

# Bushley News

April 2025

*The Voice of the Village*

Nº:654

***In memory of Phil Hoggood  
Bushley News Assistant & Editor  
1951 – 2025***

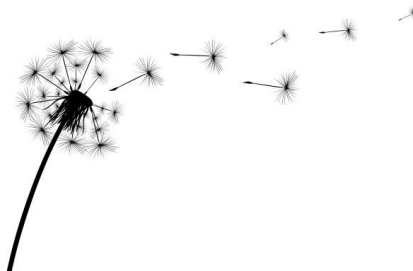


Spring is sprung, the grass is ris  
I wonder where the birdies is  
They say the bird is on the wing, but that's absurd  
From what I heard, the wing was on the bird.

This is one version of a little ditty attributed to Ogden Nash and a favourite of Spike Milligan but also, a reflection of Phil's sense of humour.

Phil started his journey with the Bushley News in 2019 by assisting the previous editor, Andrew Crowther (Jottings of a Retired Country GP) with printing and folding copies at Bushley Village Hall. From there, he took on the editorship and was very particular about wanting each edition to look 'right'. He was proud of what he achieved and most importantly of his contribution to the Bushley community in which he loved living.

Thank you again, on Phil's behalf, to anyone and everyone who contributes articles, donations, delivering copies and for all who simply enjoy reading the Bushley News with a cuppa. One more Earl Grey for Phil please!



## The View from the Pulpit

Dear Friends,

It seems the essence of joy has been sucked out of our everyday lives so that all we are left with is doom and gloom. Any news about the Church of England on any of our television seems to tell of failing clergy, falling buildings, or falling numbers. All this bad news seems quite ironic when we take into account that the Church, is entrusted with God's Good News. Have we forgotten what the Good News is, or are we keeping it a secret?



The Christian meaning of the Good News is centred on the Easter message, that Jesus Died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Day. When those women discovered the empty tomb and were told by the angel "He is not here, He is risen" they turned their back on the grave and ran with great joy to tell the disciples what they had seen. The important word is "Joy," Christ died, he was buried, but he would rise again. The grave could not hold him and because of what he did the grave cannot hold us either. This is the promise which Jesus made before he died, that he would rise again on the third day. It was a promise that the first disciples heard but did not fully understand.

It was only when they visited the empty tomb, they realised the full extent of what Jesus had meant. When the stone was rolled away on that first Easter morning, it wasn't to let Jesus out, it was to let us in, to show us that death is not the end but a new beginning. It is a beginning which proclaims the victory of life over death. It allows us to turn our back on the grave and to face our future with faith, hope and confidence in God's promises. May the Good News be yours this Easter.

It should not be too difficult for Christians to find new ways to share Easter joy with our neighbours. We've fifty days to triumph in Jesus' defeat of death. Easter sees the return of "the Gloria" during the Sunday Eucharist, and the singing of the "Alleluia" at the gospel too. Christian worship takes on a joyful quality as Jesus' resurrection is marked, and flowers return. Those present at the Holy Trinity Shrove Tuesday pancake party might have seen local children burying our "Alleluia". The plaque remains in the ground until Easter when it will be dug up with great fanfare. No doubt some of the congregation considered the Vicar quite mad for bringing back an obscure mediaeval devotional practice. But the reason for embracing these (para)liturgical customs is because they can be the means by which human hearts are drawn to worship.

The seasons no longer simply "pass", but are marked in diverse ways, allowing time itself to be redeemed. Christians believe that through baptism, God gives us a gift called "grace". Grace is the free and undeserved help which enables humanity to respond positively to God's call. St Thomas Aquinas claimed that "grace perfects nature", by which he meant that God does not need to destroy our humanity to bring us into the divine life. St Thomas was not suggesting that anybody would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ by being left to their own devices.

