

# WHEATLAND NEWS

May 2024



“I do set my bow in the cloud,  
and it shall be for a token of a covenant  
between me and the earth”

*Genesis 9:13*

~

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

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# Editorial

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April many thousands of people took part in the London Marathon – after months of training the sheer determination of every one of them was astonishing. For the elite athletes it is a full time career, but for the others they were running for fun, most to raise funds for charity and also to beat their own time if they had run in a previous marathon. There is a point during this event when the runner ‘hits the wall’ when they think ‘I’ve had enough’ However, that is the time when they have their eye on the goal – the finish line – they are off and running and not looking back!

This brings to mind the **Bridgnorth Walk on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** when people of all ages will be striding out to achieve their own goals and raising funds. We wish them a successful day.

The recent rain, winds and destruction caused by the weather has seen many people, some who have been flooded for more than once feeling that they cannot cope with another day of wind and rain. The rainbow on the front cover of this month’s magazine (see acknowledgement below) brought smiles to our faces. In this edition of Wheatland News we welcome back the Garden Club with their stunning photographs.

We are now into the season of the events being organised throughout the area, many are listed under the respective parishes. There are also new forms of worship being held in and around the churches, both inside and out – such as the Tractor run and exhibition at Lower Cockshutt Farm on 12<sup>th</sup> May, with a special service and chance to hear the Chetton bells being rung – see the Chetton news on page 13.

There are many more items to look at as well as the services to be held throughout the Wheatland Group area.

The Wheatland News team send their sincere condolences to Marjorie Jones.

## Ed

*With thanks to Lisa Gill for this month’s cover picture – double rainbow over St Giles’s Church, Chetton in April 2024.*

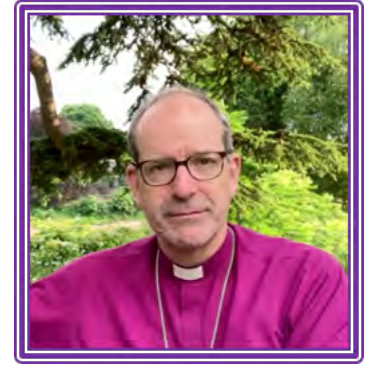


<b>Wheatland News Local Coordinators</b>	
Please continue to send reports to your contact for your parishes listed below.	
The <b>deadline</b> for getting your contributions for the <b>JUNE 2024</b> edition of WN to the <b>EDITOR</b> will be <b>noon on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b> . Please, please help us to help our printer and our distributors so that we get WN to you in good time each month.	
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Chetton	Pam Downing - pamdowning61@gmail.com
Highley	Canev Clayton -
Glazeley & Deuxhill	Marion Corfield - <a href="mailto:marion.corfield@talktalk.net">marion.corfield@talktalk.net</a> Revd David Poyner - <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
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Farlow, Sidbury, Middleton Scriven, Cleeton St Mary, and Silvington	Chris Tibbits - <a href="mailto:Chris@stottystores.co.uk">Chris@stottystores.co.uk</a>



## Diocese of Hereford

### May Newsletter from the Bishop of Hereford



#### Dear Friends,

May marks the end of the Easter season and the beginning of what is affectionately known as 'ordinary time' in the Church calendar. The pivot happens at the feast of Pentecost on May 19th this year. Every Sunday is always a celebration of the resurrection, so its hard to see what is ordinary about it. The events of the Christ's death and resurrection are the turning point of history. It is a world-shattering event that means life can never be the same again. The book of Acts tells us how the disciples' lives were turned upside down by it. In their grief at the loss of Jesus a number were considering returning to their previous occupations. Once they encountered the risen Lord, they decided to change the world instead!

However, it was not just historical events which changed things. It was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Christian faith has always been a supernatural one. In the struggles to fill rotas, find volunteers, maintain buildings and serve our communities we can easily forget this. If the Christian life was just a set of rules to obey, religious acts to observe and an institution to maintain, it would not have lasted very long.

Trusting in the Holy Spirit to empower and lead is less safe than seeking to control events ourselves. Periodically in the history of the Church the Holy Spirit has broken through in ways that have upended our conventional way of doing things. It happened in the Wesleyan revival of the 18th century, numerous mini revivals in the church (of which some happened in our diocese) and in the great outpouring in Azusa Street in 1906 that gave birth to Pentecostalism. This is now the third largest stream in the Church today. In many ways it is hard to see how our current institutional predicament can be served by strategic thinking alone. I am praying for another (likely messy!) outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Diocese of Hereford. Only the Holy Spirit can give us the courage we need for the evangelistic challenge. Only the Holy Spirit can turn the hearts of those currently indifferent to Christian things to help see their need for the Lord. So, 'Come Holy Spirit and kindle the hearts of your people with the fire of your love'. Today, we need that more than ever.

#### + Richard



#### **The Bishop's weekly video message no 196**

Bishop Richard explains in very simple terms how the Church of England finances are structured, what that means for individual parishes, and how we might view all this in the context of the Gospel.

Watch him on YouTube Hereford Diocese  
or on the Diocese website, where the transcript also appears.



*Painted – Peter Paul Rubens - 1611*

## Saint of the Month St Matthias the Apostle – died c AD 80

by Revd Joe Simons

Not much is known of the apostle Matthias, he was not amongst the original 12 disciples chosen by Jesus but replaced Judas Iscariot after his betrayal. Even though he is overlooked it would be wrong to assume that he did not have a part to play in the shaping of the early church.

We know from our reading of the Acts of the Apostles (Ch 1. 20-26), that he was selected by lot, amongst the apostles. It is made clear during the selection by Peter, that the one chosen should be part of the group who had been with Jesus throughout his ministry, from the baptism by John through to the time of his resurrection. The choice made by the apostles was Matthias.

Matthias loved Christ and followed his many journeys, witnessing miracles, and it was likely that he was one of those disciples appointed to go out to do the work of the Lord, referred to in Luke's gospel (Ch 10).

It is believed that after Pentecost, supported by various sources, that Matthias took the Gospel first to the Jews in Judea and then to the Gentiles in Ethiopia and Macedonia. Little is known of his work, however we do know that he returned to Jerusalem where he was stoned to death and beheaded, although there is conjecture that he may have died in old age.

Whatever the truth about his ultimate demise, I like the encouragement offered by Matthias. One of the early disciples selected by Jesus, but not the core group of the 12 but subsequently recognised by his peers due to his faithfulness and dedication to serve the Lord, a dedication that brought him within that core group.

Being Christ's disciples today means often not being recognised or praised, but quietly serving God, knowing that the lord knows our hearts. Matthias was recognised by his peers for his Christ like devotion to the Gospel, may we also be seen in that light.

