

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



**Harvest Festival 20 September
Bat Talk and Walk
Ride and Stride
British Legion
Curborough classic cars
Saturday Community Café September**

August – September 2026

£1.20

when purchased

<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>



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
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<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 Doug Cook Sarah Elsom Mr Michael Elsom	Chris Smart David Rudge 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 Spring 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: August - September 2026

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From the Editor

Fortunately, we had a lovely day for our fête and not the really hot, disabling weather that has caused such havoc. Our fête, p11, was once again very successful, thanks to everyone who came along and to Val Richards for coordinating it.

In August there are two classic car events: the first (p13) in Kings Bromley on 16th and the second on the bank holiday Monday at the Curborough track (pp14,15). The Ridware Walkers (p12) meet in Barton on 19th and there is also a family day at the Murcia distillery at Bishton, p16. Dave Robertson, MP, is holding two open sessions at the village halls in Abbots Bromley and Yoxall (p9).

In September. there is the Horn Dance in Abbots Bromley (p9), Proms in the Park (p15), and another fundraising event, the Ride and Stride, page 10. Do have a look and see if you can help raise funds for Staffordshire's historic churches.

The winner of the Sewing Bee is giving the talk at the WI on 15 September. Then our Harvest festival is on 20th, preceded by a special harvest themed community café, moved from the usual Thursday slot to Saturday 19th. The last event in September is a Bat Talk and Walk at our church on 30th. Book early as it proved a fascinating event last year! (p8)

There is no HRPC report this issue, but we have a full History society programme (p17) and many of our usual reports. On page 23 there are details of SPACE, a pass for 8 to 17 yr olds to enjoy many leisure activities in the area over the summer. Also on this page is advice from the police on registering your valuables.

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 October - November magazine is Sunday 20 September.

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

UNITED BENEFICE OF KINGS BROMLEY, THE RIDWARES and YOXALL

August – September 2026. Everyone welcome at any of our services

	Hamstall Ridware St Michael & All Angels	Yoxall St Peters	Kings Bromley All Saints	Mavesyn Ridware St Nicholas
July 26th Trinity 8	10.30 am Service of the Word	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	5.00 pm Evening Prayer
August 2nd Trinity 9	10.30 am Benefice Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Mavesyn Ridware			
August 9th Trinity 10	10.30 am Benefice Morning Prayer at St Michael and All Angels, Hamstall Ridware			
August 16th Trinity 11	10.30 am Benefice Holy Communion at All Saints, King's Bromley			
August 23rd Trinity 12	10.30 am Dedication of new RBL standards and Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's, Yoxall			
August 30th Trinity 13	10.30 am Benefice Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Mavesyn Ridware			
September 6th Trinity 14	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion		10.30 am Morning Prayer
September 13th Trinity 15	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	
September 20th Trinity 16	10.30am Harvest Festival	5.00pm Holy Communion	9.00am Holy Communion	10:30am Holy Communion
September 27th Trinity 17	10.30 am Patronal Festival and United Benefice Holy Communion at St Michael's, Hamstall Ridware			
October 4th Trinity 18	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion		10.30 am Morning Prayer
October 11th Trinity 19	5.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	

Except during August, there is also a 30-minute service (check website), usually a said communion, at 10.00 am Wednesdays at Yoxall and at 10.00 am on the first Thursday of the month at Kings Bromley

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS – HAMSTALL RIDWARE

August - September 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
July 26th Trinity 8 10.30am	L Carter P Carter	D Leigh (P Carter Sun)	L Leigh D Leigh	D Rudge P Carter	E Riley J Parker	L Leigh
August 2nd Trinity 9	-	C Smart (opening church and preceding week)				-
August 9th Trinity 10 10.30am	J Burgess D Rudge	M Elsom, week before J Ferguson, Sunday	J Burgess G Burgess	J Burgess J Ferguson	S Elsom S Bostock	P Barlow T Gibson
August 16th Trinity 11	-	J Ferguson (opening church and preceding week)				-
August 23rd Trinity 12	-	D Rudge (opening church and preceding week)			V Richards J Berriman	L Carter
August 30th Trinity 13	-	M Elsom (opening church and preceding week)				-
September 6th Trinity 14 9.00 am	S Elsom -	P Carter	P Carter L Carter	S Elsom P Carter	L Carter L Leigh	S Elsom
September 13th Trinity 15 5.00 pm	C Smart -	D Leigh	-	D Rudge C Smart		-
September 20th Harvest Festival 10.30 am	J Ferguson S Bostock	C Smart	J Ferguson C Smart	S Bostock J Ferguson	S Elsom S Bostock	All florists
September 27th Patronal Festival 10.30 am	C Smart D Rudge	J Ferguson	P Carter L Carter	J Ferguson C Smart		-
October 4th Trinity 18 9.00 am	P Carter -	D Rudge	L Leigh D Leigh	D Rudge P Carter	P Carter C Smart	-
October 11th Trinity 19 5.00 pm	C Smart -	P Carter	-	C Smart P Carter		R Wright

