

WHEATLAND NEWS

May 2022



The Churchyard Cross at Cleeton St Mary

**News from the Diocese of Hereford and the
17 Parishes around Stottesdon, Ditton Priors
and Highley**

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Editorial

Greetings from slightly damp France!

Easter weekend proved to be reasonably warm and sunny and brought many people into the social activities we have missed during the past two years. In this issue of Wheatland News we have reports from some of the events which took place and also dates for future activities including the May 2nd Bank Holiday and the Platinum Jubilee celebrations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II over a four day period from Thursday 2nd June which are taking place within the Wheatlands area. As someone pointed out most of us, if not all, will not see another monarch on the throne for 70 years so this should be a time for all ages to be involved. Do you have any photographs of what you were doing in 1952, when the Queen ascended the throne? If so, and you care to share them with WN readers, please send them to your local coordinator and we will make a fun collage for the June edition.

The atrocities in Ukraine continue and support from many sources is being arranged – to help in a small way there are events being organised across the area to raise funds so look at the benefice pages to see what is happening in your parish. Every little helps!

Schools have resumed for the summer term – we wish all the pupils from both primary and secondary schools and their teachers and other staff a bright, successful term and luck in any exams or assessments they may be taking together with their end of academic year drama productions and sports events.

The Wheatland Diary is filling up well! The challenge is to produce a WN which comprises a number of pages that is divisible by four, for the printing – so the poor diary does rather get shunted around to fit the gaps. Ambition is – a whole page to itself soon! This month you'll find it on page 11.



Enjoy the warmer weather and the beautiful, fresh countryside we are fortunate to live in. And here's a picture of the apple tree blooming in Bebert's garden!

Ed

June edition deadline! Please would you send all contributions for the June 2022 edition of WN to your contact, as below, no later than **Monday 23rd May.**

Brown Clee and Ditton Priors	Jutta Langham, 01746-712551 - rl.langham@btinternet.com
Aston Botterell, Cleobury North & Burwarton, Wheathill & Loughton	Alison Greenan, 01746-787032 - greenan6qx@btinternet.com
Chetton	Pam Downing - pamdowning61@gmail.com
Highley	Revd Val Smith – revval14@gmail.com
Glazeley & Deuxhill	Marion Corfield - marion.corfield@talktalk.net Revd David Poyner - D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk
Billingsley	Revd David Poyner - D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk
Farlow, Sidbury, Middleton Scriven, Cleeton St Mary, and Silvington	Chris Tibbits - Chris@stottystores.co.uk



Diocese of Hereford

May Parish Newsletter from the Dean of Hereford



Hello Everyone,

There is a piece of engineering art in the Mercedes Benz Museum at Brooklands which shows a Formula One Car suspended in all its constituent parts. It is still obviously a car and each part, large or small clearly has a defined function and purpose although they are not connected in such a way as to enable it to move at all, still less win a race.

It occurs to me that this is a metaphor for the Church; that we are in a time of uncertainty and waiting to find our way. The shock in 2020 of first emptying our buildings and then closing our doors for worship and prayer, thus removing all our physical certainties, was like a slow-motion explosion into suspended animation and whilst a fair bit of former functionality is restored there is still a sense of struggling in no man's land. All that we are and have been hanging breathlessly in the unanticipated gift of wait and see.

I think we all know in our hearts, much as we want to rebel against the knowledge, that church will never be the same as it was and that in truth, Covid merely accelerated what was already happening. We are still Christ's church, His body, but a bit like a string puppet, uncoordinated, unskilled, uncertain how to take the next step. Yet in faith, courage and the power of the Holy Spirit firing creativity, we might start to move towards re-imagining and re-engineering what will be.

Even as we start to work out how to serve God's people in what are distressing and terrible times for the world let us accept with perverse gratitude the chance to stop our perpetual motion; to pause and to seek God; to hang for a season moved only by His spirit and to watch and wait and discern His will. The Spiritual Certainties remain unchanged. How we arrange ourselves around them to serve the nation and our communities in Jesus' name is the question for today. But this no reason to fear.

God will build His Church and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

The Very Revd Sarah Brown Dean of Hereford



Watch the Bishop of Hereford's weekly video message!

This week he speaks about the reality and meaning of the Resurrection.

On the [Diocesan website](#), together with a transcript, or on [YouTube](#) with or without subtitles.

Message from the Rural Dean



I recently attended a workshop run by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on setting up and using the new online parish safeguarding dashboard. It is totally brilliant – very easy to use and very helpful in working out what needs to be done to make sure our churches are safe for all – especially for children and vulnerable

adults. All parish and benefice safeguarding officers are strongly recommended to sign on for one of these courses!

Safeguarding is an area that the diocese is working on alongside the rest of the Church of England and Mandy McPhee, the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, is our guest at the next **Deanery Gathering on Tuesday 14th June at 7 pm**. The location is not decided yet, but will be advertised in next month's Wheatland News. This will be an occasion not only for Deanery Synod representatives, but all parish and benefice safeguarding officers will be invited as well – to be briefed on latest developments and to be given the opportunity to ask questions. It would also be very valuable for churchwardens.

Safeguarding is important – not least because it's about loving our neighbour – and its requirements are continually changing, so regular updates are vital for keeping up to date, so please come along on June 14th if you can.

Mark Daborn

Readings for May 2022

May 1st – the Third Sunday of Easter (white)

Zephaniah 3:14-end; Psalm 30; Acts 9:1-6; John 21:1-19

May 8th – the Fourth Sunday of Easter (white)

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18; Psalm 23; Acts 9:36-end; John 10:22-30

May 15th – the Fifth Sunday of Easter (white)

Genesis 22:1-18; Psalm 148; Acts 11:1-18; John 13:31-35

May 22nd – the Sixth Sunday of Easter (white)

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 67; Acts 16:9-15; John 5:1-9

May 29th – the Sunday after the Ascension (white)

Ezekiel 36:24-28; Psalm 97; Acts 16:16-34; John 17:20-end

June 5th – Pentecost, Whit Sunday (red)

Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 104:26-36, 37b; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17

Saint of the Month - Dunstan - 19th May

By the Revd Mark Daborn

Dunstan was one of the great reforming Archbishops of Canterbury of the Anglo-Saxon period. Born in 909 AD, he was educated by the Irish monks who occupied the ruins of the monastery at Glastonbury. Related to the royal family of Wessex (and several bishops) Dunstan became a monk and priest as a result of serious illness. He grew up in an England still devastated by the Viking invasions, but when Edward the Elder and Edmund the Magnificent, kings of Wessex, were re-establishing order. It was Edmund who set Dunstan about reforming the monastery at Glastonbury in 943, the beginning of the revival of English monasticism.

