

The Grapevine

No. 311

April / May 2021



‘Expect the worst; hope for the best and take what comes.’

The pupils at Madresfield School were asked to consider and write about hope.

Discover some of their thoughts on pages 10-13.

Printed copies of *The Grapevine* are available to every home in the villages of Guarlford, Madresfield and Newland. Copies in full colour are available online.

Parish Organisations

Parochial Church Council:

Rector: Rev. Gary Crellin 01905 830270 E: revgarycrellin@gmail.com
Vice Chairman: Mrs Liz Palmer 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Parish Website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

Churchwardens:

Guarlford -

Madresfield - Mr Christopher Bennett, Hayswood Farm, Madresfield, 01684 891047; Mrs Liz Palmer, 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Secretary: Mrs Janet Lomas 07827 970600

Treasurer: Mr Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

The Parish Councils:

Newland Clerk: Jacqui Barker, 114 Fruitlands, Malvern WR14 4XB 01684 567674
E: newlandpc1@gmail.com

Guarlford Clerk: Mrs Gill Hollick, 2 Bamford Close, Guarlford WR13 6PF
07816 533251 E: parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com

Madresfield Clerk: Mr David Sharp, 20 Farley Road, Malvern Link
01684 573213 E: mrdasharp@btinternet.com

Guarlford Website: www.guarlfordparish.uk

County & District Councillor: Tom Wells, 27 Upton Road, Callow End WR2 4TY 01905 831752 07702 996203 E: talwells@btinternet.com

Guarlford Women's Institute: 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month.
President: Di Rivers Tel ; 01684 572381
E: wifolk@guarlfordparish.uk

Sport:

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

Madresfield Movement Club

Children's gym, dance, drama and ballet 01684 574378

The Grapevine Magazine

Editor: Ms Cora Weaver, 4 Hall Green WR14 3QX E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

Postal Distribution: Mr Andrew Tawse, 17 Madresfield Village, WR13 5AA 01684 561198

Please send **donations and advertising fees** (cheques payable to The Grapevine) to the treasurer: Shelagh Thorne, 3 Chance Lane WR14 3QZ

What's On in the Parish

Meditation Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm 01905 831048 or 01684 561004.

