet lunch. All are welcome, ladies and gents, but please book as numbers are limited. Contact Janet Potter**

CONTACT DETAILS FOR JANET POTTER**

Tel: 01452 830556, 07340 078520 or email richardjanetpotter@btinternet.com

TO BOOK THE VILLAGE HALL

Please contact SUE HARDING 01989 720528

WHEELCHAIR

We now have a wheelchair stored in the Village Hall for communal use. If you would like to borrow it, please contact Janet Potter**

ASTON INGHAM NEWS (cont)

POP UP PUB

The next Pop-up Pub is on **Saturday 11th May from 7pm to 10pm**. Come and join us for a relaxed evening! No experience required!

BOOK CLUB COFFEE MORNING

Friday 31st May at 10.30am. There will be our usual books, jigsaw puzzles and charity cards. For more details contact Janet Potter**

FOOTPATH REPORT

Leaflets for several walks are available on the front of the Village Hall or on the Village Web site. www.astoningham.wixsite.com/village Any problems please contact Richard Potter 01452 830556 or email richardjanetpotter@btinternet.com



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 me, my details are in the heading of this 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 **Angela**.

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ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

APRIL MEETING ATTENDED BY:

Cllr S Smith (Chair), Cllr M Pettit, Cllr A. Johnson, Cllr J. Whatley, Cllr C. Yates

APOLOGIES were received & accepted from Cllr N Smith

HIGHLIGHTS from the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd April 24
With May just around the corner, and Spring in the air, our thoughts turn to the Annual Parish Meeting. Held in May, this is a meeting of the community, not the Parish council and we look at the year gone by and what the future holds for the Parish in the coming year. The Parish Meeting (see website for details) is your opportunity to meet with the councillors and have your say on matters important to you. We encourage you to join us, to be part of those plans and to ask us any burning questions you might have on village matters. If you have any specific topics you would like discussed please contact the Clerk on clerk@astoningham-pc.gov.uk the week before the meeting to ensure it goes on the agenda.

FLOOD GROUP

The March meeting of the Flood Group was cancelled due to its closeness to the Easter weekend, however, work continues to alleviate flooding in the Parish. To keep up with all things flood, check out our new & enhanced information on the Aston Ingham Parish Council website under the Community Projects tab <https://astoningham-pc.gov.uk/aston-ingham-parish-council/floodgroup/>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT (NFM) UPDATE

New areas for development have been submitted to Pete Belks, NFM manager; ANDEL our contractor is working hard to ensure the data from our installations is consistently accurate and the surface water run off from fields onto roads in the Parish continues to be brought to the attention of Balfour Beatty.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Tuesday 7th May @ 7pm

DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – See website for details

www.astoningham-pc.gov.uk

RECTOR'S LETTER

Have you ever wondered how your local church is funded? Our churches have four main sources of income; regular giving from churchgoers, fees from weddings and funerals, fundraising and grants from other charities, and investments and income from other assets. To this we can now add grants from local civic parish councils.

Historically, there used to be a church rate, which was enforceable in law, that church parish council could ask people to pay. In 1884 the Local Government Act was passed, creating a secular version of the parish council, with powers to raise rates for the work of the new civic council. It was entirely appropriate that the new parish council was not given powers or control of church buildings or charities.

But the question long remained whether civic parish councils were empowered, if they chose, to make grants to churches and church charities for their activities within the local community. Some parish councils did but others were advised not to the situation has been unclear for a long time. Not everybody goes to church, it was argued but, equally not everyone is a member of the cricket club, which can receive money from the local council.

There has been a long discussion between the Church and the Government about whether or not this discriminates against the Church, as Churchgoers pay their council tax like everyone else.

The wonderful news for parish churches, is that from 26 December 2023, the law has been changed by the Government expressly to enable parish councils to make grants towards churches.

The NALC has now withdrawn its advice, LO1-18, Financial Assistance to the Church and has issued a new document, LO2-23, Power to fund works to property relating to the of the Church or Church held ecclesiastical charity, in which its former advice on funding for the Church-or Church charities has been replaced.

