

# WHEATLAND NEWS

June 2022



*Icon of John the Baptist*

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

# Contents

<b>Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Editorial</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Diocese of Hereford</b> .....	<b>4</b>
June Parish Newsletter from the Archdeacon of Hereford.....	4
Caring for God's Acre .....	5
<b>Message from the Rural Dean</b> .....	<b>6</b>
Readings for June 2022 .....	6
<b>Saint of the Month – John the Baptist – 24<sup>th</sup> June</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>The United Benefice of Brown Clee</b> .....	<b>8</b>
Brown Clee Group News.....	8
Ditton Priors News .....	9
Burwarton and Cleobury North News.....	11
Aston Botterell News .....	11
Chetton News .....	11
Wheathill & Loughton News.....	12
Daddy's Hat returns to its roots!.....	13
Neenton News .....	14
<b>June Molecule of the Month   Beta endorphin</b> .....	<b>15</b>
<b>Severn Valley Group of Parishes</b> .....	<b>16</b>
Benefice news and services .....	16
Glazeley.....	16
Billingsley News.....	17
Chelmarsh News .....	18
<b>The Stottesdon Group of Parishes</b> .....	<b>19</b>
June Message .....	19
<b>Stottesdon Benefice Group News</b> .....	<b>20</b>
Stottesdon News .....	21
Silvinton News .....	22
Farlow News .....	22
Sidbury News.....	22
Cleeton St Mary News.....	22
Middleton Scriven News.....	23
South East Shropshire Community Noticeboard .....	24
<b>Wheatland Diary</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Useful Community Contacts</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Lottery Funding for St Mary's, Stottesdon</b> .....	<b>27</b>

# Editorial

The Platinum Jubilee Celebrations for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will be in full swing during the four days from Thursday 2nd June 2022. Details of activities including special services are on the parish pages for each benefice. Reflecting back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1953, it seems like a different world with technology in its very early stage – the small screen on the televisions the size of the current tablets, the pictures in blurry black and white! Those people who were fortunate enough to own one of these modern wonders invited people into their homes to watch the coronation and celebrated in a modest way with sandwiches, cakes and a cup of tea, or if lucky a glass of sherry to toast the health of our new young Queen. There was a sense of wonder about being able to be involved in this important occasion. Now we can watch the splendour of the Trooping of the Colour and other events in all their glory of colour and precision on large screens or mobile phones. And will be enjoying many different ways to mark this special occasion. How times have changed.

During this month schools will be breaking up for half term holidays and many people will be looking forward to a break both here in the UK and abroad. The warmer days and lighter evenings give more opportunities to enjoy entertaining outside and will, therefore, give people the confidence to join in and feel comfortable about meeting their friends and making new ones. Enjoy the warmer weather and the beautiful, fresh countryside we are fortunate to live in.

## Ed

**June edition deadline! Please would you send all contributions for the July 2022 edition of WN to your contact, as below, no later than Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June.**

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Farlow, Sidbury, Middleton Scriven, Cleeton St Mary, and Silvington	Chris Tibbits - <a href="mailto:Chris@stottystores.co.uk">Chris@stottystores.co.uk</a>



On behalf of churches, chapels and meeting houses across the UK, we would like to thank Her Majesty The Queen for being the Royal Patron of the National Churches Trust and the Historic Churches Preservation Trust since 1953.

Churches are impressive, exciting, and surprising places

Thank you, Your Majesty, for your support which helps us to keep churches open, thriving, and at the heart of local communities.



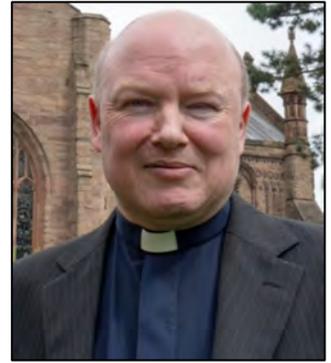
Yours for good.

[nationalchurchestrust.org](http://nationalchurchestrust.org)



## Diocese of Hereford

### June Parish Newsletter from the Archdeacon of Hereford



#### **Hello Everyone,**

As I write this we are preparing to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Whatever your view about having a hereditary monarch from a historical point of view most of us alive today will not see such a long serving monarch again in our lifetime. This is a significant historical event and it should be marked with appropriate national celebration. Some of you reading this may have met the Queen and have very clear memories of that moment and the impact it made.