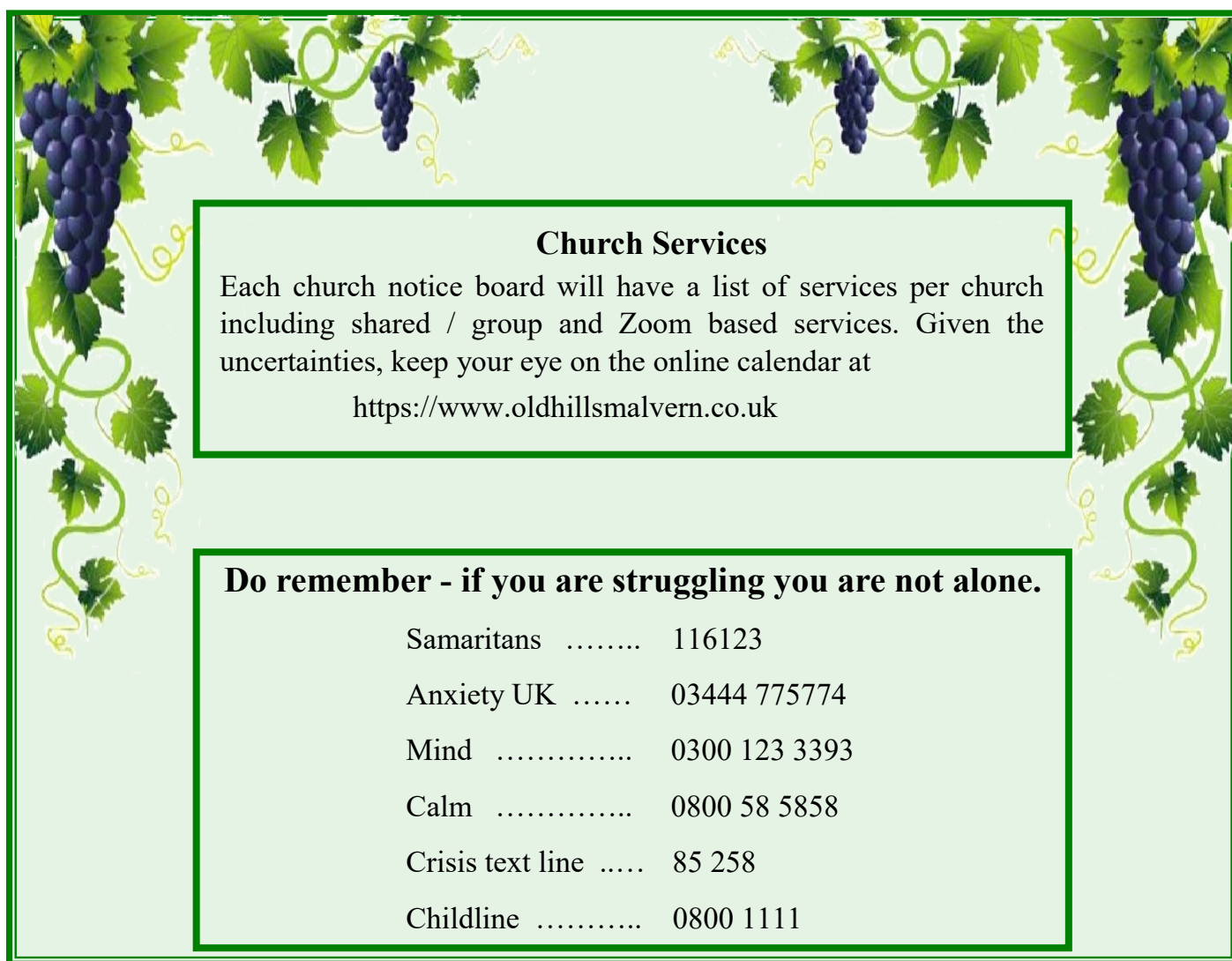
Tower Bell Ringers every Monday at 7.30 in Madresfield Church.

Guarlford W.I every second Tuesday in the month at Guarlford Village Hall.

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

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

Newland Parish Council bi-monthly on Mondays in the Boardroom, Beauchamp Community, 7.30.



Church Services

Each church notice board will have a list of services per church including shared / group and Zoom based services. Given the uncertainties, keep your eye on the online calendar at

<https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk>

Do remember - if you are struggling you are not alone.

Samaritans	116123
Anxiety UK	03444 775774
Mind	0300 123 3393
Calm	0800 58 5858
Crisis text line	85 258
Childline	0800 1111

The Grapevine Timetable 2021

Edition	Deadline date	Collation date (Tuesday)
June / July	8th May	25th May
August / Sept	8th July	20th July
October / November	8th September	21st September

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WHERE TO FIND THE GRAPEVINE ONLINE FROM MARCH 2021.

- * http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/vill_mag.htm This site also displays past editions.
- * <http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/news.htm>
- * <https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk/>
- * www.madresfieldschool.net
- * <https://www.beauchampstleonard.org>
- * Google Guarlford in Worcestershire County Council's website.

A new QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches



Chances are, you will have already seen these little boxes with strange looking black markings. They are quite out there at the moment. If you have a phone or a tablet, you can use it to scan this box - and if you do, it will take you directly to the Churches' website. No need to remember the www. address - scan and be teleported (or something) straight to the website. Give it a go.

Financial Help for Those in Need

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

The Covid pandemic has made life very tough for many. The trustees would like to help anyone within our parishes who needs support during this very challenging time.

If you would like to apply for financial support, please contact Rev Gary Crellin through the contact details below.

