

Your Village News – And What's on!

Hamstall Ridware Parish Magazine



Silt Trap: Volunteers needed 4 October

Giant Advent Calendar

Big Church Clean

Concerts and Performances

Plans for our Church

October – November 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>



To make a payment
for this magazine
please scan here

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>Churchwarden</u>	Mr John Ferguson	07532 889001
<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 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	10.30am Morning service	4/5pm GMT/BST Said Communion	9.00am Said Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
4th Sunday in Month	10.30am Holy Communion	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: October – November 2026

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From the Editor

With apologies for its slightly late arrival this month, our October - November magazine reflects how busy Hamstall and the neighbouring villages are this autumn. The first event is an invite to help clear out the silt trap on Blithbury Road this Sunday 4th October at 10:30am!

The programme of events at the shoulder is back (page 14) starting with a charity quiz night on Sunday the 4th.

There is a wide variety of talks, shows and meetings over the next two months: do see the summary in "Dates for your diary" on page 7. Of note, there is a ceilidh in Abbots Bromley on 10 October, a talk on the Fauld explosion on Tuesday 13 October in Rugeley and performances of the life of Henry VIII and Elizabeth I in Colton and Mavesyn respectively

The main event in Hamstall in October is an evening of song at our church on Friday 16th when Tim Berriman and a group of musicians will be entertaining us. Do come along! See page 11

Have a look too at the plans our Churchwarden, John Ferguson is working on for improving access to our church, Page 17. If you would like your ideas to be included, do contact John.

Recent fundraising included nearly £120 from the collection and sale of fruit and vegetables for Christian Aid at our harvest festival and some £170 raised at the Ride and Stride for churches. The Bat Walk and Talk raised £400 (shared between church and the Bat group (p23) and over £500 was raised for Breast Cancer now (p 16).

For those that have not yet spotted it, the bin collection calendar is now available online from the Lichfield District Council website and currently goes through to March 2028.

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 December – January '27 magazine is Tuesday 17 November.

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

UNITED BENEFICE OF KINGS BROMLEY, THE RIDWARES and YOXALL

October – November 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
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	
October 18th Trinity 20	10.30 am Service of the Word	5.00 pm Holy Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion
October 25th Bible Sunday	10.30 Holy Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 Holy Communion	-
November 1st All Saints	10.30 am Patronal Festival and Benefice Communion at All Saints, King's Bromley 4.00 pm Benefice Commemoration of the Faithful departed at St Peter's, Yoxall			
November 8th Remembrance Sunday	3.00 pm Remembrance Service	10.30 am Remembrance Service	10.45 am Remembrance Service	10.45 am Act of Remembrance
November 15th 2 before Advent	10.30 am Service of the Word	4.00 pm Holy Communion	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion
November 22nd Christ the King	10.30 Holy Communion and Baptism	9.00 am Holy Communion	10.30 Holy Communion	-
November 29th Advent Sunday	10.30 am United Benefice Holy Communion at St Peters Yoxall			
December 6th Advent 2	10.30 am Patronal Festival and United Benefice Holy Communion at Saint Nicholas Mavesyn Ridware			
December 13th Advent 3	4.00 pm Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	10.30 am Holy Communion	4.00pm Christingle

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

October – November 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
September 27th Patronal Festival 10.30 am	C Smart S Elsom	J Ferguson	P Carter L Carter	J Ferguson C Smart		-
October 4th Trinity 18 9.00 am	C Smart -	P Carter	L Leigh D Leigh	C Smart P Carter	P Carter C Smart	-
October 11th Trinity 19 5.00 pm	L Carter -	P Carter	-	C Smart P Carter		R Wright
October 18th Trinity 18 10.30am	J Ferguson C Smart	D Leigh	J Burgess G Burgess	J Ferguson C Smart	E Riley C Mclachlan	-
October 25th Bible Sunday 10.30am	J Burgess S Elsom	C Smart	M Elsom S Elsom	J Burgess C Smart		L Leigh
November 1st All Saints	-	M Elsom (opening church and preceding week)			V Richards J Berriman	-
November 8th Remembrance 3.00pm	P Carter L Carter	J Ferguson	-	J Ferguson P Carter		S Allen
November 15th 2 before Advent 10.30am	S Elsom S Bostock	P Carter	P Carter L Carter	S Elsom S Bostock	L Carter L Leigh	-
November 22nd Christ the King 10.30am/Baptism	C Smart J Ferguson	D Leigh	L Leigh D Leigh	C Smart J Ferguson		-
November 29th Advent Sunday	-	C Smart (opening church and preceding week)			S Elsom S Bostock	No Flowers Advent-
December 6th Advent 2	-	M Elsom (opening church and preceding week)				-
December 13th Advent 3 9.00am	J Burgess -	J Ferguson	J Ferguson C Smart	J Burgess P Carter	P Carter C Smart	-

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: October: L Carter, L Leigh; November: E Riley.

From our Rector, the Revd Jeremy Brading

I am writing this article at the beginning September, so still have fresh memories of my summer holiday. I enjoyed visiting Portuguese sights with my family, but I also enjoyed reading. This year I reread C S Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia. That might seem a child's book, but the author wrote as a convert to Christianity. It was the Christian message that Lewis was keen to present to his granddaughter, throughout all 7 of the Narnia volumes. I also read Pope Leo XIV's encyclical.