After the accession of King Edgar, Dunstan founded or refounded many more monasteries, and a council of bishops, abbesses and abbots in about 970 set down the Regularis Concordia; this was a national guide for the running of monasteries in England, based on the Benedictine Rule, but making the monasteries more integrated with the life of the world outside the monastic enclosure.

Dunstan was a principal adviser to the Anglo-Saxon kings of his time, with the exception of the young Edwy. He earned Edwy's hostility at the coronation ceremony: the king had married, secretly, a close kinswoman and finding the festivities after the coronation tediously long, retired to his private chamber to dally with his wife and her mother. Dunstan, who was then Abbot of Glastonbury, was sent by Archbishop Oda to bring the king back, and did so somewhat trenchantly. He spent Edwy's short reign in exile.

Recalled by Edwy's brother Edgar on his succession to the throne, Dunstan was successively bishop of Worcester and London, and succeeded Oda as Archbishop of Canterbury in about 960. It was Dunstan who drew up the rite for Edgar's coronation as king of all England at Bath in 973, and this has been the basis for all English coronations since.

Dunstan was not only a reformer and pastor, he was also a skilled metalworker, bell-founder, scribe and draughtsman, and musician. There is a legend that when the devil came to tempt him in his cell in the abbey at Glastonbury, Dunstan held him off by grabbing his nose with the tongs he was holding – tongs which have, as a result, become his symbol in art!

St Dunstan's name was for a long time associated with the charity for vision-impaired ex-servicemen set up in 1915, now known as Blind Veterans UK. The second chairman of St Dunstan's from 1921 to 1974, was Ian Fraser, who had served with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and been blinded by a bullet in the Somme offensive.

St. Dunstan is commemorated on May 19th.

MD

[Victory Over Blindness](#) sculpture outside [Manchester Piccadilly station](#) to commemorate the centenary of World War I and partly funded by Blind Veterans UK

Photograph by David Dixon, CC BY-SA 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=74302401>



The United Benefice of Brown Clee

Rector: vacant

*Please contact your Churchwarden, as below.
In emergency, contact Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean, on 01746-718127*

**St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and Holy Trinity,
Wheathill & Loughton**

CHURCHWARDENS
Carole Smith: 01746-712474
Mark Smith: 01746-712394

St Michael & All Angels, Aston Botterell

CHURCHWARDEN
Anne Preece: 01746-787237

St Giles, Chetton

CHURCHWARDEN
Sheila Millington: 01746-789443

SS Peter & Paul, Cleobury North

CHURCHWARDENS
Mike Bradbury: 01746-787676
Jane Bufton: 01746-787298

All Saints, Neenton

CHURCHWARDEN
Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093

Brown Clee Group News

Services in Brown Clee Churches during May

1st May - Third Sunday of Easter

09:45 HC Ditton Priors
11:30 HC Aston Botterell

8th May - Fourth Sunday of Easter

09:45 HC Ditton Priors
11:30 HC Chetton

15th May - Fifth Sunday of Easter

09:45 HC Ditton Priors
11:30 HC Neenton
1800 HC Wheathill

22nd May - Sixth Sunday of Easter

08:30 HC Ditton Priors
09:45 HC Chetton
11:30 HC Cleobury North

29th May - Seventh Sunday of Easter

09:45 HC Ditton Priors

5th June - Pentecost / Jubilee weekend

10:15 GpHC Aston Botterell

**Please note – the Group Service will be held at
Aston Botterell on 5th June.**

A Church Near You - Don't forget to look at the Benefice website – A Church Near You, on the [Ditton Priors Church and Benefice Information Hub](#) page, to see what is going on in all the parishes too.

Good Friday Readings and Reflections

From a member of the congregation

On entering Ditton Priors Church on Good Friday morning, a 3-inch nail was given to each person.

Ten passages from the Bible were read telling of the events of Holy Week from Jesus's betrayal to his burial. Each passage was followed by a member of the congregation reflecting on the scene with thoughts and feelings as if they were there.

Following the reflection, a verse from the hymn 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?' was played to allow people to assemble their own thoughts about the Bible reading and join in with a prayer.

Before the last Reading the emotional hymn 'There is a green hill far away, with-out a city wall, where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all' was sung.

The nails were given to help concentrate the mind in these happenings 2000 years ago and were left on a table at the end of the service as everyone quietly filed out.

The Good Friday reflection was movingly and emotionally depicted by those who took part.

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they nailed him to a tree?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when he rose to glorious life?*

Thank you to all members of the Local Ministry Group for organising this Good Friday service.

Ditton Priors News

Marjorie Jones writes:

Easter was celebrated joyfully with a group service at St John the Baptist church. Attendance was good and the group choir led the singing. Our thanks go to Revd Clive Munday who led the service and also for the devotion he has given to our group throughout the interregnum.

Lent lunch on 31st March was a very pleasant occasion, a sign that people are happy to meet together again. We also raised **£105** for church funds.

Food Bank: A reminder that we are still collecting for the foodbank in Bridgnorth. There is still much need for your donations which are taken weekly into Bridgnorth. A large plastic box for your offerings is placed on the wooden top on the left of the main door as you enter the church building.

Mowing in the Churchyard is now under way and the costs are rising rapidly. We would be most grateful for any contributions you would like to make – perhaps in memory of loved ones passed.

Please give your contributions to Carole Smith, Mark Smith, Marjorie Jones or any other church member. The churchyards are an asset to our community, and it is important that they are well kept.

Annual General Meeting of the Parochial Church Council is to be held on Wednesday 11th May at 7pm in church. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested. We appoint the churchwardens for the following year and the church council members, who meet later to appoint the officers.

We need a dedicated group to fulfil the many duties involved in keeping our church open and alive for the benefit of the whole community.

Flower list: The list is now in the church porch for anyone who would like to provide flowers for the altars. These need not be elaborate or costly. Please contact Pat Warren on 787457 for more details.

Bridgnorth Walk Day - Monday 2nd May. The church will be open for refreshments (10.30 am – 12.30pm) and hopefully one or two stalls. Contributions of books and plants are very welcome. Please leave them in the church porch.

Church Fete: We plan to have our annual Fete on Saturday 2nd July. This would take place in and around the church with the usual stalls, games, and refreshments. More detail next month.

