

# The Chimes

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**October 2025 No 372**

**Your magazine for local news and services**



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## EDITORIAL

As the years pass, I recognise more and more the abundance of talented people that we have in our locality. I am sometimes privileged to meet up with some of them, but I am sure that there are many others whose skills and expertise are unknown to me. On our centre pages this month, we feature two books by local writers which I am sure will be of interest to many of our readers. So I have a plea to you – if you are a writer, artist or publisher or if you know someone with a unique skill or a particularly interesting occupation, it would be lovely to feature them in these pages.

And talking of skills, we do need one or two local people to learn the ropes of desktop publishing and at the same time give us a hand to produce *The Chimes*. We can promise you lots of help, a very happy and friendly environment and most of the time you can work from home on your own PC or laptop. No experience is necessary and we have some good teachers! So if you would like to give it a try as an Assistant Editor in the first instance, to help our hard-pressed editorial team, please give us a call on one of the telephone numbers on page 62 of this issue, or drop us an email. We would very much like to hear from you.

**Peter Coulson**

*Cover picture: harvest time in the Herefordshire orchard heartland after a glut of apples this year*

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

### Pheasants

Back in the Spring a cock pheasant based himself around my property. He would regularly make his call stating his territory and calling for a loved one. It was some time before I saw a hen bird and then there were two! He was so proud of himself. He is such a handsome fellow! They continued to show up throughout the summer, the hens not showing themselves as often as the cock. I let the grass grow high in my paddock which gives a good nesting place for



pheasants. They nest on the ground.

Then, one day, during this dry summer I was shown a brood of pheasant chicks in my paddock. I was delighted to see them, as there is always the fear that a fox, badger or maybe a stoat will find the nest and eat the eggs/hatchlings. I have seen evidence of this happening other years. They now have to avoid being shot when the open season begins.

Peter Lockwood

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## COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

### LINTON & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY- UPCOMING TALKS

**1st October - Simon Draper - Place Names (Given in memory of Lee Hines)**

**5th November - Fiona Morison - The Roses of No Man's Land (Nurses in WW1)**

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](mailto:rogerdavies1@sky.com)) or the Secretary - Teresa Squires ([sec.lintonhistosoc@gmail.com](mailto:sec.lintonhistosoc@gmail.com))

### GREENER LIVING SHOW, GORSLEY

Don't forget The Greener Living Show on **Saturday 18th October** at Gorsley Baptist Church. In addition to the exhibits there will be talks through the afternoon on aspects of energy saving and generating. Open from **1pm until 4pm**. See the flier in this months *Chimes* for full details.



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## ROB THE RAINMAN


### RAINFALL REPORT

August's total was 12.3mm — just 20% of average. Other than 1.7mm on the 4th and 0.8mm on the 11th the month was dry until the last week. This dry period was largely sunny but around the 18th onwards the wind moved round to the northeast which brought in cloud cover overnight which was sometimes slow to

clear. There was a named storm! Floris caused widespread chaos in Scotland and Northern England but we were lucky as all we had was a windy day. The 11th saw the fourth heat wave of the summer lasting until the 15th, and a very warm spell over the Bank Holiday weekend, especially the Monday. Finally high pressure gave way and a series of lows crossed the country, giving cooler temperatures and unsettled weather with bands of showers. These were a bit hit and miss but achieved a total of 9.8mm — you may have had more!

The end of the met summer and total rainfall was 56.4mm against an average of 160mm. And it was the warmest summer on record, beating that of 2018. Ross-on-Wye was at the forefront with the highest daily temperatures in the UK during the heat waves on a number of occasions such as on July 10th and 12th and August 12th.

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## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



Sub-editor:  
Mike Clayton

07803 975398

[aichimes@outlook.com](mailto:aichimes@outlook.com)

### Church News Harvest Festival

All welcome to Aston Ingham Church on Sunday October 5th at 6.30pm  
Donations of non-perishable food are welcome for the local food bank.

### St Anne's Well Blessing

Thank you to everyone from the Benefice Churches who came to the Service. Where all congregated at the well for the Blessing, conducted by Reverend Martin Frederickson and Reverend Ewan Gillings. Refreshments followed which were enjoyed by many.

### Advance notice

Aston Ingham Church Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 9th November at 10.50 am.

### Village News & Events Village Hall repairs

For decades, the Aston Ingham Village Hall has stood at the heart of community life, a place where memories have been made and friendships forged. From regular community events and birthday celebrations to quiz nights, music performances, and parish meetings, it has been a constant presence — welcoming, reliable, and filled with warmth. The hall has never just been a building; it has been the stage on which everyday life has unfolded, helping to bind together the people of the village.

Yet, like many well-loved spaces, time has taken its toll. Years of constant use and limited funding have started to become evident, and we have recently

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## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



discovered water damage to some of the floor joists and the piles that support them underneath the hall. Although there is no immediate risk, the problems need to be addressed before they become serious.

Never ones to shy away from a challenge, the Village Hall Committee has brought in a carpenter and a structural engineer, who have given them a quotation for remedial work. The team has now begun planning how to raise the substantial amount of money required.

The Village Hall committee has some financial reserves that they will commit to the project, and some local organisations that use the hall have also pledged to support. The Village Hall will be hosting several fundraising events over the next few months. Whether you are a regular at the Village Hall or not, we would greatly appreciate your support at these events to help raise the necessary funds.

We will, of course, keep you all updated through *The Chimes* as we progress towards our target.

Though the fabric of the hall needs attention, its spirit remains undiminished, and this work will enable it to continue serving future generations.

