



Your news about your community - Guarlford, Madresfield, Newland

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A Special Service for pre-schoolers, their parents & carers



You are warmly invited to join us at the

PreSchoolers' Service 1.50 - 2.20 pm

in St Mary's Church, Madresfield

on Tuesday 8th July for

The Man in the Tree

Do come along, sit on the carpet, sing songs and listen to a story. Everyone is welcome.

Editor: Cora Weaver E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

The Grapevine will be posted online in the last week of January; March, May, July, September and November.

GUARLFORD

Guarlford Parish Website: www.guarlfordparish.uk

Churchwarden: David Fellows Verger: Vacant

Malvern Hills Trust representative: David Fellows

Parish Council: Clerk: Mrs Gill Hollick, 2 Bamford Close, Guarlford WR13 6PF

Mob. 07816 533 251 E: parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com

Parish Path Warden: David Fellows, Green Fields, Rectory Lane, Guarlford

Tel: 01684 574243

Tree Warden: Rev. Peter Hughes

Chairman, Village Hall Committee: Phil Thomas

Village Hall: E: guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

Village Hall Website: https://guarlfordvillagehall.co.uk/

W.I: meets 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month. All welcome.

President: Caroll Murphy E: wifolk@guarlfordparish.uk

MADRESFIELD

Bell Ringing: Practice Mondays 7.30 at Madresfield Church; contact Geoff Titmuss 01684 572495

Churchwardens: Mr Christopher Bennett, Hayswood Farm, Madresfield, 01684 891047;

Mrs Elizabeth Palmer, 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Secretary: Wendy Palmer 01684 899223 E: wendy.palmer@outlook.com

Treasurer: Situation vacant from Spring 2024 - church finance's enquiries to The Vicar.

Cricket Club: Secretary: Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

Early Years Centre www.meyc.co.uk 01684 574378 (9am-2pm)

Mrs Alice Bennett 01684 574378

Movement Club: Children's gym, dance, drama and ballet 01684 574378

Parish Council: Clerk: Mr David Sharp, 20 Farley Road, Malvern Link 01684 573213

E: mrdasharp@btinternet.com

Madresfield C E Primary School: Head of School: Mrs Rebecca Hibell 01684 573620

E: office@madresfield.dowmat.education

Friends of Madresfield School: Chairman: Helen Morgan;

Vice Chairman: Hannah Willey; Secretary, Christine Warner; Treasurer, Hannah Hollick;

Press Officer, Tracy Williams

Madresfield Club: Secretary, Mrs Jo Morgan 01684 573363

Madresfield contd.

Parent & Toddler Club: Tuesdays 11-12; Gymini classes throughout Wednesdays;

Holiday Play Schemes; After School Collection & Care

Babies to PreSchool Care 8am-6pm daily

Movement Club: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378.

Parent & Toddler Groups run daily in term time at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378 or Mrs Elaine Ward 01684 565714.

NEWLAND

Malvern Hills Trust representative: Duncan Westbury

Parish Council: Clerk: Jacqui Barker, 114 Fruitlands, Malvern WR14 4XB 01684 567674

E: newlandpc1@gmail.com

Newland Parish Council meets bi-monthly at 7pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at The

Beauchamp Community (January, March, May, July, September, November)

* * *

Community Support Officer: PC Dee Stanley

County & District Councillor: Tom Wells, 27 Upton Road, Callow End WR2 4TY

Tel: 01905 831752 07702 996203 E: talwells@btinternet.com

Malvern Hills Trust: Chase representative: Richard Fowler

Malvern Hub: for reporting abandoned cars and flytipping 01684 862151

Meditation Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm 01905 831048

Parochial Church Council: Rector - Rev. Gary Crellin 01905 830270

E: revgarycrellin@gmail.com

Vice Chairman: Mrs Elizabeth Palmer 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Parishes' Administrator: Liz Edwards, 07726 927 046 E: oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com

