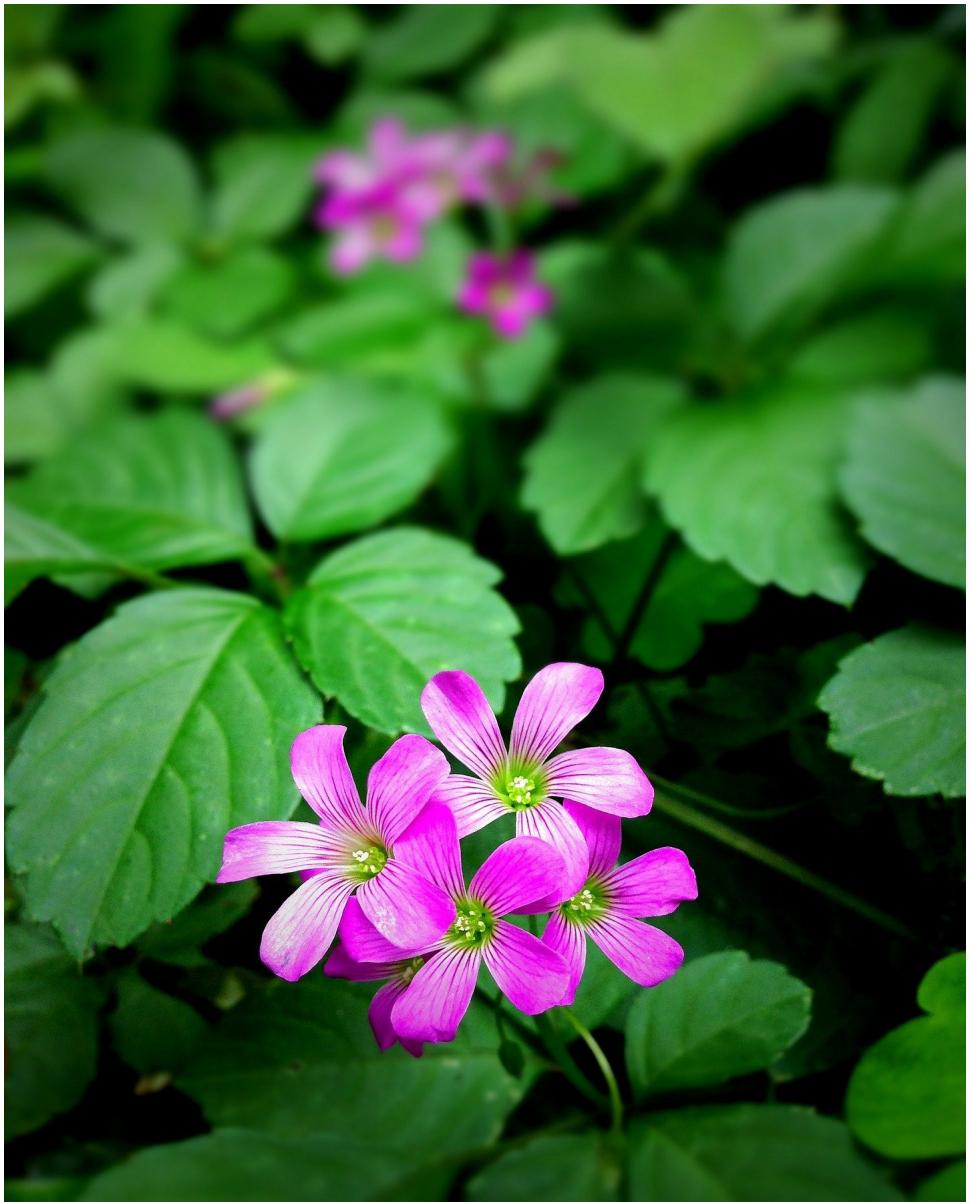


The Link June 2020



55 pence

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

margaretpr2014@gmail.com

MOTHERS' UNION

Cusop

Janet Bumford 01497831264

Bredwardine, Moccas & Preston

Kath Woods 01981 500 247

Dorstone

BORDERLINK BELLRINGERS

Ringing for Services

Alison Alcock 01497847510

Clifford Practices 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Roger Bowen 0154432731

Bredwardine 2nd,4th & 5th Wednesdays

Sylvia Corrick 01981 550564

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

Tony Charles

Third Tuesday 7.30pm

HOLY COMMUNION

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

TEA AND CHAT

Janet Bumford

Fourth Tuesday 2pm-4pm

JULIAN PRAYER GROUP

Janet and Mark Robinson 01497821348

Second Tuesday 11.30 – 12.30 pm

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
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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
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Belmont Abbey - Fr. Paul Stoneham	01432 374718
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Email : parish@belmontabbey.org.uk	www.belmontparish.org.uk
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Bethesda Evangelical Church - Gordon Bingham	01497 820685
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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

Psalm 30 v 5

For His anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning

June letter from the Revd. Jane Rogers

I've found the last seven weeks of the lockdown confusing at times. The death rate, particularly in the care homes, has been awful. It's very hard to have such small funerals, although at one funeral a family member told me how he valued the intimate feeling of the ceremony. It's very sad too that some people have died without their nearest and dearest being able to be with them. And too it's been hard not to see immediate family and friends especially when you know that they are in trouble. Balancing this has been the enormous generosity of so many people in so many ways. The astonishing results of Captain Tom Moore's walk round his garden when more than £32m was raised towards NHS charities. The dedication of NHS staff at all levels and those working in care homes with direct contact in people suffering from coronavirus has been inspiring, not the least because they have been taking these risks with their eyes wide open.

Locally many people have gone out of their way to help their neighbours; whether it is by doing their shopping, collecting their prescriptions or simply keeping in touch to try and reduce their isolation. The local WhatsApp groups are very valuable for this as well. The Abbeydore pastoral visitor team is doing a great deal to keep in touch with others. Food bank collections from the benefice continue to grow (and the food is truly needed as people struggle financially either because they have lost their jobs or their businesses can't operate during the lockdown). This generosity of spirit is heart-warming. Whilst I know that generosity is not the prerogative of Christians it is something that we should be particularly conscious of – we are told in the letter of James that 'every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father'.

How wonderful it would be if this generosity in spirit, time and concern was reflected in the tangible support we give our churches. We love them deeply and mourn their (temporary) closure. They are rightly recognised as holy places sanctified by hundreds of years of prayer. At the moment of course, no services means no collections, so I hope that you will support your local church by giving via the Parish Giving scheme, by standing order or by cheque. And when the clouds lift, as surely they will, and we gather in our churches to give thanks and remember, it would be wonderful if that also marked a new determination on the part of us all to support churches with our time, money and commitment. That would be a special way of marking God's generosity to us all that is supporting us through these dark days.

Every blessing to you all

Jane

Borderlink Benefice News

Expectations and the Lockdown – moving the goalposts

“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.” (Proverbs 13:12)

The Enthronement of Bishop Richard, birthday and anniversary parties, weddings, VE Celebrations - we would all have had such great expectations of celebrating and sharing these very special occasions. They have not happened and instead we have looked at videos of ceremonies online, joined a zoom party, exchanged text messages, and received phone calls and cards in the loneliness of our self-isolation. We cannot pretend we're not disappointed. We cannot pretend that we don't feel upset about what we would have so much enjoyed and shared with our families and friends. We cannot pretend that we don't feel frustrated about all the time spent so carefully planning something that simply isn't going to happen.

