

Your Village News - And What's on! Hamstall Ridware Parish Magazine



Easter Cross and Services
Brenda Perkin
End of Linkup Bus
Simon and Garfunkel
Community café date change
Fête - advance notice

April - May 2026

<http://www2.lichfielddc.gov.uk/hamstallridware/>

<https://hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk>

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4451/>

<https://kbhmy.co.uk/hamstall/>

<https://www.faceok.com/groups/hamstallridware>

£1.20

when purchased



Contact Information

<u>Rector</u>	Revd Jeremy Brading The Rectory, Savey Lane, Yoxall, DE13 8PD. jeremybrading@icloud.com	01543 472565
<u>Associate Minister</u>	Revd Deborah Sheridan	01543 264363
<u>Churchwardens</u>	Mr John Ferguson	01889 504430
	Mr Michael Elsom	07949 126640
<u>PCC Secretary</u>	Mrs Glenis Turner	01889 504466
<u>Parish Magazine Editor</u>	Dr Paul Carter pcarter@doctors.org.uk	01889 504347
<u>Other PCC members</u>	Liz Carter	Chris Smart
	Doug Cook	David Rudge
	Sarah Elsom	Dr Jude Burgess

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

If you have any concerns, please speak in complete confidence to the Parish Safeguarding Officer Dr Paul Carter (01889 504 347) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser Mr Neil Spiring 01543 306030

UNITED BENEFICE OF KINGS BROMLEY, THE RIDWARES and YOXALL

Revised Service Rota from September 2023: Church Patronal Festivals will be United Benefice services. Everyone welcome at any of our services

	Hamstall Ridware St Michael and All Angels	Yoxall St Peter	Kings Bromley All Saints	Mavesyn Ridware St Nicholas
1st Sunday in Month	9.00am Said Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	4/5pm GMT/BST Said Communion	10.30am Morning Service
2nd Sunday in Month	4/5pm GMT/BST Said Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	
3rd Sunday in Month	10.30pm Holy Communion	4/5pm GMT/BST Said Communion	9.00am Said Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
4th Sunday in Month	10.30am Morning service	9.00am Said Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	4/5pm GMT/BST Holy Communion
5th Sunday in Month	Benefice service – to be arranged			

Hamstall Ridware Parish Magazine: April - May 2026

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From the Editor

This magazine is our spring edition! the weather is slowly improving; the Palm Cross is going up and we will soon celebrate Easter (p9). On a sad note, on 19th April we will be gathering in church to celebrate the life of Brenda Perkin and to join her family at the interment of her ashes. Everyone is welcome. (p9) John Ferguson has included on page 8 extracts from the eulogy he has prepared with the family for that service.

We also have news of the end of the link up bus service, a big church clean on the 31st of May, and notification that the April community cafe has been moved in April to the 5th Thursday: the 30th (p10). There is a full page of details and support needed in preparation for our fête, that will be held on 20th June this year. Save any old jigsaws and games! Volunteers to help man the stalls are always welcome: please contact Val Richards or anyone else whose details are given on page 11.

Other announcements include the Kings Bromley Jazz Festival (p12), a community police drop in session and the Staffordshire County Show, (both p13), a men's health event (p14) and a celebration of Simon and Garfunkel (p15).

As well as our usual news and reports we also have a fascinating reminiscence by John Ferguson of the Row, the former cottages in Pipewood Rd where both Ella Riley and Brenda Perkin once lived. John also kindly donated this month's cover photo.

Incidentally, do note the Hamstall textile is due to move back into church after Easter when it is warmer.

We have 3 new advertisers: two dog walkers and one decorator, but sadly no advert for Chiron healthcare which has been sold and the new owners are not supporting Molly with her venture.

We have our usual articles, for which again thank you to our contributors. For Food bank donations, see page 25. If you know anyone who needs foodbank help do contact any member of the PCC. Donations of food, toiletries and especially of cash are always appreciated.

A copy of this magazine is available on www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4451/ from a few days before delivery of the printed copies. Do also contact the editor if you would like to have a copy of the magazine routinely emailed to you. To advertise in the magazine, contact the editor.

Copy date for the June - July magazine is Sunday 17 May.

Paul Carter 07710 293 230 pcarter@doctors.org.uk

UNITED BENEFICE OF KINGS BROMLEY, THE RIDWARES and YOXALL

April - May 2026. Everyone welcome at any of our services

	Hamstall Ridware <small>St Michael & All Angels</small>	Yoxall <small>St Peters</small>	Kings Bromley <small>All Saints</small>	Mavesyn Ridware <small>St Nicholas</small>
March 29th Palm Sunday	10.30 am Benefice Palm Sunday Procession & Holy Communion, Hamstall Ridware			
April 2nd Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm Commemoration of the Lord's Supper at King's Bromley			
April 3rd Good Friday	2.00 pm Proclamation of the Cross at Mavesyn Ridware			
April 4th Easter Eve	8.30 pm Holy Saturday Easter Mysteries at Yoxall			
April 5th Easter Day	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	4.00 pm Easter Praise
April 12th Easter 2	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	
April 19th Easter 3	10.30 am Service of Word & interment of ashes	5.00 pm Holy Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion
April 26th Easter 4	10.30 am United Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Yoxall			
May 3rd Easter 5	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Morning Prayer
May 10th Rogation Sunday	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	
May 14th Ascension Day	7.00 pm Benefice Ascencion Day service at St Peters Yoxall			
May 17th Easter 7	10.30 am Holy Communion	5.00 pm Holy Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion
May 24th Pentecost	10.30 am Service of the Word	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	5.00 pm Holy Communion
May 31st Trinity Sunday	10.30 am Benefice Service, Hamstall Ridware			
June 7th Trinity 1	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Morning Prayer
June 14th Trinity 2	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	

There is also a 30-minute service (check website), usually a said communion, at 10.00 am Wednesdays at Yoxall

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS – HAMSTALL RIDWARE

April - May 2026. For latest info see <https://kbhmy.co.uk/hamstall/>

If you are unable to fulfil a particular duty, please arrange to 'swap' with someone else on the rota.