The jubilee coincides with Pentecost and the 'Thy Kingdom Come' global wave of prayer organised by the church and it strikes me this is entirely appropriate given that the Queen has such a strong personal faith. As she herself has said on many occasions, it is her personal faith that guides her actions and her life.

*"To many of us our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example." (Christmas message, 2000)*

Whilst it is easy to complain or write off royalty as an historic anachronism, which has no place in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, we are fortunate in our nation to have a Queen who has publicly stated her belief in Jesus and takes seriously her role as head of the Church of England. She recognises as so many of us have that there is a better way to live our lives and that trust in Jesus is at the heart of that life. It does not matter who we are or what our circumstances. God does not judge by our race, gender, age or many other things we use as humans to divide and discriminate. He judges the heart. When Samuel was called to anoint a new King over Israel, he had to learn the same lesson that God did not choose the obvious candidates.

*"When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*  
*1 Samuel 16:6-7*

The challenge for us is to ask ourselves what guides our lives and shapes who we are? Do we simply live for ourselves or do we recognise that there is a better way of living that God has provided for us through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ. The offer to live God's way is constantly available to us but we must choose it. As the writer of the book of Revelation says - Jesus stands at the door of our lives and longs for us to let him in.

*"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."*  
*Revelation 3:20*

Whatever our view of the Queen as an earthly monarch as Christians we believe in a King and a Kingdom which is everlasting and without end. Our service and allegiance is not to the United Kingdom but to God's Kingdom something our Queen understands and acknowledges. We can and should celebrate the Queen's 70 years of service to our nation shaped by her faith, calling and determination to serve God. We should also remember, as Paul taught Timothy, to pray for her and our nation's leaders but remember that the faith she so often speaks about is available to all of us too.

*“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings, queens and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.”*  
*1 Timothy 2:1-5*

## **The Ven Derek Chedzey** **Archdeacon of Hereford**

### **Watch the Bishop of Hereford's weekly video message!**

This week he speaks about the place of Christianity in everyday life and culture.

On the [Diocesan website](#), together with a transcript, or on [YouTube](#) with or without subtitles.



## Caring for God's Acre

Last year during Love your Burial Ground week in June we ran a citizen science week where over 4,000 people joined in by sending us records of what they had seen in their local churchyard, cemetery, or other types of burial ground. Over 17,000 wildlife records were submitted, and most are now available to see on the National Biodiversity Atlas (NBN) – the UK's largest biodiversity database.

The top three birds recorded were a blackbird, robin and woodpigeon, the top three trees were Yew, Sycamore and Hawthorn and the top three insects were Bumblebee, Honeybee and Hoverfly.

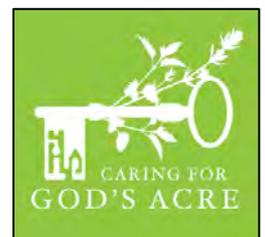
June this year (Sat 4th –Sun 12th) sees another weeklong celebration of burial grounds together with the 'Churches Count on Nature' initiative which is jointly run by us, A Rocha UK, the Church of England and the Church in Wales. We would love to know what wildlife you see during this week. To make it easier to send in records we have now registered on iNaturalist which is simple to use and allows you to take a photo on your phone, upload it to the system and get instant help with identification if needed.

Anything you record using iNaturalist will go through to our Beautiful Burial Ground Atlas on the NBN - building the picture of just how important burial grounds are for wildlife. Beware though it can be quite addictive - I am always wanting to pop into a churchyard or cemetery while passing - just to put a few more records on the list!

For more information on using iNaturalist and other ways to submit your wildlife sightings, please visit the [Caring for God's Acre website webpage](#). We would love you to join in!

Andrea Gilpin

Email: [andrea@cfga.org.uk](mailto:andrea@cfga.org.uk) Website: [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk) Individuals and groups in the diocese receive a 20% members discount on all CfGA materials. Use the discount code diomem22



## Message from the Rural Dean



**Just a brief message** this month, to say how much I have enjoyed travelling around the parishes in the southern half of the deanery during these vacancies. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to share worship with you in many churches and to join some of the annual meetings and hear about your difficulties and your triumphs. It has been lovely to meet so many churchgoers across so many parishes and find out how well you are looking after your churches and your people while you are in vacancy. There are opportunities to be taken in these times and signs that these opportunities are being taken.

But let's just make this clear: I'm as keen as you are to have a full complement of clergy back in place in the deanery!