We all had “high hopes” that may not have been just been “deferred” but totally destroyed by circumstances out of our control. In other words, the moment has now been lost for ever. For many people this has caused sadness and even depression. When we wait for something good to happen, that desire and expectation can turn to hopelessness and that can leave us empty and spiritually numb.

We need to find a way to refresh our empty spirit with a hope that can be fulfilled. For those of us who have faith, we can be still, focus on Jesus and pray for guidance on how we can lighten our spirit and renew our hope. We have to trust God and allow Him to work in our hearts. We can find comfort and so much support from scripture:

“But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:28-31)

With the guidance of the Lord, we can find ways of moving the goal posts. Instead of that numbness of despair, we can plan in smaller steps and adjust our expectations. Instead of planning a big party or gathering we can make contact with a forgotten relative, friend or neighbour and lift each other's spirits. We can revive an old talent or interest or learn a new one and then share the joy of the outcome with others through a photograph or phone call. By changing our expectations we can look forward in confidence to something that we know will happen. The tree of life represents the renewal of life.

Borderlink Benefice News

When our hopes and desires are fulfilled, we are refreshed. When our prayers are answered, we are encouraged, and when we obtain the good thing that we desire, our faith is strengthened and we can “soar high on wings like eagles”.

Celia Cundale, Churchwarden at Cusop

Bells and Prayers for all those who care

Most of our churches across the Borderlink Benefice are now able to share their community’s appreciation of the NHS by ringing a bell at 8pm on a Thursday, so listen out for them!

Ahead of 8pm, prayers will also be offered for those working in the NHS, in nursing homes, for carers working in the community, and those who are caring for loved ones at home. Might you pause for a few minutes ahead of 8pm to say a prayer for those who care?

Loving God

We thank you for our health care professionals, carers and support staff working in hospitals, nursing homes and in our communities.

May you protect, strengthen, guide and comfort them.

This evening we pause to offer our gratitude for their skill, dedication and compassion.

May they receive the resources they need to do their role to the best of their ability.

Amen

This is now possible due to a recent easing of restrictions which allows one person to enter our church buildings to pray on behalf of their community and to ring a bell. Along with other community buildings, we await further news on when we may be able to open church buildings more fully.

Joan Waring

We have received the sad news that Joan Waring has died, after 10 weeks of excellent care at St Michael’s Hospice. Joan’s graveside funeral will take place at Holy Trinity, Hardwicke where Joan was Christened and confirmed and where she and Ted were married. Joan’s family are planning a celebration of Joan’s life when larger gatherings are possible. Please do hold Ted and his sons Andrew, Robert and Mark and their families in your prayers.

Donations to Hereford Food Bank

Thank you for your generous support, after just two week we’ve collected 44 bags of food and toiletries from the benefice.

Borderlink Benefice News

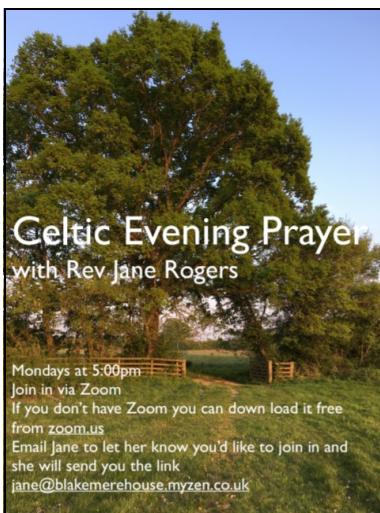
Donations are collected from all our villages on a Wednesday. The Food Bank has advised this week that donations of pet food (dried or tinned) would also be very welcome.

Cusop & Hay Royal British Legion mark VE Day

Representatives of Cusop & Hay Royal British Legion, together Revd Luci, gathered at the Hay war memorial to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. The service which because of current restrictions sadly could not be advertised as a public event, included prayers, a poem recalling the sights and sounds of VE Day, 2 minutes silence and the sounding of The Last Post and Reveille. The event was recorded and a link to the recording can be found on the Hay Community Facebook page and will be posted on The Abbeydore Deanery YouTube channel.

The Link – June issue

As we continue to follow C of E guidelines on the distribution of parish magazines, the forthcoming issue of The Link will be in digital form. It will be emailed to all our regular congregation members, so please do forward the email to friends and neighbours who may appreciate keeping in touch with what's happening across our villages. We will review the situation once again ahead of the July issue. Reacting to the current crises has caused us to question if we should continue to produce a digital version of The Link, alongside a printed version, for those who may prefer it. We plan to invite our parish correspondents and others involved in the creation of The Link to explore this idea, so watch this space.



Thoughts about...funerals

It is all too easy to look at the current way in which funerals can be conducted - maximum of 10 people around the grave - and feel very negative about the whole thing. Yes, there aren't the large numbers of people gathered together to show their respects and there aren't the big tea parties afterwards: but there are ways in which this can be compensated for.

As far as the large numbers go, I recently conducted a funeral where the local people all lined the lane - observing strict social distancing - from the deceased person's house to the churchyard. It was a wonderful demonstration of affection and respect: can I recommend this to others?

As far as small numbers go, there is something very rich in the possibilities of intimate worship. From the point of view of the person leading the worship, it is good to be able to speak to the people there individually rather than as a large congregation: it can make the whole experience very personal. From the point of view of those attending, there are possible ways in which everyone can feel part of the whole occasion. At a recent funeral, everyone present read a short pertinent reading, and that certainly helps to draw everyone together at an important moment.

So, yes, funerals are not, at the moment what we might expect, but they can be deeply meaningful occasions all the same.

We have compiled a prayer sheet that you may find of comfort at this time. Please get in touch if you would like a copy. abbeydoredmc@gmail.com

Nicholas Lowton

Where is the Church in these times of lockdown and social distancing? Look on page 33 and see all the various things that are going on through the marvels of the internet.

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.
I am easily confused –meerkats notwithstanding!***

June Readings

07.06.20 Trinity Sunday White	Isaiah 40: 12-17; 27-end	There is nothing to compare with the everlasting God who needed no outside help to make the universe, who strengthens the weak and weary and rescues those who trust in the Lord: creating, empowering, saving.
	2 Cor. 13:11-end	Paul urges all Christ's disciples to live in peace with one another, as children of the God of love and peace through the grace of Jesus Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.
	Matthew 28: 16-20	The risen Christ promises to be with the remaining disciples as they make new disciples from all over the world, in the name of one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
14.06.20 1st Sunday after Trinity Green	Exodus 19: 2-8a	Moses tells the elders of the people all the words the Lord commanded him to speak. The people agree and Moses brings their answer back to the Lord.
	Romans 5: 1-8	Paul describes how nobody can be right with God by just following the laws of Moses. Being righteous before God means so much more than just no being punished for our sins.
	Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 8	Jesus sends forth his disciples to perform his own works; the very works that have defined him from the beginning.
21.06.20 2nd Sunday after Trinity Green	Jer.20: 7-13	The prophet, overcome and overpowered by God, is compelled to cry out despite the derision he suffers. He has faith that his persecutors will stumble and be shamed.
	Romans 6: 1b-11	Death no longer has dominion over whoever has died to sin, for they are alive to God in Christ.
	Matthew 10: 24-39	Having gathered his disciples, Jesus imparts his wisdom to them before sending them out to spread the good news. The underlying message is one of hope – not to be afraid but to have faith, despite the difficult times that lie ahead.
28.06.20 3rd Sunday after Trinity Green	Jer. 28: 5-9	Having gathered his disciples, Jesus imparts his wisdom to them before sending them out to spread the good news. The underlying message is one of hope – not to be afraid but to have faith, despite the difficult times that lie ahead.
	Romans 6: 12-end	The fact that we have been saved by God's grace does not mean we can do whatever we want, but rather encourages us to live rightly.
	Matthew 10: 40 - end	Jesus talks to his mission team about the meaning of the welcome they may receive.



