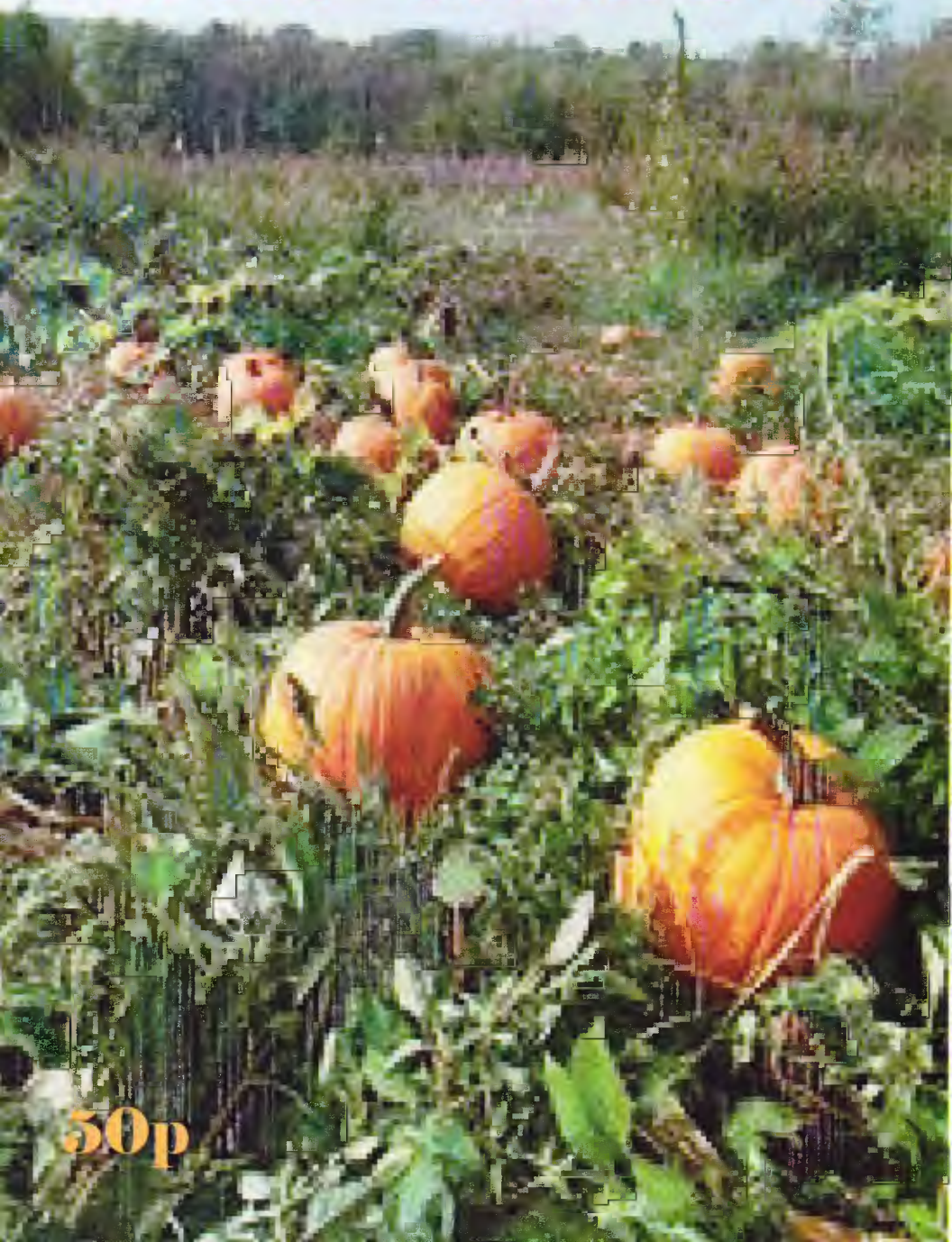


The Link October 2020



50p

*The Link magazine covers the Borderlink Parishes of
Blakemere, Bredwardine with Brobury, Clifford, Cusop, Dorstone,
Hardwicke, Moccas and Preston-on-Wye.*

MEETINGS OF CHURCH GROUPS

MESSY CHURCH(ALL AGES)

Please note new e mail address:

Margaret Price 01497820464

margaretp2014@gmail.com

MOTHERS' UNION

Cusop

Janet Bumford 01497831264

Bredwardine, Moccas & Preston

Kath Woods 01981 500 247

Dorstone

BORDERLINK BELLRINGERS

Ringling for Services

Alison Alcock 01497847510

Roger Bowen 0154432731

Clifford Practices 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Sylvia Corrick 01981 550564

Bredwardine 2nd,4th & 5th Wednesdays

PRESTON-ON-WYE BELLRINGERS

Pam Parry 01981 500617

every 1st Monday of the month Bell ringers practice at Preston on Wye. Pam should be contacted if any new ringers.

HARDWICKE MEET AND EAT

every 4th Wednesday at 2.30 pm

Lou Tingey 01497 831090

PRAYER CHAIN MEETINGS

Third Tuesday 7.30pm

Harvey Bromley

01497 821480

HOLY COMMUNION

SECOND Tuesday 11.00 am at **Preston on Wye**

TEA AND CHAT

Fourth Tuesday 2pm-4pm

Janet Bumford

JULIAN PRAYER GROUP

Second Tuesday 11.30 – 12.30 pm

Janet and Mark Robinson 01497821348

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Monday at 7.30 p.m

Celia Cundale 01497 820396

**CHURCH CONTACTS
FOR THE BORDERLINK PARISHES**

Priest in Charge of the Borderlink Group of Parishes :

Rev'd Luci Morriss, The Rectory, Cusop HR3 5RF

Telephone : 01497 821877

Email : luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com

The Rev'd Jane Rogers jane@blakemerehouse.myzen.co.uk 01981 500478

FOR OTHER CHURCHES:

St.Mary's Hay - Fr. Richard Williams

01497 820448

St Joseph's Hay - Fr. Jimmy Sebastian, The Presbytery, 4 Belmont Road

Hay-on-Wye HR35DA Mob :07922 042079 (any time)

email: hayonwye@menevia.org

Society of Friends, Hay - Janet Robinson

01497 821348

Belmont Abbey - Fr. Paul Stoneham

01432 374718

Email : parish@belmontabbey.org.uk

www.belmontparish.org.uk

Bethesda Evangelical Church - Gordon Bingham

01497 820685

Oasis Church, Hereford (formerly Jubilee Christian Centre, Preston-on-Wye),

Pastor Philip Arnold, telephone: 01432 355088



Benefice Prayer :

Thank you Lord for loving us

**Open our minds and give us the strength to do your will
for the rest of this day.**

Amen

2 Chronicles Chapter 7 verse 14

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray
and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from
heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Parish Letter by the Revd. Jane Lisvane

It's been a source of great pleasure that we are gradually getting back into our churches. Understandably some are still closed, because the cleaning regime is onerous. An unexpected joy has been the services held outside in our beautiful churchyards, although there I did come across an unexpected hazard. I was decanted in graceful slow motion from my slightly dodgy deckchair in an undignified backward somersault. The chair came off worse than I did!