PCC Secretary: Ginny Pavey E: virginiapavey@btinternet.com

Parish Website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

WHERE TO FIND THE GRAPEVINE ONLINE

- * https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk/useful-links
- * www.madresfieldschool.net
- * https://www.beauchampstleonard.org
- * https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish/Publications.aspx?ParishID=94

The Telephone Box

Looking after the telephone box/library in Madresfield has been a pleasure. Every few weeks we open the door to check what's going on. Unfortunately we have a leak, but can't work out where it is coming from so occasionally we have to remove a sopping book or three but on the whole all is well on our visits; until recently, that is. We opened the door and couldn't work out what had happened. Most of the books had gone; the library was empty, well almost, one or two books had been left.

We decided to turn this into a positive event and have a spring clean. The picnic table was set up, no table cloth I'm afraid, the books, what was left of them, were all taken out and all spiders, wood louse and other unknown insects were evicted. Obviously that was Allan's job, I don't do insects. Once they were gone



we gave the box a good clean. This was a challenge as there is no plug inside, an oversight by British Telecom obviously. We had to adopt the Victorian method of cleaning, a broom and dustpan and brush. To finish off, the windows were cleaned. We have discussed finding the leak and touching up the paintwork but that's another job for another day!

Marguerite and Allan Barnwell



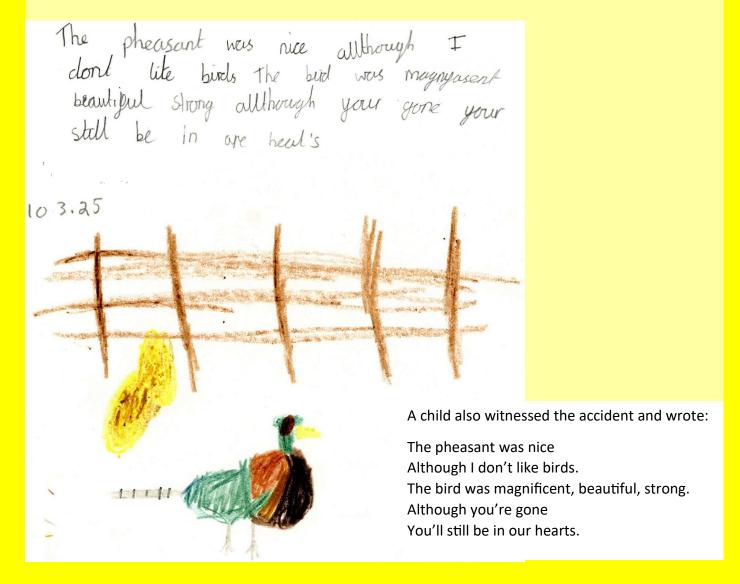


We are really pleased that you enjoy the books, but please, bring a few back.

Once upon a time, a lovely pheasant lived in some local gardens. Sadly, one late afternoon, it was found dead on the road nearby. Residents were inspired to remember its natural beauty and charm.

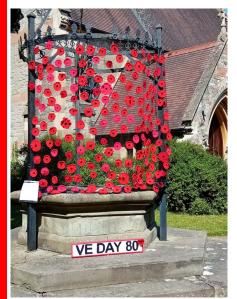
Our lovely pheasant

Late Sunday afternoon you were in my field Pecking the grass
Relaxed and content
Coming up close to the barn.
Now you are dead on the road,
Your beautiful plumage can be seen.
Why would you try to cross the road?
You were safe in our fields.
We are all sad
Our lives are emptier without you
Rosemary Boaz
10.3.25



Commemoration Poppies

The 80th Commemoration of V E Day was celebrated in Guarlford and Madresfield with displays of many poppies, which had been knitted, crocheted and sewn over the last few months.



The well in Madresfield churchyard was decorated with a beautiful fall of poppies, set up by Marguerite and Allan Barnwell and Mel Newport.

In Guarlford, Judith Knott led the project with the ladies of the WI and Maidie, who used to live in the village, creating lovely displays beside the war memorial by the main road (see picture on page 10), plus more inside St Mary's church, with an accompanying exhibition of photographs. Felt poppies surrounded the memorial board, with knitted and crocheted poppies at other spots in the church, including a beautiful cross on the altar.