Cleaning Rota for MAY:

- Sunday 1st May Mr & Mrs Graham Russell
- Sunday 8th May Mrs Shirley Wall & Mrs Anita Casswell
- Sunday 15th May Mrs Jennifer Lowe & Mrs Debbie Jones
- Sunday 22nd May Mr & Mrs Dennis Griffiths
- Sunday 29th May Mr & Mrs John Ballard
- Sunday 5th June Mr & Mrs Tony Brown



St John the Baptist 100 Club results for April 2022

- £20 Pam Gennard
- £10 Helen Ceresa
- £5 each to - Terri Norman, J&S Ballard, and Ann Lawrence

Wheathill & Loughton News

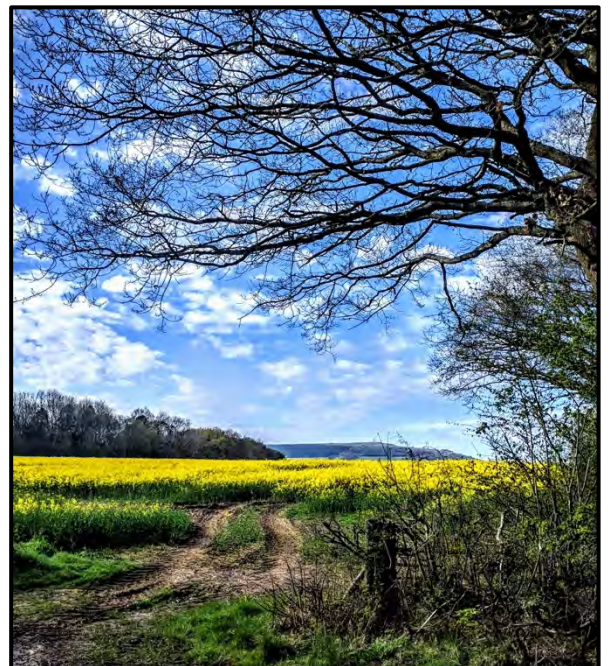
No news this month from Wheathill & Loughton.

Burwarton and Cleobury North News

We look forward to hearing more from Cleobury North and Burwarton once the summer events start to happen.

Aston Botterell News

The Benefice Jubilee Service for HM Queen Elizabeth will be a Group Service at Aston Botterell Church on Sunday June 5th.



Cleobury North & District Village Hall

CNVH remains open and available for hire. Despite the disappearance of legal requirements that applied during the pandemic, we will be maintaining our systems and standards of cleaning to help to protect all users and visitors to the Hall.

For enquiries about booking and using the hall, please call 01746-787093 and leave a message.

Burwarton W I

We are having a meeting on Tuesday May 10th at 2.30pm in Cleobury North Village Hall when Kate Charles a clerical crime writer will discuss her book "A Dead Man out of Mind" and writing in general. She is a very well-known writer and a past chair of the Crime Writers' Association and the Barbara Pym Society. She lives near Ludlow. We would like to invite you to the meeting. We shall have refreshments and a raffle. There is a nominal charge of £3 for visitors. For more information contact Helen Groves 01746 712466.

NEW - Cleobury North Sewing Group

This group is commencing on Wednesday 4 May for any person of any ability to join in. If you have a love of sewing and producing different craft type items, then this is for you. If you do not have any sewing experience, then come along and learn how to do just that. Tea, coffee and cakes will be on offer and the time for meeting new friends and a relaxing chat.

Session is £15 with £5 off the first week. For further details contact Sharon on 01746 787455 or email budgetcraftymomm@gmail.com

Chetton News

From Pam Downing

St Giles's Church and Parish

Services for April

- ✝ Sunday May 8th – 11.30 am Holy Communion.
- ✝ Sunday May 22nd – 9.45 am Holy Communion.

Flowers and cleaning

- Moira and Zena

We have been blessed with some pleasant sunny days during Easter and it's been a pleasure to be greeted with the glorious show of daffodils on the way to the Church.

The choir joined us for our Palm Sunday service, thank you to them and to Mike for organising.

Dates for the diary

We are holding another **Church breakfast** at the Down on **Saturday 21st May**, 9am. Let Sheila or Lisa know if you can join us, it's a great way to start the day.

On **Sunday 5th June**, we are celebrating the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** along with other village organisations. This will be an afternoon tea with entertainment at Church House, Chetton, kind permission of Charles & Lisa (if raining it will be in the village hall). We are keeping fingers crossed for a fine day, so bring along chairs or rugs and enjoy the lovely garden. Everyone is welcome but it would be helpful if you can let Lisa or Sheila (07791 857787) know how many are coming. Time is still to be confirmed so please check the June Wheatland News.

Hundred Club

- £15 – Ivor Smith no 70
- £10 - Charlotte Cunningham no 82

Lisa is still collecting subs if anyone has forgotten.

Chetton Village Hall

The hall has a new floor! When we have had the hall redecorated our interior redecoration will be complete.

Annual Plant Sale

We are holding our **annual plant sale** on **Sunday 15th May** in its original form, 10am until Noon. We have shrubs such as Hydrangea, Cornus and Phlomis and perennials including Phlox, Verbena, Paeonia and Geranium. Summer bedding plants, as well as Gooseberry bushes and tomatoes and vegetables. Refreshments available.

Pam's Pilates, 9.30 am on Monday.

Chetton Active Friends, from 2pm on Monday.

Zumba with stretching, 2.30 pm on Tuesday.

For any information or enquiries about the Hall please telephone Sue on 789239.

Wheatland Diary

Mon	2	May	Bridgnorth Walk Day!! Remember that traffic will be delayed and road closures are likely.
Mon	2	May	Live music from Dirty Rocking Scoundrels at the Pheasant, Neenton, 5pm.
Wed	4	May	Sewing for Everyone! New group at CNVH.
Thurs	5	May	Billingsley Church evening walk to the village and back. See Facebook page.
Tues	10	May	Burwarton WI – talk from Kate Charles, clerical crime writer, at CNVH, 2.30 pm
Sat	14	May	Ludlow Male Voice Choir in concert – St Giles's Church, Farlow, 7.30 pm. Tickets £7.50.
Sat	14	May	Coffee morning at Middleton Scriven, with annual Plant Sale and Raffle
Sun	15	May	Chetton Annual Plant Sale – 10.00am until noon at Chetton VH.
Wed	18	May	Ukraine Fundraising Dinner at the Pheasant, Neenton
Sat	21	May	Chetton Church Breakfast at The Down – let Lisa or Sheila know if you wish to come.
Sat	28	May	Oakfest at Oak Farm, Ditton Priors
Sat	28	May	Daddy's Hat music and poetry at Glazeley Church, 3.00pm – refreshments.
Thur	2	June	Start of 4-day Queen's Jubilee Celebrations – various across the WN area.
Fri	2	June	Neenton Jubilee Celebration at the Pheasant – live music from Cooper and Davis.
Sun	5	June	Annual Stottesdon / Chorley vs Kinlet Cricket Match
Tues	14	June	Deanery Gathering, including item on Safeguarding – location to be determined.
Sat	18	June	Chelmarsh Annual Plant Sale – 11.00am till 4.00pm in the Churchyard.