JS

### Readings for May 2024

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – The Sixth Sunday of Easter – White

Psalm 98; (Isaiah 55. 1 – 11); Acts 10. 44 – end; 1 John 5. 1 – 6; John 15. 9 – 17

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter, the Sunday after Ascension Day – White

Psalm 1; (Ezekiel 36. 24 – 28); Acts 1. 15 – 17, 21 – end; 1 John 5. 9 – 13; John 17. 6 – 19

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost – Whit Sunday – Red

Psalm 104. 26 – 36, 37b (or 104. 26 – end); Acts 2. 1 – 21 or Ezekiel 37. 1 – 14; Romans 8. 22 – 27 or Acts 2. 1 – 21; John 15. 26 – 27; 16. 4b – 15

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Trinity Sunday – Gold or White

Psalm 29; Isaiah 6. 1 – 8; Romans 8. 12 -17, John 3. 1 – 17

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – The First Sunday after Trinity – Green

Psalm 139. 1 – 5, 12 – 18; 1 Samuel 3. 1 – 10 (11 – 20); 2 Corinthians 4. 5 – 12; Mark 2. 23 – 3.6

## Brown Clee Churches

**Priest-in-Charge:**

**Revd Joe Simons**

The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire WV16 6SQ

**01746-599217 07872-464276**

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



**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

## May Reflection

During Easter we remember the generous nature of Christ and his self-giving love for us all. That love flows out from the Cross of Jesus into the witness of our Church.

There is a power to the Cross even in our secular world, it has led many to acts of courage and devotion to others, it has served as a rallying symbol around which we can unite.

The Cross should not only be a sign of sacrifice but a sign of how the Church lives out its life. It is not owned by any one individual, it has a universality, not held by any erudite preaching, but its power can be proclaimed by any and all emboldened so to do. In truth that is the only way in which Christ's Church will grow and the Good News of his love and sacrifice will be proclaimed to the world

We are called not only to preach and share the Gospel, but also to live as witnesses to the Cross, to live under its power to transform. A Cross that can break the bonds of discord and sin, that can bring hope and meaning into our broken world, bringing peace and wholeness into the pain we see around us. May we once again affirm the Cross of Christ as witnesses in our own lives so that the power of the resurrection may shine through us.

There is a poem which is attributed to St Teresa of Avila which helps us to understand who we are in the power of the Cross.

*Christ has no body but yours,*

*No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks with  
Compassion on this world,*

*Yours are the feet with which he walks to do  
good,*

*Yours are the hands, with which he blesses  
all the world.*

*Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.*

*Christ has no body now but yours,*

*No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world.*

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

**Revd Joe Simons**

## Services in Brown Clee Churches during May 2024

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Aston Botterell
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day</b>	6:00pm	Evening Prayer	Ditton Priors
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	4:30pm	Evening Worship	Lower Cockshutt Farm, Chetton, following the Tractor Run
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost</b>	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Neenton
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Trinity Sunday</b>	10:00am	Group Holy Communion	Wheathill
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	9:30am	Holy Communion	Ditton Priors
	11:30am	Holy Communion	Aston Botterell

## News for all Brown Clee Churches

### Easter Services

Our services for Holy Week culminated with an Easter Vigil and New Fire service on Easter Eve, when we welcomed once again the new light of Jesus Christ into our hearts and our church.

It was a joy to see so many in our church on Easter Day especially so many visitors. St John the Baptist Ditton Priors looked beautiful adorned with lilies and wonderful arrangements throughout. Our Easter Garden was equally lovely telling the good news of the empty tomb. A big thank you to all who helped make the churches across our Benefice look so beautiful during this special season.

### Prayer Group

Our WhatsApp Prayer Group is proving a lovely platform for anyone who wants to have a simple way of sharing their thoughts and messages in a caring, supportive environment. We have a daily Prayer diary to pray into the community – so do please join us.

Let Karen Simons have your details on 07748-987318 or [walkthedogs@mac.com](mailto:walkthedogs@mac.com) to be added to our friendly band of folk.

### Future Mission for the Brown Clee Benefice

#### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2pm–4pm at Cleobury North Village Hall

We are holding an open meeting at Cleobury North Village Hall, on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. During which Revd Joe will share his thoughts on the Mission and Vision which is starting to emerge across the Benefice. This will be a good opportunity for us to talk as a group about our own thoughts and direction on Mission here in the Benefice, and also look at the implications.

All are welcome and it would be helpful if you could confirm if you are able to attend, so that we can arrange the catering. Please let us know on 01746 599217 (the Benefice Office) or [browncleebenefice@outlook.com](mailto:browncleebenefice@outlook.com) or send a text/WhatsApp on 07872 464276.

## From the Registers –

Eric Evens, interment at Chetton.

## Brown Clee Medical Practice – Patient Participation Group REMINDER

*Tina Ranson writes:*

The **next meeting of the PPG** will be held in Ditton Priors Village Hall during the evening of **Tuesday 21st May**. The venue limit is 100 people at an event, and these meetings are proving popular. All members are welcome, but **please reserve your place early – the contact email and telephone number are now included in the Useful Local Contacts** table on page 27, under Brown Clee Medical Practice.

**Dr Railton was delighted with the generous gifts from appreciative patients.** As a keen cook, she chose some very special saucepans – seen here being unwrapped in the surgery waiting room last week.



Charity auction in aid of repairs to Neenton Church War Memorial Window – 15<sup>th</sup> June

# Charity Auction

## Saturday 15th June 2024 - 7pm at The Down Inn, Bridgnorth

Come and join us for this FUN-draising night out!

Delicious 2  
course meal +  
entry £25!



Over £300  
worth of raffle  
prizes to be  
won

Call / text 07885 671335 or scan the QR code for information and tickets



The illustration shows several hands holding up red bid signs. The signs contain the following text: 'Gin school for 2', 'Cocktail experience', 'Golf for 4', 'Holiday in Devon', 'AFC Bnort h season ticket', '£250 Photo package', and 'Many more...'. Two signs prominently display the word 'BID' in white on a red background.



## Ditton Priors News

### Marjorie Jones writes:

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for the numerous cards and messages of sympathy I have received following the death of husband David on Easter Day. There will be a service of celebration and thanksgiving for David's life on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 12.30 pm in church. I find it a great comfort to belong to such a caring community.

## Easter Flowers

Thanks to the generous donations from so many, we had a wonderful display of lilies in church this Easter time. Together with the Easter Garden and all other arrangements our church looked beautiful.

## Church Services in May

- ✝ Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – 9:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – 6:00pm - Ascension Day – Evening Prayer
- ✝ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May – 9:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May – 9:30am – Pentecost - Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May – 10:00am – Group Holy Communion - **Wheathill**
- ✝ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – 9:30am – Holy Communion

## Cleaning Rota for May

- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May                      Mrs Shirley Wall & Mrs Anita Casswell
- Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May                     Mrs Jennifer Lowe & Mrs Debbie Jones
- Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May                     Mr & Mrs Dennis Griffiths
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May                     Mr & Mrs John Ballard
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June                      Mr & Mrs Tony Brown

## St John the Baptist 100 Club results – April 2024

- £20 – Mr R Brown
- £10 – Mr J Lawrence
- £5 each to Mr J Richardson, Beckie Ratcliff, and Wendy Beaumont

If anyone would like to join, the 100 club forms for the year 2024/25 are available now from Shirley Wall.

## Events and dates for your diary!

### First Saturday of the Month Coffee Mornings

10:30 – 12:00 noon in church. There is no charge for this popular community event – and it is open to everyone! Next dates are Saturdays 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

### Bridgnorth Walk Day – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

The junior walk this year will be starting from Cleobury North but the adult walkers will be coming through Ditton as usual. The church will be open for coffee and cakes as usual from 11:00am onwards.

## **Church Fete – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, in and around the church.**

The fete will be open at 1pm with the BBQ. The usual stalls, tombola etc., tea and cakes and music from the saxophone players. All contributions welcome.