Our priceless church buildings are part of everyone's heritage, local and national, and our church members play a huge part in conserving and repairing them. It is for everyone's benefit if both the old stones and the living stones are able to prosper, for the sake of the wider parish and community.



GORSLEY

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 VILLAGE FÊTE

Saturday 1st June, 2pm-5pm -

GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL, QUARRY LANE, GORSLEY, HR9 7SJ

With...Gorsley and District Garden Club's ever popular plant sale.

Perennials, annuals, herbs, tomatoes etc. Please come along and stock up your garden / greenhouse or window box at great prices and learn more about the Garden Club too!

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Come and find out more about playing Croquet in Gorsley. Croquet takes just minutes to start having fun, but a lifetime to master. Have a look on gorsleycroquet.weebly.com

Proceeds go to Gorsley Village Hall and Gorsley and District Garden Club. Please come along on the 1st June, join in and support us.

Keep a look out for further information on village notice boards and the Gorsley Community Support Facebook page.



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.

The 100 Club is up-and-running to help with fundraising. It costs £12 a year per share.

There are 3 prize-winners monthly. If you're interested in joining, please email

margaretaevans@yahoo.com

For more information please contact: gorsleyvh@gmail.com

Hall Secretary, Anne Course: oldmole@btinternet.com

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

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GORSLEY NEWS (cont)

QUIZ NIGHT – GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

Taking place on Saturday 11th May at 7pm. There'll be a cash bar, prizes, karaoke and raffle. £5 per person. Teams of four. (Teams can be made up if you are less than four) Please text or phone Jo on 07910 745730 to book a table.

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

It is May time, and we look forward to celebrating Pentecost (Whitsun) this month as our churchyard continues to bloom with wild flowers. And we extend a warm welcome as always, to our regular 10:30am Sunday services. With Holy Communion on the 5th and on the 19th of May, Bishop Anthony will lead our service of Pentecost. On the 26th instead of a service at Christ Church, there will be an open air benefice service at Newent with Saint Mary's church. And can I thank everyone who contributed to our joyful Easter service with its lovely music, beautiful flowers and a very special thank you to Reverend Marilyn, who led our service.

For details of services contact gorsleychurch@btinternet.com

KILCOT & GORSLEY WI

Kilcot & Gorsley WI meet at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall, so our next meeting is on 21st May, when we will be discussing the resolution to be voted on at the National Annual Meeting in June, about the lack of NHS dentists. We don't sing Jerusalem – except on special occasions – but we do like a cuppa, especially if it's with cake!

Visitors are always welcome – for more information, contact Anne Course on 07951 819051.

GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

We are a group of people who enjoy gardens and gardening. We meet once a month to chat about gardening. In autumn and winter, we have talks from garden experts. (we meet in Gorsley Village Hall). During spring and summer, we visit beautiful gardens where we also enjoy delicious homemade cake. We are a friendly bunch, 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 on 01989780760.

Please come along and support us at Gorsley Village Fete on Saturday 1st June 2pm-5pm!

FLICKS IN THE STICKS

Is on holiday until September.

GORSLEY NEWS (cont)

NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Did you know that Rupert Brooke's immortal poem The Soldier was probably conceived locally in Dymock? Or that The Midlands Air Ambulance Charity (MAAC) receives no funding from Government, the NHS or the National Lottery? Club members learnt these and many other interesting facts from two of our recent speaker's talks. Talks planned for May and June include: The man who revolutionised farming – Harry Ferguson, The City of London, and The Great Train Robbery. If you are a retired or semi-retired professional businessman looking for something new to do in 2024, then why not consider joining us at the Newent and District Probus Club to listen to one of these talks. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10am in the Village Hall, Gorsley, for tea & coffee, followed by a talk from a guest speaker. You will be made very welcome. For more information: visit our website: newentprobus.com or contact our Club Secretary: newentprobus23@gmail.com

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.

MOVE AND IMPROVE CLASSES

Monday mornings 10.00-11.00am at Gorsley Village Hall.

'Move and Improve' classes are aimed at older adults and will involve exercises which incorporate strength, balance and mobility... and lots of fun and laughter! Suitable for all levels of fitness and can be done chair-based if required. The cost is £7 per class, pay-as-you-go.