Several people have told me that they feel closer to God outside in our wonderful countryside rather than in church, and I can sympathise with that sentiment. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful part of the world, a place where the space between heaven and earth is particularly thin.

It reinforces the message that I saw recently from the new Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, that the Church of England is for the whole nation; we are the church of people and place, not just congregation and the parish church. So our buildings, with their rich history holding the stories of the communities they serve, are especially important places.

But we are also the Church for everyone whoever they are and we need to be on the edges and the margins where new ideas and new communities are formed. In other words, we can't just retreat into our buildings and our familiar congregations; it is at least as important that we are out in the world being with other people where they are.

That's why it's so important that the online services continue and that we keep trying out new ways of being church in the community. The shock of Covid 19 has really brought that message home. Jesus was a great disrupter of people's lives; part of the reason the Temple authorities sent him to his death was to try and preserve their comfortable status quo. In 2 Peter 1:5 we are told that the way of life centred round the Temple must be disrupted because God wants to dwell not in buildings of brick or stone but rather in *human beings - living stones* he called them, cemented together by mutual love, honour and respect.

Every blessing
Jane

Parish Magazine article by the Very Revd. Michael Tavinor, Dean of Hereford

Hereford Cathedral has seen great upheavals during its 1300 year history. In 1055, when the Welsh invaded Hereford, the cathedral was sacked and burned and the cathedral clergy killed. Later, in 1349, Hereford City was gravely hit by the Black Death and here and across the diocese, over one quarter of all clergy died of the plague. The Reformation dealt a great blow to cathedral worship and although many of our treasures were spared, there was seismic change in the community and in our forms of worship. In the next century, the Commonwealth – the cathedral choir disbanded for fourteen years, only to be re-instated in 1661. The list continues – a huge disruption in the 1860s, when the cathedral, in a parlous state of repair, was closed for five years while restoration work took place, and the cathedral congregation worshipped at All Saints. The cathedral has seen more recent upheavals – the *Mappa Mundi* crisis of 1988-9 and in between all these major matters, the constant round of ‘ups and downs’ of life, as in any community.

And our story can be re-told in the parishes of the diocese. Like the Mother Church, parishes have seen major upheavals in their lives through the centuries and have been borne through them by faithful clergy and congregations.

Like you, we have been weathering the storm of COVID 19. It has brought huge challenges to us all – challenges to our worship and way of living and worshipping – nearly all our events planned for the celebrations surrounding the 700th anniversary of the canonisation of St Thomas of Hereford, have had to be cancelled. There have been challenges to our pastoral care; challenges to our finances. In the cathedral, we have had little or no visitor income for months and our commercial operations have been dormant, with several staff made redundant - and we expect to end the year with a £210,000 deficit. But thank goodness for faithful giving through the Parish Giving Scheme - this has continued throughout this difficult period and has enabled us to have a source of income on which we can rely. I hope and pray that you, too, have been able to rely on regular givers to continue to support your work and ministry, even in these difficult times.

What we all find difficult is the *uncertainty* – what will Christmas look like? How will we ever return to ‘normal’? You know what the 19th century Danish philosopher, Schopenhauer said? *We live life forwards but understand it backwards*. That’s why a sense of history is so important, whether it be in cathedral or parish – we look back to previous times of upheaval, and when we look, quietly and prayerfully, we so often find that God was there, supporting us, with His ‘everlasting arms’.

Parish Magazine article *continued*/

As I write this, I have been thinking about the gospel for this Sunday, the ninth Sunday after Trinity, where Jesus bids Peter come to him – Peter sets out, but is overwhelmed by the tumultuous waves. It is Jesus’ words and actions which save him, re-assure him, encourage him. As we look back to our past, may we be even more aware of Jesus’ abiding care for us - may our God sustain us in this uncertain future and may He give us real hope for all that shall be.

God bless you all
Dean Michael

October Readings

04.10.20 17th Sunday after Trinity Green	Isaiah 5: 1-7	A vineyard yields wild instead of productive grapes. It is broken and trampled down, and God even commands the clouds not to rain upon it.
	Phil.3: 4b-14	Paul describes his Jewish background. As someone who persecuted Christians, he was blameless in the eyes of the Law. Now, however, he regards all his former status as nothing, and instead presses on towards the goal, the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.
	Mathew 21: 33-end	Jesus tells the parable of the landowner who leased his vineyard to tenants. He then quotes Psalm 118: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” before telling his listeners that the kingdom of God will be taken from them and given to people who are fruitful in their faith.
11.10.20 18th Sunday after Trinity Green	Isaiah 25: 1-9	For a people hopeless and wearied by war, fragmentation of tribe and family, Isaiah offers words that affirm God’s control of the situation and hope for a time of restoration, togetherness and peace.
	Phil. 4: 1-9	Paul’s sign-off in this letter shows some of the issues that troubled its recipients. There are calls not to argue; to rejoice in God; to pray rather than to worry and to think on good things to find peace.
	Mathew 22:1-14	Jesus tells a parable of the kingdom, a strange but wonderful tale of an open invitation that includes us all.

October Readings *continued*

<p align="center">18.10.20</p> <p align="center">19th Sunday after Trinity</p> <p align="center">Green</p>	<p align="center">Isaiah 45: 1-7</p>	<p>Isaiah prophesies about Cyrus, King of Persia, making it clear that Cyrus' rise to power in the region is the work of God: God will use him to defeat the Babylonians who have taken the Lord's people into exile.</p>
	<p align="center">1 Thess. 1: 1-10</p>	<p>Paul writes to the church at Thessalonica, a church he had planted on one of his missionary journeys. He expresses his relief that they have stayed strong in their faith despite the opposition they have faced.</p>
	<p align="center">Matthew 22: 15-22</p>	<p>Jesus is teaching in the Temple at Jerusalem when he faces a question from two groups who are keen to trip him up.</p>
<p align="center">25.10.20</p> <p align="center">Last Sunday after Trinity</p> <p align="center">Green</p>	<p align="center">Lev.19: 1-2,15-18</p>	<p>We hear God's commandments about how his people, who are called to holiness, are to relate to each other with love and justice.</p>
	<p align="center">1 Thess. 2: 1- 8</p>	<p>Paul speaks of how he shared the Gospel of God with the people of Thessalonica with gentleness and love, offering himself freely in service to them.</p>
	<p align="center">Matthew 22: 34-end</p>	<p>Jesus is once again challenged by religious leaders in Jerusalem, and challenges them back.</p>

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Herefordshire. HR3 6QB.

e-mail address : linkeditor@outlook.com Telephone : **01544 327664**.