So keep praying about this. Somewhere out there is the person who will be your new priest, being nudged by God in your direction!

Mark Daborn

### Readings for June 2022

**June 5<sup>th</sup> – Pentecost and the Platinum Jubilee (Red)**

Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 104:26-end; Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17

**June 12<sup>th</sup> – Trinity Sunday (White)**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

**June 19<sup>th</sup> – The First Sunday after Trinity (Green)**

Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 22:19-28; Galatians 3:23-end; Luke 8:26-39

**June 26<sup>th</sup> – The Second Sunday after Trinity (Green)**

I Kings 19:15-16, 19-end; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-end

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Genesis 24: 34-38,42-49, 58-67: Psalm 45: 10-17: Romans 7: 15-25a:  
Matthew 11: 16-19,25-30

# Saint of the Month - John the Baptist - 24<sup>th</sup> June

By the Revd Mark Daborn

**J**une 24<sup>th</sup> is the feast of the birth of St. John the Baptist, patron Saint of our churches at Middleton Scriven and Ditton Priors.

John's mother, Elizabeth, was kinswoman to Mary, the mother of Jesus. John and Jesus were therefore cousins in some degree, with John some six months the older. His birth and mission as forerunner of the Christ were foretold to his father, Zechariah, whilst he was on duty in the temple. When Zechariah refused to believe the angel's message – arguing that he and Elizabeth were childless and elderly – the angel, in what seems to have been a fit of heavenly pique, struck Zechariah dumb until the child was born.

We have no record of John's doings in the next thirty years. When he grew up, though, he lived in the wild country by the river Jordan, eating locusts and honey, and dressed in animal skins in a strong echo of the ancient prophet Elijah. Indeed, there are Biblical references both in the Old Testament books of prophecy, and in the words of Jesus, to the return of Elijah before the coming of the Christ.

John preached a message of repentance in preparation for the coming of the Christ, God's Anointed One. He told people that they should repent so that they would be forgiven, and to be baptised as a sign of being washed clean, and of dying to an old life and being born again into a new one – for his baptism was probably one of total immersion in the Jordan. Except, perhaps, for the dry season. This was a ceremony which had been used by the Jews since well before John's time to welcome converts to their faith, so Christian baptism has a long pedigree back through John to the Old Testament. Don't believe what you read on the Internet about baptism being borrowed by Christians from Roman 'Mystery' religions!

When Jesus came to be baptised, John was reluctant, knowing whom he was, but Jesus insisted on identifying with humanity in this way. And Jesus' first disciples had been disciples of John beforehand; John pointed them on the way from him to Jesus. These early transfers included Simon Peter, who was brought to Jesus by his brother Andrew.

As Jesus became better known, John slipped into the background. He was imprisoned by Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee. Herod had taken his brother Philip's wife, Herodias, for himself and John was outspoken about the rank immorality of this. Herod did not want to harm John, for he recognised him as a prophet. Not so Herodias. By a trick at his birthday party, she got Herod to grant a favour to her daughter Salome, who had danced well for his guests. She asked for the head of John the Baptist – on a platter!

The promise was fulfilled, and his disciples came to take his body away for burial. We remember him as the last of the prophets of the Old Testament style, ushering in a new world where everything became different with the coming of the Son of God into human life. We especially remember John every time we do a Baptism service!

MD



# The United Benefice of Brown Clee

<b>Rector: vacant</b> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please contact your Churchwarden, as below.          In emergency, contact Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean, on 01746-718127</i></p>		
<b>St John the Baptist, Ditton Priors, and Holy Trinity, Wheathill &amp; Loughton</b> CHURCHWARDENS Carole Smith: 01746-712474 Mark Smith: 01746-712394	<b>St Michael &amp; All Angels, Aston Botterell</b> CHURCHWARDEN Anne Preece: 01746-787237	
<b>St Giles, Chetton</b> CHURCHWARDEN Sheila Millington: 01746-789443	<b>SS Peter &amp; Paul, Cleobury North</b> CHURCHWARDENS Mike Bradbury: 01746-787676 Jane Bufton: 01746-787298	<b>All Saints, Neenton</b> CHURCHWARDEN Bobbie Jarvis: 01746-787093