Contact Pippa Ward on 07709 264434 or www.teachfitness.co.uk for more information.



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 me, my details are in the heading of this 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.



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kirtona150@gmail.com

NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had a good Easter and didn't eat too many eggs!! The Children's Church Workshop on Good Friday created a beautiful Easter Garden in the porch (see picture). Thank you to all who helped build it. The Easter service was well attended, thank you to all who came along! A very busy time all round!

In June we have another concert with Forest Baroque on **Sunday 9th June at 3pm**, 'Tea with Telemann (and friends)'. Tickets are £10 to include afternoon tea refreshments. Keep an eye out for posters with more details and on the Lea Village Noticeboard Facebook page.

Please do remember to keep your dogs on leads when walking through the churchyard **and, if your dog should happen to 'go', please also be kind enough to clear it up and take it with you. Thank you for your co-operation in this, it is much appreciated.**

Our thoughts and sympathies go to the family and friends of Dinah Lane, who passed away recently. Please know you are all in our prayers. God Bless all,
Marion Martin
Churchwarden



LEA PLAY AND CHAT

Children and adults enjoyed a very hands-on experience with Animals Interactive, touching and holding a very big snake, guineapigs, meerkat, a very rare little owl, baby bearded dragon lizards and a beautiful fox, thank you to everyone who supported this activity. At Play and Chat after Easter we hope to be able to open the doors for some outdoor play (weather permitting) in a safe enclosed area, come along and join us on **Friday Mornings 9.00 - 10.30** for craft, sand, singing and more in Lea Primary School

PLEASE mention "The Chimes" when contacting advertisers.

LEA NEWS (cont)

DINAH LANE – AN OBITUARY

The village was very sad to hear of the passing of Dinah Lane in March.

Dinah came to live in the Lea with her late husband, Peter, in the 1980s. They spent many happy years living at Dean End with their children, Daniel and Kelly. They were great supporters of village life, especially the village show. Dinah had been a successful show jumper in her earlier years. Sadly, Peter passed away at a very young age, but Dinah continued to live at Dean End and Kelly ran her equestrian business from the stables there.

Dinah was a very kind, generous lady and was renowned for her hospitality. She had a very wide circle of friends from all the different facets of her life.

During her later years she decided to move from Dean End and started a new era of her life in The Brambles. She was supported by her beloved partner Barrie, who we remember fondly as well. When her health deteriorated, she moved to the Deer Park care home in Ledbury, and Barrie is being cared for in a local nursing home. Our sympathy is extended to her loving family; RIP Dinah xx

LEA VILLAGE HALL

Hello everyone,

Instead of promoting the hall for new users, this month I would like to give a big shout out for our faithful regular users, who are the backbone of the village and keep the hall up and running. Monday evening, we have a thriving Brownie Group. Tuesday evenings, the bowlers meet for their weekly game, and they do use the hall at other times for their league games.

Thursdays, Monica runs her Spanish class and Friday sees the very long running and still busy Lea Art Group in the hall. As well as these weekly meets we have the monthly lunch club, and also the coffee morning.

Lea Residents Association is a regular user of the hall for the very popular Bingo nights and Pop-up Pub sessions. The Church Committee uses the hall too for their fundraising events, coffee mornings, quiz nights and the very busy Christmas Fayre.

As you can see, we have a varied assortment of use, but, of course, we are always on the lookout for any new ideas for use of the hall and benefit for the community.

Full details of all these groups can be found on our website www.leavillagehall.com

Jacky Hopkins

LEA CAFÉ

The next Lea Café will take place on Wednesday 1st May at 10.00-11.30am in Lea Village Hall. If you haven't been to this regular village event before, do try it. There is always a very warm welcome, plenty of friendly chat, a hot drink and delicious homemade cakes.

All Lea residents are very welcome, and it is a great way to meet interesting people and feel part of the village community. The café meets on the first Wednesday of every month. You can just turn up, but if you would like to chat about coming to the café, please contact Gill Davis on 01989 750442.

LEA LUNCH CLUB

Another very popular event, the Lea Lunch Club, takes place on the last Wednesday of the month (except July and August), 12.30 – 2.30pm at the Village Hall. The May Lunch Club will be on Wednesday 29th May. To book your place please contact Nicky on 07718

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LEA NEWS (cont).