The closing date for Link material is the : ****15th of the month**** Please label your e mail the village to which it refers or 'community' if you want it to go in the back. It is much easier for me if everything comes from your local correspondent.



Blakemere News

With the trees starting to turn, and a few dry and warm days to help our farmers, another reminder of approaching Autumn has been the departure of our swallows (on 2nd September, although some stayed longer in other parts of the Benefice). All the families in our barn raised two broods; the later arrivals will have a challenge in flying the average of 200 miles a day on their way to the Sahara and points south. At the time of writing (14th September) the house martins are still here enjoying the sunshine – for the moment!

Congratulations to all concerned for the triumphant completion of the restoration of the wonderful Moccas organ. I'm so sorry that an enforced stay in hospital meant that I couldn't join Lyndon Eatough-Smith in playing for the event – especially as I have just become a member of the Council of the Royal College of Organists!

Blakemere Church continues to be open for private prayer on Wednesdays from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Thank you to Anne Lloyd, the Deanery Mission Co-ordinator, for featuring the Church, with some lovely photographs, in her weekly Deanery email. The restoration of the late 12th-century Church took place in 1877 – not after a fire as is often said, but simply because it was falling down! It was all done in five months by Messrs Walsh of Hereford, under the direction of the London architect George Truefitt, and it cost...One Thousand Pounds. The day of celebration was on Thursday 15th August 1877, and included three Services, and lunch for 150 in what is now the Odd House (with seven speeches...)

Please continue to support the Hereford Foodbank. They will be needed more than ever as economic conditions worsen. They especially need: tinned meat (casseroles, stews, ham), Smash, UHT/dried milk; tinned vegetables, fruit, rice pudding, custard and soup; coffee, loo paper, and toothpaste. For contributions, there is a box in the porch of Blakemere Church which is emptied every Wednesday.

It was great to see how much has been collected across the Benefice and is now being brought together for the Harvest Festivals before being delivered to the Foodbank. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Blakemere

On Wednesday 7th October at 7.00 p.m. in Blakemere Church (with appropriate Covid precautions) we have the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, which any parishioner may attend, and whose main business is the election of Churchwardens (I should be delighted if others might take this role on!); immediately thereafter follows the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, for anyone on the Church electoral roll, which considers various reports for the year past, and the PCC Accounts, and elects the PCC; then there is a meeting of the PCC.

A sad final note: Keith Bladon has moved from Blakemere into Hereford after many years in the village. Keith has been the best of neighbours, and a source of great support for our local churches and communities. After his retirement as a Reader, he has always been ready to read lessons and to take part in services. Jane was especially glad of his support and advice during her Curacy. We hope that he will keep his connections with Blakemere, and wish him all the very best as he settles down in his new home.

Robert Lisvane



Bredwardine & Brobury

www.bredwardine-brobury.org.uk

As the days are drawing in and autumn approaches, Gwynneth Mackenzie is finally preparing to leave us. She and Bill lived in Pool Cottage, Brobury for more than 30 years and played a huge part in the life of this Parish and the area. They will be very much missed and we hope Gwynneth will, when finally settled in her new home, be very happy there, and come back and visit us in happier, less stressful times!

Changing Covid-19 regulations are continuing to disrupt village life, and what events were being planned have largely had to be cancelled - again. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the autumn and winter months will not be as difficult as some are predicting. Stay safe everyone.

Jen Maddison

CHURCH NEWS

Greetings from St. Andrew's

Tuesday, 10 September 1879, from the Diary of the Rev. Francis Kilvert

Bredwardine & Brobury Church News

“A lovely autumn morning with a bright silvery mist on the river. I walked to Hay over Llowes Common and down through the cherry orchard and the pear orchard in greater love than tongue can tell and beauty inexpressible.”

Services at St. Andrew's: Autumn 2020

Sunday 27th Sept (Trinity 16) Harvest Picnic at 4:00pm in Hardwicke churchyard

Please bring a picnic tea

Saturday 3rd October Churchyard Work Day from 10:00am

Sunday 11th October (Trinity 18) Afternoon Service at 3:00pm in the Churchyard

Thursday 15th October Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 7:30pm

in St. Andrew's Church, TBC

During these difficult and changing times all our services and events are subject to change, please look out for updates on your email and notices in the village

Cathy

And more -

Please do come and help at our Churchyard Workday on Sat. 3rd October, from 10.00am onwards. Even just half an hour of your time would be much appreciated, as there is so much to do. There is plenty of space for everyone, so you can choose your own little secluded area to work in! Jobs include weeding, ivy removal, path edging, hedge cutting, bramble clearing, gutter clearing, bonfire stoking.....Please bring your own tools and refreshments, and many thanks in advance.

The **book sales in the church porch** continue to provide a great source of income for us, in the absence of any official fund raising this year. So far, the combined sales of plants and books have amounted to over £1000, which is amazing. But PLEASE DO continue to donate any surplus books that you have, as we need to maintain a good quality supply for our buyers! Thank you again to all who have already done so – we really are most grateful.

Charlotte

Friends of St. Andrew's 100 Club

We had another draw in the Red Lion garden in September. Jaqueline Seymour drew the winning numbers, and we were pleased to be able to thank her for all her efforts for the NHS and the community. From the beginning of the crisis she has been sewing bags for scrubs, scrubs themselves, and now masks which are being distributed far and wide. (Apparently sheep and bees are the most popular mask styles!) The draw was again livestreamed on the Red Lion facebook page - thank you Gordon!

The winning numbers were: 1st Prize (£50) - No. 80 June Blandford; 2nd Prize (£25) - No. 134 Val Andrews; 3rd Prize (£15) - No. 46 Jeannette Bowen, and the two In It To Win It Prizes were won by Hilary Blandford and Charlotte Sellar.

Friends of St. Andrew's 100 Club

It was a very enjoyable gathering (as Draw Nights always are!) in much better light than I had expected after the gloom of the night before! Thank you everyone who attended. From now on though we will have to be back inside the Red Lion, so do support us, but remember to follow the Covid regulations in force at the time.

Our next Draw night will be on **Thursday, 1st October in the Red Lion at 8pm**. As we missed our usual double draw night in June we will have two draws in October.

I'm pleased to say that the 100 Club's well established '**1st Thursday at the Lion**' will **not change**, so our 2021 season will begin on Thursday, 7th January!! Tickets for 2021 (one payment of £20 for the whole year) will be available from October. Don't forget, I must have received the ticket price before the January draw if your ball is to go into the Benfield Butterchurn! And as we are not all seeing each other so frequently these days, I want to ask you to purchase your tickets over the next few months without too much prompting from me please!

Jen

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

from Sarah, Chair of the Village Hall Committee

Bookings in the VH: Covid-19 guidelines are in place and working well. The focus remains to provide a safe, clean meeting environment while not interfering with the enjoyment of the classes.