Blakemere News

Nan Stockwell's funeral took place at Blakemere on 24th April, with Revd Jane officiating. In line with the current rules, only ten people were allowed into the churchyard for the short graveside service. But most of the village – Nan's friends and neighbours – stood on the village green in the bright sunshine, dressed as for a funeral (and properly distanced), to pay their last respects; a very moving sight. It was sad for Cissie and Sally and their families not to see church and churchyard packed as undoubtedly they would have been, but we shall look forward to a celebration of Nan's life when the present crisis has passed.

A slight easing of restrictions allowed the bells of Blakemere Church to be rung on Thursday 14th May at 8.00 p.m. to mark our debt to all those in the NHS and more widely who support and care for their fellow-citizens, often at great hazard to themselves. Revd Jane offered a prayer for them and then – on her own as required – went into the church to ring the bells.

The members of our communities continue to support each other, and to look out for the isolated and the vulnerable – good neighbours in every way. With so many people facing real crises in their lives, the role of the Hereford Food Bank is greater than ever before. There is a box for contributions in kind in the porch of Blakemere Church; tinned and dried goods are needed (especially tinned meat, tinned vegetables, Smash, UHT/dried milk tinned fruit and rice pudding, loo paper, toothpaste, coffee, tea and sugar). The box is taken to the Food Bank every Wednesday. You can also make donations via their website: www.herefordfoodbank.co.uk

With warmest good wishes for the safety and well-being of all in our communities.

Robert Lisvane



Bredwardine & Brobury

www.bredwardine-brobury.org.uk.

As the spring moves on to early summer we move from lock-down to something a bit less than lock-down but we are not quite sure what. We are not going out and about and if we see anyone when taking our exercise we imagine shaking a broom at them and staying alert for invisible viruses! But life goes on in the villages, the fields are sown and growing thanks to some April rain, and the birds entertain us every morning. Our camera box blue tit parents are assiduously feeding their young, and in many ways life seems normal enough. By the time you read this the human young ones may be back at school, experiencing what seems to be becoming known as the 'new normal'. What tangled webs we weave.

Charities and the Crafta Webb project. Two more items of personal news have just reached me in time to be recorded here. Sadly Rosemary Newholme, formerly of Yew Tree Cottage in Pentre Lane, died peacefully overnight on 19th May at Dulas Court. Rosemary's husband George was our Church Warden for many years, and they were both very active in village life. We send our condolences to Dorothy and all the family. And news has also reached me today that June Blandford of Brobury Farms has had a nasty fall and is in Leominster Community Hospital. We send her our love and very best wishes and hope that she will be back home again very soon.

Life and death continue, and personal news this month is the very sad news of the death of Joan Waring who, with Ted, lived at Highland Cottage on the hill for so many years. Joan died peacefully in the hospice on May 12th, and we send our love and sympathy to Ted and to all the family. We have missed Joan and Ted since they moved to Hereford – they were part of the village furniture, in the nicest sense! In our early days here Joan told me Ted always had a stick in his hand, and that a stick warmed you in three ways, when you carry it home, when you cut it up, and when you burn it. I remember her telling me that often! I have also had the sad news of the death of Alan Stone, late of Damsons in The Dell, on May 3rd after testing positive for Covid-19. Alan and Sheila were very active in the village, running the History Group and Sheila was involved with the village hall, the Jarvis Charities and the Crafta Webb project.

Bredwardine with Brobury

Thankfully there is some good news too! Di Bowen sent an update on the Black Dog (not to be confused with the Bredwardine Beast). “The dog’s owners were found. Sam managed to catch him and slip a collar and lead on him. He was really friendly. Anyway- long story short and thanks to one of Sam’s friends on face book- his owners was traced. He lived in Newchurch by Clyro!! Dogs name was Tod. Dog and owner reunited and immensely pleased to see each other. He’d been missing for weeks!! A good news story.”

Welcome to Emma and Steve Saunders and family who moved into Hollybush Cottage just as lockdown began, so not the best time to get out and about and meet people! However, we hope they will be very happy here, and to see more of them in times to come.

Thank you to all the good friends and neighbours who are keeping everyone supplied and in touch, especially Karen and Rob from the Old Tollgate who do regular shopping trips for many of us. We have a facebook page ‘Bredwardine Beating Coronavirus’ and a ‘Bredwardine & Brobury’ whatsapp group for all sorts of information, updates, etc. and there is a box in the Church Porch for donations to the Hereford Food Bank - donations are collected on Wednesdays. Read on for other news of what’s going on or not hereabouts!

We are lucky to live in such a lovely place with a close community. Stay well and keep safe everyone.

Jen Maddison

CHURCH NEWS

Greetings From St.Andrew's

A calm bright dewy heavenly morning, very peaceful soft and warm, with the sun veiled tenderly. I went out early and walked in the lower garden amongst the dewy roses by the river.

Reverend Francis Kilvert, Monday, 3 June 1878

We send you all our warmest wishes and look forward to the day when we might all be together in person. In the meantime, please join us for weekly services and events via the Abbeydore Deanery YouTube Channel and Facebook page and on the A Church Near You website: www.achurchnearyou.com

Bells and Prayers for all those who care

The tolling bell at St. Andrew's has joined the National weekly Clap for the NHS and Carers, at 8pm on a Thursday evening! You might like to join us in saying:

Bells and Prayers for all those who care

Loving God

We thank you for our health care professionals, carers and support staff working in hospitals, nursing homes and in our communities. May you protect, strengthen, guide and comfort them. This evening we pause to offer our gratitude for their skill, dedication and compassion. May they receive the resources they need to do their role to the best of their ability.

Amen

Aine (virtually) rows the Channel for St. Michael's Hospice

Am I going insane in lockdown? Yes, yes I am. In lieu of this, I have decided to row the English Channel (39km) on an ergo, for St. Michael's Hospice, Hereford. I have chosen to fundraise for St. Michael's Hospice, as they have worked closely with my family since my brother transitioned from Acorns Children's Hospice into adult care. Despite the outbreak of Covid-19, the invaluable work at St. Michael's continues. Many of their fundraising events have been cancelled or postponed, and their charity shops closed, so I have decided to raise money for them.

If I am able to raise £150, I will attempt to row the length of the River Tyne (118km)!