LEA FRIDAY PAINTERS

Lea Friday Painters are having a very busy year with their weekly meetings at Lea Village Hall. The high spot of the year is always the annual Art Exhibition which, this year, will take place on **Saturday 29th June**, preview evening on **Friday 28th June**. Contact Di Brice on 01989 750403



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 me, my details are in the heading of this 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.



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LEA PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

THE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Website: Visit www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk for up-to-date information. Contact: clerk@theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk

The parish council meeting held on Wednesday 3rd April at Lea Village Hall had a long agenda, but the matters on hand were mostly a bit technical. All councillors were present, supported by the Clerk, and with two local residents and the Village Lengthsman in attendance.

Speed Indicator Device (SID): The parish council has confirmed that it will purchase one SID for use within the village. It has been decided that a total of three concrete bases will be provided, which will enable the SID to be moved around, should that be considered appropriate.

Lengthsman Scheme: at the meeting the Lengthsman provided a report on work done during the past year, and it was agreed that he should continue for the 2024/25 budget year. Without going into details, many of which are sketchy at the moment, Herefordshire Council is taking over management of the Lengthsman Scheme. There is the potential for additional funding in relation to routine Lengthsman duties, for Public Rights of Way work, and for additional drainage work.

Traffic Speed: For some time, it has been recognised that it is inappropriate for Mill Lane and Rock Lane to be subject to a 60mph speed limit and a request for a Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the authorised speed down to 30mph is being made. This will be a long-winded process unfortunately.

Annual Parish Meeting: Every English parish must hold an annual Parish Meeting. It consists of the local government electors within the parish and is normally chaired by chairman of the parish council. (Note: the meeting is entirely separate from the parish council). This year the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th May at Lea Village Hall at 7pm. At the time of writing, Ben Savidge is hoping to attend to provide an update on the ongoing work to get the Crown Inn up and running again. An agenda for the meeting will be published early in May.

The next Lea Parish Council meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 9th May.



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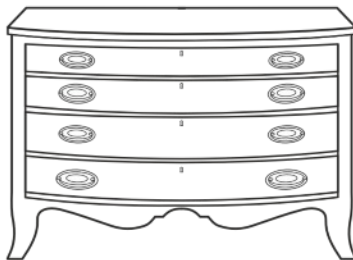
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MAY HILL IN THE SPRINGTIME

May Hill is a familiar sight in this part of Herefordshire. It is an almost circular hill of some 971 feet (296 metres) in height, crowned with a stand of pine trees. The trees were planted in 1887 to mark the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. It is said that from its summit one can see 12 counties. Certainly the Black Mountains, the Malverns, the Forest of Dean, the Severn Vale and Herefordshire's wide acres are clearly visible. Some of the land is owned by the National Trust although Longhope Parish Council owns the summit through the May Hill Trust. The hill is designated as a 'Marilyn' - a name used for prominences of over 250 metres or 492 feet.

In the springtime the hill is stained blue by millions of bluebells and in the summer months flowering heathers bring very different hues to the landscape. There is circular walk of some three miles (approximately 4.8 km). It is a good place for dog walkers too, though because of the livestock in the area (it is grazed by pigs and ponies and sheep) a lead would be essential. The car park adjacent to May Hill Common is a good starting point for the walk. The route is a bit steep in places and parts can be muddy in wet weather and there are two stiles to negotiate so robust footwear would be wise.

It is a place of great beauty that was celebrated by the Dymock Poets. Edward Thomas wrote of the scene in these words:

'Again and again we saw...the complete broad dome of a hill six miles distant, a beautiful hill itself, but especially seen thus, always unexpectedly, through gaps in this narrow country, as through a window'






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LINTON & BROMSASH

NEWS

Sub-Editor: John Lancaster

01989 720 642

John.lancaster17@gmail.com



**'Daffodil Run' competitor, Linton
Saturday 23rd March**

LINTON VILLAGE HALL

REMI HARRIS AND TOM MOORE 'JAZZ AND BLUES'

Friday 7th June 7pm (doors and bar open 6.30pm)

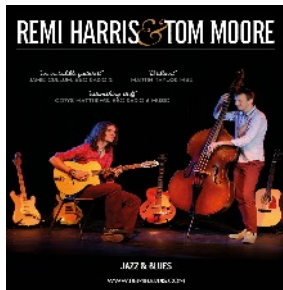
We are delighted to welcome back this fantastic duo! Ever popular, this event is bound to sell-out.