Sidesman/unlocking: Sunday & preceding 6 days: 10am to 6pm BST (4pm GMT)

DATE	BELLS & GREETING	SIDESMAN (& unlock week before)	COFFEE	READERS	(week before)	
					CLEANERS	FLOWERS
March 29th Palm Sunday Benefice service 10.30 am	J Burgess P Carter	C Smart	P Carter L Carter	S Bostock C Smart		-
April 5th Easter Day 10.30 am	S Elsom J Ferguson	P Carter	S Elsom M Elsom	S Elsom J Ferguson	S Elsom S Bostock	All florists to decorate for Easter
April 12th Easter 2 5.00 pm	C Smart -	M Elsom	-	C Smart D Rudge		
April 19th Easter 3 and Memorial 10.30 am	S Elsom L Carter	M Elsom wk bef P Carter Sun	P Carter L Carter	P Carter S Elsom	V Richards J Berriman	
April 26th Easter 4	-	J Ferguson (opening church and preceding week)				L Carter
May 3rd Easter 5 9.00 am	J Ferguson -	D Rudge	J Burgess G Burgess	J Burgess J Ferguson	P Carter C Smart	
May 10th Rogation Sunday 5.00 pm	J Burgess -	C Smart	-	D Rudge C Smart		
May 17th Easter 7 10.30 am	C Smart S Bostock	D Leigh	D Leigh L Leigh	S Elsom S Bostock	E Riley J Parker	L Leigh
May 24th Pentecost 10.30 am	L Carter S Elsom	P Carter	P Carter L Carter	P Carter J Burgess		-
May 31st Trinity Sunday 10.30 am	P Carter C Smart	J Ferguson	J Ferguson C Smart	P Carter J Ferguson	L Carter L Leigh	-
June 7th Trinity 1 9.00 am	C Smart -	D Rudge	S Elsom M Elsom	C Smart D Rudge		S Elsom-
June 14th Trinity 2 5.00 pm	J Ferguson -	D Leigh	-	J Ferguson J Burgess	S Elsom S Bostock	-

Thank you to everyone for helping with church services. Cleaning only alternate weeks but on call in blank weeks for a funeral or wedding if notified: April: P Carter, C Smart; May: V Richards, J Berriman

From our Rector, the Revd Jeremy Brading

Happy Easter ! As a country, we prefix the word 'Happy' to any number of celebrations. Perhaps the inspiration for this trend is 'Happy Birthday'. Yet if we think of Easter in terms of a Christian festival, should we not follow the parlance, established by Christmas ? In other words should we greet one another with, 'Merry Easter' ? Whilst I think I might have a point, I also think that 'Happy Easter' sounds so much better. So Happy Easter, it is.

I am less convinced by other applications of 'Happy', written on commercially available cards. Last month I sent my mother a card, with 'Happy Mother's Day' on the front. Like Happy Easter, Happy Mothers Sunday (or indeed Mothering Sunday) seems reasonable, but what about 'Happy Halloween' ? I do realise that youngsters dressed in ghoulish costumes who knock on front doors, have mainly happy experiences as they say: 'trick or treat'. Therefore in this respect, Halloween could be described as 'happy'. Yet not all is what it seems. For the parents of these children, there must be some mixed emotions. Parental concern might spring from the knowledge that the Halloween costumes they have been pressed by their children to buy, are often made with highly combustible materials. Of course all clothing, under the right conditions, can catch fire. Halloween of course occurs close to bonfire night, and thus the potential also for hand held sparklers. It troubles me that by design, 'the commercial industry' makes available these especially flammable costumes that they target to children. This of course before I even mention my own concerns about Halloween. Many Christians hold the view that Halloween trivialises both the darker side of human nature and the real presence of evil in the world. Thus Happy Halloween - but really ?

I suspect that my concluding paragraphs to many of my church magazines at Easter, have adopted a similar conclusion. If this makes me at best predicable, it is because I am sorry for the neglect there has been concerning Christian teachings about Easter. I think that our increasingly post-Christian UK makes conclusions concerning the Church's celebration of Easter, akin to Igor Stravinsky's ballet The Rite of Spring. Thus the all too familiar easter chicks, rabbits, flowers etc are seen and they are referenced by Stravinsky by the 'new life' embodied by the dancing young girl. For the amusement of the onlookers, the young girl ends up dancing herself to death.

To practicing Christians, Easter is so much more than the pitiful dance to death in Stravinsky's ballet. By contrast, Christians hold Easter in an entirely positive light. Rather than the death of a young girl, the Resurrection of Jesus occurred once in AD 33. The good news does not stop there; for the purpose of the associated celebrations is more than marking this historic event. I believe that at that first Easter, we were given real access to the promise of the incarnation established at Christmas. God is with us now, in our joys and especially in our sufferings too, and he leads us to something better. Thus Easter is not a celebration of just new life; rather Easter is an invitation to you to participate and to share God's life on earth and in heaven.

I look forward to greeting you at the Triduum services, details:

www.kbhmy.co.uk/services/

Revd Jeremy Brading

Parish Priest of Kings Bromley, the Ridwares & Yoxall

Dates for your diary

Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	26	March
Easter Cross erected for decoration	Saturday	28	March
Race Night at Shoulder 7.30 pm	Sunday	29	March
MU "Bring and Share" meeting, St Peters Church Yoxall, 1.45pm	Wednesday	1	April
Florists decorate Church 9am – 12noon	Saturday	4	April
Easter Sunday Service at St Michael all Angels 10.30	Sunday	5	April
Quiz night at Shoulder 7.30pm	Sunday	6	April
Take A Break Café, H R Village Hall 10.30 - 12noon (1 st Tues)	Tuesday	7	April
Community Police Drop-in session HR Village Hall 10am-12	Monday	13	April
Men's Health Event, Yoxall Surgery, 6.30 – 8.30 pm	Thursday	16	April
Live Music with Red & Friends, Shoulder, for Bone Cancer	Friday	17	April
Morning service in memory of Brenda Perkin. St Michaels 10.30	Sunday	19	April
WI: "Fish 'n Chips"	Tuesday	21	April
St Georges day Tea Hill Ridware Village Hall 3-5pm	Thursday	23	April
St Georges day menu at Shoulder	Thursday	23	April
British Beef Week at Shoulder (Monday 19-)	Sunday	26	April
Simon and Garfunkel, Abbots Bromley Village Hall, 7.30pm	Friday	24	April
Spring Quiz with Fish and Chips, KB Village Hall, 7pm	Saturday	25	April
Gresley Male Voice Choir, St Peter's Church, Yoxall, 7.30	Saturday	25	April
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	30	April
Bank Holiday: Pub open all day	Monday	4	May
Take A Break Café, H R Village Hall 10.30 - 12noon (1 st Tues)	Tuesday	5	May
Hamstall Ridware Parish Council, Shoulder, 7.30pm	Monday	11	May
Jazz Festival Kings Bromley Village Hall (p12) Friday 15 &	Saturday	16	May
Copy date for the June – July magazine	Sunday	17	May
National Sandwich week at Shoulder Monday 18 to	Friday	22	May
Spring Bank Holiday, Pub open all day	Monday	25	May
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	28	May
Staffordshire County Show, Wednesday 27 and	Thursday	28	May
Big Church Clean, St Michaels and All Angels 9.30 – 12.30	Saturday	31	May
Tents etc for Fête from 6pm	Thursday	18	June
Hamstall Fête, 1.30 – 4.30 pm	Saturday	20	June

Bold – selected one off events

Abbots Bromley and Yoxall GP surgery training closures

The remaining advertised dates when the Surgeries are closed pm for staff training are Tuesday 14 April & Thurs 1 May.

Mobile Library dates (0300 111 8000 option 2) The mobile libraries are in normal service. Our nearest are Yoxall where Mobile 2 Route 4 stops at the Golden Cup from 9.30 to 10.30 and at Ferrers Road from 10.35 to 11.05 on alternate Thursdays. The next dates are 26 March and should be 9, 23 April and 7, 21 May (tbc).