## Brown Clee Group News

### Services in Brown Clee Churches during June

<p><b>June 5th - Pentecost / Jubilee weekend</b></p> <p>10:15          GpHC      Aston Botterell</p> <p><b>June 12th - Trinity Sunday</b></p> <p>09:45          HC          Ditton Priors</p> <p>11:30          HC          Chetton</p> <p><b>June 19th - First after Trinity</b></p> <p>09:45          HC          Ditton Priors</p> <p>11:30          HC          Neenton</p> <p>18:00          HC          Loughton</p>	<p><b>June 26th - Second after Trinity</b></p> <p>08:45          HC          Ditton Priors</p> <p>09:45          HC          Chetton</p> <p>11:30          HC          Cleobury North</p> <p><b>July 3rd - Third after Trinity</b></p> <p>09:45          HC          Ditton Priors</p> <p>11:30          HC          Aston Botterell</p>
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**A Church Near You** - Don't forget to look at the Benefice website – A Church Near You, on the [Ditton Priors Church and Benefice Information Hub](#) page, to see what is going on in all the parishes.

## Ditton Priors News

Marjorie Jones writes:

### **St George's Day Teas**

It was a happy gathering at the pavilion on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The flags were out, the food was good, and the company enlivened the day. Also, we raised just over **£200** for church funds.

### **Bridgnorth Walk Day – 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

The church was busy serving coffee and cakes. The day stayed fine for us, though dull, but we were able to have stalls outside and the cooler weather suited the walkers. We raised **£360** for church funds.

### **Church Funds**

I am sorry to have to mention money so often, but last year we had a deficit of **£7,000** – fewer fundraising over the 2-year covid period have taken their toll. Of course, our expenses still have to be paid.

### **Annual General Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> May**

The meeting was chaired by our rural dean, Mark Daborn, and our churchwardens Carole and Mark were re-elected. PCC members elected as follows:- Luke Boxall – treasurer; Marjorie Lautman– secretary; Margaret Griffiths - electoral roll officer, Marjorie Jones – deanery synod and gift aid; Graham Russell – safeguarding officer, Dennis Griffiths, Val Roberts and Jutta Langham. Shirley Wall continues to run the '100 club'; Ruth Jones to continue as independent examiner. Everyone was thanked for their hard work over the past year.

### **Pamela Nickless**

Sharon, Claire and the family of the late Pamela Nickless "Pammy Nick" would like to thank the Ditton Priors WI Committee for allowing them to repair and restore the WI bench in Ditton Priors in memory of their beloved mum and to attach a plaque to remember Pam whose kindness and thoughtfulness was endless and who gave so much to the village and was loved by all. A special thank you to Shirley Wall who helped make this request possible and to Tim Roper who fabricated the missing components and restored the bench back to its former glory free of charge. We will be eternally grateful and hope the village will enjoy the bench for many more years to come.

### **Cleaning Rota for June:**

- Sunday 5th June      Mr & Mrs Tony Brown
- Sunday 12th June     Mrs Jutta Langham & Mr Steve Allen
- Sunday 19th June     Mrs Carole Hancox & Mrs Maureen Lloyd
- Sunday 26th June     Mr & Mrs Graham Russell
- Sunday 3rd July       Mrs Shirley Wall & Mrs Anita Casswell

### **St John the Baptist 100 Club results for May 2022**

- £20 - Carla Bow
- £10 - Richard May
- £5 each to – Tony & Babs Brown, Lynda Clarke, Jane Marsh

## Church Fete – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

In and around the church. This will open at 12 noon to take advantage of the BBQ. We need items to sell on the stalls and tombola, books, plants & bric-a-brac. A box will be put at the back of church for collections. Also, cakes are needed on the day. All contributions very welcome.

## Sponsored Walk – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July

A walk will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, starting from church at 11.30 am. We usually walk-up Bent Lane, across Hillside and back down Pokesmore road to church where a light lunch is served. Walkers can also choose their own route, just a short distance for those with mobility problems. Sponsor forms will be in church or phone Marjorie on 712 423.

## Group Choir

Our group choir sang for a wedding at Aston Botterell on 7th May – a really happy occasion. The choir meets for practice on Thursday evenings at 7pm in Ditton Priors church. For more information please contact Mike Teague on: 789592.

**DITTON PRIORS JUBILEE CELEBRATION**  
**SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2pm**  
**PAVILION PLAYING FIELD**

Bring a Picnic and a Crown

Have a Wonderful Afternoon with your Friends and Family

Join the Procession (1.45) from the Village Hall to the Pavilion

Show off your Crowns, wear Vintage Dress or Red, White and Blue

Refreshments and Cream Scones will be provided

A Jubilee Celebration Cake will be shared

Prizes for the Best Crown in various Age Groups (Adults included!)