Acclaimed jazz and blues guitarist Remi Harris and virtuoso double bassist Tom Moore, present an evening of music ranging from the acoustic jazz of the 30s and 40s to the electric blues of the 60s and 70s; influenced by such greats as Django Reinhardt, Peter Green, Wes Montgomery, Jimi Hendrix and more.

The show features an eclectic mix of jazz and blues standards, original compositions, improvisations and new arrangements of familiar tunes. Remi plays a variety of acoustic and electric guitars. The ease and warmth of Remi's stage presence, together with his virtuoso talent, will have concert goers captivated by his passion for the guitar.

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LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS (cont)

NEWSLETTER

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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, 120 standing. Skittle alley, crockery, glasses, and various equipment are available to hire for outside events. Email: LVH@lintonvillage.com

THINKING OF STARTING A NEW GROUP OR ACTIVITY AND NEED A SUITABLE VENUE?

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NEWS FROM THE ALMA

Last month The Alma introduced a Pizza and Fish 'n' Chips Night on a Tuesday evening. We are now serving home-made pizzas, with a selection of toppings, as well as traditional fish and chips, to eat in or take away on a Tuesday, between 6 and 9pm!

As a result we have had to shift some of our regular Tuesday events to a Monday. Whilst we are still finalising the diary, at the moment the following schedule looks likely:

First Monday of the Month - Classic Cars evening

Second Monday of the Month - Linton Ladies

Third Monday of the Month - Almaversity Challenge pub quiz

Fourth Monday of the Month - Open Mic night

If you have any questions on the above events, or would like to book in for a meal or take-away, please email Gemma on info@almainnlinton.co.uk or phone 01989 720355.

TUESDAY BIKERS

Nigel Pealing writes:

For the last 25 plus years the Tuesday Bikers have met at 7pm at the Alma from when the clocks go forwards to when they go back again. It's a friendly group of people who just have a gentle ride around our beautiful lanes and then retire to the Alma to re-hydrate. If you are interested then just turn up or contact me on 07741 051189. Hint -the earlier rides tend to be shorter than the ones in mid-summer. All welcome.

LINTON SUPPORTS THE "GREAT HEREFORDSHIRE CLEAN UP"

Did you know that more than two million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK daily? Fast food-related packaging, plastic bottles and drink cans have all contributed to the UK's worsening litter crisis. Over £1 million is spent each year in Herefordshire alone cleaning up litter. This staggering figure illustrates the scale of the problem with most of the litter dropped from passing vehicles. Litter encourages rats and poses a threat to public health and to our native wildlife. This year's "*Great Herefordshire Clean Up*" ran between 17th March and 2nd April. It was part of a highly successful UK-wide campaign organised by Keep Britain Tidy. Volunteers pledged nationally to collect over 400,000 sacks of litter. The hedgerows and roadside verges in the Linton area yielded 10 sacks of litter. Most of the litter was found in Revells Lane but disappointingly no lane is considered litter free.



LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS (cont)

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S

ASCENSION DAY

Ascension Day will be on Thursday 9th May. This year we are thrilled to be hosting it at Linton. Although we do not have a tower to climb, we do have the benefit of a fabulous East Window which depicts the Ascension. Service starts at 7pm, refreshments afterwards.

BIBLE BRUNCH

Bible Brunch is on Sunday 12th May where we will be continuing our study of Paul's letter to the church in Rome. Session 2 asks the question 'What's wrong with the World?'. Meet at 10:30am in the Village Hall for bacon rolls and pain au chocolate before moving on to watching a DVD and a discussion.

ALL-AGE MORNING WORSHIP

The next Morning Worship will be on Sunday 19th May at 11am when we will be celebrating Pentecost; the Birthday of the Church. The service aims to be relaxed, friendly and accessible to all.

