

# Bushley News

September 2025

*The Voice of the Village*

Nº:659



Autumn? Which Autumn? Here we are at the autumnal month of September and already the leaves are dropping off the trees. The harvest, such as it was on this drought-stricken land, is in and the total crop looks rather depleted. Blackberries are thriving. The animals that depend on the change in seasons will be as confused by this strange year of weather as we are. No doubt it will all settle down in due course.

But the parched land will need a lot of gentle steady rain to recover, and recover it will as it always does. The grass that is sorely missing from the pastures will grow because it always does, and the cattle and sheep will have something to munch on again.

What has kept to the timetable are the exam results that are so anxiously awaited by our teenagers. Many will have done well, but even those whose results are not as good as they had wanted must not despair. Look out for the opportunities on offer, think of apprenticeships rather than academia and like the grass all will be well in the end – if you take those opportunities. Good luck!

## Notes from an Improper Vicar

September is traditionally a time when we all start over again after a sleepy August holiday time – the silly season when not a lot happens. The school year restarts, autumn is upon us and suddenly it's all downhill to Christmas – let's not go there! Sadly as yet we have no sign of a new start, in the shape of a new incumbent, for the benefices. The job was advertised – indeed it was job of the week in the Church Times that week – and attracted interest but no actual applications.....Nothing daunted we go again, and the post will be re-advertised on 19<sup>th</sup> September, closing date in October, with the hope of interviewing at the end of November – an early Christmas present for us all?

Meanwhile, there's a lot going on at St Peter's... By the time you read this, the concert of British Baroque from the Greenwood Consort will have taken place and, I'm sure, been thoroughly enjoyed by all. On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September, it's the annual Ride and Stride in aid of the Worcestershire and Dudley Historic Churches Trust – and your nominated local church. Simply download the details from <https://ridestrideworcs.org> and get sponsored to travel on foot, by bike or by car round local churches – Bushley, Longdon and Queenhill churches are all participating! On September 14<sup>th</sup>, we have our usual 8.30am communion service from the Book of Common Prayer, led not by this improper vicar but by a very proper vicar

indeed, our area dean, Rev Gary Crellin, kindly standing in to give me a Sunday off. And there's more! A Harvest service is planned, with rumours of Puds in the Pews – date TBC – and we still have the visit of Bishop Robert



Patterson to look forward to at the end of November. Little by little, bit by bit, thanks to the efforts of your PCC and other willing volunteers, the Church is being overhauled and improved – the organ has been attended to and we now have a new children's area with toys and colouring opportunities aplenty to amuse children – and potentially adults – during any particularly dull sermons.....

So if you're in the mood for a new start this September, pop along to St Peter's and see what your PCC has been up to. They are very much open to ideas of what else you'd like to see happening in this beautiful and historic building, so do let them – or me – know.

Every blessing to you all.

Rev Anthea Elston

Next St Peter's Church service:

**Sunday 14th September, 08:30**

Please support the community's local church if you are able.

*Benefices of Berrow and Longdon details:*

<https://berrowlongdon.org.uk/>

## Farewell to Rev'd Canon Julie and Bob James

### Amended extract from tribute by Churchwarden Elisabeth Rambridge, St Faith's Berrow

There is a new notion – What3words which uses random words to denote places. These 3 words define Julie and her ministry – here they are: **Energetic, generous, pragmatic.**

**Julie brought apposite experience** – as a teacher, as a churchwarden and as a Non-Stipendiary Minister. If Julie has a mantra, I think it would be - **Fit for purpose** – not just about all the practical things for our churches – sound systems, door openers, toys for children – but also she has kept our faces pointing resolutely outwards to the community. An excellent cook and home-maker, she believes passionately in a **Mission of Hospitality** and we have all much benefited from that.

I have tried very hard to analyse what Julie's particular strength and I feel it has **been her ability to navigate so successfully her role** as a loyal employee of the Church of England and the Diocese of Worcester with the reality of an organisation that relies on volunteers.

This was especially clear at the times of crisis we have faced during recent years – both at Brexit and during Covid. More generally, Julie has embraced fully what has been expected of her and familiarised herself with the methods of regeneration promoted by the national church; and she has also acknowledged when they are not appropriate to the rural environment.

**Julie is an expert in Rural Ministry**, and it was a matter of much pride that we heard **Julie was to be installed as an Honorary Canon of Worcester Cathedral**. When Bishop Martin Gorick came to Julie's job title which was 2 lines long, he made a little joke. We all know where the responsibility for a 2-line job title lies.

When Julie was appointed, it was to the 3 parishes of the Berrow Benefice as half the charge, the other half was to the wedding ministry based at Birtsmorton Church in which Julie will continue to play a full part. **Julie has a tremendous presence, navigating the solemnity of commitment with the gaiety of the occasion.** The strong and lasting allegiance means wedding couples return for the precious baptism of their own children.