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

To make an application please contact:

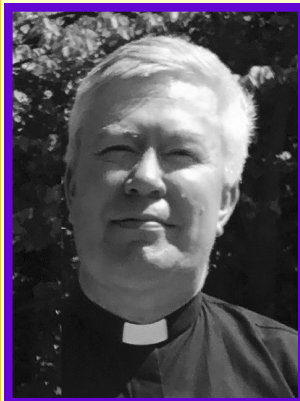
Rev Gary Crellin, The Vicarage, 31 The Greenway
Colletts Green, Powick WR2 4RZ
Email: revgarycrellin@gmail.com

I am delighted to report that Avril has at last reached her target of £10,000 for **Cancer Research** in memory of our daughter Kate. Come April, it will be nine years since Kate passed away .

Covid seriously disrupted Avril's schemes to reach this figure but, with donations from Kate's wonderful godmothers, she secured her target at last. Avril continues to raise funds for Kate's Cancer Charity by donating the equivalent of ALL of her vouchers received from the Office for National Statistics for taking part in their National survey for Covid (as also her husband). Avril thanks everyone who supported her along the way, not least **Grange Farm Nursery** who continue to maintain their support, and crafted cards will continue to be available there.



Noel Deam



Vicar's Letter: April / May 2021

I have a particular fondness for **daffodils**.

Perhaps I should, as one

of my illustrious predecessors decided to plant them all around the vicarage garden: each border seems to have ranks of miniature tête-a-tête **daffodils** at this time of year. Then there are the ones

growing in the middle of the lawn. Don't get me onto the roses... Over on Colletts Green, Madresfield Court and throughout



the churchyard at Guarlford, daffodils continue to bloom. They have taken over from a heady display of **snow drops** and **crocuses**. They have always seemed to me to be a very cheery sort of flower, proud and confident with their bright yellows, contrasting with the deep green of their leaves and stalks (which make great **palm crosses** for front doors, by the way). Some have orange crowns - I am sure someone greener-fingered will tell me why or what they are called.

The daffodil is strongly associated with Wales of course but above all I think the daffodil's bright colour brings a sense of warmth and expectancy after the cold dreariness of a very long winter made harsher by lockdowns, wherever you live. Like the royal heralds dressed in their splendid robes, they announce loudly that spring is here, that the days are getting longer and the warmth will return again. There are better things to come, just wait! It's a shame we could not all gather to see them at their best on the Madresfield Estate as the Daffodil Sunday had to be cancelled.

Better things to come. With lockdown easing, and the roadmap underway, perhaps we can sense a new spring, a new normality coming to the fore. With Easter falling this month. The most joyous of Christian Feasts, there is hope to behold too. **Happy Easter to you.** He is Risen - Risen indeed - Alleluia!

He is risen! That is the very message of hope that the Bible brings. Jesus's message was one of love and compassion to all people. He often spoke of the Kingdom of Heaven, a place where all are loved and all are at peace. Jesus knew that the world was not always a place of love and compassion. He knew that many people were more interested in wealth, self-interest and were uncaring for others. During his own life Jesus went out of his way to talk to those who thought that they did not deserve God's love, or who had been cast out by the local community. He spoke with lepers, tax collectors and prostitutes, he healed and told them that they too could receive God's love. The Kingdom of Heaven is a place where all feel and experience the love of God and Jesus wanted all people to experience what heaven was like here on earth.

After his death and resurrection, Jesus entrusted his disciples to continue his work, to speak with those on the outside of the community and to show them that they are loved by God. Like the daffodils that herald the coming of better times ahead, Jesus wanted the Church to be heralds of the Kingdom of God too. The Church does that by showing compassion and love to all, and by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. The question

for all of us is how do we play our part in this? With our churches reopening and hopefully our bells ringing, we shall be proclaiming that fact loudly. And across Powick, the *Powick Parish Magazine* should be delivered to subscribers as well as remaining a feature for all on the parishes' website. As the vaccination programme gives us confidence, and if we behave ourselves, lockdown relaxation will come. However, I hope that some facets of the lockdown are not conveniently forgotten when we charge to the ('non essential') shops, queue for a haircut, plan a distant holiday. How did we tend to the lonely and the needy during the lockdowns? Who cleared the face coverings from the byways and highways? Who prayed for our villages? We were there. We must be there still.

