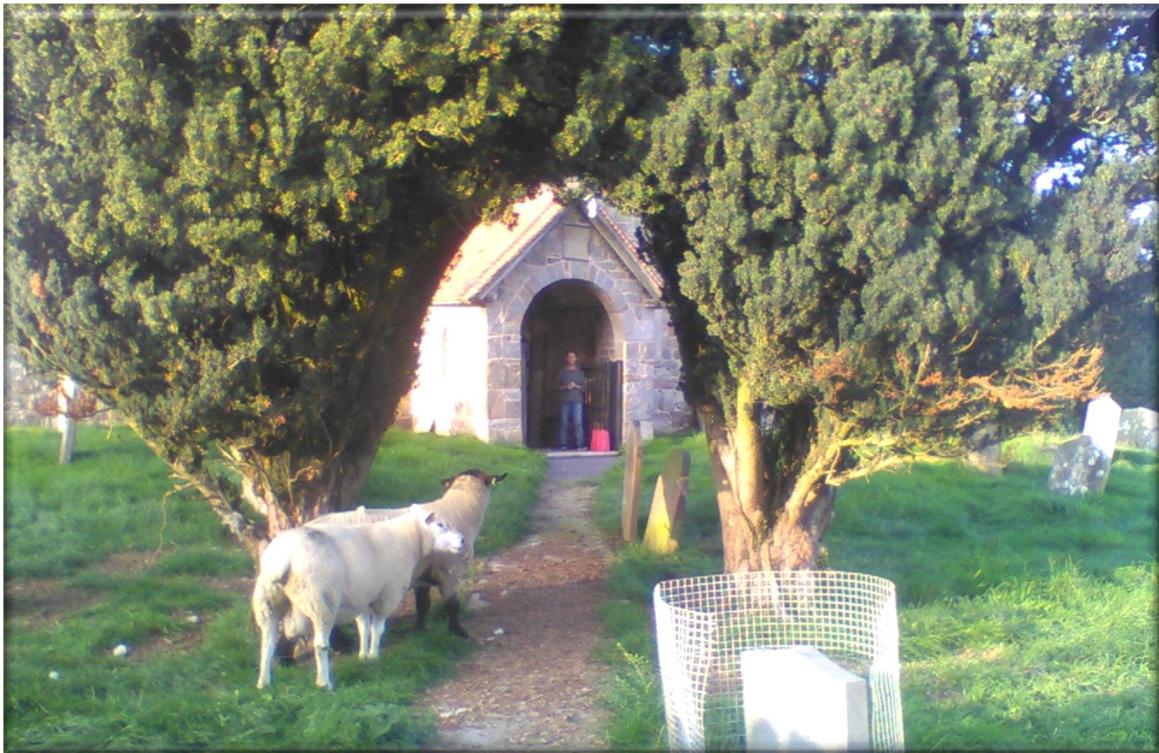


# WHEATLAND NEWS

October 2020



Picture by Mark Deborn

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. [Psalm 23:1]*

***News from the Diocese of Hereford and the 17  
Parishes around Stottesdon, Ditton Priors and  
Highley***

# Editorial

***“So don’t get downhearted over news reports about what won’t be able to happen; with God’s grace we will be able to make things happen safely and with joy in new and inspiring ways.”***

The Rev Mark Daborn has ended his October message (page 16) with this beautiful paragraph. Looking around us, there are all sorts of examples of people finding new and inspiring ways of doing things, not least our broadcasters. The [Last Night of the Proms](#) was another super example from the BBC (still available on YouTube and on BBC iPlayer), and Remembrance Day in November is still to come.

There’s an equal challenge for our student population right now. The Seniors have endured a lot this year, isolating and shielding, largely compliant and uncomplaining. Youngsters have had it tough, we know, and we all sympathise, especially with those in their first term at university or college, which I remember as a very lonely time indeed. The Dean of Hereford, in his [Palm Sunday broadcast](#), likens covid to WW2. At that time, many of the young people who are now at university and being confined to barracks to be kept safe for, we hope, a relatively short time, would have been put in uniform and sent to much less comfortable barracks at the four points of the compass, not knowing whether they would ever see their homes and families again. Let’s try and look on the brighter side, as Mark Daborn recommends, and, through our own ability to influence and support, help others to do the same.

Finally – we’ll leave the Wheatland Diary in, hoping that we’ll soon be back to a whole page!

Best wishes to you all

Ed

## Wheatland Diary

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Tues	13	Oct	Burwarton WI – talk about an author’s book and writing
Tues	10	Nov	Burwarton WI – AGM

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# Diocese of Hereford

## October message from the Dean of Hereford, the Very Reverend Michael Tavinor

Hereford Cathedral has seen great upheavals during its 1300-year history. In 1055, when the Welsh invaded Hereford, the cathedral was sacked and burned and the cathedral clergy killed. Later, in 1349, Hereford City was gravely hit by the Black Death and here and across the diocese, over one quarter of all clergy died of the plague. The Reformation dealt a great blow to cathedral worship and although many of our treasures were spared, there was seismic change in the community and in our forms of worship. In the next century, the Commonwealth – the cathedral choir disbanded for fourteen years, only to be re-instated in 1661. The list continues – a huge disruption in the 1860s, when the cathedral, in a parlous state of repair, was closed for five years while restoration work took place, and the cathedral congregation worshipped at All Saints. The cathedral has seen more recent upheavals – the Mappa Mundi crisis of 1988-9 and in between all these major matters, the constant round of ‘ups and downs’ of life, as in any community.



And our story can be re-told in the parishes of the diocese. Like the Mother Church, parishes have seen major upheavals in their lives through the centuries and have been borne through them by faithful clergy and congregations.

Like you, we have been weathering the storm of COVID 19. It has brought huge challenges to us all – challenges to our worship and way of living and worshipping – nearly all our events planned for the celebrations surrounding the 700th anniversary of the canonisation of St Thomas of Hereford, have had to be cancelled. There have been challenges to our pastoral care; challenges to our finances. In the cathedral, we have had little or no visitor income for months and our commercial operations have been dormant, with several staff made redundant - and we expect to end the year with a £210,000 deficit. But thank goodness for faithful giving through the Parish Giving Scheme - this has continued throughout this difficult period and has enabled us to have a source of income on which we can rely. I hope and pray that you, too, have been able to rely on regular givers to continue to support your work and ministry, even in these difficult times.