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



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 me, my details are in the heading of this 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
John



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LINTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Covering Bromsash, Gorsley & Linton)

LINTON(S) PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Parish Council is pursuing with Herefordshire Council the introduction of Quiet Lanes in the Parish. Quiet Lanes are nationally recognised designations of single-track roads where visitors and locals can enjoy the natural surroundings and use them for activities such as cycling, horse-riding, jogging and walking. The two options being considered are a core route covering the minimum required, and an extended route covering the full requirement. The aim of the core route is to provide a route between the main settlements in the Parish along Quiet Lanes (i.e. Bromsash, Linton, Gorsley and Aston Crews); it provides a link to the school, the bus stop in Gorsley and the community shop. The extended route includes all the approaches to Linton (thus providing a route to the bus stops at Hilltop and Jays Green) as well as extending the Quiet Lanes to include the areas of population in Gorsley, and Pound Farm Lane.

The training of volunteers for a Community Speed Watch Scheme on the B4221 in Gorsley begins on 29 April. Although not enforcement, Community Speed Watch is a community-operated feedback scheme designed to allow unpaid volunteers to officially monitor and report to the Police the details of speeding vehicles in specific areas where speeding is of concern to the community.

Herefordshire Council have begun formal consultation on their Draft Local Plan and Local Transport Plan, with a deadline of 20 May for comments. The Local Plan, once ratified, will supersede Neighbourhood Development Plans where these do not comply. More details to follow as the Parish Council forms its response, but the Plan's core principle that housing development will be based on current infrastructure will constrain further building in the parish.

There is currently one vacancy on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested, or would like to know more, please contact the Parish Council Clerk, Rich Hunt, via e-mail: pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk or telephone: 07763793695.

SUSTAINABILITY AND RECYCLING CAFÉ

The next Café will be at Linton Village Hall on Saturday 11th May. We will be looking at the pollution of the River Wye and how moving to more plant based diet could help the situation. In addition the café also offers the usual range of facilities including;

- Recycling (Although we no longer take medicine blister packs we are taking LED and fluorescent light bulbs which can be recycled at Ross.)
- Coffee, Tea and Cake. For this month we will aim to have plant based cakes and coffee.
- Seed and Plant Swap. This is very informal and does not have to be a formal swap; take some spare seeds, plants or produce and stop them going to waste.
- Eco-Library

HEDGEHOG RUNS

Hedgehog numbers have declined in England, Wales and Scotland from 30 million in the 1950s to less than one million. Reasons for this include loss of habitat, use of pesticides and traffic. One way to help hedgehogs is to make sure they can travel safely to forage for food and meet mates. Fences and walls need a 13cm square gap at the bottom to help them roam. If you would like a free Hedgehogs R Us Highway Surround for your fence or boundary please collect one at the café. We also have some free leaflets with ten suggestions on how you can help hedgehogs.



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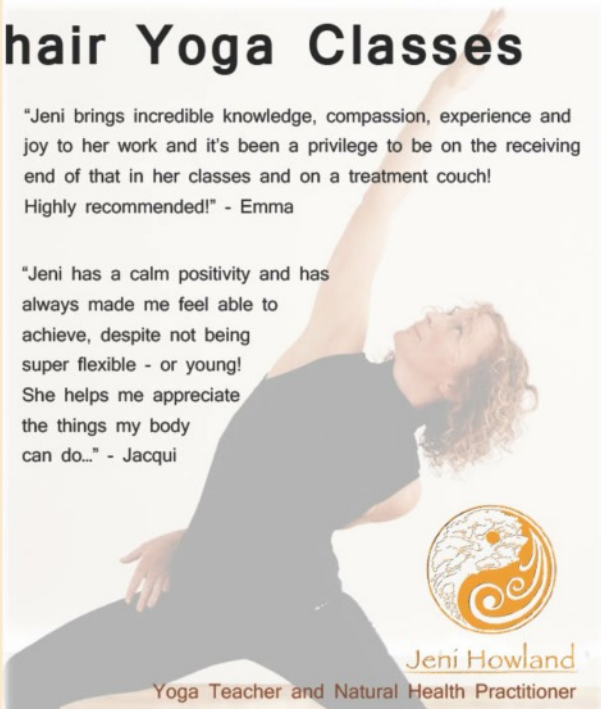
Thursdays at Gorsley Village Hall
9:30-10:30am **Mat Yoga**
10:45-11:30am **Chair Yoga**
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UPTON BISHOP

NEWS

Sub-Editor: Olivia Boon

01989 780321

Oliviaboon7@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.