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: August: S Elsom, S Bostock; September: V Richards, J Berriman

From our Rector, the Revd Jeremy Brading

Last year I spent part of August on holiday with my family in the coastal village of Sutivan located on the island of Brac. Brac is located just off from the Croatian mainland city of Split. As my family and I sat outside one of the bars tucking in to our dinner, suddenly we all jumped up in surprise and instinctive fear. We had just heard a nearby explosion. It turned out that the explosion was from the firing of a cannon. This in turn marked the start of a procession through Sutivan. That the procession involved hundreds of local people was impressive, because there are less than 1000 residents in the village. Walking barefoot were a handful of religious men and women. Yet they were far out numbered by lay people, also processing. A broad range of ages was represented, including quite a number of children and young adults. Interestingly, none of these youngsters looked to me as if their parents had dragged them away from their gaming consoles. Indeed, judging from their facial expressions and similar expressions shown by others in the procession, the occasion was filled with great joy and celebration.

The occasion for this celebration was echoed by the name of the parish church: the Church of the Assumption. The celebration marked the Christian feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven (August 15th). So, what does this teaching celebrate ?

Articulated as doctrine via an encyclical in 1950, Pope Pius XII formalised a belief that had been observed since the 5th century. Indeed, the long standing status of the celebration is reflected in the choice of the name of the sixteenth century parish church for Sutivan. Mary has been referred to by many believers. as the theotokos (God-bearer). Given her status, it was assumed that the place of her death would carry significance for the faithful. For this was the attitude of the faithful, as practiced in relation to other major saints including Peter and Paul, as well as female saints including Saint Agatha and Saint Lucy. Yet as the early church historians once noted, there remains an absence of physical relics purporting to be Mary's, or reference to her burial site. Looking to biblical tradition for direction, the Church was inspired by the bodily ascensions of Enoch, Elijah (and Jesus). Thus, the belief observed for millennia by Eastern and Western Christendom was that: at the end of her earthly life, the Virgin Mary was taken, body and soul, into heavenly glory.

So why should you believe this ? In describing a woman caught up to God and His throne, Revelation 12 might refer to the ascended Mary. Addressing the place of Mary, the Second Vatican Council teaching concerning the Church, very deliberately includes Mary within the context of the Church, not God. Thus, Mary's significance for us is as a church member (perhaps as an archetype for the Church?). Why? Because what happens to Mary denotes what might happen to us, assuming we remain part of the Church. The way to heaven is through Jesus, a point John Henry Newman makes in relation to Mary: "It is Mary's prerogative to be the morning star that heralds the Son. She does not shine of herself or for herself. She is the reflection of her and our redeemer; and she glorifies him. When she appears in the darkness, we know that He is close at hand".

Revd Jeremy Brading

Parish Priest of Kings Bromley, the Ridwares & Yoxall

Dates for your diary

Take A Break Café, H R Village Hall 10.30 - 12noon (1 st Tues)	Tuesday	4	August
MP Dave Robertson at Abbots Bromley Village Hall 10.30 -11.30	Thursday	6	August
Bishton Hall Family Day 10am-6pm	Saturday 8 th & 10am-4pm	9	August
MP Dave Robertson at Yoxall Village Hall 11.00 – 12noon	Tuesday	11	August
Treasured Vehicle Day, KB Showfield – 11 - 4pm	Sunday	16	August
WI, Minna Andrews, Hill Ridware Village Hall, 7.45pm	Tuesday	18	August
Ridware Walkers, Shoulder of Mutton, Barton 09.45	Wednesday	19	August
KB Gardening Guild, KB Village Hall, 7.45pm	Thursday	20	August
RBL Standard Dedication, St Peters Yoxall, 1030am	Sunday	23	August
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	27	August
Curborough Classic Car Charity Day, 9.00 am – 5pm	Monday	31	August
MU meeting, St Peters Church Yoxall, 1.45pm	Wednesday	2	September
Proms in the Park, Beacon Park, Lichfield	Saturday	5	September
Abbots Bromley Horn Dance	Monday	7	September
Ride and Stride	Saturday	12	September
Hamstall Ridware Parish Council, Shoulder, 7.30	Monday	14	September
WI with Sewing Bee winner , H Ridware Village Hall, 7.45pm	Tuesday	15	September
National WI day, Hil Ridware Village Hall 10am – 12noon	Thursday	17	September
Decorating Church 9.30am – 12.30pm	Friday	18	September
Community Harvest Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Saturday	19	September
Harvest Festival, St Michael & all Angels, 10.30am	Sunday	20	September
Copy date for the October-November magazine	Sunday	20	September
Bat Walk and Talk , St Michael & all Angels 6.15pm	Wednesday	30	September
KB Big Breakfast, KB Village Hall, 9.00am – 11.30am	Saturday	3	October
Ridware History Society, AGM and How to do Family History	Monday	5	October
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	22	October
2027 Hamstall Village Fête	Saturday	12	June 2027

Bold – selected one off events

RHS: Ridware History Society meets 7.30 Hill Ridware Village Hall

Abbots Bromley and Yoxall GP surgery training closures

The next dates when the Surgeries are closed pm for staff training are Wednesday 12th August, Thursday 17th September, Tuesday 13th October

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 30 July; 13, 27 August; 10, 24 September; 8, 22 October.