What we all find difficult is the uncertainty – what will Christmas look like? How will we ever return to ‘normal’? You know what the 19th century Danish philosopher, Schopenhauer said? We live life forwards but understand it backwards. That’s why a sense of history is so important, whether it be in cathedral or parish – we look back to previous times of upheaval, and when we look, quietly and prayerfully, we so often find that God was there, supporting us, with His ‘everlasting arms’. As I write this, I have been thinking about the gospel for this Sunday, the ninth Sunday after Trinity, where Jesus bids Peter come to him – Peter sets out, but is overwhelmed by the tumultuous waves. It is Jesus’ words and actions which save him, re-assure him, encourage him. As we look back to our past, may we be even more aware of Jesus’ abiding care for us - may our God sustain us in this uncertain future and may He give us real hope for all that shall be.

God bless you all

**Dean Michael**

## The Dean's retirement

I'm well into my nineteenth year as Dean and am now 67, so am sure it is high time I handed on to another priest, who will lead the cathedral into what will, inevitably, be a new and very different chapter of its life and ministry. I had expected to finish at the end of the Cantilupe celebrations, in October this year, but because of the extraordinary difficulties of the past few months, with the COVID pandemic, feel it right that I continue just a little longer. So my final Sunday will be 31 January, the feast of Candlemas. This seems an appropriate feast for a retirement – one which looks back and looks forward – back to Christmas and forward to Holy Week and Easter and I guess that's what we'll be doing together – looking back at all that has been and looking forward to all that the future holds for our community.

My new home will be in Presteigne – another country but still in the diocese of Hereford!

It will be hard to leave Hereford after all these years but the time now seems right. I'm announcing now, giving good notice, so that the process for the appointment of my successor can begin without delay. There remain several more months before I leave, so we shall continue to work for the coming of the Kingdom in this place and will seek, together, to find ways of rebuilding and sustaining our cathedral life.

With my prayers for you all

**Michael**



***Following the announcement of the Very Revd Michael Tavinor, Dean of Hereford, The Rt Revd Richard Jackson, Bishop of Hereford, has issued a public statement:***

“Through his prayerfulness and liturgical skill, Michael has been a heartbeat for the Cathedral for nearly twenty years. He has served in a number of roles over his long and distinguished ministry in the Church of England. His gentle, self-effacing grace and good humour mark out a ministry setting a perfect tone for many occasions over his years at the Cathedral, including my own enthronement service earlier this year. As Dean he has brought the history of the Cathedral and her community to life through his speaking and

writing. In the Chained Library and Mappa Mundi he has created one of the most visited attractions in Herefordshire, which will be enjoyed by future generations. Throughout the changing seasons Michael has remained an outstanding colleague and friend to the Cathedral and wider diocesan family. He will be greatly missed by all and we all wish him every blessing as the transition to retirement begins.”



### **Bishop Richard's weekly video messages**

Bishop Richard and other members of the Hereford team, continue to give weekly video messages – find the latest on the [home page of the Hereford Diocese](#) website.

Transcripts of each of message, together with many other items, are on the [Diocese Talking Points](#) page. The videos themselves are on YouTube – just search for Bishops of Hereford.

# The United Benefice of Brown Clee

<b>Rector: Revd Terry Mason</b> The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire, WV16 6SQ Telephone 01746-712636		
<b>St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and Holy Trinity, Wheathill &amp; Loughton</b> CHURCHWARDENS Carole Smith: 01746-712474 Mark Smith: 01746-712394		<b>St Michael &amp; All Angels, Aston Botterell</b> CHURCHWARDEN Anne Preece: 01746-787237
<b>St Giles, Chetton</b> CHURCHWARDENS Sheila Millington: 01746-789443 June Preece: 01746-789211	<b>SS Peter &amp; Paul, Cleobury North</b> CHURCHWARDENS Mike Bradbury: 01746-787676 Jane Bufton: 01746-787298	<b>All Saints, Neenton</b> CHURCHWARDENS Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093 Sue Hale: 01746-787650

## Brown Clee Group News

The Church Service rota for October and November is on page 7.

### Exclusive Offer!

Fundraising is difficult at the moment. However, **Steve at The Down** has agreed to help the Brown Clee Benefice churches by donating a number of **'£10 off for a meal for 4'** vouchers which will be available for a donation of £10 to Brown Clee Churches.

These will be available from 1st to 14th October and are valid until the end of November **from Sally** on 01746-787419.

Numbers are limited so first come first served – why not give one as a gift to a friend or treat yourself and others to a meal at The Down?

This is a great opportunity to support The Down Inn and our local churches in this time of need.

**Thank you Steve.**



Brown Clee Benefice and Ditton Priors - Copy for Wheatlands News page by **Saturday 24 October** to:  
 Jutta Langham: 01746 712551; email [rll.langham@btinternet.com](mailto:rll.langham@btinternet.com)

## BROWN CLEE CHURCH SERVICES ROTA

All services are subject to Government guidance re Corona Virus

### October 4th

11.30am Ditton Priors - HARVEST  
6pm Loughton - HARVEST

### October 11th

9.45am Ditton Priors  
11.30am Chetton  
6pm Aston Botterell - HARVEST

### October 18th

9.45am Ditton Priors  
6pm Neenton - HARVEST

### October 25th

8.30am Ditton Priors  
9.45am Chetton  
11.30am Cleobury North

### November 1st

9.45am Ditton Priors  
11.30am Aston Botterell

### November 8th -

#### Remembrance Day

10am Cleobury North  
3pm Ditton Priors

### November 15th

9.45am Ditton Priors  
11.30am Neenton  
2.30pm Wheathill (Evening prayer)

### November 22nd

8.30am Ditton Priors  
9.45am Chetton  
11.30am Cleobury North

### November 29th - Advent

*Group Service*  
10.15am Aston Botterell  
5pm Ditton Priors Church  
(Turning on the Christmas Lights)

### December 6th

9.45am Ditton Priors  
6.30pm Loughton Carol Service

#### FOOD BANK COLLECTION AT DITTON CHURCH

Following the easing of lock-down we are now able to collect food again for the food bank in Ditton Priors Church.