C S Lewis wrote the Narnia novels between 1949 and 1954, which as we shall see is significant. My rereading of the Narnia Chronicles has enabled me to grasp more firmly what C S Lewis wrote of. Thus the first book - the Magicians Nephew - relates the creation of Narnia but is also accounts for the gift share: being able to choose. The more familiar 2nd volume The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe deals with the human condition and God's love. Thus Edmund as a son of Adam, embodies the human state: we can't help but make poor decisions. As is known, the book relates how Aslan triumphs over the evil which springs from the witch. Thus as per Aslan, Jesus' death on the cross rescues us Adam and Eve's descendants, setting us on a new path.

Without wishing to spoil what happens later in the books, the final volume in the series is called the 'Last battle'. To me this evoked the last battle described in the book of Revelation. Of particular interest to me were the two protagonists at the beginning of this final volume. They are best described as associates (rather than friends) because the ape, 'Shift' and the donkey, 'Puzzle' have unequal status. On this basis, Shift cajoles the naïve Puzzle to wear a lion-skin. Shift's logic arose from the knowledge that since Aslan had not been seen for many years, the people would not know what a lion (or Aslan) looked like. Thus Shift takes advantage of ignorance and uses the easily manipulated Puzzle, to give orders in the name of Aslan. This included the felling of all the talking trees, and the subjugation of all Narnia's talking animals. Shift's undoing comes when he over-extends himself, inviting the Calormenes to invade Narnia.

I found the character Shift and his control of Puzzle, to be truly shocking. They resonated with me as I consider the complicated world of today. Published in 1956; I don't doubt that it resonated with those contending with war time memories when views expressed were not always what they seemed. Perhaps we are entering an equally difficult period where trends, spun by different incarnations of AI, are initially competing for our attention. Pope Leo XIV refers to our situation as 'change of era'. His encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, insists on humanity's worth.

We are magnificent because Aslan - Jesus- is alive and well in us today. God created us and all created things, through the template image of his Son. That we carry God's image in us all makes us magnificent, but also is an assurance of God's care for us. What makes Shift abhorrent is that his actions of putting Narnia in peril, deny our DNA. Our DNA insists on God's goodness. AI is not the problem, like money - it is how we use it. If we follow Shift's example, we also deny the preciousness that God created us with. We express preference for evil.

Revd Jeremy Brading

Parish Priest of Kings Bromley, the Ridwares & Yoxall

Dates for your diary

KB Big Breakfast, KB Village Hall, 9.00am – 11.30am	Saturday	3	October
Silt Trap Clean, Blithbury Road, Hamstall, 10.30am	Sunday	4	October
Ploughman's Lunch, Yoxall Parish Hall, 12.30 – 3pm	Sunday	4	October
Charity Quiz Night at Shoulder, 7.30 pm	Sunday	4	October
Ridware History Society, AGM and How to do Family History	Monday	5	October
Take A Break Café, H R Village Hall 10.30 - 12noon (1 st Tues)	Tuesday	6	October
MU meeting, St Peters Church Yoxall, 2pm	Wednesday	7	October
Kings Bromley Arts, Irita Marriot, KB Village Hall, 7 for 7.30pm	Wednesday	7	October
Ceilidh , Abbots Bromley Village Hall, 7pm	Saturday	10	October
The Fauld Explosion , Rugeley Library, 2 -3.30 pm	Tuesday	13	October
KB Jazz club, Burton Big Band , KB Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.45	Wednesday	14	October
Evening of Song , Tim Berriman et al, Hamstall Church, 7pm	Friday	16	October
Henry VIII at St Mary's Church, Colton, 7 for 7.30 pm	Saturday	17	October
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	22	October
Opera for the People , Yoxall Parish Hall, 8pm	Friday	23	October
Macmillan Coffee Morning at Shoulder , from 10.00am	Saturday	24	October
Hallowe'en kids' party at Shoulder of Mutton, 6.00pm	Sunday	1	November
RHS, Staffordshire Hoard	Monday	2	November
Remembrance Sunday , Service in Hamstall, 3pm	Sunday	8	November
Fireworks & BBQ at Shoulder, food from 6pm; fireworks 7pm	Sunday	8	November
Jake Leg Jug Band , KB Village Hall	Wednesday	11	November
Card Sale, Kings Bromley Village Hall, 10am – 12noon	Saturday	14	November
Elizabeth I at St Nicholas Church, Mavesyn, 7 for 7.30 pm	Saturday	14	November
Copy date for October-November magazine	Tuesday	17	November
Quiz with Fish & Chips, Kings Bromley Village Hall, 7pm	Saturday	21	November
Big Band, St Peters Church, Yoxall, 2pm – 4pm	Saturday	21	November
Community Café in Church 10.30am – 12.30pm	Thursday	26	November
Tinsel and Trimmings, Hill Ridware Village Hall, 6.30pm	Friday	27	November
Big Church Clean , 9.30am – 12.30pm	Saturday	28	November
First Draw Giant Advent Calendar, Shoulder, approx 9pm	Tuesday	1	December
Community Café 10.30am – 12.30pm Jane Austen	WEDNESDAY	16	December
Carol Service, St Michael and All Angels	Sunday	20	December
Pensioner Christmas Lunch, Shoulder, 1.15 for 1.30	Wednesday	6	January
2027 Hamstall Village Fête	Saturday	12	June 2027

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 Tuesday 13th October, Wednesday 11th November

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 8, 22 October; 5, 19 November; 3 December.

