

The Chimes

The ChimesOnline

www.thechimes.org.uk

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

February 2026 No 375

Your magazine for local news and services



Copy deadline for March edition: Saturday 7th February

Your Local Agent

Selling ✓
Purchasing ✓
Auctions ✓
Letting ✓
Commercial ✓
Surveying ✓

NEWENT OFFICE

01531 820844

4 High Street, Newent,
Glos. GL18 1AN

OTHER OFFICES AT:

Mitcheldean - 01594 542535
Gloucester - 01452 505566
Coleford - 01594 835566
Lettings - 01531 822829

Coventry Building Society
Newent Branch - 01531 822337




www.stevegooch.co.uk








CONTENTS

A View from the Hill	4	Linton News	37
Combined Village News	5	Linton (South) PC News	47
Rob The Rainman	6	Upton Bishop News	49
Aston Ingham & Kilcot News	8	Upton Bishop PC News	57
Aston Ingham PC News	15	Rector's Letter	58
Gorsley News	17	Church Services February	59
Lea News	23	Classified Advertisements	60

EDITORIAL

"If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."
African Proverb

Next year will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of a major rural community hub in our area. Aston Ingham Village Hall is a perfect example of the village hall movement which developed strongly in the early 20th century. You only have to read *The Chimes* each month to see the huge diversity of use that this building offers in supporting its local community. I remember using it for social events throughout my teens (I am now in my seventies!). My wife and daughter also used it for "Rainbows" activities in the '90's. In the centre pages of this issue you will find an article written by our sub editor for Aston Ingham, Mike Clayton. It is a very informative and interesting piece giving a clear picture of the life of A.I. Village Hall. The age and use of the building have resulted in a great deal of wear and tear. Major improvements and repairs are needed to keep this hall in the condition that its community deserves. £30,000 is now required for essential repairs. Details of how to help raise this money can be found at the end of the centre page article. If you, believe in the value of a thriving community then please help in any way that you can.

Steve Tommey

The Saturday of the first week of each month, prior to publication is our deadline for submitting copy, and is confirmed on the front cover. If in doubt, please contact your sub-editor — their details are in the heading of each section. PHOTOGRAPHS are very welcome to illustrate news reports and should be a minimum of 300 dpi for the magazine or less for the website. Events included in *The Chimes* will be limited to a 2-month in advance cut-off. If beyond this please resend. Thank you

A VIEW FROM THE HILL

Winter Blues

Now, early January, we are in the depths of winter which is not everybody's favourite time. I like to think that the sun's declination shows that the sun is moving northwards and the days will be lengthening — hardly perceptible at the moment, but it is coming. However, Spring is still far away. Or is it? March 21st is the first day of Spring (*real* Spring, not that met office reasoning of Spring) and is not that far away. OK, we could have some tough weather before and after 21/3 but the days will lengthen and the sun, when it shows itself, will feel warmer.

Already the snowdrops are showing themselves and the daffodil shoots are slowly growing. Celandines are showing some sturdy leaves along with other wild plants, so do not let the winter blues bother you, as better things are already on the way.

Peter Lockwood



COMBINED VILLAGE NEWS

The Ashbourne Family Saga

In *The Chimes Online* there will be chapters for both January and February. A pre-Christmas visit to the New Theatre Royal in Worcester, followed by the seasonal festivities. In the February edition, an outbreak of influenza (potentially fatal in the 1890's) causes much concern for Edward.

Read the whole story only in *The Chimes* online at www.thechimes.org.uk, then select Extras, Info & Blogs, then Historical Blog. It's all there.

Dorian Osborne

5 Villages Film Festival update

During the Festival, all the village halls will be screening a selection of short, ten minute, films produced by students from the University of Gloucestershire. Among the award winning films will be Elise Martin's *Dearly Departed*; James Davis' *Dead Canary*; Alana Volavola's *Delicious Love*; Lewis Hill's *Dragon Lich King*; Kay Proctor's *I'll Just Have Cats*; Liz Cartwright's *Signed, Marlo* and Joseph Walker's *The Walker*.

Joseph's films have won a number of awards and we are delighted to say that he will be at Linton Village Hall on 7 February for the screening of *The Walker*. In an inspired pick, Huntley will be screening Evelyn Wadsworth's 2024 Gothic Frankenstein short, *The Creature of Love*, as part of its Valentine's Day matinée programme.

For the full programme, please see **page 34**.

Newent Mend & Repair Café dates

The dates for the Saturday morning café at the Newent Memorial Hall have now been announced. It operates on the third Saturday of the month and can help with a wide variety of household items which may be in need of repair, including electrical appliances, ceramics and jewellery, clothing and textiles, small furniture and even bike repairs. You can sit and relax with a cup of tea or coffee, plus a slice of delicious home-made cake if you like. The café is non profit making and only asks for a reasonable donation for the work involved, plus any replacement parts at cost.

The forthcoming dates are: **21 February, 21 March, 18 April, 16 May, 20 June, 18 July, 15 August, 19 September, 17 October and 21 November.**

**Smiths
Funeral Services
of Newent**



(KJ, PJ, SM, SJ & RJ Tyler)

Independent Family Funeral Directors

24 hour Personal Attention, Home Visits,

Private Chapels of Rest in Newent & Gloucester

Pre-Payment Funeral Plans,

Advice on Eco-Friendly Funerals

Furnace Lane, Newent, GLOS GL18 1DD 01531 820474

TYLERS MEMORIALS (SM, SJ & RJ Tyler)

Memorials supplied and fitted

Hand carved/Sandblasted lettering

Renovations undertaken



ROB THE RAINMAN

RAINFALL REPORT

November's total was 121.2mm, 70% more than average. Mild but overall dull for the first couple of weeks with significant rainfall on the 11th (22.9mm) and a very wet spell of 47.4mm on the 13th and 14th as a result of Spanish-named storm Claudia. It was cooler with a bit more in the way of sunshine after this. Frosty starts on the 20th and 21st and again on

the 26th. December's total was 101.4mm, so again quite a wet month at 40% more than average. 11.6mm on the 1st saw the month in with 24.8mm on the 5th. Our own storm Bram on the 8th and 9th was for us just quite windy with 13.6mm of rain. The wet weather continued (12.1mm on the 18th) until the 21st, but it was also noticeably colder and quite breezy with a north to north easterly wind. Some sunshine but mostly dull, including Christmas, but New Years Eve was a lovely winter's day after a frosty start.

So 2025: certainly it will be remembered for the very dry and sunny spring and summer, this being accompanied by a number of heatwaves, and for the new records set. Overall rainfall was only down 20% on the yearly average, but a big seasonal variation with spring and summer down 75% on the average whilst autumn and winter was up 25% more than the average

D.M. P. Decorators
 Interior/Exterior
 Domestic/Commercial
 Quality Work/Sensible Price
 Fully Insured
 Fascia, gutterings
 And all water goods supplied
 and fitted
 References always available
 from satisfied local customers.
 Please phone for
 a no obligation quote
 or for advice
07881 786868 01989 780539
 Orchard Flat, Beeches
 Upton Bishop. HR9 7UD

D.M.P
 GRAVE RESTORATION
 & MAINTENANCE

*We offer a range of services including
 headstone cleaning and re-lettering,
 annual flower laying plus all general
 aspects of caring for your loved one's
 resting place.*


*Covering Herefordshire,
 Worcestershire and South Wales*



07881 786868
 01989 562819
 dan.pomfret@tiscali.co.uk

Please contact us for a free quote

01989 720355 **THE ALMA** LINTON HR9 7RY



RURAL VENUE FOR PRIVATE HIRE
 IDEAL FOR WEDDING RECEPTIONS & PARTIES
 LICENSED BAR • PARKING • OPTIONAL STAGE HIRE

WWW.ALMAINNLINTON.CO.UK ALMAINNLINTON

NAPIT **ELECTRICIAN** Electricity Fixed
www.electricsfixed.com

Do you find it difficult to get someone to come and do a small job?

- ♦ Extra Lights and Sockets
- ♦ New Fuseboards
- ♦ Smoke Alarms
- ♦ New installations
- ♦ Electric Vehicle Chargers
- ♦ Solar PV Installations
- ♦ Battery Storage
- ♦ Landlord's and Home Buyers Reports (EICR)
- ♦ Electric Heaters
- ♦ Fault Finding
- ♦ PAT Testing
- ♦ Garden Lights
- ♦ Rewires

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call Neil at (01989) 481060
 Email: enquiries@electricsfixed.com



ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS



Sub-editor:
Mike Clayton

07803 975398

aichimes@outlook.com

CHURCH NEWS

CAROL SERVICE

We were delighted to welcome over seventy people to our Carol Service. The church was beautifully decorated, with a magnificent Christmas tree as the centrepiece. Inspirational readings were delivered by members of our village community, and we enjoyed singing traditional carols, led by our resident organist, Mrs Auriol Edwards.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who contributed mince pies and mulled wine, helping to make the occasion so enjoyable.

FOOD BANK

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts & food in time for Christmas. Helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

REGULAR SERVICES

1st Sunday Evensong at 4.30 pm

2nd Sunday Parish Communion at 10.30 am

3rd Sunday Village Praise at 10.30 am

4th Sunday Parish Communion at 10.30 am

CHURCH INFORMATION

Vicar Reverend David Howell 07903 790049 revdavidhowell@icloud.com

Reverend Ewan Gillings 07568 515628 revgillings@gmail.com

Churchwarden James Harding 07749 188185 daffodil.rose1968@gmail.com

VILLAGE NEWS & EVENTS

THE SINGALONG WITH THE WEDDING SINGER

In November 2025, the Village Hall was buzzing as we welcomed Lewis Hutton, performing as *The Wedding Singer*, for a wonderful evening of live entertainment. More than 55 locals came along to enjoy a fantastic selection of

PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

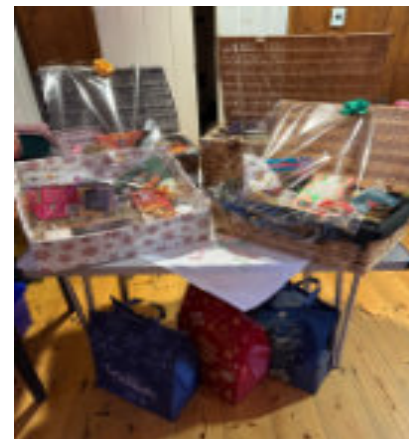
ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

classic hits from the 60s and 70s. Before long, spontaneous dancing broke out (more than once!), and it was clear everyone was having a great time.