The church will be open on Sunday Mornings for tinned food and other items to be left in the Food Box between 9am-1pm.

(Church services are at 9.45am)

PLEASE DO HELP US TO SUPPORT THOSE IN NEED IF YOU CAN

#### Benefice website

Don't forget to look at the Benefice website to see what is going on in all the parishes too.

<http://www.browncleechurches.org.uk/>

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2020

Due to the covid-19 situation I am advised that there will be a limited Poppy Appeal this year.

As a result of movement restrictions etc there will be no house-to-house collections by Poppy Appeal volunteers but there will be a limited amount of material, ie poppies, crosses, yearly pins etc available to purchase from the following:

- Parker Motors, Ditton Priors.
- D and V Stores, Ditton Priors.
- Reg May Butchers, Ditton Priors.
- The Village Stores, Cleobury North.
- Boyne Arms, Burwarton.
- Three Horse Shoes Inn, Wheathill.



I am very grateful to these business proprietors for agreeing to participate in this year's Poppy Appeal.

I am hopeful we can make a success of the Appeal, albeit in these difficult times and if I can be of assistance to anyone please do not hesitate to contact me on 01746 712532.

***Tony Brown - Ditton Priors Area Poppy Appeal Organizer.***

## Ditton Priors News

### St John the Baptist 100 Club results for September

- £20 Steve Broom
- £10 Joyce Jervis
- £5 each Josie Childs, David Lowe, Peter Rowland

## Aston Botterell News

### Church Service

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for October to December.

## Burwarton and Cleobury North News

### Church Services

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for October to December.

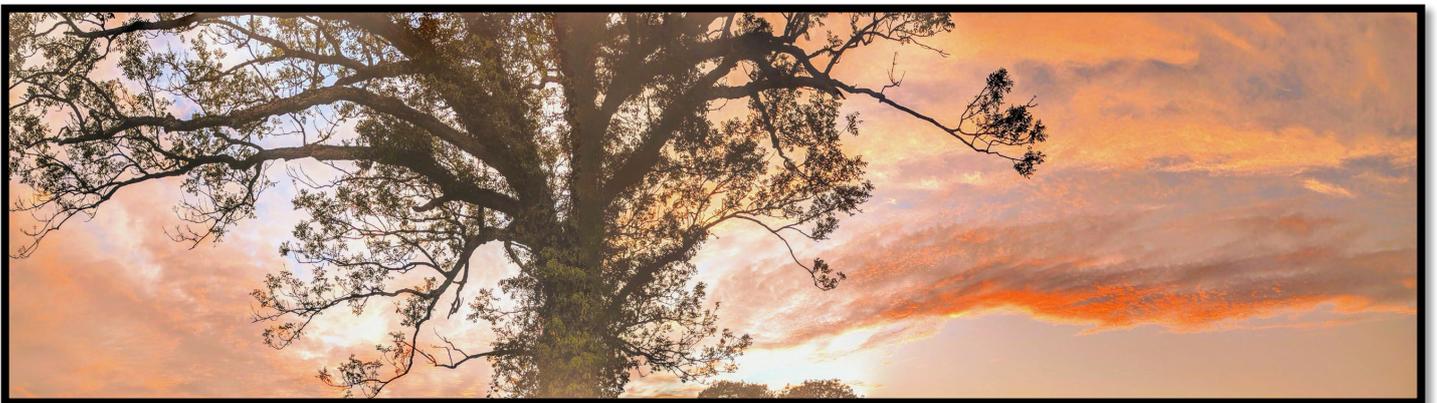
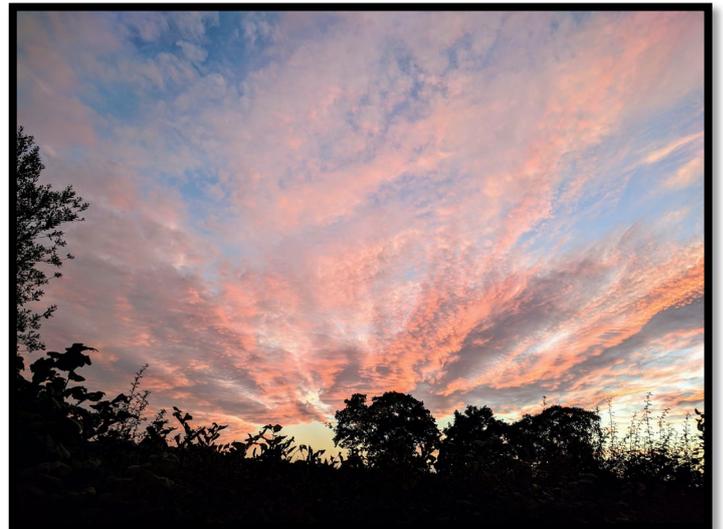
### Burwarton WI

Burwarton WI meetings will resume in October 2020. Meetings are on Tuesdays at 2.30pm in Cleobury North Village Hall. ***Please ring Helen on 01746-712466 to check what is happening*** in respect of Covid restrictions.

- 13th October – talk about an author's book and writing
- 10th November – AGM

## Brown Clee Skies

*Thank you to the photographers of Ditton Priors and surrounding area, who have shared some magical autumn skies this month.*



## Cleobury North and District Village Hall

The village hall is now open for small, socially distance gatherings.

Hirers and users of the hall will be required to be responsible for adhering to the Government guidelines. Booking details are published on the final page of this magazine.

## Wheathill & Loughton

### Church Service

See the rota on page 7 for all Brown Clee Church Services for October to December.

### Three Horseshoes, Wheathill

Jayne O'Grady sends the current opening hours for the Three Horseshoes, and says that takeaways are also available each night from 5.30 pm.