Games and Activities to enjoy

Join in the Sing-Along

There is no charge but we do need to know numbers.  
Book now by email: [dittonpriors@btinternet.com](mailto:dittonpriors@btinternet.com)  
Or add your names to the lists at the Post Office, Village Shop & Garage

**Brown Clee C.E. Primary School**  
&  
**Little Explorers Pre-School**

**OPEN DAYS**  
Monday 23rd May 2022  
Thursday 16th June 2022  
09:30am to 2.00pm

We invite all prospective parents to come and visit Brown Clee C.E. Primary School and Little Explorers Pre-School - EVERYONE WELCOME!

Come along and have a look around school and pre-school; see children working and meet the staff.

If you are a school parent and have never been in school due to Covid, we are offering a school tour at 2pm on the above days.

*Aspire, Believe, Persevere, Succeed*

Station Rd, Ditton Priors, Shropshire, WV16 6SS  
Brown Clee Primary School (01746) 712652 admin@browncleeschool.org.uk  
Little Explorers' Pre-School (01746) 712506 littleexplorers.ditton@gmail.com

## Quiz night

### Friends of St John the Baptist Church Ditton Priors

We are holding a light-hearted quiz in the Pavilion in Ditton Priors on Friday, 1st July. It will open at 7.0pm for a start at 7.30pm.

£12.50 entrance includes a ploughman's supper and cake. Bring your own drinks and there will be jugs of Pimms available. There is also a raffle.

Look forward to a full house. Contact Helen on 01746 712466 or e-mail [groves.helen5@gmail.com](mailto:groves.helen5@gmail.com).

## **Ditton Priors WI**

### **Morville WI writes:**

"Morville WI was very sad to see that Ditton Priors W.I had closed after many years.

We'd love to welcome any of their members or local ladies within the surrounding community to join our W.I or visit as guests.

We are a small friendly group of women varying in ages from thirties to eighties. We meet every second Wednesday of the month at 7:15pm for a 7:30pm start at Morville Village hall. Feel free to contact Katie our president or Shelley our treasurer on [morvillewomensinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:morvillewomensinstitute@gmail.com)".

## **Burwarton and Cleobury North News**

We look forward to hearing more from Cleobury North and Burwarton once the summer events start to happen.

### **Cleobury North & District Village Hall**

CNVH remains open and available for hire. For enquiries about booking and using the hall, please call 01746-787093 and leave a message or send a TEXT MESSAGE to 07483-879763 (or both!)

## **Aston Botterell News**

**The Benefice Jubilee Service** for HM Queen Elizabeth will be a Group Service at Aston Botterell Church on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 10.15 am.

### **50 Club winners**

- £20 – Josephine Hart
- £10 each – Edwina Bennett and Sarah Derricutt
- £5 each to The Hughes Grandchildren and Barry & Glenys Kedward

Thank you to everyone for supporting our 50 Club. Congratulations to our May winners and good luck!

## **Chetton News**

**From Pam Downing**

### **St Giles's Church and Parish**

#### **Services for April**

- ✝ Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> – 11.30 am Holy Communion.
- ✝ Sunday June 26<sup>th</sup> – 9.45 am Holy Communion.

#### **Flowers and cleaning**

- Helen and June



## Dates for the diary

Thank you to everyone who supported our April coffee morning: it was good to catch up with friends after all the Covid restrictions.

We are arranging more fundraising events during the summer so watch this space.

On **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June** following a 10.15 am service at Aston Botterell, we are holding a **Jubilee picnic** and fun afternoon to celebrate the Queen's 70 years reign. This will be in the garden of Church House courtesy of Charles and Lisa. (in the village hall if the weather is unkind!) Everyone is very welcome to join us and there will be entertainment and games. Bring your own picnic and chairs and there will be plenty of cake to share, tea and coffee will be provided. It should be a really enjoyable afternoon.

On **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July**, we are holding a **Songs of Praise service** at 4pm. If anyone has a special favourite hymn, let us know.

## Hundred Club

- Janet Preece no 32
- Tony Maiklem no 91

## Chetton Village Hall

We have been meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 2pm for a craft afternoon.

This has been an informal get together and we charge just £1.00 for refreshments.

Please note because of the bank holiday we will be meeting on June 9th.