The half-time casserole, prepared to its usual high standard, went down a treat, and by the end of the evening, everyone headed home full, happy, and just a little hoarse from all the singing along. Another winning event for the Village Hall!

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING



On 12th December we opened the doors for our ever-popular monthly coffee morning, and with Christmas just around the corner it had a very festive feel. Alongside the usual tea and coffee, we treated everyone to mulled wine and delicious sausage rolls, which went down a storm.

To add to the fun, we raffled three fabulous hampers, giving our lucky winners some wonderful goodies to enjoy over Christmas. People travel several miles to join us at our coffee mornings, so why not pop in and see what all the fuss is about? You'll be very welcome!

ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

Forthcoming events at the Village Hall

What's On	When	Details	Information & Booking
Village Hall Committee Meeting	Tuesday 3 rd February at 11:30 am	Monthly meeting of the Village Hall Committee.	Sue Harding 01989 720528
Country Dancing	Friday 6 th February 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
Pop Up Pub	Saturday 7 th February at 7 pm.	Fabulous to see more people popping in for a drink and a chat. Give it a try!	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Aston Ingham W.I.	Tuesday 10 th February at 1:45 am	The speaker is John Butterworth his talk is 'The Nurse who changed Guinea Bissau.' Everyone is welcome	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Crochet Club	Tuesday 12 th February at 2 pm	This group meets in the committee room at the Village Hall All are welcome; you don't have to crochet, but we have a teacher on hand if you would like to learn. Come and join a great group! £2.50 per person includes refreshments.	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Short Mat Bowls	Friday 13 th February 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 17 th February at 2 pm	All welcome, you don't have to knit, just come along & join in the natter. £2.50 per person includes refreshments. Come along and discover this year's ambitious project!	Janet Potter 01452 830556 or 07340 078520
Book Club and Coffee Morning	Friday 27 th February at 10:30 am	As it's nearly St David's Day we will be serving warm Welsh Cakes. 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
Six Nations Rugby and Pop-Up Pub	Saturday March 14 th at 7 pm	Usual pop-up pub with a great selection of beers, wines, soft and zero alcohol drinks and snacks with the huge bonus of the England vs France rugby kicking off at 8:10 pm	Tania Clayton 01989 720229 or 07796 955424
Aston Ingham Reading Group	First Saturday of every month 09:30 – 11:00 am	February 2026 Shipping News by Annie Proulx. March – Gorky Park by Martin Cruz Smith	Jan Falkiner 07899 728346

ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

ASTON INGHAM BOWLS CLUB NEWS

The club has seen much success in the last year, with many matches and an increase in the number of teams and players competing this winter. Non-competitive occasions are also very much part of the calendar, with friendly roll-ups, followed by a chat over tea or coffee.

The clubs social scene has been hectic with enjoyable, quizzes, lunches, dinners, breakfasts and teas for members and non-members. Notable is the £13.5K raised to enable us to start on the building of our much-needed car-parking space, all being created by very willing and hard-working members.

One success we are very proud of is the CDO Community Engagement 2025 Award from Bowls Herefordshire. The hard work of member Jill Eyles and her team has created opportunities for various community groups, including playing and invitation sessions for Newent Scouts, the Forest of Dean Carers Hub, Dementia Matters and Newent Runners. We also look forward to welcoming residents from Pound Farm and Tibberton & Taynton Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. Please do contact Jill on 07710 859001 if you have a community group that would enjoy a taster session.

None of this could have been achieved without our generous sponsors and donors, Come and join us, we are a welcoming club and community. Visit our Facebook and Webpage www.astoninghambowlingclub.co.uk



Pictured with the CDO Community Engagement 2025 Award from Bowls Herefordshire are chairman Margaret Owers (centre) with members Jill Eyles and Christine Rivers

Wayne Phillips

Senior Consultant Family Lawyer

Email: wphillips@setfords.co.uk

Phone: 01989 550 155

Wayne is a specialist family lawyer with 20+ years of experience, helping resolve disputes swiftly and cost-effectively. He specialises in:



- Divorce, dissolution & separation
- Cohabitation
- Child arrangement orders
- Financial agreements
- Pre- and post-nuptial agreements
- Domestic abuse
- Change of name

setfords

Tree Surgery
Stump Removal
Emergency Callout
Vegetation Management
Woodland Management

IPAF LANTRA City & Guilds NPTC Arboriculture Association

www.altarb.co.uk 07974 884326

ASTON INGHAM & KILCOT NEWS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 11th — Quiz Night with Buffet

April 18th — Pop Up Pub

May 9th — Afternoon Tea

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

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

November 1st Nigel Johnson, 2nd - Colin Leighton, 3rd - Mike Askew (donated to VH)

December 1st Heather Hobbs (donated to VH), 2nd - Colin Jenkins, 3rd - Dave Crowhurst (donated to VH)

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.

Church Cleaning

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

Pilates
With Jules
Fun, Friendly, Fitness

Aston Ingham Village Hall
Wednesday 6.30-7.30pm

FIRST CLASS FREE
Only £8 a week...
Pay as you go!

Call Jules on:
07842 228726



NEED A HELPING HAND?

Local lady with over 20 years experience in the care sector

References & Fully Insured

- * Meal Preparation
- * Holiday Cover
- * Companionship
- * Personal Care

For an informal chat and to discuss needs please call Sue on 07842 228726 **EXCELLENT RATES**



LUKE SMITH
TREE SURGEON

- ✓ Tree pruning & thinning
- ✓ Treefelling
- ✓ General tree maintenance
- ✓ Hedge trimming & reducing
- ✓ Fully insured
- ✓ General garden maintenance

NPTC QUALIFIED WORKFORCE

07770 942649

LS_TREEMAN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK



Counselling & Psychotherapy
can change your life

For a confidential consultation
call Helen Palmer
(Bsc. MBACP accredited)

Stress, Anxiety & Depression.
Obsessive & Addictive Behaviour.
Relationships, Anger,
Lack of Confidence, etc.

01989 720247
07773 248744

helenpalmer1261@gmail.com
helenpalmercounselling.co.uk

professional standards authority
accredited register

RoA



ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Below are the headlines of our work. We advise you to regularly check the Parish Council website for up-to-the-minute news and information.

By the time you read this article, the Parish Council will have met towards the end of January, having taken a Christmas break in December. Although it may seem very belated, we would like to wish you all a Very Happy and Healthy New Year.

SID (SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE) SHOULD BE BACK IN PLACE BY NOW

Due to some faulty components, SID has been back and forth to the manufacturers and is being returned in full working order. We can now look forward to collecting, analysing and publishing data in earnest. Thanks to Chris Yates, who has been liaising with the manufacturer.

DRAINAGE GRANT SUCCESS

Our application to Herefordshire Council has been successful to the tune of approximately £21K. This will enable us to tackle some very longstanding run-off from Aston Court Farm, and a second project in Aston Crews. The Parish Council are now liaising with the landowner to secure permission to commence the work. The drainage work in Aston Crews is likely to be completed shortly. Thanks to John Whatley and Terry Griffiths, our Lengthsman.

ROAD RESURFACING ALONG THE B4222

The Parish Council would like to thank parishioners for their patience in what was a lengthy resurfacing operation in November. Both the Resurfacing Team and the Traffic Management Team engaged daily at 8am with the parish council and responded extremely positively to parishioner concerns, allowing general access where possible and access to the Village Hall for some important gatherings in the duration. Thanks to Tania Clayton for daily liaison with Maggie Pettit and for keeping the Parish Council website up to date.

ANNUAL BUDGET PREPARATION

The budget will be finalised and published on the website following the January meeting. The Council look forward to discussing the Projects for the coming year, which will further support improvements in the Parish.

Maggie Pettit

HOWATS
Chimney Sweeps Ltd

Call us on:
07801 740 516
01594 862 976

Professional Chimney Sweeps - Certificate issued with every sweep

- **Chimney Sweeping**
We'll ensure your chimney is clean, safe and ready to use
- **Accessories**
We provide a great selection of items for your chimney
- **Service & Repair**
Qualified to carry out services. Repairs to any appliance, e.g. fireglass, brick and rope.
- **Cowl Fitting**
Stop draughts, leaks and wildlife in their tracks without extensive range of chimney cowls.

www.howatschimneysweeps.ltd

Yell.com
Google
facebook

Hayes Plumbing

No job too small give us a call.

We cover all aspects of plumbing from bathrooms to those little jobs that you have been itching to get sorted.

- Fully qualified tradesman
- Fully insured

Tel- 07498848911

Email- edhayes25.2000@gmail.com



GORSLEY NEWS




Sub-editor:
Laura Carroll

07837 485929

laurajones13@hotmail.com

CHRIST CHURCH GORSLEY

We are now in 'the bleak midwinter' but a warm welcome always awaits you at Christ Church. Our regular weekly Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am with the first Sunday being one of Holy Communion.

We also have a Benefice Service here for Ash Wednesday on the 18th of February at 7:30 pm. And we will be holding a World Day of Prayer Service here at 2pm on Friday the 6th of March.

We would like to thank everyone who helped with our Christmas services- especially the very festive candlelit Carol Service. And we wish everyone a peaceful and happy new year! For further details of any of our services please contact gorsleychurch@btinternet.com

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer is a women-led global prayer service celebrated on the first Friday of March each year. This special service is rotated between our local churches with ladies from each participating.

This year Christ Church Gorsley has the privilege of hosting this service which has been prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria.

Everyone is welcome (men too) to join us on the 6th March, 2pm.