#### Temp Opening Hours



Mon 6 -10pm Food 6 - 9pm  
Tues - Thurs 12 - 2pm Food 12 - 1.30pm  
& 6 - 10pm Food 6 - 9pm  
Fri 12 - 2pm Food 12 -1.30pm  
& 5.30 - 11pm Food 5.30 - 9pm  
Sat Open all day Food 12 - 2pm & 6 - 9pm  
Sun Open all Day Food 12 - 3pm  
Pizzas 6.30 - 8.30pm

Contact 01584-  
823670.



*Burwarton, Cleobury North, Aston Botterell, Wheathill and Loughton: copy for November Wheatlands News page by **Saturday 24 October** to Alison Greenan, [greenan6qx@btinternet.com](mailto:greenan6qx@btinternet.com) - telephone 01746-787032*

## Chetton News

*From Pam Downing*

### Services in September

- Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 11.30 am
- Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 9.45 am

#### **Flowers & cleaning**

- Sylvia Collins and Marilyn Maiklem.

*Chetton: copy for November  
Wheatlands News page by  
**Saturday 24 October** to Pam  
Downing,  
[pamdowning61@gmail.com](mailto:pamdowning61@gmail.com)*

### From the Registers

Burial of ashes, Reg & Joan South. Our thoughts are with Sylvia & Carol.

### 100 Club

- £15.00 – Matilda Meehan, £10.00 – Bill Pugh

### Chetton Village Hall

We are open for small gatherings, in line with government guidelines.

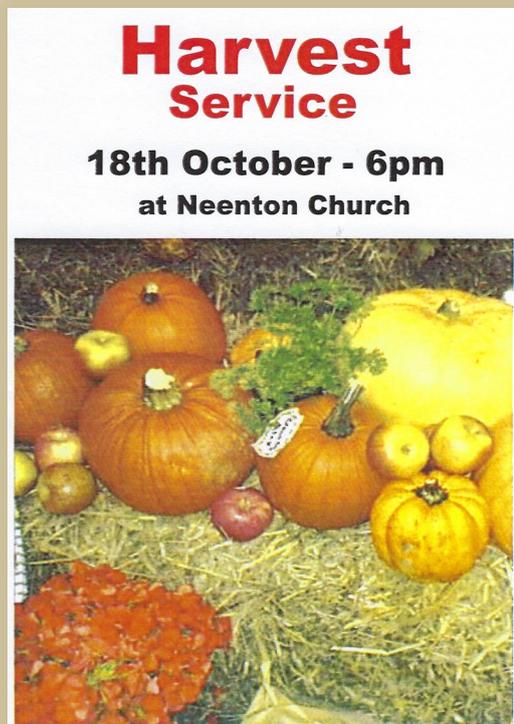
**Chetton Active Friends** is fully subscribed, please telephone Sue Bayliss on 789239, if you wish to attend in the future, or for any other inquiries.

We have had a further grant from Persimmon, towards this project which helps improve general well-being.

## Neenton News

### All Saints Church

The Group service held on 30th August was so well attended that we could not accommodate any more people within the rules of the social distancing. It was uplifting to see the church full with all age groups. The choir were able to sing and the congregation hummed along.



No fresh produce this year, and no auction after the service – so in line with the COVID-19 restrictions we are asking for donations of tins of food which will be sent to the Food Bank in Bridgnorth after the service. **Please leave donations of tins etc in the porch by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October to allow for the church to be decorated before being cleaned for the service on 18<sup>th</sup> or alternatively, bring to the service itself.**

### Ride & Stride

Thank you to everyone who sponsored Dot, raising **£111**. Half has been sent to the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust and half to All Saints Church. In spite of the restrictions, some churches were open for visitors to enjoy the quiet and others left the attendance sheet in the porch. Good to see we had some visitors to Neenton.

### Tote

Subscriptions are now due for the next 12 months - please send yours to Sue Hale - just £12 for the year. Results for the September Draw will be published in the November magazine.

### The Pheasant at Neenton.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions closing time is now 10pm.

Food is being served at the following times:

- Wednesdays and Thursdays – 12 noon to 2.30pm - 6pm to 8pm
- Fridays and Saturdays – 12 noon to 2.30pm - 5.30pm to 8pm
- Sundays 12 noon to 4pm



Booking is essential for dining or drinking to ensure there are tables available. Masks must be worn at all times while on the premises unless guests are seated at their tables.

The Pheasant is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

***Thank you to all our customers for your understanding of the rules during this time***

# Severn Valley Group of Parishes

<b>Rector: Revd Mike Harris</b> The Rectory, Highley, Day off – THURSDAY		<b>Revd David Poyner, Curate</b> Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work); email <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
<b>St Mary, Billingsley</b> CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	<b>St Peter, Chelmarsh</b> CHURCHWARDEN Derek Arnold: 07956-844854	<b>St Bartholomew, Glazeley</b> CHURCHWARDENS Vacant

## October Services

(Times as stated)

**4th Highley (FC) HARVEST FESTIVAL (10am)**

**Guest Speaker from A Rocha  
on the challenge of a changing climate**

**11th Chelmarsh (HC) 10am**

**6pm Billingsley: Commemoration  
of the end of WW2**

**18th Glazeley (HC) 10am**

**25th Billingsley (HC) 8am**

**Highley Family Worship (10am)**

**You are also warmly invited to attend the  
St. Mary's bi-weekly Zoom afternoon  
gathering at 5pm for 40mins.**

**Contact: [markandamywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:markandamywilliams@gmail.com)**



## Billingsley News

*Rev David Poyner writes:*

The first draw of the **Billingsley 100 Club** took place on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September on the grass outside Lincoln Fields. The first three winners, who shared prizes in excess of £100 can be found on the Billingsley Church website; <http://www.stmarys-billingsley.org.uk/100-club-draws-and-results/> There are still numbers available for those who wish to join the scheme. We have also started to use the money coming into the church, in this case to get a new heater.

We had our **harvest festival** on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September; many thanks to all those who helped to decorate the church or contributed harvest produce. We raised **£60** for Mary's Meals, a charity that works to ensure children have at least one good meal a day. The harvest produce was sent to Bridgnorth Food Bank. Our **next evening service** is on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm, when we will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II with a mixture of words and music.