### Growth at the Aston Ingham Scout Hut

Great News for Aston Ingham Scout Hut — a Cub group was launched in September 2024 and one year on it is thriving. Cubs are aged 8 - 10+ years and meet on Wednesday evenings 6.-7.30pm It is hoped that there will be Beavers at the Hut from September, but this is still to be confirmed/finalised. (*continued p11*)

## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

### Forthcoming events at the Village Hall

What's On	When	Details	Information & Booking
Village Hall Committee Meeting	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October at 11:30 am	Monthly meeting of the Village Hall Committee.	Sue Harding 01989 720528
Country Dancing	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October 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.	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October at 1:45 pm	Our speaker will be Mike Warburton, his subject 'Gillian White-Embroidered with Woodbine & Eglantine'. Everyone is welcome.	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Crochet Club	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October at 2 pm	All are welcome; you don't have to crochet, but we have a teacher on hand if you would like to learn. Come and join a great group! £2.50 per person includes refreshments.	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Short Mat Bowls	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October at 2 pm	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 21 <sup>st</sup> October at 2 pm	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
Book Club and Coffee Morning	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October at 10:30 am	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 18 <sup>th</sup> October at 7 pm.	Come & rest your drink on one of the new beer mats!	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Sing-along of 60's & 70's music	Saturday 22nd November at 7 pm.	A light-hearted and inclusive evening of singing and laughter. Entrance £15, which includes a supper of casseroles with fresh, crusty bread	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Aston Ingham Reading Group	First Saturday of every month 09:30 – 11:00 am	October 4th - "Shy Creatures" by Claire Chambers November 1st - "Conclave" by Robert Harris	Jan Falkiner 07899 728346

To book the Village Hall contact Sue Harding 01989 720528

## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

Beavers are aged 6 - 8 yrs and again both boys and girls — the Beavers are looking at Tuesday evenings at the hut 5.45 -7.00 pm

With all this development, we also hope that a Scout section could commence after the October half-term. Scouts are 10+ - 14 years old, and boys and girls are welcome. To make this happen, we need adult leaders. If you are interested in becoming or are already a scout leader and can spare us a little time to create a fantastic experience for the younger generation, then please get in touch with Ros Hatherill — [ros.hatherill@icloud.com](mailto:ros.hatherill@icloud.com) 07835 303415

This is a wonderful opportunity for young people in the community, BUT we cannot do this without more adult leaders to assist.

### Local shooter success at the European Championships



Local shooter, Chris Hobbs, and his son Rhys competed in the European Muzzle Loading Championships in Barcelos, Portugal, in August this year.

Chris and Rhys are members of the Great Britain shotgun team and shoot flintlock and percussion.

One of Chris' ambitions was achieved when he stood on the podium with Rhys to receive the team bronze in the flintlock competition. Chris also won a team bronze in percussion and an individual bronze medal in flintlock. Congratulations, Chris, on an excellent achievement.

### A timely talk from Mike Warburton

On Tuesday 9th September the Aston Ingham W.I. had a fabulous talk from Mike entitled 'How to evict a Government Minister'. *(continued overleaf)*



## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



During the talk Mike explained how he had played a part in identifying tax anomalies in the affairs of Government ministers and how this had played a part in the downfall of some household names, including a very recent one! You don't need to be a member of the W.I. to attend their talks and, as you can see, they cover some fascinating subjects.

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## ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

### Dates for your diary

All are welcome to come along to join us in a SING A LONG OF 60's & 70's MUSIC on **Saturday 22nd November** at 7 pm. Entrance £15, which includes a supper of casseroles with fresh crusty bread.

**CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING** on **Friday 12th December** at 10.30 am. There will be the usual cards, books, and puzzles, along with two giant Christmas hampers to be raffled.

**BURNS NIGHT** on **Saturday 24th January**. More details in later additions of *The Chimes*,

This is always a very popular event, so if you want to book your place, contact Janet on 01452 830556 or 07340 078520.

**Heart Start Course** on **Saturday 15th November** at 10am, contact Janet. More details in *The Chimes* next month.

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

To book Village Hall Events, please get in touch with 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](mailto: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](mailto:treasurer-AIVH@hotmail.com)

August winners: 1st - R&J Green - £18, 2nd - M Tribe - £13, 3rd - L Reynolds - £7.

#### Wheelchair availability

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

#### Cards wanted

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

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**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 FLOWER, PRODUCE, ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW 2025 – ONE HUNDRED YEARS ON !**



*Some of the trophies presented to the winners*

This year's show was held on Saturday 30th August — almost one hundred years to the day of the first Gorsley Show.

Fifty-four people submitted 208 entries across the seven divisions of fruit and vegetables, flowers, floral art, children's, baking and preserves, photography and arts and crafts.

The judges were very impressed by the standard of the entries, and 116 class prize certificates were awarded. What a talented bunch we are!

It was wonderful to see some of the trophies from the early shows being presented to the 2025 winners. In addition, we had five new trophies provided from our generous sponsors including Denise and Chris Elson and Gorsley and District Garden Club (see list of winners on page 16).

Despite the rain, over 150 people came to the public opening in the afternoon and were able to view the entries and wonder at the talents of those who entered. The hall was buzzing, with people excited to see if their entries had won and meeting up with friends and family.

There was a historical display of photographs and articles (*continued p17*)

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## GORSLEY NEWS



### GORSLEY FLOWER, PRODUCE, ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

#### 2025 SHOW WINNERS

Fruit and Vegetables	The 'Wallin' Cup	Andrew Parker-Mowbray
Flowers	Gorsley and District Garden Club Claret Jug	Catherine Riley
Floral Art	George E Nicholls Cup	Julia Godsall
Children Key stage 2	The Lloyd Cup	Arthur Hall Evie Hall
Children Key stage 1	The CJ Sunflower Cup	Zacharius Matilda Hall
Children Pre-school	J. Cowles Rose Bowl	Archie
Baking and Preserves	The Boxwell Cup	Catherine Riley
Photography	The Friendship Cup	Layla Gunter
Arts and Crafts	The Centenary Rose Bowl	Catherine Lewis
Most points in show	T E Aston Cup	Rupert Abbott

## GORSLEY NEWS

providing glimpses of winners, entrants and activities from shows over the past 100 years.