For more information please get in touch with Jenny Facey 07717 278023 or Viv Ferguson.

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

PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

GORSLEY NEWS

GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is still requiring a Booking Clerk. This post is not onerous and can be done from home. For further details please ring Margaret Evans, the current booking clerk on 07969 030809.

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

For more information please contact: gorsleyvh@gmail.com

Hall Secretary, Anne Course: oldmole@btinternet.com

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

100 CLUB

Our recent winners: £25 - Sheila Fowler, £10 - John Woodthorpe and £5 - Malcolm Dolby. Funds raised by the 100 Club are for improvements to the village hall, including lighting and heating.

COMING SOON TO GORSLEY VILLAGE HALL

5 VILLAGES FILM FESTIVAL

Thursday 19th February

Mrs Lowry & Son — Doors open 6.15 for 7pm.

Gorsley Village Hall is delighted to be taking part in the first 5 Villages Film Festival. We will be showing *Mrs Lowry & Son*, starring Vanessa Redgrave and Timothy Spall, the story of the painter and his relationship with his mother, who tries to dissuade him from pursuing painting. There will also be a short film or two from students of the BA(Hons) Film & TV Production course at the University of Gloucestershire, and we hope they will be there to talk about their work and meet the audience. There will be a bar, sweet treats and snacks, quite possibly ice-cream and we're hoping for freshly made popcorn too! So please come and support the festival and emerging film makers at the beginning of their careers. To be certain of a ticket, please book in advance online using TicketSource.co.uk/FiveVillagesFilmFestival, £5 (plus 42p fee). Tickets will also be available at Gorsley Community Shop. Any unsold tickets will be available on the door.



GORSLEY FLOWER, PRODUCE, ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW 2026

Coming your way! Saturday, 22nd August 2026 with all profits to Gorsley Village Hall.

The Show schedule (which will include the entry form) will be available early in 2026. Keep a look out for it so that you can get a head start with your craft, art, culinary or gardening plans.

GORSLEY NEWS

Entry to the show will be open to all Gorsley residents, members of Gorsley based organisations and children attending Gorsley Goffs school along with their families.

Watch this space, social media and posters around Gorsley Village for more information.

Contact us on gorsleyshow@gmail.com

GORSLEY AND DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

We are a group of people who enjoy gardens and gardening. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. If you think you might be interested in joining our club or would just like to know a bit more about us, please call Charlotte on 01989780760 or email gorsleyanddistrictgardenclub@gmail.com. Our next meeting is on Monday 16th February, 2026 at 7.30 pm in Gorsley Village Hall.

Our speaker is Mick Poultny, also known as the Compost King! Mick will explain how to make a natural, cost-effective and highly efficient compost, which is ready to use in just a month.

Entrance is free to members, £3 for visitors. No need to book - visitors are very welcome.



NEWENT & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

The Newent and District Probus Club is a friendly local group for retired and semi-retired professionals and businessmen who enjoy good company and interesting conversation. Part of a nationwide organisation, the club meets twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 10.00 a.m. in Gorsley Village Hall. Meetings begin with tea and coffee, followed by an engaging talk from a guest speaker.

Members enjoyed a busy and varied programme throughout 2025, with social highlights including skittles and quiz evenings, visits to local places of interest, monthly pub lunches, a summer garden party, and a popular Christmas lunch, alongside a wide range of guest speakers.

The club is already looking forward to an equally full programme in 2026, with an exciting mix of speakers and social events planned. Whether newly retired or simply looking to expand your social circle,

Newent and District Probus Club offers a relaxed and welcoming way to stay active and involved in the community.

Visitors are always welcome, with no obligation to join. For more information, please visit our website: newentprobus.com or contact our Club Secretary: 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

**ALISON
MOBILE
HAIR & NAILS**

Ladies, Gents, Children & OAP's
Over 30 yrs Experience

Manicure & Pedicure
"CND Shellac", Gel nails-last 2/3 weeks
Mini Manicure – File, Shape, Polish

*All in the comfort of your Home
without Salon Prices.
Professional, Friendly, Reliable.*

For more information call Alison
Tel: 01452 831 253
Mob: 07786 383 705

A member of:
Associated Beauty Therapists

Techniplumb
www.techniplumb.co.uk PLUMBING & HEATING

Gas, LPG & Oil
Central Heating Installations
Installations
Boiler Servicing & Maintenance
Landlord/Safety Certificates
Underfloor Heating & Renewables
Complete Bathroom Design & Installation
Worcester Accredited Installer
Qualified & Insured

01989 567209 07968 905239
info@techniplumb.co.uk

PAUL COWLARD
Carpentry

Kitchens, Doors, Roofs
Gazebos, Decks, Carports

For all your carpentry needs — 30+ years experience



For a free quote
Call 07494 587330
rtcpaul@gmail.com

GORSLEY NEWS

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.

GORSLEY COMMUNITY SHOP & POST OFFICE

At the end of December 2025 we saw our shop Manager, **Jacky Bentham** retire and step away from the shop. Jacky was the manager and was instrumental in creating the foundations of the shop back in 2018. With some time away, she came back to manage the shop and Post Office again in 2023. During both terms, Jacky's efforts have seen the shop go from strength to strength. Thank you to everyone that recognized these efforts in giving towards her farewell and thank you gifts.

To all our customers we are pleased to introduce you to **Paul Parker** who has taken on the role to manage the shop and Post Office. It is a hard act to follow, but Paul has now been in the shop since the end of November. Being local himself, he is focused on ensuring the shop continues to meet the needs of our local community.

If you are interested in volunteering in the shop we are always keen to hear from you. Email manager@gorsleycommunityshop.co.uk



CERTAINLY WOOD
KILN DRIED LOGS

Pioneers of kiln dried logs
 Sustainably sourced hardwood logs
 Ready to burn assured
 Kindling & Flamers natural firelighters



£20 OFF
YOUR NEXT ORDER
WITH CODE CHIMES20

• Orders over £100 Cannot be combined with other discounts & can only be redeemed once

www.certainlywood.co.uk
 01981 251796

FEET FIRST
HEALTHCARE FOR FEET

Tina Morgan
 MCFHP MAFHP

- Toe and Finger Nail Cutting
- Callus & Corn Removal
- Treatment of Cracked Heels
- General and Diabetic foot care
- Reduction of thickened Nails
- Treatment of fungal nails and infections

To arrange an appointment in the comfort of your own home call:
 07738 339879 - 01989 769421
 Email: feetfirst642@gmail.com

T.SMITH MAINTENANCE
 Specialist in Building and Landscaping
 All waste removed free of charge



- Trees pruned & pollarded, lopped, topped or felled
- Hedges and shrubs trimmed and tidied
- All general garden work undertaken

Other services we offer are:

- Patios re-pointed and laid • Patios jet washed and re-sanded • Block paving lifted and re-laid where necessary • Gravel supplied and laid • Garden wall construction • Pointing of chimneys and walls
- Fencing jobs • Roofing jobs and repairs • Moss removal
- Guttering and fascia cleaning and repairs

For a FREE quote call or text:
 Office: 01989 720653 Mobile: 07437 219786

SMITHS
 OF NEWENT
 10 Broad Street, Newent, Gloucestershire GL16 1AP
 01531 821776

ANTIQU & COLLECTABLES AUCTIONS

Sales advice and Valuations by Appointment

Home Visits for Larger Consignments

Live Online Bidding

Professional Friendly Service

Please telephone 01531 821776
 Or see our website for further information:
www.smithsnewentauctions.co.uk
 Fully Illustrated Catalogues Online

LEA NEWS



Sub-editor:
Angela Kirton

07474 378806

kirtona150@gmail.com

NEWS FROM LEA CHURCH



I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. We were busy at the church with our various services, the photos are from the Advent Carol Service at which the children from Children's Church told us all about the Advent Candles and their meanings. This was a lovely service and well attended. Thank you to all who came along. Similarly, the Torchlight Carol service at the village hall was also well supported - again our thanks to all who came along to it. It was nice after the hectic pace of Christmas to have a quieter New Year!

We are now starting to put together our Entertainments agenda for the year. if there is anything you think we could possibly do, please do contact me on 01989 750808.

Our first event will be the

PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

CRYSTAL CLEAR EAR IRRIGATION



Safe earwax removal in the comfort of your own home performed by a qualified experienced nurse using water irrigation

Area covered: Forest of Dean, Ross on Wye
And surrounding villages/towns 20 mile radius

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT OR FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION PLEASE RING:

07961 016616

Or e-mail:
crystalclearhearing63@aol.com



Do you need help around your home?
Housework, Laundry, Shopping, Meal
Preparation, Medical appointments, Pension
Collection, Social Time, or Companionship.

Fully insured and Enhanced DBS
Please call 07980986763 or email
domestichomehelpers@hotmail.com
www.domestichomehelpersltd.co.uk

H.P. Robinson Painter & Decorator

Over 35 years experience in both
new and old properties.
Internal and External decoration.
Kitchen cabinet and furniture painting.



07825 551222

www.hprobinson.co.uk



Amenity Spraying Services

Lawns – Paddocks – Sports Pitches

Golf Courses – Invasive Weed Control

All Hard Surfaces

T: 07495 641819

E: nick.floydsturfcare@gmail.com

www.floydsturfcare.co.uk

LEA NEWS



Pancake Day Races at the village hall - keep your eyes peeled for notices! Then it's all go for Easter!! (Yes, the shops had Easter Eggs in before Christmas was over!)

Our very best wishes and congratulations to Victor and Chloe on the occasion of their marriage at Lea Church on 17th January.

Take care all and God Bless

Marion Martin. Churchwarden.

LEA PLAY AND CHAT

We are back and have enjoyed the cold weather! with pictures of snowflakes, snowmen and polar bears, but now we are looking forwards to spring and a slightly warmer climate. We encouraged

the children to get out and about and join in the British Bird Count by making our own charts and bird pictures. We have welcomed new families to the group, and we meet on Fridays 9.00 - 10.30am in the Lea School hall - everyone is warmly welcome.