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 2, 16, 30 October; 13, 27 November

Giant Advent Calendar



Once again, the Hamstall Ridware Giant Advent Calendar will be drawn in the Shoulder of Mutton every night from 1st December through to 24th December, usually at around 9.00 pm. Every day's draw will see someone winning one of the really amazing prizes, from experience days, meal vouchers, various bottles, vouchers from local businesses, home baking, floral displays and much more. Any non-winning tickets will go into a final draw on Boxing Day night.

Every penny raised goes to supporting our beautiful church, and tickets still cost £1 per draw, available from the pub or I will be selling door-to-door during November.

If you would like to donate a prize, please drop me a line at j.preston1@aston.ac.uk or call me on 07723 331055 and I will arrange to collect it from you. Thank you. Jude Burgess.

Hamstall Church Christmas cards

Following the success of our Christmas greetings cards last year we will again be offering mixed packs of 5 cards featuring festive scenes to be sold in support of the church. As before these will be available to buy at the Shoulder of Mutton pub in the village and in church.

If anyone has any church themed pictures that may be suitable for one of these cards, please contact either John Ferguson or Paul Carter. Full details in the next magazine.

Village Christmas Card

We are again planning a village Christmas card this year – more details and requests for messages will be published as usual in the December magazine, and Rowena Wright has kindly volunteered to help put the card together this year.

For this card too, if you have any seasonal picture that may be suitable, please send a copy to pcarter@doctors.org.uk. We are also looking for someone who could volunteer to take on the compiling of the greetings for this card for the next few years. If interested – a lot of the background work is already done - do let me know!

Paul Carter 07710 293 230



Big Church Clean – Saturday 28 November

An invite to anyone to come along and help give our beautiful church a Big Clean up - ready for Christmas

Volunteers with ladders and brushes and polish all welcome Saturday 28 November 9.30 – 12.30
Refreshments provided!

Liz Carter

Pensioner's Christmas Lunch - Shoulder of Mutton - Wednesday 6th January

The Annual Lunch has been arranged for Wednesday 6th January, 2027, at the Shoulder of Mutton

12.15pm for 12.30pm courtesy of the Deleene Trust.

Please contact me on 07432 336755, if you would like to attend.

Also we have a free raffle at the lunch, any prize donations very welcome on the day.

David Booth

The Community café



This continues to grow and it was great to see some new faces at the recent Harvest themed café held Saturday 19th



September. We extended the hours and 'made to order' sandwiches were served which proved very popular, so much so that we are considering changing the time of the café to include this.

Future dates: **Thursday October 22nd** and **Thursday November 26th 10:30-12:30. Wednesday December 16th, Jane Austen's birthday, time to be arranged.**

Hope to see you there. Jo Berriman

Elizabeth I by Lesley Smith

St Nicholas Church, Mavesyn Ridware

Saturday 14 November 2026

Door open at 7pm for 7.30pm

Ticket price £10 per person

Suitable for age 10+



St Nicholas Church is hosting a special event when we hear about the life and reign of Elizabeth 1.

Here is a chance to meet Her Majesty at her political zenith and already an icon in the English psyche of the time.

This presentation will transport you back to the time of Drake, Raleigh and Shakespeare on England's voyage into the Renaissance.

The show is 45 minutes followed by a question and answer session.

For tickets phone or text: Paul Marriott 07758 539974

or Lesley Marriott 07847 763290

email: office@mavesynchurch.co.uk

Tea, coffee and cake included in the ticket price

**RUGELEY & DISTRICT
LIONS CLUB**
PRESENT

An Audience with
HENRY VIII
PERFORMED BY **JACK ABBOT**
WRITTEN BY JOHN WHITE

BUFFET BOX
PROVIDED BY
Hello Flour

at
**ST MARY'S CHURCH
COLTON**
RUGELEY WS15 3JW

17TH OCTOBER 2026
→ 7PM FOR 7.30PM START ←

TICKETS IN ADVANCE £15 WITH BUFFET INCLUDED	TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM PEAK HEALTH FOODS RUGELEY	PAY ON DOOR £10 WITHOUT BUFFET
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WHEN BOOKING PLEASE LET US KNOW
OF ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

**HAMSTALL
RIDWARE**
**WE NEED
YOU!**

Parishioners – can you help?

FLOOD SUPPORT GROUP
is asking for volunteers to help
dig out a silt trap in the village
on Blithbury Road.

This work is essential
to preventing drain
blockage in the village
and thus flooding.

If you can spare an hour or so on
SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER

10.30am | Meet at the silt trap
(Blithbury Road)

Please email
Chris Allen
(chrisallen081963@gmail.com)

Together we can keep our village safe

Ploughman's Lunch

desserts

entertainment

Yoxall Parish Hall
Sunday 4th October
12.30 to 3 p.m.

Tickets £10 to include one drink
accompanied children under 12 free
contact D. Muir 01543 473455

St. Peters Church Yoxall
presents

**FORCE TEN
BIG BAND**

Saturday 21st November 2026
2pm – 4pm

An Afternoon Of Swing Music, Pop Music & Christmas
To Get Your Feet Tapping

Tickets £10 (including refreshments)
Under 12s Free
Available from
Diana Muir tel: 07880 704292
Ruth Lester tel: 07583 213037
All profits for the church funds

Parking available at St. Peters School

An Evening of song

In aid of St Michaels & All Angels Church
Blithbury Rd, Hamstall Ridware, Rugeley WS15 3RS

Showcasing the talents of
Tim Berriman, Ju Locke,
Mark Sharp & Issy Goodwin

16th October 7:00pm at the church



Advance Tickets £7:50 available from TicketSource
or from Tim Berriman 07791333528

£10 on the door

Refreshments included in ticket price

Laying Up and Dedication of the Yoxall RBL Standards



This ceremony generally only takes place once in a lifetime however, Peter Valentine, our Chairman was witness to the laying up of the Yoxall Branch's first Standard back in 1954.