Neenton News

Easter Monday - Neenton Easter Fayre

This event proved to be very popular and brought families and friends together for a splendid afternoon and evening at The Pheasant. The bouncy castle was causing great activity as was the skittle competition which was divided into age groups.



The reaction of a 4-year-old who knocked down 5 skittles was a delight to watch as the realisation dawned on him – he won his group!! The 5-to-11-year-olds proved to be very competitive resulting in many retries to get more knocked down to decide the final winner in that group. In the teenage group, initiative was shown by 3 youngsters who joined together as a team and worked as such to maximise their score to win the group and the adults

showed great determination to beat one another to the end when there was a three-man shoot out which resulted in a new champion.



One of the outstanding events was the parade of children with their Easter bonnets. What a splendid show of imagination and artistic flare! The judges had a very difficult job to decide the winner but awarded the prize to a young 5-year-old whom they called 'Minecraft Jorge'.

All the entrants received a chocolate prize.

The tombola, cake, jigsaw and raffle stalls all attracted the crowds and the BBQ was so popular it was a complete sell out. The Innocent Criminals rounded the day off with their music. A thoroughly great day!



Our thanks go to all who contributed to organising, setting up and running this enjoyable social occasion and to The Pheasant team for allowing us to use the garden. Over **£1550** was raised for the church and local charities. Thank you to all who supported the day.



Neenton News – continued

Bobbie Jarvis writes:

All Saints' service in May

✝ Sunday 15th May, Holy Communion 11.30am

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Will be held on Monday 9th May, at 7pm in the Oak Room at the Pheasant Inn.

All Saints' Tote

- May – John Pickup, Jeremy Cale

The Pheasant at Neenton

Special events

Monday 2nd May Bank Holiday
live music from **Dirty Rocking Scoundrels** – 5pm
Wednesday 4th May – Closed



Wednesday 18th May –
**Ukraine Fundraiser
evening**

7pm - 4 Course Dinner £40

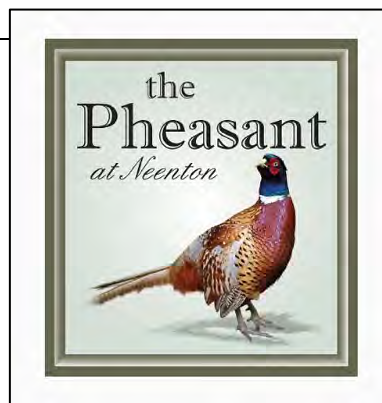
Charity Auction

email for reservation essential



Friday 2nd June – Jubilee celebration

- Bouncy Castle
- BBQ
- Cooper & Davis
- Fancy Dress: come as a Royal figure.



**Opening times – except
as shown for the special
events:**

- 🌀 Wednesday/Thursday
– 12 noon – 3pm,
6pm – 11pm
- 🌀 Friday / Saturday –
12 noon – 11pm
- 🌀 Sunday lunch 12
noon – 4.30pm

To discuss times and your requirements please email info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk, telephone 01746-787955 or book direct on the website.

May Molecule of the Month

The Molecules of Motor Neurone Disease

By David Poyner



Just before Christmas, I attended the funeral of a friend who had died of motor neurone disease. Those who have come across this condition, more properly known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, will know it as an unpleasant degenerative disease, where the individual gradually loses the ability to move any muscle. My friend, towards the end of his life, could still walk but was unable to swallow and fed himself through a tube into his stomach. Unfortunately we have really very little idea of what causes the disease; without this, there is no possibility of finding an effective treatment.

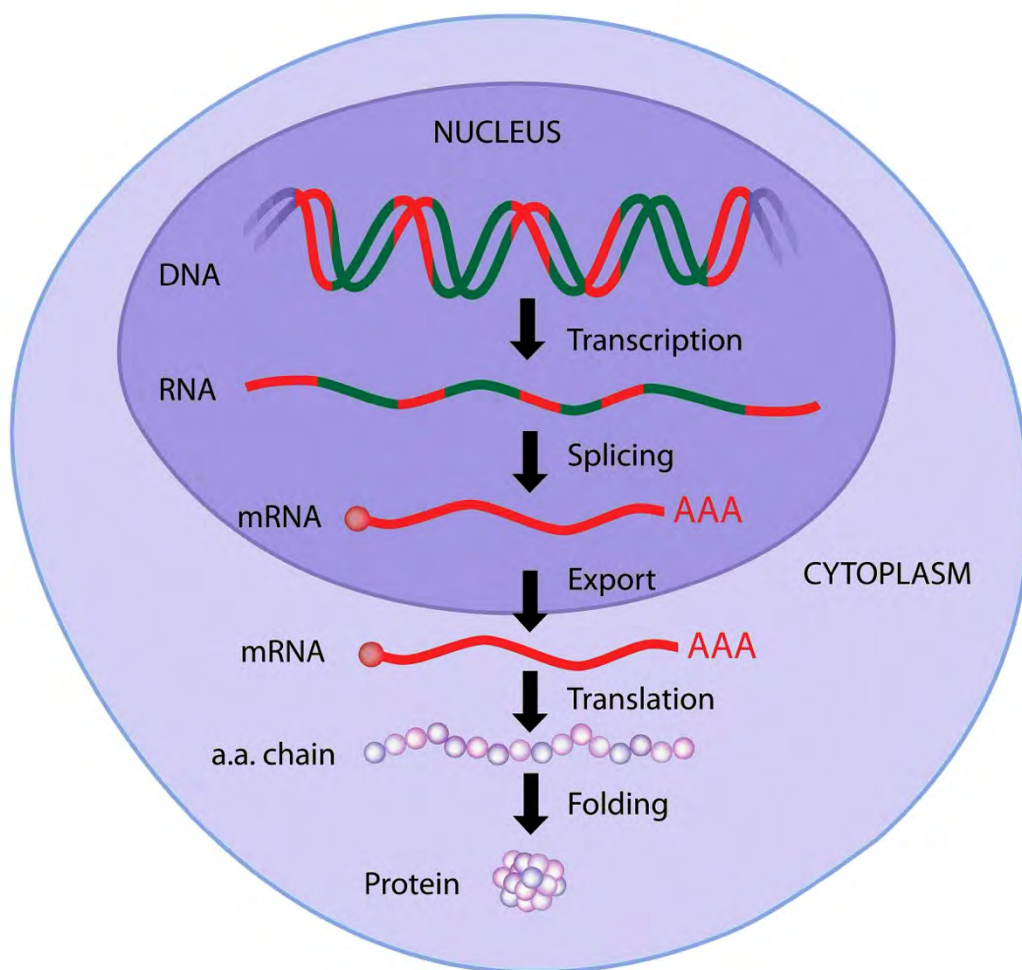
One approach that has been used to identify the cause of the disease is to see if it is associated with a problem with any individual genes. A gene is a stretch of a molecule called DNA that contains instructions on how to make a particular protein; the gene is the handbook that tells the body how to make the appropriate tool (the protein) to carry out a particular task. Using this approach, geneticists have discovered that people who have motor neuron disease often have problems with one particular gene called UNC13A; this means that they fail to make the UNC13A protein. Recent work has started to shed more light on how exactly UNC13A might work.