Forthcoming event

An Animal interactive Session, April 1st at 2.00pm in the Lea Village Hall. To book a place contact Carolyn 07765 555588

LEA VILLAGE HALL

We value our Village Hall in Lea and are now considering how best to promote its use not just to our residents, but to other villages as well.

The Trustees are looking at the list of jobs required during 2026, and to kick start the process the main hall has been decorated over the Christmas/New Year period, making it so much lighter and brighter. One other urgent issue has been a leaking roof over the Committee Room, but with that repaired it's a case of preserving funds before anything else can be considered.

We are also pleased to say that in the couple of months before Christmas, the new seat in memory of the late Jacky Hopkins (our previous Chair) had



THE CROWN INN LEA

www.thecrowninnlea.co.uk

"TUCKED AWAY IN THE VILLAGE OF LEA, ON THE HEREFORDSHIRE-GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER, THE CROWN INN IS A BEAUTIFULLY PRESERVED 15TH-CENTURY PUB WITH A WARM WELCOME AND A PASSION FOR PROPER FOOD."



Our kitchen celebrates the seasons with ever-changing specials that showcase the best of local produce. We use fresh vegetables from Evans of Monmouth, top-quality meats from Hanks' Butchers, and potatoes grown just up the road at Rock Farm. Every dish is thoughtfully prepared, full of flavour, and rooted in the local landscape.

Behind the bar, you'll find award-winning ales from Wye Valley Brewery and a carefully selected list of wines from Hay Wines. Join us for our brilliant Sunday roast or treat yourself to our popular Thursday Steak Night, featuring prime cuts cooked to perfection on our Synergy Grill.

@thecrowninnlea thecrowninnlea



WE'RE OPEN

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

4.30pm

THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY

11.30am

Whether you're enjoying a pint in our light and airy bar, relaxing in the beer garden, or staying the night in one of our five tastefully decorated bedrooms, The Crown Inn is a place to unwind, eat well, and feel at home.'

info@thecrowninnlea.co.uk | 01989 554100

LEA NEWS



arrived and it is now in situ in the patio area (see above) with an appropriate commemoration plate inscribed "In memory of Jacky Hopkins, who touched so many lives. A faithful friend, never to be forgotten". This is courtesy of Lea Parish Council.

Fundraising at the hall is prominent in our minds since the annual Quiz Evening planned for 28th November was cancelled due to lack of interest. This concerns us, as for many years November was always the time it occurred, and as our regular Quiz Master had prepared the questions it was very disappointing. Perhaps I should quote him on how he prepares: "I always lean on the side of my questions and photographs being such that most participants can score at least 60% to ensure they are inclusive in the evening and not embarrassed. I plan to have 6 sections of 20 questions across a wide range of subjects and a photograph identification section of 20 well known people".

Consequently, we have now booked **Friday 20th March** 7.00pm for 7.30pm start as our new date, and hope that this time we can fill the hall as on previous occasions. Keep a look out for booking arrangements and a poster in this issue, but you can of course contact me, Sylvia Nicholls on: 07817 473813 or sylvia.nicholls@btinternet.com

Future dates for your diary at the hall are:

Monthly Coffee mornings on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 4th February, 4th March and 1st April from 10.00 am – 11.30 am.

Regular monthly Bingo sessions run the Lea Residents Association Wed 11th February, 18th March, 22nd April, 20th May, 7.00pm for 7.30 "Eyes Down".

Lea Lunch Club on the last Wednesday of each month 25th February and 25th March. Contact Nicky Keef to book 07718 065946.

Unit 11
Tufthorn Industrial Est
Stepbridge Road
Coleford
Gloucestershire
GL16 8PJ
contact@revillmowers.co.uk



REVILL
MOWERS LTD

SERVICE • REPAIRS • SALES • SPARES

Tel: 01594 810746

www.revillmowers.co.uk

Fully Stocked Showroom



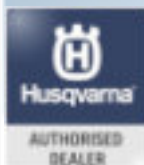
SEGWAY
NAVIMOW GPS
Robotic Mowers
from £949



**Battery &
Petrol
Models on
Display**

**Spare Parts &
Accessories**

Husqvarna Automower® Meet Your New Gardener



Demonstrations available
Free site visit

Service & Repair Over 30 Years Experience

Fully Trained Mechanics
Genuine Spare Parts



Full Product Support
Collection & Delivery Service



LEA NEWS

Wednesday 1st April, 2.00- 4.00 pm, Play and Chat session for young children – see Lea Play and Chat section above.

Do also check the Lea Village Hall website for up to date information on all the regular clubs and events that you might like to join. The following groups currently meet each week. Contact details for the group organisers are on the events page of the website:

Mondays - Yoga 9.10 – 10.10am. Brownies in term time 5.45 – 7.15pm

Tuesdays - Short Mat Bowls 7.30 – 9.30pm. Beginners welcome too

Thursdays - Keep Fit (older people but anyone welcomed) 11.30 – 1.00pm. Let's talk Spanish – 3 sessions from 10.00am (led by a native Spanish speaker). Yoga 6.30 – 7.30pm

Fridays - Painting Group 9.30am – 12 noon (newcomers welcome)

LEA VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR: NOVEMBER

1st Prize £25 - John Roworth

2nd Prize £10 - Anne Hennessy

3rd Prize £5 - Sarah Thomas

DECEMBER

1st Prize £25 - Brian Jones

2nd Prize £10 - Chris Rivers

3rd Prize £5 - Yvonne Taylor

LEA CAFÉ

It was good to see everyone at the January coffee morning, quite a crowd, and to sing Happy (??th) Birthday to David our village Vicar!

The **February** meeting falls on **Wednesday 4th** from 10am at the village hall, as always, and all Lea residents are warmly invited to pop in for coffee and cakes. A couple of things to highlight:

Firstly, Hereford & Worcester Fire Service will be having an information table there, if anyone wants to talk to them about safety and prevention, or even to book a free visit to your home to assess and advise on fire safety ideas.

Secondly, please come along with your favourite ideas for this year's Day Trip, which will probably happen in June.

Do bring your neighbours along to the coffee morning anytime, if a lift is needed contact me, Gill Davis on 01989 750442.

LEA LUNCH CLUB

The lunch club meets again on **February 25th** at 12.30pm in the village hall. We have a waiting list for the lunch, so if you're interested in coming along, please speak to Nicky: 07718 065946. Priority is always given to Lea residents.

LEA FRIDAY PAINTERS

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



BLOOMED
FLORAL DESIGN
HEREFORDSHIRE

www.bloomedherefordshire.com

Specialising in styling your event with living blooms or locally cut stems – contact us today to discuss your wedding or special occasion



ANDREW BURFORD
BUILDING SERVICES

The Complete Building Service
Kitchens & Bathrooms - Designed & Fitted
Carpentry & Joinery
Plastering
Wall & Floor Tiling, Painting & Decorating
Property Alterations, Extensions, Renovations

Please feel free to call on:
01989 768679 or 07815068305
Or view
www.andrewburfordbuilding.co.uk

LEA PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

THE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

The agenda and full minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the Lea Parish Council website www.theleaparishcouncil.gov.uk
Anyone in the parish can contact the council by e-mailing clerk@leaparishcouncil.gov.uk

The meeting on 26th November 2025 was attended by 6 Councillors, the Clerk to the Council and five members of the public.

The new Chair, Martin Richards, welcomed members of the public. The Council heard a synopsis of a recent planning application, with members of the public having the opportunity to question/discuss any issues. After consideration, the Parish Council resolved to support the Planning Application 252870 — Land at Line House.

Open Session/Views of Residents: Members of the public acknowledged the new Chair had attended the Coffee Morning in the Lea Village Hall and requested the Council do more to raise its profile in the village. Martin had been surprised that some residents were unaware of the Parish Council's work. Discussions will continue on raising the profile within the village.

A written submission to the Clerk expressed concerns that the new road surface on the A40 will have the same issues with leaves/plants growing in the edges and blocking drains. Martin has been meeting with the new Lengthsman and Locality Steward and these issues will be addressed as needed. At the time of writing Balfour Beatty are responsible as most issues occur on A and B roads in the village.

Residents expressed concerns about the junction of the B4224 /A40. Members of the council have daily experience of this junction where traffic does not stop/give way/look left. There are blind entrances/exits on the A40 plus the school entrance. Councillors expressed the view that "it was only a matter of time" before the recent "near misses" become a serious accident. Martin has agreed to follow this through with relevant authorities.

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting of 24th September 2025 were accepted. Finance statements and bank balances were accepted. The Tree Warden scheme is to be considered in future meetings when more is known of the roles/responsibility.

The Parish Council agreed to adopt the IT Policy from Herefordshire Council. There were no reports available from the PCSO or Ward Councillor Bramer. (This has since been received and is on the webpage).

Items taken forward to the meeting on 28th January 2026 at 19.00 in Lea Village Hall were: a) Tree Warden Scheme b) Thoughts on land purchase c) Bleed/Defibrillator Training d) Feedback regarding B4224/A40.

There is no meeting in February, but the next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 25th March. Please come along or submit any questions/queries via the Clerk. Meet the new Chair and become involved in the village management.

Please submit any questions via clerk@leaparishcouncil.gov.uk

ASTON INGHAM VILLAGE HALL APPEAL

The Aston Ingham Village Hall: At the Heart of Our Community for almost 100 years

For generations, the Aston Ingham village hall has stood at the centre of our community. More than just a building, it is a place where neighbours meet, friendships are formed, and village traditions are celebrated. From lively social events to quieter gatherings, the hall has played a vital role in bringing people together and continues to do so today.

A Brief History

The village hall was built by Messrs Longford & Sons for the princely sum of £460 originally opened for the Aston Ingham Women's Institute on 16th May 1927 to support the need for a shared space for meetings, events, and celebrations. Over the years, the hall has adapted to changing needs, hosting everything from wartime dances to modern-day clubs and activities. While its purpose has remained the same — to serve the community — the way it is used has naturally evolved with each generation. The timeline below shows some of world events that the Hall has seen.