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 1,10pm to 2pm at Henry Chadwick alternate Fridays. The next dates are 7, 21 August; 4, 18 September; 2, 16, 30 October

Bat by popular demand!



**Tickets available on
Ticketsource**

Evening Bat Walk & Talk

Staffordshire Bat Group and St Michael & All Angels Church

Wednesday 30th September

6:15pm

St Michael & All Angels Church, Hamstall Ridware, WS153RS

Limited Tickets £7.50 incl refreshments.

Scan the code for tickets, or search on the Ticketsource Website

Harvest Festival Sunday 20th September

It is our Harvest Festival on 20th September at 10.30am. **We will be decorating the church on the FRIDAY, 18 September from 9.30am to 12.30 pm: Do come along and join us.**

This year rather than a meal after the service, we will have a harvest themed Community café the day before on SATURDAY 19th (see next page)



Liz Carter 0775 106 8181 Lizcarter3010@gmail.com

**Community café: St Michael and All Angels Church 4th Thursdays;
but Saturday: 19th September
Next dates**

- **Thurs 27 August**
- **SATURDAY 19 September**
- **– Harvest themed**
- **Thurs 22 October**

The cafe continues to thrive which is a delight to see.

Following feedback after running for 12 months, by request, in September, the café will be on a **Saturday: 19th September**, rather than the usual fourth Thursday. The September café will be harvest themed as the next day is our Harvest Festival: see opposite

Make a note in your diaries.

Everyone welcome. - Hope you can make it 🍷

Jo Berriman



Abbots Bromley Horn Dance Monday 7th September

The Abbots Bromley Horn Dance, first performed at the Barthelmy Fair in August 1226, is one of the few ritual rural customs to survive the passage of time.

Beginning 7am at St Nicholas' Church, the dancers collect ancient reindeer antlers, and after a blessing, the procession sets off at 8am through the village and surrounding parish and finishes touring the pubs of Abbots Bromley in the early evening.

The folk dance consists of six deer dancers, a fool, a bowman, a hobby horse and Maid Marian – all played by men, including the fair maiden.

There will be off-road parking around the village, although special parking restrictions will be in place on the day.



Dave Robertson village visits

Our MP Dave Robertson's next village visits near us are at Abbots Bromley Village Hall on Thursday 6 August, 10.30am-11.30am, and at Yoxall Parish Hall on Tuesday 11 August from 11 am till 12 noon. He looks forward to meeting us and welcomes any personal enquiries from local villagers. To ensure a place at one of these meetings contact him online DaveRobertsonontour web site, or call 01543 399776.



FANCY A WALK ? (or a cycle or drive ?)

If you can spare some time on **Saturday 12th September** to explore our part of Staffordshire, you could take part in this year's 'Ride and Stride' and raise some much-needed funds to help keep Hamstall's beautiful old church and others like it open for all to enjoy.

'Ride and Stride' is the sponsored event in aid of the Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust – SHCT - who every year make grants available to Staffordshire churches needing extra financial help. Hamstall has been lucky enough to receive some help for urgent repairs in past years.

This is how it works:

Contact Michael Elsom at michael.elsom@btopenworld.com or 07949 126 640 for a sponsorship form and list of churches taking part, or pick up a Ride and Stride pack from Church, or search online.

Ask friends and family to sponsor you either a fixed amount or an amount for each church you visit.

Churches stay open between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm for refreshments and to sign your form.

Visit your chosen churches – on foot, by bike, by car, on horseback or a combination!

When you've finished, collect pledged money from your sponsors and return the sponsorship form with money raised to Michael Elsom

Money raised is split 50-50 between the SHCT and your nominated church (St Michael and All Angels Hamstall please!) For more details

<https://staffordshirehistoricchurchestrust.org/events>

If you'd like to see where our four local churches are on a special circular walk of 10.5 miles, please let Michael know.

Here's hoping for some decent weather on the day and thank you very much.

PS If you fancy helping but don't feel up to visiting other churches, why not get sponsored for **taking part in the rota to greet visitors** at our church on the day: Let Michael Elsom know if you would like to help this way.