Throughout the month of **October 2020** the following activities are scheduled:

Jacqueline's **Quilting Sessions** will take place on Mondays and Tuesdays, morning classes from 10am until 1pm and workshops from 10am until 4pm.

The newly-formed **Craft Group**, now called the Sew 'n Sews, meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month.

The village hall will become the monthly meeting place for a local **Book Club**, on Wednesdays at 10am.

Welcome back **Tai Chi**! They normally meet Wednesday evening from 7pm but once a month on a Tuesday evening to avoid conflict with morning Book Club.

It is all a "juggling act" in an effort to keep safe.

The Art Group meets in the village hall on Friday afternoons from 1-4pm.

Hay Writers will meet on the Tuesday, 20th October, at 1.30pm.

The Village Hall Committee will meet on Tuesday, 6th October, 6pm.

The Monthly Market will not start up again until later in the year. Date and time to be determined.

If you would like to book the village hall for any occasion, please call Sarah on 07880 521 551. Rental costs are low due to the fact that when people book the hall they clean and tidy up afterwards. Due to Covid-19, we have put in place a cleaning checklist to be completed by the person booking the hall after each use. This is in addition to our monthly cleaning schedule.

Solar PV Panels reading taken on 13 September 2020. Total Electricity Generated to Date: 37,220 kWh; CO2 Saved: 15,940 kg.

Opportunity: Hereford Times Correspondent We are in search of someone who could regularly send our village news to the Hereford Times for publication in the County News section and online website. The task requires email access. If you are interested in finding out more details, please contact Sarah.

BREDWARDINE ART GROUP

The group resumed its meetings at the hall when it reopened in August. While it has been great to meet people again face-to-face, we have to keep social distance and observe the hall rules on Covid. And some members understandably continue to stay home to protect themselves and family, sharing the results of their work online via our Facebook group. Some group members are now taking part in live workshops and tutorials to develop their skills. Some recent examples of our work are pictured. Since the Peterchurch Hub has reopened, we can confirm we will be exhibiting work there during November on the theme of 'art in lockdown'; we hope you'll come and have a look!

If you are interested in joining in the virtual art group, contact Brenda Taylor on 07855 143048. Or find us on Facebook @Bredwardine Art Group.

Tiger – Kari Manning Lawson, child and mud – Sue Lloyd, Paris – Susan Sahota, Ardwell Is. Dumfries – Sheila Marsh

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

It is with regret that due to the changed restrictions I have decided to cancel the Macmillan Coffee Morning this year. Please enjoy a cuppa with a friend including that special treat whether cake or savoury.

Here is the link if you would like to make a donation to the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Living with cancer is challenging at any time, but it's even harder right now. With health services under pressure and people advised to avoid face-to-face interactions, Macmillan's phone and online support are more important than ever. The Coffee Mornings will help us do everything we can to be there for people with cancer through these challenging times.

Coffee Morning link: <https://thyg.uk/BUU004027325>.

Thank you.

Jane

WYESIDE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the September meeting on Wednesday 2nd can be found as usual on the village website.



St. Andrew's Magnificent Christmas Trees
 Don't miss out on decorating your home this Christmas with one of our splendid traditional trees. We are putting together this year's order so if you would like one of our beautiful trees, which are sold in aid of St. Andrew's Church Bredwardine, please send an email by 23rd of October, to

cathy.widdicombe@gmail.com with your name, contact details and the size of tree you would like to order

WHITEHOUSE WEATHER REPORT, BREDWARDINE						
Monthly Values, August 2020						
Avg Temp	Average Daily Temperature		Total Wind Run miles	Max Wind Speed mph	Rain Total mm/ inches	Days with Rain
	Max	Min				
17.0 C 62.6 F	21.7 C 71.0 F	13.4 C 56.1 F	1981	35	191.5 mm 7.54 "	17
Daily Extremes of Temperature, August 2020						
Coldest night		Coldest day	Warmest night		Warmest day	
31 August 5.9 C 42.6 F		27 August 14.5 C 58.1 F	13 August 17.6 C 63.7 F		12 August 33.3 C 91.9 F	
Other Daily Extremes, August 2020						
Windiest day		Calmmest day	Wettest day		Highest UV Index	
26 August 147 miles run		31 August 14 miles run	12 August 36.6 mm 1.44 "		7 & 8 August 4.9	

High temperatures at the end of July eased during the first few days of August, but hot conditions soon returned to Whitehouse, albeit briefly, peaking on August 12th with 33.3 C, and a serious thundery downpour. Relatively cool unsettled conditions followed, with rain everyday except one until 28th August, and some very significant rainfall totals.

Each of our three local measuring sites registered record amounts of rain for August. Terry Preece had 7.54" at Whitehouse (previous August high 4.83" in 2010, mean 2.52" since 2004); Brobury Farms had 6.99" (previous high 6.81" in 1992, mean 2.41" since 1986); at Springfield the total was 6.50" (previous high 5.05" in 2008, mean 2.75" since 2005). Herefordshire was one of the wettest counties in England during August according to the Met Office Anomaly maps.

Regarding temperatures, overall in our region, August average temperatures were about 2 C higher than those from 1961-1990.



Clifford News

For more news, events & information
www.cliffordparishcouncil.co.uk

I must apologise for last month's rather sparse Clifford News. I don't know what happened but there must have been a blip somewhere.

The harvest has been gathered in and sadly this year we will not be able to sing in Church and give thanks as usual. It has been a worrying year for farmers what with the excessive floods earlier in the year washing out most of the early planted crops, only to endure a mini drought mid summer followed by yet more rain during the harvest period. However, the end result has been more promising than expected.

Clifford School is now safely back to work. The staff have worked endlessly to make the children's school life as normal as possible which has not been easy due to the lack of space and difficulties in keeping the children apart and in their own "bubbles". However, on the whole the format is working well, the children seem to have adapted to their new regime thanks to the dedication and hard work of all who work in the school.

Covid 19 is spreading once again, and having had restrictions lifted for a while, it now looks as if a giant step has been taken backwards and we are limited to congregating in groups no bigger than six at a time. This is obviously going to have dire effects on people who rely on entertainment and social gatherings for a living.

A number of us in Clifford and surrounding areas have been kept on our toes and in some cases, stomachs, knees and shoulders by the indomitable Emma Towersey and her Pilates classes. Throughout Lockdown and since, Emma has held classes on line and video link and latterly in her garden to help keep people fit and active and also socially in touch with one another. Congratulations Emma these classes have been such a help in so many cases and great fun to take part in regardless of age, and state of fitness.

Clifford Forget-Me-Not Club.

This Christmas, sadly, the Forget-Me-Not Club members will not be able to meet for the Christmas Lunch because of this wretched corona virus. Let us hope that by Christmas 2021 the virus will have disappeared. We can then all meet, as usual, at Clifford Community Centre and have a jolly good lunch and get-together in normal circumstances.