After Rev'd Chris Moss from the neighbouring Longdon Benefice retired, Julie became the Curate-in-Charge. With typical energy, generosity and pragmatism, and very quickly, she got to know your congregations, your communities, your churches and the challenges which we all face in rural ministry. **And I know how much members of the Longdon Benefice have appreciated your ministry.**

Our mediaeval churches date back almost a millennium. **For only the last 30 years has Women's Ministry been properly acknowledged.** Julie is a shining example of the courage, resilience and faithfulness they had to show. Julie has reached her official retirement. Bishop John Inge used to write about 'thin spaces' and sometimes I wonder if they exist in this beautiful part of the country. **Julie walks the lanes – in prayer** – and maybe sometimes she sees the hare that lives along Church Lane; let us never forget it was an itinerant preacher who brought us here. **Godspeed to you and Bob.**



## In Touch with Nature

Have you ever thought about being something different? Well, I can tell you that the Blue Tits around our garden quite fancy having a go at being Swallows. With Swallows perching on the electricity cables, Blue Tits will fly up and perch alongside, even moving closer along the cable. You can almost read their mind, “I would like to fly like you, zooming around the skies”. But the

Swallows totally ignore them, not even a sideways glance. We have eight Swallows in just one family, with the third brood about to fledge.

Just goes to show, whatever the weather, Nature has winners and losers. Great year for insects, noticeably for blossom pollinators, then there were those that feed on them, I’ve suffered just the one Wasp sting, first for years; someone else had the Hornets this year, correctly identified as European. We had them in our roof last year, they were left alone as they are not aggressive and did not create any problems; unlike Bees, Wasps and Hornets, with the exception of the new queens all die in Winter. New queens hibernate, often behind bedroom curtains, a new site is searched for in the Spring. Asian Hornets, lots of reddy brown on their bodies are an invasive notifiable pest.

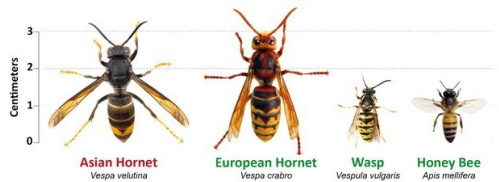
Outside the kitchen window is a bird bath and it’s just big enough to fit thirteen Goldfinches around the periphery to drink, on one occasion several more were in the air waiting to join in. Such has been their nesting success. Staying with provided water, we spotted a visitor in the fishpond, no not the Heron but a Grass snake also called Water snake, I think the fish were all a bit big but I’m sure there are other goodies in there.

The heavily leaden Oak trees are reducing their acorn crop, too dry I suspect, looking closely at one particular tree in one of our hedges, the reduction is primarily acorns that have been parasitised by the Knopper Gall Wasp, how cunning is that.

Best sighting, on a weekend away in a non-arable area, Sparrow Hawk, Red Kite, Buzzard, Heron, Little Egret, Common Sandpiper, Kingfisher, Stone Chat and Yellow Hammer, also Small Copper and Small Heath butterflies, alongside a non-flowing River Teme.

Martin Roberts

### Think you’ve seen an Asian Hornet? Report it!



Report through the Asian Hornet Watch app or [www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport](http://www.bit.ly/asianhornetreport)

## **Bushley Parish Council Update**



Our thanks to Nigel Nicol, who has recently refurbished and repainted the bus shelter at Bushley Green. A family of swallows had taken up residence in the shelter and apparently the youngsters were not potty trained! They have now vacated their home but had left their calling cards on our mural. Deposits have been successfully removed and remedial measures are now planned to protect Bushley's 'Sistine Chapel', as their return next year is inevitable. Thanks also to Martin Roberts, for cutting back the tree branches from the bus shelter roof.

The adjacent Information Kiosk (ex telephone box) has become overfull with gifted books spilling over the floor; perhaps a one book in, one book out approach could be made to work.

Worcestershire County Council (WCC) has begun an update to their Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Improvement Plan, which sets out how the PRoW network can meet the needs of the public, now and in the future. An online survey seeks opinions from the public and is accessible by all residents (closing 26th October) at: [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/RoWIPengage](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/RoWIPengage)

Worcestershire County Council are also inviting comments from the public, to their local cycling and walking infrastructure plans across South Worcestershire. Details and the on-line survey is available through the link below: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/travel-and-highways/walking-wheeling-and-cycling/south-worcestershire-local-cycling-and-walking-infrastructure-plans-lcwips>

**Footpath Officer** (See further detail inside back cover)

Would you like to volunteer to be Bushley's Footpath Officer? The Footpath Officer is a volunteer who is appointed to assist in the maintenance and improvement of the public rights of way network within the parish. The Footpath Officer is expected to regularly survey all of the paths within Bushley, waymark the routes, carry out minor vegetation and minor repairs. There are also optional duties to the role such as carrying out more extensive clearance and maintenance, providing advice to landowners and leading guided walks. The role would require a minimum 12 days a year commitment. If you are interested in the role please email [clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk) or for further information visit: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/environment/countryside-and-leisure/public-rights-way/public-rights-way-volunteering>

**Planning Application Received:** M/25/00995/LB

**Location:** Hither Ham House, Bushley, Tewkesbury, GL20 6HR.

**Description:** Retrospective application to insert two new rooflights.

**Daniel Hinde**

Bushley Parish Council Clerk

[clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

<https://bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

## Senescence

I'm struggling, struggling that is to find a topic that is not about dr\*\*ght. The Editor and I have been in correspondence about this; what else is there to moan about? Great cracks in the ground, garden walls and steps cracking apart, the falling of limbs from trees in the hedgerows, (and, more tragically of course, in parks and places where people walk).