A different mobile library, Mobile 1 Route 10 visits Kings Bromley and Hill Ridware where it stops at Richard Crosse from 10.00 to 11.00 and Henry Chadwick from 1.20 to 2.30 alternate Fridays. The next dates are 20 March and should be 3, 17 April and 1, 15 May (tbc) .

Brenda Elsie Perkin, née Goring



On 27th January 2026 the village sadly lost one of its oldest residents, Brenda Perkin, who passed away at Stafford General Hospital after a short illness.

For the last 70 years Brenda lived at Church Cottage Blithbury Road Hamstall, the home she had shared with her late husband Ken whom she married when she was 19 and where they brought up their son Peter.

Brenda lived in the village all of her life and was born in 1936 in a cottage in The Row – one of four houses which formerly stood fronting Blithbury Road - where her parents Elsie and Ted Goring welcomed their new daughter into a family which already included her five brothers. She attended the village school later moving up to Alfgar school Rugeley. Aged 15, she left and for several years worked for the Lichfield Laundry company whose van every day picked her up from Hamstall as well as other workers from nearby villages bringing them home again each evening.

Brenda was a strong supporter of the village community and, until frailty confined her to her cottage, was known to everyone in the village. She gave help where it was most needed, in particular helping older village residents with shopping and day-to-day needs as well as generations of village children, supporting their parents when work or other demands prevented them taking to or picking up from the village school. She remained interested in their lives as they grew into adults, having been godmother to several and loved to hear about them and all village news.

Even as a young girl in The Row she had cared, day to day, for a bedridden lady in one of the neighbouring cottages who relied on Brenda to help run her little shop from her front room!

Brenda was often to be seen about the village, frequently in the shop, familiar to all, always with time for a chat, collecting and imparting news and invariably smiling and among the first to welcome newcomers to our village community.

Poppy day was not complete without a visit from Brenda; she'd remind you about that stall you'd volunteered for, chased up the Fête or Christmas Bazaar prize you'd promised, as well as the flowers needed for the church!

Brenda was a member of the W.I., served on the Parish council and, always a staunch supporter of her beloved village church, was a member of the Church PCC.

She encouraged village youngsters to take part in the Christmas Christingle and other events throughout the year; her lovely singing voice was a vital part of the hymns sung in church each Sunday as well as at Wednesday afternoon meetings in the village chapel.

In later years despite being confined to home she did what she could to support the Church, receiving the latest village magazine for neighbours, selling fête draw tickets and contributing to prizes and other stalls, regularly giving money towards altar flowers and the community café and enjoying the photos of the flowers and the cakes helpers brought her in return.

Even in the weeks before she died, she collected and coordinated names for the village pensioners annual Christmas dinner. In these later years, when it was Brenda's turn to need help, carers and her friends in the community responded to her need for support,

including with shopping, meals from the pub, picking up prescriptions and helping her when the need arose and she had to rely on others.

Her passing is for many of us the end of an era, recalling a time when every face was familiar and like Brenda, most in the village spent their whole lives here having attended the village school and working locally, often with similar joys and challenges and forever meeting in the village shop.

Dear Brenda, we're sorry to say goodbye.

The family greatly appreciate all the kind messages of support and sympathy in their time of loss and also hearing of the many memories shared by people who knew Brenda over the years. They wish to express also their appreciation of the care given by Biliv Care, Yoxall surgery and those at Stafford General Hospital.

Brenda Perkin – Thanksgiving - Memorial service: Sunday 19 April 10.30 am St Michaels and all Angels, Hamstall.

There will be a special Morning prayer service with thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Brenda Perkin at 10.30 am on Sunday 19 April followed by interment of her ashes. All are invited to stay on for refreshments in church after the service when there will be a chance to share memories of Brenda.

Donations to the British Heart Foundation in memory of Brenda can be made through <https://www.funeralguide.co.uk/obituaries/141815?branded> or at the service the family invite donations in memory of Brenda for St Michael & All Angels Hamstall Ridware, the church she loved.

Flowers and Floral Cross at Church

The Easter Cross this year will be erected on Saturday 28 March

As last year, the plan is for anyone who wants to, to help decorate it with flowers leading up to Easter Sunday 5th April. Everyone is welcome to come along and using the plastic flower vials, insert some flowers in the greenery on the cross.

Let's make a truly stunning display for Easter again.

Easter Sunday

Many thanks too to our local Group of flower arrangers who continue to produce beautiful displays for our church. During Lent there are no flowers on the altar but on Saturday 4th April we will be decorating the Church for our Easter Service. Please bring along flowers or displays. I will be there from 9 to 12.

Thank you, Liz Carter 0775 106 8181



Linkup on demand Transport service (the pink bus) – Service ends 28 March

Lichfield District Council have had to withdraw the Linkup bus service due to lower than anticipated usage coupled with the end of the external funding, the council had been using.

During the 18 months it was available there were a small number of a regular users, but with most residents using the service only occasionally.

The final day of LinkUp is Saturday 28th March.

John Ferguson



Big Church Clean – Saturday 31 May

An invite to anyone to help give the church a bit of a freshen up before the fête on the 20th of June. Come along Saturday 31 May 9.30 – 12.30 Refreshments provided! and help give our beautiful church a Big Clean

I will bring some cleaning tools and ladders but please do also bring your own favoured items. Liz Carter

Community café: St Michael and All Angels Church 4th Thursdays

Next dates: 26 March, **30 APRIL**, 28 May, 10.30am-12.30.

Please note change of date for April café

The community café continues to thrive with new faces every month.

Do consider bringing along someone who might not be able to get there on their own.

We look forward to welcoming you to the café where you can enjoy a hot drink and homemade cakes/ biscuits/ scones along with wonderful company.

See you soon.

Jo Berriman

29 March Palm Sunday

10.30am Hamstall Ridware church

2 April Maundy Thursday

7pm Kings Bromley church

3 April Good Friday

2pm Mavesyn Ridware church

4 April Holy Saturday

8pm Yoxall church

Easter Sunday 5 April 10.30 Hamstall

Holy Week & Easter 2026



01543 472 565 revd@kbnhy.co.uk

HAMSTALL RIDWARE VILLAGE FÊTE

Saturday 20th of June 2026 1.30pm to 4.30pm

The Hamstall Ridware Fete volunteers are busy planning our great village event this year. Put the date in your diaries and come along for a fun family day out. It's slightly later this year: 20th June.

We are happy to have the great band Big Stone Gap back this year with their mix of blues, folk and country.

As always, we will have a mix of the traditional stalls and games including skittles, tombola, guess the bottle, cakes, crafts and plants for sale and of course the ice creams.

And new this year: Puzzle & games stall: look out any old puzzles & games - details next magazine

As well as the famous hot pork baps and great beer provided by the Shoulder of Mutton. The magnificent teas and cakes will be in our tea tent.