All human beings are called to hear the message of the gospel, and to respond to it. But perhaps people might be more open to hear the message of the good news when it is enacted through our commonplace rituals such as eating and drinking. Birthdays, graduations, and anniversaries continue to be celebrated regardless of religious practice, but we might find creative ways to develop these rituals, to reconnect them with the Christian faith. We don't need to eschew Easter eggs, but can enjoy them as a part of our feasting, and use them as a means through which to speak about the resurrection. No doubt supermarkets would prefer that mince pies, easter eggs, hot cross buns all remained available throughout the year if it would boost sales. In subtle ways, the free market seeks to flatten time, and to ensure that every day is the same as another. Without the Sabbath, everybody might be expected, indeed, even coerced into working all of the time. The puritans, in 1644, also sought to abolish the Christian feasts of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost, albeit due to the excessive behaviour that sometimes accompanied their celebration. Their attempts failed; riots broke out. If grace perfects human nature, rather than seeking to destroy it, we need not fear celebrations, even extravagant ones. We do not need to have our friends understand every nuance of the Bible before they receive an Easter card. We do not need to share our neighbours' religion to offer them a plate of hot cross buns. It is common now for Muslims to invite Christians to Iftar meals, but how might we extend a similar hospitality throughout our fifty-day celebration of Easter? Let us share with our community the ways in which we have experienced God's abundant new life breaking forth in our midst.

With God's blessings this Lent, Rev'd Julie James  
Tel: 01531 651795, Email: Julie.m.james@btinternet.com

**Services** at St Peter's Church, Bushley, have now moved to the **first** Sunday of the month.

Next service: **08:30 on Sunday 6th April**, then **08:30 on Sunday 4th May**.

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

For details of the Benefices of Berrow and Longdon: <https://berrowlongdon.org.uk/resources>

## **EASTER CELEBRATION: SUNDAY 20TH APRIL**



14:30: short family service at St Peter's Church.

15:00: for all, an Easter Egg Hunt in the Community Garden with refreshments, quiz and raffle.

There will also be a dawn chorus walk and open farm.

Kate Briggs is looking for helpers and refreshments for all village events. If you're able to assist, please contact Kate directly on 07878 749464.

# April and Sweet Spring Showers

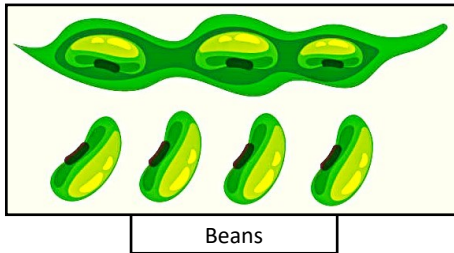
It's a gorgeous time of year; each day springs new surprises and green is appearing on the trees. Mind you, no time to sit and admire as there's a huge amount to do, cutting back here, digging up there, reconnect the outside tap only to find that it has again sprung apart on its pipework.



The windflowers on my front lawn have spread like mad and make a wonderful blue carpet. They are also in one of the shrubberies here and look fantastic.

At Pershore we have begun the season of propagation; taking cuttings, putting them in big trays of cells all filled with compost ready to go into a heated and covered set of "tents" in the glasshouse to keep them at ideal temperature and moisture.

On our grounds we have had to cut down various Ash trees, and have got to them before they were too rotten—and thus dangerous—to climb. It's worth noting if you have Ash trees that it will be vastly more expensive to remove them if they get to the dangerous stage. Should keep us in firewood for a bit and there is a plan to plant a Hawthorn or two along the ditchline; good for wildlife and a joy to behold.



Much muck spreading is going on; I don't mean on farmland although that is also the case; this is me spreading compost around the place. Very satisfying.

The broad beans are just beginning to show through, and I was reading about "leguminarians" people who use a lot of beans and pulses which provide protein, and also the roots fix nitrogen in the soil so it's a win-win situation. Apart from the tendency of pulses to, er, produce wind...

In Medieval times "peasen" provided a lot of the food necessary to keep people fed. "Pease pudding hot, pease pudding cold, pease pudding in the pot, nine days old."

For farmers the cost of fertiliser has gone up enormously so having nitrogen-fixing crops is the way to go. Also, we are noticing that in many areas the run-off from fertilised fields may have a detrimental effect on wildlife, especially plants.

The grass is springing up and has already had a couple of cuts.