## **Sponsored Walk for Church Funds – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

Starting from church at 11.30 am. Sponsor forms available soon from church. A light lunch follows the walk, served in church. And think of the benefits of all that fresh air and exercise!

## **Pimms & Puds Social Evening – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July...**

....in the vicarage garden, 5pm onwards. Tickets £12.50 each from Marjorie (712423)

## **....And later in the year:**

- ⇒ Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Teas in the Churchyard
- ⇒ Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August – Burwarton Show Refreshment Tent
- ⇒ Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Ride and Stride – Shropshire Historic Churches Trust
- ⇒ Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September – Benefice Festival
- ⇒ Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Supper in Ditton Priors Village Hall
- ⇒ Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Christmas Fair at the Pavilion

## **Community events**

**Quiz Night and Ploughman's Supper – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**, 7:00pm for 7:30pm in the Pavilion in Ditton Priors. £15 per head: please bring your own drinks and glasses. There will be a raffle, and we look forward to a fun-packed evening. Please contact Helen Groves on 01746-712466 to reserve your place!

**Rock 'n' Roll Bingo Night – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June** – Ditton Priors Village Hall.

**Beer and Bangers Fun Day – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July**, Ditton Priors Village Hall.

**Thank you** – Jennifer Lowe would like to thank everyone who sent me cards and good wishes following my recent hip operation. I am now well on the road to recovery so thank you all.

## **Wheathill & Loughton News**

*Marjorie Jones writes:*

### **Church services**

- ✝ Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Group Communion Service – 10:00am at Wheathill
- ✝ Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June – 6:00pm Evening Prayer at Loughton.

## **Aston Botterell News**

*Anne Preece writes:*

**Church services** – Thank you to everyone who supported our last service in church – it was well attended.

- ✝ Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – 11:30am – Holy Communion
- ✝ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – 11:30am – Holy Communion

**Mowing and upkeep!** What a job it is to get the grass cut!! Thanks to Dave and John - they got the churchyard mown for the first cut and now, with help of Dan, Ben, Angie and Colin, hopefully they will keep it down. Thank you lads - and Angie!

Like all the churches, St Michael's need ongoing repairs. The floor is nearly complete: the electrics are next.....

**Congratulations** to Richard Jones on his 85th birthday last month. He is a valued person in our church. My mother, Dorothy Williams from Loughton parish, now in Doddington lodge, will be 98 in June.



The **Social Breakfast** held at the Boyne on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April was lovely, with a warm and happy atmosphere with friends. Thank you to Michelle and staff.



*Good to see clean plates and raffle tickets in evidence, and lots of smiling faces! Thank you Anne! Ed.*

## Dates for your dairy

- Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May – canal trip with fish and chips at Norbury Junction – pick up in Bridgnorth - contact Anne for more information – contact details on the benefice panel on page 6.
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Car treasure hunt starts at 13.30 – please book your car in with Anne – contact details on the benefice panel on page 6.
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July - Quiz and Carvery at The Down Inn, grand raffle drawn at 7 pm.
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – “Aston Lumiere” church and houses decorated for the Carol service at 5 pm ...refreshments and a brass band .....not forgetting Father Xmas.

## Lottery winners – 50 Club results for March 2024

**Subs are now due for our 50 lottery club please!**

It is £12 for the year with winners every month - anyone can join. Thank you all who support us.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £20 – Alan Jones no 7</li> <li>• £10 – Josiah Brassington no 221</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £5 – Jan &amp; Paul Doyle no 169</li> <li>• £5 – John &amp; Anne Williamson no 224</li> </ul>
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## Cleobury North & Burwarton News

### Lottery results

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Gwen Lycett
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Colin & Kink Hadley
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Lulu Hornsey

## Cleobury North & District Village Hall

**CNVH remains open and available for hire.** For enquiries about booking and using the hall, please call 01746-787093 and leave a message or send a TEXT MESSAGE to 07483-879763 (or both!).

### **Burwarton & District Agricultural Society Burwarton, Bridgnorth WV16 6QJ**

is seeking to appoint

## **SHOW MANAGER**

Burwarton Show is a large one-day agricultural show, held annually on the first Thursday in August.

The Committee is looking for a competent and confident candidate to organise and manage all the behind-the-scenes preparation for Burwarton Show.

Excellent communication and computer skills are a prerequisite.

Applicants **MUST** be available full time and more for June, July and August; hours are flexible outside of these months. Start date will be September 2024.

This is a salaried position. Predominantly office based in the Show Office, WV16 6QJ.

For a detailed job specification and application instructions, please visit the Show website:  
**[www.burwartonshow.co.uk](http://www.burwartonshow.co.uk)**

## Chetton News

*Pam Downing writes:*

### **Services at St Giles' Church**

It was lovely to see so many attend our **Palm Sunday** service. Thank you to Jessica and Frankie for bringing along their Shetland Dilly (along with costume donkey ears). We processed behind them into Church - it was very moving.

As was our **Stations of the Cross** service. Thank you, Joe, and thanks to Mike for setting up the prints in Church.

## We have only one service in May

✝ Sunday 12 May – Worship on the Farm – 4:30pm at Lower Cockshutt Farm – combining the Midland Oil Engine Event and Bell Sunday!

**Worship on the Farm** will be held after our fundraiser engine show at Lower Cockshutt Farm WV16 6RF, 4.30pm. This will be a special service, and from the Farm we will hear the bells of Chetton Church being rung for Bell Sunday – see back cover - so do come along and join us.

## Also please come along to the Midland

**Oil Engine Club event and Tractor Run** on the day. Revd Joe will be sending off the **tractors at 10am** for their journey around the countryside. We will have an excellent display of engines, big and small. Vintage agricultural vehicles, military vehicles and vintage cars, a 1965 Abbott tank and light aircraft. **The 1970 Harrier Jump jet will be started up at 3pm** for those who wish to hear it. There will be craft stalls to browse and refreshments will be available all day.

We ask for donations on entry. These will go to the Midlands Air Ambulance, St Giles Church Chetton and the Midland Oil Engine Club. Look forward to seeing you there!

**Flowers and Cleaning** – Pam and Ersilia.

**Chetton 100 Club** - £15 – Francesca Ralph no 88

£10 – Gill Evans no 20.



# PLANT SALE

## CHETTON VILLAGE HALL

## SUNDAY 19TH MAY

## 10:00AM UNTIL NOON

*Refreshments available*

**Enquiries – Sue Bayliss – 01746-789239**

Proceeds from this sale will go towards hall funds, having recently added protective draining around the hall.



## Chetton Active Friends – exercise and recreational sessions

<b>Village Hall Diary for 2024</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pam's Pilates on Mondays and Tuesdays 9:30am, and also on Tuesdays 11:00am.</li> <li>▪ Chetton Active Friends, Monday afternoons from 2pm.</li> <li>▪ Chetton and Glazeley WI meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.</li> <li>▪ Bridgnorth Dog Club - Thursday evening, 6:00pm.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Zumba with Lisa Beards – Tuesdays - 2:30 pm</li> <li>▪ Ballroom and Sequence Dancing, Tuesday evenings, 7:00pm.</li> <li>▪ Chetton Folk dance club meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.</li> </ul>
<b>Village Hall enquiries</b> – for activities or hire at modest rates, contact Sue on 789239.		