Village Fête Saturday 20th June 2026

What a lovely time was had by all at our super traditional village fête. The weather stayed cooler than in previous days and the sun broke through making it a really pleasant temperature.

The numbers attending were high this year with around 250 programmes sold. A very good number of vintage cars came along and of course the vintage tractors that always get lots of attention.

A big thank you to all the exhibitors and stall holders, a few of which were new this year. We do hope you will come again. A massive thank you too to everyone who grew plants this year. At one point you



couldn't see the plant sellers behind so much

foliage. A record amount was made.

The tea tent and cake stall again did us proud as well as delicious homemade preserves.

Our big attractions of course were Musicians "Big Stone Gap" and the amazing Airbourne Falconry display from Rory. It was great to see folks dancing

and the smiles on children's faces handling the birds.

Money was also raised for a breast cancer charity by Jo and her team on a craft stall, so well done to everyone who made beautiful items to sell.



This year we made over £4,000 and it would not have been possible without such a fabulous team of people, congratulations to all.

Special thanks goes to all the visitors who come and make our fête such a wonderful afternoon.

Planning for 2027 will start in November and any offers of help will be greatly received. **The date for next year's fête is Saturday 12th June.**

Val Richards



Take A Break Cafe



**Tuesday
4th August,
1st September
6th October &
3rd November**

**1030 - 12 noon
The Village Hall,
Hill Ridware**

All Welcome!



In honour of

**National
WI DAY**

Thursday 17th September 2026

Mavesyn Ridware Village Hall, Uttoxeter Rd, Hill Ridware.

10am - 12 noon

Refreshments available

Cake, craft, fresh produce, jams & pickles, handmade cards



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
OUR NEXT MEETING:**

**TUESDAY 18TH AUGUST
@ 7-45PM
THE VILLAGE HALL,
HILL RIDWARE**

**'Travellers' Tales'
with Minna Andrews**

ALL WELCOME!



www.theridwareswi.co.uk



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
OUR NEXT MEETING:**

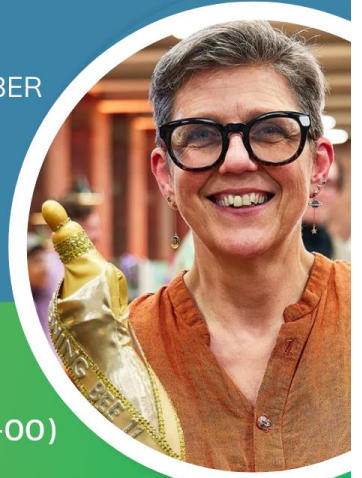
**TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER
@ 7-45PM
THE VILLAGE HALL,
HILL RIDWARE**

**Caz, Winner of 'The
Great British Sewing
Bee 2025'**

**ALL WELCOME!
VISITORS (£2-00)**



www.theridwareswi.co.uk



Ridware Walkers – August Walk Wednesday 19th August

**Meet at Shoulder of Mutton car park,
Barton-under-Needwood DE13 8AA**

09:45am for a prompt 10.00 am start.

We are a small, friendly, walking group from the village and beyond who enjoy the countryside and each other's company. We meet once a month and so far have completed nearly 40 different walks. Some walkers go for a drink and snack afterwards, others choose not to.

- Please wear sensible footwear as it can be muddy
 - Dogs on leads are welcome
 - We are not an organisation – you are responsible for your own safety
 - Walks are between 4 & 6 miles at a gentle pace with possibly a few stiles.
 - Cancellations are posted on the Hill Ridware Facebook page the previous day
- If you also enjoy walking, please join us you will always be made most welcome.**



LAYING UP OF THE OLD AND DEDICATION OF A NEW YOXALL RBL STANDARD

As part of the normal service at **St Peter's Church, Yoxall** on **Sunday 23 August** there will be a combined laying up and dedication of the Yoxall Branch Royal British Legion (RBL) Standard.



The purpose of the ceremony of laying up the current Standard is to retire it permanently in a sacred or public place. This act honours the Branch's history and preserves the flag as a permanent, symbolic reminder of the Legion's motto, "*Service not self*". A Standard may be retired due to its condition, the receiving of a new Standard, or when a branch closes or merges.

The dedication of a new RBL Standard is to officially set it apart for a special use. It serves as a sacred and symbolic reminder of the Legion's core values:

- Stand together
- Be respectful
- Take pride
- Embrace change

The ceremony asks for a blessing on the Branch to guide their work in providing lifelong support to veterans, serving personnel and their families. The Standard is a rallying point during events like Remembrance Day. It honours all who gave their lives for their country.

The RBL is the UK's largest Armed Forces charity, acts as the national guardian of Remembrance, and ensures the contributions of the veterans, serving personnel and their families are not forgotten.