We trust that all our members are keeping well, happy and able to put up with the inconvenience these unusual circumstances force upon us.

Gloria, Greta and the club committee.

I hope and pray that everyone in our community continues to keep well during what is an oncoming period of uncertainty. Anyone with gardens will be kept busy with the Autumn work of cutting back, pruning and those lovely autumn bonfires. There will be spring bulbs to plant out and bulbs to be brought on for Christmas.

Happy Gardening and lets hope it won't be too long before the Clifford Garden Club can get together again and exchange plants and ideas and show off new creations.



Cusop News

www.cusop.net

My heart missed a beat when the new government rule of "Six People" was announced on 9th September. Thankfully, the news stated that weddings and funerals with up to thirty people were still allowed but on the early morning news bulletin there was no mention of church services. Fortunately, later in the day, it was confirmed that church services could go ahead and the Archbishop tweeted, *"After contact with the government, we hear that there is no change to guidance on places of worship. Worship is the work of God – not a social gathering – and gives strength to love and serve"*. Thank you, Archbishop, for such comforting words and it's evident from the numbers attending our services that there is a real need to join together in worship so services will continue at Cusop Church for as long as it is legal!

Bishop Richard of Hereford was appointed in March and, during the lockdown, he has made a concerted effort to communicate through his weekly online messages which are topical and thoughtful. He also gave us an opportunity to meet him on Zoom. This way he has chatted to people from far ends of the Diocese without having to travel – one of the positive developments of the lockdown.

Cusop

Nevertheless, nothing replaces meeting a person in reality so we were delighted to welcome Bishop Richard in Cusop Churchyard on Saturday 29th August. Our church was chosen as part of his Prayer Pilgrimage when he aimed to visit one church in every benefice. This was a truly memorable service held in our beautiful churchyard, bathed in late summer sunshine. People from nearly all of our parishes attended with many of them volunteering to take part in the service led by Bishop Richard. After the service, there was an opportunity to meet him before he left for his next service in Brilley Churchyard.

The weather in September has been very kind which has meant that Hay Junior and Senior Theatre Groups have been able to continue to regularly meet in our churchyard. Janine has said the children have loved practising their drama skills outside in the fresh air. It's wonderful that they can embrace the beauty of our churchyard and have such fun during these difficult times. Fortunately, the government guidelines regarding the "Rule of Six" state that there are exceptions including "education, training for work, and voluntary or charitable services". This means that the Theatre Groups and God's Acre Taskforce Days can continue and give those involved a real uplift and enjoyable time.

Harvest Picnic

This year our Harvest Festival took place in the churchyard. It was a fabulous sunny afternoon and much to the delight of several young families, Neville Jones arrived on his fabulous vintage tractor pulling a trailer that we later loaded with boxes of food for Hereford Food Bank. **A special thank you to Nick Blayney for organising the music and a small choir to sing Harvest songs.** Luci led a lovely service which involved everyone finding a seed and thinking about how we can all individually grow in what we have to offer. Many people have already discovered hidden talents during the lockdown when they have had time to develop new skills. After the service, everyone enjoyed a picnic and there was a really relaxed and light-hearted atmosphere, so much appreciated during the current climate. The Harvest Festival was made particularly special with the arrival of the tractor so **a very big thank you to Neville for the time spent organising his tractor and trailer and helping to pack it with boxes of food.**

Thank You for your Generous Donations to Hereford Foodbank!

When the furlough scheme ends in October, we know there will be a far greater demand for food at the Hereford Foodbank. We are hoping that our recent special Harvest campaign will supply the foodbank with some reserves for this challenging time ahead. Thank you so much everyone who has given to our Foodbank Box in the porch at the Village Hall and thank you to all who donated food and money at our Harvest Festival which will be delivered to Hereford Food Bank.

Well Done, Moccas!

Massive congratulations to Moccas Churchwardens and their helpers for raising an incredible amount so that the beautiful organ in Moccas Church could be restored. This was a specialised process and inevitably extremely costly. It was wonderful that many of us were able to attend a special service of blessing and dedication for the restored organ at the end of August and to hear it being played!

Caring for God's Acre

Our last Taskforce Day took place on 21st August and, in spite of rather unseasonal weather, our loyal volunteers worked tirelessly on the Bee and Butterfly Garden and the surrounding area. It now looks fabulous so a very big thank you to everyone who turned up with such motivation. It's hugely appreciated. Again, our thanks to those volunteers who prefer to work independently in the churchyard especially during the pandemic. Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

Our final Taskforce Day of the year will be on **Friday 16th October from 10am to 3pm**. We are blessed with a very large churchyard so there is little problem in us working socially distanced and individually not in groups. Current government regulations state that "There are exceptions (to the rule of six) including "education, training for work, and voluntary or charitable services" and certainly our God's Acre Group falls into the latter. As always, you can choose any job you wish but please bring your own tools and refreshments. Unfortunately, the toilet will still need to be locked so please join us for as long as short as you want – we're grateful for any help. We look forward to seeing you!

Fungi Session

Good news! The Fungi Session in Cusop Churchyard on **Wednesday 7th October 10.30am to 1pm** is going ahead with all appropriate safety measures. There are only 12 places which will be on a "first come, first served" basis. If you would like to come, please can you reply to george@cfga.org.uk and also let me know so I can keep count! Please see poster below for details.

Logs and Wood Chippings for Sale

Sadly, a large, dying Norway Spruce in the churchyard has had to be chopped down as it had become dangerously close to Greystones, the Old School. If you would like any logs or wood chippings, please contact Celia Cundale, Churchwarden (01497-820396). A donation to Cusop Church would be appreciated.

A Message from Cusop Parish Council

Due to government regulations, all Parish Council Meetings in the foreseeable future will be taking place on Zoom. The council appreciate that not everyone has access to the internet and not all of us enjoy meetings on Zoom, however, members of the public are much encouraged to attend these meetings. **Please contact Jane Stannard, Clerk, via clerk@cusop.net if you would like to attend a meeting.** Zoom makes it possible for large numbers to take part, rather than the restrictions on numbers of people meeting indoors. This invitation to the public is made clear on the agendas and the notices of meetings which can be found on noticeboards and under the "Parish Council" tab on the Cusop website. Most meetings take place on the third Wednesday of the month. All minutes from Parish Council Meetings can be viewed online on the Cusop website and on notice boards. If you have any more queries about council matters, please contact the Clerk via e mail or on 01497-821076.

Masks for Sale in aid of Hereford Foodbank

Now face masks are the law in Wales too, please tell your friends over the border that they can order a mask from Penny Winter! Penny's masks are top quality and are made to fit the size of your face. She uses high quality batik fabrics and Egyptian cotton sheeting with a double layer of non-woven interlining with a nose wire to ensure a close fit, which also helps to stop glasses fogging up. Penny charges only £5 per mask. If you are interested please email her at pennywinter88@hotmail.com.

