

# Chronicle

Stock & Bradley

May 2023

Worcestershire



## MAY 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b> 7-8 pm Yoga	<b>3rd</b> 10.30 am Breakaway VH 12.15-12.30 pm Mobile Library Staddle Stones SG 7.45 pm Gardening Club VH	<b>4th</b> 3 pm K&D Seniors Afternoon Tea	<b>5th</b> 11-12 noon Pilates VH	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b> 11 am-12 noon Puppy Training VH 3 pm Service Baptist Chapel 3.30-5.30 pm Coronation Celebration Afternoon Tea VH
<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b> 7-8 pm Yoga	<b>10th</b> 10 am-12 Drop In VH 7.30 pm K&D WI K&D VH	<b>11th</b> 7.30 pm Scottish Dancing VH	<b>12th</b> 11-12 noon Pilates VH	<b>13th</b> 10 am -12 noon Annual Plant Sale VH	<b>14th</b> 10.30 am Morning Service Bradley Church 11 am-12 noon Puppy Training VH
<b>15th</b> 6-7 pm Dog training VH 7.30- 8.30 pm Zumba VH	<b>16th</b> 7-8 pm Yoga	<b>17th</b> 7.30 pm Parish Council AGM VH	<b>18th</b> 7.30 pm Scottish Dancing VH 3 pm K&D Seniors	<b>19th</b> 11-12 noon Pilates VH	<b>20th</b>	<b>21st</b> 8 am -12 noon Big Breakfast VH 10 am Walking Club contact gtcollins@btinternet.com 3 pm Service Baptist Chapel
<b>22nd</b> 6-7 pm Dog training VH 7.30- 8.30 pm Zumba VH	<b>23rd</b> 7-8 pm Yoga	<b>24th</b> 10 am-12 Drop In VH	<b>25th</b>	<b>26th</b> 11-12 noon Pilates VH	<b>27th</b>	<b>28th</b> 9 am Holy Communion Bradley Church 11 am-12 noon Puppy Training VH
<b>29th</b>	<b>30th</b> 7-8 pm Yoga	<b>31st</b>				

# Hello Everyone

I hope you had a good Easter break, always an uplifting time I find, often some warmer weather, signs of Spring with buds and bulbs emerging, happy lambs with sun on their backs and of course the longer evenings. In particular I am very happy to see so many cowslips on the verges and in the fields. Perhaps its my imagination but they seem to be having a revival.

There's lots to get involved with in the Villages as always, printed here in your Chronicle, which is put together every month by David and Mary Waring who do such a marvellous job, never missing a beat and invariably extending the deadline so patiently for me when I am running late. However we need your help to continue. We do get some funding to print and also a revenue from the advertising but any support, however large or small, is very much appreciated. Details are printed inside. You can donate on line by Bacs also.

Speaking of which you can also buy all tickets on line for VH events now we have such a comprehensive and straightforward booking service, all thanks to Keith Lawrence who has worked tirelessly on this.

I'm going to break my own rule now, of not mentioning anything personal, and give a little plug to the Big Breakfast, please forgive me! It's in aid of two very worthy causes, please support Louise on her journey in India raising for Women's Cancer, and George and Matt who are rowing the Atlantic for Acorns Childrens Hospice. Tickets are available now on Keiths splendid booking system, it's on Sunday 21st May 8 – 12noon in the Village Hall.

See you there!

Kate

---

Cover : Flower arrangement at the Bulb Show -*photo RC*

**Many articles in the Chronicle are contributed by members of the public. They remain the responsibility of the writers and neither the production team nor the publishers can be held responsible for the views and assertions contained therein.**

EDITOR - MRS KATE FARMILOE 01527821244

Perry Mill Farm, Bradley Green, Redditch, B96 6RR

TREASURER - MRS MARY WARING, 01386792134

Staddle Stones, Stock Green, Redditch B96 6TB

PRODUCTION - DAVID WARING PRINTED AND BOUND - Parish Magazine Printing

PUBLISHED IN ASSOCIATION WITH STOCK AND BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**COPY DATE - 14th**      **Email : [sbchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:sbchronicle@gmail.com)**

# Church Services at Bradley Green

MAY

14<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Service.