Make sure you get your Grand Draw tickets to win a splendid prize. They will be on sale soon.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who help. **If you can help in any way it would be greatly appreciated. If you could help run a stall or have any ideas then get in touch with:**

Val Richards 07939623109, rarebitrichards92@sky.com

Liz and Paul Carter 01889 504347, pcarter@doctors.org.uk

Sarah Elsom 01889 504016/07973950476, sarah.elsom@btinternet.com

We'd appreciate help in advance:

- Thursday 18th of June from 6pm – erection of tents, chairs and table collection – we really do need as many people as possible for this. Don't worry full instructions are given!

Please drop off any prizes:

- **well in advance for:-**

Grand Draw: (to be confirmed next magazine)

Tombola: The Allens, Olde Shoppe Cottage – 504481

Bottle stall: Val Richards, The Garret Manor Yard – 07939 623109

- ***And the week before for:***

Bric-a-Brac & books: (in good condition); No second-hand clothes this year, please Lucy Leigh, The Mill House, Yoxall Road - 504352

Linda Windley, 14 Blythe View, Lichfield Road – 504343

Plants (Unless dropping off on the day), Caroline McLachlan, Mission Cottage, Blithbury road - 07917 135166

- ***On the day please:***

Cakes and home-made - to Sindy Bostock and Ann Ball – on the stall

Cakes and sandwiches to Glenis Turner, Liz Carter and Jo Berriman in the tea tent

Plants & home-grown produce - to Wendy Thomas, and helpers on the plant stall.

Plants needed: A call to all gardeners: please consider planting a few extra seedlings and now is the time to split clumps of perennials. Any spare plants can go straight into pots to bring along to the plant stall at our fête, Thank you. Val Richards

Do get involved if you can! It is a great village occasion and raises much-needed funds for our lovely church. We look forward to seeing you there.

IT'S ON ITS WAY.....!

The Kings Bromley Jazz Festival26 is going to happen on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th May at the Village Hall in Alrewas Road.

On Friday 15th, in the evening, the Village Harmony Choir will sing alongside The Aspire Community Band. Both groups of musicians will perform separately and together. They are preparing shared favourites for this special concert as well as presenting their own unique pieces within the broad genre that is Jazz, to bring pleasure, joy and entertainment to their audience. Lots of old favourites, and, maybe some new.

Tickets are strictly limited and are available on Eventbrite, so book up early to be sure of entry. A ticket costs £8, including booking fee. Any profits made after expenses will be shared with both the groups. Come along and enjoy the local talent.

On Saturday 16th, the whole day will be filled with a range of musical experiences.

From 10.00am there will be a guitar workshop helping those who can play, and have already begun to know their instrument, to explore playing the Blues.

Numbers of places available are restricted to 15. For the workshop, attendees need to be able to play 3 chords, be good at keeping time and strum accurately. Refreshments are included. Performer and educator, Luca Gianissi, (Royal Birmingham Conservatoire), will lead the workshop before performing later in the day. For further details, contact Jonathan Nason on 07980 450 705, jn@quaydirections.co.uk

Playing around the village hall, in the intervals between the other four bands, and after their huge success with us last year are the **WAYSIDE SERENADERS**. They perform to support the CRISIS homeless charity. Their busking style is amusing and very entertaining. They will have their donations hat with them so feel generous, please. They begin at around 1.00pm.

The other **SWINGING SATURDAY SESSIONS** are: (*timings may change*)

14.00 Luca Gianissi Trio – opening the afternoon with his guitar-based trio; and incorporating an opportunity from those who attended the morning workshop to join him and his fellow musicians.

16.00 Ben Carter Band – Ben made such a big impression at last year's Fest25, with the Tim Amman Quintet, that we had to invite him back to bring his own band. Ben has his own unique style and is supported by an excellent rhythm section.

19.45 Ben Shankland Quartet – BBC Radio Scotland Young Jazz Musician of the Year and featuring Sophie Gilbert an extraordinary vocalist, performing pieces from his latest CD and well-known jazz standards from that repertoire.

Ticket prices for performances vary and a limited number of 'Early Bird' Tickets, offering a discount for Saturday, will be available. Look out for tickets on Eventbrite five weeks before the event.

DO COME AND ENJOY THESE EVENTS

Kings Bromley Village News

SPRING QUIZ WITH FISH & CHIP SUPPER - Saturday 25 April, Village Hall 7pm. Teams of 4, £10 per person including supper. The ever-popular general knowledge quiz. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Book early – limited availability. Contact Judith Berry 07547 422833

Community Police drop in session

I will be popping into Hill Ridware Community Centre on Monday April 13th 10am to 12 noon. This is an opportunity to meet local PCSO and discuss any issues or concerns that residents may have.

PCSO Maggie Griffiths.



STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY SHOW
WEDNESDAY 27TH & THURSDAY 28TH MAY 2026
www.staffscountyshowground.co.uk

MAIN SHOW SPONSORS
B&B TRACTORS
First in every field

QR code: staffordshirecountyshow.sckatarv.co.uk

The poster features a vibrant green and blue background with silhouettes of a family, a cow, a motorcycle stunt rider, and a person on a horse. A QR code is located on the right side.



Take A Break Cafe

Tuesday
7th April,
5th May &
2nd June

1030 - 12 noon
The Village Hall,
Hill Ridware

All Welcome!

theWI
HELPING WOMEN
THE REHAB

The poster shows a white coffee cup with latte art on a saucer.

A recent visitor to church caught on camera





'The Sound of Spring'

with

Gresley Male Voice Choir

Saturday 25th April, 2026

7:30pm start

St Peter's Church, Yoxall

DE13 8NQ

Tickets £12 each including refreshments
are available by contacting

Diana Muir Tel: 01543 473455

Judith Rickard Tel: 01543 472682

Doors open 7:00 pm, car parking in St Peter's School

You are invited to a
St George's Day Tea

Menu: Cup of tea
or coffee,
sandwich, & a scone
with jam & cream.

Date: Thursday 23rd April 2026
Venue: the Village Hall,
Uttoxeter Road, Hill Ridware

Time: 3pm – 5pm. Cost: £5-00

For further details
contact: 01543 492136

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN
THE RIDWARES

Yoxall Patient Participation Group (YaPP)

invites all men registered at Yoxall Surgery
to their first

Men's Health Event

Date: Thursday 16 April

Time: 6.30–8.30pm

Location: Yoxall Surgery

Come along for support and advice on:

- Diabetes
- Prostate health
- Mental wellbeing
- Opportunities to take part in research

Wives and partners are welcome.

No need to book—just drop in.

Refreshments will be available.