Side note: the ergo is rather ancient and has been fully submerged under the River Wye for much of February so it will be a wonder if it survives longer than I do.

And so it begins.

If you would like to support me and contribute to the work of St. Michael's Hospice at Bartestree, Hereford please donate to my Just Giving page or look at my Facebook fundraiser page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rowingthechannelergo>

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/1186315968386582/>

Cathy

Plants for sale

We have reinstated the plants for sale in the church porch. Although the church is still locked, there is an honesty box for donations, which will be emptied daily. There are good quality perennials and veg plants for sale, and if you have any plants, seedlings, veg plants, cuttings etc. please do bring them along to add to the others – and please label them!

Charlotte

Friends of St. Andrew's 100 Club

On Thursday 7th May the 100 Club Draw was streamed live from the Red Lion, thanks to Mike and Gordon and the wonders of the internet! The results were: 1st Prize (£50) - No. 132 Phil Harvey; 2nd Prize (£25) - No. 8 Nigel Sellar; 3rd Prize (£15) - No. 21 Kay Shapcott. The In It To Win It prize is suspended at the moment, and we will sort this out once we can return to normal – fingers crossed it will not be long! But in the meantime, thanks to our two wonderful presenters, we will all be able to see the draw live on the Red Lion facebook again on Thursday, 4th June. **Don't miss it!** Jen

Bredwardine with Brobury

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

from Sarah, Chair of the Village Hall Committee

Well done everyone for doing your bit to help others! It is amazing how creative and kind everyone has been to keep each of us safe. It is so important to stay positive during this challenging time. We are the lucky ones who live in this lovely, rural paradise!

Bredwardine & Brobury 2020 AGM has been put on hold until a later date when it is safe for us to meet in groups.

The Hereford Food Bank desperately needs donations now more than ever. Please give generously! The Food Bank would appreciate donations of cold and hot meat items plus UHT milk also tins of vegetables, tins of rice pudding, pasta, rice, custard, dried milk, sugar, bathroom necessities and pet foods. All non-perishables please. Picnic-type utensils, cups and plates are also appreciated. The latter help when someone is in temporary lodging. Thank you for your support !

Several of the local grocery stores accept donations for the food banks. The Co-op, Tesco and Sainsburys all have collection bins. When you checkout at the store, just ask where to put your donations. There is usually a bin located near the exits. If you want to drop off your donations at the Hereford Food Bank, it is located at 41 Monkmoor Street, Hereford. They are open between to Friday.

Solar PV Panels reading taken on 14 May 2020. Total Electricity Generated to Date: 35,490 kWh; CO2 Saved: 15,199 kg. And the sun keeps on shining!

OPEN GARDENS

At the time of writing (mid May) it seems unlikely that any sizeable gatherings will be able to take place for some time yet. Therefore, we have sadly had to cancel our Open Garden day at Yew Tree House on June 13th. However, if you would like to come for a wander on your own, or with a friend, husband/wife, please do call to ask about when to come, and you'd be most welcome !

Charlotte

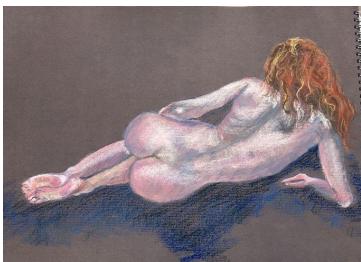
BREDWARDINE ART GROUP

The group has continued its virtual existence with members cheerfully and excitingly taking part in a series of group projects and sharing their work online via our Facebook group. This is real lifeline for many of us especially those self-isolating or shielding and seeing no one. We have been working on a theme each week. Some examples of the work are pictured on the themes of goats (linked to the Llandudno goats!), 'all things bright and beautiful', nudes, self-portraits (for our eyes only!) and Old/Modern Masters.

Bredwardine Art Group

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.

Pictures:



WHITEHOUSE WEATHER REPORT, BREDWARDINE

Monthly Values, April 2020

Avg Temp	Average Daily Temperature		Total Wind Run miles	Max Wind Speed mph	Rain Total mm/ inches	Days with Rain
	Max	Min				
10.7 C 51.3 F	17.0 C 62.6 F	5.3 C 41.6 F	1536	32	46.0 mm 1.81 "	6

Daily Extremes of Temperature, April 2020

Coldest night	Coldest day	Warmest night	Warmest day
14 April -0.9 C 30.4 F	18 April 8.1 C 46.5 F	9 April 9.7 C 49.4 F	11 April 24.7 C 76.4 F

Other Daily Extremes, April 2020

Windiest day	Calmest day	Wettest day	Highest UV Index
2 April 174 miles run	8 & 16 April 18 miles run	28 April 19.1 mm 0.75 "	24 April 4.0

There were only 6 days with rain at Whitehouse in April 2020 and they gave a total for the month of 1.81". More than an inch fell in the last three days of April. Brobury Farms recorded a total of 1.64" and Springfield just 1.57". All these values are below the average for April at the sites (2.08", 2.47" and 1.89" respectively) but they don't represent new record lows.

High atmospheric pressure dominated for much of the month, and pleasant sunny days were the norm. The average daily maximum temperature at Whitehouse was nearly 3 C higher than the mean there since 2004, and a new record maximum for April of 24.7 C was reached on 11 April, just pipping the previous high of 24.6 C from April 2018. There were two nights with air frost around the middle of the month.



Clifford News

For more news, events & information

www.cliffordparishcouncil.co.uk

Who would have thought that we would still be in lockdown mid year. Sadly there is little to report as of course there have been no events or forthcoming ones for the foreseeable future. The one wonderful thing that has come out of this surreal situation is the camaraderie to our fellow neighbours and friends. More phone calls to those friends we hardly ever see and always mean to contact but never do. More clearing out of cupboards, drawers and shelves that have collected stuff over the years and then lain forgotten. Of course the gardens have been tended like never before and the weather on the whole has been very favourable.

The Long House has new residents. Welcome to Mark Hardy and Louise Dyson who have come to live there. In time when restrictions are lifted there will be an opportunity to meet the new neighbours meanwhile may your new home bring you great joy.

The commemorations for VE Day were somewhat restricted but in parts of Clifford we managed a rather spread out street party. Jenny and Gordon Green of the Old Police House produced a bottle of champagne so everyone nearby bought their own glass and put it on their garden wall to be filled up with wine and we drank a toast to "The Fallen" and to peace in the future. The houses and cottages along the Hay road were decorated with Union Jacks and bunting to mark the day and it was lovely that a few of us could get together and socialize albeit from a distance. The dogs enjoyed eating up the scraps that had fallen from the plates.

There does seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel and the Government is being cautious in relaxing some of the regulations. We must stay vigilant as the last thing we want is a second bout of this perilous virus. We may not be so lucky next time.

Julia



Cusop News

www.cusop.net

Throughout these very difficult times, Cusop people have truly rallied to help and support one another. Every day, I hear stories of different neighbours doing tasks for one another, telephoning people to cheer them up, and stopping in ‘The Dingle’ on their daily walk for a conversation. The community spirit has been wonderful not least in ensuring that medicines and food supplies are regularly collected for those who are self-isolating. We’re also hugely appreciative of our local independent shops and market stall holders who have provided local delivery and collection services. It’s fantastic how they’ve adapted so quickly to the changing situation when the lockdown was introduced. Thank you one and all!