28<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Communion Service



---

Dear All,

Have you ever thought that some of the things we do as the church might be completely baffling to outsiders? The thing is, we have all grown up with them and they have become familiar but to others it can be a bit like watching a foreign language film without subtitles. As I write this in Holy Week we are just about to relive the Easter story and tomorrow will have Maundy Thursday. In many places the tradition is for the priest to wash people's feet. We all know it comes from the story in the Bible where Jesus washes his disciples feet. However, if you were unaware of this and had gone to church for the first time it might all seem a bit baffling.

Likewise, in May we will be celebrating Rogation. At this time we go out from our church buildings and pray for different parts of the community and the farming activities "in situ". This is undoubtedly a good thing to do and there's no reason why we shouldn't do this at any time during the year. However, traditionally, in the days before maps, it would be used as a way of communicating to people where the parish boundaries lay. This would often take the form of bouncing a young child on the ground in the belief that this would help them remember better – there is documentary evidence from 17<sup>th</sup> century Norfolk that this was the accepted way of doing things. In all reality it happened in most places so it wasn't just confined to East Anglia. As you will be aware, parish boundaries often follow watercourses such as streams so it was also part of the process to go into the middle of the stream. Fortunately we don't do this quite like this anymore but Rogation is still an opportunity to pray in the middle of God's creation – I think that that is a wonderful thing to do.

And when you think about it, we are creating the traditions of tomorrow by what we are doing today. A church I was on placement at many years ago had the tradition of people entering church and bowing to the empty wall opposite. It didn't make a lot of sense until you realised that for a long time there had been a statue of Jesus with Mary in that location but it was now absent – however, the tradition continued. But all these things are part of what gives us a rich tradition. They are ways that each generation has sought to live out the Christian life in ways that have spoken to them at that time, and they have all become part of our story as the Church. We need to tell the story of Jesus in whatever way works for our current times. Provided we do this with joy, compassion, freedom and love, it will become the thing that future Christians remember about us. And we can all say "Amen" to that.

God bless, DM.



## AUCTION of PROMISES

On Saturday 18 March over 90 residents of our community enjoyed a great social evening and buffet which raised a fantastic £3,508 for our beautiful church building maintenance fund.

Many thanks to everyone who supported us by attending and also for donating amazing promises for Auction. We are also very grateful to receive the support of several local businesses who provided generous promises.

Also many thanks to everyone who helped on the night with special thanks to our brilliant Auctioneer Mark Warren.

Celia Hart

### OPEN GARDEN

**ASTWOOD HILL HOUSE, ASTWOOD LANE,  
B96 6PT**

3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2023 2.00 - 6.00PM

Roger and Felicity Burman have kindly offered to open their garden in support of The Friends of Feckenham Church

(raising funds for the maintenance of our Parish Church and Churchyard).

Refreshments available      Parking      Admission: £6.00      Children: Free



## *Chronicle Appeal . .*

The Chronicle seeks your help to continue. Your support, however large or small, is very much appreciated.

Donations to 'Stock and Bradley Chronicle' should be sent to the Treasurer

Mrs Mary Waring 'Staddle Stones', Stock Green, Redditch B966TB

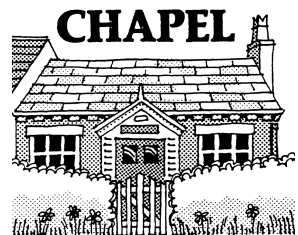
Or by bank transfer to HSBC Account No 31264001 Sort code 40 43 54

## **Stock Green Baptist Chapel.**

Services First and Third Sundays every month

at 3.00pm

ALL WELCOME



**WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL  
COUNCILS**

Casual Vacancy :

**THE PARISH COUNCIL OF STOCK & BRADLEY  
IN THE WARD OF INKBERROW**

**ANNOUNCE A VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR**

**TO BE FILLED BY CO-OPTION**

The above Parish Council will consider filling by co-option a casual vacancy for a Councillor at its Annual Parish Council meeting to be held.

**on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**at 7.30 pm**

Those who are interested in serving the community in this way and want to become a candidate for co-option should obtain an application form for candidacy from the Clerk. Completed application forms should be returned to the Clerk by

**9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Information on eligibility, the role of the Parish Council and its schedule of meetings may be obtained from the Clerk and/or the Chairman.