A CELEBRATION OF **SIMON & GARFUNKEL**

AS HEARD ON
BBC RADIO

PERFORMED **LIVE** BY
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"A stunning blend of observation, interpretation, and perfect vocal synergy"



FRIDAY 24TH APRIL 2026

ABBOTS BROMLEY VILLAGE HALL

Doors 6.45pm/**7.30pm start**

BAR OPENS 6.45PM

TICKETS £15 www.ticketsource.co.uk/timtone-productions

Box office call 0333 666 3366

In AB- from The Pie Shack 07794 422 996 or 07790 912255 (cash only)

www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg

News from

**Opening hours: Mon-Thur 12-2.30; 5-11
Fri 12-2.30; 4-11; Sat-Sun 12noon-11pm
Food served: Mon-Sat 12-2; 5-8.30, Sun
12-4 Please book for food on 01889 504488**



The garden here at the pub is coming out of winter hibernation and with some sunny days predicted ahead we invite you to join us for fun, socialising and some fabulous food & drinks. With Children's play area and plenty of seating you can while away the hours relaxing and enjoying the serenity of the countryside.

Everyone's Welcome!

Sunday 29th March – Race Night 7.30pm – Come have a flutter & cheer on your favourite horse, proceeds to Macmillan

April

Sunday 6th – Easter Sunday, Traditional Roast Lunches 12-4pm, Book on 01889 504488

Sunday 6th – Quiz night 7.30pm, test your general knowledge against the other teams! £2 per person. Max team 6

Thursday 16th – Eggs Benedict day, never tried it? Come and have a treat!

Friday 17th – Live Music with Red & Friends to raise money for Ash & Ann-Marie's Marathon Run **in aid of Bone Cancer Research Trust**

Thursday 23rd – St George's Day, Book your table for an English Menu with Pomp and Ceremony

20th - 26th – British Beef Week. Enjoy locally reared Beefy dishes all week

Friday 24th – Pigs in Blankets Day, Lots of variations to choose from for a bar snack or expand to a meal if you prefer

May

Monday 4th – Bank Holiday, open all day for drinks, food at normal times

18th - 22nd National Sandwich week, create your favourite accompanied with Chips & Coleslaw for just £9.95

Monday 25th – Spring Bank Holiday, Open all day for drinks, food at normal times

Other dates may be added, **please see posters in the pub**

Don't forget –

Wed – Sat Lunch – Open from 12-2pm for lunchtime meals

Every **Wednesday** is Steak Night, 2 Sirloins for £29 and a bottle of house wine £10!

Every **Thursday** is Pie night – all pie meals are £9.95!

You can also book breakfast (8-9.45am) any day of the week, the night before on 01889 504488

Nikki and Team!

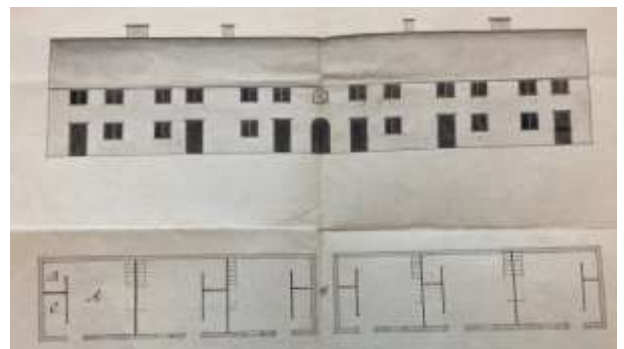
Old Hamstall Ridware – ‘The Row’ Pipewood Road



Unless you knew Hamstall Ridware 60 years ago, you're unlikely to recognise this terrace of four houses known as The Row, which once formed part of the village on the site now occupied by the flats: nos 26-40 Blithbury Road– formerly known as Pipewood Rd. You'll find a clue as to where they stood by looking at the left-hand side of the photo i.e. the corner of the converted former coach house to Laburnum Cottage.

The accommodation each provided is unlikely to have changed much from around 1795 when they were built by the Lord of the Manor, the Leigh family, whose papers

contain plans of the cottages as envisaged then. The Row is likely the "six neat poor houses ..newly erected in the middle of the village" recorded by the historian Stebbing Shaw who visited the village in 1797 when compiling his History of Staffordshire. The six cottages probably became four when each of the two end ones was amalgamated with the one immediately adjoining to form dwellings to accommodate larger families.



Brenda Perkin remembered life in the Row where she was born and grew up as the youngest in a family which included her five older brothers and her parents. The family moved from a mid-terraced cottage to one on the northern end but despite being a larger two bedroomed cottage, space must have been at a premium. Brenda remembered two rooms ground floor and, in a separate building outside shared with the neighbouring cottage, a wash house with its copper and a tap and an outside toilet.

Each family took their turn to use the wash house needing all of their allotted day to complete the weekly wash. Food was cooked over a black leaded grate with an adjoining oven and Janet Phillips, a former village resident, recalls the large pan swung over the grate in which Brenda's mother Elsie cooked family meals.

Ella Riley also remembers her early childhood in The Row with her family – in her collection is this photo of her mum with



Ella, her sister and Brenda enjoying sunshine near the pigsty!

herself and her sister keeping warm by the cooking range and to the right is a door leading to the first floor.

Each cottage had a rear garden which was used to raise vegetables and at the end stood the pigsty, the occupier of which eventually formed some of the salted hams hanging in the cottage, after the rest had been shared with neighbours.



Ella with her mum and sister Yvon by the cottage fireside

By the early 1960s the Lichfield Rural District Council (LRDC) considered that the cottages did not meet modern housing

standards and in March 1961 resolved to negotiate for their acquisition from the Hughes family who owned them and farmed at Hamstall Hall farm. Eventually on 9th December 1963 the Council bought them and took over as landlords. At that time Ella's family were paying a typical rent of 13 shillings and 7½ pence a week ie about 68p in decimal currency.

The council's aim was to replace the cottages with 10 council flats and as reports in the Rugeley Times show the village was hopeful that the new scheme would not only provide better housing – with the priority being for Hamstall villagers needing proper housing - but also cater for families with children. A recurrent item at Parish council meetings was the perceived delay in getting on with the scheme which the LRDC largely attributed to the need for a mains sewerage scheme to be put in the village by the drainage authority before the flats could be built.

Eventually a scheme was approved and the flats built and in March 1967 three families moved out of The Row and into the new flats which had been built on the old cottage gardens directly behind. One family moved to another location and the rest of the flats were allocated by the LRDC according to housing need, Although at one meeting described in the paper as 'stormy', villagers could not understand why a 74 year old Hamstall resident living in a caravan had not succeeded in gaining a flat.

The lives of many were affected by the scheme and our village scene was changed as these before and after photos from Ella show. If you have any memories of life in The Row please let us know.

Many thanks to Ella Riley for her memories and photos as well as to Janet Phillips and her much missed cousin Brenda Perkin who last year happily shared her memories of her childhood home.



- John Ferguson

BENEFICE PRAYERSHAWL MINISTRY

As you can see, we are still knitting and crocheting our shawls in our meetings at St Peter's on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10.30am.

We have been doing this since 2016. Five of our shawls were blessed at our last Parish Communion but we need YOU to think WHO

would like a shawl or lapshawl to wrap around them!

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE ONE? Would they bring comfort to someone young, old, a man, woman or child. Those who have faith and those who have none!

Our aim is to make a difference and brighten up people's lives in our Benefice so if anyone would like a shawl for someone or for yourself OR

Would you like to join us at our meetings when we start and finish with prayer but have a hot drink and biscuits in between to fuel our thoughts, (chatter) and knitting?