As the lockdown continues indefinitely, some of us are finding it increasingly hard. The leaflet “Caring in Cusop” has been produced for YOU! Please use the services that are provided. There are so many kind people in our community who want to lend a hand.

If you need help with shopping, dog walking, gardening or any other tasks then please contact one of us:

Alison Matthews: 01497-820152

Celia Cundale: 01497-820396

Jane Stannard (Parish Clerk): 01497-821076 or e mail clerk@cusop.net

If you would like to talk to someone, there are people who are there to listen. Please contact Revd Luci (01497-821877) who is available as well as other trained pastoral visitors. All calls will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Please continue to log onto the special Coronavirus Pages on the Cusop website www.cusop.net which Alison keeps regularly updated and which gives details of all our local shops that have delivery and collection services. Make sure you sign up to the “e mail alerts” on the homepage of the website.

Regardless of all the bad news, we can be so thankful for wonderful spring weather with countless days of glorious sunshine! Certainly, Cusop Dingle is extremely popular with walkers and those taking their “daily exercise”. Fabulous wildflowers have been in abundance on the verges.

Cusop

As always, the month of May has brought a surge of new growth and a sea of green. Whilst on his daily walk, Tony Charles has spotted grey wagtails and dippers nesting. We are so privileged to be surrounded by so much beauty and wildlife.

New Ways of Connecting

Church buildings may be closed but the churches have rapidly found new ways of connecting with not only their regular congregations, but also people living in the wider community, many of whom are engaging with the church for the first time. All over the country, church services are still going strong but they are now presented online. In our area, the deanery clergy and lay readers have been very busy filmmaking and you can “attend” all these services on the ‘**Abbeydore Deanery You Tube Channel**’. Revd Luci and Rob Yule have presented an excellent “Embrace” Course which can help us with prayer and daily reflection. For children, there are bible stories and ideas for activities shown on the Messy Church videos. Revd Jane has arranged Evening Prayer every Monday and Cusop PCC has even had a meeting on zoom! It’s been a very steep learning curve for all of us but it’s great that technology has enabled the church to stay alive and active during these very difficult times.

Celebrations Commemorating the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

We’re all getting used to being disappointed during the lockdown with so many special events being cancelled and VE Day celebrations were no exception. We’re so sorry that most of Kelvyn’s plans could not take place, however, Kelvyn did play ‘The Last Post and Reveille’ on his bugle at Hay War Memorial on Friday 8th May. There was a small gathering of representatives of Cusop and Hay Royal British Legion where a poem was read, Revd Luci led prayers, and a two minute silence was respected. The event was recorded and a link to the recording can be found on the Hay Community Facebook page, alternatively, please contact Revd Luci to receive the link by email.

Well Done!

Well done all those who cheered up the village by decorating their fences and gates with bunting and dressed up in red, white and blue to celebrate VE Day. It was a great reminder to all of us of this very special day.

Donations to Hereford Food Bank

A box for donations is in the porch at the Village Hall. The response has been fantastic so a big thank you to everyone who has donated! Luci delivers the items to Hereford Food Bank every Wednesday.

Cusop**Condolences****Francis Copping**

We were so very sorry to hear that Frances Copping died at Hereford Hospital on 14th May after suffering a severe stroke. Frances and her husband, Ralph, lived for many years at Rising Sun Cottage in Cusop. She was an extraordinary, inspirational and generous lady with a great love of literature and many other interests. Frances was a Life Patron of Hay Festival and she founded the Hay Festival Book Group. She was a very active member of Hay Scribblers Group and one of the original leading lights of U3A Hay.

Frances has been buried with her husband, Ralph, in Clifford Churchyard. Due to current restrictions, the funeral took place on Friday 22nd May at the graveside, with only close members of the family in attendance. A celebration of Frances' life will be held at Clifford Church at a later date. Frances will be greatly missed. We pray for Coralie, Frances and James, and all her family and friends at this very difficult time.

The Bells of Cusop Ring Out!

Thank you, Revd Luci, for ringing out the bells of Cusop Church every Thursday at 8pm to remember all those who care. We're so indebted to the NHS and all carers during the coronavirus outbreak. Before 8pm every Thursday, many of us are now saying special prayers for all those working in the NHS, nursing homes and hospices. We're also remembering carers working in the community and those who are caring for loved ones at home. Luci has written a special prayer which you can find in this copy of The Link and on the Cusop website.

Ninety years old –congratulations to Mrs Frances Jones, who lives at Flowermead, Cusop. Frances has been wonderful in delivering The Link magazine for many years and we would like to thank her. We also wish her a Very Happy Birthday and we hope she has a very enjoyable and memorable day!

Congratulations!**We have news of another very special baby safely born during the lockdown.**

Congratulations to Sarah (nee Blayney) and Philip Spreadborough on the birth of Lucy Mae, a sister for Merryn, and another beautiful granddaughter for Jane and Nick.

We wish much happiness and joy to all the family as they watch Lucy Mae grow.

Celia Cundale

CUSOP HISTORY GROUP

This month in Cusop History.

It was in the June 1902 issue of the St Mary's Cusop Church Magazine when the Rector was Reverend David Christmas Moore that we had the following reports:

CUSOP HISTORY GROUP

"Our good churchwarden, Mr Linacre of Brynmelyn has kindly and skilfully produced a tablet containing a list of all the patrons and rectors of Cusop from A.D.1290 to 1901. He has had it nicely framed and hung up in the church. We offer him our sincere thanks. Up to 1536 the patronage was in the hands of the Prior and Monks of Llantony. Since the Reformation there have been many patrons".

When the church re-opens you will be able to see this as it is still in the church.

The second report involves Queen Victoria's son, Albert Edward who became king in 1901, aged 59. The coronation day for King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra was set for June 26, 1902 and the preparations were reported in the Cusop Parish Magazine for May of that year.....

"June 26 & 27 – Cusop Parish Council has joined the Urban Council of Hay in preparations for the celebration of the coronation of our Gracious King and Queen. Divine service, as appointed will be held in Cusop Church on Monday 26th, in time to allow all who attend to go to Hay, where medals will be presented to over 550

children, who will afterwards be given tea &c., and have their games. All men and women over 60 years of age will have a dinner on Tuesday, 27th. There will also be sports and other entertainments.

"God Save the King".

Here is some British Pathe News footage of London on 24th June, ready for the Coronation. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sbLBLvTiacs>

On Monday 9th June it was reported in the minute book of the Cusop School Board that the school would be closed from Friday June 20th and reopen on Monday 30th.



Cusop

Imagine the reaction when a few days prior to the event, King Edward VII became ill with appendicitis, which in those days you died of, and the ceremony had to be cancelled despite all the preparations and the number of international guests who had been invited. The doctors performed a "new" operation which he survived and the coronation was rescheduled for August 9, 1902.

HALLEY'S COMET (Report from the June 1910 Cusop Magazine)

"A party of enthusiasts, determined not to miss the opportunity of a life time, ascended Cusop Hill in the small hours of the morning of May 13th. It was a dark night, but a couple of hurricane lanterns aided us in our ascent. The top was reached about 2 a.m. We were heated after our climb but very soon began to cool down and by 3 a.m. were uncomfortably chilled.