Now, dare I admit it? There have been one or two dandelions growing in awkward places that have been weed killed. As far as possible I try not to use chemicals in the garden, but sometimes I'm a bit defeated.

Keep gardening and enjoy your patch as much as I enjoy mine.

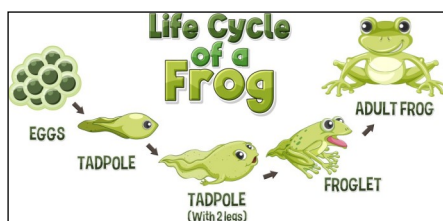
Penelope Tubbs



## In Touch with Nature

Very much on the wing has been the Barn Owl, with lots of good local photos and videos posted on our WhatsApp group. We have had lots of sightings from the bottom of our garden, one included a successful drop on to prey [probably a vole] which was taken into a tree for consuming. I am now wondering if there is more than one pair, but the fact that the sightings are being made from early evening with lots of daylight left and throughout the village could also suggest extreme hunger. When feeding nestlings, with parents often still out hunting early mornings and evenings, the long cold winter may well have taken its toll on the owl's food supply. A nesting pair or two in the village would be wonderful, let's hope.

More frost related problems; we had frogspawn in our garden pond at the end of February. There were five masses, all seem to have succumbed to the frosts. There are two later masses which may have survived, we'll see. There are also two lots in the pond on the "Green" currently looking ok.



Took the first week of March till I saw my first butterfly, a Brimstone in the sunshine, what a heart lifting sight. Then the cold weather returned, yuk. The old naturalists in the days of plenty, used to say that the Brimstone pollinated the Primrose, our garden is a mass of primroses, yellows and pinks of every shade. I remember back in the 1980's whilst working at Pull Court, I was asked by my auntie May, who used to visit the Court as a child before she was wed, and the Dowdeswell's still lived in the mansion," do they still have red primroses in the woods". Yes, they did. Promiscuous lot Primulas, I often get red Cowslips and of course there's the False Oxlip a hybrid of the Primrose and Cowslip, don't ask me who the father is.

The pond on the "Green" really does need some rain, I worry it will just dry up in the Summer. We do seem to be in a rain shadow, missing all those topping up showers. Two of my authors tell me that February is the wettest month in Herefordshire and the driest month in Lincolnshire, strange for such a small island.

Lovely to see the Red Kite back with us, most have wintered in southern France and Spain, now back to breed, here perhaps. Looking forward to the Bluebell Walk and the Dawn Chorus Walk/stand and listen, wish my hearing was better, not done one of those for a while. Maybe not as prolific as Kempley or Dymock but our wild Daffodils offer quality on the "Green".

Best sighting? The Brimstone.  
Martin R.

## 1st Bicycle 1817

Laufmaschine (German for running machine)  
It didn't have any pedals, had to be propelled by the rider



## View from the Saddle

The Queens Head, Longford, beckoned which entailed a ride through the lanes until you arrive at Maisemore. At this point we join the river path, which had my front tooth some years ago. Then under Over Bridge which always seems a bit strange. As we came out onto the Gloucester side a huge bullock stood in the way, he was being guided by a cowman so nothing to worry about. The ground seemed badly cut up and slightly suspicious but onwards. Then horror of horror, a herd of this

mate's friends blocked our way. Not being a total coward, I asked the Artist, who has previous with these bovine monsters, to lead the way. All was well, a small diversion around them ensured that we were safe. Looking back, I noticed that they were primarily interested in a huge breakfast of hay that had just been delivered. No more issues other than a amazing view of Gloucester Cathedral as we cycled around it, which looked magnificent. It dates to 681 the current building was dedicated in 1100 and has a history to fill many pages. The route we take passes Kingsholm which brings me back to the bullocks I mentioned earlier, having stood in the Shed on several occasions I have enormous respect for the players and would not wish to upset any of them.



There is history everywhere. The Queen's Head in Longford dates back to 1851. Currently it is run by a Gloucester family and welcomed by Donna, 9 of us we settled down to a very entertaining lunch. Donna explained that there is a lady ghost who gets upset if anyone sits in her seat and guess what happened the Actor unknowingly sits in the exact space and without any exaggeration, he spilt his whole pint, difficult to explain! There were also at least 2 birthday parties taking place resulting in several invitations to join their celebrations being sent to us. Men in lycra!!