## Neenton News

*Bobbie Jarvis writes:*

### Services at All Saints' Church during April

✝ Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost - 11:30am – Holy Communion

### Promise Auction – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June

Promise Auction at The Down to raise funds for repairs to the area around the Stained Glass window which is the memorial for the loss of Frank Amies, John Leath and Harry Yapp in WWI. Promises have been very generous from businesses, local people and friends to whom we send a big 'thankyou'. Tickets available at £25 per person to include a 2-course meal. Please contact – 07885-671335. There will be a raffle and lucky ticket prize. Come along and enjoy a fun evening.

### Neenton Fete and Duck Race - Saturday 14th September

### All Saints' Tote – April

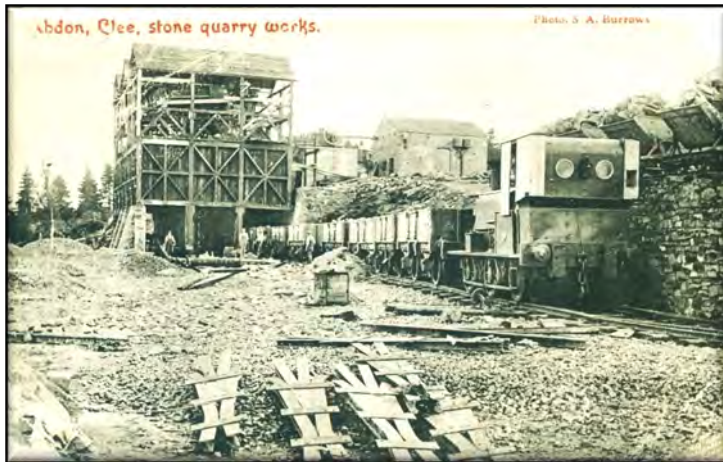
➤ 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Sue Ahmed      2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Vicky Jones

<b>Dates for your Diary – don't forget:</b> <b>Monday 6 May – live music from Groove Dynamite – 5:00pm</b> <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – live music from Innocent Criminals – 5:00pm</b>		
Please call 01746-787955 or email <a href="mailto:info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk">info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk</a> to discuss times and your requirements or book direct on the website.	<b>Opening times</b> 🌀 Wednesday / Thursday – 12 noon – 3pm, 6pm – 11pm 🌀 Friday / Saturday – 12 noon – 11pm 🌀 Sunday lunch 12 noon – 4.30pm	

# Wheatland News - local group news!

## Ditton Priors Local History Group

Ditton Priors Local History Group had a fantastic turnout for April's AGM in the Village Hall! So thank you to everyone who attended! It was also great to welcome 11 new members who took the opportunity to join the History Group on the night, as well as those who renewed their memberships. More detail about the formal part of the meeting below.



In addition to the formalities of the AGM itself (summary below) there was a fascinating photographic slideshow entitled 'Ditton Now & Then', put together by John Coles and presented by chairman Paul Wilson, depicting scenes from around the village and the hill as they were 100 years ago, and as they are now.

A couple of the photos are shown here - the ruins of the crushing plant as it is now, taken as closely as possible from the same angle as the old photo when it was working.

Paul also talked about the success of the Group's events over the last 12 months, the next event (planned for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May), History Centre open days and plans to improve the Centre's graphic displays going forward over the next year.



### Summary of the formal part of the AGM:

- The Treasurer presented a healthy financial report for the year covering income from memberships, donations and grants and expenditure on events, printing and sundries.
- Nominations were received from the existing committee members, but no new nominations were received. The current committee will therefore remain in place for the coming year.
- A change was proposed to the constitution. The existing constitution allows a maximum committee size of 11. The committee recommends this maximum is reduced to 9 and amends the constitution accordingly. The vote was carried by a show of hands. (The Group has 7 members of the committee for 24/25 year: there remain 2 places which can be filled by co-option).

### Would you like to join the Ditton Priors Local History Group?

If you didn't attend the AGM and would like to join the History Group or renew your membership, just email [markgregory963@gmail.com](mailto:markgregory963@gmail.com) for details, or come along to the next event and join there. Membership is just £12 per annum (under 18s are free). All events are free for members.

#### Next Event:

**A talk on the Armaments Depot with guest speaker Bernard O'Connor. Tuesday 28th May 7:30pm. Ditton Priors Village Hall.**

# Burwarton & District Garden Club

Bev Harris writes:

**I always look forward** to April's meeting of the gardening club with excitement, as it is the annual Spring Show. Despite climate change, lashing rain, cold winds and soggy gardens, members put on a very impressive display of entries. We were concerned that the early appearance of many daffodil varieties would mean some of the sixteen classes would have no entries. However, there are always a few blooms tucked away in a sheltered place just waiting to put in an appearance on the day and so we were not disappointed.

Our judge Elsie Jordan did a super job as usual of awarding prizes to our entries. Best in show was won once again by Mollie Jones with her beautiful yellow orchid for which she received the Jack Brazier shield. The overall show winner was Margaret Link for the second year running, who won four 1st prizes and one 2nd prize. Margaret also once again won the longest stick of rhubarb class which is her third consecutive year as winner of this much coveted prize. The second overall show winner was Sheila Maddocks, our club chair, with three 1st prizes and one second prize.



There were also many stunning entries which gained 1st prize including Judy Robertson's Bowl of succulents, Jill Perk's arrangement of spring foliage, Lynn Yates' single root primula, Helen Sharp's potted house plant and Chris Moore's tulips.



As Elsie judged the entries, members enjoyed a cuppa, a chat and Judy Robertson's homemade choc chip cookies. Members were also challenged with the gardening club quiz set by Sheila Maddocks.

We also use this occasion to set the annual photograph competition,



where members are asked to vote for their favourite photo from a selection, anonymously submitted by members.

The winning entry this year was from Mollie Jones for her beautiful picture of dark pink clematis climbing a wooden fence. This photo will adorn the cover of the member's programme for 24-25. Mollie has certainly set a high standard, not only for her horticultural skills but also for her photography.

The next meeting of the gardening club is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May when we will be holding our AGM and the annual plant sale. We also change the format for the rest of the programme from May onwards, with no further meetings at the village hall until October. We look forward to the annual garden visit in June and the member's picnic held in one of our own gardens in July.

If you would like more information about our gardening club, please contact me. 📧

Bev Harris 📧

bevharris15@yahoo.co.uk 📧

01584-841845 📧



## Molecule of the month - God and the Scientist



*This month, Revd David Poyner explains how he reconciles his beliefs as a Christian and his commitment to God, with his life's work as a scientist. This article is based on his talk at the Evening Service at St Mary's Church Billingsley on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.*

For those who don't know, my main job is Professor of Pharmacology at Aston University, where I teach and carry out research into how drugs work. All my adult life I have been fascinated by how cells communicate with each other, specifically trying to understand this at a molecular level. For the last 35 years I have worked on a molecule called calcitonin gene-related peptide, CGRP. It is found in nerve cells and it is probably best thought of as a natural protectant released when the body is under stress. It causes blood vessels to expand, the heart to beat faster, it makes nerves more sensitive to pain and it causes inflammation, which is actually how the body fights disease. Sometimes of course this can go wrong; anyone here ever had a migraine? Then you have met CGRP. I've published 150 scientific papers but to be honest, I don't think I've ever discovered anything memorable. But that is the lot of most scientists; science is a collective endeavour and usually it builds on a series of very small steps to move forward. For most scientists, our legacy is not our own findings, it is the people we have helped to train; that is certainly true in my case.