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am in the church during MAY.

5th Mattins

9th May Ascension Day service. Please check the church notice board for venue and time.

12th Communion

19th Communion

26th All Age Service

EVENSONG

Is said every Tuesday at 5.30pm A quiet way to end your day in the church. All welcome.

BCP COMMUNION

Wednesday 1st May at 9.30am in the church, followed by prayer group.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

All welcome. Venues vary so ring Graham (780600) for more details.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Will be held on Sunday 12th May at 11.30am. This is your chance to hear what has been going on and to have your say. All welcome.

DOGS

Dogs are welcome on a lead in the churchyard. Please do not use the churchyard bin for dog waste and please do not leave a neatly tied bag in the lane. Please take it home for disposal.

AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL: f MILLENNIUM HALL

For hall bookings and correspondence please

email: secretary@ubmh2000.onmicrosoft.com. If you are interested in becoming involved as a member of the Management Committee, please contact the secretary.



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UPTON BISHOP NEWS (Cont).

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MARKET TO YOUR DOOR.

Saturday 4th May, 10am-12. We look forward to seeing you for fresh, local produce. There will also be coffee and cake in the Hall.

UPTON BISHOP ECOMAP

Come for coffee on **Saturday 4th May, 10am-12** to learn more about the EcoMap which is discovering how UB residents are managing the village for nature/sustainability. You can email us on uptonbishopecomap@gmail.com.

NEW! LEGO CLUB

Saturday 4th May, 10.30 - 11.30am alongside the Market Van and Coffee Morning, 50p per session including squash and biscuits for kids. We will have Lego available. Bring your own if you wish although we can't guarantee that it won't get muddled up with ours. If anyone has unwanted Lego that we could use, we'd love to add it to our collection. If you or your kids would be interested in coming along on 4th May (then **on the 1st Saturday of each month**) please let Jane know on 07989 572356.

UPTON BISHOP WI

Tuesday 14th May, 8-9 pm This month we're taking a light-hearted look at antiques at an evening open to the community. We'd love to meet and welcome you. £5.

SOCIAL AFTERNOON

Monday 20th May, 2.30 till 4.30pm. We always meet up on the third Monday in each month so we do hope you will join us for a cup of tea and some home-made cake.

INDOOR SHORT-MAT BOWLS

Tuesday 21st May, 7-9pm, £2 per person including tea/coffee and biscuits. All abilities very welcome. Contact Dave Powell on 07794 429090 for more information or just come along!

MORE MIDSUMMER MADNESS

Come for another evening of fun on **Friday 5th July.**

THE UPTON BISHOP SUMMER FETE

Will be held on **Saturday 20th July.** If you would like to be involved, please contact Olivia 07496 685960.

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.

BEST WISHES

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who is not too well, is undergoing or waiting for treatment at present.

UPTON BISHOP NEWS

THE CHURCH

This year Easter came early. Not only because it fell on 31st March but with the clocks going forward it meant a 5am start for those attending the dawn service. Upton Bishop church looked wonderful decked out in the glorious gold and white festival finery of Easter – such a contrast with the austerity of Lent and the bare church of Holy week. The flower rota ladies had worked their magic with spectacular window displays along with Pam's altar lilies, donated by parishioners in memory of loved ones. This year we were also very pleased to have been given a charming 'egg tree' by the WI. Thank you to everyone who made the church look so beautiful.

THE MILLENNIUM HALL

Has times available for anyone who wants to set up a new regular event and make a booking with the secretary.

THE CHIMES DIRECTORY

Has information on regular events and classes. There is plenty for everyone: Baby Sensory, Badminton, Keep Fit, Yoga, Tango, Ross Quilters, Little Swallows.