George V		Edward VIII George VI		Elizabeth II					Charles III					
First BBC radio broadcasts	Highway Code issued	BBC TV Starts	Second World War	National Health Service	Festival Of Britain	Beatles form	Moon Landing	Decimal Currency	Argentina Invades Falklands	Channel Tunnel Opens	Foot & Mouth Disease	9/11 Attacks	COVID19 Lockdown	BREXIT
1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970				1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030
Village Hall Opens									Extensive Refurbishment & Extension					

Caring for an Ageing Building

As with many historic community buildings, the village hall is now showing signs of its age. While routine maintenance and one major refurbishment have been carried out over the years, more significant repairs are now needed to ensure the building remains safe, comfortable, and fit for purpose. These repairs are essential rather than cosmetic and are key to sustaining the fabric of the building. Addressing these issues will ensure the continued availability of the hall.



A Shared Asset for the Future

The village hall has served the community well for almost 100 years, adapting to changing times while remaining a constant presence in village life. With care, investment, and community involvement, it can continue to do so for generations to come.

By working together, we can ensure that the village hall remains not just a building, but a vibrant and welcoming heart of our community.

Community Involvement in Supporting the Hall Through Fundraising

The village hall is run and maintained thanks to the dedication of volunteers, whose time and commitment is given freely and is greatly appreciated. However, the hall ultimately belongs to the whole community, and its future depends on continued local support.

To meet the cost of these essential repairs, a programme of fundraising will be taking place alongside applications for grants and other sources of support. As in the past, community involvement will be key to achieving this goal.

There are opportunities for everyone to contribute, whether by supporting fundraising events, making a donation, or offering time and skills, or simply making use of the hall for your own event, every contribution helps to keep this valued asset alive and thriving.

You can bank transfer a donation large or small to Aston Ingham Village Hall, Sort Code: 60-83-01 Account: 20542755 . A donations box for cash or cheques will be available at all events.

5 VILLAGES FILM FESTIVAL

In collaboration with the BA Film & TV Production course at the University of Gloucestershire

Showcasing emerging filmmakers from BA Film & TV Production at the University of Gloucestershire alongside thought-provoking feature films

Sat 31st January

A Private Function (15)
A darkly comic tale of class struggle, ambition, and one very important pig in the austere aftermath of World War II.
Pauntley Village Hall
Doors 6:15pm for 7pm

Isle Of Dogs (PG)
Wes Anderson's visually stunning animated story of loyalty and friendship between a boy and his lost dog set in a dystopian Japan of the future.
Linton Village Hall
Doors 6:15pm for 7pm

Sat 7th February

The Way We Were (PG)
Against the backdrop of political turmoil, a fiery activist and a privileged writer forge a complex, enduring romance that defies societal expectations.
Huntley Village Hall
Doors 2:15pm for 3pm

Mrs Lowry & Son (PG)
Trapped between artistic passion and maternal disapproval, a painter fights to validate his unique vision against his mother's relentless criticism.
Gorsley Village Hall
Doors 6:15pm for 7pm

Thur 19th February

Shoplifters (15)
In the margins of Tokyo, a found family navigates survival, love, and moral ambiguity through an unconventional journey of human resilience.
Clifford's Mesne Village Hall
Doors 6:15pm for 7pm

Tickets available on the door, at all usual village outlets and online
TicketSource.co.uk/FiveVillagesFilmFestival

Tickets £5*
*plus 42p booking fee when using ticketsource.co.uk

QR code for TicketSource

LEA NEWS

LEA VILLAGE HALL & LEA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

QUIZ NIGHT

LICENSED BAR & FREE NIBBLES

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH
DOORS OPEN AT 7PM, QUIZ 7.30PM

LEA VILLAGE HALL

Come along for a fun night on our Quiz Night.
Register now and book a table for this fun-filled night!

Teams: Up to 6
Price: £5 per person

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!
Email us at TheLeaLRA@outlook.com or
call 07539 118351





50% OFF*

YOUR FIRST 8 WEEKS

Keep all your belongings safe & secure.
Personal & Business Self Storage. Available to view and
rent right now. For all your needs.

Gorsley (M50) - Ledbury - Newent - Hereford - Lydney

**GET YOUR QUOTE BY
SCANNING THE QR CODE**



www.nowstorage.co.uk - 0800 0787110

*T&Cs Apply

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS





Sub-editor:
John Lancaster

01989 720642

john.lancaster17@gmail.com



"Sunset on the Line" - Linton

NEWS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

Christmas services and Candlemas

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the various services over the Christmas Season. It was lovely to be able to welcome so many to the church and I hope you felt warmer than in previous years.

We were able to send substantial donations to the Salvation Army, the Children's Society, and Herefordshire Homestart. The Christmas Season ends with Candlemas on 2nd February when the crib will be packed away and Christmas wreaths and any plastic flowers will be removed from the churchyard.

Lent and Lent Discussion Group

Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on 18th February. Following a very enjoyable Lent discussion group last year we will again be meeting on Friday evenings in February and March, starting on 20th February.

PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

THE ONLY CALL YOU
NEED TO MAKE FOR:

- ✓ Kitchens
- ✓ Flooring
- ✓ Bathrooms & Wetrooms
- ✓ Electrical, PAT Testing & Rewires
- ✓ Plumbing
- ✓ Central Heating & Boiler Servicing
- ✓ Painting & Decorating
- ✓ Carpentry & Tiling
- ✓ Household Maintenance

CALL US:

Gary:
07971271777
Ian:
07966 755784
Office:
01531821868

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

www.bandbservicesltd.org



LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

This year we will be using the book "A Beautiful Friendship: A Lent course based on the film Casablanca." We will be looking at themes of sacrifice, repentance, suffering, loss and hope using clips from the film as a basis for the discussion. Everyone welcome, contact Charlotte if you want more details.

Church modernisation and improvement

We have applied for permission to pipe water into the church. There is also an intention to re-gravel and improve the path through the churchyard from the Village Hall.

Advance Notice

The Music at St Mary's programme starts on April 18th when we welcome Northwick Baroque. This ensemble from Worcester is coming to Linton for the first time with music for strings, woodwind and harpsicord.

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

Carol singing

Despite only singing to the village on one night (due to the weather), we still managed to raise in the region of £250 which is a terrific amount for the Ross Community Larder. Many thanks to everyone who sang, played, listened and donated, and invited us into your homes and pub to sing carols.

Your kindness is much appreciated! Please remember that the Church is still accepting gifts towards the Community Larder.

WHAT'S COMING UP AT LINTON VILLAGE HALL

5 VILLAGES FILM FESTIVAL

As mentioned in previous *Chimes*, we are taking part in the first "Five Villages Film Festival" along with four other village halls. Together with Gorsley Village Hall, we will be crossing the border into the uncharted territories of Gloucestershire, including Pauntley, Huntley and Cliffords Mesne...

To fully experience the festival, you are invited to each village hall by purchasing a season ticket — a great way to meet new friends, support new film-makers and most importantly, get to see Cliffords Mesne's new popcorn maker in action in different venues.

Isle of Dogs — Saturday 7th February. Doors 6.15 for 7pm

Linton is showing *Isle of Dogs*: Wes Anderson's visually stunning animated story of loyalty and friendship between a boy and his lost dog, set in a dystopian Japan of the future. There will also be a short (or two) from students of the



LANDSCAPING TREE SURGERY FENCING

GEOFFREY URCH
LANDSCAPING

TEL 01531805040
EMAIL INFO@GEOFFREYURCHCONTRACTS.CO.UK
WWW.GEOFFREYURCHCONTRACTS.CO.UK



LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

BA(Hons) Film &TV Production course at the University of Gloucestershire.

We are really excited that Joseph Walker, an award-winning filmmaker, has accepted an invitation to come and introduce his short film and meet the audience.

There will be a bar, fresh homemade popcorn, cake and quite possibly ice-cream or some other sweet treats and snacks. So please come and support the festival and emerging film makers at the beginning of their careers.

To be certain of a ticket, please book in advance online using:

TicketSource.co.uk/FiveVillagesFilmFestival, Tickets are £5 (plus 42p fee). Tickets may also be available at Gorsley Post Office. Any unsold tickets will be available on the door.

Please check Linton Village Hall website nearer the day for availability.



SARAH McQUAID Friday **24th April 7.30pm with Arts** **Alive**

Sarah McQuaid's lush, chocolatey voice combines with her engaging personality, and "brilliant musician-ship" on acoustic and electric guitars, piano and (occasionally) drum to create a truly immersive experience.

Born in Spain, raised in Chicago and now settled in rural England, she brings the eclecticism of her background to her "captivating, unorthodox songwriting" and choice of material, spanning genres and defying categorisation. All this is abundantly demonstrated by her new live album The St Buryan Sessions — but needs to be savoured in person to be fully appreciated.

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/GDnPaW1ibKo>

Tickets £12, child £6 available from Arts Alive <https://artsalive.co.uk/>

events/sarah-mcquaid-in-concert/

Bar serving decent wines, beers and non-alcoholic drinks. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm.

Painter & Decorator
 Paint Tiles Wallpaper

Friendly and Reliable
 No job too small
 Free quotations

Recommendations available
 DBS checked

Rosalind Lines
 07792 397 153
 01989 562 292
 painterlines@gmail.com



AVALON TREE SURGERY
 WE CARE FOR YOUR TREES

MATTHEW THOMAS
 OVER 15 YEARS EXPERIENCE
 NPTC QUALIFIED
 FULLY INSURED

WWW.AVALONTREESURGERY.CO.UK
 07794 569284 / 01981 541307

ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN

HS ACTIVITIES
 Set in the beautiful countryside,
 HS Activities is perfectly placed
 for a rural day of activities in
 Herefordshire.