A very early Autumn cloaks the garden and the grounds; seldom heard is the thrum of the lawnmower. No need to take it out unless to cut off the weeds and pick up the fallen leaves.



Springtime Rake

My Plum has cracked its branches, some have been removed, and I await the tree surgeons, Nick Elwes and Co., to finish the deed. But underneath is a heap of festering plums and plum stones that weld themselves to the grass of the path and garden and the plants in the border under the plum. The springtime rake has been busy trying to prise this mess up and dispose.

In most years I can admire the fading of various trees and plants and enjoy the stag-headed oaks that I can see from my window. What a tree thinks is "Hey, ho, I'd better shut down some branches as the conditions are not good. I blame Starmer, Trump and Putin." OK, it doesn't really go in for political thinking, that was a flight of pure fantasy, but trees do respond to the conditions and to keep themselves alive do shut down some branches and add to that particular aspect of what we recognise as the English landscape. Those semi-dead trees become a vital habitat for all sorts of critters and a food source for fungi etc.

Which brings me back to the garden. There are some herbaceous plants that age gracefully into Autumn and their skeletal senescent remains are pleasing to the eye. Others don't IMHO (in my honest opinion). I like the way poppies have seedheads that look good, some of the Campanula on the other hand just look boring. I have been cutting back on the hardy geraniums and am pleased to report they are responding with new growth. Did the same with the Delphiniums but that was a joke; no second flush there.

And don't even ask about the veg. Not enough water, or, correction, not enough energy on the part of your correspondent to keep things watered. Surprisingly, the beetroot did well, but we will draw a polite veil over the fate of the runner beans; early on a failure to germinate and yesterday a meagre picking of dried up

beans that were stewed for some time to provide a meagre side dish. As for the courgettes, very few and my neighbour says that hers (she was much more assiduous in watering) went from nothing to giant marrows worthy of a harvest festival in the blink of an eye.

Of the senescent plants I quite like the fading of *Alchemilla mollis*, Lady's mantle, but it is (dare I say this in a refined publication like *Bushley News*?) promiscuous. It needs to be severely chopped or its progeny will be everywhere. Luckily the little seedlings in the Spring are distinctive and can easily be dug up and discarded. If you have a beady eye that is. Spoiler alert; some will escape.

Other suffering plants are the honeysuckles which are suffering from mildew because of the dr\*\*ght, so I have cut them back massively while preserving the branches that have berries on for the birds for winter use.

The fig, on the other hand, has said of the conditions, "bring it on and I can flourish." More cutting back to be done there, then, at the appropriate season. Meanwhile, deliciousness.

Penelope Tubbs



Do you have a glut of apples (or pears)?

If so, why not come along and press them to make fresh juice or cider!

**SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 10.30am**

(kindly hosted by Ron & Kate) at Freeband Wells,

where there will be a couple of apple presses available.

Bring your apples, knife, chopping board and containers to join in the fun of apple pressing. You can then take your juice to freeze, pasteurise or ferment into cider.

If anyone else has an apple press they would like to bring along that would be much appreciated.



## View from the Saddle

The Swan at Newland beckoned, 32 mile round trip but reasonably flat, through Bredon School, the Hook, Hanley Swan, Guarlford, Madresfield to Newland. A good varied menu including Trophy ale from St Austell. We then hoped to pop into Bennett's ice cream shop at Madresfield but no luck as it's only open in term-time for the children. The village green at Hanley Swan was covered by World War II military vehicles both British

and US, also miniature steam traction engines, a dozen or more (which we had encountered in the morning at Hook). We were able to give these machines a careful inspection while being sustained by Bennett's tubs from the village store, but no tea or cake at home.

Gruppen Fuhrer's birthday so he booked us into the Walwyn Arms at Much Marcle to meet and have lunch with Sam McDonagh. As we approached Much Marcle, we could see the deluge inching south – would we get to the pub before it reached us – No! As we arrived at the first cottages in Much Marcle, we were dry, at the pub sodden! We sat at a table for eight but three yards distant on a table for two, culturally so superior, sat Thoughtful and his wife, on their way to the Three Choirs Festival at Hereford Cathedral. Our Dear Leader's birthday so everyone's drinks were paid for – cheers! Sustained by puddings, included in the price, we were now dry, so back on the bikes. At Bromsberrow, the heavens opened, sheltering under trees provided initial shelter but within minutes we were again wringing wet, but praying that all was equally wet in Bushley. All our woes were forgotten at the Coach House, where sitting on dog towels we were treated to a fantastic chocolate birthday cake Sue had baked for Our Dear Leader, and when invited, everybody had a second slice.