**The war between science and religion.** Ask many about science and religion and they have a picture of Charles Darwin and his supporters running rings round Victorian bishops. Or, going back further, Galileo being tried by the church for his scientific observations. The church, historically, has often been on the wrong side of the argument. However, I have to say I've met with very little animosity. I have had some strange looks when I turn up at scientific meetings wearing a dog collar; mostly that is curiosity. One colleague said he had never met a vicar before seeing me. It is true that if you survey the scientific elite, fellows of the Royal Society for example, not many will say that they follow any particular religious faith. But I suspect that if you were to survey these people you would find they might hold a number of views that might seem a bit odd to many; the scientific elite can have a very narrow focus and their mastery of science does not extend to other branches of human endeavour. I have read *The God Delusion* by Richard Dawkins; I have to say the god who he does not believe in is also a god I do not think exists either; he cherry-picks the Bible to create a supernatural tyrant who sits in judgement on a trembling humanity. But for the most part, this has not been the reaction I have found amongst my fellow scientists. Some have religious faith themselves (but interestingly, I often only found this after I started wearing my clerical collar); others are atheists but they get spirituality; a close friend of mine who does not believe in God nonetheless came to my ordination and has asked me to pray for her. I really have not experienced a war between science and religion.

**My faith.** So let's just for a minute think what God might be like if she or he really exists. If there is a God, then God is plausibly going to be outside our world. We live in a physical world and it is governed by laws;  $F=ma$ ,  $E=mc^2$  and so forth. Everything I do as a scientist relies on this; there must be a physical explanation for the results I see in my experiments and it is my job to uncover that. But God may well not be bound by these laws. In many faiths, God is seen as the creator. Now this has nothing to do with Genesis and making the world in 7 days; the priests who wrote that had no interest in science, I really doubt they thought that the world was physically made like that and they might be surprised that 2500 years later there are people who take their account literally. What we actually mean by saying that God is creator is to draw a distinction between a God who is active in our physical world, but who at the same time is not bound by it. So if that is the case, my scientific method is totally useless for telling me anything about an entity that is outside time and space. We are up against mystery and science won't work with that.

So really, I think you either believe or you don't, but don't expect science to contribute much one way or the other. I believe in God, because to quote the former BBC Religious Affairs correspondent, Gerald Priestland, I believe in poetry. I trust my instincts, my emotions because if God is real, that is very likely how I will experience the divine. Others may disagree, but science isn't the trump.



Severn Valley Benefice

# The Severn Valley Group of Parishes

Rector: Revd Kina Robertshaw - [Revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com](mailto:Revkinarobertshaw@gmail.com)

~

Revd David Poyner, Associate Minister - email [D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk](mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk),  
Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work);

<b>St Mary, Highley</b> CHURCHWARDEN Canev Clayton	<b>St Mary, Billingsley</b> CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	<b>St Peter, Chelmarsh</b> CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	<b>St Bartholomew, Glazeley</b> CHURCHWARDEN Laura Jones – 07714-432836, <a href="mailto:laura@laj.me.uk">laura@laj.me.uk</a>
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## Services in Glazeley and Billingsley during May

<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	10:00 am	Holy Communion	Glazeley
	6:00 pm	Evening Service: "Ticket to Heaven: God and Railways"	Billingsley
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Benefice Service	Highley
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Evensong	Choral Evensong	Billingsley

## Glazeley News

*The Revd David Poyner writes:*

We had some doubts as to whether we would get a congregation on Easter Sunday; the service was at 11am not 10am and it was only a fortnight after our normal service on the third Sunday of the month. But, ye of little faith... We had 16 people, which is something of a record for us in recent years. We were particularly grateful for support from our friends from Chetton, who did not have a service in their own church that day. We celebrated afterwards with chocolate and sherry. Some sherry was left over and will be available at subsequent services.

We have a change to our normal rota in May, when our morning service will be on the second Sunday, May 12th at 10am. This is because the following Sunday is scheduled as a benefice service, to take place at Highley. After the service we will be holding our Annual Parish Meeting. This is a chance to learn more about what the church does in the community and how it is run. Please consider attending if you can.

## Breakfasts at The Down

*Marion Corfield adds:*

The day was well attended with a total of 50 breakfasts being served by the staff - thank you Steve & Co at The Down.

A total of **£220** was collected at the March breakfast and this has been sent to "The Lingen Davies Cancer Trust" at Shrewsbury Hospital. Thank you to everyone who generously gave to this charity.

Revd David Poyner – Tel 01562-68638 Email <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
Glazeley & Deuxhill: St Bartholomew - A Church Near You
Marion Corfield – Tel 01746-764585 <a href="mailto:Marion.corfield@talktalk.net">Marion.corfield@talktalk.net</a>

## Billingsley News

*The Revd David Poyner writes:*

Easter morning was marked at 8am at Billingsley by five of us unveiling the Easter Sepulchre (a medieval tomb niche set in the wall of the chancel) followed by Holy Communion. It is wonderful that we can use a feature of our church dating from around 1300 for its original purpose.

As I wrote this, we were preparing for the first of our 6pm evening services, on the second Sunday of the month. We opened with “God and the scientist” (see Molecule of the Month), looking at the relationship between science and faith. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, it will be “Ticket to Heaven; God and Railways”. Here we will take a light-hearted look at why so many vicars and church-goers are fascinated by railways; think about the “Thomas the Tank Engine” books, written by the Rev Awdry. Did you know that there are some railways whose entire purpose was to be serve churches or chapels? The following month, on June 9<sup>th</sup>, Stephen Lomas and the Astley Abbots and Tasley Joint Church Choir will be visiting us to perform a choral evensong.

<a href="#">Billingsley: St Mary - A Church Near You</a> <a href="#">(20+) St Mary's Billingsley   Bridgnorth   Facebook</a>	<i>David Poyner – Associate Minister</i> Tel 01562-68638 or 0780-100-9693	email <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
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## Chelmarsh News

*Elizabeth Bebb writes:*

Another month has passed and we are still waiting for the rain and cold to abate, a prayer goes out for our farmers and other rural workers who are being truly tested by the current weather.

April was a busy month, with a focus on Easter. A lovely service was held at St. Peter’s church, thank you to all involved and to our wonderful clergy and support team who continue to make sure the church is open and services are available every week.

To everyone who was hoping for an Easter Egg Hunt this Spring, we are so sorry we couldn’t do this, the weather was just too unsettled and we couldn’t trust that it would be nice enough on the day to hold this. We hope for more success next year.

Despite the wet, the churchyard has had some beautiful spring flowers, with first the snowdrops and then the daffodils out in bloom. It is wonderful to see the trees come back into leaf as we enter spring. The colours are wonderful.

An update on the Louvres for the bell tower – we have investigated and sent the drone up to have a look and have discovered we need to approach the belltower works using scaffolding from the outside of the tower. We need to approach the faculty for their opinion and permission to undertake these works. We will keep you updated as and when more information becomes available.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Daddy’s Hat concert. It was a wonderful event, and we all thoroughly enjoyed it.

### May events:

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May - Rummage sale**– if you would like to volunteer to help or donate please get in touch with one of the PCC/ Church members or speak to Marie Ellis.