If viewing and inspection of all the delicious bakes brought on hunger pangs, fortunately the Kilcot and Gorsley Women's Institute were on hand to serve "just as delicious" homemade cakes and drinks.

**The Show raised £600 for the Village Hall funds.**

A big thank you to Gorsley Community Shop for displaying the schedules and accepting the entries, to Gorsley.com for the show webpage, to Gorsley Baptist Church for allowing us to use their field for parking, to local businesses for being so generous with raffle donations and of course to



*There were historical displays from past years*

the wonderful show team who made sure the show was publicised, entries were processed, judges were supported and visitors were welcomed.

Thank you to everyone who entered the show and to all you wonderful people who came along to join in the fun!

The show was organised by us as a small sub-committee of the Gorsley Village Hall Committee. They encouraged us and supported us throughout the process, and our final thanks go to them for trusting us to put on the show.

(Written by Jill and Catherine)

### GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

**Notice:** We now have a new Treasurer, Sue Scregg, who will be taking over at the AGM, but we are still in need of a Booking Clerk. Please apply to Nigel Poole (Chairman) on 01989 720750 or 07802 334066.

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: Joanne Meir - £25; Max Gough - £10; and Jane Wheble - £5. 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](mailto:gorsleyvh@gmail.com)  
Hall Secretary, Anne Course: [oldmole@btinternet.com](mailto:oldmole@btinternet.com)  
Hall Bookings Secretary, Margaret Evans: [margaretaevans@yahoo.com](mailto:margaretaevans@yahoo.com)

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## GORSLEY NEWS



### HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS QUIZ NIGHT – 1st November 2025

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.

### GORSLEY COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE

Our Community Shop plays a vital role in serving residents, and creating a welcoming space for everyone. To keep it running smoothly and sustainably, we rely on the generous support of volunteers.

We are currently looking for **new volunteers** to help us out in the shop. There are two flexible ways to get involved:

• **A regular shift per week/month:** Commit to helping out for a few hours per week. We currently need a volunteer for the 4th Saturday morning of every month, with other weekly shifts becoming available soon.

• **Ad Hoc Hours:** If your schedule doesn't allow for regular volunteering, you can still help on a more flexible, as-needed basis.

No prior experience is necessary — just a friendly attitude and a willingness to pitch in. Full support and guidance will be provided.

For more information, please either call into the shop for an informal chat, or contact Jacky by email at [manager@gorsleycommunityshop.co.uk](mailto:manager@gorsleycommunityshop.co.uk) or telephone 01989 721233.

### 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

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## GORSLEY NEWS

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[www.gorsleybaptist.church](http://www.gorsleybaptist.church) 01989 720312 [office@gorsleybaptist.church](mailto:office@gorsleybaptist.church)

### CHRIST CHURCH GORSLEY



#### A Time of Harvest

We have had a very busy church summer: celebrating Reverend Canon Simon's birthday; and thanking the Reverend Pat Phillips for her many years of service to us. Evensong services have also been led by Reverend Mark.

So, as October brings autumn colour to our churchyard, we extend a very warm welcome to our regular

10:30 am Sunday services. Please note that the first service of the month is one of Holy Communion. On Sunday 12th of October, we will hold our Harvest Gift Day Service where money raised is given to our chosen charities. For further details of any of our services, please contact [gorsleychurch@btinternet.com](mailto:gorsleychurch@btinternet.com)

### GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

#### Gorsley and District Garden Club 2025-2026 Programme

Welcome to our 2025-26 evening programme — meetings are held from 7.30-9.00pm at Gorsley Village Hall. Entrance is free to members, £3 for visitors. No need to book - visitors are very welcome.

#### 20th October - Samantha Hopes - Winter in Bloom

Samantha will highlight a whole range of winter flowering shrubs, herbaceous plants and bulbs to tempt you out into your garden in the winter months.

#### 17th November - Tamsin Westhorpe - Prepare for the Perfect Spring

Tamsin shares the practical tasks that need to be carried out in autumn to have your best spring ever. She'll also highlight her favourite plants for the spring garden

#### 19th January - Annual Seed Swap and Quiz

Come along and join in our fun quiz. We also use this as an opportunity to share any surplus seeds we have.

#### 16th February - Mick Poultney - Compost Ready within a Month

Mick will explain how to make a natural, cost-effective and highly efficient compost, which is ready to use in just a month.

#### 16th March - Pip Smith - Garden Design Tips and Tricks

A Landscape Designer with over 17 years' experience, Pip will share some of

## GORSLEY NEWS

his favourite design ideas and simple tricks of the trade to help you get the most out of your outdoor space.

If you would like to know more about Gorsley and District Garden Club, please call Charlotte on 01989 780760 or email us at [gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com)

### 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.

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](http://newentprobus.com) or contact our Club Secretary: [newentprobus23@gmail.com](mailto:newentprobus23@gmail.com)

### KILCOT & GORSLEY WI

Visitors are welcome, we are very informal and don't sing Jerusalem except on special occasions! For more information, call Anne Course 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](mailto: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](mailto:alexhallphysiopilates@outlook.com) or [alexhallphysiopilate.wixsite.com/website](http://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](mailto:jeni@jenihowland.com) for more details.

## LEA NEWS



Sub-editor:  
Angela Kirton

07474 378806

[kirtona150@gmail.com](mailto:kirtona150@gmail.com)

### NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH

Firstly, I have to say a huge thank you to our new Fabric Officer Bob Taylor and his wife Anne, they have done a magnificent job of clearing all the paths in the

churchyard. We have all been surprised at how wide the paths actually are! Whilst on the subject of the churchyard, please could visitors to the graves take their rubbish home with them. We have no facilities for waste disposal anymore, so please do take your rubbish with you, thank you.