How can we act like heralds of better things to come? Are we proud and bold like the daffodils? That is what we should strive to be, so I pray that we may all find our inner daffodil, proclaiming God's love for all and showing people the good things that are to come.

God bless and Easter blessings to you all, Best wishes - Rev Gary

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A VOLUNTEER

We have been busy volunteering at various Covid Vaccination clinics through 'Worcester Here 2 Help'.

The one way system being used in one of the surgeries has been well throughout. Patients approach the clinic through a marquee where they are registered and their temperature is taken. Then they line up and volunteers bring them into the building a few at a time where they are shown into a treatment room.

Once the patient leaves the room they are told to go left but quite a few go right so they have to be redirected. They are told to follow the stripe on the floor that goes down the corridor into the waiting room. Half way down the corridor there is an open door and quite a few, drawn like moths into the light, disappear into this room and have to be retrieved. A volunteer stands at the end of the corridor doing an impression of an airport worker directing a plane, madly waving their arms. To get the patient to the end the corridor feels like an achievement, and once the next obstacle of a left turn into the waiting room has been conquered they should be home and dry as nothing else can go wrong. However, when faced with a room full of people sitting (socially distanced) in rows nearly everyone freezes and becomes glued to the floor and it takes a bit of coaxing to get them the final few yards into a chair for their 15 minute rest before they leave for home.

Once vacated, each and every chair is cleaned by yet another volunteer, this job is easy as long as you have eyes in the back of your head.

The number of staff in the surgery has doubled, probably tripled. The normal staff are working their usual hours and then some, quite a few have come out of retirement, they



are working 12 hour days 7 days a week. Add to this the 20 or so Here 2 Help volunteers in the car park and surgery and it's a busy place. At time of writing they were averaging 600 vaccinations per day. On the day of our second session Worcester slipped from 1st to 2nd place on the league table of vaccinations achieved. The staff were not impressed and were determined to start working towards reclaiming their first place the very next day.

Marguerite Barnwell



The start of 2021 began with another Lockdown and snow! The first thing we heard being said by children was 'no snow days from school' as the children settled into home learning again. It has also meant that Kay and I are still unable to be in our parish schools and churches with the children and their families.

After making videos last year for Lord's Alive and with a couple of months break, we have decided we needed to take on a new challenge so from March this year, on the second Sunday of the month, we have gone live on Zoom for a service at 4pm for everyone. On Mothering Sunday 14th March Revd Gary hosted the service for us and with some enthusiastic helpers from **Madresfield and Powick primary schools**, who read the readings and prayers brilliantly, with singing and dancing along to a favourite **iSingPOP** song and a quick round-the-house scavenger hunt, we started with a bang!

After the success of our Advent/Christmas activity sheets last year, which on each Friday in December we sent into all three primary schools, we have produced a 'Lent to Easter Tree' activity sheet which the schools have sent out and is also available on the Old Hills Malvern website.

Over the months to come please keep an eye on the '**Children & Families**' section of the website for updates and more resources to download or videos to watch.

We hope, like all of you, that we can be back in churches and schools later this year but in the meantime, we are here in your community, in a slightly different way, but hope that we can still teach and show God's love to everyone, especially the children.

Kay Shuard and Vicky Whitehouse

ALMs, Children and Youth Work, April 2021

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

Madresfield C.E. Primary School – spaces available



Madresfield C.E. Primary School is located in the heart of Madresfield village. We provide a diverse and creative curriculum with an emphasis on developing the children's social and emotional wellbeing so that they thrive in their learning. Due to some families moving away from the area we now have a few places available in school. If you are interested in finding out more, or know of anyone who may be, please get in touch with us on 01684 573620.