Any enquiries Judith Rickard 01543 472682.



Following our successful fundraising events, Karen Wakefield, our President, recently delivered donations on our behalf to the organisations agreed by the committee in January: These were: the Hill Ridware Village Hall; St Giles Hospice; Ridware Rascals; The Rugeley Food Bank; and St Nicholas Church.

Our February meeting.

We welcomed Mary Morris to our February meeting. We didn't really know what to expect. All we knew was that Mary would talk about falls and falls prevention. Mary really struck a chord with our group, firstly telling us all the scary statistics of how ageing affects the body. Did you know that being in bed for a week, you can lose up to 10% of your muscle mass?

She then went on to show us some simple exercises to help us to walk better, straighter and use our feet correctly; and some exercises that we can do while waiting for the kettle to boil!

Mary talked about helping to prevent us from falling in the first place, which our group found really interesting, and many have taken on board. Lastly, she showed us how to get up from a fall, should any of us be in that unfortunate position.

Mary was very entertaining and very knowledgeable, with a great zest for life. We would love to welcome her back to carry on from where she left off.



Turn your love for people, climate, and nature into action.



For the past 10 years, people across the UK have come together every February to show their love for the people, places, and our planet, standing up to tackle climate change and restore nature. The Ridware's WI is very proud to support this initiative.

The competition in February was to produce a crafted green heart. First place went to Meryl Matthey, Jayne Allcock was second, and Gaye Taylor came third. Well done to all three crafters.

Welsh Tea.

The highlight of our Spring offering so far has been our very popular Welsh Tea which is always held on or around St David's day. Members work so hard behind the scenes to make these events successful. We are happy to do so knowing just how much people enjoy them.

Over 80 guests were served a lovely Welsh tea with Welsh cakes, scones and of course bara brith, with lots of tea to wash it all down.



Members, Gaye, Verona and Karen resplendent in their lovely traditional costumes.

Next month we do it all again for our St Georges Day Tea.

Our generous members have been collecting bra's to send to the charity Smalls for All.

This charity collects new and gently worn underwear and distributes these to other charities in Africa and the UK. These charities give out the underwear to those in need.

Ridwares WI Dates for your diary.

- Tuesday 7th April: Take a Break Café.
- Tuesday 21st April: Our monthly meeting. Speaker Nikki will talk about 'Fish 'n' chip Shop judging. The competition for April is: - A funny Character made out of a potato.
- Thursday 23rd April: Our St George's Day tea.
- Tuesday 5th May: Take a Break Café.

All events are in Ridware Village Hall. Visitors and prospective new members will be given a warm welcome. For further details please see our web site here

<https://www.theridwareswi.online>

Kath Parson kath.parson@gmail.com.



Henry Chadwick Community Primary School

School Lane
Hill Ridware
Rugeley
WS15 3QN

Headteacher: Vicki Barnes

Tel: 01543 490354

Email: office@henrychadwick.greewoodmst.co.uk

<http://www.henrychadwick.staffs.sch.uk>

Like everyone else, we are looking forward to some better weather and the Summer months, when we will be able to get outdoors more and make use of our sports field and Forest School area. As we are heading into the final term of this academic year we look forward to starting our transition timetables for both children joining Henry Chadwick and for those who are moving on to High School.

The Drama group are working hard on their Summer production, with performances in the diary for parents and carers to enjoy. The performances are always a highlight in the school calendar!

We still have a couple of places available in our Nursery class for a September 2026 start. If you're considering our school for your child's education please don't hesitate to contact the office on office@henrychadwick.staffs.sch.uk to arrange a look around and to meet key staff.

Vicki Barnes, Headteacher

Foresters Scouts/Cubs/Beavers/Squirrels (see pp 24, 25 for details)

The first term of 2026 is over and its been busy, with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts doing a whole range of different activities. One of the highlights has been a visit to Cubs and Scouts from Ray and Sylvia who talked to them about the charity AquaBox. The charity is dedicated to ensuring there is access to safe drinking water for those in need. That may be from a natural disaster or a man-made disaster. The charity offers an innovative water filter pump that delivers clean and safe drinking water instantly without the use of chemicals. Both of them talked passionately about the work they do and getting the young people to understand that in so many places clean, safe water doesn't come out of a tap! Each pump cost £35 and the Cubs and Scouts donated to help them purchase more pumps – we were able to fund over 6 pumps!

We have been getting ready to welcome our new section, Squirrels, after Easter and we are very excited about meeting our newest members!



Beavers have had a meeting on random acts of kindness, and very kindly made cards to welcome our new Squirrels! We also had a week on historical figures. All the Beavers prepared a few sentences about their favourite person in history. Then they told other Beavers about their choice and the reasons why. We all learned some amazing and new facts.

Cubs have celebrated Founders Day, the birthday anniversary of the founder of Scouting, Robert Baden-Powell. On the same night it was appropriate

that our new Cubs got invested and they all received the badges they earned last term. The Aquabox meeting ticked off a lot of their global issues badge so they have also finished that, been on a walk and at the end of term they went bowling. The older Cubs also went on our fabulous weekend London trip and had a brilliant time!

Scouts have put up tarp shelters in Brookhay Woods, the weather was tricky on one of the nights so they had to be wind and waterproof! They have hiked on Cannock chase, played wide games at Rangemore and been to Alter Rock in Derby for a night of climbing, high ropes and caving.

At the time of writing we have just finished fund raising at the Fradley 10k and will be going again at the snail race the following weekend. Then we are almost at the end of the fundraising for the summer trip to Switzerland – the bank account looks good and the 45 Scouts can look forward to a really fun trip!

After Easter we have a few vacancies for young leaders. So if there is anyone that needs to volunteer for their DofE, then please get in touch Angela Burns, aburns@webbht.co.uk 07976 814523.



From Minutes of HRPC meeting Monday 12th January 2026

THOSE PRESENT: Cllr Neil Roobottom; Cllr Michael McNelis; Cllr Tina Buchanan (chair); Cllr Graham Roobottom; Cllr Simon Moore; Cllr Ella Riley; Cllr Keith Vernon

ALSO PRESENT: Becky Mycock Clerk

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 4+ members of the public

APOLOGIES: Cllr Janet Higgins;

The start of the meeting was opened to the public, areas covered were: -

Status of flooding modelling works, no further progress at the moment due to funding, we have experienced some rain but not significantly to impact the village.

Request to look into sand bags. The main meeting then started.

Matters Arising from the last Minutes: During the storms a few of the Dog Poo signs have been blown off, Cllr Ella Riley agreed to look at replacing them.

Correspondence/emails: Letter announcing that the Hamstall Flood Defence Group has been set up, to lobby further flood work and support the village in the event of the village flooding.