A local ride took us to the Village Inn, Twynning, via a 14-mile loop. Being a very fresh morning there were several stops to add clothing and then disrobe when we got hot. It was National Pie week so except for a couple we enjoyed a good pie with a variation of duvets. The only excitement was when the Artist appeared with a very unpleasant bruise on his knee, all repaired now.

Respecting the recovery period for the Artist's knee we lunched in one of the many Farmer's Arms we know, this time in Apperley. The Artist denies the suggestion that all farmers are reliant on their local but they do work extremely hard and deserve an odd pint or two. Our lunch was as usual very good with well-kept beer. We avoided the temptation of a pud as that would have taken us way beyond our budget.

The Royal Exchange, Hartbury, is a great pub and is reputed to be the site where Cavalier and Roundhead prisoners were exchanged during the English Civil War, what has changed in all those years? The pub is owned by the Chamberlayne family along with the Red Lion

which is currently closed due to flooding this winter. We were down in numbers due to holidays and various injuries. Even so, 7 sat down to an excellent lunch. As the weather was exceptional, we enjoyed the sun, views and banter sitting outside for the first time this year. Butty is one of our favourite beers, unfortunately it was cloudy so without debate it was changed.

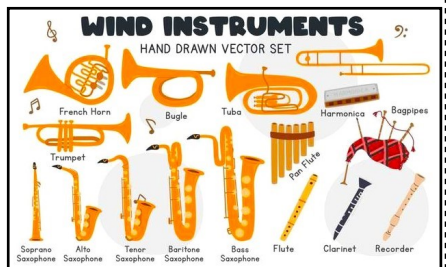
Driving to Hartbury is approximately 9 miles, our tour of the countryside was 16 miles. Through empty lanes passing the Orchards in Blackwells End which contain the National Perry Collection which were not in flower but a spectacle in the spring. The lanes at the back of Hartbury are very busy with horse traffic but we had no issues. As usual we were challenged by a road closed sign but after a quick conversation and a promise of a pint in the pub we were waved through! The Royal Exchange is well supported by the College and University which is less than a mile away, about 40 youngsters were lunching and I am sure that they were revising for their exams!

Happy and safe cycling.  
Keith Davis

### Queenhill WI Report March 2025

We arrived at our monthly meeting to see, at the far end of the Hall, two recycle bins, a very large number of carefully wrapped things (we had no clue as to what they were), and several suitcases and boxes. Our speaker was very busy arranging them. What was this about? We thought the topic was to be about canals. Obviously not!

Following the business meeting where we discussed upcoming events, we found out. The speaker, David Warnham, had brought with him forty one wind instruments from different parts of the world, some old and some not; some well-established in musical tradition and others more innovative and experimental. We could identify a few of them but most had names that were unfamiliar. These were his "Tuneful Tubes".



For the rest of the talk he demonstrated the sounds produced by each instrument and talked a little about how and when they were used. David certainly needed a lot of breath and skill. For us it was amusing and entertaining (and sometimes a challenge to the eardrums)! No wonder he was asked where he practised playing them.

The meeting finished with a raffle, an opportunity to chat and an excellent tea.

Our next meeting is on Thursday April 10th at 2.30pm when the speaker will be Christine Armstrong talking about Exploring Argentina. Come and join us at WI Hall, WR8 0QZ, if you are interested. You will be made very welcome.

Doreen Small

# Jottings of a Retired Country GP

## Is the NHS in trouble?



If we are to believe the news reports, the NHS is in chaos and in trouble. Is this really true? Urgent problems will be seen quickly in GP surgeries or in hospitals. If you go to any of our GPs or local hospitals with a genuine medical problem, you will be seen and treated in an appropriate way. If 'only' 80% of patients are seen within the 4 hour waiting time standard (set arbitrarily) that means that 8 out of 10 patients do get seen within that time limit. Patients will be triaged, or 'sorted' into a queue to be seen, the most serious being seen soonest. There is only so much that the staff can cope with at any one time.