Mrs Michelle Waits, Head of School



Open The Book

I'm glad to report that, during the pandemic, the benefice **Open The Book teams** have been able to maintain links with our three church schools in **Madresfield, Callow End** and **Powick**. A year ago came the first restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus outbreak; schools were immediately closed to all visitors and next the whole country was in lockdown.

From the beginning the Open The Book project, via the **Bible Society**, has been providing online homeschooling resources to families via their website. **Frances Betts** then suggested that our two OtB teams, who visit Madresfield, Callow End and Powick schools, could join forces to provide videos of our weekly Bible story telling.

Frances has had an amazing learning curve, finding out how to record, process and circulate videos to the schools. At first, our wonderful volunteers were able to take turns recording the stories with Frances (socially distanced of course), but lockdown has prevented us this term. So Frances has taken on recording the stories, with others of us providing short videos of extra commentaries and prayers via email, which Frances then combines with the story. Many, many thanks to Frances and all the OtB volunteers from the two teams, working so well together.

At Christmas, each child in our schools was given a copy of *It begins In Bethlehem*, a Nativity rhyme booklet for Christmas, produced by the Bible Society and written by the great storyteller **Bob Hartman**, with lively illustrations by **Mark Beech**. Many thanks for all the kind donations which helped to fund this.

We don't know when we shall be able to return to the schools in person, but the day will come! When that time comes, the Madresfield OtB team would welcome more volunteers - they will have to obtain a DBS (a straightforward process for safeguarding) and give up an hour or so for each weekly OtB Assembly they can manage. Training is available. We tell dramatised Bible stories from a set programme, and the children love to help us. It's very rewarding, so if you would like to know more, please contact me on 01684 565118.

Rosemary McCulloch



NEWLAND NEWS

Mid-February, the weather warmed up a bit. It went from 0 to a positively balmy 12 degrees. Spring on the way' my tete a tete's (mini daffodils) certainly think so as they are starting to flower. They were planted by Mum as a surprise around my rose bushes, and add a lovely bit of colour to an otherwise grey day. It may be 12 degrees but it has not stopped raining all day, the day I wrote this. Even better news: the Lower Brockhampton Potentilla has a bud; it has survived the winter, lovely. Mum's yellow Potentilla has two buds she informs me.

The orchard is coming on apace and we have some more new apple trees planted and an apple press has been donated (a little hopeful this year) but maybe in a few years we could have fresh apple juice or maybe some cider. Have to think on that one.

Among the apple trees planted we have Newland Sack – originally grown at Newland Court by accident. Apparently in the 1800s the tree grew from the pomace (leftovers) of cider making. It was first exhibited in 1888 by the Madresfield head gardener. Newland Court was occupied by the 4th earl's steward in 1853 and part of the estate until 1919. The house is on the Worcester Road. There are some interesting details on the internet about the house and its history. If you put it on the internet the information is there forever.

Among the other apple trees planted is Madresfield Court, first exhibited by the head gardener of Madresfield Court in 1915 and Cats Head, so called because the apples look like a cat's head, that I which will be interested to see later in the year. Colwall Quoining introduced from Tenbury Wells in 1949, though with a name like that it should be local to this area, so-called as the apples are ridged, and resemble the corners of a coin. (Mum and I donated this tree in memory of my father).

So I am looking forward to better times and better weather and to buying a new rose bush for the garden, hopefully this year without interruption. I am still hoping for an orange rose named after a song. To add to the indications of spring, the benches newly painted are back in place around **the Quadrangle**, soon it will be warm enough for fish and chips outdoors. Now there is a nice thought.



A visit to the garden centre netted pretty primroses for one of the pots left empty from last year, and a purple geranium and square self-watering planter to add to my little garden.

We had a lovely weekend. Not sure if it was because of the nice warmish weather; that we managed to sit out on a bench for part of the afternoon, the visit to the garden centre or the good news on the TV. But the world looks a little brighter now. To add to the brightness in life, Mum bought me a **caterpillar** to sit in the garden. Photo attached; enjoy.