Precept: It was agreed to increase the precept by 15%

Finance: Balance at the bank:

- Current Account 31st December 25 £7,440.13
- Reserve account 30th September 25 £1,527.24

Payments	Amount
HMRC	286.56
CLERK	£682.26
DEFIB	£390.00
GRASSCUTTING	£2,004.00

Employment Changes: Agreed to changes for the clerk's salary, backdated to April 24

Proposed:- NR, Seconded:- MM; All in favour

Drain Cleaning: The annual drain cleaning will be hopefully completed this Friday, providing the weather is fine.

Grant Applications: Defer to next meeting.

Roof at Green Farm Cottage: No further updates from Cllr Janet Higgins.

Co-option: The council agreed to place an advert for a new council member in the next parish magazine again, this will remain on going until the vacancy can be filled.

Potholes: The situation with potholes in the village is on going and although some have been reported and filled in, several of them still have not been addressed, or when they are filled in, it only lasts a few days.

We have had notice that Blithbury Road will be temporary closed for road maintenance, this was from Cllr Janet Higgins but it's unsure what the works entail, hopefully pot hole filling.

The council encourages everyone to still report as many as possible.

Meeting with Cllr Janet Higgins:

Meeting arranged with Cllr Jant Higgins who is planning a tour of villages suffering with flooding. Cllr ER,SM agreed to join Janet on the pub car park, confirmation to follow.

Thanks: Thank you to Ollly for the kind donation of the Christmas Tree which was in the centre of the village, it was very much appreciated.

Cllr Ella Riley wished to express thanks to all involved in the Jane Austin Event making it a success.

Next Meeting Dates

2nd March	Shoulder of Mutton	7.30pm
11th May, Annual Meeting	Shoulder of Mutton	7.30pm
13th July 2026	Shoulder of Mutton	7.30pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair Mrs Tina Buchanan	07769 728131	tina.buchanan@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mr Graham Roobottom	01889 504030	graham.roobottom@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mr Neil Roobottom	07973 403722	neil.roobottom@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mr Simon Moore	07590 033237	simon.moore@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mr Michael McNelis	07887 743953	michael.mcnelis@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mrs Ella Riley	07904 947836	ella.riley@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Parish Clerk: Becky Mycock	01889 504233	clerk@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Ms Janet Higgins		janet.higgins@staffordshire.gov.uk
Keith Vernon (Lichfield DC Colton & Ridwares)	07711 758 852	keith.vernon@lichfielddc.gov.uk



We were delighted to welcome Liz and Roger Cresswell to our meeting in March, leading us in a Lent meditation, the theme being 'Nourishment for the Journey'.

To get us started we were asked to think about our favourite menu – Prawns featured as a favourite starter for many, followed by Lamb, chicken and fish as a main course. When it came to desserts there was a wide variety of dishes to finish the meal. We were then asked to think about how we receive our Spiritual nourishment. We focussed on the passage from John chapter 6 where Jesus was talking to his disciples following the feeding of the 5,000. He urges them not to 'toil away' for food that goes off, but food that lasts into Eternal Life – 'the real stuff' as the translation puts it – that given by God. What about our favourite foods? These varied from those that were healthy, but also with a fair sprinkling of those that would give us a sugar rush and whose effects would be short lasting. I think chocolate was at the top of that list!

This led us to think about the time when God led the Israelites through the wilderness, providing them with manna – just enough for each day, but if they tried to keep some overnight (just in case) then it would be mouldy in the morning. A good lesson in trusting God to know our daily needs.

We were then tasked with thinking about what spiritual nourishment is and where we find the nourishment that Jesus brings. This stimulated much discussion, especially on where each one of us finds our own spiritual food. Worship, the Bible, Prayer, topped the list, but also many found nourishment in a variety of ways and places – through music, nature, the sea, mountains, fellowship, books. All in all, we left the meeting with much to think about in our journey through Lent. Thank you, Liz and Roger.

Our next meeting is in Holy Week, on the 1st April at 145 p.m. It is going to be a 'Bring and Share' meeting. We were all asked to bring along an object, picture, postcard or something that means a lot to us to share with others. We warmly welcome anyone who would like to join us for any of our meetings, even if you don't want to commit to being a full member.

Liz Binsley

Contacts and Information

Hamstall Village Websites:	see front cover
WI Karen Wakefield	01543 492 136
Shoulder of Mutton	01889 504 488
Hill Ridware Village Hall: Bookings: info@mavesynvillagehall.co.uk or Yvonne Higgins	01543 492 829
Yoxall Brownies (7-10 years) Amelia Hill 07950 550 185 or Sue Pryde	07818 040 962
Yoxall Guides (10-15 years) Gill McKiernan	07836 629 904
Foresters Scout group: Squirrels (4-5 years), Beavers (6-8 years), Cubs (8-10 years), Scouts (10-15 years) at St Peter's School, Yoxall: Angela Burns (aburns@webbht.co.uk)	07976 814 523
Yoxall Health Centre (prescription repeats, yoxall.healthcentre@nhs.net)	01543 472 202
Yoxall Area Patient Partnership: yoxallareapatientpartnership@outlook.com	
Henry Chadwick Primary School, Headteacher, Mrs Vicki Barnes	01543 490 354
Ridware Rascals Play Group	See entry in Regular Meetings and Events
Ridware Arts info@gallery-ridware.co.uk	01889 504 102
Royal British Legion, Yoxall & District Branch Michael Elliott	07969 518 215
Lichfield District Council	01543 308 000
On-demand transport , www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/linkupbus Call Mon-Fri, 9–5.	0808 134 6632
Staffordshire Highways department	01785 277 452
Staffordshire County Council, new number for all services Under 20s bus discount card: www.yourstaffordshirecard.info	0300 111 8000
Staffordshire Social Services: care services	0300 111 8010
South Staffs Water	0800 389 1011
Sewerage – Severn Trent Water	0800 783 4444
Flood line (opt 1 code for Rugeley Trent 208013, Nethertown 308172) https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/9081 (Blithe) /2104 (Trent at K B)	03459 88 1188
Environment Agency (Lichfield 24hr) floods, sewerage etc	0800 807 060
Gas escapes	0800 111 999
Electricity faults	0330 123 5008
Scams etc – call Action Fraud	0300 123 2040
Community Police: To report an incident or contact your local officer please ring 101 (ext as collar no) or leave a voice message or	0300 123 44 55
(06442) Maggie Griffiths margaret.griffiths@staffordshire.police.uk	
(8993) Elaine Ford elaine.ford@staffordshire.police.uk	
(8973) Tracy Horton tracy.horton@staffordshire.police.uk	
(16633) Lisa Anderson lisa.anderson@staffordshire.police.uk	
	https://www.facebook.com/staffordshirepolice
	www.staffordshire.police.uk @StaffsPolice
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Lichfield	03444 111 444
Samaritans	116 123
Staffordshire Safeguarding First Response Team:	0800 1313 126
Emergency Duty Service – Out of Hours:	0345 604 2886
NSPCC Helpline:	0808 800 5000
Child line:	0800 1111
Samuel Johnson Community Hospital, Lichfield	01543 412 900
Burton Hospital	01283 566 333

Recycling dump opening times (enquiries: 0300 111 8000)