Patients may have to wait to be seen, that's a fact. Delays have been made worse by Covid and the radical changes that were made to the GP contract 20 years ago. Many of us older GPs thought that was a mistake. Reports of difficulties seeing a GP in certain parts of the country, especially in big towns, are often from people who have lost the ability to sort out minor problems themselves. Patients can receive information about many minor problems from pharmacies, but pharmacists are trained in the use of drugs, not in the diagnosis of the less common medical conditions.

Medicine is an imprecise subject. There are many possible answers when a diagnosis is required to match the symptoms that the patient presents to the clinician. It is up to the patient to be as accurate as possible

when describing their symptoms, especially when one cannot see or feel the cause for concern. Many patients just do not feel very well and assume that they have something badly wrong with their health. That is perfectly reasonable, but they must be able to put their concerns into words so that the clinician or pharmacist can make a reasonable decision. This does not happen on the telephone 'helplines' where the operators are following a computer checklist. However clever the questions are from a computer many requests will end with a suggestion to attend a GP or hospital, which just adds to the delays.

Hospitals with 24-hour open doors will take the brunt of these referrals because the 24/7 availability of your GP is no longer an option. In the past GPs were on call at night and over weekends. Human life and illness does not stop at 6pm on a Friday! Life goes on, so medical services need to go on too. If the problem is to do with the mental state of the patient, sorting them out will take much longer.



But there is an answer! Many patients in hospitals may be ready to be discharged with help in the community, up to 40% of inpatients in some hospitals. But until community services like our Community Hospitals, district nursing services, nursing homes, home support services and volunteers are properly recognised, funded and increased, the log-jam in A & E departments will continue. Just possibly the Health Service is coming to recognise this home-truth. Some hospitals are reported to



be speeding up their services by fast-tracking non-emergency patients for a quick diagnosis, treatment and discharge. This is one sensible way to reduce waiting times in A & E. Those needing admission still have to wait until a bed becomes available in a ward.

Things can only get better – we hope! Is the NHS really ‘in crisis’? A lot of patients are seen and treated by a struggling NHS workforce, about 1.7 million every day! That is hardly a sign of failure.

Andrew Crowther

## Bushley Parish Council

The Parish Clerk (at the direction of Bushley Parish Council) recently requested Worcestershire Highways to clear vegetation encroaching on the pavement pathway of the A438, from the Mythe Bridge to the Oxhey junction. At the time of writing, this work is underway and will significantly improve pedestrian access to and from Tewkesbury.



The Parish Council would like to thank those villagers who recently organised a working party to litter pick along both verges of the A438, from Green Street junction back to Bushley, via the Oxhey. It's an unpleasant task and a potentially dangerous one, showing great community spirit.

Also, thank you to Colin Garfield for improving the drainage channels (grips) on Bushley Bank; it can only help with managing the excess water run-off experienced in recent times.

The **Bushley Parish Council Annual Open Meeting** is scheduled for the evening of **15th May 2025**. Further details will appear next month.

Just a reminder of **Roadworks between 19-05-2025 to 06-06-2025**. **Location:** Between Mythe bridge and the turning for Bushley. The road will be closed for ONE DAY in date window above as it is being resurfaced. There will then be subsequent closures for a FEW HOURS at 24 hours, 48 hours, and 7 days after for carriageway sweeping. After these closures there may be further closures as required for replacing any lining or cats eyes. Dates and times are weather dependent and therefore can not be more specific. The road will **not** be closed constantly for 3 weeks but will be closed intermittently within that period for short durations.

**Daniel Hinde**  
Bushley Parish Council Clerk  
[clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
<https://bushleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

### **Village Hall Cleaner Wanted: For more info, contact Rachel Perry, 07594 853620**

We are looking for a reliable and conscientious individual to help maintain and clean our village hall after each booking. **Details**—Pay: £12.21 per hour, Hours: Flexible, approx. 1 hr after each booking. **Duties**—General cleaning, polishing the floor with buffing machine after large party functions, checking toilets, reporting breakages or repairs if needed. **Payment:** monthly on receipt of invoice.