Mike Elliot

Kings Bromley Events

TREASURED VEHICLE DAY – 11 until 4pm Sunday 16th August on the Showfield. All Saints Church will have a stall selling jigsaws for church funds.

GARDENING GUILD The next meeting of Kings Bromley Gardening Guild will be held on Thursday 20th August at the Village Hall, starting at 7.45pm, when Mathew Nichols will come to talk about "Building an Apple Orchard". Members and visitors welcome.

HARVEST BIG BREAKFAST – 9 until 11:30 on Saturday 3rd October at the Village Hall.

Full Breakfast: 2 rashers of back bacon, 2 sausages, egg, black pudding, hash brown and baked beans £10. Small Breakfast: 2 rashers of back bacon, egg, baked beans £6. All with orange juice, unlimited brown or white toast, butter, marmalade, jam, decaffeinated tea or coffee.

Book early – limited availability. Ring Judith on 07547 422833 or Lindsey on 07940 381731 to reserve tickets.

**31
AUG**

CURBOROUGH CHARITY DAY

**9-5
PM**

Speed demonstration of up to 100 vintage and classic cars and motorcycles on Curborough's figure-of-eight course

CURBOROUGH SPRINT COURSE

NETHERSTOWE LANE
LICHFIELD
WS13 8EJ



in aid of



Static car display
Refreshments available
Spectators £10 per adult
Free for children under 16
Visit www.staffscyp.org.uk for more information

Staffordshire
clubs for young people
involve • enjoy • achieve

Curborough Charity Day

Looking for a fun day out? Join us at SCYP Curborough Charity Day on the August Bank Holiday Monday to witness a spectacular mix of vintage and classic cars & bikes in action on the challenging figure-of-eight circuit. 🏁🏍️🚩

The atmosphere will be buzzing, and it's all in support of a truly wonderful cause, Staffordshire Clubs for Young People. ☀️

Whether you're a petrolhead, or just looking for a fun day out – this is the place to be!



🌟 Great cars. Great vibes. Great charity.

👉 What's not to love?

Proms in the Park 2026

One of Lichfield's biggest summer events – **Proms in Beacon Park - returns on Saturday 5 September**. Join us for an unforgettable evening of live music and entertainment in Beacon Park. Tickets: <https://ontick.co.uk/event/PROMS2026>

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**



For forthcoming events, please see posters in the pub, "A" boards outside and Facebook

Don't forget –

Mon – 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!

Paul Shum Family Butchers awarded second place in the country!

Congratulations to Paul Shum Family Butchers, who were awarded second place in this year's Countryside Alliance Awards, also known as the Rural Oscars. Having won 3 regional champion titles, Paul and Catriona were invited to attend the awards ceremony at the House of Lords on 8 July. Paul especially thanked his team, his suppliers and customers and thanked all those who had voted for their business

Paul Shum opened the doors almost 8 years ago since when it has continued to extend its business, with a commitment to sourcing and supplying local meat and produce, and affordable quality.



Paul and Catriona Shum at the CAA ceremony at the House of Lords

BISHTON HALL FAMILY EVENT

INCLUDING THE

BATTLE OF MERCIA



8TH & 9TH
AUGUST 2026

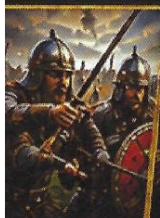


BISHTON HALL,
STAFFORDSHIRE

ADULTS

£3

KIDS
GO FREE



BATTLING
VIKINGS



BIRDS OF
PREY DISPLAYS



HAVE-A-GO
ARCHERY



AXE
THROWING



KIDDIE
VIKE



HAVE-A-GO
D&D
BOOKING REQUIRED
LIMITED PLACES



BOUNCE
TOWN

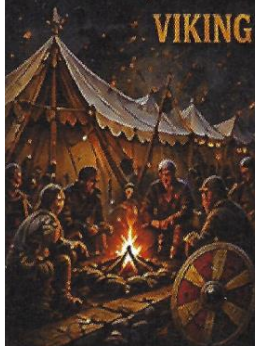


FOOD
STALLS



MERCIA BAR
MEAD • BEER • WINE

VIKING LIVING CAMP



SEE HOW THEY
LIVED AND ATE.

Meet the warriors,
craftsmen and traders
as they bring history
to life throughout
the weekend.

EVENT TIMES



SATURDAY 8TH AUGUST
10:00AM – 6:00PM



SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST
10:00AM – 4:00PM

A Great
FAMILY DAY OUT!

HISTORIC DISPLAYS • VIKING ENCAMPMENT
ARENA BATTLES • FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT



FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES
AND EVENT INFORMATION



MERCIA
DISTILLERY



RIDWARE HISTORY SOCIETY - Winter Programme 2026–27

Join Ridware History Society for a welcoming winter programme of monthly talks exploring family history, local traditions, Staffordshire heritage, place names, and the people and stories connected with the Ridwares and the surrounding area. The programme is open to members, visitors, and anyone with an interest in local history.