Lichfield	BST	GMT
Wed-Fri	9.00-18.00	9.00-17.00
Sat, Sun, Spring & Summer Bank Hols	9.00-17.00	9.00-17.00
Mon, Tues, Christmas day, Boxing Day, New Year Day:	Closed	
Rugeley	BST	GMT
Mon, Tues, Fri	9.00-18.00	9.00-17.00
Sat, Sun, Bank Hols	9.00-17.00	9.00-17.00
Wed, Thu, Christmas day, Boxing Day, New Year Day:	Closed	

Regular Meetings and Events

Further contributions to this page welcome: please contact the editor



The Flower Club The flower club meets approx. every four weeks. Meetings are at 7.30 p.m. in Hill Ridware village hall, cost £5 per session: bring along your own flowers. Full tuition given - beginners and more advanced flower arrangers welcome. 2026 sessions: 28 Apr; 26 May; 28 Jul; 22 Sep; 27 Oct; 24 Nov.
Contact: Karen Wakefield 01543 492136

Ridware Rascals Playgroup for age 0-5 yrs

Fridays during term time 9.15 a.m. – 11.00 Hill Ridware Village Hall £3.00 per family per session – first week free; Drink & snacks for the children; tea & coffee for the adults
Everyone welcome - mums/dads/grandparents/carers
Just come along and join in! Contact: Carol Wilson 01543 492052



Foresters Scouts/cubs/beavers/squirrels All sections open to boys and girls. see previous page.

Squirrels (4-5 years) Wednesday in St Peters School, Yoxall 5pm – 5.45pm

Beavers (6-7 years) Tuesday and Wednesday in St Peters School, Yoxall 6pm – 7pm

Cubs (8 – 10 years) Monday in Kings Bromley Village Hall 6.15pm – 7.45pm

St Peters School, Yoxall: Monday 6.15pm – 7.45pm and Thursday 6pm – 7.30pm

Scouts (11 – 14 years) Yoxall: 7.15pm – 8.45pm Tuesday and 7.45pm – 9.15pm Thursday in St Peters School, and Tuesday 7.15pm – 8.45pm in the Village Hall

Prayer Shawl meetings Yoxall Church: 10.30am – 12.00 2nd Tuesday of each month

Mothers' Union meets 1st Wednesday of month at 1.45pm in Yoxall Church for a short service. For more details contact: Liz Binsley 01543 472 761 or Julia Collinson 01543 473 866

Hamstall Community Café 4th Thursday of month in church 10.30 – 12.30

WI Take a Break Café

1st Tuesday of month: Hill Ridware Village Hall 10.30 – 12.00 noon - ALL WELCOME!


The Ridwares WI Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month at 19.30 Mavesyn Ridware Village Hall.

ALL women/girls welcome! For further details contact: Karen on 01543 492136

Post Office at Hill Ridware Village Hall - every Thursday 9-11am
at Kings Bromley Village Hall - every Tuesday 1-2pm

Churchyard working parties - All welcome. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 5pm. in summer months only. For further info, contact Michael Elsom 07949 126640

Food Bank Most needed remain toiletries, loo roll, instant mashed potato, tinned (sandwich) meat, tinned tomatoes, juice (long life) and squash, biscuits, children's treats, tinned fruit, pasta, rice, rice pudding and UHT milk or cash. Remember some people who need food bank help do not have access to cooking facilities. Please put any offerings in the Food Bank box at the back of Church or contact Liz Carter 0775 106 8181. For financial gifts to the Food Bank, see: <https://rugeley.foodbank.org.uk>

Lichfield Repair and Share Café Volunteer repairers will try to get your broken items repaired. Electricals, household, phones/computers, garden tools, keepsakes, clothing, etc. Learn new skills at our workshop sessions too. lichfieldshare@gmail.com or @lichrepaircafe on Instagram & Twitter & 

Third Sat of each month, 2-5pm Curborough Community Centre, Lichfield WS13 7NY

First Sat of each month, 10-1pm St Joseph's RC Church, Cannock Rd, Burntwood WS7 0BB

Royal British Legion, Yoxall & District Branch meets on 1st Wednesday of the month at 8pm in St Swithin's Room, St Peter's Church, Yoxall and afterwards in The Golden Cup. See too, Contacts, p20

Lichfield Community Lottery: Support Hamstall Heritage Group

- Tickets from only £1 per week
- HHG get 50p from every ticket
- Cash prizes up to £25,000 weekly

<https://www.lichfieldcommunitylottery.co.uk/support/the-hamstall-heritage-group>

Church flowers: donations or volunteers

New flowers are needed in church each 2 weeks except in Lent and Advent. If you would like to help, please contact Liz Carter 0775 106 8181 lizcarter3010@gmail.com who will be happy to guide you through what is needed, help or even arrange donated flowers for you.



100 Years Ago... by Chris Poole

April 1926 :

Elizabeth 2nd (1926-2022), Queen of United Kingdom Great Britain & Northern Ireland, the country's longest reigning monarch (1952-2022), was born in Mayfair London...Jack Brabham Australian racing driver, World F1 Champion 1959-1960 and 1966 was born in Sydney Australia... Ian Paisley, First Minister of Northern Ireland (Democratic Unionist Party} 2007-2008 was born in Armagh...American Magazine Publisher (Playboy) Hugh Hefner was born in Chicago Illinois...Doug Insole, English cricket batsman was born in Clapton London...Arthur Rowley who holds the record for the most goals scored in the history of English League football scored 434 goals in 619 matches was born in Wolverhampton....Italian Premier Benito Mussolini survived an assassination attempt... Bolton Wanderers defeated Manchester City 1-0 in the FA up Final attended by over 90000 people...English sports commentator David Coleman was born in Alderley Edge Cheshire...British coal miners rejected a final offer of an average wage cut of 13% and a 'temporary' workday increase from 7 to 8 hours - a state of emergency was then declared by the British Government... and finally the Staffordshire Advertiser records that the Rector of St Michaels, Rev LS Noble officiated at the marriage of Samuel Thomas, son of Mr & Mrs Smith of Pipe Ridware to Frances May, second daughter of Mr & Mrs Clews of Bancroft Farm

May 1926:

Sir David Attenborough renowned world broadcaster and naturalist was born in Isleworth Middlesex... Eric Morecambe (born John Bartholomew} British comedian and half of duo Morecambe & Wise, was born in Morecambe Lancashire...David Jacobs British born broadcaster (Juke Box Jury) was born in London...Scottish impressionist & comedian Stanley Baxter was born in Glasgow...Katy Boyle, Italian born British actress & broadcaster was born in Florence and there was to be a 9 day General Strike (May 3 until May 12) which eventually saw 1.7 million workers strike in solidarity with the locked out workers scientist Robert H Goddard (born in Worcester Massachusetts) successfully launched the world's first liquid fuelled rocket...Thomas Edison stated that Americans prefer silent movies to talkies...Kruger National Park is established as South Africa's first national park...and the British Army strength was approximated as 341000 personnel.

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