We are now starting to think about the dreaded 'C' word - Christmas! (Sorry!) We are again organising the Shoebox appeal this year and if you would like to fill a shoebox, please do pick up a leaflet from the church. These boxes can always be created online by going to the Samaritan's Purse website and selecting 'Operation Christmas Child' from the drop-down menu in the 'what we do' section [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk) It's great fun filling a box online, you get to choose what you want to put in it and someone else packs

(Continued on page 25)

# A warm welcome awaits

Lea Church is so much more than  
just a place of worship.

Please step inside Lea Church - it's open every day for you take a moment for yourself or meet with friends for a chat.

We're working to make the church welcoming throughout the year and hope to install easy-to-control lights and heating for the coming winter - making the welcome warmer than ever.

The Church is open every day - 10am - 4pm.  
For more information, have a chat with our Churchwarden Marion on 07837 439376.

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## LEA NEWS

it for you!! Please do let me know if you do an online box for my numbers report. (You can ring me on 01989 750808 with any queries) I need to have any boxes completed by **7th November** for collection by 10th November. Thank you. These boxes are so appreciated by the children who receive them. They cannot believe that someone they don't know, in a country a long way away, is thinking of them!

Whilst talking about Christmas, our Craft Fayre and Soup Kitchen will be held on **November 15th** at Lea Village Hall from 10.30-2pm. There will be the usual variety of stalls and delicious homemade soups to enjoy plus raffle and produce stalls.

Our 'Warm Space' area is now open in the church for anyone who needs it. The heaters will be on timers, as will the lights. Please see the notice, pictured earlier.

God bless all

**Marion Martin, Churchwarden**

## A POSITIVE START TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR AT LEA CE PRIMARY

The children and staff at Lea CE Primary School have begun the new academic year with energy, enthusiasm, and plenty of smiles! From the very first day back, classrooms have been buzzing with positivity, learning, and the joy of being together again.

A particularly special welcome has been given to the new Reception children in Willow Class (below), who have already made a fantastic start to



(Continued on page 27)



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## LEA NEWS

their school journey. They have settled in brilliantly, making new friends and joining in with school life with confidence and excitement.

The staff have praised all the pupils for the way they have returned to school ready to learn, showing kindness, respect and determination in everything they do.

With a busy and exciting term ahead, Lea CE Primary School is looking forward to a wide range of activities, opportunities, and celebrations that will help every child to flourish. As always, the school remains committed to its motto: Everyone Counts.

If you would like to arrange a visit to our wonderful school, situated in the heart of Lea, please contact Rachel on 01989 750296 or email: [admin@lea-primary.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lea-primary.hereford.sch.uk)

## LEA PLAY AND CHAT

Play and Chat has had a good start back this term, with lots of painting, sticking and playing, meeting friends old and new, we are celebrating Autumn with pumpkins, hedgehogs and lots of autumn leaves.

Thank you to everyone who supported the table sale by booking tables, attending the sale and most of all the helpers who made it possible, this one fund raising event supports the group enabling us to provide a safe space for new mums and dads to gain confidence, get hands on advice from others who've done it and been there, we are able to run the sessions free of charge asking just for small donations for snacks for the children.

Our thanks as always go to Mrs Vines and her team in the school who always make us welcome - Thank You!

So come and join us Friday mornings in the School Hall 9.00-10.30am (term time only). Any queries contact Carolyn 07765 555588.

## LEA VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall has recently appointed new Trustees at its quarterly meeting on 5th September. Roger Walker, who has been interim Chair since Jackie Hopkins' sudden passing earlier this year, has decided to step down, and with Sylvia Nicholls now leading as Chair, the role of Treasurer will be taken up by Darren Morris. I would like to thank Roger for his support and hard work over many years in various posts.

We are still looking for suitable residents to become Vice Chair or Booking Secretary, should you wish to get involved. Currently Liz Reeson is both Booking Secretary and General Secretary, two completely different roles, so please consider if you are able to share the load come and join us.

Our Regular Users (who get a discount for hires), are the backbone of activities at Lea Village Hall, but we are hoping more small groups might like to set up something for local residents. It could be a type of sport group, Knit and Natter, or a new entertainment evening. What would you like to see?

(More Lea News on page 29)



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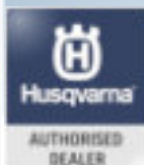
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## LEA NEWS

### Dates for your diary:

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

**Lunch Club:** 29th October and Christmas Special on 10th December.

**Parish Council meeting:** Wednesday 26th November 7.00–9.00 pm.

**Lea Residents Association Monthly Bingo:** 22nd October, 19th November, 7.00pm for 7.30 start.

**PCC Quiz Night:** Friday 26th September 7.00 pm for 7.30 start.

**Everyday Play Halloween Session** for children: Friday 31st October at the Village Hall (inside if wet 1.30–3.30pm). All children welcome.

**Lea Residents Association:** Friday 28th November Quiz Night 7.00pm for 7.30 start to raise funds for the hall refurbishment.

**Sylvia Nicholls**

### LEA VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR AUGUST DRAW:

1st prize £25 - L Neilens  
2nd prize £10 - L Browne  
3rd prize £5 - J Savidge

### LEA CAFÉ – A MONTHLY EVENT

It's hard to believe that this month marks 8 years since these coffee mornings started. It's always really good to see the regulars, but new faces are equally welcome at any time. If you think you might like to come along but don't want to come on your own just give me a call and we'll work something out.

It's FREE to get in, the coffee and cake are FREE. There is a book table, a sales table and a raffle.

How does the sales table work? Well, anyone can bring good quality items they no longer need and put them on the table. If you wish to donate it that's fine, or if you want to sell and receive the money, just put your name and the price on a piece of paper with your item and whoever buys it should pay you directly.

Look forward to seeing you there: **Wednesday 1st October, 10am** at Lea Village Hall.

**Gill Davis** 01989 750442 or email: [gilldavis55@hotmail.com](mailto:gilldavis55@hotmail.com)

(More Lea News on page 31)



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## LEA NEWS

### LEA LUNCH CLUB

The lunch club will next meet on **Wednesday 29th October at 12.30–2.30pm** at the village hall. 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 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](http://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](mailto:clerk@theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting is on **Wednesday 26th November 7.00-9.00 pm** at Lea Village Hall.