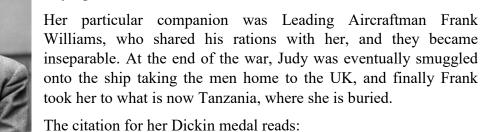




Visitors also saw purple poppies (see picture on the left), which commemorate the animals who have served in wartime or other emergencies, and there were the stories of some of those who were awarded the **Dickin medal**. known as the Animals' V.C.

One story was about **Judy**, a pointer who was a ship's mascot in Singapore in the Second World War. Judy would warn the crew if danger was near; she helped to save sailors when their ship was torpedoed and found fresh water when they stumbled ashore. When they were captured, Judy accompanied them on long treks to Japanese prison camps. One guard wanted to shoot her, but luckily the commandant of the camp liked dogs, so she was spared. In fact Judy was eventually declared an official Prisoner of War, POW 81A. She would go hunting for food and bring it back to the camp, fought off scorpions and snakes and, importantly, distracted the guards when the

men were being beaten. Judy was a great morale booster just by staying with the men.



'For magnificent courage and endurance in Japanese prison camps, which helped to maintain morale among her fellow prisoners and also for saving many lives through her intelligence and watchfulness.'

Another story was about a little black and white cat called **Simon** who was on HMS Amethyst between May 1948 and September 1949. During the Chinese Civil War, the ship was cruising along the Yangtze River when it came under fire from the PLA artillery and received more than 50 direct hits. The captain was killed and many injured, including Simon, who suffered shrapnel wounds to his legs and burns to his

back, and the ship was stranded mid river for almost ten weeks. It was hot and humid, perfect for big fierce rats, who attacked the ship's food supplies. But in spite of his wounds Simon courageously hunted them down, even killing one particularly vicious rat, nicknamed Mao Tse-Tung, for which the crew promoted Simon to Able Seaman.

As the weeks went by, Simon continued protecting supplies and lifting his injured shipmates' morale when he joined the Maintenance Officer on his daily rounds. He later received the Amethyst campaign ribbon for 'distinguished and meritorious service... you did single-



handedly and unarmed stalk down and destroy 'Mao Tse-tung' a rat guilty of raiding food supplies which were critically short. Be it further known that from April 22 to August 4, you did rid HMS Amethyst of pestilence and vermin, with unrelenting faithfulness.'

Like Judy, Simon was brought to the UK with the crew, and he was awarded the Dickin medal. Sadly Simon died before a special award ceremony took place, and he is buried in the PDSA cemetery in Ilford. On his gravestone is written that 'Throughout the Yangtze Incident his behaviour was of the highest order'.

Rosemary McCulloch





OLD HILLS MALVERN HEADLINES



25th May & 1st June 2025

Keeping you in touch with your churches across Powick, Callow End, Guarlford and Madresfield with Newland

SERVICES FOR THE COMING PERIOD

SUNDAY 25TH MAY

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am Easter Communion at Callow End (With Rev Canon Eric Knowles)11.00am Morning Praise at Madresfield (With Julia Davis)

Readings:

Acts 16: 9-15, Revelation 21: 10, 22 - 22:5 John 14: 23-29 or John 5: 1-9

Collect:

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THURSDAY 29TH MAY

Ascension Day

7.00pm Deanery Ascension Day Service for Lay Ministers at Upton Parish Church

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.30am Morning Praise at Guarlford (With Meg Allsopp)

11.00am Easter Communion at Powick (With Rev Canon Eric Knowles)

Readings:

Acts 16: 16-34, Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17: 20-26

Collect:

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Intercessions for each week will be available to download from the website each Friday.

Midweek Communion – The Orchard Room 10.30-11.30am 22nd May & 5th June

THE VICAR'S BLOG

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken....

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my deliverance and my honour; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.....

Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,
and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.
For you repay to all
according to their work. Psalm 62 vv NRSV

Have you ever prayed to God as if you are on the phone to Him? Maybe you remember the days of coins and phone boxes and the bib, bib, bib to insert more money to get more time. Now, with all-inclusive call plans on our phones, we could be engaged (pardon the pun) for as long as we like. Are you? Am I? I admit I have done this myself whilst recuperating. I would call God's 24/7 Help Line, then spend more than a few moments asking God for a whole host of things before putting the phone down. Is there anything wrong with that sort of prayer, do you think? I would recommend an alternative call approach - imagine I had been ringing a close family member instead of God. Such a phone call would involve listening to the other person, and that it would be a two-way conversation. If we'd rung our parents or siblings and simply read a shopping list of demands, well can you imagine the

Often we can find it difficult to find time for God, and when we do stop and seek Him out, our brains or our mouths are full of speech. We batter God with requests and petitions; we tell Him what we want; and we point out what would be best for us and our world! In doing so, we fail to listen to God.

Psalm 62 reminds us that we need to try and find space in our busy lives just to be silent with God, and when our everyday life tries to intrude, just gently put those thoughts to one side, and go back to silence. Having some time out of ministry, to rest and recuperate after surgery, has given me an unexpected lull to practice what I preach in relation to prayerful living. God speaks to us! Do we listen or are we on answerphone mode all the time? Prayer is a two-way communication and sometimes God speaks to us through our thoughts and emotions, and occasionally as amazing as it may seem through a voice, or through someone else. As the Psalmist says, 'For God alone my soul waits in silence'. Who knows what God will have to say if we wait in silence for Him to speak. Every blessing - Rev Gary



Vicar: Revd Gary Crellin — revgarycrellin@gmail.com 01905 830270
31 The Greenway, Collett's Green, Powick, Worcs. WR2 4RZ
For more information, please see our website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk
If you would like to be included in the email circulation list for this newsletter, please contact Liz Edwards, the Parish Administrator on oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com





Church Services and Online Worshipping Opportunities for Your Church in the

Old Hills Malvern Churches

JUNE 2025

Sunday 1st June

Seventh Sunday of Easter

9.30am Morning Praise at GUARLFORD 11.00am Living Communion at POWICK

Sunday 8th June

Pentecost

9.30am Pentecost Communion at CALLOW END 11.00am Pentecost Communion at MADRESFIELD

Sunday 15th June

Trinity Sunday

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at POWICK9.30am BCP Holy Communion at GUARLFORD11.00am Morning Praise at POWICK

Sunday 22nd June

Trinity 1

9.30am Living Communion at CALLOW END 11.00am Living Communion at MADRESFIELD

Sunday 29th June

St Peter's Patronal

10.30am Songs of Praise at POWICK

Midweek Communion at The Orchard Room in Colletts Green Thursdays 5th & 19th June from 10.30-11.30am



01905 830270 <u>www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk</u>
For Zoom Access codes and links, please contact us via
revgarycrellin@gmail.com or oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com





GUARLFORD WI

Our speaker in April was **Christine Armstrong**, who told us of the amazing cycling trips she and her husband undertook after they retired.

Taking only what they could transport on their bicycles, they left home in England for many months at a time and, in several trips, they visited four continents, 37 countries, and cycled fifteen thousand miles.

Christine's talk was illustrated with photographs of some of the wonderful sights they saw on their adventures. One thing she mentioned was that the helpfulness and hospitality of people in every country restored their faith in human nature. So a very uplifting and inspiring evening for us all.

In late April some of our members enjoyed a visit to Dell House Gardens in Malvern Wells. We were given an introductory talk by the owners, who outlined the history of the garden, and after looking round the beautiful garden we had tea and cake in the sunshine. What more could we want!

In early May the **Appleyard Morris dancers**, who are a ladies troupe, visited our WI, and together with a group of musicians entertained us with their lively dances. After that members were invited to learn some simple ones. Good fun for everyone and a very successful evening.