**Clerk & RFO Roger Dean**

**[Clerk@stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Clerk@stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk)**

**Chairman Cllr Mr Mike Hadley**

**[Chair@stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Chair@stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk)**

**17<sup>th</sup> April 2023**



Stock & Bradley Garden Club

Annual Plant sale

Saturday 13<sup>TH</sup> May

10.00 – 12.00

At Stock & Bradley

Village Hall - B96 6RW

Please if possible, bring your own bags.

Cash, cheques, & credit cards accepted.

Refreshments available



**Feckenham Parish Council Allotments  
and Conservation Garden Society**

Interested in having an allotment to grow your own vegetables and soft fruit or flowers? We currently have one full and two half plots available.

Cost - £50/£25 per annum including access to a polytunnel for growing seeds, tomatoes, and other tender plants. Also, a full range of gardening tools.

Contact: Gay Bligh, Secretary, [m.gbligh49@gmail.com](mailto:m.gbligh49@gmail.com) or

Paul Bradley, Treasurer, [paulbradley007@gmail.com](mailto:paulbradley007@gmail.com)

## Annual Parish Meeting Report

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April, Village Hall

Over 30 residents attended to hear a review of Village activities over the past year which included reports from:

- The Parish Council – Vice Chair Cllr Paul Langham.
- The Village Hall Committee – Chair Roger Pask.
- Cllr Nikki Davies reconfirmed as the Village Hall representative.
- Stock & Bradley Relief in Need Charity - Mrs Gloria Forgaard.
- The Footpath Warden – Mrs Margaret Fish, who announced that she was retiring; the Parish Council and the Community thanked her for her devotion and hard work over the years and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a “thank-you-card”. Mrs Fish added that Mr Shaun Tame was willing to take over as Footpath Warden for which he was thanked.
- Mr Chris Cooke was also introduced as the new S&B Lengthsman.

PC Chair Cllr Mr Mike Hadley also expressed grateful thanks to Cllrs Mrs Stella Wallis and Mr Mel Bates who were retiring after many years' service on the Parish Council and presented them with gifts and “thank-you” cards.

We were also very pleased that Paul Middlebrough, Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner, West Mercia, was able to attend, this was a valuable opportunity to hear his views and plans regarding policing in West Mercia and to discuss any issues the residents wished to raise. Paul is already helping us to resolve the speeding in the village firstly by fixing the OP-SNAP signs to use with your dashcams, and asking the Safer Road Partnership to be involved, who have suggested some solutions which we are exploring. Paul stated that 2,500 additional police officers had been recruited in the last 2 years, he also suggested that if any residents had any policing issues there is a central number of 0300 123 2040 where all issues can be recorded and passed to the proper section.

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council are planning to buy a 4<sup>th</sup> Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS), we will now have one at all the 4 entrances to Stock & Bradley, no other village in Worcestershire (and possibly England) will have this many VAS's.





# STOCK AND BRADLEY GARDENING CLUB

Our April 5th meeting was our Annual Bulb Show. Members brought along three cut blooms each of as many daffodil varieties as they could muster, and everyone judged each entry to decide the winner in each of the nine classes - the sight of so many different blooms was inspiring. Each member also brought along a few nibbles to share and the event was deemed to be a most enjoyable experience.



## **NEXT CLUB MEETING - Wednesday 3rd May 2023 at 7:30pm**

Our next meeting is a talk by Paul Green entitled 'Plants of the Season', and Paul will bring along plants to describe and discuss. Paul runs Greens Leaves nursery in Herefordshire and grows a very wide range of shrubs, bulbs and perennials.

## **PLANT SALE**

**- at Stock & Bradley Green Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green**  
**- Saturday 13th May 2023 from 10am to 12 noon**

Our annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 13th May 2023 from 10am to 12 noon so make a note in your diary now! If you can donate plants to add to those grown by our members, it would be greatly appreciated. There will also be a stall run by a professional nurseryman, and another selling plant supports. The event is an ideal opportunity to buy excellent plants at keen prices and is open to EVERYONE, not just Club members. Spread the word, and bring your friends.

There will be coffee and tea available, and home made cakes. There is no charge for entry, but we do appreciate it if you buy a raffle ticket at the door.

---

Membership of the Gardening Club is currently by £5.00 annual subscription which becomes due on 1st January each year, so please come prepared to renew if you haven't already done so. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'. We welcome new members to join us at any time throughout the year.