**Cleaning rota: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm**

## St. Peter's Chelmarsh 100 Club

We held the first draw for the 100 club at Easter and we are pleased to announce the following winners:

- 110 Daniel Maiden £100
- 89 David Davies £50
- 109 Angela Cadwallader £25
- 100 Richard Bebb – Hugo £25

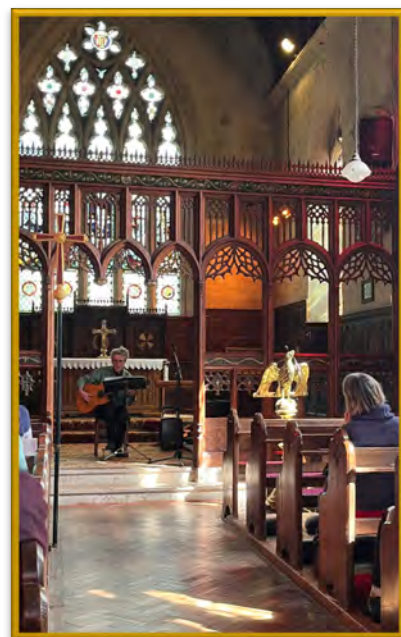
The next draw will be held in the Summer.

## Daddy's Hat



**Saturday 21st April** - The Welsh singer Deborah Rose was suffering from severe throat problems on the day and was unable to perform at St Peter's as planned – but instead, in this very beautiful church, the audience was treated to a recital by classical guitarist Kit McCafferty and by Mary Hardham, accompanying her own singing on her guitar.

**Saturday 18th May** - The Hat will be at Neenton with Bel Canto, a trio of local ladies who sing close harmony barbershop and have performed widely in this country and abroad over three decades, and have raised over £30,000 for charity.



We've lost approximately 97% of flower-rich meadows since the 1930's and with them gone are vital food needed by pollinators, like bees and butterflies.

A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground.

See the Plantlife website for lots of great information and help



## Seeking Slowworms



**There's often a secret to be found** within a churchyard or cemetery. Slowworms may be living there, rarely seen by visitors as they tend to hide within the vegetation and don't emerge to bask in the sun like other reptiles. Slowworms are not particularly slow and they are not worms, neither are they snakes. They are actually lizards without legs and, when warmed up and active can be pretty nippy! Slowworms hunt in hidden places such as compost heaps, thick vegetation at the base of a wall or hedge and within piles of logs or stones. They catch slower moving prey like slugs and can 'drop' their tails to escape predators, a characteristic of all lizards.

May is a good time to look for them and the easiest way to do this is to put out some pieces of old roofing material, about 50cm square. You can use corrugated tin, but this can have sharp edges, onduline is better and a supplier may give you some offcuts for free. Following a conversation with those who manage the site, place a few of these squares in areas that catch the morning sun and are away from paths, perhaps in rougher vegetation such as tussocky grass. Slowworms will go under the squares to warm up in the mornings before going out to hunt and may be there at any time of day in colder weather.

Check the squares about once a week, lifting one side carefully and looking underneath. Try and check between 8:00 and 10:00am for best results as this is when the animals are warming up. You may be rewarded by a slowworm and also many other creatures such as worms, beetles or woodlice. Why not take a quick picture as the square is lifted, before too much scurries or slithers off! It may take animals a while to find the squares so be patient, having more squares gives a better chance of seeing slowworms.

Churchyards and cemeteries are havens for reptiles and also amphibians such as frogs, toads and newts and we're collecting information to better understand just how important they are for these animals. Please take a photo using the iNaturalist app or let us know what you've seen via email if you don't use iNaturalist. You can keep checking for slowworms from April or May through to September. Why not include a peep under the square as part of a Churches Count on Nature event during Love Your Burial Ground week - 8th and 16th June.

All the best,  
Harriet Carty

Diocesan Churchyard Environmental Advisor

[www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) - individuals and groups in the diocese receive 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code **diomem22**

Slow worm picture: Thomas Brown, CC BY 2.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

# The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

Rector: <i>post vacant</i> so for the coming months please contact the churchwardens as below		
St Mary, Stottesdon <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007</i>	St Giles, Farlow <i>CHURCHWARDENS</i> <i>VACANT – please contact key holder Pam Phillips</i>	Holy Trinity, Sidbury <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Andrew Sierakowski - 07934-714149</i>
St Mary, Cleeton St Mary <i>CHURCHWARDEN</i> <i>Sue Dolphin: - 01584 890583</i>	St John, Middleton Scriven <i>CHURCHWARDEN - vacant – so contact</i> <i>Parish Rep Ann Constable</i>	St Michael, Silvington <i>CHURCHWARDEN - vacant – so contact Parish Rep</i> <i>Katie Hickman</i>
In an emergency, please call the Rural Dean, Revd Jeannetta Stokes, on 01746-716698		

## May message

### Keeping the Show on the Road during the vacancy – part 7

You can check the latest news on the process for the appointment of our new Rector with your Churchwarden or the Rural Dean Jeannetta. Whilst there is a continuing and disappointing delay, there is activity ‘behind the scenes’ as the recruitment process is under way.

So as we continue to strive for a flourishing Christian presence in our parishes, in the two schools and in the wider communities we serve, let’s all take time-out to:

- ✝ celebrate and support the volunteers who work so hard to sustain the church here – the Churchwardens and members of the PCC’s;  
and to
- ✝ thank the volunteer visiting clergy who are routinely and willingly facilitating our Sunday worship.

Clare and Chris Tibbits

## From the Registers

There were no new entries to report 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 during the interregnum, please contact your churchwarden (details above), who will endeavour to help you to arrange this.**

## Benefice website

We will be trying to keep this updated as necessary during the coming months, so if you need something added to it - or spot an error which needs correcting - please get in touch by email to [chris@stottystores.co.uk](mailto:chris@stottystores.co.uk). Thanks!

**The deadline for the June 2024 edition (Stottesdon Benefice Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Thanks!**

# Stottesdon Benefice Group News

<b>Sunday 5th May</b>			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Farlow	
10:30	Morning Prayer with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	
<b>Sunday 12th May</b>			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd John Daniels	Cleeton St Mary	
10:30	Holy Communion with Revd John Daniels	Stottesdon	
<b>Sunday 19th May</b>			
10:30	Informal Worship with Revd David Poyner	Stottesdon	
11:45	Holy Communion with Revd David Poyner	Sidbury	
<b>Sunday 26th May</b>			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	Silvington	
10:30	Morning Prayer with Revd Justin Bailey	Stottesdon	
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd Justin Bailey	09:00	
10:30	Morning Prayer with Revd Justin Bailey	10:30	
<b>Sunday 9 June</b>			
09:00	Holy Communion with Revd John Daniels	Cleeton St Mary	
10:30	Holy Communion with Revd John Daniels	Stottesdon	

## Services for May in the Stottesdon Churches

During the interregnum there will be some changes to the usual service pattern - these times are correct at the time of going to print, but it's always worth checking on our website (A church near you: Stottesdon benefice) or with your churchwarden.

## Parish News from around Stottesdon Benefice

### Stottesdon News

*Clare Tibbits writes:*

### 100 Club Subscriptions.

Thanks to everyone who got their renewals in for the 'double money' Easter Draw – the results will be in the next edition!!