Monday 5 October: AGM and Talk: *How to Do Family History*: Vanessa Morgan
Vanessa Morgan's introductory talk, *How to do Family History*, will follow the AGM. Vanessa, a writer and genealogist currently researching local Victorian crime and murders, will introduce key family history records and sources, share a few lighter historical anecdotes, and offer guidance to anyone with questions or difficulties in their own family history research.

Monday 2 November: *Beasts of the Battle(field): The Staffordshire Hoard*: Dr Charlotte Bull

Dr Charlotte Bull is an art historian working mainly in outreach and education, currently delivering history courses for adults in Lichfield. Her talk examines the Staffordshire Hoard through the eyes of an art historian, revealing birds, beasts and rich symbolic detail.

Monday 7 December: *Have Yourself a Wild Christmas*: Kevin Reynolds
This seasonal talk by an amateur naturalist living in the Staffordshire Moorlands explores the role of animals, plants and the environment in Christmas festivities. Why holly, ivy and robins? And why does Rudolph have a red nose? A fast-moving, well-illustrated and humorous look at the origins of our Christmas traditions.

Monday 11 January: *The Armitage Mummers*: Peter Cole (Bagman), Armitage Mummers

Peter Cole, Bagman of the Armitage Mummers, will speak about the group and its traditions. The Armitage Mummers are a section of Lichfield Morris Men, often seen performing around Armitage on New Year's Day.

Monday 1 February: *Origins of Place Names*: Anthony Poulton-Smith
Anthony Poulton-Smith is a prolific local history writer with a particular interest in the origins of place names. In this audience-led talk, he will explore English place names chosen by those attending, so please come prepared with your suggestions and questions.

Monday 1 March: *The Lister Family of Hawkesyard Hall*: Richard Ewing
Richard Ewing, Ridware History Society committee member and author of the one-place study of Armitage-with-Handsacre, tells the story of Hawkesyard. Before it became associated with the Spode family or the Dominican Priory, it was the home of the Listers. Richard's talk recounts the story of the family who established the estate and explores how their descendants became connected with the literary circle of Anne Seward, the government, the royal court, and even a future British Prime Minister.

Venue: Hill Ridware Village Hall. Time: 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm. Tea and coffee available.
Visitors: £3 per visit.

JULY – A MONTH FULL OF SURPRISES

Our monthly meeting.

We had a change to our usual monthly meeting as our speaker for the night turned out to be very keen on 'audience participation.' Faye 'O'Leary is a music teacher specialising in musical theatre who also directs local musicals. Faye has directed Pantomimes at the Garrick Theatre and also goes into local Care Homes to sing with residents. Faye also teaches singing at The Red Carpet Cinema in Barton Under Needwood.



Faye persuaded us all that anyone can sing. Taking a step-by-step approach, she taught us all to sing 'A Million Dreams' from 'The Greatest Showman.'

First, she had us on our feet doing deep breathing exercises. Then she taught us line by line, until we were all comfortable singing together.

It was a really lovely feeling to enjoy an activity everyone could join in.

SFWI County Quiz night

Over 60 teams took part at the County Showground on Thursday 18th June.

The huge hall was full to bursting. The theme for this year's quiz was The Importance of Water.

Members had brought some wonderful picnics to share and decorated the tables with posters and cards reflecting the 'The importance of Water' theme.



Ridware's W I fielded two teams at this event: we were prepared for a great evening! Congratulations to the winning team, Canwell A team, with an impressive 93 out of 100 points.

Community Fest: Sunday, 28th June

This was an event organised jointly with the Village Hall committee, Community Spirit and Ridware's Women's Institute.

After a dull and rainy start to the day, the sun came out, bringing more people with it. There were lots of things for people to enjoy. A huge free bouncy castle proved extremely popular with the children.



Our trade table was very busy throughout the afternoon as we sold homemade cakes, jams, marmalades and chutneys alongside donated items. We now look forward to welcoming some new members to our W I.

St Giles Hospice

Our President, Karen Wakefield, recently visited St Giles Hospice to deliver the tin of cash we had displayed during our regular Take a Break café and monthly meetings. When the can is opened, Jessica, the Fundraising Manager, will let us know how much we have raised for them.



Take a Break Café

The café takes place on the first Tuesday of every month at the Village Hall. We are open from 10:30 to 12:00, and everyone is welcome. We serve our popular bacon butties and toasted teacakes with endless cups of tea or coffee.

We do a brisk trade in homemade jams, marmalades and chutneys as well as items which have been donated to us. If you are passing, do pop in as you can be sure of a very warm welcome.

Our annual committee meal outing.