The new work involves a second protein called TPD-43, which seems to clump together and become non-functional in the brains of individuals with motor neuron disease. TPD-43 is what is known as an RNA-splicing protein. Recall that the instructions to make proteins are contained in the DNA of a cell. But DNA is a very large molecule that stays within a particular part of the cell called the nucleus (see picture below). To make a protein, the relevant part of DNA, the gene, is first copied onto another molecule called messenger RNA (mRNA). This is small enough to leave the nucleus after some processing and go to the part of the cell where proteins are made; there it instructs a molecular machine called a ribosome to make the relevant protein. TPD-43 is essential to process the mRNA with the instructions to make UNC13A. In motor neuron disease, the messenger RNA that has the instructions to make UNC13A no longer binds properly to TPD-43. As a result, TPD-43 cannot work and clumps together; equally important, the messenger RNA for UNC13A is destroyed before any protein is made.

We are still not sure why failure to make UNC13A causes motor neuron disease, but we know that it is important to allow nerves to communicate with each other by releasing chemical messengers called neurotransmitters. Somehow, the failure of this to happen seems to kill the nerve cells in the brain with the result that they die, triggering the degeneration of motor neuron disease. There is still a long way to go but we can now at least start to think about finding drugs that might help restore UNC13A protein to nerve cells, perhaps by helping TPD-43 to work correctly.

How cells make proteins.

The instructions to make proteins such as UNC13A are found on DNA, in the nucleus of the cell. DNA cannot leave this, so the relevant part is copied onto another molecule called RNA, which after some processing (carried out by proteins such as TPD-43), becomes mRNA). This exits the nucleus and directs the cells to make proteins from small building blocks called amino acids. (Taken from [Protein Synthesis \(biology-questions-and-answers.com\)](http://Protein Synthesis (biology-questions-and-answers.com)))



DRP

Severn Valley Group of Parishes

Rector: Vacant Revd Val Smith, Associate Minister revval14@gmail.com		Revd David Poyner, Associate Minister Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work); email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk
St Mary, Billingsley CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	St Peter, Chelmarsh CHURCHWARDEN Derek Arnold: 07956-844854	St Bartholomew, Glazeley CHURCHWARDENS Vacant

Benefice news and services

Church services for May

During the interregnum please check service times in the parish sections below, or with your churchwardens.

Glazeley

The Revd David Poyner and Marion Corfield write:

Our Easter service was held jointly with Billingsley and we had a good turn-out, considering that there were also services in Highley and Chelmarsh. Rachael Davenhill played the organ for us and I, bravely, preached from the pulpit, on the assumption that no more loose plaster was about to fall from the roof. We have had the pulpit roped off since August 2020 when some plaster fell from the ceiling, but the opinion seems to be that this was just caused by the roof drying out after repairs and all should now be stable. After the service, Laura very kindly invited us round to the Old Rectory for refreshments; it was really pleasant sitting in the sun discussing plans for the church.

We have our annual parish meeting on Monday 16th May at 7pm in church. Please do come along to this, even if you have no intention of joining the PCC. We seem to be getting good attendance at events in church, but we have only a tiny number of people who keep us running; if anyone might be able to help us out, even on an occasional basis, we could do much more.

In May we have two events in Church.

Our usual service is on the 3rd of the month, 22nd May, at 10am.

The following Saturday, 28th, we are pleased to host a "Daddy's Hat" concert. This is an informal musical event, where various local musicians play anything from classical through musicals to Leonard Cohen. The event lasts around an hour and at the end, a hat is passed round (which belonged to the father of Sally, the organiser) for people to contribute as they wish, for church funds and expenses of performers. There are refreshments afterwards; please do come along!

Margaret Purcell 1939 - 2022

The funeral of Margaret Purcell, late of Spring Cottages, Glazeley, took place at Bushbury Crematorium recently.

Margaret was a regular member of Glazeley & Chetton WI & enjoyed making cakes and knitting. With her late husband Dennis, Margaret moved to Glazeley from Penn many years ago. They opened their beautiful gardens to the public to raise funds for many organisations including Glazeley Church. Sons Paul, Ian and Tim were always seen helping at these events. Dennis was also a keen photographer and produced

hundreds of Calendars which went all over the globe! Margaret and Dennis moved into Talbot Court in their later years which had assisted accommodation, and were often seen walking up the High Street shopping.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Margaret Purcell; she and her husband Dennis were staunch supporters of the church. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

David Poyner Tel 01562 68638; email
D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk

Marion Corfield - 01746-764585
marion.corfield@talktalk.net

Billingsley News

The Revd David Poyner writes:

Our 6pm evening services restarted on Palm Sunday (10th April) when, noting Jesus's mode of transport on that day, we enjoyed a celebration of all things Donkey. We welcomed Amanda, Honey and Tom, with Jack and Rooney, two donkeys from Severn Valley Rescue Centre (www.Severnvalleyrescue.org). Amanda founded the Rescue Centre when she came across Jack, living in a very neglected state and decided to buy him. The rescue centre now has 9 resident donkeys, plus a number of other animals. Rooney is a miniature donkey and Jack's best friend; donkeys are very social animals. They are also wonderfully therapeutic, which lead Amanda to use them in her work with "Proud to be me", an organisation which works with children who find it hard to fit in. I quote from the website (<https://www.proudtobeeme.co.uk/>) ;



"Taking time out to stroke a rabbit or groom a pony, building a camp fire or even cleaning out animal poop; It gives you the chance to think, chance to breathe... it makes a difference."