## St Mary's Heritage Project

*Chris Tibbits writes:*

The Easter Sunday 'launch' took place as planned with copies of the new Church Guide, the supporting video shorts and the new 'heritage interpretation' displays all available – and much appreciated.

### **Why not pop in and see for yourselves – St Mary's is open 9-5 daily!**

Detailed design, planning and further fundraising continues for the proposed new toilet facility to be located west of the Tower. Hopefully there'll be more to report soon!

Likewise, remedial work on (the damp-related) damage to the new **kitchen** is intended to be under way soon, with the worktop going back to the joinery for attention. – on the upside of the wettest-ever Spring, at least the grass cover over the building-work sites has fully recovered!!

We have good news too on the restoration of the **Treble Bell** – the last of the peal of four to receive this makeover; the funds and faculty permissions are now all in place and the team are simply awaiting a 'slot' for the work at Taylor's Foundry ... the last such site in the UK, and it turns out that they are incredibly busy!

### **Last Call for Cricketers!!**

The Stottesdon vs Kinlet  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Cricket Match  
will be played on  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Kinlet Hall!

**PLAYERS are needed!!**

**All abilities! All genders! All ages!**

**Interested?**

Contact Roger Cook on 07770910927

[rogerbcook@btinternet.com](mailto:rogerbcook@btinternet.com)

Raffle and Refreshments on the day –  
everyone will be welcome!



## Farlow News

*Caroline Billson writes:*

### **Churchwarden**

Nigel Savage-Bailey has announced his resignation as Church Warden. He will continue as a school Governor. The PCC wished to thank him for his hard work for the church over the last 20 years and gave special thanks to him for his involvement in Services and all the activities relating to Church Funding Events etc.



## 100 Club Winners - March

- £20 to Dave Turner;
- £10 to Heather & John Hamer, and to Steve & Deb Phillips;
- £5 to Brian Beddoes and to Ben & Sarah Link.

**Our Easter Village Market** took place at the Village Hall on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March with stalls of handmade products, gifts, Art & Craft items and produce from Local Suppliers. Teas, cakes refreshments and a Raffle raised **£163.00**. Our thanks to all those who supported the event which was enjoyed by all.

## Cleeton St Mary News

*Sue Dolphin writes:*

### Activities and events in the church

- **Knit and Natter** every Wednesday in the church 10:00 till 12:00.
- **Saturday Monthly Coffee** morning in church 10:00 till 12:00 – next is **8<sup>th</sup> June**.

### 100 Club Results

- £20 – Sharon Oertel no 101
- £10 each to – Reuben Jordon no 52 and Chris Lewis no 27
- £5 – Ant Harman no 67
- And an extra £15 Easter prize to Heidi Robinson, no 113!

## Middleton Scriven News

*Ann Constable writes:*

### Church Service in May

- ✝ Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June – 10:30 am - Benefice Holy Communion at St John's, Middleton Scriven

### Middleton Scriven community events

**Annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning** - 10am – 2:00pm in church on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**.

Plant stall, cake stall and raffle. Refreshments: Coffee/tea and cake/ scones. Light lunches available too.

Donations of plants, produce and cakes plus raffle prizes most welcome indeed. We do hope to see you there!

**More on fund raising** - A massive **Thank you** to Jessica from Old Mill Flower Field, Middleton Scriven, who very generously donated beautiful tulips and narcissi for Easter for our church decoration and for our community to enjoy. Donations collected were given to Alzheimer's Society and to church.

## Sidbury and Silvington

No contributions this month from either Sidbury or Silvington – maybe next month, folks?

## Community Noticeboard

### Farmers' Market on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May

is "under and around the crooked spire" at St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer, on the THIRD SATURDAY each month from 09.30-12.30.

## Our Local Food Banks



Both are **always** in need of donations of foodstuffs and other goods, and of money to sustain their services: **and never more so than today!!**

Find them on Facebook or call 07960 285520 for BRIDGNORTH or 07519 885943 for CLEOBURY MORTIMER

## Wheatland Diary

Sat	4	May	Brown Clee Benefice – Mission and Vision – CNVH, 2:00pm to 4:00pm - see page 7.
Sat	4	May	Coffee morning, St John's Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome, see page 9
Sun	5	May	100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration – Margaret Griffiths invites you! – see April WN
Mon	6	May	BRIDGNORTH WALK! – see page 9
Thurs	9	May	Burwarton & District Garden Club, - see page 16
Sat	11	May	Canal trip – Norbury Junction – see page 11
Sun	12	May	Midland Oil Engine Club event at Lower Cockshutt Farm – see page 13
Sun	12	May	BELL SUNDAY!! Celebrate with Midland Oil Engine Club and Chetton Church – see page 13
Sat	18	May	Ditton Priors Church Fete – see page 10
Sat	18	May	Daddy's Hat at Neenton Church – 3:00pm – see page 20
Sat	18	May	Rummage Sale, Chelmarsh VH – see page 19
Sun	19	May	Chetton Annual Plant Sale – Chetton VH – 10:00 till noon – see page 13
Tues	21	May	Brown Clee Medical Practice Patients Participation Group – Ditton Priors VH – see page 8
Fri	24	May	Quiz Night and Ploughman's Supper – Ditton Priors Pavilion – book your place!! see page 10
Tue	28	May	Ditton Priors Local History Group – talk on the Armaments Depot – DPVH 7:30pm – see page 15
Sat	1	June	Coffee morning, St John's Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 9
Sat	1	June	Rock 'n' Roll Bingo Night! Ditton Priors Village Hall – see page 10
Sun	2	June	Annual Stottesdon v Kinlet Cricket Match – see poster on page 24
Sat	5	June	St John's Church Ditton Priors – Teas in the Churchyard – see page 10
Sat	8	June	Coffee morning, Cleeton St Mary church – 10:00 to 12:00.
Sat	15	June	Promise Auction at The Down – for promises, bookings, tickets etc see pages 8 & 14
Sat	15	June	Sponsored Walk for Ditton Priors Church funds – see page 10
Sun	16	June	Car Treasure Hunt – 13:30hrs from Aston Botterell. Contact Anne Preece – see page 11
Sun	30	June	Plant Sale & Coffee Morning – Middleton Scriven church, 10:00am to 2:00pm – see page 25
Sat	6	July	Coffee morning, St John's Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 9
Sat	6	July	Pimms & Puds Social Evening – Ditton Priors – 5:00pm - see page 10 for tickets etc
Sat	13	July	Beer & Bangers Fun Day – Ditton Priors Village Hall – see page 10
Fri	19	July	Quiz and Carvery at The Down – contact Anne Preece – see page 11
Sat	3	Aug	Coffee morning, St John's Church, Ditton Priors, 10:30 – 12:00. All welcome - see page 9
Sat	14	Sept	Neenton Fete and Duck Race – see page 16