Jane's caterpillar

Details of events at the Beauchamp Community can be found on our website:

<https://www.beauchampstleonard.org/>

Jane Tinklin

On the next two pages are pieces of writing from Madresfield School's Year 2 children.
They were asked to write about what they are hoping for.



Hope

I hope for baked beans. I
hope I could see the rest of
my family. I hope I could get
my paddling pool out. I hope
corona 10 would go away soon.

kokys

HOPE

I hope to go to disney land.
I hope to see my cousins.
I hope to go swimming.
I hope to go on holiday.



Emily



HOPE

I hope to go on holiday.

I hope to go swimming soon.

I hope to go in the warm sun.

I hope to see all my
friends soon.

Scarlett



HOPE

I hope I can go to
a friend's home.

I hope to go on holiday.

I hope that the sun
shines.

Tilly



On the next two pages are some Hope pieces from Class 3 and a selection of happy/positive thoughts.



Hope by Mollie

Hope is **love** is makes you feel warm and fuzzy inside,
Love is one of a kind, it's something you feel within your heart never to be apart.

Hope is **family** by your side
Even when you are frightened and scared they will be somewhere near.

Hope is your **heart** you hold so very dear, even when upset appears,
Even when you are down and sad look into your heart it will help when things are mad.

Hope is **believing** within yourself,
If you believe in what you do, Then hope is something you will achieve into.

Hope is **happy** a feeling from inside, it will even make you smile,
Happy is something we feel, it's very clear it happens when loved ones are near.

Hope is **sunshine** shining warm and bright in the sky of life, in the summer wind and the warm sun air all that you see is what we need, you can almost feel the ocean breeze.

Hope are **flowers** made for us all to adore, so beautiful and pure, so take a whiff, if not, maybe just a bit, they won't disappoint not one bit.

Hope is **kind** to you and I, with the juice from life you will apply, until the day that we all die, just make sure they are good, to help us live the best we should.

Hope is the **moon and stars** they are never far apart, even in the light of the darkest night there will be hope just to help us cope.



Hope is one of the greatest thing you can achieve,
Over the world hope takes place all the time,
People hope for something that they really want to have.
Everybody should hope.