Firstly, watch how it's done.

Secondly, have a go.

Some of our members worked hard knitting poppies then making a display on the war memo, and they were an eye catching sight on VE day

Paula Parsonage



Newland News 25



Well - we have been hit by an arsonist; both bus shelters belonging to Newland Parish Council on either side of the Worcester Road have





been burnt down. No one knows why or to what end other than to inconvenience the bus-using residents of Newland. It is a sad sight when you look at the remains.

On a happier note, my ever-practical sister said to Mum instead of leaving money to buy a memorial bench for the Beauchamp gardens why not buy it now and sit on it yourself. We are now the proud owners of a lovely teak bench. The pictures are the views looking east and west from the bench.





The gardens are coming up lovely and all my roses except Lady Marmalade has flowered and she will be out soon, looking at the buds.

The garden club has been on an outing, having hired community actions bus and with Duncan our warden driving we headed off to Hampton Court Gardens, the original near Leominster, not the 16th century imposter built by Thomas Wolsey near London. The weather was very kind and everyone seemed to enjoy exploring all the different kinds of garden laid out round the house. We retired to the Orangery café for homemade sandwiches and cakes; must say I love a good homemade cake.

The poetry group goes on well here and we had to pick our favourite poem to read. This I found much harder than you would think. We did not study much poetry at school or the only one I remember is Seamus Heaney, so my favourites change depending on the day I am having and my mood.

After a bit of a struggle, I have managed to turn off predictive text on my phone after it caused a great deal of confusion. I now begin the battle to turn it off on the laptop. I am not in favour of allowing my laptop or AI to guess what I am thinking. I need to sit and express myself my own way not how a computer thinks I should express myself.

Jane Tinklin

Malvern Male Voice Choir

in concert with students from

Malvern St James

Saturday 14th June 2025 7.30

"June Serenade"

Holy Trinity Church, Link Top, Malvern, WR14 4LR







Tickets £12 (18s and under free) (which include light refreshments) available on the door and in advance:

- online from www.holytrinitymalvern.org.uk or by scanning the QR code
- from Parrys of Malvern (open Tuesday Saturday 9.30 4.15)
- by phoning 01684 573 559



Find us at www.malvernmalevoicechoir.org or on Facebook

Music has Wings

Plato said of music that 'It gives a soul to the Universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, a charm to sadness, gaiety and life to everything.' That's so true.



The first quarter of the recent folk concert at Guarlford Village Hall saw Keith Hyett on acoustic guitar, his fingers rippling over the strings like water over reeds, plucking occasionally like a twig caught up in the gentle flow. His various pieces comprised a sedative, like watching the tide tiptoeing in and creeping out or the soothing flames of a dying fire.

Then - imagine the magically magnetic musical charm of the Pied Piper, or Romeo playing a romantically compelling air on his treble recorder under a certain balcony. John Davis on his treble recorder was one half of the

duo Unearthed from Gloucestershire. He stimulated the toe-tapping and the shoulder-shuffling among the audience, his gaiety complemented and enhanced by Nathan King on his electric guitar. That was the second quarter of the evening.





'Nibbles' filled the intermission but far exceeded the anticipated crisps and nachos.

The second half of the programme mirrored the first half, Keith followed by John and Nathan, and a memorable evening was rounded off with a raffle.

Cora Weaver

Report from Guarlford Village Hall

Guarlford Village Hall has enjoyed several popular events this year as progress is being made towards fundraising to refurbish the small downstairs meeting room. This will be known as **The Peter Mayner Room** and will have its own kitchenette attached. Lots of ideas for using this room have already been suggested such as a cosy book club, craft group or regular talks and discussions on a range of diverse subjects etc.





In February, the hall played host to several **talented local artists** who put on an incredible display of their work. Our visitors enjoyed learning about calligraphy with many people even having a go themselves. Nearly everyone who visited took advantage of the drop-in café with some lovely homemade cakes to sample

Our **Easter quiz** was held in March, again organised by Richard. As usual it was great fun with a super range of questions. The supper of soup and bread followed by home-made apple pie went down well with everyone.