Of course there was the inevitable bans on the Eastern horizon, which effectively prevented us from realising our ambition. As might be expected, it was brilliantly clear everywhere else.

Star-gazing (at that hour) is not a hobby we would recommend anyone to adopt. Very soon the neck begins to ache and one sees far more stars than there really are. In fact, again and again, some of us thought we could discern the comet, but it was miles out of the position assigned to it by the daily papers. Suffice it to say, the comet was invisible and we were not even rewarded by a sunrise. The clouds rose, the temperature fell, and enthusiasm vanished into the mist.

At 3am a lark got up and continued on his skyward soar..... Soon after he got up, we came down, and we were so glad afterwards to hear that the comet really was not worth seeing.

N.B. – Many people have since seen the comet from their front doorsteps at a reasonable hour in the evening.

Thus are the energetic rewarded! We shall certainly not spend a night on Cusop Hill next time this comet appears, viz.: in 1985 A.D."

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.

Cusop Rainfall is on Page 34



Dorstone News

www.dorstone.org.uk

Dorstone Remembers Them

75 years ago, at approx. **2.30p.m. on Wednesday 29th April**, six young airmen died in a Wellington Bomber aircrash on Dorstone Hill in Moccas Park Wood.

Here are three eyewitness reports:

Some of the first to arrive to assist at the crash site were Dulcie (aged 5) and her father Wilfred Jones. Dulcie, vividly still remembers seeing the wreckage and then being lifted by her father back over the stile from Moccas Park to their land and being told to "Go and tell your Mother what's happened and send for help". That involved someone working for them cycling to Dorstone to get to a phone.

In the official report, John Goring, aged 10 said, "I was in one of our fields with Cyril Williams (also aged 10) when a big plane flew low over my head. It came from Snodhill way and went towards Moccas Park. I thought it was going to crash into one of the trees. Shortly afterwards I heard a loud bang and I saw some smoke and all kinds of stuff going up in to the air. I then ran home and told my Daddy".

Also from the official report, Terlizzi Carmine (Italian Prisoner of War, Peterchurch Camp) said, "I was not far from Cross Lodge, Dorstone. I saw an aeroplane diving fast and circle. When I first saw it I thought it would strike me so I got into a ditch with my bicycle. Shortly after I heard a whoof and saw smoke and flames".

As many of you know, we had intended to mark this occasion on 5th July with a special service to install a permanent memorial to them on the site of the crash, including a flypast. This is now not possible for this year. Some members of The History Society Committee have been leading the organisation of this tribute, with support from a variety of craftspeople and others. Chairman Sarah Catterall has traced many of the relatives of those who died.

So, on that actual date, a few of us went into the churchyard, the Tolling Bell was rung and a short silence was observed to show the families that Dorstone honours the sacrifice of those young men. Sarah sent a special message to the families to let them know that we were thinking of them.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn;

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,

We will remember them.

A short film is on the CHURCH website <https://dorstonechurch.org/church-events-photographs/>

Other news from Dorstone

The PCC Treasurer wishes to pass on his very grateful thanks to those who signed up to the **Parish Giving Scheme** – it means we continue to have a regular income even though there are no services. We are still keeping the grass cut regularly, and the Parish Share has to be paid.

7th May - John Cook's ashes were laid to rest in the churchyard. Several of us joined the family for the funeral service by following the ceremony online from the Crematorium. We continue to remember Judy and the family in our private prayers. There will be a Memorial Service at a later date.

8th May – VE Day – the Village Green looked fabulous with wonderful white banners fluttering in the breeze, which were made by the local kite experts, the Longbothams. Several other houses were decorated with Union flags and VE Day banners.

Relaxing of Lockdown Rules - Listen out for a church bell ringing on **Thursday** evenings, when everyone celebrates the work of the NHS medical professionals and the many others who keep the country going in this difficult time.

The Pandy takeaway has been very popular – especially the pizzas. Being served through the window and paying by tap card has kept the virus at bay!

DFR Information Services – Grateful thanks to Karen for keeping us all in touch with the latest Covid 19 news. Also connect to **Dorstone Forum** Facebook page – lots of up to date news there too.

DORSTONE BOWLS CLUB

The Club has pleasure in welcoming Jean Pughe (February) together with Pam Savage and Peter Smith (April) into the octogenarian group of players.

Last month in the Link magazine I spoke about looking forward to playing again when this coronavirus lockdown was over. However there seems to be no end to the lockdown and the majority of members are in self-isolation. The Club is financially stretched with no income from bowls or social activity.

The green must be maintained, rent, water, electricity and insurance all need payment. Our annual cost is £2,250. The membership to a man/woman volunteered to donate and with our limited bank account we may survive this season. But it will be touch and go. The Club thank ex-members Mr and Mrs R Jones who live in Weobley for their very generous donation.

Founded in 1980 Dorstone Bowls Club is a recreation together with the playing field and children's playground provided with the blessing of the Parish Council for its residents. The green is the only Crown Green in the County and provides for all persons living in the area it is run independently by club members.

Should you wish to help us ensure the continuation of this local sports facility your donation will be greatly appreciated. Call either Melvin Powell 01981 550357 or Barry Megson 01981 590691 who will welcome your call.

Dorstone and District WI

WI meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Our Birthday celebration lunch, which was to have taken place on 19th April will be re-arranged for a later date.

Dorstone and District WI

The WI hasn't been inactive though! Some of our members have been busy making laundry bags for NHS workers, and, together with other stitchers in Dorstone made a total of 63 bags which were delivered to WI House in Hereford. There they collected a total of 1069 bags, made by WI members and others throughout Herefordshire, to be delivered to the hospital. Well done to all concerned! We are now busy making face masks for the volunteers who are shopping and collecting prescriptions for others in and around Dorstone.

In the meantime, the continuing lockdown is the ideal time to continue researching the history of your house for the Dorstone Dwellings Project. John Platts has created a new website offering access to Dorstone data from the **1841 – 1911 Census Records**, the **1841 Tithe Map**, **1910 Lloyd George 'Domesday' Survey** and **Business Directories** and others. Some records, including those from St. Faith's Church Registers, will be added as and when they are transcribed. Access to the website will be given to everyone who signs up to discover the history of their property – remember even the modern dwellings are on sites that have a long history. So, if you want an absorbing and fascinating way to spend 'lockdown', or you just love local history, then please contact the project co-ordinator Rob Morgan to join the list: dorstonedwellings@gmail.com



Hardwicke News

www.hardwickechurch.co.uk

May is the month of bluebells and lily of the valley, and they certainly didn't disappoint this year. The Lily of the Valley in the garden produced masses of sweet scented flowers and the wood opposite the church was a sea of blue interspersed with the occasional spike of Early Purple orchids. How lucky we are to live in such beautiful surroundings.

We were all saddened to learn that Joan Waring had passed away. It was her and her family's wish that she should be buried at Hardwicke on May 21st as near as possible to her parents Alice and Arthur Hopkins who kept the Royal Oak pub. Arthur pumped the Hardwicke organ for many years. Joan was married at Holy Trinity church from the Royal Oak and then went to Bredwardine to live with her husband Ted Waring. As many of you will remember Joan and Ted always supported Hardwicke Church at all the fund raising events and special services held over many years. Our love and sympathy goes out to Ted and family at this difficult time.