*Club meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £5.00 for 2023. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.*

*If you require any further information, ring Dinny Pynsent (Secretary) on 01527 821355 or Rob Cole (Chairman) on 07544 832052.*

# Village Hall Matters

We made our annual report for the Village Hall to an open meeting—the Annual Parish Meeting—on 12th April and again at the Village Hall AGM on 21st April. However, we are aware that many would have not been able to attend and for that reason we have made it accessible on the Village Hall web-site and summarized it below.

The report highlights the changes made during the year to enhance visibility and improve visual to make it more attractive to passing traffic. (Replacement of hedge with new fencing; new signage; freshened paintwork). A baby-changing station was added and new curtains fitted.

The most important change came with the new on-line presence—a new web-site and a Facebook page, both of which require continued promotion to would-be users. Ticket sales have moved on-line as has the hall booking system and more information about what's on is available. But we have redeveloped & maintained the Chronicle content to enable those with no electronic access to engage as previously.

A computerised book-keeping system has been introduced to ease the process and enhance accuracy of financial management.

Meanwhile the maintenance jobs keep coming! There's always something that needs doing. And while inflation has played havoc with energy costs etc., the worry remains- the big repair bill around the corner. Let alone the costs of major improvements.

With new events such as Village Hall Natters and Wreath Making and with reinstatement of the Annual Quiz and 100 Club Summer event, the use of the hall has increased as has external hire.

The 100 Club provided £1050 towards our end of year surplus and is an important source of revenue. Please support it in 2023.

In 2022 we had an income of £21,395 & spent £17,417 leaving a surplus of £3,978, of which a Covid grant was £2,667. Our surplus, net of grant, was therefore £1,311. Our end of year Bank balance was £30,607.



## Next at the Village Hall—see [sbvh.org.uk/Whatson](http://sbvh.org.uk/Whatson)

### Celebrating the King's Coronation

Afternoon Tea—Sunday 7th May 3.30-5.30pm



Afternoon tea with a glass of 'Fizz' - free to all S&B residents—please register your intention to attend with your name & post code either on WhatsApp or by emailing the Parish Council Clerk or by completing the form in the Village Hall (Breakaway, Drop-in Gardening Club etc)

### Annual Summer Party (Incl. Annual 100 Club Draw)

Sat 24th June. Save the date & watch for more details.

Open to all residents, friends & family.

#### Regular Events/Activities

Puppy Training—Sunday mornings 11.00am

Dog Training—Monday evenings 6.00pm

Scottish Country Dancing—Thurs nights 7.30pm

Zumba—Monday nights 7.30pm

Drop-in Social—2/4th Weds ea. month 10.00am

Pilates—Friday mornings 11.00am

Yoga—Tuesday Evenings 7.00pm

Art class—Restarts in hall in September

Gardening club—1st Weds ea. month 7.30pm

Breakaway Social—1st Weds ea. month 10.30am

## 100+ Club News—Lucky Winners—April Cash Draw

1st Prize—£30 Colin Armstrong (114)

2nd £20 Adam Dankenbring (44); 3rd £15 Elizabeth Langham (72)

Drawn by Mr Scott Newton

#### Contact the Village Hall

[www.sbvh.org.uk](http://www.sbvh.org.uk) [facebook.com/Stock & Bradley Village Hall](https://www.facebook.com/Stock&BradleyVillageHall)

[bookings@sbvh.org.uk](mailto:bookings@sbvh.org.uk)  
[chair@sbvh.org.uk](mailto:chair@sbvh.org.uk)  
[treasurer@sbvh.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@sbvh.org.uk)  
[100club@sbvh.org.uk](mailto:100club@sbvh.org.uk)

- Becky Harrison 07376 144830  
- Roger Pask 07976 165191  
- Keith Lawrence 07785 958755  
- Carol Newton 01386 793812



*Tickets for all our events can be purchased on-line at [sbvh.org.uk/shop](http://sbvh.org.uk/shop)*

# STOCK AND BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2022/2023

### **Proposed Solar Farm**

The parish council spent a lot of their time this year in investigating this proposal and seeking our parishioner's views. The actual planning application has now been submitted and the parish council have submitted their response which, in keeping with the overwhelming majority of our resident is to object to it. The decision, by Wychavon District Council, is not expected soon.