In April, following requests from some of our local residents, the village hall hosted a **Psychic Night**. This was an interesting, relaxed and friendly evening hosted by Shirley Ford, 'The Angel Lady'. Shirley spoke with several of the people in the audience, bringing back happy memories from their past and offering them good wishes for their future health and well-being.





Our first **Folk Concert** took place in May and was a great success. The Folk duo, 'Unearthed' were joined by guitarist Keith Hyett and between them they entertained the audience for two hours with a range of beautiful music from the serene to lively jigs. During the interval everyone enjoyed a light supper of quiche and salad. A very enjoyable evening which will hopefully be repeated.

The next event in the village hall will be the Barn Dance on 28th June, to book a place email the secretary on

guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.comSee page 16 for more details.

The Trustees of the village hall are always keen to hear what the community would like from their village hall and would like to invite you

to come along to their next open meeting to have your say. This will be the AGM on 11th June. At this meeting The Trustees will report on what has been achieved over the past year and what is planned for the coming year. There will also be an opportunity to examine the accounts to see what the money has been spent on.

If you are unable to come to the meeting but would like to make suggestions or ask questions, the Trustees would still love to hear from you, just drop an e-mail to the address above and someone will get back to you. The Trustees look forward to seeing you at one of our future events.

Gill Hollick



The return of the brilliant Andy Malliphant and the Plump Hill Band

When? Saturday 28th June

What time? 7.30 pm - 11.00 pm

Where? Guarlford Village Hall

Live music and caller * Open to all ages

All tickets £15

including two-course supper Bring your own drink!

For tickets: guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com

or tel 07816 533251

Come one and all to join us for an evening of great fun while raising money for our village hall.

All proceeds towards the Peter Mayner Room

Guarlford Village Hall is a registered charity number 523145

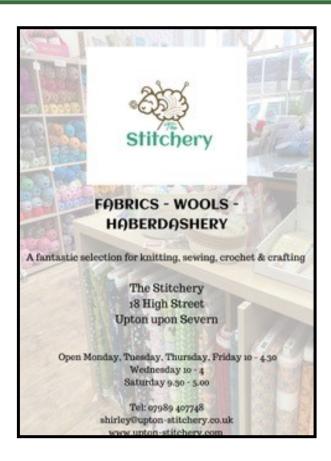
HELP YOUR COMMUNITY

Everyone is welcome to advertise their services in our *Grapevine*.

In return, we would like a donation to be paid to the *Grapevine* account. See page 2 for bank details.

When there is enough money to be useful, a small team will decide which community project is supported with *Grapevine* funds. It might be new curtains for a village hall, prefect badges for a school or the hire of a digger to clear a pond.





Financial Help for Those in Need

The **Madresfield Relief in Need Charity** is an ancient charity for the benefit of those living in the ancient parish of Madresfield with Newland. The charity is overseen by the **Charity Commission** and managed by local trustees including Rev Gary Crellin.

The Covid pandemic has made life very tough for many. The trustees would like to help anyone within our parishes who needs support during this very challenging time. If you would like to apply for financial support, please contact Rev Gary Crellin through the contact details below.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

To make an application please contact:

Rev Gary Crellin, The Vicarage, 31 The Greenway, Colletts Green, Powick WR2 4RZ

Email: revgarycrellin@gmail.com



YOUR CHURCHES



Church Services - Each church notice board will have a list of services but you can visit the online calendar at https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk





QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

If you have a phone or tablet, you can use it to scan this QR code, which will take you directly to the churches' website. No need to remember the www. address - scan and be teleported as if by magic straight to the website.





If you have to dial 999 or 112 and cannot speak Dial 55

You can be found from your dialling location.

Guarlford Village Hall is available for hire for small gatherings.

For more information contact Gill Hollick on 07816 533251

PLEASE NOTE that, like hairdressers, butchers and European museums, Rev Gary's normal day off is **Monday**.