The service commenced with Iain Robertshaw presenting to the Revd Jeremy Brading the Standard to be laid up in St Peter's for its safekeeping, next to the original standard above the War Memorial plaque.

The new Standard was then blessed before the Chairman charged Carl Smales with ensuring its safekeeping.

Thanks go to all who participated in the ceremony including representatives from the County Headquarters who provided the Parade Marshall and County Standard Bearer.

Mike Elliot

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICES
YOXALL

Sunday 8 November
Remembrance Sunday
Yoxall
10:00 Participants meet at Yoxall Village Hall
10:15 Parade sets off for St Peter's Church
10:30 Remembrance Service and Silence at Church War Memorial
11:30 Parade returns to War Memorial at Yoxall Village Hall for laying of wreaths

Hamstall Ridware
3:00pm Remembrance Service at St Michael and All Angels Church

Wednesday 11 November 10:50am for 11am
Armistice Day
St Peter's Primary School at Yoxall War Memorial
*lest we forget*
All are welcome Timings approx.

For more information please contact:
Michael Elliott – 07969 518215 or Peter Valentine – 07813 686556

Kings Bromley Events

THE BIG BREAKFAST – Saturday 3rd October, Village Hall 9 until 11:30

Ring Judith on 07547 422833 to check availability.

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.

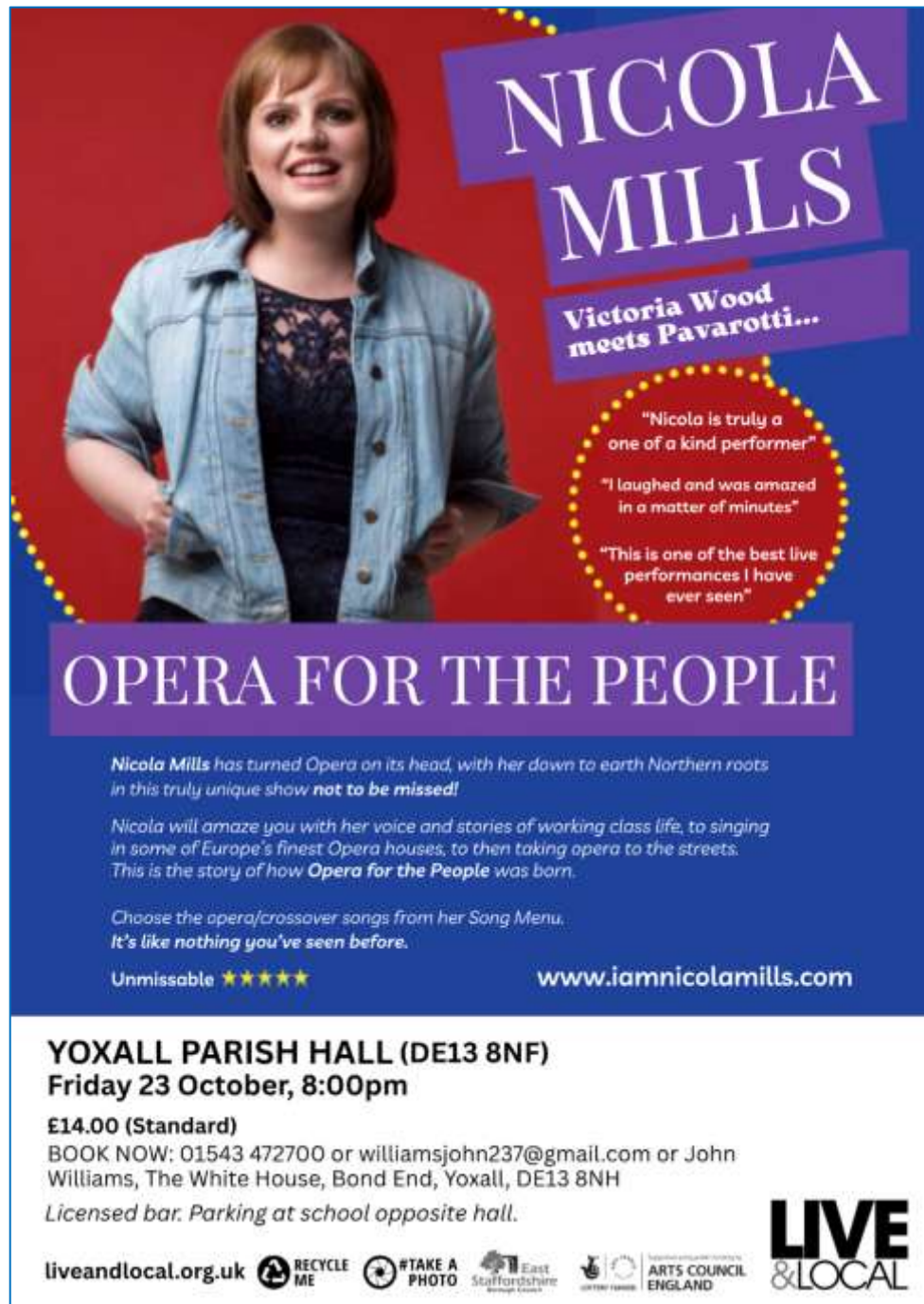
All with orange juice, unlimited brown or white toast, butter, marmalade, jam, decaffeinated tea or coffee.