The first Thursday in August we met up at the Coach House for coffee, where Our Dear Leader introduced us to an old school chum of his, Graham – not cycling because he had failed the biking test! He would take him into Tewkesbury to look at and around the Abbey, they would then join us at the Drum & Monkey. The rest of us pedalled up the A38 to Shuthonger and from there via country lanes criss-crossing the main road to Upton-upon-Severn. North towards Hanley Castle then left to Brotheridge Green, Hook Bank, Welland Stone and arriving back at Longdon Heath and the pub. At least three had the fish pie (very good and massive), others steak and ale or steak and kidney pie, or indeed something healthy. I think it was all made and cooked in the kitchen from scratch, it may take a little longer (always a good sign) and allows a second pint to be brought to the table before the food. Now back through Queenhill and Bredon School to enjoy Sue's baking and a cup of tea.

The second Thursday out via Northway, Kinsham to Bredon. We now have a question around the hill as planned in just over an hour or the short route Kemerton, Overbury etc. Our Dear Leader says clockwise so we set off at pace, pausing at the junction where Woollas Hall Road joins the Eckington to Great Comberton road, in a short while a



struggling Bookman arrives, red faced. As it is very sunny and hot and as a precaution against skin cancer he is cycling in a waterproof yellow jacket (on a day such as today this is boil in a bag). Jacket discarded, it's short sleeves and hopefully the sun block will suffice. We reach the Beckford Arms five to ten minutes late but Kim is waiting patiently and relaxed. Up to the bar to get eight pints of Butcombe Original and we are all soon equally relaxed. The preordered food soon arrives, a good variety of dishes from an adventurous menu. Well satisfied, only the Architect can uphold the bikers two pint rule, all the rest just halves please. Thanks to Kim having a recent birthday, the bill is minimal. From Beckford Back Lane via the route of the dismantled "Evesham to Tewkesbury railway" to Northway and Bushley, and Sue had baked a small mountain of scones. So, jam on cream or cream upon jam?

The Thursday following was last week's ride in reverse or at least as far as Ashton under Hill. About a mile beyond the village we came to the road we were after; but a sign stating 'private road' meant that we rode on further but as we were about to start up a long ascent toward Elmley Castle we turned right. Now we were pedalling along an old stone-based road which seemed little more than a rough farm track. This, according to maps is the Salt Way heading toward Crophorne, then crossing the Avon to Fladbury and presumably originally to Droitwich. After just over a half mile, the Salt Way was crossed at right angles by a tarmac road. On the advice of a local contractor (measuring up a field gate) we turned right towards Hinton Cross, then over the A46 and a straight three mile run into Childswickham and the pub. With beers from the bar, we sat in the conservatory at a table for ten, other tables for 8, for 14 or so on plus other small tables, the room was full of chat with no soft furnishing, so noisy. The beef lasagna was excellent, the curries, pies and cold platter (a rectangular trencher) all look good also. Another beer and back on the bikes. At Hinton Cross, we forked left to Hinton on the Green, where taking another left up Station Road (a no through road) we came via a farm yard to our 'private road' sign and then Ashton under Hill (this according to the ordnance survey was 1.5 miles shorter than our outward journey). Tea and lemon drizzle cake greeted us on getting back to Bushley.

Happy and safe cycling – the Artist!

Kate Briggs is organising a

## **BRING AND SHARE HARVEST SUPPER**

with entertainment,

at Bushley Village Hall,

**6pm -10pm, Saturday 27th September 2025**

For more information, contact Kate on  
07878 749464 or [ktztraining@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ktztraining@hotmail.co.uk)

# Jottings of an Urbanised Country GP

## The Good Old Days?

I retired from medical practice 20 years ago! I now realise just how privileged we GPs were 'in the old days' by the number of people who I once saw in my surgery and now greet me in the street, on the bus and in strange places. One of the 'operatives' at the Stoke Orchard household recycling unit recently looked serious until he recognised me "Hi Doc, how are you" and let me in with a smile. More recently while waiting at Cheltenham railway station one of the staff walked by and greeted me similarly. After so many years away from practice this familiarity (even if I don't remember names) is so pleasing – I must have done something right.

Not remembering names as one grows older is perfectly normal. It even has a name – Nominal Dysphasia. If one waits long enough the name usually pops up eventually, but not being able to recall a name on the spot can be embarrassing. One must acknowledge this failing and be prepared to apologise and ask who one is greeting. But then, in General Practice 30 or 40 years ago, we often saw patients once or twice only for an acute problem. We had our own lists, which the Health Service stopped nearly



20 years ago. Instead of having your registered, or 'own' GP, patients were registered with a practice. Now the NHS is suggesting that one refers, if possible, to one named GP again, for continuity sake. Strange how old ideas pop up again as a 'new' idea when one can only say "Yes, we tried that before and it worked/didn't work", and the mandarins think that they are clever to have thought about it now. These modern day back-room mandarins are presumably too young to have known about the previous arrangements!