## View from between the Bears



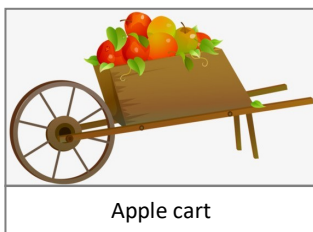
I remember writing before that ‘A peck of March dust is worth a king’s ransom’, but it hasn’t been relevant for quite a few years. This March we have had little if any rain so far. Fields are drying up fast, and work to put right the problems of a wet autumn and winter is well under way. We have replanted most of the area sown to winter wheat with spring wheat and yes, we have had some dust flying off the harrows as we finished off the fields. Potato planting is going on at a pace not possible in the last couple of years as well.

Some cattle have been let out from their winter quarters, where ground conditions allow. Although this is on the early side, it helps to keep the grass growth under control. If the weather turns wet again they can still come back into the yards and fresh young grass will be growing for them when they return. There is plenty of moisture in undisturbed ground to keep growth going; newly cultivated ground dries out much quicker and newly planted crops would benefit from one good soaking. This the conundrum which faces mixed farming; what is needed for one field might be wrong for the one on the other side of the hedge, so you can never be right. On the other hand, you can rarely be completely wrong!

In a shock move, the government has shut the Sustainable Farming Initiative [SFI]

scheme to new applicants. This is one of the schemes designed to replace the income lost to English farmers from reducing the Basic Payment Scheme paid throughout Europe.

Most existing ‘Stewardship’ schemes have transferred to SFI without much trouble, but many farmers were still uncertain which way to go with multiple options and combinations possible in SFI. The spring weather was to be a decider for many, as planting options became clearer. DEFRA Secretary Steve Reed had previously stated that it was not the governments intention to “upset the apple cart” regarding



Environmental Land Management programmes [of which SFI is a part]. But NFU President Tom Bradshaw says they have “dropped a stick of dynamite” which has “blown up the apple cart”, further destabilising an already fragile

sector. SFI had already come in for a lot of criticism from farm leaders over lack of detail and delays in it’s implementation. Most farmers had spent considerable time and effort preparing applications which were not allowed with immediate effect. “The trust of the industry in the sponsoring department is at an all time low.” Mr Bradshaw stated.

The number of cattle culled because of Bovine TB in Wales has risen by 27% in 2024 to a new record number, 13,034. Wales has not culled badgers, but has vaccinated them instead. The Welsh government said it is committed to eradicating bTB in Wales and

recognises the devastating effects on farmers, their families and workers. NFU Cymru president Aled Jones called the figure “sobering” adding, “We continue to call for a comprehensive TB eradication strategy that deals with this disease wherever it exists.”

The High Court has ruled that chicken manure should be classified as ‘waste’ and face an extra level of rules and regulations over it’s disposal and use. This is in response to understandable concerns about river quality especially the Wye. I was interested to talk to a chicken farmer who told me the UK is still little more than 50% self-sufficient in chicken, with much of the balance imported from the Far East and Canada. I wonder how regulated their poultry industry

is? On a similar theme Oil Seed Rape production in the UK has fallen to it’s lowest level since 1983, about 25% of it’s highest acreage. Since the neonicotinoid seed dressings were banned in this country the crop has been difficult to establish reliably and has fallen out of favour as an arable break crop. However, demand for rape oil remains strong, the deficit being imported. At least 60% of the imports come from countries where neonics are still used, Argentina, Australia and Ukraine among others. Where is the sense in shipping grain which was previously grown in this country, half way round the world?