Lowe Farm, Much Dewchurch,
 Hereford HR2 8DG
 Tel: 07876793035



hsactivities.co.uk
 PAINTBALLING, LASER TAG, AIR GUN SHOOTING,
 CLAY SHOOTING, ARCHERY, SPLATMASTER &
 GEL BLASTER

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

VoLT - VILLAGE OF LINTON TRUST PRESENTS: A SUNDAY MUSICAL AFTERNOON TEA

Sunday 1st February from
 2pm

Step into a past era of tea, food and gentle music. The entertainment will be provided by Fidgety Feet, a trad jazz band from the West Midlands. The eight piece band will play popular standards, such as 'Mood Indigo' and 'Ain't Misbehaving', as well as many blues and ragtime numbers.

Doors open 2.00pm. Band playing from 2.15 - 4.15, with two short breaks.

Tickets cost £12 To secure your ticket, please email: villageoflintontrust@gmail.com



THE 7th ALMA SANTA RUN – A REVIEW

Despite heavy morning rain, Linton's now traditional festive fun run took place



Computer Problems SOLVED

For help at home or in the office call William Dereham

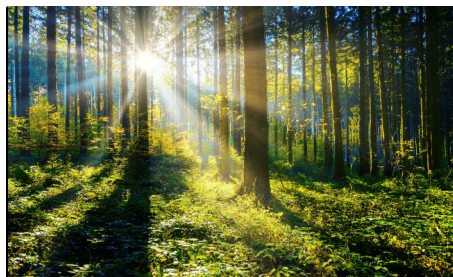
01432 860 367

fast and efficient service

- Troubleshooting
- Broadband installation
- Setting up New Computers,
- Wireless Network,
- Data Recovery, Virus, Spyware and Trojan Removal.
- Windows re-installation,
- Database Design.
- Website Design.

No Mileage Charge

The Malt House, Fownhope, Hfds
www.dereham.org
william@dereham.org



Online counselling with Amelia Faye:

An experienced qualified counsellor who is here to listen and support, with a person-centred approach. Areas of expertise include: relationship issues, stress, grief, low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, lacking clarity on life direction.

Free no obligation 40 minute consultation.

Contact Amelia:
theearthygibird@gmail.com
07368 410162

 **RIDLEY'S PROPERTY CARE**

Call for a free estimate!
07375357458 /
cjr.jake@yahoo.co.uk

NO JOB IS TOO BIG OR SMALL

With over 30 years of experience, everything is done to a high standard. All your home's improvements and maintenance in one. Friendly service. Don't hesitate to call for a free quote!

OUR SERVICES

- Painting & Decorating
- Leaky tap
- Wall panelling
- Shelves and curtain fixings
- Flat pack furniture
- Skirting boards and loose floor boards
- Fencing
- Unblock gutters and clean driveways

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

at the Alma Inn in somewhat drier conditions at lunchtime on 7th December last year.

Organisers were amazed at the turnout for the 1.8-mile course with all in festive fancy dress and many with their pet dogs. The overall winner was a very swift Drew Stafford with Ben Dive second and Kate Shuttlewood the first lady runner home. All competitors enjoyed a hot mince pie at the finish and a post-run collection held in the Alma raised £142.34 for the Ross Community Larder.

A big thank you from the organisers to all the runners and to those who helped marshal the course.

Please make a note in your diary that this year's Santa Run is due to be held on **Sunday 6th December 2026.**



Gemma — and mince pies!

LINTON POUND - UPDATE

It has previously been reported that a formal complaint has been raised with Herefordshire Council about the senseless demolition of the Linton Pound. The initial Council response did not answer the facts and so the complaint has been escalated further under advice from the Campaign to Protect Rural England and Open Spaces.

Ultimately, we reserve the right for all aspects of the demolition to be independently scrutinised by the Local Government Ombudsman and to seek undisclosed information under the Freedom of Information Act. In the meantime, the enquiries made with DEFRA and the Herefordshire Commons Registration Office have thus far proved fruitless. Whilst the pound site was in the care of Linton Parish Council and its precursor body, the Vestry Meeting, for generations, it was never registered as common land and therefore may not come within the remit of the Commons Act of 2006.

There are other areas of legislation that are relevant eg the Overseers Order of 1927 and these are being explored. Linton residents will be kept informed through these pages.

Roger Davies



**GENERAL BUILDING
FROM START TO FINISH**

- ANY SIZE PROJECTS, EXTENSIONS, RENOVATIONS & NEW BUILDS
- ALL ASPECTS OF LANDSCAPING UNDERTAKEN - FROM DESIGN TO COMPLETION
- MASONRY SPECIALISTS
- ASSISTANCE WITH PROJECT DESIGN

SEE MORE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:
C J W BUILDING SERVICES

CONTACT CHRIS
📞 07557 449078
@ C.J.WILLIFORDBUILDINGSERVICES
@GMAIL.COM

CJ WILLIFORD
BUILDING SERVICES



MPB Home Maintenance

MPB Home Maintenance offers a range of Handyman Services for your home and garden including Basic Carpentry, Interior and Exterior Painting, Garden Wall Building/Repair, Grass Cutting, Fence Repairs and much more.

Small jobs welcome!

Please contact Matt on
07969 610158 or
mpbhomemaintenance@outlook.com



The Gardeners Guild

MEADOW VIEW
Landscapes
GARDENS & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

**Grass Cutting
Hedge Cutting
Planting
Chainsaw Work
Tree Work
Fully insured**

www.meadowviewlandscapes.co.uk 

Call: 01989 721 122 or 07718 996 518

LINTON & BROMSASH NEWS

LINTON (SOUTH) PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The parish council will continue to focus in 2026 on efforts to improve road safety in the parish. The introduction of a 30mph speed limit on the B4221 following resurfacing work scheduled for later this year, has been approved by Herefordshire Council. Other speed calming measures initiated by the parish council include village gateways and a speed indicator device.

The council is also conscious of the threat to safety posed by speeding traffic on the B4224 in Bromsash. It manages a speed indicator device there but will consider other options at its meeting in January.

In addition, the council has installed several road safety signs at Shutton Crossroads in Linton.

The council has also resolved to promote and encourage community litter picking in the parish and will agree action at the meeting in January.

**WE BUY
GOLD**

Local lady buyer- Top prices paid

With gold hitting an all time high now's the time to sell.
Old gold, Broken Jewellery, Rings, Chains and more. Happy to visit your home or mine in Linton.

Call 07747751512

**Orchard View
Physiotherapy**
Pelvic Health | Musculoskeletal | Pilates



- PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES
- REFORMER PILATES CLASSES
- PRIVATE / SEMI-PRIVATE MAT AND REFORMER PILATES

www.orchardviewphysio.co.uk
Tel: 07983 198 924



Newent auto centre

Your Comprehensive, Caring, Vehicle Service Centre for Newent & Surrounding Areas
We are a family business dedicated to providing the best possible service at the lowest possible cost!
To help us achieve this aim we always use original equivalent parts.
The latest state of the art Diagnostic & Workshop tooling.

Newent Business Park, Newent,
Gloucestershire, GL18 1HP
01531 828001
www.newentauto.co.uk
newentauto@yahoo.co.uk
Hours of Business
Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 4pm

MOT TEST DUE? • CALL NEWENT'S COMPLETE TEST CENTRE



Motorcycles
Class 1 & 2



Caravan
Motorhomes
Class 4



Commercial
Class 7



IMI QUALIFIED REPAIR CENTRE FOR ELECTRIC & PLUG IN HYBRID CARS



MODERN CARS = MODERN PROBLEMS
"Latest state of the art test and repair equipment"
"Experienced skilled technicians"
LOW COST DIAGNOSTICS AND REPAIR



FULL OR INTERMEDIATE
"Oil & Filter Change"
FREE SAFETY CHECK



ALL REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
"Brake Belts" "Clutches" "Gearboxes" "Steering" "Suspension"
"Chassis setting" "Body Repairs" "New Brackets" "Welding"



RECHARGE AND REPAIR SERVICE FOR ALL AIR
CONDITIONING AND CLIMATE CONTROL SYSTEMS
"Including latest environmentally friendly refrigerant"



TYRES - Best Ever Prices Guaranteed!
"Huge stock for immediate fitting"
"Economy • Premium • Branded • Car • Van • 4x4 • Trail"
"Puncture Repair" "Laser Track Wheel Alignment" "Fast Fitting"



SPECIALIST ENGINE MACHINING SERVICE
"Cylinder head milling" "Pressure testing" "Valve seat replacement"
"Grinding" "Lapping" "Unleaded head conversion" "Polishing" "Honing"
"Engine rebuilds"
"Vintage • Classic • Modern"
TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

Many of our services can be carried out while you wait. Please see our comprehensive leaflets. Drop in a complimentary MOT Check or Test.
We also offer Free Collection & Delivery Service as Free Loan Evening Car. For helpful advice on all your motoring
questions call 01531 828001 - we will be pleased to help.



Area Specialist in Pioneer Hy-Carbon Engine Cleaning Technology

Let the power of environment friendly
hydrogen clean your engine internal parts
by removing carbon contamination.

Reduced Exhaust Emissions
Eliminated Gas Pedal Jerkiness Problems
Reduced Knocking/Clunking & Acceleration
Checked Spark Plugs/Filter

Why not include Hy-Carbon clean in
your annual service and restore your car
performance!

Improve your fuel economy
& eliminate black smoke!

To understand more see to find out more about this
technology that it is free to nearly everyone
you will notice the change!

"Please contact us for full details.
Bookings accepted by email."



HONEST, RELIABLE CAR REPAIRS DESIGNED FOR YOU AND YOUR CAR

UPTON BISHOP NEWS



Sub-editor:
Annette Colwell

07779 676249

nettiec1921@gmail.com

UPTON BISHOP WEBSITE ADDRESS: <https://uptonbishop.gov.uk/>

WHAT'S ON IN UPTON BISHOP AT THE CHURCH:

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

All Services at 10.30 unless shown otherwise

Services for February are shown on page 59

EVENSONG every Tuesday, 5.30pm at Graham and Ann Fowler's House.
Ring 01989 780600 for details

BCP Communion Every first Wednesday at 9.30am – Holy Communion
followed by Prayer Group

THE CHURCH: Some good things to look forward to:

February 17th – Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day –
Look out for posters and social media for details of this year's celebrations.
Easter 2026 — 5th April

Thanks to everyone who made the church look so wonderful over the Christmas
period.