From September we will be providing instruction etc, on the making of the bag pictured below. Please telephone on 789239 to put your name down or for further details.



## Exercise classes

- **Pam's Pilates**, 9.30 am on Monday.
- **Chetton Active Friends**, from 2pm on Monday.
- **Zumba with stretching**, 2.30 pm on Tuesday.

For any information or enquiries about the Hall please telephone Sue on 789239.

## Wheathill & Loughton News

A communion service was held at Wheathill on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm. Unfortunately, Ruby Edwards was unwell and unable to attend, but Jim Hurford was well enough to join us. Our best wishes to Ruby and we hope to see her again soon. The next service will be at Loughton church – a communion service on 19th June, at 6pm, led by Mark Daborn.

**Please come and join us and help to keep these small churches alive.**

### **Jan Haydoke writes:**

“Since Jim Hurford and Ruby Edwards retired as church wardens, after many years of dedicated service to Wheathill and Loughton Parish, we are now subsumed into Ditton Priors.

Loughton is a hamlet of only eleven households and services here have been few and far between although the Harvest and Carol services are always packed and an important get-together for the community. As the only facility in the village fund-raising events for the church have been the mainstay in forging community friendships. Harvest suppers and the annual BBQ were the highlights and the cake stall at Burwarton show and church lottery important fundraisers.

There has always been a team of cleaners and a strong commitment to preserve and care for our precious little building.

Since the damage to the floor last Autumn there has been no contact or information on discussions/plans/decisions about the costs and timetable for its repairs or long term future. Unused and inaccessible buildings further deteriorate very quickly.

It is felt important to record the wish of many here to see the church restored at the heart of the community, and a willingness to be involved in the process."

## Daddy's Hat returns to its roots!

*Sally Russell writes:*

At Billingsley Church on St George's Day, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Revd David Poyner opened the DH concert with this poem:

We have been taught by the legend of St  
George  
To fight against dragons and to rescue the  
helpless.  
Deliver us, by the truth of the gospel,  
From the dragons who imprison us and others.

Well, those dragons that imprisoned the music and poetry within us have been well and truly banished:

**DH will be supporting the Orchid Wander with music at 4.30pm**, before moving on to Loughton Church for the service there at **6.00pm**.

Daddy's Hat Music and Poetry emerged from a conversation under the 1000-year-old oak tree at Loughton at Ride and Stride last year, and thanks to the network established that day is spreading its wings throughout and beyond the Wheatland News area, bringing new churches, performers and friends together. Now, after only seven concerts in rural churches, it already has a rich and varied membership of artists and audiences, helping with recognition of our community needs and appreciation of a benevolent spiritual presence throughout our lives. Please help Daddy's Hat to continue, by offering your musical gifts (and those of your friends!) or suggesting your church as a host.

As we return to Loughton Church with Jim, on 19th June, we shall be celebrating not only the middle of another Summer, near to a Yew Tree that has seen more than a thousand before, but also our first twelve months of interregnum, served by a wonderful variety of ministers, for whom we give thanks and praise.

Welcome to any who have not yet experienced the joys of throwing cash into The Hat and remember, there's always tea & cake if you didn't care for the music!

DH will be at Richard's Castle on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – details from Sally on 01746-787419.



**Wild Orchid Wander  
OPEN DAY**

Sunday 19th June 12 - 5pm

Enjoy a guided wander through stunning wild flower meadows full of wild orchids, led by experienced expert naturalists.

**Guided 1 mile tours at 1pm & 3pm** Undulating terrain. Sturdy footwear recommended

**Cake & Plant Stalls**

**Live Music**

**Admission £5~including cup of tea & cake** **Children Free!**

Proceeds to Brown Clee Ukraine Support Group  
Donations also welcome

The Brickyard Farm  
& Farfields Nature Reserve,  
Wheathill WV16 6QT  
(What 3 Words: Social, Fruitcake, People)

**BROWN CLEE**  
UKRAINE SUPPORT GROUP

## Neenton News

Bobbie Jarvis writes:

### All Saints' service in June

✝ Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Holy Communion, 11:30am – Fathers' Day.

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The APCM was held with Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean, in attendance. The accounts were presented and accepted and the PCC members and other officers were re-elected for a further period. Bobbie Jarvis agreed to remain as churchwarden for the coming year. Thanks were expressed to Revd Daborn for arranging the cover for our services and the support he gives to us all during this time without an incumbent. Thanks were also sent to the clergy who have covered our services and to many others who are supporting the church and the churchyard in various ways. Fundraising events have restarted, mainly organised by the Fun and Fundraising Group.