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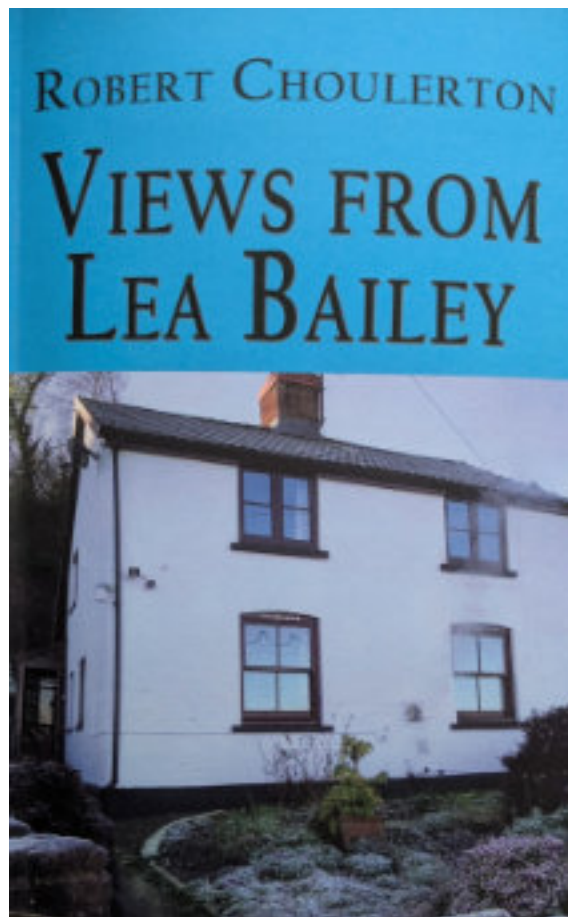
## LOCAL BOOKS

### Thought journeys through the everyday world

Local poet Robert Choulerton has just published his third collection of poems, which is available now on the Amazon and Waterstones websites. I was very pleased to receive a copy from Bob to review, having really enjoyed reading his first two volumes, entitled 'Lines From ...' and 'Notes From Lea Bailey'.

I would define Bob's writing as poetry, though Bob himself prefers to call them prosems, not quite prose and not quite poems. The reader can decide for themselves, but whatever their title, Bob's written pieces, for me, work as poetry; they evoke delightful images, interesting ideas and emotions and unusual, imaginative and often funny, ways of seeing the everyday world, all written in eloquent and concise English.

Like Bob's first two volumes, **Views From Lea Bailey** covers a very diverse



range of topics, from musings on the humble fly to concerns around Artificial Intelligence. He celebrates the natural behaviours and aptitudes of the animals and plants in nature, whilst lamenting the 'matricide' that the human species is inflicting on Mother Earth. Similarly, Bob celebrates the best qualities of humanity, but is quick to put down pomposity, vanity and undeserved status, all with the humility of a man who recognises his own imperfections.

Several poems explore those significant events and experiences in human life: childhood, love, parenting, work, old age and death, whilst others observe and often celebrate the minutiae of everyday life, seen from surprising and unusual angles. In this volume, a few poems express the irritations many of us experience living in our modern world, such as the ubiquitous password requirements of online

## LOCAL BOOKS

shopping. But for the most part Bob's poems take an optimistic, warm hearted point of view and they indicate to me that he is a deep thinker who cares about the natural world, social fairness, morality, community and above all humanity.

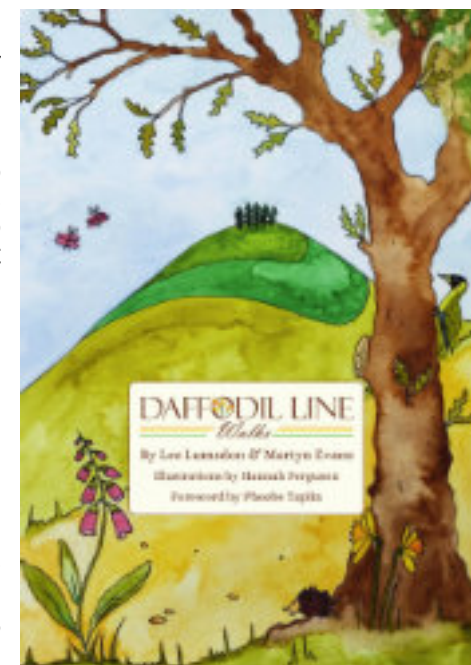
Some of the most enjoyable poems to read, as a resident of The Lea, are those that celebrate the people, places and activities that nurture our community: the local parish church, which Marion keeps 'tidy and welcoming', the village hall with its coffee mornings and Gill and Nigel at the helm. The Lea Village Stores is celebrated as a real focal point of the village, where customers are welcomed with genuine warmth by Mark and Michelle, who are 'good nature personified'. The touching poem, "Doug", celebrates the life of Bob's late neighbour, who was a 'force for good' and whose death has left an empty space in people's lives.

There is a huge richness to this collection that I can't do justice to here, but I would recommend **Views From Lea Bailey** to anyone who enjoys being taken on thought journeys to see the everyday world differently and to ponder interesting questions about human life and experience.

Angela Kirton

### Strolling to and from the bus stop

**DAFFODIL LINE WALKS** by Les Lumsden & Martyn Evans, illustrated by Hannah Ferguson, £6



The Daffodil bus service runs from Ross-on-Wye to Ledbury via Upton Bishop, Gorsley and Kilcot, so it is very much in our area. There are 10 'bus walks' in this book, all served by the Daffodil Line bus service. These walks give you the opportunity to leave the car behind, relax and explore our own pathways 'in the safe hands of experienced local drivers who welcome walkers on board.'