Thank you, Charles!

Cusop PCC would like to thank Charles Spencer for his generous donation of cards that can be sold in aid of Cusop Church. Charles has also given us a beautifully framed print of his original painting of the church which can be sold or auctioned off at a later date. The picture is currently on display in Cusop Church.
Celia Cundale

CUSOP HISTORY GROUP

In 1912 Mrs Ella Mary Leather wrote in her book "The Folklore of Herefordshire", *"Fairies have been seen dancing under foxgloves in Cusop Dingle within the memory of some now living there."* Also, according to folklore, *"Brownies were domestic elves, sometimes useful and hardworking, helping the maids with household tasks, more often mischievous or even malicious. The "sway", the iron bar over the fire on which pots and kettles were hung, was formerly made with a crook in it. This was said to be the seat of the Brownie and an old lady living there in 1908 remembered the "Brownie sway" in her home in Cusop Dingle. If there were no curve in the sway, she said, people would hang a horse-shoe on it, upside down, so that Brownie should have something to sit upon."*

This Month in Cusop History.

From [the Cusop Parish Magazine](#) 1938

"A meeting of the Mothers' Union was held at Cusop Church Room on Tuesday October 4th at 3pm. Unfortunately, it was not a fine day but in spite of the weather 26 members attended, some bringing their children. Thanksgiving was given that the nation's prayers had been answered and at the eleventh hour we had been saved the horrors of a modern war. All felt that the real need of the day is moral and spiritual rearmament. Were we together with our fellow men and women everywhere to put the energy and resourcefulness into this task that we now find ourselves obliged to expend on national defence, the peace of the world would be assured."

From Cusop Parish Magazine 1939

Rector's Letter (Rev Stephen Wheeler as he went off to serve in H.M. Forces)

My Dear Friends,

We all hope that the war will be of very short duration, but whether or not each of us has some kind of contribution which must be made.

It touches all.

Cusop

Nations everywhere are afraid and anxious. Parents are anxious as they realise that the shadow of something or other threatens the lives of the little ones who run so happily to school today. We feel that we would do anything to safeguard their lives, their homes and future liberty.

I hope to write something for the Parish magazine each month. It may be possible to give some impressions and depressions of life as I shall see it, wherever that may be. I appreciate all that the Vicar of Hardwicke has promised to do to help the work of the Parish.

In conclusion whether we go or stay, we all have a part to play.

Your sincere friend

S. WHEELER

Visit our website at <http://cusophistory.wix.com/cusop> to see the latest information, including the research and our photos of historical Cusop. Email us at cusophistory@gmail.com or call Sue on 01497 822523.

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

10.00AM TO 3.00PM

Please bring your own tools and refreshments

Everyone Welcome!

All help appreciated!

**Cusop, Ty Glyn, rainfall gauge**

A total of 149.0 mm (5.87") of rain fell during August, with the glorious twelfth the wettest day by far at 46.2 mm (1.82"), a mixed blessing for the local pheasants. I hope they enjoyed the thirteen dry days.

Ainsleigh 01497-820332



**Learn to Identify Fungi
With the Beautiful Burial Ground Project
St Mary's Churchyard, Cusop.
Wednesday 7th October 10:30 - 1pm**

This is a friendly and informal session suitable for complete beginners and those wishing to brush up on their skills. The session will be held in a socially distanced, covid secure manner. Places are free thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund but must be booked.

**To book your free place contact George
george@cfga.org.uk**

The Beautiful Burial Ground Project aims to inspire and support people to learn about, research and survey the natural, built and social heritage of their local burial grounds. This project is funded by the National Lottery

Heritage Fund and managed by the conservation charity

Caring for God's Acre.

www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

11 Drovers House, The Auction Yard, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 9BZ

Dorstone News

www.dorstone.org.uk



News from St Faith's Church Services

1st October onwards: Thursday Evening Prayer 4.30p.m. – 5p.m.

By the time the service information appears in the printed magazines, it is already two weeks out of date. The restrictions from Covid19 can change with just a few days' notice. So, up-to-date details of services and/or alterations will appear on the church notice boards, the **CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE** www.facebook.com/ChurchandBellsDorstone/ or DFR's email service

St. Faith's Day – 6th October (also the dedication of Bacton Church)

St. Faith of Conques (Sainte Foy) was born in Agen in Aquitaine in the third century CE.

Dorstone St. Faith, s Day 6 th October (also dedication of Bacton Church)

She became a martyr at about 12 years old, when she was killed by the Romans because she refused to make pagan sacrifices even under torture on a red-hot brazier. Snow fell as she died, hiding her naked body. Her relics arrived in Conques in the 9th century after they were stolen from Agen by a monk. It was one of the most famous shrines in all of Europe, and her cult spread all along the Pilgrim Way to Santiago de Compostela and to S. America. She was believed to cure blindness.

Some of her 'miracles' are called St. Faith's 'jokes': Austrin, a local castellan kept a ring that his dying wife had promised to St. Faith. However, he used the ring to wed his second wife. St. Faith caused the finger of the second wife to swell up in unbearable pain. He and his new wife visited the saint's shrine, and on the third night, *"when the sorrowful woman happened to blow her nose, the ring flew off without hurting her fingers, just as if it had been hurled from the strongest siege engine, and gave a sharp crack on the pavement at a great distance."*

Churchyards

We had three working-party sessions, taking nearly 100 person-hours overall – and now the old churchyard is looking neat and tidy. Paths are edged, tombs cleared and railings painted. The overhanging branches and brambles from neighbouring property were removed – yet again. Sylvia spent two lonely afternoons trying to tidy the neglected Memorial Garden, which has become seriously overgrown.

I am sure those of you who have relatives and friends laid to rest in our churchyards appreciate the commitment and very hard work mostly done by newcomers to the village who have no direct links with anyone buried there.

Should you wish to show your gratitude, you can make donations to the **Churchyard Fund** via the Treasurer to help with future mowing and maintenance costs. To give an example, the railings paint cost over £200, and took many hours of work.

Prayer Box – 'God answers KNEE mail'

If you wish prayers to be offered for relatives or friends during this worrying time, there is now a box in the church where you can place your confidential prayer requests.

Dorstone APCM Meeting Monday 12th October at 7.30 p.m.

Due to the regulations and guidance in existence in respect of the Coronavirus epidemic, we are unable to hold this meeting in the Church as usual and it will therefore be a virtual meeting and will take place on Zoom with the Chairman, Secretary, Churchwardens and members of the PCC taking part.

Dorstone

The first item of this meeting is the **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** which is concerned with the election of Churchwardens on which members on the Electoral Roll are entitled to vote. Our present Churchwardens, Penny Platts and Sylvia Corrick are prepared to continue for the next twelve months.

Dorstone APCM Meeting Monday 12th October at 7.30 p.m.