Hardwicke

We were very sorry to hear that Doreen Lloyd has been poorly and is at the time of writing still in Brecon Memorial Hospital. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope she will be home very soon.

A box has been placed in the porch of Hardwicke Church for people to donate food for the Hereford Food Bank. However, if there is anyone in the local community in desperate need of food they may take something from the box. The porch gates are being left open so that no-one need touch the gate. The church remains locked but on Thursday evenings at 8pm when people are clapping for the NHS, David will be ringing the bells each week.

Penny and John Evans usually arrange an annual sponsored cycle ride in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Fund in June. Not surprisingly, this year's ride has been cancelled but if anyone feels they would like to donate to this worthy cause please contact Penny or John on 01497-831-415.

As there is very little to report this month, I decided to ask members of the Hardwicke community to write about their experiences during Lockdown in Hardwicke and Egbert of Westbrook Manor kindly responded.

Covid-19 Lockdown in Hardwicke

I hope you are all keeping well in these extraordinary times and I want to express my sympathies to all those directly affected.

Hasn't the world changed. We often talk at home about how surreal the whole situation is at times it's like we are part of a movie. But we have to make the best of it and look after each other. And Hardwicke is not a bad place to be locked down. Spare a thought for a family with small children in a flat in East London!

The other day my grandmother over in Holland turned 97. I phoned her up and she said, "I have never experienced anything like this shutdown since the war". That's the amazing thing about the lockdown a big part of the world is impacted from Australia to Canada.

Originally, I thought the virus scare would blow over. But reality hit home when I had to cancel an event I had organised in London about the Energy Transition for the 12th of March.

Covid-19 Lockdown in Hardwicke

The risk of spreading Covid-19 had simply become too big. I was heartbroken as I had worked on this event for 6 months and it would have marked the start of many new collaborations. However, this disappointment was quickly put in perspective when the virus started to not only impact lives, it took away lives.

I learn more about Britain every day. It's still remarkable that with lockdown looming people in the USA stockpiled supplies for their guns whilst in Britain toilet roll was the new gold dust. Apparently, demand had doubled overnight whilst surely, we haven't started eating twice as much.

Although threatening, uncertain and scary I also have seen positives coming out of this lockdown. The mad rush of life came to a halt and we have been able to spend plenty of much needed quality time together as a family; a gift. And there is finally time to do jobs we have postponed for years in the garden. We built raised beds to grow vegetables & fruit and did a big clear-out.

It has been great to see the local community come together and help each other out with odd jobs, shopping etcetera. A whole new economy is emerging we have traded apple juice for bread and eggs for rhubarb. The pub now sells bread & takeaways and the butcher delivers at home. Because the roads are quiet there are many more cyclists on the road and people are walking on the road. It has been nice to see some of you passing by and have a socially distanced chat.

The kids are learning new skills like crafting, growing seeds and fixing Briggs & Stratton engines. Home schooling is a challenge! Credit to all teachers who keep the curriculum going online and keeping pupils (and parents...) in check. And although our 8-year-old Kasper has tested my patience repeatedly, it has been valuable to understand better how he operates and how I can support him and the school with his development.

I have been working from home for years and therefore the impact of this crisis has been limited in that respect. For some people life has been turned upside down though with loss of income and mental health impact of an uncertain future. Talking helps and a listening ear is just a phone or Zoom call away.

Cancellation of the Hay Festival and tourism activity has dealt a further blow to the local economy, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. Once things return to a new normal, I'm sure many people will visit our beautiful part of the world again.

Take care and hopefully see you soon,

Egbert Smit



Moccas News

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

The pigeons have been cooing and the cuckoo has been voluble; the buttercups, dandelions, bluebells and now the roses have all been flowering in profusion and the sun has been shining. All of which helps so much to make lockdown more bearable.

Many, many thanks come from all of us to such a lot of wonderful people who do so much to keep the wheels turning. First and foremost to Julia who is amazing. To Annie the Ed for keeping going despite everything; to our splendid postmen and bin men for their consistent attention; and for all who have been so kind doing shopping, delivering, pill collecting and countless other unsung jobs.

Sadly we had to say farewell to Elsie Phillips at the grand age of 96. She came to Moccas from London to be near her daughter one year after the death of her beloved Bill. What an enormous contrast that must have been for her but she very quickly made herself at home at 2 Cornewall Close and lived there for over 20 years. Always very sociable and hospitable she shared her 80th and 90th celebrations with us and also several years of Wednesday morning Home Communion services. She was very proud of all her family and especially of being a great grandmother of three. Our sympathies to Sandra and also to her son Peter in Australia.

Condolences to Rachel Jenkins too, her mother Beryl died recently and because of "the plague" Rachel could not travel to Durham. A celebration is planned for when we can all move around more freely. Also our thought to Nan Stockwell's family. Three venerable ladies in their 90s.

Denise and John

Moccas V E Day 75th Celebrations.

Despite not being able to go ahead with our planned Village social celebrations, we were blessed on a lovely sunny day to have Lyndon, play "The last post" at our War memorial followed by a 2 minutes silence at 11 am.

Many Villagers turned out, at a distance to join in with the occasion.



A Story of a Deer called “Little Man”

If its of any interest for the Link as something of nature which at least is a hint of how wonderful nature can be at times and something pleasant. I have attached a couple of photos of a stag I call ‘Little Man’ that has visited this year for the fourth year and stayed with us since October to May each winter. It has been a privilege to see him which we will never forget, and the way he has remembered us being a wild animal is just amazing. This little man has trusted us so much that he has taken carrots and other treats from our hand in such a gentle manner or has waited looking up in the air for them to go over his head. He has become an expert at cropping carrots to size when necessary and downing half a loaf of old bread with rapidity. This year we were amazed when he came back earlier than normal before the end of autumn just to see if we were here and no doubt he was thinking ahead, he went away for a few weeks and then decided it was time to camp here for the winter where he has been for 6 months enjoying his pony carrot supplements every week, apples and whatever. He went away two weeks ago one evening and came back the next day in disguise without his antlers hardly recognizable and travelling incognito and stayed a few more days until walking off for the last time.

He has never been far away from Lawn Gate all the period and has run at speed when he has seen us from several hundred yards to get here even waiting for the car to come back when we went out and running to us when we came back.

The story of Little Man –the deer

I hope he will stay safe as he is truly a lovely ‘little man’ and we will miss him as always but always remember him wherever we are.

Nigel Bullock



Community Item

Hay Youth Theatre (Saturdays at Cusop Village Hall at 10.30 until 12.30 for Juniors aged 7-11 and 1pm until 3 pm for Seniors aged 12-16) is currently on hold. [We are planning a Summer school project called 'Ain't Nobody Here but Us Chickens' which will either be via Zoom or at Cusop Village Hall depending on restrictions. Don't forget to vote for our Community project to put on a production 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 youth project. Check our website and Facebook for changes. Top of Form](#)

For details 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 as individuals we are currently writing and working on the “Coronalogues”. For more information check our website



Preston-on-Wye News

I must apologise to Preston on Wye most profusely and particularly to Andrew Rawsthorne for failing to put the piece below into The Link before. I think it was sent about 2 months ago and for some reason I did not see it. Editor.