Charlotte





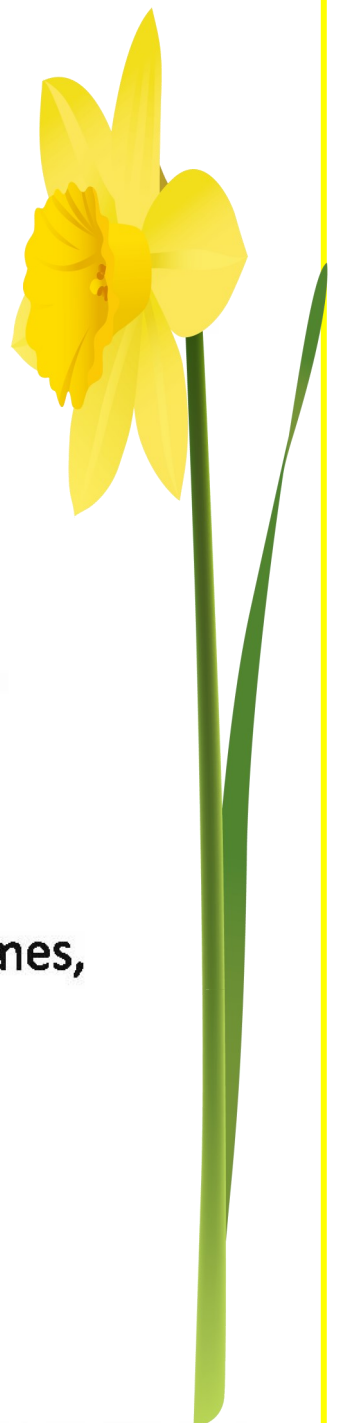
HOPE by Ellie



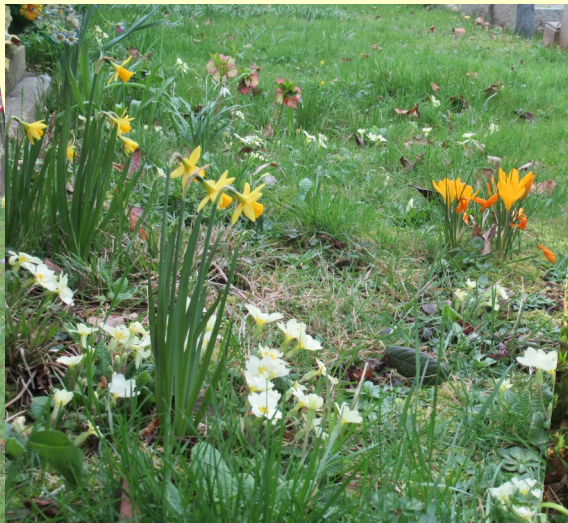
Hope is a stream never running out,
Hope is my heart always beating,
Hope is the sun coming up,
Hope is never retreating.

Hope is a smile,
Hope never runs out,
Hope fills in the gaps,
Hope is never to doubt.

Hope gets me through the tough times,
Hope holds my hand,
Hope gives me help when I need it,
Like footprints in the sand.



Spring Around the Parishes



GUARLFORD WI NEWS

March already. No matter what problems there are in the world, the seasons roll round and longer days, dancing daffodils and glorious bird song herald the arrival of another Spring.

During the darker winter days, Zoom has been a very useful tool to keep members in touch with each other and we have taken out a year's subscription. Committee meetings have been online and in February we branched out with our first presentation to all members when Rosemary McCulloch spoke about Worcester's Elephant Parade that is planned for the summer. This will raise funds for St Richard's Hospice and they are inviting people to support this appeal by donating any elephant-related craft work that can be sold in a pop-up shop in Worcester later in the year.

Rosemary gave us many ideas, details of patterns available and showed us examples of her clever crafts including this bag and delightful knitted elephant.



Sue Orgill

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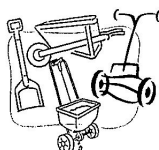
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Copy for the next *Grapevine* should be with the editor by **8th May 2021**.

Education

Madresfield C E Primary School

Head of School: Michelle Waits Tel:01684 573620

Email: office@madresfield.worcs.sch.uk

Friends of Madresfield School

Chairman: Angela Pountney Vice Chairman: Pippa Rose East

Secretary: Milly Fleming Treasurer: Hannah Hollick Press Officer: Tracy Williams

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

Mrs Alice Bennett 01684 574378

* Madresfield Parent & Toddler Club; Tuesdays 11-12; Gymini classes throughout

Wednesdays * Holiday Play Schemes * After School Collection & Care

•Babies to PreSchool Care 8am-6pm daily

Social

Madresfield Club : Secretary, Mrs Jo Morgan 01684 573363

Bell Ringing: Practice Mondays, 7.30 at Madresfield Church

Geoff Titmuss 01684 572495

Guarlford Village Hall Bookings: Don Hill 01684 563667

Countryside Matters

Tree Wardens:

Parish Path Wardens:

Newland - Mike Everitt, 4 Rectory Lane, Madresfield WR13 5AB

01684 560927

E: landm@mikeeveritt.plus.com

Madresfield - Mike Everitt (as above) and Martin Thorne, 1 Rectory Lane, Madresfield, Malvern, WR13 5AB - 01684 564133

E: martinthorne380@btinternet.com

Guarlford - David Fellows, Green Fields, Rectory Lane, Guarlford 01684 574243

Malvern Hub: for reporting abandoned cars and flytipping 01684 862151

Malvern Hills Trust

Chase representative: Graeme Crisp 01684 560476

Newland representative: Tom Yapp 01886 833122

Guarlford representative: David Fellows

Community Support Officer: PCSO Martin Butcher