CARD SALE – Saturday 14th November, Village Hall 10am -12noon.

Cards & wrappings for all occasions and much more besides.

AUTUMN QUIZ WITH FISH & CHIP SUPPER – Saturday 21st November, Village Hall prompt 7pm start.

The ever-popular general knowledge quiz. Tickets are £10 per person including supper. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Teams of 4 people. If you have any specific location requirements, please mention this when booking. Limited availability, so please book early. Contact Judith Berry 07547 422833.



NICOLA MILLS

Victoria Wood meets Pavarotti...

"Nicola is truly a one of a kind performer"

"I laughed and was amazed in a matter of minutes"

"This is one of the best live performances I have ever seen"

OPERA FOR THE PEOPLE

*Nicola Mills has turned Opera on its head, with her down to earth Northern roots in this truly unique show **not to be missed!***

*Nicola will amaze you with her voice and stories of working class life, to singing in some of Europe's finest Opera houses, to then taking opera to the streets. This is the story of how **Opera for the People** was born.*

Choose the opera/crossover songs from her Song Menu. It's like nothing you've seen before.

Unmissable ★★★★★ www.iamnicolamills.com

YOXALL PARISH HALL (DE13 8NF)
Friday 23 October, 8:00pm
£14.00 (Standard)
 BOOK NOW: 01543 472700 or williamsjohn237@gmail.com or John Williams, The White House, Bond End, Yoxall, DE13 8NH
Licensed bar. Parking at school opposite hall.

liveandlocal.org.uk     **LIVE & LOCAL**

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR ANNUAL.....

Tinsel & Trimmings

FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER
 DOORS OPEN AT 6-30 PM

LEA HALL BRASS BAND ...
 CAKES, CRAFTS & TOMBOLA STALLS...
 OUR FAMOUS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
 MULLED WINE & REFRESHMENTS ...

PLUS A VERY SPECIAL GUEST FROM THE NORTH POLE

Take A Break Cafe

Tuesday
 6th October,
 3rd November,
 1st December
 2026 &
 5th January
 2027

1030 - 12 noon
 The Village Hall,
 Hill Ridware

All Welcome!



theWI
 INSPIRING WOMEN
 THE RIDWARES

Fancy a short walk in our beautiful countryside?

OCTOBER Monday's = 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th



Weather permitting!
 Sensible footwear required
 Enjoy a cuppa in the Village Hall afterwards.....

Any questions? Message Lorraine Wilson

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 12-1.45; 5-8.30, Sun
12-4 Please book for food on 01889 504488**



As the evenings draw in and those first signs of autumn show themselves in the early mornings and evenings, we start to plan ahead and think about Christmas and those colder, winter days. But of course, this also means we light our fires and log burners, draw the curtains and enjoy the cosiness which these seasons bring. We will soon be lighting the log burner in the pub too, and we have been busy planning some great activities for autumn and winter, to welcome everyone

October

Sunday 4th – Charity Quiz Night, starting at 7.30 pm. £2 per person, max 4 people in a team.

Saturday 24th – Macmillan Coffee Morning, from 10.00 a.m. Bring a cake if you wish, and money for this amazing charity.

November

Sunday 1st – Hallowe'en kids' party at 6.00 pm, with fancy dress, games and food. £2 per child (includes food), please book on 01889 504488

Sunday 8th – Fireworks and BBQ, food from 6 pm, fireworks at 7.00 approx.

Sunday 29th – Ashley Sherlock sings, live music with Blues and covers, from 8 pm.

December

Starting on Tuesday **1st December until Christmas Eve**, there will be an **Advent Calendar Draw** for the Hamstall Ridware Giant Advent Calendar. Tickets £1, from the bar (also sold door-to-door during November). All proceeds to St Michael and All Angels Church.

Saturday 12th AND Saturday 19th – Brunch with Santa, 10.30-12.00. £12.50 per child includes a Family Brunch Platter and a gift for each child, one FREE adult per child! Additional adults £8

Sunday 13th AND Sunday 20th – Tea with Santa -5.30 – 7.00. £12.50 per child includes a Family Tea Platter and a gift for each child, one FREE adult per child! Additional adults £8

Booking for Brunch or Tea with Santa is essential, call on 01889 504488.

Friday 18th – **Carols in the Bar with Chanteuse** - join us and sing along to traditional carols and Christmas songs, to get your seasonal juices flowing.

Thursday 24th – Christmas Eve – Bar Bowls only available

Friday 25th - Christmas Day - booked tables only for Christmas lunch, bar open for drinks.

Christmas lunch is 5 courses for a classic Christmas lunch, with vegetarian options available, £85 per person. The usual a la carte menu is also available. Being served from 12.00 – 4.30, booking essential, call 01889 504488 for details and availability within those times.

Saturday 26th – Boxing Day – 12.00 to 2.00, 7.00 to 10.00 bar open for drinks, no food. The final draw for the Giant Advent Calendar will take place at approx.. 8.00 this evening.

Sunday 28th – Open for Sunday lunch from 12 to 4 pm. Please book on 01889 504488
Thursday 31st – New Year's Eve Party! Turning up the music and welcoming in 2027 with friends!