I am often asked whether the 'good old days' really were good, and should the old working practices that I followed be reinstated. Life and the world of technology have moved on since the 1970s and 1980s. We worked long hours as Junior Hospital staff, but we were learning all the time, and we did not clock-off until the jobs were finished. This often resulted in late



finishes but we were not regulated by set hours. Such practices would not be tolerated in the current climate, I do understand.

The need to undertake night visits by GPs was removed in the early 2000s and in my view the GPs lost a most important role. At night the patients are at their most vulnerable and the GP has to make up their mind how to proceed,

having come to a diagnosis at the technology, more diagnostic tests and bedside. The learning curve was very more part time staff so that continuity steep at times, but the satisfaction of care (that phrase again) is not so easy when getting it right was gratifying. By as part of the modern scene. I taking this side of medical work away thoroughly enjoyed my time in the from GPs and giving the night calls to Tewkesbury practice and thank those ex specialist teams does not improve -patients who meet and greet me for continuity of care or the doctor's own their kind words. I hope that I have left learning curve. happy memories and satisfied people, not customers, in the area.

Do I think that the current service by GPs is better or worse than 'in my time'? Andrew Crowther  
It is so different, with improved

**Bushley News Sheet**



I'm looking for homes for old copies of the Bushley News Sheets. If you're interested in collecting, I've got issues dating back to the very first copy from September 1967 all the way up to 2007 (with more to be sorted from later dates).

If you're keen, please contact me on 01684 292191. Collection can be arranged from Tewkesbury Town Centre.

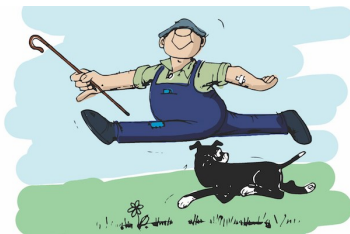
Thank you  
Jean Mansfield, Former Bushley resident

Note: The Bushley News Editor also holds a full set of all copies printed as well as more recent electronic copies which are posted on the Worcestershire County Council website [here](#).

## View from between the Bears

It hardly needs saying that it remains very dry. Officially, we have had four heatwaves this year; though I'm not sure what the criteria are exactly, it has been hot. Cereals have been harvested with what is likely to be one of the lowest total yields for many years, though individual farm results have varied enormously. Wheat and barley have varied between a disastrous ton or so per acre to a respectable four tons plus, dependant on when and where some rain fell. Oilseed rape has generally performed well with a possible record average yield per acre, though the overall acreage is well down from years past. It's the same with fruit trees that flowered at a similar time to the oilseed rape; it all had a warm spring, no late frosts, plentiful moisture from the winter and sunshine to ripen the fruit. When the drought took hold, all the 'heavy lifting' had been done in the fruit department.

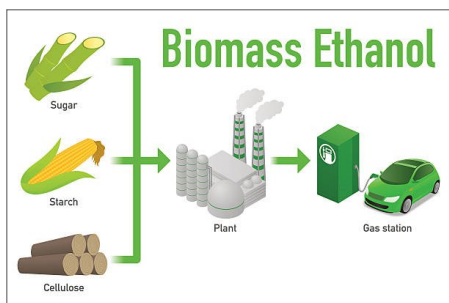
Straw, for livestock bedding and supplementary feeding, is in short supply too and very expensive for those needing to buy it in, another problem for livestock farmers already stuck with limited winter feed, and the need to start eating into it as grass growth has all but stopped. Maize crops look patchy and short, so unlikely to fill the gap. Some fields of 'standing maize'



have been sold between £800 and £900 per acre; add on the cost of harvesting and haulage and that's going to be expensive winter forage. It might be possible that

some gets diverted from the Anaerobic Digesters this season, but AD plants still need to keep running too. Maybe they can use more food and green waste that would have been composted? A logistical nightmare for somebody.

Partly as a result of the trade deal with the USA, a major ethanol producing plant is shutting down for good in Hull with the loss of 160 jobs. The trade deal removed the 19% tariff from US ethanol, produced from maize, from 1.4bn litres, the total UK requirement for our E5 and E10 fuels. While the wheat previously used in the Hull plant will now come into the food chain, the quantity will be offset by the livestock feed grains, which were a by-product of the process anyway.



Many farmers are now facing a dilemma. Do we have enough food for the animals we have for the coming

winter? If not, what do we do about it? There are two basic options; buy in extra food or sell livestock, neither way is going to increase their income to any extent. The sellers probably need to act fast, as the markets could easily get oversupplied, buyers could well be short of winter feed too. Dairy cows could end up being culled earlier than they otherwise would have been. All this will very likely put up the price of food in the shops, though I suspect precious little will find it's way back to the farmers most in need. It is likely to be the 'last straw' for many, ironically.