This year we chose to visit The Dun Cow at Colton for our annual evening get-together. to enable any new committee members to get to know everyone in convivial surroundings, and of course enjoy some lovely food.

We have a lot to look forward to, thanks to the sterling work of our amazing committee. Perhaps you'd like to join us; if so, there is no better time than the present. Come along to one of our monthly meetings where you will receive the warmest of welcomes.

Ridwares WI Dates for your diary.

- **Monday's 27th July and August 3rd, 17th and 24th:** W I the walking group meets at 10:00 am @ Village Hall.
- **Craft Club all on Wednesdays:** - August 5th, 19th, September 2nd, 16th and 30th. This club rotates meetings in the homes of members.
- **Tuesday 4th August and Tuesday 1st September:** Village Hall. **Take a Break Café**
- **Wednesday 12th August** W I Members Birthday Party.
- **Thursday 3rd September:** Skittles evening at the Shoulder of Mutton Hamstall Ridware.
- **Thursday 10th September:** The Blythe WI Group Meeting: Entertainment provided by The Rat Pack. Village Hall.
- **Tuesday 15th September:** 7.30 pm Monthly meeting with Caz, the winner of the TV programme The Great British Sewing Bee.
- **Thursday 17th September** National WI Day: - Trade stall at the Village Hall 10:00 till 12:00.
- **Saturday 26th September:** SFWI: WI Members Wellness Day 10.00 am till 4:00 pm at the Staffordshire County Showground.

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.

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

The term has finished and the leaders and young people are taking a well-earned break. Its been an amazing term with so much great weather allowing us to get out and about into the great outdoors.

We have just come back from an amazing weekend away for the Scouts. We went into the Peak District to a campsite called Gradbach, between Leek and Buxton. The journey there and back was spectacular with fantastic views, but then so was the campsite. What a beautiful place and the weather was the best – too hot really but better than rain which is usually the case! There was a small river at the edge which was great for paddling, we did some hiking, orienteering and shelter building. It was the weekend of the England match against Norway, which did produce a dilemma for some of the Scouts about being away and maybe missing it! Fortunately, a quiet word with the campsite and they rigged a huge screen up in the tractor shed and all the scouts that wanted to watch did, what an atmosphere with them all there together, and of course a great result, even though it meant a very late night for them all!

We had a weekend at Rangemore, Cubs camped for the weekend, the Beavers did a one night sleepover and our Squirrels paid us a visit for a few hours. Its was all go, but all the young people had a great time. It was lovely to see all 3 sections together



for the campfire. Then we did smores for the Squirrels before they left – tired but happy! After that the Beavers did their smores before heading off for some quiet time before bed and Cubs were left to make their smores. We also tried cheesy smores as well – ritz crackers, ham and baby bels – they went down well, though the Cubs were very impatient waiting for the cheese to melt, marshmallows are a lot quicker!

Our Beavers and Cubs also camped together for a night at the National Adventure Farm in Tatenhill. That was fun with over 700 from all over Staffordshire there! The weather was kind to us which helped enormously and the adventure farm looked after us brilliantly. We had entertainment on the Saturday night, then a full day in the park on the Sunday. We got great feedback, something a little different from our usual camps.

The end of the term has finished with a water night for Squirrels, Cubs and Scouts and a visit to Rosliston Forestry Centre for the Beavers. This included a 'Meet the Owls' session allowing the Beavers a chance to see, learn about and hold some of the owls.

There will be many students that are due to commence their D of E awards with school in September. Our Scout Group provides volunteering opportunities for these young people in our various sections, they don't need to have been in Scouting themselves. If anyone is looking for a placement, please get in touch.

I hope everyone has a fantastic summer break and more news to come next term!
Angela Burns, aburns@webbht.co.uk 07976 814523.

The beginning of June saw Mothers' Union celebrating 150 years with an exhibition in St. Peter's church showcasing MU work being done in all corners of the world. The exhibition was open Saturday and Sunday

from 10 a.m. To 4 p.m. a good selection of cakes and drinks were served to all visitors. Many thanks to those who baked cakes and also those who worked to prepare, and on the day. One visitor who was staying at the Golden Cup went home saying she was joining MU and also persuading her daughters to join. It was a very happy weekend and was rounded off by celebrating

Lichfield Deanery Festival on the Monday afternoon. The collection of £205 going to support MU's 'Away from it all' holidays fund providing holidays for families who, for various reasons, have never been able to go on holiday.

Later in the week, one of our members, Julia Collinson and her husband went to London for the National Celebration and Annual Gathering. This was preceded the day before by a service in St. Paul's Cathedral (one of the largest Eucharists ever held at St Paul's Cathedral), led by Most Reverend and Rt. Hon. Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury. 1500 members gathered in the Cathedral and messages were received from our Royal Patron Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh and also Rt. Revd. Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion. Julia commented that the atmosphere in St. Paul's was electric.