UPTON BISHOP WI

Last month, the WI were doing two of the things we're know for - crafting and helping the community - by contributing the Easter Egg Tree made by our members, which will still be on display in Upton Bishop Church until early May. UBWI will be celebrating its 105th Birthday! We are having a 105th Birthday Reunion Party so if you have been a member of the WI please get in touch. The date is - Tuesday 11th June at The Millennium Hall. Contact Frances on 01989 569881.



UPTON BISHOP NEWS (Cont).

200 CLUB DRAW FOR MARCH:

£20 Olivia Boon; £10 Chris Clements; £5 Nigel Misselbrook. New members of the 200 Club are always welcome.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

This year is from 12-18th May when we shall be raising funds to help people on the brink lift themselves out of extreme poverty. We'll be delivering donation envelopes and also making them available in the church for those who wish to give that way *and* we'll be holding our yearly Plant Sale. However you want to help push back against poverty do please bring, buy or donate. Thank you.



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 me, my details are in the heading of this 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
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UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL (UBPC)

Any parishioner can contact the UBPC at clerk@uptonbishop.gov.uk
Five councillors, 13 members of the public and a clerk from HALC attended the Parish Council meeting on April 2nd. During the closed section the councillors appointed the new clerk, Andree Mitchell who joined the meeting after her appointment was confirmed. Vicky Eldridge was co-opted onto the council. There is more than £20,000 in the bank accounts which will rise to more than £30,000 once the precept is received. An update on the traffic calming confirmed that a second phase which will include the white gates is planned. The hedge replacement application by Chicory Crops was supported. It was agreed to extend the lengthsman's contract for two months and to put it out to tender to ensure value for money for parishioners. New steps have been installed on the footpath at Wobage. In his closing remarks the chairman thanked Helen Tinson for her support clerking the meetings.

The next Council AGM meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 7th May.

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 Mitcheldean Surgery, GL17 0AU 01594 542270
 NHS Direct 111 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk
 Emergency Dentist Ross-on-Wye Dental Access Centre, HR9 5AD 01989
 561114
 Duty Weekend Chemist Boots, 5 Market Place Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5NX
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LOCAL SERVICES

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 Gloucestershire County Council
 Switchboard 01452 425000 Monday to Friday 08.30-17.00
 Email: customerservices@gloucestershire.gov.uk

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CHURCH SERVICES

| Date | Aston Ingham | Lea | Linton | Upton Bishop |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 05th May | Evensong | Family Communion | Communion Service | Mattins |
| 6th Sunday of Easter | 4.30 pm | 9.30 am | 11.00 am | 10.30am |
| Readings | Acts 10. ^{44-end.} | 1 John 5. ^{1-6.} | John 15. ^{9-17.} | |
| 09th May | ARICONIUM BENEFICE SERVICE @ LINTON 7.00 P.M. | | | |
| Ascension Day | | | | |
| Readings | Acts 1. ^{1-11.} | Ephesians 1. ^{15-end.} | Luke 24. ^{44-end.} | |
| 12th May | Parish Communion | Holy Communion | Bible Brunch @ Village Hall | Communion Service |
| 7th Sunday of Easter | 10.30 am | 8.00 am | 10.30 am | 10.30 am |
| Readings | Acts 1. ^{15-17, 21-end.} | 1 John 5. ^{9-13.} | John 17. ^{6-19.} | |
| 19th May | Village Praise | Parish Communion | Morning Worship | Parish Communion |
| Pentecost | 10.30 am | 9.30 am | 11.00 am | 10.30 am |
| Readings | Acts 2. ^{1-21.} | Romans 8. ^{22-27.} | John 15. ²⁶⁻²⁷ 16. ^{4b-15.} | |
| 26th May | Parish Communion | Children's Church | Communion Service | All Age Communion |
| Trinity Sunday | 10.30 am | 10.00 am | 11.00 am | 10.30 am |
| Readings | Isaiah 6. ^{1-8.} | Romans 8. ^{12-17.} | John 3. ^{1-17.} | |

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR: REV. DAVID HOWELL

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The Chimes

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Each village has a Sub Editor to collate all copy & posters from their village.

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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The Editorial team welcome all comment and feedback on any aspect of our magazine or website. The email address for all Editors is thechimes1@gmail.com

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