David Poyner, assistant curate, Severn Valley Benefice.

Tel 01562 68638; email [D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk](mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk) Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/> or our websites, <http://www.stmarys-billingsley.org.uk> , and <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/>



## Chelmarsh News

*Eleanor Haddon writes:*

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

At the annual meeting of the PCC held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the following officers were appointed:

**Churchwarden** Mr Derek Arnold. We are very grateful to Derek for agreeing to serve for another year, and wish him better health than he has had in 2020.

**Treasurer** Mr Mike Draper. Our thanks to Mike for all his hard work over the past 25 years.

**Secretary** Ms. Elizabeth Bebb Thank you Liz, for your sterling efforts on our behalf.

### **Private Prayer**

From Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September the church is allowed to open for **private prayer** on Sundays only from after morning service until 4pm. Please sign the visitors' book (for Track and Trace Covid) and use the hand sanitiser provided.

### **Future services**

**Remembrance Service Sunday 8th November at 10 am.**

Restrictions on church services depend on the size of the building with due regard for social distancing, so should you wish to attend this service, there will be enough room. To keep everyone safe, face coverings to be worn.

**Covid 19 Sunday 22nd November at 3 pm.**

This will be a service of remembrance and thanksgiving for the lives of all those who have died of coronavirus and those who cared for them. As above, please remember your face mask.

**Whole Benefice service at Highley Church Sunday 29th November**

All welcome

**From the Registers**

**Funeral**

11. 9. 2020 Elizabeth Ann Jackson

Our sincere sympathies and prayers go to her husband Warwick and the rest of the family at this sad time.

**Church cleaning**

Wednesday 11th November at 2.30 pm approx.

**100 Club Results**

Congratulations to all the winners!

First draw £100 Marie Ellis £50 Les Stacey £25 Nadine Williamson	Second draw £100 Marie Ellis (H) £50 Les Stacey £25 Jan Heatherington
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**Chelmarsh Friends**

Chelmarsh Friends committee is considering whether it is safe and feasible to recommence meetings again before the end of the year. A notice will be posted on Chelmarsh Parish Hall Website with details.

**Chelmarsh Walking for Health**

Chelmarsh Walking for Health meets every Monday from the Village Hall at 10am. A short walk is available and we are trying to limit the other walk to 1½ hours. We are hoping to provide refreshments in the near future providing there are no further lockdowns. For details contact Eleanor Haddon on 01746 862884

## Glazeley with Deuxhill News

### **Dennis Purcell**

It is with sadness that I have to tell you that Dennis Purcell passed away on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept after a long illness. Our thoughts are sent to Dennis's wife Margaret and their families. Dennis was a lovely Gentleman and did an awful lot for St Bartholomew's Church and he will be sadly missed.

The funeral will take place at Glazeley Church on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 at 12 noon. Under the [Covid rules](#) – only 30 people are allowed (invited).

### **Service at St Bartholomew's**

The next service at Glazeley will be on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 10am.

### **Harvest Festival**

St Bartholomew's really did look nice for our Harvest Festival last Sunday. It was lovely to see the church filled with visitors from Highey, Chelmarsh & Billingsley. The service was led by Val Smith and husband Keith and was a joyous occasion, with Rachael Davenhill playing the organ even though we weren't able to sing. Thanks to the Team (pictured) for cleaning and polishing the church in readiness for the Festival.



**Marion Corfield** – 01746-764585

[marion.corfield@talktalk.net](mailto:marion.corfield@talktalk.net)

### **Guided Walk**

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, there was a guided walk from Glazeley Church to Chelmarsh Church.



### ***A correspondent tactfully writes:***

"The journey out was one of discovery as several tracks were difficult to find but undeterred the group made it to their destination. A refreshment break was taken at Chelmarsh where everyone enjoyed a quick sandwich before heading home before sunset. The views on the return journey of the Clee Hills and the glorious Shropshire countryside in the fading light were spectacular."

# The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

## Rector: Revd Mark Daborn

The Rectory, Stottesdon, Shropshire, DY14 8UE

Telephone 01746-718127. Email [mark.daborn@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mark.daborn@hotmail.co.uk)

Day off – FRIDAY

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## October Message

*'A sower went out to sow his seed...'*

[Luke 8:5]

It's harvest festival time again, as we rejoice in the gifts of God's creation and give thanks for the work of our farmers. But harvest festivals with a difference this year, because of the restrictions. Here is the plan!

In the smaller churches, we can't fit many people in; we will therefore be holding the service in the churchyards on the days and times shown on the service grid. If we have a small enough number, we will move inside, otherwise we will have a short service outside. At Stottesdon the church is big enough to hold the number we usually have to the Harvest service, so we will plan to be inside for a Harvest Communion. We also can't sing hymns – and the thought of holding a harvest service without ploughing the fields and scattering is too awful. But it's ok – we'll have the iPad with Boombox and will be able to play the vital harvest hymns, whether we are outside or inside. But bring a chair and wrap up warm!

As well as no hymns, we won't be able to have either harvest suppers or produce auctions as we are accustomed. So there are three suggestions here:

-  Bring along to the service a tot of something so that we can toast the farming community at the end of the service;
-  Bring along as well your gifts of tinned or dry foodstuffs for the Food Bank, which now, more than ever, needs our help and support;
-  And, instead of a communal harvest supper, allocate the meal after the service as a harvest supper at home, with whoever is in your family bubble. Take a photograph, and we will post pictures of some harvest suppers in *Wheatland News* next month. Middleton Scriven is already organised on this, with a supper date booked for the Friday before the service – and a possibility of some live music at the service as well!

This is a time when we have to be inventive to celebrate old traditions in some new ways. This has been done already for VE75 and VJ75 earlier this year, and will need to be done again for Remembrance, All Souls and Christmas. But we – humanity – are gifted with imagination and inventiveness and can find new ways to work within the restrictions of the virus, whilst keeping ourselves and those around us safe.

So don't get downhearted over news reports about what won't be able to happen; with God's grace we will be able to make things happen safely and with joy in new and inspiring ways.