Over Easter, we had a communion on Maundy Thursday, with stripping of the altar and laying out of the Easter Sepulchre. The other big event in church was Saturday 23rd April when we played host to a Daddy's Hat concert; many thanks to Sally for organising and all who helped or took part. It was the fullest the church has been since lockdown.

The churchyard has new received attention from the Caring for God's Acre Team as well as our own volunteers. It now looks very smart. Particular thanks to Diane for painting the memorial bench to Sidney Fry, which now looks stunning!



We now resume our pattern of two services a month at Billingsley; 6pm on the 2nd Sunday for some kind of evening event (Donkeys/songs of praise/Anna Chaplaincy/whatever we think of...) and an 8am Holy Communion on the 4th Sunday of the Month. We also have monthly walks, usually 7pm on the first Thursday of the month. These are advertised on our website and Facebook pages; we begin on the 5th May with a short stroll from the church to the village and back.

David Poyner – Associate Minister

Tel 01562-68638; email D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/>
<http://www.stmarys-billingsley.org.uk>
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/>

Chelmarsh News

Eleanor Haddon writes:

Interregnum

Work is progressing on attracting a new Rector for our Benefice. Parish profiles have been prepared to give the candidates some idea of the different churches, to inform their applications.

Mothering Sunday

This year we had the baptism of little Henry Arthur, which is a very appropriate for the occasion. Bunches of spring flowers were distributed to the ladies in the congregation.

Cremation

21st March 2022 - Edward John Trevor Pugh

We were very sad to learn of Trevor's death, he was a well-known and well-loved member of Chelmarsh community. A local farmer, he had a hard time after a serious accident with one of his cattle. He will be remembered for his gentle, laid-back nature, and our sincere sympathy is with his wife and family.

From the Register

Baptism

27th March 2022 Henry John Arthur

We welcome Henry into the church family at Chelmarsh and hope to see him sometimes as he grows.

Church cleaning Wednesday 25th May at 2.30pm (ish!)

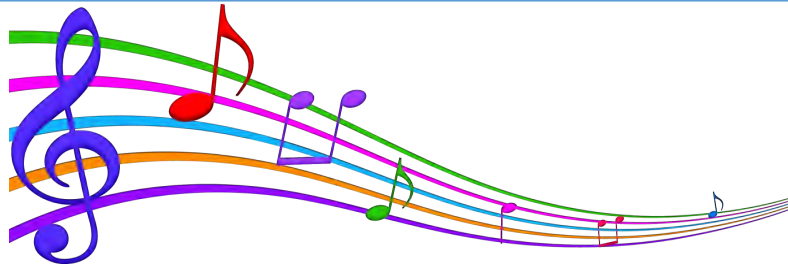
If anyone could find an hour to help with cleaning the church, we would be most grateful. It has to be done, and more hands make light work of it. Thank you.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This was scheduled for Tuesday 24th April 2022 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall – however, at the time of writing the meeting had not taken place, so the report will be in the June magazine.

Plant Sale Saturday 18th June 11am till 4pm

We are planning to hold this in the churchyard from 11am till 4pm with refreshments, and inside the church we would like to have a display of Gardens on a Plate with a light-hearted competition for two categories - adults and children. We are inviting all of you to join in and add to the display. It would be brilliant if some children could make gardens too. There will be small prizes for the most popular efforts in each category.



St Mary's Church, Bridgnorth

'Songs and Saxes'

A concert in aid of the Church restoration fund

Sunday 15th May at 3.00 pm

Featuring:

Concordia Ladies Choir

and

Sunflower Saxes

A range of music from Gershwin to Garfunkel, and

Mozart to Mitchell, something for everyone

Tickets £6.00

Available from 07733 316992 or

07938 692612, or on the door

Daddy's Hat: Concert or worship?



By Revd David Poyner

I have just helped to host my first Daddy's Hat concert, at Billingsley on St George's Day. Normally I will get between 2 and 5 people for the 8am eucharist (yes, some people do prefer the early start), perhaps 10 or 12 for the monthly evening service. For the concert, we had 23 people, including 2 children; 24 if you count the dog.



Now, most were not from Billingsley, despite me doing a leaflet drop and advertising it on Facebook. And this was not anything like a traditional service. I did sneak in a prayer for St George and we gave a spirited rendition of "When a knight won his spurs", taking some of us back to our schooldays. But "Leaving on a jet plane" and various numbers from musicals are not usually associated with church; guitarist Sam's original song "The bronze age" celebrated pre-Christian culture.



So why did I come away thinking the Holy Spirit was moving in the church? Our gathering was not religious, but it was spiritual. The music touched our emotions, in a setting made holy by 900 years of

prayer. In fact, perhaps nearer 4000 years of prayer, for a ritually deposited bronze age axe has been found just a few hundred yards from the church. And it was again Sam, the guitarist, who sang about when a crack appears, light can shine in.



We live in an age when a majority do not identify with any recognised religion, but we are hard-wired to be spiritual beings. God is no less real just because people do not believe in him/her. The Holy Spirit still hovers over the face of waters, the

face of the planet, the faces of all people. My job as a priest is to give people the eyes, the language, the hearts to recognise and respond to this. I am not particularly bothered what they want to call the Spirit; I am certainly not bothered where they come from. On St George's Day, the music in Billingsley Church opened a crack and The Light shone in.

A huge 'thank you' from Daddy's Hat to the Revd Poyner for welcoming us all into his church, and to Ellen and colleagues who generously provided refreshments.

Next timeCome and join Daddy's Hat at Glazeley Church on **Saturday 28th May** at 3.00pm.

Contact Sally on 01746-787419 or 07747-788429 for more information.



Above is Sam Cooper, a well-known local singer / composer / songwriter and talented musician, who does much to advance the cause of autism and of those who, like Sam himself and his wife, both live with the condition and conquer its challenges.



The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Mark Daborn

The Rectory, Stottesdon, Shropshire, DY14 8UE

Telephone 01746-718127. Email mark.daborn@hotmail.co.uk

Days off – MONDAY and THURSDAY

May Message

‘On the Sabbath they rested, according to the commandment.’

[Luke 23:56]

I am writing on Easter Eve, to meet the deadline for copy on Monday. One result of that being that I’m not ‘resting on the Sabbath, according to the commandment’. But I am very mindful of being on the threshold of the Easter season as the earth springs into new life after the winter.