### **Speeding:**

Speeding vehicles are: probably the one biggest cause of concern to our parishioners and I understand that this concern is common to most villages in the area. The Parish Council has purchased three state of the art VAS machines two for Church Road, Bradley Green and the other on Earls Common Road, Stock Green. These are turned to face the incoming traffic as they enter the 30-mph zone. We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council have budgeted for a 4th Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS), we will now have one at all the 4 entrances to Stock & Bradley, no other village in Worcestershire (and possibly England) will have this many VAS's.

The PC have also convened a mtg to discuss possible solutions to the concerns expressed by the residents of Stock & Bradley to the Parish Council, regarding the excessive speeding through our village which has progressively increased over the past years.

Attending the meeting were:

Paul Middlebrough, Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner & Assistant PCCs  
Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, West Mercia

Bob Haynes, Senior Traffic Management Advisor, Road Safety, West Mercia  
Police

Paul Waterhouse, Traffic Management Advisor, Road Safety, West Mercia  
Police

Simon Campbell, responsible for the enforcement of Safer Roads and CSW.  
PCSO Vicky Elliott.

WCC Cllr Tony Miller.

Tony Morriss, Deputy Chief Executive in the Office of the PCC.

Stock & Bradley Parish Councillors

- o Mike Hadley – Chair
- o Paul Langham – Vice Chair
- o Pauline Warren
- o Nikki Davies
- o Roger Dean – Clerk

The Parish Councillors felt the meeting was productive with positive support from all attending and a plan for future actions was agreed, they thanked Paul Middlebrough for his support in facilitating and managing the meeting.

We have applied to the Safer Roads Partnership for permission to carry out our own speed enforcement, but it is a very lengthy process and despite chasing it up we still await their decision. The Parish Councillors would also like to thank PC's Edmunds and PCSO Vicky Elliot for making Stock & Bradley a regular stop for village speed checks.

### **Planning:**

We have a right to comment on planning applications and during the last year we received:

6 Applications.

8 Approvals.

1 Withdrawals.

Worth mentioning are the following:

**W/22/01269/FUL, Mr Iwaniszewski, Sika Barn**, Droitwich Road, Bradley Green, B96 6QU  
Proposed Parking and Retention of Garage/Storage Building (part retrospective application)

**Planning Contravention Notice / Enforcement Notice - ENF/22/0154** Re: "the Nest" land adjacent to former Bird in Hand, Stockwood, Inkberrow, B96 6SX - Ongoing noise and disturbance, the PC is monitoring the situation and is liaising with WRS, WDC Planning and the Police.

**Ongoing Disturbance** Upper Priest Bridge Farm, Dark Lane, Bradley Green.

As this is within FPC, Clerk has informed RBCllr Mr Matt Dormer and Mr Simon Jones, Principal Planning Officer, Bromsgrove & Redditch BC,

**W/23/00270/FUL, Mr Conor McAllister, JBM Solar Projects (UK) Ltd.**

Land At (Os 9911 5879), Earls Common Road, Stock Green Construction of a Solar Farm

**Queen's 70th Jubilee celebrations** – a beacon was lit on the hill behind Kate & Gordon Familoe on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 9.45, over 100 residents attended.

A celebration was held in the village hall from 3pm to 5 pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June with the PC providing sandwiches, cakes, tea and a glass of fizz - all residents were invited. There was evening celebration also on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June with entertainment, a paying bar and B-B-Q.

**Queen's Jubilee Garden at Priest Bridge**, the Jubilee Oak Tree and many daffodils have been planted to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

**Coronation celebration** – has been planned for the afternoon of Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, when all residents of S&B are invited to a complementary glass of fizz and refreshments in the village hall. CC Cllr Mr T Miller has generously donated £500 and the Clerk had also requested £200 from the WDC Coronation fund.

### **Flooding in Stock Green:**

Due to the nature of the environment, there is no guaranteed way to prevent future flooding, however, the Environment Agency have cleared the Stock Green Brook and have undertaken to de-silt in future years. Chair Mike Hadley and Reg Hughes participated in a Zoom meeting with WDC planning and flood elevation officers, where these issues were discussed.

### **The Parish Council Lengthsman Scheme:**

Our Lengthsman is Allen Farnsworth. The scheme has proved to be very successful, Allen has now retired, and we have signed a new contract with Mr Chris Cooke and his colleague, who services several other PCs

### **Village litter pick:**

The Council organised two "litter picks" this year, many thanks to all those who took the time to support this worthwhile activity – the whole village was covered, the Parish Council now owns 20 pickers, tabards and gloves should anyone wish to start an impromptu litter pick.