Don't forget –

Regular Evening Deals

Wednesday Steak nights - £39 for 2 steaks with all the trimmings, cooked just as you like them!

Thursday Pie Night – A choice of pies each week, £10.95 per meal.

Mon – Sat Lunch – Open from 12-1.45pm for lunchtime meals: booking preferred
You can also book **breakfast** (8-9.45am) any day of the week, the night before on 01889 504488

Nikki and Team!



Kings Bromley Creative Arts Partnership (KBCAP) launches a second season in the Kings Bromley Village Hall

An Evening with Irita Marriot on Wednesday 7th October at 7.30pm.

Irita Marriot, known for being the Expert presenter on popular TV shows and star of Discovery Channel's, "The Derbyshire Auction House", is coming to the village to spend an evening speaking about her experiences on TV and passion for things old and new.

*She wants **you** to bring things along for her to examine and talk about.*

Tickets are **£10** available on Eventbrite (and include the booking fee) or **£10** on the door. Entry includes light refreshments for free with more home-made refreshments available for purchase.



Kings Bromley
JAZZ
CLUB



The Burton Big Band has been entertaining audiences for more than 60 years. Formed to play music from the Swing Era, the band's original members were indeed from Burton.

Wednesday 14 October 2026

Village Hall, Alrewas Road, Kings Bromley

Doors Open - 1915 Band - 1945

Tickets £15.00 (incl. booking fee)
on sale on Eventbrite

AND THEN

*Our third birthday party will be on **Wednesday 11th November** when we will welcome back, at our audiences request, the wonderful **Jake Leg Jug Band** and we are proud to be part of their national tour.*

Book the date and see you there !



Talks at Rugeley Library

★ **The RAF Fauld Explosion** ★ - A Staffordshire Wartime Tragedy

Join local historian and author Steve Booth for a fascinating talk on the dramatic events of 27 November 1944, when a massive explosion at the RAF Fauld armaments depot created one of the largest man-made blasts in history.

- What caused the explosion
- Its impact on workers and local communities
- The story of the farm above the crater
- Rare and striking photographs

📅 Tuesday 13 October 2:00pm – 3:30pm; FREE ☎ Book now: 01889 869063

A Staffordshire Odyssey

Join Kevin Mellor, local historian and author of *Ramblings of a Free Man*, for a journey home from North to South Staffordshire. We will call at towns and villages, highlighting topography, produce, history, people, and literary works along the way!

2pm to 3:15pm, Tuesday 20 October; £2.50 per person

Booking essential: call 01889 869063 or email rugeley.library@staffordshire.gov.uk.

ABBOTS BROMLEY
Village Hall

CEILIDH

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER

STARTS AT 7PM

A traditional Scottish social event with lively music,
group dances and a great atmosphere – no experience needed!

**£15
EACH**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM:
Abbots Bromley Community Shop
or online at
www.abbotsbromleyvh.com

Thank You

I would like to express a huge thank you to everyone who supported the craft stall held at the village fete to raise money for Breast Cancer Now. Despite there being problems with the QR code and, sadly, a few donations not coming through, over £500 was raised on the day along with subsequent donations; one donation was for removing a swarm of bees from someone's garden!

Jo Berriman

Improving our village church building

It has long been our wish to make the church building more accessible. Now, thanks to vital financial help from the Diocesan Lumley Trust and The National Churches Trust the PCC have been able to instruct Lichfield architects BHB, specialists in heritage buildings to prepare a choice of design solutions to create a more welcoming environment including an accessible WC with baby changing facilities (replacing the current external portaloo!) and a small refreshment area in the church.

The scheme to be chosen needs to preserve the unique heritage of this peaceful place, largely unaltered from Jane Austen's time, balanced with the needs of all who use it. It also must allow for other hoped-for improvements to the gates and path, and to the heating and layout inside the church etc.

We plan to form a village group drawn from all who value the church building to help the PCC develop these ideas and activities for a wider interest and thus help chose the best way forward. Let me know if you're interested.

Once this consultation phase is over the necessary statutory consents and funding from established bodies supported by English Heritage will be sought. A final decision can then be made.

The end of the 25-year-old national Listed Places of Worship scheme means that we, like all other such sites recognised formally as having architectural or historic merit, will have to now find a further 20% in costs to meet the VAT on all building repairs, maintenance and new facilities. This 20% is not grant funded.

Community Café support

Luckily however, our popular monthly church community café has over the last year been able to raise enough funds to contribute £600 towards the VAT bill on this consultation stage. They have also help fund other assets such a pipe to supply the tea tent at the village fête. So, a particular thank-you to all who work hard to make the café the community success that it is and to all who come and support it – regulars and newbies - while enjoying a valuable meet up, tea, coffee and cake!

John Ferguson, Church Warden, 07709 889 001

Film here!

All those who value our church in Hamstall know of its history and especially its strong link with Jane Austen – it was the most northerly place she visited and inspired several of her novels.

We're now hoping to share this place with a wider audience as a possible filming location.

Following conversations with the county's film office, [Screen Staffordshire](#), St Michael & All Angels Church now features on the "Filming in England" national location directory, where it will be showcased as a potential filming location for high end productions. The entry can be viewed at Filming in England's website [HERE](#) (england.reel-scout.com/loc_detail.aspx?id=10318010).

We've done our best to show off St Michael & All Angels but if you have any images of the church which might be added to the database let me know. John Ferguson



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.