Every year the annual cycle of the seasons mirrors the Church’s celebrations and at the moment you can almost hear the trees coming into blossom and the flowers bursting into amazing colours and details of design – and the grass growing. One of the pleasures of the first lockdown – was it really two years ago? – was walking the lanes and seeing the hedgerow flowers coming out in their regular pattern and cycle. There was time, then, to enjoy the spring at leisure and rejoice in its infinite variety.

Which brings me back to the Sabbath. In the Genesis poem about the creation of the heavens and the earth in the Bible, we are told that the work of creation was done in six days, and that God rested on the seventh. This poem gives us that pattern of seven days in the week, with one of them designed to be a day of rest. How important that is.

In the modern developed world, ever-increasing communication and accessibility seems to be eroding our time off. I must confess that I feel twitchy if I go out in the car without my mobile – but at least it isn’t connected to the internet (no, really!) so I can’t pick up emails until I get back. But there seems to be a greater and greater expectation on young people to be in touch the whole time, and an underlying threat that they will somehow miss out if they aren’t permanently available for work questions – even if they’re holidaying in the Bahamas!

I have an ongoing grumble – which I think I have expressed in this column before! – that sometimes when I send an email to someone in a church office, I get a reply to say they are ‘on annual leave’. In the church, in particular, we should not be ashamed to say we are ‘on holiday’: the word comes, after all, from ‘holy day’. And it’s good to be able to acknowledge that the world will go on turning if we leave it to its own devices for a few days – there are plenty of capable folk out there who can deal with everything while we recharge the batteries!

May is a month with two Bank Holidays (at least banks are happy to use the word!) and I’m looking forward to enjoying the privilege of that bit of extra time in the garden or walking the lanes that that will allow. May is also the month of the Easter season, celebrating new life, which begins with Easter Day tomorrow and goes on until Pentecost on June 5th.

There may be some connections there that are worth thinking about.

Mark Daborn

Stottesdon Benefice Group News

St Mary, Stottesdon CHURCHWARDEN Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007	St Giles, Farlow CHURCHWARDENS Joan Evans - 01746-718619 Nigel Savage-Bailey - 07989-308599	Holy Trinity, Sidbury CHURCHWARDEN Andrew Sierakowski - 07934-714149
St Mary, Cleeton St Mary CHURCHWARDEN Sue Dolphin: - 01584 890583	St John, Middleton Scriven CHURCHWARDEN vacant – so your contact is Revd Mark Daborn - 01746-718127	St Michael, Silvington CHURCHWARDEN Annette Metcalfe: - 01584 890161

Churches in May

The Revd Mark Daborn writes:

Online services will continue to be recorded that you can pick up where and when may be convenient for you, either on the Stottesdon Benefice website, on the Benefice Facebook page, or on You Tube, on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGgHa2CCJs8k9gfRwzkYrtg>

Services in Stottesdon Benefice Churches for May and the Jubilee

May 1st - Easter 3

09:00 HC Farlow
 10:30 MP Middleton Scriven
 18:30 ES Stottesdon

May 8th - Easter 4

09:00 HC Cleeton St Mary
 10:30 HC Stottesdon
 18:30 HC Silvington

May 15th - Easter 5

10:30 IW Stottesdon
 11:30 HC Sidbury

May 22nd - Easter 6

09:00 MP Silvington
 10:30 HC Stottesdon
 16:00 EP Cleeton St Mary

May 29th - Easter 7

09:00 HC Farlow
 10:30 HC Middleton Scriven
 18:30 ES Stottesdon

June 5th - Easter 8

10:30
**JUBILEE CELEBRATION
 GROUP SERVICE at STOTTESDON**

HC – Holy
 Communion

IW – Informal
 Worship

EP – Evening
 Prayer

MP – Morning
 Prayer

ES - Evensong

From the Stottesdon Benefice Registers

There were no entries to record as this edition went to press

If you are, or someone you know is, in need of prayer or a visit, or Communion at home or elsewhere, then please contact Mark direct, or ask your churchwarden to help you to arrange this.

The **deadline for the June 2022 edition** (Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing **on Monday 23rd May**. Thanks!

Stottesdon News

Clare Tibbits writes:

Altered Service Pattern - eagle-eyed readers will already have spotted that there is a change to the service pattern at the end of this month to enable a rousing Benefice-wide celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee on 5th June. (Evensong is thus a week earlier than usual!).



St Mary's 100 Club

Congratulations to our April winners: John & Rae Griffiths, Mark & Alex Daborn, Ellen McConnell.

Diary Dates

- The annual Stottesdon/Chorley vs Kinlet **Cricket** is set for Jubilee Sunday 5th June
- Our **Summer Fete** is *provisionally* booked for Friday 1st July on the School Field, and
- Stottesdon Village **Open Gardens for N G S Charities** will be on Sunday 17th July.



St Mary's Church: Heritage and Conservation Project

An update on this major project can now be anticipated this month – once public bodies, like the National Lottery Heritage Fund, are free of restrictions (“purdah”) on making announcements due to local government elections in parts of the country. We hope to have a fuller report in the June edition of Wheatland News. Watch this space!

Silvington News

Annette Metcalfe writes:

Our church services in the coming weeks are on

- ✚ Sunday 8th May – Holy Communion at 6.30pm
- ✚ Sunday 22nd May – Morning Prayer at 9am

- ✝ Sunday 5th June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

Farlow News

Two services of Holy Communion will be celebrated at St Giles' church this month –

- ✝ Sunday 1st May at 09.00 and
- ✝ Sunday 29th May at 09.00

On Sunday 5th June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at St Mary's, Stottesdon. And as a precursor to that great day

Ludlow Male Voice Choir in Concert

At St Giles's Church – 7.30pm Saturday 14th May – with fittingly "Red, White and Blue" Jubilee-themed evening for all to enjoy! Tickets £7.50 from 01746-718745 or pay on the door. Free glass of wine included and refreshments available.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in church at 7pm on Wednesday 4th May.

Sidbury News

Services this month:

- ✝ Sunday 15th May at 11.30am Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 5th June - we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

Cleeton St Mary News

Gill Jordan writes:

Church Services in May

- ✝ 8th May - 9am Holy Communion
- ✝ 22nd May 4pm Evening Prayer

On Sunday 5th June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

The **Annual Meeting** will be held at 7pm on Monday 2nd May – all welcome!