### Thank you

Bobbie and Bebert wish to thank everyone for their best wishes on the occasion of their combined 162 years anniversary and for the generous donations to Ukraine.

### Thoughts and prayers

To all those and their families who are suffering in mind, body or spirit in the Brown Clee Benefice we send our thoughts and prayers for strength and support during these difficult times.

### All Saints' Tote

- June – Gerald Cartwright, Harry c/o Sue Hale.

### The Pheasant at Neenton

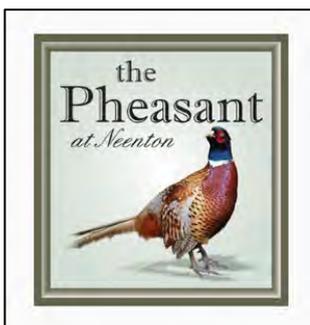
#### Friday 2nd June – Jubilee celebration

- Bouncy Castle
- Pop-up Chip Shop and outside Bar – cash only please! – from 5:00pm
- Cooper & Davis – at 7:00pm
- Fireworks – later, when dark
- Fancy Dress Competition: best Royal figure.



#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Fathers' Day – Sunday Lunch

To discuss times and your requirements please email [info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk](mailto:info@pheasantatneenton.co.uk), telephone 01746-787955 or book direct on the website.



#### Opening times – except as shown for the special events:

- 🌀 Wednesday/Thursday – 12 noon – 3pm, 6pm – 11pm
- 🌀 Friday / Saturday – 12 noon – 11pm
- 🌀 Sunday lunch 12 noon – 4.30pm

Unfortunately the Ukraine fundraising evening had to be postponed – watch this space for a future date.

# June Molecule of the Month

## Beta endorphin

By David Poyner



If memory serves me correctly, I previously wrote an article about the pain-killer, morphine. Morphine has been known since antiquity as a substance that deadens pain; in the 1970s two groups of scientists worked out its mechanism of action by showing that there were a series of proteins in the body which recognised it. When morphine bound to these proteins, called the opioid receptors, it activated them and caused nerve cells to become resistant to pain. This was in itself an important advance, but for me, the really exciting discovery was that the body had these receptors because it produced its own equivalent of morphine; this was the discovery of Hans Kosterlitz and John Hughes, working in Aberdeen University. It was a wonderful example of classical pharmacology, using techniques that were developed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to solve a problem a century later. We now know that there are a series of these morphine-like molecules made in nerve cells; they form the molecules called endorphins and enkephalins and together are known as the endogenous opioids. A knowledge of Greek remains useful for the innovative scientist...

These natural morphine-like substances are chemically very different from morphine itself. A chemist would consider morphine to be a small molecule; it is what is known as an alkaloid. However, the endogenous opioids are made from proteins. A large protein, the precursor, is first made by the nerve cell and then it is cut into a series of smaller fragments, called peptides. These include the individual endorphins and enkephalins but also other peptides that can be released by the nerves to activate surrounding cells. Peptides tend to be very potent and so nerves only need release tiny quantities to produce an effect. The endogenous opioids are made by nerves in the brain, the spinal cord and also in the intestines; controlling digestion is a complicated business so many neurotransmitters (the substances released by nerves to talk to other cells) are found in both the brain and gut. To deaden pain, the endogenous opioids act on nerves that normally send pain signals to the brain; they effectively switch them off. As a result, the brain no longer senses the pain, hence the relief that these substances bring.

Beta-endorphin is somewhat larger than the enkephalins. In addition to its effects on deadening pain, it also seems to be released when we feel pleasure. It can act as a natural antidepressant, by helping a feeling of well-being. It can be released during exercise. Possibly this evolved from a defence strategy; if an individual needed to run away from danger it would be an advantage for them not to be hindered by pain from any injury sustained. However, today many life-style gurus use the feeling of pleasure that can come from exercise to promote healthy living. Interestingly, there is also some evidence that spiritual experiences can also release endorphins. Another effect of endorphins seems to promote feelings of connection between groups of people. Thus religion may have evolved because it helped people to work together as groups. A friend of mine, of a certain age, who I trained with at vicar school, once told of how in the early 1970s, he used to have an overwhelming feeling of oneness with all of humanity. He eventually put it down to all the pot he had been smoking, but it could equally have been due to his endorphins. Either way, I would argue it is how God uses part of his creation, the endogenous opioids, to work with us, also his creation.