### **High Speed Broadband:**

The Parish Council is continuing contact with Airband to maintain the Highspeed Broadband "fibre to the door" throughout Stock and Bradley there are some issues but overall, it is proving successful with speeds more than 150 mbts.

### **New ways of sharing information in the village:**

The council regularly updates its web site, notice boards and the S&B Chronicle Magazine to improve communications with the residents which contain Agendas, Minutes, Accounts of the Parish Council, and other information. Some information is also put on the local WhatsApp Group.

### **Defibrillators:**

The two defibrillators, one sited at the Village Hall and the other in phone box in Stock Green have been regularly maintained, but not used. Two very successful Defib/CPR training sessions were held in the VH attended by over 40 residents.

### **Councillors and Training:**

Mike Hadley was elected Chairman and Stella Wallis Vice Chair for the coming year and Councillors and the Clerk attended several County Council and Worcestershire CALC, virtual educational and awareness seminars, and meetings.

### **Accounts:**

The accounts were approved by the external auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP. The Budget for 2023/24 has been approved and it was agreed to increase the Precept by 3% to £7,725.

The Parish Councillors would like to thank Mr Gordon Farmiloe for auditing the accounts.

The council is preparing for **PC elections** Thursday 4th May.

The council have registered a new web address – [stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk](http://stockandbradley-pc.gov.uk)

### **Donations and gifts:**

Over the past year the council have given the following:

St Richards Hospice

(on behalf of Gordon Farmiloe for Auditing the accounts) £100

Feckenham Horse Show £100

Hanbury Horse Show £500

Church £75

Christmas Raffle £600

Coronation celebration £700

In conclusion I should mention that the Parish Council is there to represent and where necessary, protect, local interests and if something arises that is of concern to the parish, the Parish Council is already in existence to deal with it.

**Cllr Mike Hadley, Chairman of S&B PC, 12th April 2023**

## BREAKAWAY

Wednesday 5th April 2023

Although the weather was dull and drizzly outside, we soon brightened up as the Village Hall was filled with people bustling about and plenty of laughter and chatter.

We had 10 guests and, hopefully, some of them will become members.

Rita welcomed everyone and informed us that the April Lunch raffle raised £137 and the overall profit was £86.02. She also thanked everyone who had donated lovely raffle prizes.

Rita then read a poem about saying goodbye to an old friend who had supported her over the years with trips to the hospital and to the airport. We were feeling quite sorry and then realised that it was her car that had failed its MOT!

Our speaker for the day was Reg Moule.

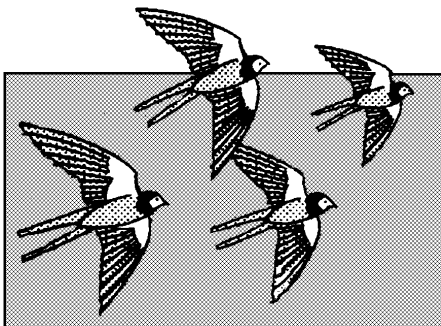
According to my iPad Reg was Pershore trained and then ran a nursery/garden centre. He is a writer in the media and spent many years as a lecturer. He is on BBC local and National radio and does a "phone in" on Radio 2. He also spent 7 years on Gardeners Diary on the TV.

Reg decided to start off by discussing peat free compost. Apparently of all the peat dug up in Ireland only 10% goes to garden compost, 90% goes to power stations. The Irish peat is pure sphagnum moss. The Balkan peat is moss mixed with sedges and other materials. The Green Party has pushed for peat free compost and all compost will be peat free by 2024.

Reg went "peat free" 2 years ago and recommended Melcourt Sylva Grow which consists of coir, green compost and composted bark. It is produced at Tetbury.

The drawbacks to peat free compost are that it dries out quickly and does not retain food. Reg therefore recommended that "little and often" works the best. Controlled release feed in granule form works well.

Reg then answered questions on tree peonies, celandines on a lawn, ivy, camellias, bay trees, cordylines and



phormiums, gunneras, houseplants and ferns.

Two highly recommended items were fleece bags - covering the plant and the pot, and the old fashioned Phostrogen feed.