*Mark Daborn*

# Stottesdon Benefice Group News

<b>St Mary, Stottesdon</b> CHURCHWARDEN Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007	<b>St Giles, Farlow</b> CHURCHWARDENS Joan Evans (01746-718619) Nigel Savage-Bailey (07989-308599)	<b>Holy Trinity, Sidbury</b> CHURCHWARDEN Andrew Sierkowski Sarah Crook
<b>St Mary, Cleeton St Mary</b> CHURCHWARDENS Sue Dolphin: 01584 890583 Gill Jordan: 01584 891082	<b>St John, Middleton Scriven</b> CHURCHWARDEN vacant – so for now your contact is Rev Mark Daborn (01746-718127)	<b>St Michael, Silvington</b> CHURCHWARDENS George Millichamp: 01584-891030 Annette Metcalfe: 01584 890161

Mark Daborn writes:

## Church Services during the Covid-19 restrictions

Opening up the churches cautiously has been going well and safely so we are going to continue the pattern of two Sunday services in churches and a recorded service through October. These will include Harvest Festival Services for all our churches (except Sidbury, who will already have had theirs on 27<sup>th</sup> September).

This must be said again, exactly as before: it is really important that nobody feels they *must* go to church if they feel the slightest bit nervous of going out amongst other people. The online services will continue through the email list, on the Facebook page (Facebook: Stottesdon Benefice) and the website ('A church near you' and your parish name). There will in any case be restricted numbers according to the size of the churches and fitting folks in at 2 metre distancing.

Please note that it is now *mandatory* for face masks to be worn for public worship [except for individuals exempted by law].

Sunday Services for October	4 <sup>th</sup>		11 <sup>th</sup>		18 <sup>th</sup>		25 <sup>th</sup>	
	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity		Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity		Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity		Last Sunday after Trinity	
Cleeton St Mary							HT	16.00
Farlow	HT	17.00						
Middleton Scriven					HT	17.00		
Sidbury					HC	10.30		
Silvington			HH	10.30				
Stottesdon	HH	10.30	EP	18.30			HC	10.30
HT – Harvest Thanksgiving	HH – Harvest Communion		HC - Holy Communion			EP – Evening Prayer		

## Churches open for Private Prayer

Each of our churches is also open specially 10.00-18.00 one day each week\* for private, individual prayer – Mondays: Middleton Scriven;

- ❖ Tuesdays: Cleeton St Mary
- ❖ Wednesdays: Sidbury
- ❖ Thursdays: Silvington
- ❖ Saturdays: Farlow
- ❖ Sundays: Stottesdon

\*please note that for quarantine/cleaning requirements churches will not be open if there is a service within three days before or after.

### **Advanced notice for All Saints Day ('Hallowmas')**

Services will be held as follows on Sunday 1st November:

- ❖ 09.00 Holy Communion at St Giles, Farlow
- ❖ 18.30 Remembrance for All Souls at St Mary, Stottesdon

**If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer or a visit or Communion at home or elsewhere, then please contact Mark direct, or ask your churchwardens to help you to arrange this.**

## Benefice 'Ride and Stride' Pilgrimage Saturday 12th September

As you'll see from the photographs, Mark, Alex Diana and Ellen – together with a good group of Middleton Scriveners for the first leg - set off to walk the churches in glorious weather: linking up our six churches through the journey between them, emphasising our unity of faith and of purpose.

Along the way, the pilgrims raised funds for Shropshire Historic Churches Trust and for our local churches (this latter purpose, in part, as a response to Bishop Richard's 'Generous Giving' September challenge).

Thanks to generous sponsorship, and donations from well-wishers along the way, over £1,275 will be shared between the Trust and local churches.

### **From The Stottesdon Benefice Registers:**

There are no new entries to report this month.

## Lectionary for October 2020

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>
Seventeenth after Trinity	Eighteenth after Trinity	Nineteenth after Trinity	Last after Trinity
Green	Green	Green	Green
Exodus 20:1-4;7-9; 12-20 Psalm 19 Phillipians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-end	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6 Phillipians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14	Exodus 33:12-end Psalm 99 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-end

## Ride and Stride

Rev Mark Daborn's lovely photos of an epic journey!



1 - Starting from Middleton Scriven ... 2 - Across the fields to .... 3 - Sidbury.

4 - West Door at Stottesdon.

5 - discussing the route at Farlow.

6 - top of the walk at Cleeton (7 - always time to say 'hello' to the farm dogs).

8 - view from Silvington Common, then 9 - down the hill path to 10 - Journey's end at Silvington.



## Silvington News

*Annette Metcalfe writes:*

We are looking forward to our Harvest Festival and Service of Holy Communion, which we hope we will be able to celebrate on Sunday 11th October at 10.30 am.

We will gather in the churchyard, surrounded by our beautiful Shropshire countryside, mindful of God's providence, nature's bounty and the skills and hard work of our farmers. Please bring along any donations of dried and tinned foods. Rev Daborn has kindly agreed to gather these up for combining into one large food parcel to be taken from the Benefice to the Bridgnorth Food Bank – which is desperate for this support.

In these difficult times, it will be a privilege to come together to celebrate this special time in the Church calendar and the farming year - a reminder to us of the example of the faithful Christian people who have lived, worked and worshipped here before us.

Also, as recently, St Michael's will be open for **private prayer**, 10am to 6pm Thursdays.

### **100 Club Winners for September – congratulations to:**

- Lear and Logan, Jane Foster, Rev. Daborn, Peter and Glennis Harman, Ruth France, Andrew Millichamp.

***With very best wishes to ALL from St Michael's.***

## Cleeton St Mary News

*Gill Jordan writes:*

Our service this month will be Harvest Festival at 4:00pm on Sunday 25th. All are welcome, please join us.

Please bring along any donations of dried and tinned foods; Rev Mark has kindly agreed to gather these up for combining into one large food parcel to be taken from the Benefice to the Bridgnorth Food Bank – which is desperate for this support.

Cleeton Church also opens specially for **private prayer** every Tuesday between 10:00am and 6:00pm.