Sarah Mullally said that she has witnessed at first hand the MU commitment to addressing gender based violence and empowering women and girls through education, literacy and numeracy. This then transforms lives and enables women to lead with confidence, to advocate for themselves and others and to build stronger families and communities rooted in hope.

There will be no Mothers' Union meeting in August, but we will meet on Saturday 8th August to celebrate Mary Sumner Day with Communion at midday and we shall also be meeting for lunch at Marsh Farm on Friday 14th August.

Our next meeting at 2 p.m. on 2nd September will be a talk by the Salvation Army updating us on the work of the Food Bank. All are welcome to join us for this and every meeting.

Liz Binsley

Hill Ridware Village Hall: timetable of regular events

Monday:	Coffee Morning (Warm Space initiative)	10-12 noon
Monday:	Pilates class with Katie (45 mins length)	6pm & 7pm
Tuesday:	Tai Chi class with Debbie (60 mins)	6pm
Wednesday:	Tai Chi class with Debbie (60 mins)	09.30
Wednesday:	Hatha Yoga class with Tricia (60 mins)	17.45
Wednesday:	Zumba class with Jeanette (45 mins)	7pm
Thursday:	Coffee Morning & Post Office (till 11am)	9 - 12noon

100 Years Ago... by Chris Poole

August 1926:

The Staffordshire Advertiser recorded that 'Wanted, Companion. Help for poultry farm; widow preferred, good home, small wage for suitable person, reference required - apply by letter to Parton, Sandborough Hill Cottage, Hamstall Ridware'..... British actor Frank Finlay was born in Farnworth Lancashire and John Derek, US actor & director (Rogues of Sherwood Forest) was born in Los Angeles; American Jazz singer 'Buddy' Greco 'The Lady Is A Tramp' was born In Philadelphia & British Comedienne Patricia 'Pat' Coombs 'Carry On Again' was born in Camberwell. The Lichfield Mercury noted that a 14 year old boy from Hamstall Ridware was placed on probation for trespassing.

September 1926:

American inventor, Thomas Edison declared radio broadcasting to be a "commercial failure"... Italian actor Rudolph Valentino was buried in California ... The Sherlock Holmes short story The adventures of the 'Three Gables' by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was published for the first time in the Liberty magazine in the USA and Henry Ford introduced the 8 hour working day and 5 day working week at the Ford Motor Company.

Hamstall Ridware Parish Council

Next Meeting Dates – Shoulder of Mutton 7.30pm

14th September 2026

9th November 2026

11th January 2027

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chair Mr Neil Roobottom	07973 403722	neil.roobottom@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mr Graham Roobottom	01889 504030	graham.roobottom@hamstallridwareparishcouncil.co.uk
Mrs Tina Buchanan	07769 728131	tina.buchanan@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

Improving the village church

Although the mediaeval builders succeeded in creating one of the most beautiful stone buildings in the area i.e. the Grade 1 Listed St Michael and All Angels church, they overlooked one or two facilities that all visitors to the church would also appreciate. The PCC are therefore investigating these, including how toilet facilities and an improved access to the church can be installed. This will be done in consultation with all who value the church building and such bodies as English Heritage. More details will be given in the next magazine.

John Ferguson

Enjoy a summer full of activities with SPACE

Looking for ways to keep the kids active and entertained this summer?

SPACE Leisure Passes are back for summer 2026, giving young people aged 8 to 17 access to **free activities and unlimited swimming* throughout the summer holidays – all with one pass.**

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Whether they want to try a new activity, keep active with friends or simply have more to do during the holidays, a SPACE Leisure Pass is a great way to make the most of the summer.

The SPACE Leisure Pass includes:

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- **Gym access** for 14–17 year olds before 6pm
- **Off-peak court hire**, including tennis, badminton, squash and table tennis
- **Getin2it summer holiday activities**
- **Adventure Golf at Beacon Park**
- **Disc Golf and Foot Golf at Beacon Park***
- **Discount on leisure centre activities**

Make this summer one to remember with SPACE 

Passes can be bought in person from Burntwood Leisure Centre or Lichfield Leisure Centre or online from: **www.activexichfield.co.uk/get-active/space-passes/**



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Taking a few minutes to register your property today could significantly improve the chances of recovering it if it is ever lost or stolen.

For further crime prevention advice, please contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Elaine Sneyd, (Staffordshire Police, PCSO, Lichfield)

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
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
Staffordshire Highways department		01785 277 452
Staffordshire County Council, new number for all services		0300 111 8000
Under 20s bus discount card: www.yourstaffordshirecard.info		
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)		03459 88 1188
https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/station/9081 (Blithe) /2104 (Trent at K B)		
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. Remaining 2026 sessions: ; 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. 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 5pm. in summer months only. For further info, contact John Ferguson 07532 299 080

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 page

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.



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