The carol service and Midnight Mass were glorious with candle light and oil
lamps and beautifully decorated tree and window ledges. We had a newcomer
at the crib too in the person of a fabulous Inn Keeper crafted for us by Lou.

PLEASE mention *The Chimes* when contacting advertisers

Andy Parker

Stove & Chimney Services

Wood Burning & Multi Fuel
Stove Installations, Service & Maintenance

Chimney Cleaning
CCTV

Chimney Lining

01594 544489 07977 273735

andypps@yahoo.co.uk



Very
Reliable
LOCAL

WATERWORKS



HANDYMAN for HOME & GARDEN

and all those little

ODD JOBS

QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN

CALL STEVE

ON

01452 750455

Mobile 07752 529450

Also Garden Irrigation Systems

Designed Installed or Supply Only for Pots, Tubs
Hanging Baskets, Greenhouses or Complete Gardens

No job to small, so give me a call !!



UPTON BISHOP NEWS

CHRISTMAS HAS COME AND GONE SO WHY ARE THE CHURCH DECORATIONS STILL UP?

The festival continues for 40 days after Christmas Day until 2nd February, when we celebrate the presentation of the infant Christ in the Temple. Here he was recognised as the Messiah by Anna and Simeon in the beautiful words of the Nunc Dimittis as, 'a light to lighten the gentiles' and 'the glory of His people Israel.'

EPIPHANY 2026

Many of us enjoyed a special celebration to mark the coming of the Three Kings. Olivia, Alan and Fiona dressed for the part and arrived on horseback thanks to Lisa from Heart RDA. We discussed how the journey of the magi might influence our own lives, and enjoyed traditional Kings cakes from around the world. Lou and Ewan found the porcelain babies in their slices and were crowned King for the Day. A collection of around £50 was donated with thanks to Riding for the Disabled. Thank you to everyone who helped.



ANB Bookkeeping

Over 25 years bookkeeping and accounting experience

I work with Sole traders, small businesses.

✓ AAT Level 2
✓ Registered with the Institute of Bookkeepers (ICB)
✓ Registered with Bookkeepers Alliance.

01989 762994
anne@anbbookkeeping.co.uk
www.anbbookkeeping.co.uk

I am fully insured, have money laundering experience and am ICO registered (Data Protection)

Acton Building & Construction

Email: richard@actonbuilding.co.uk Mob: 07863134329

Local established building company with over 30 years experience

New builds, extensions, renovations, barn conversions. Projects taken from design to occupation. All works fully guaranteed.

Kitchens and bathroom specialists. Refurbishment or new installation. Tiling, wet panels, wet rooms, under floor heating. Design to completion.

We offer a full green energy service, from solar pv, battery storage, car point chargers etc, to air source units, heat pumps new or retro fitted. Everything assessed and quoted free of charge.

www.actonbuilding.co.uk Tel: 01989740595

Wyevew Upholstery



Upholstery services for both traditional and modern styles of furniture.
Loose joints repaired, springs replaced.
28 years experience, your furniture is in safe hands!
Or why not try it yourself?
Yes, I run day courses.
wyevew-upholstery.co.uk
Andy: 07951 172665

Reliable Handyman Services

Competitive rates and honest workmanship!

Painting & Decorating

Gardening & Paving

Domestic Electrician

Furniture/Flat pack Assembly

Personal Shopping/Delivery

Contact Richie for an enquiry today...

Tel: 07523 029 240 or 07544 766 245

Email: richie odd jobs@gmail.com

UPTON BISHOP NEWS

CAN YOU FIND MAURICE THE MOUSE?

Maurice arrived in Upton Bishop Church in December and has decided to stay. See if you can find him. He likes to move around the building, so if you spot him, please don't say a word, but when no one is looking, just move him somewhere else in plain sight (he doesn't like to be shut in a cupboard or covered up with anything).



AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL:

FOR THE YOUNG: LEGO@UB CLUB

There will be no Lego Club/Coffee morning in February. Please look out for further news on social media and in the Chimes. It is held on the first Saturday of each month at 10.30am.

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

FIT AND ACTIVE:

KEEP FIT Tuesdays, 10-11am. Call Jane Fray 01989 780383 or Michaela Johnson 07706101164. The class is designed to help improve your fitness, strength, balance and co-ordination to some great music! You work at your own pace. The first session is free; after that, the cost is £6 per session for a block monthly booking and £8.00 per session pay as you go.

INDOOR SHORT-MAT BOWLS

Tuesday 17th 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.

PETER LEATHART
Furniture Maker and Restorer



Tel: 01989 565271

Overthrow
Property Maintenance
Commercial & Residential

Painting / Decorating
 Carpentry
 Kitchens / Bathrooms fitted
 Plastering, Tiling, Plumbing
 Electrics & Roofing.
 Hard Landscaping:
 Decking, Patios & Paving.

All Work Guaranteed
 & carried out by Qualified
 Tradesmen.
 Call Rob on:
 07836 313 629 / 01531 820 996
 or Sue on 07300 788 655

WYE CLEAR?
TO HEAR!

Clear to hear offers ear
 and hearing health checkups.

Ear wax solutions safely and quickly.
 Wye Clear to Hear, why not?
 What's stopping you?

CONTACT
 Clinic & home appointments
01989 565608
m: 07526942005
 Email: enquire@wyecleartohear.co.uk
www.wyeClearToHear.co.uk

The LOG FELLER

**KILN DRIED ASH
 HARDWOOD LOGS**



**Please order at the
 website below:**

www.thelogfeller.co.uk

UPTON BISHOP NEWS

SOCIAL: **SOCIAL AFTERNOON**

Monday 16th 2.30pm-4.30pm. We look forward to seeing you all for cake and chat

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.

UPTON BISHOP WI: DECEMBER MEETING



Upton Bishop took part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church in Ross at the beginning of December. We decided on a Clean Rivers theme to highlight the WI's ongoing campaign, so members crafted felt fish and quilled paper animals as decorations. The festival was a huge success, raising over £6000 for the church.

Crafting was on the agenda again at our meeting. Members had their choice of a huge selection of inks and printing blocks to create printed tote bags, a slightly messy but very enjoyable activity. Even the members who consider themselves to be unartistic were pleased with their results.

Afterwards, we enjoyed a shared pot-luck supper along with our usual raffle, and we rounded off the evening with the distribution of Secret Santa gifts.

We're now looking forward to our February meeting when Made In Ross will be coming to give us a silver-smithing demonstration. This will be an open meeting and anyone interested is welcome to attend for a £5 entry fee.

UBWI does not meet in January, our next meeting will be February 10th. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 7pm – 9pm at The Hub, St Mary's Garden Village, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 7WP. New members are always welcome, entry donation of £5, cake and raffle. We look forward to seeing you. For details and to find out more about the numerous activities organised by the National and Herefordshire Federations of WIs contact 01989 569881 or e-mail: Upton_Bishop_wi@herefordshirewi.org.uk



CHASE VIEW VETERINARY CLINIC
 e-mail: info@chaseviewvets.co.uk
www.chaseviewvets.co.uk

Hildersley, Ross-on-Wye
 Herefordshire HR9 7NJ
 Tel: 01989 562251
 Fax: 01989 563008

WYE VALLEY
 CANINE HYDROTHERAPY
 REFERRAL CLINIC

TEL: (01989) 564 191
www.caninehydrotherapy.net
 Hildersley, Ross-On-Wye
 Herefordshire HR9 7NJ

Approved by the Canine Hydrotherapy Association

Competitive Finance Solutions

AGCredit
 Asset Finance Solutions

- New & Used Equipment
- Agriculture, Construction & Business Sectors
- Cars & Commercial Vehicles
- Refinancing Facilities
- Competitive Rates
- Loans for Farm Improvements
- Friendly & Experienced Finance Brokers

Bridie Ward
 07498238672
bridie@agcredit.co.uk

Luke Ward
 07896315651
luke@agcredit.co.uk

www.agcreditfinance.co.uk
 @lukeagcredit agcreditltd

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN 677980.
 Finance for Business Purposes & Subject to status, written details on request.

UPTON BISHOP NEWS

200 CLUB DRAW

DECEMBER.

Audrey Owen £20, Clive & Wendy Beavan £10, Steve & Sue Tommey £5.

JANUARY.

Mr D Lively & Mrs S Bateman £20, Nigel Misselbrook £10,
 Linda & Martin Bromley £5.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Hugo and Hannah Tyers who were married just before Christmas at Monmouth.

BEST WISHES

Everyone who is not too well, or who is undergoing or waiting for treatment.

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 online to book a date:
www.uptonbishopvillagehall.co.uk or contact pollyannakay@gmail.com

UPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL (UBPC)

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

Five councillors, the clerk and nine members of the public attended the Parish Council meeting on December 2nd. Emily Misselbrook had registered an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and was co-opted to fill the vacancy. She joined her fellow councillors after signing her declaration of acceptance of office. No issues were raised by the public. The ward councillor's report is on the website. Councillors supported the planning applications by Ayltor Barn and the Threshing Barn.

The lengthsman has concentrated on grips, gulleys and general maintenance across the Parish and has filled all the salt and grit bins.

The Council has £30,039 in the bank and all invoices were approved for payment. The 2025/26 budget process will be discussed at the next meeting. UB's Neighbourhood Development Plan is valid for two more years. Councillors will consider the plan, how it can be refreshed and associated funding in September 2026.

Herefordshire Council is reviewing broadband provision across the county. Parishioners are urged to make the clerk aware of areas in the Parish which do not have access to high-speed broadband so the information can be passed on to Herefordshire Council.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday February 3rd 2026.**

RECTOR'S LETTER



After the business of Christmas and the excitement of New Year, this time of year can sometimes feel a little dull – the weather often doesn't help, but more so than that, this is often a period where people can feel deflated. Dark mornings and early evenings (at least, until the clocks change), perhaps recovering from an expensive Christmas (for wallet, waistline, or both), and (as I experience every year) New Year's Resolutions gathering cobwebs in the corner, can often leave us with a sense that we're once again back into simply going through the motions of life.