The walks range from 3.5 miles to 10 miles in length. Some are circular, but mostly they avoid retracing your steps to a remote car parking spot because they have been designed to start and finish at Daffodil Line bus stops. All the walks are carefully illustrated and described, with comprehensive notes. The book can be ordered through the Daffodil Line website at [daffodilline.sumupstore.com](http://daffodilline.sumupstore.com)



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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS





Sub-editor:  
John Lancaster

01989 720642

john.lancaster17@gmail.com

### RAIN DID NOT STOP PLAY AT LINTON SUMMER SESSIONS!

On Saturday 30th August, seven local artists and bands took to the stage at The Alma Inn for the annual one-day music festival, Linton Summer Sessions!

Despite persistent drizzle, the event was very well supported with an audience of around 300 people. The two spectator tents were a popular place to sit on a bale and appreciate the incredible local talent we had on the bill, but later on, as the rain eased, many people were up on their feet and dancing away in front of the stage!

The day kicked off with some beautiful melodic songs from Buckthorne, who treated us to some fantastic original songs in addition to well-known covers. Sam Rushton, who lives in Linton, was next on - at 18 he is one to watch with his raw rocky voice and brilliant guitar playing. *(Continued on p39)*



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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

Next up was something totally different, to mix things up a bit: some excellent chilled out jazz from Bluenotes Jazz duo playing saxophone and piano. The following two bands, Big Jim and American Eric, and DB Smith Band brought a bit of rock, soul and blues to the stage which got us all jigging along on those bales. Then the brilliant Baddoos got us up and dancing as a small slice of sunshine made it through the clouds. Rock the 80s were an absolutely fantastic headline band, playing all our favourite 80s anthems!

We must say a massive thank you to our sponsors; Moat Contracting, Naylor Powell, Calendar Lady and Buckthorne - their support enables us to continue with this community event which, over the years, has raised thousands of pounds for charity. We will be holding a charity presentation in October and will report back in *The Chimes* how that went!

Thanks also for the continued support from our first aiders Ross Responders (thankfully I don't think they had much to do - but they were there just in case!!) And of course, a big Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with site preparations and tidy-up, stage (our superb sound and lighting team), and front gate - a real community effort - well done to everybody for making this such a successful little festival.

**Gemma Evans / Alma Inn (who also took the picture!)**

### LINTON VILLAGE HALL

#### LINTON LUNCH CLUB

Linton Lunch Club returns to Linton Village Hall, starting this month and running for the six months through to March. Held on the third Thursday of each month (except December when it will be held on 11th). Please contact Carol - [carol849@btinternet.com](mailto:carol849@btinternet.com)/07811 012593 - if you would like to be included in the monthly mailing list. We look forward to seeing you all again!

### WHAT'S COMING UP AT LVH

#### MY CAR PLAYS TAPES Friday 3rd October at 7pm

(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,' says Stewart Lee in *The Observer*, on 'Don't Need the Sunshine' on Radio 4

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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

### FILIPPO DALL'ASTA QUARTET Friday 14th November

(note: free drink to the one person who notified us of the wrong date in last month's Chimes!)

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 above. 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, rich with storytelling, fiery improvisation, and irresistible rhythm. This is gypsy jazz with a global heartbeat. Intimate, theatrical, and joyfully alive. Cash Bar. Doors open 6.30pm, band on about 7pm.

Tickets £15, £6 under 18s, email: [LVH@lintonvillage.com](mailto:LVH@lintonvillage.com)

### THE WHISKEY RIVER ACOUSTIC QUARTET Friday 28th November 6.30 for 7pm

The Whiskey River Acoustic Quartet are Martin Blake, Aidan Sheehan, Tommy Mills and Alan Cooper, a pruned down, all acoustic version of the 5-piece electric swamp-rocking band Whiskey River. Between them, they play a dazzling variety of instruments including acoustic guitar, fiddle, Cajun accordion, harmonica, mandolin, banjo, double bass, penny whistle and various percussion instruments. In their performances, they play a wide variety of material, much of it from the Southern States of America, incorporating Retro Swamp Blues, Cajun, Zydeco, Folk and Country with a spattering of traditional Irish thrown in for good measure, all delivered with three-part harmony vocals and a real sense of fun and enjoyment.

A dynamic combination, a good time guaranteed, not to be missed! Tickets £12 – email: [LVH@lintonvillage.com](mailto:LVH@lintonvillage.com) to reserve your tickets and seat.

### 7TH ALMA SANTA RUN Sunday 7th December starts at 12.30pm

This scenic fun run for the whole family will again kick start the festive season. The course follows a circular 1.8-mile route around Linton and Linton Hill. The car park, start and finish are all at the Alma Inn (HR9 7RY). **FREE ENTRY**- just turn up in seasonal attire & jog!!! The event will not be timed and runners can proceed at their own speed. A jug of ale for the first Santa home and a mince pie for all finishers! Spectators and dogs on a lead are most welcome as is anyone volunteering to marshal the route.

For more information please contact Gemma Evans at the Alma (01989 720355) or Roger Davies on 07771 812793.

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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

**\*Last minute reminder\***

**FUN MUSIC & MOVIES QUIZ LVH Saturday 27 September**  
Starts 7pm prompt (doors open 6.30pm)

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

### THE LINTON POUND

Local residents will be aware that the Linton Pound has now been demolished. This is a matter of deep regret for many in our community. The great archaeologist, Flinders Petrie, said that "the present has its most serious duty to history in saving the past for the benefit of the future." Whilst we have lost a venerable monument, it has nevertheless been possible to retain the original stone with the exceptionally kind help of Chris Golding in the hope that it can be used to create a public garden that will act as a remembrance of what was and be a celebration of Linton's history. The next step will be to prepare a draft plan for wider consultation which will act as a possible catalyst for further action. If local residents have old photographs of the pound, these would be very helpful in considering the future of the site and Roger Davies ([rogerdaves1@sky.com](mailto:rogerdaves1@sky.com)) would be glad to receive copies of these.

**NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH**  
[www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church](http://www.lintonvillage.com/st-marys-church)

### YPOTRYLL Saturday 4th October

The next evening of music at Linton Church is on **October 4th at 7pm**. We will be welcoming back Simon Pickard, along with Karen Jones and Rachel Tedd who together make up **Ypotryll**. 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

On **Sunday 5th October at 11am** we will be holding a **Village Harvest Festival**. A chance to sing a few of the old Harvest hymns and give thanks to the Lord of the Harvest. We will have a special collection of tinned and dry items suitable for the Ross larder. The service will be followed by the **Harvest Lunch** in the Village Hall.

### HARVEST LUNCH

There is a sign-up sheet in the church for the Harvest Lunch. As previously, the lunch will be a Bring and Share buffet. Please let the Churchwardens know if



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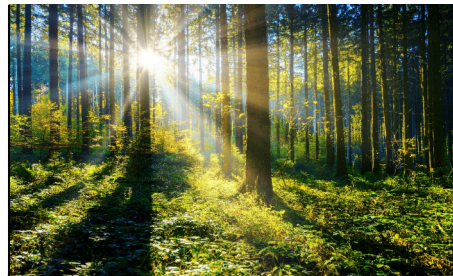
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## LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

you are coming and if you are bringing anything, by **Saturday 4th October**. There is no cost; we rely on donations on the day. The service and lunch aim to be relaxed, friendly and accessible to all. Everyone is welcome!

### BIBLE BRUNCH

October's Bible Brunch takes place on **Sunday 12th October** in the Village Hall. In the final Bible Brunch of the year, we will be looking at how to be a messenger of the Gospel, with the aim of growing in confidence and intentionality in sharing the good news of Jesus with those around us. Come at 10:30am for freshly made coffee or tea, bacon butties and pastries; followed by a DVD presentation and discussion.

### CHURCH MODERNISATION

Recent visitors to the church will have noticed that work is being carried out to help insulate the pews and floor of the church. Hopefully this winter we will feel the benefit of the heating haloes.

### CHURCHYARD CLEAR-UP

This is due to take place on **Saturday 1st November** from **10am** to prepare for **Remembrance**. Everyone welcome: cake provided. If wet, it will be the following **Saturday (8th November)**.

### REMEMBERING

Queen Elizabeth has been quoted as saying "Grief is the price we pay for love". Our annual **Remembering Service** offers a quiet time of reflection to remember and grieve for those we have loved and lost over the years. It can be a recent bereavement or one from many years ago: perhaps you feel you never had a chance to say goodbye? It will be held at **5:30pm** on **Sunday 2nd November**. If you have a loved one whose death you would like remembered by prayers and the lighting of a candle, please let one of the Church Wardens know or sign up on the sheet at the back of church. If you are able to attend, you are invited to light a candle and place it around the font when their name is read out. We will gather for refreshments before the service and end in a time of quiet and reflection. Rev David will be available after the service if anyone wants to talk to him.

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The annual Remembrance Service will be on **Sunday 9th November**. Those who wish to attend assemble from about **10:45am** in the churchyard in good time for the silence at **11am**. The service later proceeds inside the church.



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## LINTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

(Covering Bromsash, Gorsley and Linton villages)

### LINTON(SOUTH) PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is pursuing the installation of village gateways at the entrance to Gorsley village on the B4221. Gateways have proven successful in mitigating road speed because they not only give the impression of a road narrowing, but the siting of gates close to the edge of a road provides a visual deterrent to excess speeds. Gates also have the added benefit of enhancing the environment, particularly in rural locations, while highlighting the presence of a settlement which aids local identity and community cohesiveness.

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](mailto:pcclerk@lintonpc-herefordshire.gov.uk) or telephone: 07763 793695.

### GREENER LIVING SHOW

Don't forget The Greener Living Show, sponsored by the Parish Council, on the afternoon of Saturday 18th October. Everyone is very welcome. Please see the enclosed leaflet for details.



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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS



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

Vicar - David Howell 07903 790049

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 October in the church

**Sunday 5th Morning Worship**

**Sunday 12th Matins**

**Sunday 19th Communion**

**Sunday 26th All Age Service**

### All Services at 10.30 unless shown otherwise

If you require gluten-free communion bread,  
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service

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**EVENSONG every Tuesday,**  
**5.30pm** at Graham and Ann Fowler's  
House. Ring 780600 for details.

**BCP Communion Wednesday 1st**  
**October at 9.30am**, followed by Prayer  
Group

## THE CHURCH: The Craft and Produce Show

A huge thank you to everyone involve in September's Produce Show. It was a  
great team effort, involving organisers, bakers, tea makers, stall helpers, raffle  
donors and sellers, washer-uppers and tidy-uppers and, most importantly,  
everyone who entered the competition and who came to cheer for the winners.

There was some terrific talent on display, and the run-away overall winner  
was Jill Harper (pictured overleaf), who showed what can be achieved with

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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS

dedication and skill, in spite of the dry summer, and the Empet family carried off the prize for best junior entries. Well done everyone.

The show gave a lot of people a fun afternoon, which made it well worth the effort. Thanks to your generosity and support, over £800 was raised for church funds.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to tea, cake and some rousing band music from the Cheltenham Silver Band. Many thanks to the Parish Council for their support and sponsorship.

You will be pleased to know that not only do we now have permission to arrange bringing three-phase electricity to the church, followed by the installation of under pew heaters, before the cold weather sets in, but also that we are going ahead with resurfacing the path from the lychgate. We know that the rough stony surface has been very troublesome for those with mobility issues, and we hope the new path will make things easier as well as looking more welcoming. We will keep you posted about a start date for both projects as there is bound to be some disruption.



**Harvest Festival** will be at 10.30am on **Sunday 5th October**. The church will be beautifully decorated and we will be accepting donations of tinned and dried food for Ross Larder.