30 tiles which had become detached from the roof of St Lawrence's have been replaced by our roofer.

We are now watertight for the time being. The whole roof will need doing in the next twenty years. Also a nine inch piece of coping had come off the ridge end above our chapel or side aisle and had lodged in the valley. For this he set up his roofing ladder strapping it to the base ladder and then he crept up like a fly up to the piece of masonry and put it back on before returning down for mortar to fix it. Down meant walking along the apex of the chapel and down the roofing ladder as the ladders could not get close to the valley. To see someone move about the roof of a church was an experience. These are large buildings and we need to encourage the new generation to develop and keep these skills as congregations have few in their midst who would be able to attempt this work. On that day our man had sun hat, shorts and trainers. The tiles which came down in gloved hands were piping hot. No scaffolding, he promised, would reduce the bill.

A thanksgiving service was held at Preston Church for Doris Smith (nee Weir). She had lived in Hay, Staunton and Marden before settling in Preston. Before the war she had worked in a sewing machine factory and when the war came along, she worked in a factory making shells and other munitions. She used to grace the dancefloors of the North West but sadly three of her sons who had worked in the asbestos industry in Dudley predeceased her. Up to late on, she was always ready to do a reading at services, remaining in her pew but always clear even though she suffered acute deafness. She had a large family.

Community Items

Hay on WIInspiring Women.

At a zoom catch up session recently, we shared ways we have been employing those acres of unexpected free time over the past weeks: volunteering, helping out neighbours, keeping in touch with family and friends old and new, crafting, cooking, learning about a new area of history or literature, singing, dancing, exercising and, impressively, hair styling. Poetry skills have also come to the fore....

Member Caroline Hafner has written this Jolly Virus poem

(with apologies to Charles Causley who wrote - 'I saw a Jolly Hunter')

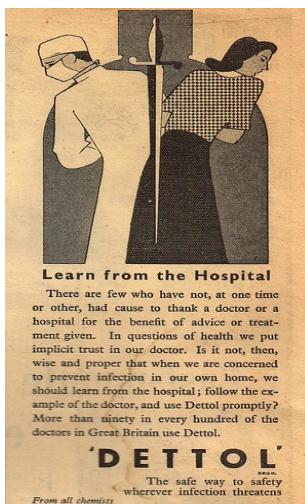
I saw a jolly virus
In the jolly sun.
I would've jolly shot it
If I'd had a jolly gun!

I took a jolly swipe
and hit it jolly quick.
But up it jolly jumped
and made me jolly sick.

It kept on jolly smiling -
I began to jolly sob,
so got some jolly dettol
and sprayed my jolly gob.

The virus jolly angry
as I bathed in jolly bleach.
Trump jolly said to do this,
but who's he to jolly teach?

I saw a jolly virus
In the jolly shade
Looking jolly happy
at the jolly mess it's made!



For more information call Sue Hodgetts on 01497 822523, email us on hayonwi@gmail.com or visit our website <http://hayonwi.wixsite.com/haywi> for more information.
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.

Many of us are missing worshipping together in our churches, or simply being able to find peace, quiet and solace there. Whilst we wait for restrictions to ease, we might ask where is the church in these times of lockdown and social distancing?



Clifford Community Centre

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For details of hire and availability:

Contact Christine Bates

01497 831422



Cusop, Ty Glyn, rainfall gauge

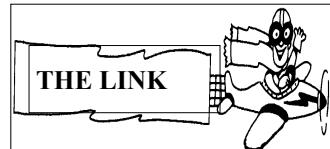
April continued the drying trend of clear blue sky and easterly or northerly winds: 21 days were dry. Our wettest day was 17th with 9.2 mm (0.36"); the four last days were also wet and resulted in a total, and a welcome one at that, precipitation of 46.1 mm (1.81").

Ainsleigh
01497-820332

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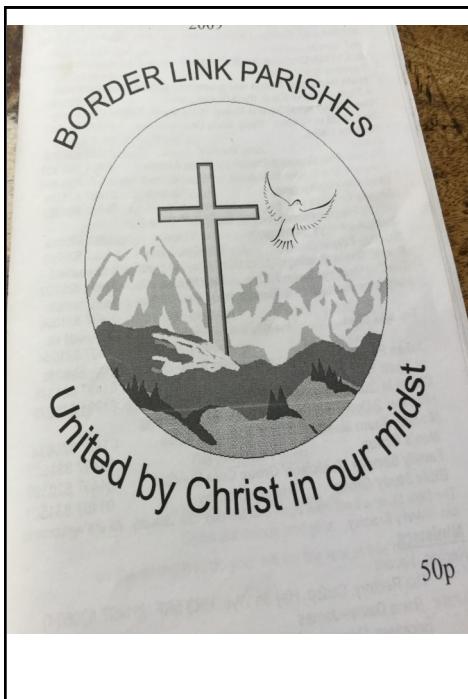
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The closing date for Link material is the : ****15th of the month**** Please label your e mail the village to which it refers or 'community' if you want it to go in the back. It is much easier for me if everything comes from your local correspondent.



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Police Briefing - S. Herefordshire & Golden Valley Border Link Parishes



Please note that the following report is extracted from the latest Police Briefing and that there are a number of villages, outside the Border Link Parishes, recently affected by crimes, which are on the increase in rural areas. Please remain vigilant. REMEMBER IT IS YOUR HOME. DO NOT BE AFRAID TO SAY 'NO' AND REPORT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS TO POLICE

Crime Trends

Between 1st - 4th March, a Stihl hedge trimmer and a small set of ladders were stolen from a shed in **Hardwicke**. Incident ref 467-s-060320

Two quad bikes were stolen from a farm in **Bredwardine** overnight on Friday 20th/Saturday 21st March. one was a Yamaha 550 'Grizzly' and the other was a Honda 420. Incident ref 289-s-210320

Protect your devices from the latest threats:

Always install the latest software and app updates to protect your devices from the latest threats. For information on how to update your devices, please visit: [https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/securingyour-devices](https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/securing-your-devices)

Criminals target members of the public with NHS scam emails

We have received 41 reports of a scam email purporting to be from HM Government asking for donations to the NHS during the COVID-19 outbreak. This is a fake email and your money will only end up in the hands of a criminal. The NHS will never ask you to send money directly to a bank account. If you would like to donate to the NHS you can do so via their official channels or your local NHS Trust.

Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

For the latest health information and advice about COVID-19 please visit the [NHS website](#)

How to contact the Police

In an emergency, please call 999

Please call 101 to report everything else, including all suspicious vehicles, at the time they are seen, if possible. Messages can then be sent to all patrols, to look out for the vehicles and stop if seen. Fiona Witcher.

Golden Valley and Hereford Rural Local Policing Teams

Our mobiles are for non-urgent messages and not for reporting suspicious incidents or crimes

Email—goldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.policeuk

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PCSO 6378 Pete Knight 07773 053919 peter.knight@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6173 Fiona Witcher 07773 054582 fiona.witcher@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

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