Our monthly meeting

Minna Andrews had over the last 10 years undertaken 6-7 'Walking Weeks' each year throughout the UK. She entertained us with stories about her travels and how she really appreciated the value of the National Trust in the UK and public footpaths in the National Parks.

On her walks she would often meet someone who 'made a difference' –For example, whilst walking to find a coastal 'famine village' in Donegal, she met up with a couple who had similar quest and finished by having a meal with them in a nearby town. Further tales involved Highland cattle, missed pathways, crossing rivers, conversations with ex-teachers and metal detectorists, and prayers at an Isle of Lewis Church service!



Our Birthday Party

The party was held at St James Events, a beautiful



deconsecrated little church in the middle of rolling countryside, a perfect venue.. The refreshments were delicious, with canapés outside in the lovely sunshine before the main event. The evening's entertainment was provided by the ever-popular Jane Darling.



Our Skittles evening

Our annual skittles evening is always a load of fun, The Shoulder of Mutton in Hamstall hosted this event, during the evening they provided us with a superb buffet. Fortunately, the weather was kind as the anticipated rain held off.

Blythe Group Meeting

In an evening we shall all remember for many years to come, Ridwares WI hosted our neighbouring WI's for a spectacular evening's entertainment. Our WI is known throughout the county for pulling out all the stops and maintaining the high standards expected of a WI event. Entertainment was provided by the fantastic Rat Pack Boys, Tommy and Johnny who had us all on our feet joining in the fun. We received many compliments during the night and days that followed.



Kath Parson kath.parson@gmail.com.

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

So the Autumn term is now underway. We have said goodbye to some of our members. Some are off to Explorers to continue their Scouting journey and some have other commitments and can't fit in Scouting. We are always sad to lose any member, especially as Scouting offers so much, but as young people leave it gives us the opportunity to welcome new members. This term we have new joiners in all our four sections, from Squirrels through to Scouts and it is lovely to see how much they are enjoying it after only a couple of meetings!

As I mentioned above, Scouting offers so much and one highlight of this year was the summer camp in Switzerland. We had a wonderful 10 days in a beautiful country and all the Scouts and leaders will have come back with amazing memories which will last and last.

As a large group, travelling did provide some challenges, especially when we had some quick train connections, but the rail system is so efficient and overall we managed well. We had some early starts to make the most of each day and we crammed in so many activities. The weather was really kind to us and considering its quite a wet country we were enormously fortunate to have sun every day.

So what were the highlights? I asked the Scouts and the leaders and there was a wide variety of favourite memories. From the leaders perspective, it was a real privilege to travel with such a great group of young people. On a number of occasions, our third party suppliers of the activities commented on how brilliant they all were, how polite, helpful and respectful towards everyone they met. We are extremely proud of them.



For the Scouts, how could they possibly choose what was best. They took part in white water rafting, canyoning, high ropes, tobogganing and hiking. We visited museums,, we swam in open air pools with the backdrop of snow capped mountains, we swam in a (cold) glacial lake and we visited a fun water park. We met Scouts from all over the world and joined in games, singing, dancing and even bingo with them. Some of the



older Scouts even slept out of their tents a couple of nights under warm, clear starry skies!

What an adventure for us all.

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

Do you know about the little match girl? Matches originally were made of yellow phosphorus which was a very toxic

substance – women and children who worked in the factories succumbed to a disease known as necrosis of the jaw or phossy jaw. Their jaw bones would decay while they were still alive. To add to their misery they were paid starvation wages 2d for a 12 hour day.

One of the Speakers at our Mothers' Union meeting in September was Andrea Hopkins of the Salvation Army who had recently arrived in Burton to take over running the Burton Corps.

The Salvation Army was founded in 1865 by William and Catherine Booth. William realised that preaching salvation fell on deaf ears when people were starving, unemployed and living in appalling slums. He famously said that 'it is impossible to preach a gospel to a person whose main concern was a rumbling stomach. This was the start of the basic framework of the Salvation Army – soup, soap and salvation. Feed a person first, restore their dignity and only then talk about spiritual restoration.

Their early work focussed on practical help for those in need, but expanded to include holistic care for body mind and spirit.

Long before the government opened any labour exchanges they opened a Labour Bureau in 1890.

In Victorian times men would stand on street corners at dawn hoping for daily labour. If a factory didn't hire them, they and their families went hungry that day. The Salvation Army established centralised registries in major cities where unemployed men and women could register their skills while employers submitted job vacancies. These influenced the British Government and National Labour Exchanges were started in 1909.

The Salvation Army had also established labour factories such as wood chopping yards and waste paper sorting facilities giving workers an honest daily wage, a meal and a temporary step back into regular employment. Booth was fiercely opposed to outright handouts without purpose as he believed that meaningful work was essential for human self-respect.

Which brings us to the match factories. The plight of the workers (mainly women and children) stirred the hearts of William and Catherine. In response they opened their own match factory to force an entire industry to change. They manufactured safety matches using non toxic red phosphorus completely eliminating the risk of Phossy jaw. They sold their matches, branded Darkest England with a slogan 'fair wages for fair work' – they paid their workers 4d per day, double the industry standard. This resulted in extreme market pressure and manufacturers were forced to abandon yellow phosphorus which was banned altogether in 1908. The Salvation Army closed its factory as the industry had been permanently reformed.