People may think that life in the church can feel like this too sometimes – that there are times and seasons not only in nature, but in the ebb and flow of ministry, which leave us either very busy, or feeling that we seem to be doing the same sorts of things on repeat. The beginning of February is marked by what is very poetically and creatively (!) called "Short Ordinary Time" in the church calendar. Ordinary Time is marketed as exactly that – ordinary. It is not a season of preparation, nor one of celebration. It is simply the normal time between things – the gaps between the "Big Services" that people are more familiar.

In truth, there is no such thing as "Ordinary Time" – short, or otherwise. All of life, every day, is a gift and blessing which we receive from God. Our worship on Sundays, far from being simply repetitive and mundane, is the continual re-encountering of the Divine, right in front of us, in our presence. February also brings with it the start of Lent, the penitential six weeks where we prepare for Holy Week, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. I am very excited to let you know that this year we will be offering a Lent course over these six weeks, free of charge, and open to anyone and everyone.

Our course is called Bread of Life, and focuses on the Eucharist, or Holy Communion – what it means, what the church teaches happens at the service, and how our encounter with the bread and wine, the Body and Bloody of Christ, shapes our lives and our faith. Details are still to be confirmed, but when they are there will be posters in all of the church noticeboards, and information on the Benefice website (www.ariconium.church). More information about the course itself can be found on its website (www.breadoflifecourse.co.uk).

So, as we battle through the rain and the mundane, take a moment to step back and look around you, and to realise that there really isn't anything "ordinary" in the lives which we lead, or the world in which we live. And please do consider signing up for our Lent course – David or I would be happy to speak to you further if you have any questions. God bless!

Rev. Ewan Gillings, Curate
07568 515628

CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Date	Aston Ingham	Lea	Linton	Upton Bishop
01st February	Evensong	Family Communion	Communion Service	Mattins
Candlemas	4.30 pm	9.30 am	11.00 am	10.30am
Readings	Malachi 3. 1-5.	Hebrews 2. 14-end.	Luke 2. 22-40.	
08th February	Parish Communion	Mattins	Bible Book Club	Communion Service
2nd Sunday before Lent	10.30 am	8.00 am	10.30 am	10.30 am
Readings	Genesis 1. 1 thru 2. 3.	Romans 8. 18-25.	Matthew 6. 25-end.	
15th February	Village Praise	Parish Communion	Morning Worship	Parish Communion
Sunday next before Lent	10.30 am	9.30 am	11.00 am	10.30 am
Readings	Exodus 24. 12-end.	2 Peter 1. 16-end.	Matthew 17. 1-9.	
18th February	ASH WEDNESDAY ARICONIUM BENEFICE SERVICE @ WESTON UNDER PENYARD			
Ash Wednesday	7.00 P.M.			
Readings	Joel 2. 1-2, 12-17.	2 Corinthians 5. 20b thru 6. 10.	Matthew 6. 1-6, 16-21.	
22nd February	Parish Communion	Children's Church	Communion Service	All Age Communion
1st Sunday of Lent	10.30am	10.00am	11.00 am	10.30 am
Readings	Genesis 2. 15-17. 3. 1-7.	Romans 5. 12-19.	Matthew 4. 1-11.	

CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE RECTOR: REV. DAVID HOWELL
Tel: 07903 790 049 Email: revdavidhowell@icloud.com
Please note that FRIDAY is my day off!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS - 1

ANIMAL CARE

DOG'S DELIGHT

Professional Canine Beautician in all breeds. Groomed, Shampooed, Hand-stripped, Clipped & Nail-trimmed.

Call **Sharon** on **01989 750256** or **07933 212023** Tally-Ho, Bromsash

DOG WALKING AND PET DROP INS

Regular visits or holiday cover for dogs and cats. For services, pricing and reviews visit <http://emmakatepetcare.my.canva.site> or contact Emma via emmakatepetcare@gmail.com / **07857 882776**

HOME SERVICES

DEBS DUSTERS

Cleaning Services. All your cleaning needs done with attention to detail. All staff are DBS checked and insured. If you would like to request our services please contact **Debs** on **07827 904043** or email Debs@debsdusters.co.uk

HEALTH & BEAUTY

FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER DEBORAH CRONSHAW MCFHP MAFHP

Complete foot care in the convenience of your own home to help maintain healthy feet. Treatments include removal of corns & calluses, nail trimming, reduction of thickened nails & diabetic foot care. www.wyefootcare.co.uk ; **07821 540925; 01989 770893**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS - 2

GARDENING SERVICES

ECOTECH TREE CARE

Professional tree care carried out by trained, experienced, and friendly staff. Public Liability Insurance; Free quotes; Locally based. Speak to Rory Wakeman on **01989 770 372 / 07754 944 683**. www.ecotechtreecare.co.uk

GARDENS SORTED: EXPERT DESIGN & RENOVATION, & GARDEN ROOMS.

30 years hard-won experience. Deep Veg beds to grand gazebos. Hard landscaping: paths, decks and patios using locally sourced materials. Working closely with our clients to realise your ideas. **Felicity Evans 07866 777244** or Answer machine **01531 890332**. www.gardens-sorted.co.uk

W.N.GOOCH

Garden & flail hedge-cutter, Pasture maintenance, Haymaking, Fruit tree pruning, Fencing, Sheep shearing, Odd-jobbing. A friendly service with a smile. Tel: **01989 720350** Mobile: **07977 506086**.

PROPERTY SERVICES

PAINTER & DECORATOR

For all your decorating needs, interior and exterior. Phone **Brian Colwell** on **01989 567082**

GM RUSTIC ANTIQUES

Wanted any antiques, furniture, architectural items, tools etc. Will buy anything from one item to a house or garage full. Based locally so will respond quickly. Phone or message, quick decision made. garymorris28.gm@gmail.com or phone **07961 479126**.

CHIMNEY SWEEPS/Stove Service & Repair. Howats Chimney Sweeps Ltd

GOMS Registered, NVQ Qualified, fully insured, trained & tested. Power & traditional sweeping. Camera services & tar treatment. Certificates issued for every sweep (for house insurance). Smoke test with every sweep. www.howatschimneysweeps.ltd Call **07801 740516**

Boost your local business — and reach 1600 households throughout the year with a classified ad. in *The Chimes*. A low-cost way of reaching your target audience in the district. Contact our advertising team for more details at chimes.adverts@gmail.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

An independent magazine financed by advertisements and donations, published monthly (other than in August & January), with a circulation of 1,600
www.thechimes.org.uk

EDITORS:

Francine Burns	01989 750069
Stephen Tommey	07521 840656
Peter Coulson	01989 720123

WEBSITE MANAGER & EDITOR:

Tania Clayton	01989 720229	chimes.webmanager@gmail.com
---------------	--------------	--

VILLAGE SUB-EDITORS:

Aston Ingham:	Mike Clayton	07803 975398	aichimes@outlook.com
Gorsley:	Laura Carroll	07837 485929	laurajones13@hotmail.com
The Lea:	Angela Kirton	07474 378806	kirtona150@gmail.com
Linton:	John Lancaster	01989 720642	john.lancaster17@gmail.com
Upton Bishop:	Annette Colwell	07779 676249	nettiec1921@gmail.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER:

Lin Forward	07747 751512	chimes.adverts@gmail.com
-------------	--------------	--

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR:

Sue Bertenshaw	07775 706652	suebrock59@gmail.com
----------------	--------------	--

FINANCE / TREASURER:

Sheila Bouskill	07990 548615	chimes.treasurer@gmail.com
-----------------	--------------	--

SUBMISSION OF COPY:

Copy is only accepted by email.

Photographs, Advertisements, & Posters, should be in jpeg format.

The deadline for advertising copy is 1st day of the month prior to publication

Each village has a Sub Editor to collate all copy and 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.

NOTICES:

The views expressed in *The Chimes* are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editors, or the Editorial Team. The Editors reserve the right not to publish or to amend the content, of any item.

The Chimes GDPR Privacy Notice can be accessed at our website.

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

Looking for a way to improve your home? Call 0800 669 6090






5%
donation

of profit to
your local
church

UK Home Improvement:

Comfort, Savings & Sustainability with Oakley

10%
discount

when retaining
this magazine

EXPERTS IN ALL ASPECTS OF ROOFING & ROOF REPAIRS

New Roof Installation | Small Roof Repairs | Moss/Gutter Clearance
Soffit's and Fascia's | Cement Work | Lead Flashing | Tiles

EXPERTS IN SPRAY FOAM REMOVAL

Thorough Assessment | Safe Removal | Clean-Up and Restoration | Expert Guidance

FULL ROOF INSPECTION WITH FREE QUOTATION

Moss and gutter clearances

See our website for full list of services

- Experienced Professionals
- Quality Materials
- Customer-Centric Approach
- Affordable Pricing

All Work Guaranteed

Proud members of

Checkatrade.com

Where reputation matters



APPROVED MEMBER

Get in Touch With Us

✉ admin@oakleyimprovements.com ☎ 01989 218 513

🌐 oakleyimprovements.com



#moatcontractingjb

@moatcontracting



GROUNDWORK & PLANT HIRE SPECIALISTS

DRIVEWAYS . LANDSCAPING . FOUNDATIONS .
DEMOLITION .
MOBILE SCREENING & CRUSHING HIRE .
TOP SOIL & AGGREGATES .

PLANT HIRE . SELF-DRIVE OR OPERATOR .
MICRO DIGGERS - 21 TONNE . MINI DUMPERS - 10 TONNE .
TRACTOR & DUMPER TRAILER . BULLDOZER HIRE . ROLLERS .
COMPACTORS .
JCB LOADALLS 9.5-14MTR .

Large enough to deliver. Small enough to care.

Tel: 07887 544400

www.moatcontracting.co.uk

moatcontracting@aol.co.uk