### **September 100 Club Results**

The first draw of the year!! Good luck to everyone and, once again, many thanks for your support.

- £20 Tom & Julie Bradford No 65
- £10 each to John Taylor No 83 and Jack Condliffe No 84
- £5 each to Ian Jordan No 95 and Mark Daborn No 46.

## Farlow News

Our service this month is Harvest Thanksgiving at 5pm on Sunday 4th September, and the church will be open on the other weekends for **private prayer** – Saturdays 10am-6pm.

Please bring along any donations of dried and tinned foods; Rev Daborn will be gathering these up for combining into one large food parcel to be taken from the Benefice to the Bridgnorth Food Bank – which is desperate for this help and support.

***Ruth Downes writes:***

I am sorry but to say we have little to report at the moment. Hopefully, there will be something from Melville for next month Hope all is well with you; best wishes to all!

## **Sidbury News**

***As the new Wardens find their feet, Mark Daborn writes:***

All the annual meetings have been delayed by the Covid-19 restrictions, but we were eventually able to have ours towards the end of August. We met socially-distanced in the churchyard in front of the porch, with cake and flasks of tea (very carefully!) provided. Much appreciated!

We were very sad to have to thank both Jo Laybourne and Roz Jones for their services as churchwardens over the years as they both stepped down from this post. Roz has moved out of the parish, and we wish her and all her family great happiness in their new home. But Jo, I'm delighted to say, will continue to serve on the PCC and support the church and the new wardens with her experience and wisdom.

Jo has been warden since before I arrived in these parishes, and Roz took over from Lucy Henderson when Lucy was selected for ordination training. I would like to thank both of them for their support of the church, the parish – and the Rector! I feel I have been very blessed in the churchwardens who have served in the benefice since I've been here; they are a vital part of the team not only in their own parish, but across all the parishes.

The new churchwardens are Andrew Sierakowski and Sarah Crook; we warmly welcome them to the post, and hope they enjoy this responsibility!

By the time this Wheatland News goes to print, Lucy Henderson will also have made the next step in her journey. She stood down as churchwarden when she was selected for ordination training and has since spent two years at Wycliffe Hall in Oxford doing that training. On September 26th she was ordained deacon in the Cathedral in Canterbury, and will serve her curacy in that city. We all rejoice and give thanks that she has arrived at this point in her journey, and pray for God's blessing on her ministry in the years to come.

The church will be opened specially for ***private prayer*** from 10.00-18.00 every Wednesday.

## **Middleton Scriven News**

***Ann Constable writes:***

Our annual PCC meeting was held recently. 'Thank you' must be given to our Secretary Sally Yates and our Treasurer Andy Johnson, plus other PCC members for all their work in 2019 and now into 2020. Mark Daborn was also thanked for all his hard work for our parish plus more recently during the pandemic when, like the rest of us, life completely changed due to Covid19 and he found himself further into a technological world.

### **Events in our community**

The church will be opened specially for ***private prayer*** from 10.00-18.00 every Monday except, due to Harvest Festival, ***not*** on the 19th.)

### **Ride and Stride**

It was lovely to gather a few more "pilgrims / walkers" from here to at least join the first stage of the benefice walk. As one walker commented "We had a lovely walk, what wonderful weather and spectacular views of the village from angles we rarely see! Can't believe it's taken 20 years to complete the walk!"

## Scarecrow Festival

At the time of writing preparations were taking place in the village for the Scarecrow festival on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Straw has been collected from a newly harvested field and the scarecrows are starting to take shape! We will have pictures in the November edition of WN for everyone to enjoy!

## Harvest Festival

October 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm - restrictions permitting! In the churchyard or in church if numbers permit.

For all attendees - do bring the wherewithal for a toast to the farming community at the end! All most welcome. Please also bring along any donations of dried and tinned foods: Rev Mark has kindly agreed to gather these up for combining into one large food parcel to be taken from the Benefice to the Bridgnorth Food Bank – which is desperate for this support.

**Harvest supper at home:** as we did for our community VE Day celebrations, it all takes place at the same time but in our own homes, this time it's for Harvest Supper on Friday October 16<sup>th</sup> - suggested timings 18.30, with a meal including locally grown or locally sourced foods. Everyone can celebrate the harvest with a meal at home with anyone in their bubble. If restrictions allow then it may be possible to invite one? other household to join you.

Post your photos on our community WhatsApp group or send to Ann Constable by email: [middletonscrivenchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:middletonscrivenchurch@yahoo.com) I will share them on Wheatland news next month too.



Middleton Scriven sends prayers to all for a safe and peaceful October whatever the current challenges bring our way. After September's periods of glorious weather let's hope this has given us some strength, comfort and calm ready to face the coming months.



## **Stottesdon Church Parish Notices and News**

**The Annual Church Meetings**, held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September, were concluded in a record 45 minutes and reviewed the church accounts for 2019, adopted the Annual Report for that year, and saw the re-appointment of Officers and the PCC for the 2020 year. The Officers and Members were each thanked for their contribution to the life of the church in the parish; draft minutes will be available in due course.

Meanwhile, vacancies exist for representatives from St Mary's to attend the periodic Bridgnorth Deanery Gathering / Synod – along with Mark Daborn who, of course, also serves as the Rural Dean. Anyone interested in attending the Deanery meetings is encouraged to talk to Mark direct for more insights into this role.

We will be celebrating **Harvest Holy Communion** on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> at 10.30; everyone is very welcome to this traditional celebration of the farming year and we hope that those attending will bring a wee tot of something to toast farmers and farming during the service.

Please also bring along any donations of dried and tinned foods; Mark Daborn has agreed to gather these up for combining into one large "food parcel" to be taken from the Benefice to the Bridgnorth Food Bank – which is desperate for this support during these strange Covid-restricted times.

Since we cannot hold our usual Harvest Supper gathering this year, the PCC suggests that those who'd like to share a **virtual Harvest lunch** could do so after the Harvest service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> by gathering in our 'family bubbles' for lunch. Please share any photographs on the Facebook page and copy for the scrapbook.