## Useful Community Contacts - updated April 2024

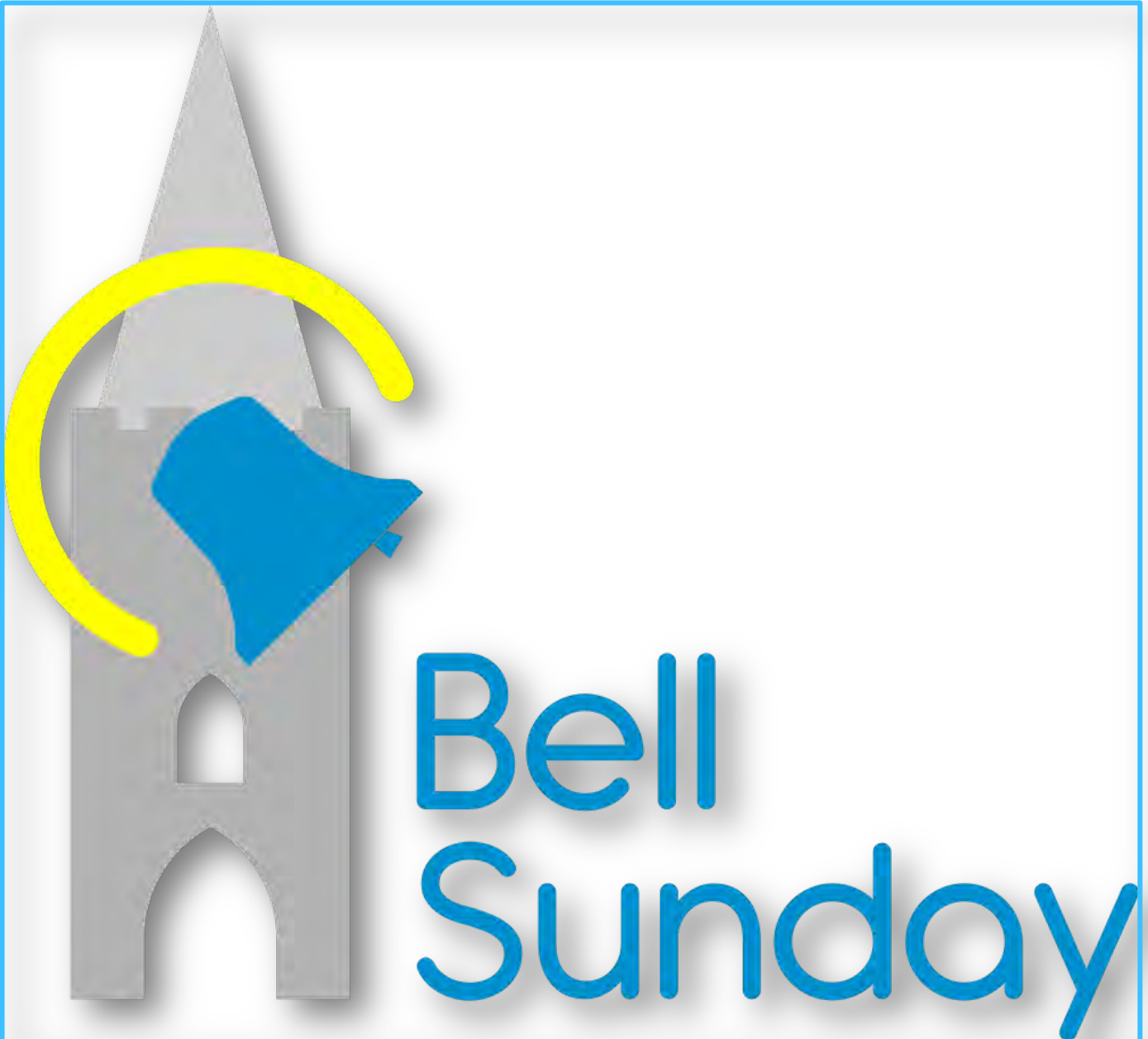
<b>Brown Clee Walkers</b>	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Garden Club</b>	Meets on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from October to June at 2:15pm at Stoke St Milborough VH. Contact secretary Ms Bev Harris on 01584-841845, <a href="mailto:bevharris15@yahoo.co.uk">bevharris15@yahoo.co.uk</a>
<b>Burwarton &amp; District WI</b>	Contact the Secretary, Helen Groves, on 01746-712466
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Wives Group</b>	Meeting 8pm first Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421 or Gill Severn 01746-712231
	Shrewsbury Dial-a-Ride Transport Services <a href="https://www.shrewsbury-dialaride.co.uk">https://www.shrewsbury-dialaride.co.uk</a> – 01743-450270 Mon-Fri 09:30 – 15:00, Corvedale Buzzard – 01584-700907
<b>Chelmarsh Bowling</b>	Outdoor bowling in summer (Tuesday evening & Wednesday afternoon), indoor during the winter (Tuesday evenings 7:00 – 9:00pm) at Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Further details from Stan Chapman, 01746-862424
<b>Chelmarsh Jubilee Club</b>	Meet at Chelmarsh Sports & Social Club – contact Shell Russon on 07903-162408 for more information
<b>Chelmarsh Parent &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
<b>Chelmarsh Parish Hall</b>	Available for hire - <a href="mailto:booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk">booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk</a>
<b>Chelmarsh Games Group</b>	Mainly Canasta and Scrabble! Thursdays at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall. Contact Sue Jackman on 07531-008876.
<b>Chelmarsh Walking Group</b>	Contact Jen Everitt on 01746-862858 for more information.
<b>Chetton &amp; Glazeley WI</b>	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
<b>Chetton Folk Dance Club</b>	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
<b>Chetton Village Hall</b>	Enquiries - Sue on 01746-789239
<b>Chorley Village Hall</b>	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact 07726-763883 – NEW DEDICATED NUMBER DECEMBER 2022
<b>Cleeton &amp; Silvington V H</b>	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584-890200
<b>Cleobury North Village Hall</b>	Enquiries to 01746-787093 please
<b>Ditton Priors Art Group</b>	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Contact Gloria Blair on 07794-225532
<b>Ditton Priors History Group</b>	Please contact <a href="mailto:paul.wilson8992@gmail.com">paul.wilson8992@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ditton Priors Village Hall</b>	Bookings - 07766 392 105 - <a href="mailto:dittonpriorshalls@gmail.com">dittonpriorshalls@gmail.com</a>
	National Centre for Domestic Violence <a href="https://www.ncdv.org.uk/contact/">https://www.ncdv.org.uk/contact/</a> Call 08448-044999. Website gives advice and other means of getting help.
<b>Knowle Sports Club</b>	Second hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
<b>Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors</b>	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wende Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
<b>Short Mat Bowling – Ditton Priors</b>	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact Clive Jackson on 01746-718046
<b>Stottesdon &amp; District W.I.</b>	Meets in various venues on the third Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746-718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
<b>Stottesdon Gateway Nursery</b>	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
<b>Tae kwon-do</b>	Eardington Village Hall Thursday, 5:15pm. Contact Neil Morris 07969-996055
<b>Brown Clee Surgery PPG</b>	Brown Clee Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG) - email <a href="mailto:BrownCleePPG@gmail.com">BrownCleePPG@gmail.com</a> , or call Chair Tina Ranson on 01584-878707.

**May 12<sup>th</sup> is BELL SUNDAY**

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and the Clerical Guild of Ringers are encouraging churches to use the day to celebrate their bellringers for the ways in which they enable people to engage in church life.

For more information on Bell Sunday, just Google CCCBR!

**And for news on how Bell Sunday is being marked in Chetton turn to page 13.**



**Are you looking for a new exciting and challenging job in the  
Wheatland News area??**

Burwarton Show is looking for a Show Manager, to start in September 2024.

Full details in the ad on page 12