**Christmas Fayre** — It's not too early to start thinking about the Christmas Fayre. **Saturday 6th December** will soon creep up on us so if you have an idea for a stall, if you would like to be involved or if you are willing to be roped in to selling tickets for the Grand Hamper Draw, please contact Olivia 07496 685960.

### AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL:

#### FOR THE YOUNG:

**LEGO@UB CLUB** is held on the first Saturday of each month at 10.30am. Lots of Lego, squash and biscuits for the kids. Tea, coffee and cake and chat for parents. Free of charge, but donations welcome. Adult fans of Lego are also welcome. Please check social media for venue/time changes or ring Jane Ayres on 07989 572356 for details.

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

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

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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS

### FIT AND ACTIVE:

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

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

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

### SOCIAL:

**UPTON BISHOP WI** meets on the **second Tuesday of each month, 7-9** 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 WIs, contact 01989 569881 [Upton\\_Bishop\\_WI@herefordshire.org.uk](mailto:Upton_Bishop_WI@herefordshire.org.uk)

For our August meeting, Upton Bishop WI opted to have a picnic. It was a glorious warm evening at St Mary's Garden Village Boathouse (see below).



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## UPTON BISHOP NEWS

Members were able to enjoy a nice chat in the sunshine, with subjects ranging from the WI Clean Rivers campaign to the high price of cocktails! There was a show-and-tell for the craft group's recent origami creations, flapping birds, which you can see hanging up on the right of the picture. and then we discussed quilling, which will be the topic for our next crafting session. As the evening drew to a close, we watched the circling house martins and took in the beautiful sunset.

**COFFEE MORNING** Saturday 1st October 10-12am in the Millennium Hall.

**SOCIAL AFTERNOON** We look forward to seeing you for cake and chat  
**Monday 20th 2.30 4.30pm.**

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

**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 September** — Donna Yandle £20, Elizabeth Misselbrook £10, Jacky Ivimy £5.

### UPTON BISHOP NEWS:

**Welcome** to Mr and Mrs Cole who have moved to Crow Hill

**Wedding Congratulations** to Rhys and Auriole Major who were recently married at Sherborne

### Murder Mystery Friday 7th November at 7pm

in the Millennium Hall. An evening of interactive detective work while you eat your supper. Solve the mystery of The Body in the Library  
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### 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](http://uptonbishop.gov.uk) and click on 'Millennium Hall' for booking info, or contact [pollyannakay@gmail.com](mailto:pollyannakay@gmail.com)





## RECTOR'S LETTER



October is the month for Harvest Thanksgiving in Herefordshire. You may be surprised to know that Harvest Thanksgiving is a more modern addition to the church's calendar than you might think. Its origins are usually traced to the adaptation in 1843 of Lammas day service by the Reverend R S Hawker, a parish priest in Cornwall. He chose the first Sunday in October to celebrate harvest as a Christian response to a largely secular harvest home celebration. Since then, many local traditions for the celebration of harvest have developed in different parts of the country. Harvest suppers are still popular in Herefordshire, and it is a good time for the community to come together.

Harvest is a time when we thank God for his enormous generosity in providing us with the food that we need and to thank God for those who provide it. It is also a good time to think about our own Christian stewardship and giving. The average weekly giving in Hereford is £12 per week. Many people in our villages are unaware that the local churches depend on the local community for their upkeep and maintenance. Today, churches have three main sources of income. These are investments, endowments, revenue raised from fundraising and retail, but the vast majority comes from donations from parishioners.

Jesus challenged his followers to look radically at their attitude to wealth. He expected them to examine critically their patterns of saving, spending and giving. He did not challenge them to give any precise amount. Rather he asked for a much more radical discipleship — one in which people treated all they possessed as having been given to them by God. I heard a lovely story recently about the nature of that kind of discipleship which expresses itself and giving. During the collection at the service in the diocese of Mount Kenya East, in a very poor area, an egg was placed in the collection bag. It was then auctioned by the local bishop and raised ten pounds. This was not the real worth of the egg, but it was the real worth of the love and generosity that had inspired the giving from someone who could possibly not afford to give even an egg. Such is the nature of sacrificial giving and from that example comes again the question: "Are we going to serve God or money?"

I have often noticed that if people learn to be generous financially, then they become generous in other ways as well. I suspect that it is inevitable for a spirit of generosity to reflect the very nature of God himself. When we talk about our economic problems as a church, I hope we never lose sight of that spiritual challenge to be generous.

Harvest is about bringing the first fruits to God. When an Israelite offered to God the first lamb of his flock or the first sheaf of barley from his fields he was not saying "this is yours, the rest is mine." Rather it was "So much you have given me, and here I offer you the 'first fruits' of all that you have given me, in token of all that is yours." Harvest Thanksgiving is about saying thank you to God for his love and generosity. Stewardship starts with God, and His claim on the whole of our lives.

David Howell

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

Date	Aston Ingham	Lea	Linton	Upton Bishop
<b>05<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b>	<b>Harvest Festival</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>10.30am</b>
<b>Readings</b>	Lamentations 1. 1-6.	2 Timothy 1. 1-14.	Luke 17. 5-10.	
<b>12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>	<b>Mattins</b>	<b>Bible Brunch</b>	<b>Communion Service</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>8.00 am</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
<b>Readings</b>	Jeremiah 29. 1, 4-7.	2 Timothy 2. 8-15.	Luke 17. 11-19.	
<b>19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Village Praise</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
<b>Readings</b>	Jeremiah 31. 27-34.	2 Timothy 3. 14 thru 4. 5.	Luke 18. 1-8.	
<b>26<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>	<b>Children's Church</b>	<b>Communion Service</b>	<b>All Age Communion</b>
<b>Last Sunday after Trinity</b>	<b>10.30am</b>		<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>
<b>Readings</b>	Joel 2. 23-end.	2 Timothy 4. 6-8, 16-18.	Luke 18. 9-14.	

**NEW CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR: REV. DAVID HOWELL**  
Please note that the old landline and internet ceased working in June  
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# The Chimes

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