St Mary's continues to be open every Sunday for **Private Prayer** from 10.00-17.00 (closing later on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> - after the Evening Prayer service)

### **Latest news from St Mary's Church 100 Club -**

Congratulations to our September winners: Edward Marsh, Leslie Tandy and Eunice Evans

Please bear with us, we hope that your prize monies can be distributed during October, now that winners from March to August inclusive have all received theirs.

**Finally, a brief word from Churchwarden Clare** – "please pass on my personal 'thank you' to all for their recent best wishes, and offers of help, during our time "in isolation" because of health issues. Hopefully, this will soon be at an end - my course of radiotherapy having finished successfully in mid-September."

## Stottesdon Community Noticeboard

### **Stottesdon & District WI**

Socially distanced Garden Yoga sessions, a countryside picnic and other clever wheezes are off the agenda (Rule of 6) but ingenious telephone and mailing contacts with members, and Committee meetings via WhatsApp and Zoom continue to help enable the WI to remain active and engaged through the Covid-19 months.

Plans for a return of the monthly meetings are back on ice until it is safe and sensible to resume the programme. Meanwhile, check the details with Helena on 01746 718012 or Clare 718007.

### **Chorley Village Hall and Film Club**

Joe Bubb reported that CVH was taking its first tentative steps towards re-opening, with new risk assessments and counter-measures, before the new Rule of 6 controls.

For the latest update please check with Joe (01746 718693). Film Club Members enjoy monthly big-screen films at 7.30pm on the 'third Thursday' in Chorley Village Hall and have free use of the DVD Library too. Membership is £7pa.

### **Stottesdon Open Gardens for NGS Charities**

Despite the inevitable cancellation of the July Gardens Open event, the village has continued to support the urgent need of funds for the various Nursing and Cancer Support Charities which normally receive much of their funding from the National Gardens Scheme (NGS).

Local produce including surplus fruit & veg, juices, cordials and much more have been flying off the little stall in Station Road and we'll update you on how much has been sent off to NGS Charities when the stall season comes to an end.

Meanwhile, Sunday 27th June 2021 is penciled-in as a provisional date for the next combined Open Gardens and Church Heritage Open Day. Hope to see you there!

### **The Fighting Cocks Inn**

Before the recent changes to restrictions, opening hours were back to normal; now we think they'll be as follows (but call first to check! And book!!):

- Tuesday - Friday 5pm-10pm, serving food 6.30-8.30
- Saturday 12pm-10pm, serving food 12.30-2pm and 6.30-8.30
- Sunday 12pm – 10pm, serving food 12.30-2.30

**Booking** is essential so give Bre a call on 01746 718270. **Takeaway** service to order throughout the week.

### **Cleobury Mortimer Library**

In the Cleobury Country Centre by Lacon Childe School, has now reopened. Call the Centre 01299 272300 to check opening times

The **Deadline for the November edition (Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes)** is to get copy to Chris by first thing **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**. Thanks!

# Useful Community Contacts

<b>Brown Clew Walkers</b>	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
<b>Burwarton &amp; District WI</b>	Meets in Cleobury North Village Hall. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm. Contact 01746-712466
<b>Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors</b>	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wendy Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Garden Club</b>	Meets on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm. Contact 01584-823723 for details of topic and venue
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Wives Group</b>	Meeting 8pm 1st Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421 or Gill Severn 01746-712231
<b>Chelmarsh Crown Green Bowling Club</b>	Welcomes old and new members. Contact Sue Jackman 01746-862850
<b>Chelmarsh Indoor Short Mat Bowling</b>	Welcomes old and new members. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 7.30-10.00pm. Further details Sue Jackman 01746-862850
<b>Chelmarsh Parish Hall</b>	Available for hire - booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk
<b>Chelmarsh Jubilee Club</b>	Parish Hall 01746-86525 Jean Davis
<b>Chelmarsh Walking for Health</b>	Monday 10.00am except Bank Holidays. Parish Hall. Eleanor Haddon 01746-862884. 2 levels of walking available
<b>Chelmarsh Friends</b>	Meet every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Jenny Green 01746-862191
<b>Cleobury North Village Hall</b>	Booking Clerk 07800-883830 CleoburyNorthDistrictVH@gmail.com
<b>Tae kwon-do</b>	Chelmarsh Parish Hall Tuesday evening. Suitable for children & Adults. Neil Morris Thursday 5.45pm. 07969-996055
<b>Chelmarsh Parent &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
<b>Chetton &amp; Gazeley WI</b>	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
<b>Chetton Folk Dance Club</b>	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
<b>Chorley Village Hall</b>	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact Jenny or Charlie on 01746-718437
<b>Short Mat Bowling</b>	Every Monday & Thursday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Cleeton & Silvington Village Hall, October to end of April. Pam 01584-89261
<b>Cleeton &amp; Silvington V H</b>	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584-890200
<b>Fun &amp; Fitness for 50+</b>	Cleobury North Village Hall - low impact fitness programme working the whole body every Tuesday 10.00 – 11.15am. Contact 01584-823640
<b>Ditton Priors Art Group</b>	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Mrs Denise Davies 01746-712521
<b>Short Mat Bowling</b>	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm except the second Wednesday in the month when it will be Thursday at 8.00 – 10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact 01746-712157
<b>Ditton Priors WI</b>	Meets in Ditton Priors Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7.15pm 01746-712473
<b>Ditton Priors Local History Group</b>	The Local History Centre, next to the Willows Café, opens 12.00-2.00 on Saturdays, and at other times by arrangement. Contact 01746-712850
<b>Ditton Priors Parent &amp; Toddlers Group</b>	Meet in the Pavilion, Playing Fields, Ditton Priors Thursday 9.30 -11.30 am everyone welcome for a coffee and play.
<b>Ditton Priors Book Club</b>	Jenny -01746-712665
<b>Knowle Sports Club</b>	Second hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
<b>Stottesdon Gateway Nursery</b>	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
<b>Stottesdon &amp; District W.I.</b>	Meets in various venues on the 3rd Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746 718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
<b>Stoke St Milborough Dance</b>	Mike 01746-712774 Betty 01746-77515
<b>Domestic Abuse Hotline</b>	Telephone Number 08448-044999