After working full time in the trade for 51 years Reg moved to Rowberrys, Chaddesley Corbett in July 2016. He is there on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. He also runs tutorials on the first Tuesday in every month, except January.

Reg also answers questions on Radio Hereford and Worcester on Sunday afternoons from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. However he explained that this will only be until September when National Radio takes over Local Radio stations.

Reg stayed on to take more questions and Mary Waring gave the vote of thanks. She said that his talk had been educational, thought provoking and informative. She particularly enjoyed the gardening tips.

It was then time to draw the excellent raffle and make for home.

### Future Meetings

3rd May 2023 - Robert Hemming - "The Trouble with Trivia" - 10.30a.m.

7th June 2023 - Outing to Selly Manor - £22 per person. Coach leaves at 11.30am. Further details Pam Welsh 01386 792117 or 0758 712 976

5th July 2023 - AGM and Summer Lunch, Village Hall - 11.30am...

*An Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors*



## THOMAS BROTHERS

*A family owned Funeral Directors, we provide a friendly, dignified service paying special attention to detail.*

01527 547777

Birchfield House,  
494 Evesham Road, Redditch.  
B97 5JF



01527 831700

66 Birmingham Road,  
Bromsgrove.  
B61 0DD

01564 822001

100 Alcester Road,  
Wythall.  
B47 5HA

0121 445 3422

12A Red Lion Street,  
Alvechurch.  
B18 7LF

[www.thomasbrothers.co.uk](http://www.thomasbrothers.co.uk)

*A family concern*



**Rose & Crown** 48 High Street  
Feckenham  
B96 6HS

01527 892188

A traditional freehouse village pub  
with Food - owned and run by the  
Clarke family

**Proper Pub Food  
at Proper Prices**

*Special Dishes - every day*

**Quality locally sourced meat**

**Real Ales & Ciders**

*3 real ales on hand pumps every day.*

*Traditional ciders - fine wines*

**Open at 12 each day**

*Open for drinks **all day** Friday, Saturday & Sunday*

**Heated outdoor dining and drinking areas**

*We're Covid conscious - but the show goes on!*

**TRADITIONAL MUSIC** in the bar on  
the first Tuesday of the month - from 8pm

**MONTHLY THEMED MENUS**

**And Special Menus for Special Days**

Check our website for details

[www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk](http://www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk)

**RYAN L. BENNETT  
PAINTER AND DECORATOR**

**ESTIMATES FREE**

**188 EVESHAM ROAD,  
ASTWOOD BANK, REDDITCH,  
WORCESTERSHIRE. B96 6DT**

**☎ 01527 893162**

**Tapcast Ltd**  
Computer Services

- Computer Hardware
- Software
- Upgrades
- Security
- Office 365
- Support
- Network
- Virus/Malware

01386 792196

[jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk](mailto:jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk)





# Kington with Dormston WI

April 2023 Meeting

'Confessions of a Wine Taster' was the scheduled topic for the meeting. Quite what this would involve was a tantalising mystery. We soon discovered that David Barrie was a professional wine taster with highly developed tasting skills and in-depth knowledge and understanding of wines and other alcohol based beverages. As with so many of the speakers that make the WI a place for inspiring women, David shared the defining moments that had taken him into his specialised role. For him it began with his choice, as a school leaver, of employment in a well-known office.

Wine was just rising in popularity and the company recognised the need for staff members to be well-informed. David attended courses; heard lectures from prominent speakers and took the exams and tests that followed. With opportunities to visit wine producers abroad, David refined his skills to the point where he could recognise grape variety, vintage and provenance.

His expertise led to him becoming a key figure in the company. His daily routines covered quality control of wines bottled for sale; monitoring of imported wines and involvement in research and development.

The pinnacle of his career as a wine taster came with a move to work with an independent company in Cheltenham operating as a wine buyer and broker. In this role he needed to be able to predict how a specific wine would develop in time. David spoke without notes or illustrations. His only prop was a tumbler of water for demonstrating the process of wine tasting. His enthusiastic presentation kept his audience enthralled and there were a number of questions afterwards.

Who would have thought that the choice made by a sixteen year old boy would have had such an impact!

## Forthcoming events

Future meetings to be held at Kington and Dormston Village Hall.  
(Measures are in place to reduce the spread of infection)  
Prospective members and visitors are most welcome.