There are still rumblings about the spreading of manures in the autumn. The objections to it have restricted the application to the needs of the crop to be grown, but seek to limit the nitrogen content of the manure to the crop's immediate need. Oilseed rape needs a nitrogen boost in the autumn, but most crops don't need it until spring. Nitrogen encourages green growth so is best utilised when crops are rapidly growing. Ben's work with Severn Trent involves finding farmers who will take silt and

treated sewage sludge from treatment works for spreading on their fields. Autumn is the ideal time for spreading; no-one wants heavy kit traipsing through a crop in the spring.

The completion of this year's harvest fires the starting gun for next. Crops to grow for next year were mostly decided months ago, before the effects of the drought were apparent, so some late changes might be prudent. Is there any moisture in the ground [probably not] or the weather forecast [hard to see any] to germinate OSR, which is best planted in August or early September? Brassica seeds [which rape is] are little balls like miniature peas and can probably sit in the ground for weeks before germinating if it is too dry, but grass seeds, that's a different story altogether; they need to be growing ASAP or they could easily go mouldy and not come to anything. Problems, problems. Answers on a postcard please!

Tim Perry



### **Bushley Cricket Club Update**

- Friday 5th Sep: Crumble Night
- Friday 3rd Oct: Fun Quiz Night
- Friday 7th Nov: First Friday bar open
- Tuesday 11th Nov AGM: More details to follow

Bushley Cricket Club bar open for Friday night events from 7.30pm.

Come along for a drink and a chat to get to know your Bushley neighbours.

## WHAT IS IT ABOUT YOGA?



Hi, I am Louise, long time Yoga student and former full time Yoga and Meditation teacher from the London Borough Of Richmond Upon Thames. Since recently arriving in Bushley, a few people finding out I teach Yoga, asked me to put on some classes. I was a little reluctant at first as I'd just arrived and there was a lot to do! Thank you to the lovely people who joined me for the handful of classes I put on in July/August. **I have now booked the Village Hall from September through to December! Will you join me?**

I'd tried Yoga a few times but began practising regularly in the mid 1990's following an accident in the summer of 1993 that left me with a number of significant problems in my spine and pelvis. It was the chiropractor working on me that first suggested Yoga could help my recovery. And I was hooked.

I get it- you may have tried a class and decided it wasn't for you but that's almost like saying after seeing a bad film at the cinema, 'right I'm never going to the cinema again' Yoga is huge! Yoga is a way of life, an integrated education system that originated in India with teachings that can be traced back to over 5,000 years ago. Essentially it is a practise that helps us enrich our lives with a greater understanding of the many aspects of ourselves, through practices that aim to connect the body and mind.

There are a number of 'paths' of Yoga, just with a different focus. The one most of us are familiar with is the Yoga of postures, movement, breathing and relaxation called Hatha Yoga. However, there are different styles of Hatha Yoga some are more energetic, some are more fluid and dance like, some are more passive – in fact there is probably a style or brand name of Hatha Yoga to suit everyone, it's just about finding the right one for your needs.

**SO WHY YOGA?** From my thousands of hours of teaching, I can tell you that Hatha Yoga will improve the health and fitness of your body and mind if you give it a

chance. Practise enables an increased level of mobility and suppleness in the body, improves circulation and concentration, can improve our balance and posture and make us stronger. It's also widely recognised as an excellent stress management tool; teaching us to relax, it aids restful sleep and helps foster a sense of inner peace and contentment. Whatever your reason for coming to Yoga I am sure you will find you get even more from it than you expected.

**CLASSES.** My classes in Bushley are offered to all, irrespective of fitness level, age or experience. Much more challenging for me as teacher, but until I get a feel for how much interest there is and what people seem to be coming to the classes for, I will continue to lead this open level class and do my best to cater for all who show up. **Details in the Bushley Diary** (back page).

**CONTACT ME** – Details about classes are on my WhatsApp group – message/call me to join [or to chat about Yoga/ ask questions] 07968 187008. I have a website too [www.yoga-yoga.guru](http://www.yoga-yoga.guru) which is in transition [a bit like me!] and perhaps not that relevant to you here as its mainly for the community of Yogis back in SW London who still want to join me online. But you are welcome to take a look – it will give you a sense of my approach to teaching.

Louise Cashin



St Peter's Church is supporting Tewkesbury Foodbank and there is now a drop off box inside the church. The food bank are regularly looking for tinned foods, dried food, rice and pasta, tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits and well as hygiene items including toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, shower gel, soap etc.

Mark Taylor, Churchwarden, St Peter's Bushley

Few facts about Tewkesbury Foodbank in the financial year April 2024 - March 2025:

- \* 2297 adults have been fed by Tewkesbury Foodbank.
- \* 1582 food vouchers have been fulfilled by Tewkesbury Foodbank.
- \* 1104 children have been fed.