100 Club results for March:

- £20 to Alan Price No 105
- £10 each to Eve Wragg No 16 and Chris Ayres No 51
- £5 each to Jack Condliffe No 84 and Phoebe Condliffe No 87

Middleton Scriven News

Ann Constable writes:

Church services

Easter was celebrated with the church looking wonderful - full of spring flowers and music. Thank you to all who provided flowers, Andy Johnson for the live music and Alex for a most uplifting Easter service.

With five Sundays this month, and the Jubilee weekend just afterwards, we will have a slightly altered service pattern –

- ✝ On Sunday 1st May we will have a service of Morning Prayer at 10.30am
- ✝ Holy Communion will be celebrated at 10.30am on Sunday 29th.
- ✝ On Jubilee Sunday, 5th June, we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice at the Group Service celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at Stottesdon.



Great fun watching vintage tractors through the village. Not every day you meet these on the lanes now!!

Middleton Scriven Church Annual Meeting

Will be in church at 7pm on Friday 13th May. All welcome!

Community events - Dates for your Diary

Community Coffee mornings continue, on the second Saturday of the month.

Next one takes place on May 14th, with the annual plant sale and raffle. Any donations of plants or raffle prizes will be most welcome!



Sadly our **Lent lunch** had to be cancelled; Covid is still impacting on our lives.

However, we are hoping that we can get together for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We are aiming for a community shared Afternoon Tea and lots of decorations/bunting/Union Jacks in the village. Look out for further details.

South East Shropshire Community Noticeboard

Brookes Mobile Library ...

...has fortnightly stops in villages and hamlets all over The Wheatland News area – from Chetton to Farlow, from Cleeton St Mary to Chelmarsh, from Stottesdon to Cleobury North. Details are on the Library service pages at www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries

Just like the regular Library branches, at the Brookes Mobile Library you can sign up as a member for free, borrow books and DVDs, order specialist books from other libraries and a host of other services. Just hop on at your local stop and ask the librarian....

Cleobury Country Farmers Market ...

...is "under and around the crooked spire" at St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer, on the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month from 09.30-12.30. Features local producers of plants, meats, cheeses, vegetables, rapeseed oils, gins, cookies, crafts and more.

Free town centre car parking and well worth a visit. Details: Clare 01299-272300.

Community-run Local Library services

FREE membership, access to Books, DVDs, Computer workstations and more!

- HIGHLEY at The Severn Centre 01746 860000. Open 7 days a week from 9am.
- CLEOBURY at The Cleobury Country Centre 01299 272301. Open 6 days a week.

Our Local Food Banks

Both these are **always** in need of donations of foodstuffs and other goods, of money to sustain their services, and of volunteers' time. Find them on Facebook or call 07960 285520 for BRIDGNORTH or 07519 885943 for CLEOBURY MORTIMER.

Stottesdon & District Women's Institute



Has resumed its monthly meetings at 7.30pm on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** each month, generally at either Farlow or Chorley Village Hall. A new and varied programme of entertaining talks, crafting and events is being arranged – contact Helena 01746 718012 or Clare 01746 718007 for more details.

Useful Community Contacts

Brown Clew Walkers	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
Burwarton & District WI	Meets in Cleobury North Village Hall. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm. Contact 01746-712466
Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wendy Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
Burwarton & District Garden Club	Meets on the 2 nd Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm. Contact 01584-823723 for details of topic and venue
Burwarton & District Wives Group	Meeting 8pm 1st Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421 or Gill Severn 01746-712231
Chelmarsh Crown Green Bowling Club	Welcomes old and new members. Contact Sue Jackman 01746-862850
Chelmarsh Indoor Short Mat Bowling	Welcomes old and new members. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 7.30-10.00pm. Further details Sue Jackman 01746-862850
Chelmarsh Parish Hall	Available for hire - booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk
Chelmarsh Jubilee Club	Parish Hall 01746-86525 Jean Davis
Chelmarsh Walking for Health	Monday 10.00am except Bank Holidays. Parish Hall. Eleanor Haddon 01746-862884. 2 levels of walking available
Chelmarsh Friends	Meet every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Jenny Green 01746-862191
Cleobury North Village Hall	Enquiries to 01746-787093 please
Tae kwon-do	Chelmarsh Parish Hall Tuesday evening. Suitable for children & Adults. Neil Morris Thursday 5.45pm. 07969-996055
Chelmarsh Parent & Toddler Group	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
Chetton & Gazeley WI	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
Chetton Folk Dance Club	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
Chorley Village Hall	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact Jenny or Charlie on 01746-718437
Short Mat Bowling	Every Monday & Thursday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Cleeton & Silvington Village Hall, October to end of April. Pam 01584-89261
Cleeton & Silvington V H	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584-890200
Fun & Fitness for 50+	Cleobury North Village Hall - low impact fitness programme working the whole body every Tuesday 10.00 – 11.15am. Contact 01584-823640
Ditton Priors Art Group	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Mrs Denise Davies 01746-712521 or Bob Williams on 01746-712662
Short Mat Bowling	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm except the second Wednesday in the month when it will be Thursday at 8.00 – 10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact 01746-712157
Ditton Priors Local History Group	The Local History Centre, next to the Willows Café, opens 12.00-2.00 on Saturdays, and at other times by arrangement. Contact 01746-712850
Ditton Priors Parent & Toddlers Group	Meet in the Pavilion, Playing Fields, Ditton Priors Thursday 9.30 -11.30 am everyone welcome for a coffee and play.
Ditton Priors Book Club	Jenny -01746-712665
Knowle Sports Club	Second-hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
Stottesdon Gateway Nursery	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
Stottesdon & District W.I.	Meets in various venues on the 3rd Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746 718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
Stoke St Milborough Dance	Mike 01746-712774 - Betty 01746-77515
Domestic Abuse Hotline	Telephone Number 08448-044999

Celebration Holiday for the Platinum Anniversary of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June 2022

June WN will carry full information of events to be held in all the 17 Wheatland parishes – and perhaps more widely in Shropshire.

Please make sure that you tell us your plans so that they can be included.

And send us your photographs of your own memorable events of 1952 for a special fun collage in the July edition of WN.



National Events

– many will be televised



Trooping the Colour – the Queen's Birthday Parade – on Thursday 2 June



Platinum Jubilee Beacons – following centuries of beacon tradition, there will be more than 1500 beacons lit across Britain. Find out more about watching and taking part at: www.queensjubileebeacons.com



Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 3rd June.



The Derby at Epsom Downs on Saturday 4th June



Platinum Party at the Palace – staged by the BBC a live concert of great stars - Find out more at: www.platinumjubilee.gov.uk



The Big Jubilee Lunch and the Platinum Jubilee Pageant

And don't forget – back to work on Monday 6th!