Tim Perry

## Bushley Cricket Club Events

Gardener’ Question Time: Friday 4th April 2025, 7:30pm

Reg Moule will be providing answers to Gardeners’ Questions, **£5 on the door** includes tea, coffee and cake in the interval. Reg is on local radio regularly and many of you will have seen him with us before. The evening is always different, interesting and amusing. Card payments can be made at the bar, which will be open all evening. Hope to see you there. More details if required 07812 179002. Tim Perry

Bluebell Walk: Easter Monday 21st April 2025, 2:00pm start



We are pleased to be walking the woods again this year to appreciate the bluebells growing there. We are holding it on Easter Monday starting from the cricket pavilion. The walk is about a mile and a half largely on farm tracks which can be a little challenging in places; sturdy footwear essential. Dogs are welcome but must be kept on leads through the woods. It is on Forthampton Estate land not usually available to the public, we are grateful for permission to access these areas for the day. After the walk

we return to the pavilion for afternoon tea, quite possibly the high spot of the afternoon for some! The cost is **£6 per person**, payable by cash or card.

The bar is open for events at the club.

## Bushley Community Garden Updates



### 'The Big Build'!

In October last year Bushley Community Gardeners applied for and were successful in securing a £250.00 micro grant from Malvern Hills District Council.

This money has now been used to build a 4-section bench seating area, which will be positioned around one of the apple trees in the Community Garden. Left over wood also enabled 2 smaller benches to be built. These benches will be used as a versatile social space at different locations in the garden and will enhance social occasions. They will provide a shady spot for villagers to chat, rest, relax and reflect, and will provide an open-ended resource, creating endless opportunities for imaginary play for young children. Eg, bench sections could be used to create, a boat, train, bridge, car, bus etc. We are also planning to add boxes of natural resources for children to use as props to enhance and stimulate their imaginative play.

'The big build' was a lovely village social occasion and took place at Churchend Cottage on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. We were lucky enough to be blessed with a warm sunny day. Eleven keen builders and a large collection of various power tools were all very busy during the morning. There was much concentration, measuring, sawing, drilling, etc, and those not so familiar with power tools enjoyed having a go! Delicious bacon rolls and homemade cakes were provided for sustenance!





Photos: Various stages of construction and final product to prove weight-bearing capabilities!



**The Community Gardeners resumed their Monday morning sessions at the Community Garden on 31st March, 10:30—12:30.** The wonderful weather helped to start tackling the many Spring jobs with enthusiasm, including tree pruning.

The Community Gardeners would warmly welcome anyone joining, or dropping in to say hello, chat, and partake in coffee and delicious cake! If anyone wishes to help out on other days, there is usually a list of tasks that need completing on the blackboard/shed door.

The Village Hall and Community Garden are a valuable asset to Bushley and really need and appreciate all the support that villagers and the wider community provide.

Rose Willis

Separately, in mid-March and following a direct request, the Community Garden was presented with a new Mountfield Petrol mower by Bredon School headmaster. This was great news as there are now both brand new electric and petrol mowers ready for use. Thanks to all who helped towards this envious position! Our grass will be spoilt!

Jason Kinghorn



Thank you for the generous donations received from the following:  
£20 from Lin and Paul F, £10 from Jean M.

Donations are required in order to keep the Bushley News in print though we are considering an opt-in approach for hard copy delivery in future. If you have any comments on this, or would like to make a donation, please contact [BushleyNewsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:BushleyNewsEditor@gmail.com).



TEWKESBURY  
FIELDS

BARCHESTER HEALTHCARE

# SCARECROW COMPETITION



*Get involved  
in the fun!*

## Enter our community scarecrow competition!

We would like to encourage all businesses, charities, schools and community groups to take part in this competition.

The scarecrows will be displayed on the lawn at Tewkesbury Fields, and judging will take place on Sunday 11th May at our May Festival public event.

For further details please contact Tewkesbury Fields on 01684 850 311 or via email to [tewkesburyfields.activities@barchester.com](mailto:tewkesburyfields.activities@barchester.com)

[www.facebook.com/TewkesburyFieldsCareHome](https://www.facebook.com/TewkesburyFieldsCareHome) - Barchester Healthcare

**All competition entries must be in by 7th May!**

Tewkesbury Fields Care Home, The Oxhey, Tewkesbury, Gloucester, GL20 6HP

## STUDENTS & APPRENTICES

If you are a student or an apprentice and live in the Parishes of Ripple, Bushley, Queenhill or Holdfast, the Ancient Parish of Ripple Trust can help you!