## Queenhill WI Report, August 2025 Meeting

It was pleasing to see so many members at the meeting, on another hot day. Many came carrying geranium plants in full bloom. Each of us had been given a plug plant earlier in the year and had been nurturing it since then. What a show!

After the business meeting we had pleasure welcoming Sandra Grayson who talked about "Fun Signs: the good, the bad, the downright stupid". In an interesting and amusing talk, she explained how she moved from being a legal secretary to graphologist and calligrapher; from a small advertisement for calligraphy services to tutoring on cruise ships and seeing the world. As she said "If you have a passion for something, share it!"



Using visual examples of signs and advertisements, we saw some of the marketing 'tricks', subliminal messages, logos, and clever design ideas that are intended to influence us. There were brand logos that we knew well but had never realised how they 'worked'. Many, also were very funny - unintended interpretations or language misunderstandings.

Refreshments, raffle and conversation followed as usual before we left bearing our geraniums and looking forward to our next meeting.

This will be on Thursday, September 11th at 2.30pm at Queenhill WI Hall when Rosie Wynne will show us and talk about the WI Craft Collection. Is this something you might be interested in? We welcome new members!

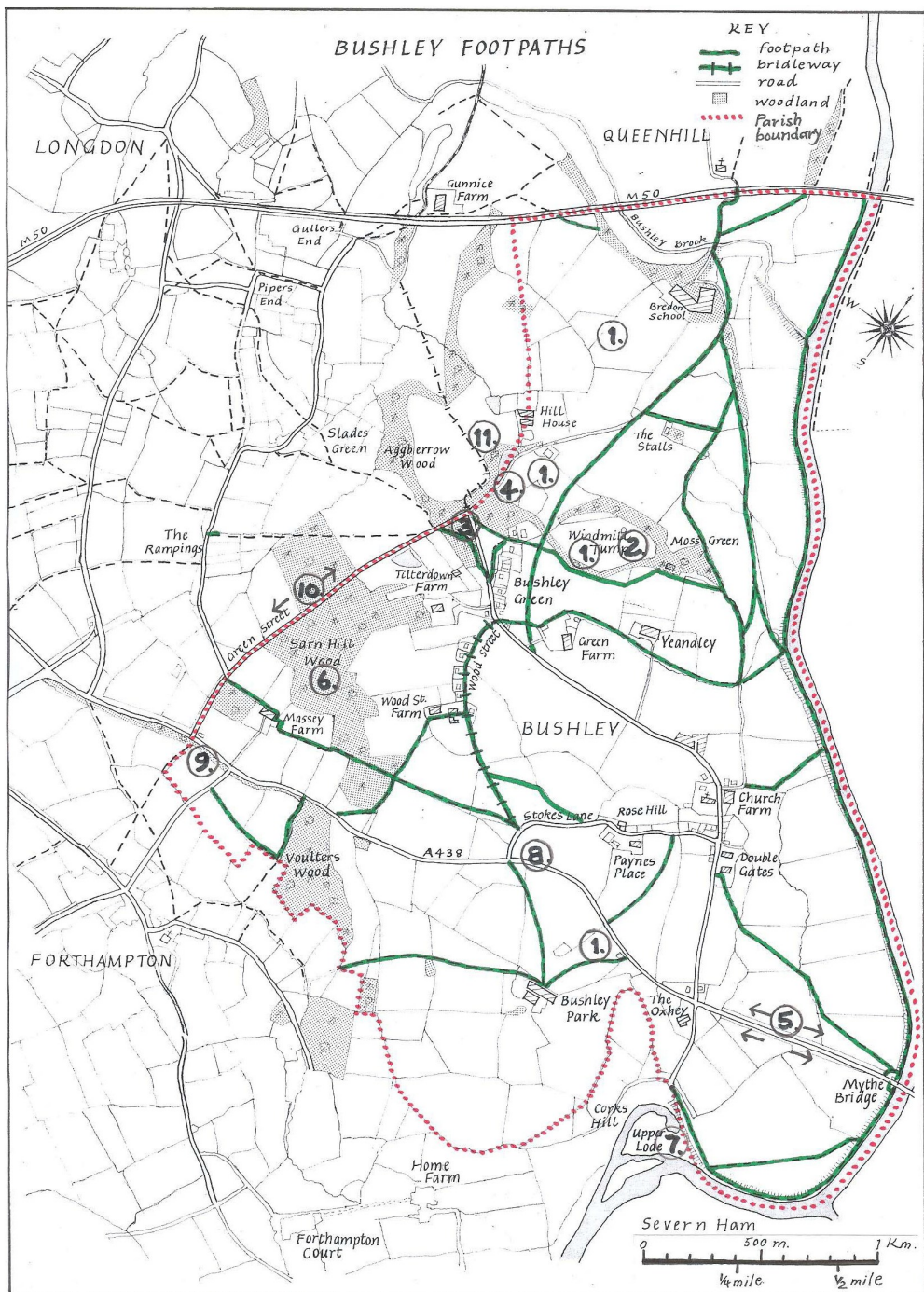
Doreen Small





# Bushley Church

**Harvest Festival**  
**Sunday 19th October at 6.30pm**  
**with puddings in the Pews**  
**after the Service**



Map by Elaine Gilding

## **Bushley Footpaths: Natural History sites of interest.**

(Read in conjunction with Bushley Footpaths Map.)