Therefore if there are any other nominations for these posts they should be delivered to Rita Teather at Corner Cottage seven days before the meeting.

Those wishing to vote on the nominations should notify the Secretary, Toni Birchenough, at Primrose Hill, Dorstone, (abirchenough3@gmail.com) (Tel: 01981 550769) and they will be sent voting papers which should be returned to her by email or delivered to Rita Teather 24 hours? before the meeting.

Toni Birchenough

Dorstone Playing Field

Play-Do winners

At last we have managed to get our draw up to date. Hope all members are sticking with us and, hopefully before too long, I will be able to collect from you again. Thank you everyone for your continued support and new members are always welcome

April: Mary Preece, Sylvia Corrick, Richard Jones, Jane Goring, Tricia Jones.

May: Ernest Morgan, Kath Gaze, John Parrington, Keith Meredith,
Toni Birchenough.

June: David Gane, Brooks Family, Ivy Parrington, Kath Gaze, Alison Morgan.

July: Richard Goodwin, Dulcie Hughes, Toni Birchenough, Cliff Price, Jean Pughe.

DORTSONE BOWLS CLUB.

After last months "Roller Coaster" ride we have moved into a "Dribs and Drabs" month where news is hard to find. However, we can report that most members health is good and that next season members should be aware that Colin Joy is home having had his knee operation – no more The Long John Silver image when moving about the green.

Good use of the meagre Club funds is going to be made soon when the much-needed repairs to two sides of the green's ditches will be made by a local builder.

On searching the archives, I discovered that one of the founding members Mr Leonard Wilkes tried his hand at poetry. Here is the last verse of a five-verse poem written by him.....

Borderlink Benefice – <i>All services will take place in church unless otherwise stated. Please note that we</i>		
	4th October Trinity 17	11th October Trinity 18
BLAKEMERE	11am Trio Service outdoors if fine, inside if wet	
BREDWARDINE WITH BROBURY		3pm Afternoon Worship
CLIFFORD		
CUSOP	11am Morning Worship	11am Morning Worship
DORSTONE	9.30am St Faith's Day Holy Communion**	
HARDWICKE		
MOCCAS	<i>Join Trio at Blakemere</i>	
PRESTON ON WYE	<i>Join Trio at Blakemere</i>	
Midweek	Every Thursday, Dorstone Evening Prayer in church, 4.30pm	
Notes	** please bring your own piece of bread which will be blessed	

October 2020 – 14.09.20

wearing of face coverings is now mandatory for services held inside church buildings.

18th October Trinity 19	25th October Last after Trinity	1st November All Saints Day
		<i>Join Trio at Moccas</i>
	9.30am Morning Worship	
11am Holy Communion**	<i>Join Clifford</i>	11am Holy Communion**
9.30am Morning Worship		11am Trio service
	11am Holy Communion**	<i>Join Trio at Moccas</i>

m

ed during the service

Dorstone Bowls Club *continued*

You only need to come along
 on any practice night
 and any of the players there
 will see that you're alright.
 For every single one of them
 was a beginner once
 and, just like you, on that first time
 felt such a right old dunce.

Visitors to Herefordshire will automatically look for a web site or check on Facebook to look for a bowls club to play at. They will find we are badly represented. I am seeking a local person to help us produce a meaningful web site. If you can, or know someone who can, then please call 01981 590691 and speak to me, Barry Megson, thank you. This was taken from an American email....." the Internet went down and I had to spend time with the family. They seem like good people".

Barry Megson



Hardwicke News

www.hardwickechurch.co.uk

How time has flown this year! Here we are nearly at the end of the year and should be thinking about preparations for Bonfire night, fireworks, sizzling sausages and mulled wine. However, with further restrictions now in place, I guess we will just have to dream of the Hardwicke community gatherings of old and hope that the new norm will allow us to meet up again soon.

With a limit to the number of people able to meet outside being reduced once again to six, the PCC meeting scheduled for September and more sadly the joint Harvest Festival with Dorstone will presumably have been cancelled.

Life Drawing classes have continued on Mondays through August and September but with the new restrictions in place it would be better to speak to Denise on 01497 831 544 to book a slot rather than just turn up at Hardwicke Hall.

We were sorry to hear that Egbert has had a spell in hospital and send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Hardwicke

Hardwicke news is certainly thin on the ground this month. If anyone has any news that they think will be of interest to Link readers please let me know. Stay safe.



MoccasNews

<https://sites.google.com/site/moccasvillage>

Moccas Organ Restoration Project

Were it not for the obvious, you would have read this piece four months ago! The pandemic put paid to that, slamming the breaks on our project and delaying my official start as the project's 'Heritage Activity Coordinator'. This title really means 'Assistant to the Already Terrifically Competent Project Team', who have organised and overseen the restoration of the church's remarkable 19th century organ and case. Hopefully many of you have heard and/or seen the stunning results of this work.

The organ's restoration is only half the story, however, and that's where I sidle in. The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the main funder of the project, only support applications which engage people in a celebration of the heritage at the heart of a project (and, in this case, the surrounding areas!). We have devised a really interesting programme of activities and events which we hope will appeal to a broad range of people – whether you're passionate about organs/music/church architecture/history/religion or not! I will be helping the project team organise, promote and deliver this programme, and we planned to begin with a series of socially distanced winter lectures this month. It was all getting quite exciting...speaker booked, publicity prepared, wine list debated... and then the 'Rule of Six' scuppered it!

All is not lost, however. The lectures **will** go ahead; just not in the 'usual way'. Please look out for details in next month's edition, when I'll also tell you more about next year's activities...has anyone ever wanted to try a little Gothic calligraphy?!

Hannah Vernon

churchesandcommunitymatters@gmail.com (Please email if you have any questions about the project activities)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

This is just a reminder that the usual "House to House" Poppy collections and the Preston Poppy coffee morning will not be taking place this year due to Covid restrictions. From 24th October Poppies will be available in Banks, Post Offices and most Supermarkets – please support the appeal as generously as you have done in the past. Barbara Hinksman (Local Organiser)

Another month of uncertainty but we are so very fortunate - as we have said before - to live in England's green and pleasant land. We had a splendid organ restoration celebration, the only sad note being Robert was unwell and unable to play for us. Lyndon rose splendidly to the occasion and the added bonus was Gill serenading us afterwards quite brilliantly. Harvest Festival coming up; it will be an occasion quite unlike any previous ones !!

Some will remember Dolly Mason. As Dolly Stead she ran the Moccas shop about 50 years ago (yes, we had our own shop in those days). She retired to Hereford and died at the end of August aged almost 91. Her loyal friend Bridie Gittoes, who then lived next door to the shop, rang to tell us the sad news.

Thoughts of a possible Bus shelter at Moccas Cross.

Parents of school children, who wait for the school bus in Moccas by the memorial cross would like a Bus shelter erected. If you have any thoughts, concerns or ideas please contact Parish Councillor Owen Whittall – 07974 121 563 before he takes it to the Parish Council meeting.