The Salvation Army was active in over 50 countries by the 20th century and today operates in over 130 countries – helping with disaster relief; anti-trafficking campaigns; prison ministry and rehabilitation and running schools and clinics.

They concluded the afternoon by updating us on the Food Bank in Burton which is in more need now than ever before. The one thing the Salvation Army does, which some other food banks don't, is to give families a week's worth of food. They do have to vet those who apply as sadly this has sometimes been abused. They did stress, however, how grateful they are for the food given by St. Peter's.

They were thanked for their inspiring presentation and a donation given towards the work.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th October at 2 p.m. when Chris Smart will be telling us of words and phrases and their origins. Our meeting is open to everyone, men and women and you will find a very warm welcome.

Liz Binsley

From Minutes of HRPC meeting Monday 13th July 2026

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

ALSO PRESENT: Becky Mycock Clerk

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 0 members of the public

APOLOGIES: None

Matters Arising from the last minutes: Paint for refurbishment of the defibrillator-red paint max spend £100 agreed by councillors

Correspondence

- A) *Post is not being delivered on a regular basis:-* letter of concern
- B) *Request to move the meeting date to in line with the publication of the parish magazine:-* Unfortunately this cannot be done.
- C) *Are the parish council aware if they exist, the minutes from meetings back in 1894:-* The William Salt Library in Stafford may have documents but the council does not hold these.
- D) *Training dates, SPC can offer one to one training for the same price as group:-*
Cllr ER to confirm dates

Flooding Update:

The EA pack supplied by a resident to be published on the website has been checked over by a council member and find there is no evidence to support the claims and more information has been requested. Until the information is verified it will not be placed on the website,

Finance and payments: The banks are still holding over on the accounts which means at present no payments can be made.

When the bank is done payments below must be made

- Current Account January 30th, 2026 £5,436.13
- Reserve account January 5th, 2026 £1,549.62

Payments

The Drain Company	£888.00
GO Daddy domain	£31.18 paid by clerk
Grace Consultancy	£72.00
LDC (bin empty)	£215.90
Clear Councils Insurance	£742.84
HMRC	£228.63 paid by clerk- refund
Clerk salary Oct-June 26	£1447.98

Approval of verge poster: Defer to next meeting

Blithbury Road drain cover: The drain cover has been replaced but it has large spaces and it could be dangerous. Photo to be sent to Councillor Higgins

Planning Application: 26/00505 full

Christmas Tree raffle: Raffle to raise funds for a Christmas Tree for the village, Cllr ER, has offered to do this. Further information to follow

Pothole/Verge: Everyone still to report potholes. Verges in the village are still needing to be addressed. Clerk to chase Cllr Higgins for an update.

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



Henry Chadwick Community Primary School

School Lane
Hill Ridware
Rugeley
WS15 3QN

Headteacher: Vicki Barnes

Tel: 01543 490354

Email: office@henrychadwick.staffs.sch.uk

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

It has been lovely to see everyone return to school after the summer holidays and it was fantastic to hear how much time children had spent outside due to the sunny weather we have had.

Although we have been back less than a month, we have certainly packed lots in.

- We have launched a walk to school initiative - 'Walk With Us' to get children moving and reduce the numbers of car journeys to school.
- Year 5 and 6 have had a residential at Whitemoor Lakes where they took part in a wide range of activities; many being water-based such as: sailing, kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding.
- Year 3 and 4 have started weekly swimming lessons in Lichfield.
- Years 1 - 6 also took part in a PE enrichment day.

We have two open days coming up for prospective families - these are: from 10.30 - 11.30 on Saturday 17th October and 3.30 - 4.30 on Tuesday 20th October. It would be wonderful to welcome as many families as possible from the local area.

Vicki Barnes, Head Teacher, 01543 490354

Bat Talk and Walk 30 September

A great evening! One visitor commented: "It's such a lovely church and we arrived to a beautiful double rainbow over the fields. Great refreshments and an interesting bat talk by an enthusiastic speaker. Very atmospheric wandering around in the twilight outside with our bat detectors and the church's stained-glass windows glowing."



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	
Lisa Anderson (16633)	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: 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 4rd 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.



100 Years Ago... by Chris Poole

October 1926:

A Women's Institute was formed in Hamstall Ridware on September 20th and the officials elected were Mrs Lees, president, Mrs Howett vice president and Mrs Roobottom treasurer, Miss Duke gave some interesting hints on acting & Miss Hammersley gave a monologue entitled 'Shattered Nerves'. Also in Hamstall Ridware Mr George Brown sold some Farm Stock... American rock n' roll guitarist and singer songwriter Chuck Berry (Roll Over Beethoven and Sweet Little Sixteen) was born in St Louis Missouri and British actor Leonard Rossiter (Rising Damp and The Rise & Fall of Reginald Perrin) was born in Liverpool.

November 1926:

The Poppy Day Appeal for the Earl Haig Fund yielded £2, 3 shillings and 3 pence from Hamstall Ridware... English ventriloquist Terry Hall (Lenny the Lion) was born in Chadderton Lancashire and US actor Jeffrey Hunter (The Searchers & Star Trek Cage) was born in New Orleans... The US Highway System was established including Route 66.

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

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Rates: per 1/6 page £25 per annum; 1/4 page £37.50 pa; 1/3 page £50 pa

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Ben: 07772453393 Max: 07930603346

Email: butlertreesurgery@gmail.com

Tree Care and Maintenance

All aspects of tree surgery, tree felling, reductions, crown raising, crown thinning and general maintenance.

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