1. Ancient English oak trees, aged between 600 and 1000 years old, the remains of the once royal hunting forest of " Malvern Chase".
2. Windmill Tump; as well as being the site of a Post mill, first recorded in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, Windmill Tump is an SSSI for its geological importance in being part of the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> river terraces of the Severn valley, these sands and gravels contain temperate mammal and mollusc fossil fauna from the Pleistocene period.
3. Tree plantation on the Green, comprising a mixed woodland, in the process of naturalising, older plantings were of English oak, Turkey oak, larch, common lime, and sweet chestnut from about late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> century. In abundance are a huge array of fungal species, and the not dissimilar, but much rarer, birds nest orchid. Also a small area managed as meadow habitat. The " Green" also provides habitat for the elusive great crested newt.
4. Four mature small leaved Limes, among oak and horse chestnut.
5. The "cuttings" osier beds, now derelict, once the local basket makers resource.
6. Sarn Hill, Our largest piece of mixed woodland, not ancient, as the earlier name suggests "Furze Hill" but the geology is interesting. Limestone Lias outcrops rising from west to east, this overlies "blue anchor" clay forming the lower easterly slopes, and combined, these provide some of our most interesting flora.
7. Upperlode, Ox Bow and Severn lock and weir, below which the river is tidal. Good place to see migratory salmon, gone are the days when the similar twaite shad were regularly caught, and the end of the line for the elver fishermen.
8. The roadside land slip at the foot of Bushley Park, home to common spotted orchid and awash with milk maids [lady smock] .
9. A road side clearing, strictly in Forthampton, containing many unusual flower species including several orchids.
10. Green street, home to early purple and greater butterfly orchids, there is also an area containing several wild service trees, which are an ancient woodland indicator species.
11. The "dark arch" bridle way, actually in Longdon. Lovely spring and early summer flowers, including the unusual crosswort are to be seen in the first open area. The hedges in winter are draped with bright red necklaces of black bryony.

Words by Martin Roberts

Map and words can be found online, on the [Bushley Parish website](#). Go to the Publications, select page 8 at the bottom of the list and look for 'Bushley Footpaths' to download the PDF document.



# ***THE BUSHLEY DIARY: Activities in the Village***

## **Specific/Monthly Events:**

Day	Date	Event	Time	Location
Fri	5th Sept	First Friday	19:30 start	Cricket Club
Sun	7th Sept	Apple Pressing	10:30 start	Freeband Wells
Tues	9th Sept	Tewkesbury Flower Club	13:00 - 16:30	Village Hall
Fri	12th Sept	Private Party Set Up	PM	
Sat	13th Sept	Ride & Stride for Churches	08:00-18:00	St Peter's Church
Sat	13th Sept	Private Party	16:30 - 01:00	Village Hall
Sun	14th Sept	Private Party Clear Down	TBC	
Sun	14th Sept	BCP Church Service	08:30 - 09:30	St Peter's Church
Tues	16th Sept	Craft Club	10:00 - 12:00	Village Hall
Sat	27th Sept	Harvest Supper	18:00 - 22:00	
Tues	30th Sept	Parish Council Meeting	19:00 - 21:00	

## **Weekly Events** (please check directly with organiser ref. bank/school holiday times)

Day	Dates	Event	Time	Location
Mon	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th Sept	Community Gardening	10:30 - 12:30	Community Garden
Mon	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th Sept	Bowls	19:00 - 21:00	Village Hall
Tues	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th Sept	Ladies Martial Arts	18:45 - 20:15	Village Hall
Wed	10th, 17th, 24th Sept	Pilates	09:30 - 10:30	Village Hall
Thurs	4th, 11th, 20th, 25th Sept	Yoga	09:30 - 10:30	Village Hall
Thurs	4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Sept	Hand Bells	18:30 - 19:30	St Peter's Church

### **Note 1**

Bushley Village Hall website: [Bushleyvillagehall.org.uk](http://Bushleyvillagehall.org.uk)  
For further details contact Jason Kinghorn: 07971 084096 or Rachel Perry: 07594 853620.

### **Note 2**

Craft Workshops are open to all. It helps if people book in advance but it's not essential. For details, contact Lesley: 07920 260468.

### **Note 3**

The mobile library visits Bushley on the first Monday every month.

Time	Location
09:45—10:00	Village Hall
10:05—10:20	Tewkesbury Fields Care Home

If you have an item of news please send it by 20th of the preceding month to the Editor at [BushleyNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:BushleyNewsEditor@gmail.com)

The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editor unless signed Ed.

In accordance with editorial policy, the Editor's decision is final.

The Bushley Village News may also be viewed online at:

<https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/MyParish/Publications.aspx?ParishID=60>