Community Items

GRANTS FOR STUDENTS AND TRAINEES

The Smith's Educational Foundation can offer grants of up to £250 to young people living in Clifford, Peterchurch and Vowchurch attending Sixth Form College or university, or on an official vocational training course, for equipment such as books, computers or Ipads.

The Trustees usually give favourable consideration to those who have undertaken holiday or part-time jobs.

Please write including proof that you are on a course to: -

The Clerk of Smith's Educational Foundation, 23 Lewis Way, Peterchurch, Hereford HR2 0SE

Or email: - carolinekw.bowen@gmail.com

Hay on WIInspiring Women.

At Hay on WI we have been worrying at the vexed questions about meeting up in the future. Luckily we were able to hold an al fresco meeting in the Cheese market on September 9th at 7pm when Helen Campbell talked to us with the topic "How Fulfilled do you Feel?". Helen is a local life and business coach who works with ambitious, creative people to set and achieve goals. Together we explored and identified what brings joy and energy to our lives and noticed what might be holding us back. It was a fun and thought-provoking evening. We are meeting weekly on Saturdays at 4.30pm by Hay Bridge for a short socially distanced walk and catch up. Our Book Club continues to meet on Zoom and our Craft Club is planning activities for the winter months. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday October 14th at 7.30pm and we will be deciding on a venue (or whether it will be on-line) closer to the date.

Lockdown Lament

We've all been walking
 Cooking home-made meals
 Trying Zoom for talking
 Using bikes for wheels.
 Is it too much to ask
 Your friends and relations
 To wear glasses and mask
 And claim CONDENSATION!

For more information on Hay on WI call Sue Hodgetts on 01497 822523, email us on hayonwi@gmail.com or visit our website <http://hayonwi.wixsite.com/haywi> We would love to see you, why not give us a try?

Hay Youth Theatre

We have been successfully holding the Saturday Youth Theatre Summer school sessions outdoors in the beautiful setting of St Mary's Churchyard in Cusop during August and the first few weeks of September. It has been wonderful to see the youngsters enjoying their drama and particularly learning the Squirrel Dance under the Oak trees along with a fun dance routine to Ain't Nobody Here but Us Chickens!



Hay Youth Theatre

The Juniors meet at 10.30 until 12 (7-12 year olds) and the Seniors from 1-2-30pm (13-16 year olds). We are planning to move indoors at the end of September so please call for venue information. Each parent/ participant will receive a set of risk assessment and rules and regulations which must be followed to be Covid safe. Even though distancing is in place, it is loads of fun. Open to newcomers too.

Don't forget to vote for our Community project to put on an outdoor production of Midsummer Night's Dream in 2021. We would love your help - by using your Co-op membership card and choosing Hay Theatre as your cause, every time you buy Co-op branded goods helps raise funds for this valuable project. Check our website and Facebook for changes. Top of Form

For details and to book a place, call Janine on 07733 055430 or email haytheatre@gmail.co.uk. For more information check our website www.haytheatre.co.uk

Hay Adult Theatre Studies (HATS)

We normally meet on Thursday evenings 7.45 to 9.45 at **Clyro Village Hall** in term time. Sessions are currently postponed but we hope to be part of the Midsummer Night's Dream production planned for next year. For more information check our website www.haytheatre.co.uk

HayDay Cafés

Whilst we can't meet at the HayDay Cafés at Cusop and Clyro, Dementia Matters in Powys have set up Powys wide virtual Meeting Centres on Thursday mornings at 11am for an hour or so via Zoom with chat, activities and singing. See our website <https://haydaycusop.wixsite.com/hayday> Facebook page or call Sue Hodgetts on 01497 822523 for more information.

***Please don't forget that The Link's new e mail address is
linkeditor@outlook.com***

It confuses me if I suddenly get a Link e mail within my personal e mails.

Golden Valley Day Centre

The committee met at the beginning of September to discuss how we were going to proceed with Day Centre and we have decided that we are going to remain closed for the time being. We are going to review the situation again in November but there is a strong possibility that we will not open until after Christmas. We will keep you informed if there are any changes.

We understand that this will be upsetting for some of you but we felt that it was better to keep everyone as safe as possible and this was the only way to do it.

Our draw was held at the end of August and lucky winners were Mr James Davies from The Stensley and Mrs Pam Savage congratulations to them both. For those of you who read about the creeping Clematis over Maurice and Heulwen's car it has now been cut and the car is now free.

I am sorry that our news isn't much at the moment but if any of our members wants to let me know how it's been for them during this time please get in touch.

So in the meantime keep staying safe and well

Sarah Murrin



Parish Magazines – September 2020

For immediate release: Friday 18th September

Postcards from Life

For three weeks from Monday 26th October, around 200 mini-masterpieces go under the hammer during Postcards from Life.

This year's online-only event gives you the chance to hang on your wall a small work that portrays a big heart.

The lots have been created by some of the most talented artists around and can all be viewed on the St Michael's Hospice website (www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk) where you'll also find a link to the Brightwells page to bid.

Event co-ordinator Gaynor Warren said: 'The quality of entries this year is outstanding. I think it's our best collection yet. So, get ready to browse and bid for work which will brighten any room, safe in the knowledge that your support will help families in our community living with a terminal illness.'

St Michael's Hospice *continued*

Light up a Life

Light up a Life is an invitation to everyone in our community to shine a light in memory of loved ones.

This year we will be unable to continue the tradition of organising our much-loved Light up a Life events throughout the community.

Instead, we're already busy filming a special service set in Hereford Cathedral which will be live-screened from St Michael's Hospice on Sunday 20th December and we hope as many people as possible will be able to join us online for the event.

We are also inviting people to play a part by filming themselves lighting a candle in memory of a loved one and sending the video to our Communications Team who will then create a montage of clips to form part of the online service.

St Michael's Hospice

There will also be an opportunity for people to remember their loved ones on a special website and on an installation which we hope to install in a public place in the centre of Hereford.

To find out more call the Hospice Communications Team on 01432 852 631 or visit www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Or

For more information contact Paul Broome, Communications Officer at St Michael's Hospice, on 01432 852 643 or email pbroome@smhospicehereford.org



To Autumn

BY JOHN KEATS

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless
 With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
 To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
 With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
 And still more, later flowers for the bees,
 Until they think warm days will never cease,
 For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
 Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
 Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
 Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
 Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
 Drows'd with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
 Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
 And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
 Steady thy laden head across a brook;
 Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,
 Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of spring? Ay, Where are they?
 Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
 While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
 And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
 Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
 Among the river sallows, borne aloft
 Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
 And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
 Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
 The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
 And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

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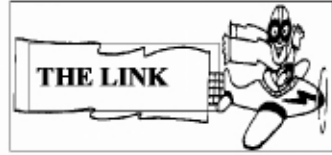
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