This **charitable Trust provides financial support** [for students who are enrolled at a university or college offering courses beyond A-level and will also give grants towards apprenticeship training following secondary school.](#) This support can be used for books and equipment necessary for course work and may also cover some travel expenses.

For details and an application form, please send an email to:

[aprtrust2023@yahoo.com](mailto:aprtrust2023@yahoo.com)

The Trustees will meet again in May to consider applications which should be received by [Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025.](#)

### Worcestershire County Council (WCC) Elections - Thursday 1st May 2025

In January 2025, the leader of WCC asked the Government to cancel the scheduled County elections in May to allow for the reorganisation of local government in Worcestershire. The Government have since confirmed that Worcestershire will not be included in the first wave of local government reorganisation and the scheduled polls will go ahead on Thursday 1 May 2025 as usual.

This election will be held using the new boundaries and electoral arrangements put in place by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) following their review of Worcestershire County Council. The LGBCE made minor changes to the division boundaries and division names within Malvern Hills District. There will continue to be 8 County divisions within Malvern Hills; each division is represented by a single elected member. A map of the new division boundaries and further information can be found on the [LGBCE's website](#).

Information about this election can be found on [Worcestershire County Council's website](#).

Voting will take place at Bushley Village Hall and polling cards should have been received by now. Voters must show photo identification (ID) before they vote at a polling station. This could be a photo driving licence, passport, older persons bus pass or PASS card. A full list of the ID documents we can accept is available on the [Electoral Commission website](#).

# THE BUSHLEY DIARY

*Your Guide to Activities in the Village (See Notes below)*

Day	Date/Month	Event	Time	Location
Wed	2nd Apr	Pilates	09:30 - 10:30	Village Hall
Thurs	3rd Apr	Hand Bells	18:30 - 19:30	St Peter's Church
Fri	4th Apr	Gardeners Question Time	19:30 start	Cricket Club
Sun	6th Apr	Church Service	08:30-09:30	St Peter's Church
Mon	7th Apr	Community Gardening	10:30 - 12:30	Community Garden
Mon	7th Apr	Bowls	19:00 - 21:00	Village Hall
Tue	8th Apr	Tewkesbury Flower Club	13:00 - 16:30	
Thu	10th Apr	Hand Bells	18:30 - 19:30	St Peter's Church
Mon	14th Apr	Community Gardening	10:30 - 12:30	Community Garden
Mon	14th Apr	Bowls	19:00 - 21:00	Village Hall
Tue	15th Apr	Craft Club	10:00 - 12:00	
Thu	17th Apr	Hand Bells	18:30 - 19:30	St Peter's Church
Sun	20th Apr	Easter Sunday Service	14:30 - 15:00	
Sun	20th Apr	Easter Egg Hunt	15:00 start	Community Garden
Mon	21st Apr	Community Gardening	10:30 - 12:30	
Mon	21st Apr	Bluebell walk	14:00 start	Cricket Club
Mon	21st Apr	Bowls	19:00 - 21:00	Village Hall
Wed	23rd Apr	Pilates	09:30 - 10:30	
Wed	23rd Apr	Funeral Service	10:30 - 18:00	St Peter's Church & Village Hall
Thu	24th Apr	Hand Bells	18:30 - 19:30	St Peter's Church
Mon	28th Apr	Community Gardening	10:30 - 12:30	Community Garden
Mon	28th Apr	Bowls	19:00 - 21:00	Village Hall
Tue	29th Apr	Parish Council Meeting	19:30 - 21:00	
Wed	30th Apr	Pilates	09:30 - 10:30	
Thurs	01-May	Elections	All day	
Fri	02-May	First Friday	19:00 - 23:00	Cricket Club
Sun	04-May	Church Service	08:30 - 09:30	St Peter's Church

**Note 1:** For Bushley Village Hall, contact Jason Kinghorn: 07971 084096 or Rachel Perry: 07594 853620.

Website: [bushleyvillagehall.org.uk](http://bushleyvillagehall.org.uk)

**Note 2:** Craft Club open to all. Please book via Lesley: 07920 2604668.

**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

Please send items of news 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>