Wednesday 10th May at **7.00pm**: Annual Meeting and discussion of NFWI resolutions

Wednesday 14th June at **7.00pm**: Speaker Linda Harris - From Salcombe to Salop

In addition to the monthly meetings, members are able to join a wide range of visits, courses, talks and social events.

For further information please visit our website

<https://kingtonwithdormstonwi.weebly.com/>

NATIONAL AWARD WINNING COMMUNITY SHOP

## The Village Shop

Droitwich Road, Feckenham

**W** [feckenhamshop.co.uk](http://feckenhamshop.co.uk) **T** 01527 894475



- Coffee Shop
- Local Produce
- Deli



Weekdays 8am - 5pm  
Saturday 9am - 4pm  
Sunday 10am - 1pm



## Stock and Bradley Green Walking Group

Eight of us set off from Knightwick Surgery crossing the fast flowing river Teme towards The Talbot pup leaving the river for a time and rejoining it for a while then going right up a long steep hill looking back at great views over Whitbourne. Crossing the B4197 we started downward onto Easinghope lane towards joining the Worcestershire way through Nipple Copice heading back up hill with views of North Malvern. Then finally dropping back down towards The Talbot and back to our cars. The weather was fine and dry and we walked 3.9 miles.

Helen.

STEVE WOODWARD LTD,  
LOCAL & ESTABLISHED

**FENCING, GROUNDWORKS &  
FORESTRY CONTRACTOR**

TEL: 01527 821980  
MOBILE: 07973 735233

**LOGS - SEASONED - GOOD QUALITY -  
GOOD BURNING FIRE WOOD.**

-----Fencing -----

**Groundworks – Foundations**

Equestrian – Agricultural – Domestic  
Free estimates – over 25y experience

Based locally in Bradley Green

WD & NM Willison Ltd

Mob: 07825034320 Tel: 01527 821589

Email : [wwdandnmltd@gmail.com](mailto:wwdandnmltd@gmail.com)

# Beauty by Elizabeth

Skin Therapist  
V.L.C.T.

find us on



face  
**mapping**  
expert analysis targeted results

**dermalogica**

*Fake Bake*



Leading Nail Care

*Flexible appointment  
times available*

Telephone: 01527 822698  
Mobile: 07890 978059

Beauty therapy, bio sculpture, massage,  
facials, gel nails, waxing, eyelash tinting,  
manicure, pedicure and many more!

Cider Mill House  
Cider Mill Lane, Bradley Green  
Redditch, Worcestershire B96 6TH



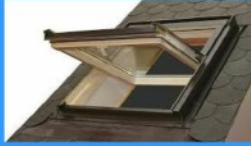
Westall Court, Holberron Green, Wors. B96 6JY

Local, family run business, fully insured, with over 30 years experience.

Tiled / Slate / Flat Roofs  
Chimney / Lead Works

Re-roofs / Roof Repairs  
Rainwater Systems

Roof Conversions  
Roof Light Installations



Tel: 01386 792638

Mob: 07733 108980

www.timbrellroofingservices.co.uk  
email: info@timbrellroofingservices.co.uk

BABIES

NURSERY AGE

SCHOOL AGE

# SWIMMING LESSONS

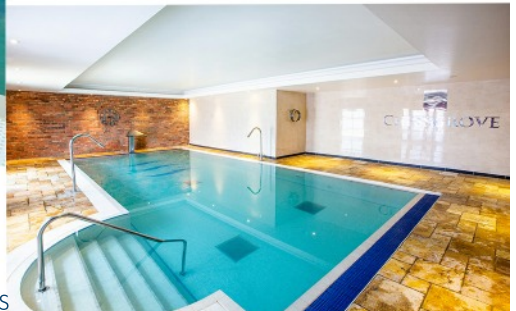
Highly Qualified Teachers

Private, Purpose Built Pool

Free Parking



info@chessgroveswim.co.uk  
www.chessgroveswim.co.uk



Ditchford Bank Road, Hanbury, Bromsgrove, B60 4HS



Supporting  
Women V Cancer  
&  
Acorns Childrens  
Hospice



# The Big Breakfast

Sunday 21st May  
8am- 12noon

Stock & Bradley  
Village Hall

For tickets visit  
[www.sbvh.org.uk/shop](http://www.sbvh.org.uk/shop)