**DRP**

# Severn Valley Group of Parishes

<b>Rector: Vacant</b> <b>Revd Val Smith, Associate Minister</b> <a href="mailto:revval14@gmail.com">revval14@gmail.com</a>	<b>Revd David Poyner, Associate Minister</b> Tel 01562 68638 (home) or 0121 204 3997 (work); email <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>	
<b>St Mary, Billingsley</b> CHURCHWARDEN Vacant	<b>St Peter, Chelmarsh</b> CHURCHWARDEN Derek Arnold: 07956-844854	<b>St Bartholomew, Glazeley</b> CHURCHWARDENS Vacant

## Benefice news and services

### Church services for May

During the interregnum please check service times in the parish sections below, or with your churchwardens.

### Glazeley

#### **The Revd David Poyner and Marion Corfield write:**

Glazeley church is looking resplendent as the Spring blossom comes out; the rhododendron next to the church is currently in full bloom but equally eye-catching is the horse-chestnut next to the car park, with its pink flowers. The spring mood is reflected in the church itself, with good attendance at our recent services. We particularly appreciated Laura offering us refreshments after the Easter service, Rachael who follows in her mother's footsteps by playing the organ (and putting up with the last-minutes changes of the assistant curate...) as well as all our volunteers who serve on the PCC or work to keep the church and grounds so tidy.

We are delighted to welcome Laura onto the PCC and there was an upbeat feel to the Annual Parish Meeting as we discussed plans for the future and celebrated a small surplus in our funds over the last year. We continue to try and find contractors to repair the ceiling in the church and renew the heaters. We also plan to put two benches in the churchyard, to help people better enjoy this sacred space. The breakfasts at the Down have been very successful; these are likely to resume in September when instead of a harvest supper we will have a harvest breakfast.

Looking to the long term, we will be exploring options with Chelmarsh and Billingsley for closer working arrangements, perhaps by forming a single PCC so we can more effectively share out the tasks we need to undertake to keep all three churches healthy and flourishing. As part of this, the 100 Club operating at Billingsley will be extending its wing to take in Glazeley. Members pay £1 a week to be entered into a monthly draw; half the proceeds go in prizes and the other half goes to the churches. You can now nominate if you wish to support Billingsley, Glazeley or both. Application forms can be downloaded from, or contact myself or Sue Bates ([suebates@uwclub.net](mailto:suebates@uwclub.net)). And as a final item, Glazeley church does have a website so please look at it from time to time; <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10533/>

**David Poyner Tel 01562 68638; email**  
[D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk](mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk)

**Marion Corfield - 01746-764585**  
[marion.corfield@talktalk.net](mailto:marion.corfield@talktalk.net)



## A 'thank-you' to Lyn and Marion

On behalf of Glazeley PCC, Rachael Davenhill recently presented sisters Marion Corfield and Lyn Parnaby with a card and orchid each with a message to say how much everyone appreciates their dedication and commitment to keeping St Bartholomew's Church over so many years.



## Billingsley News

### The Revd David Poyner writes:

The summer evening walks resumed, with a gentle stroll from the church into the village and back, followed by refreshments in church, with champagne to celebrate the recent 80th birthday of one of the group.

We were delighted to be supported by friends from Chelmarsh; these walks are open to all, so please come along if you are interested. Our next walk starts at 7pm from Billingsley Church on Thursday 9th June and is to Sidbury Church, which we will explore. There will be cars at Sidbury so those who wish can get a lift back to Billingsley, with the option of a walk back along quiet lanes and footpaths for the more energetic. Look at our websites and facebook pages for details of this and future events.



However, before this walk we have the Jubilee bank holiday and we will be celebrating this by a picnic in the orchard next to the church on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June from 2-5pm. This is being organised by the Billingsley 100 Club; all are welcome (you don't have to live in Billingsley or be a member of the club to come!). It would be helpful (but not compulsory!) if you could let myself or Sue Bates ([suebates@uwclub.net](mailto:suebates@uwclub.net)) know in advance if you wish to come.

Our monthly evening service this month will be a week earlier, at 6pm on Sunday 5th June when we will reflect on the events of the last 70 years that the Queen has been on the throne. We have also been busy in the churchyard. New flowers and shrubs have been planted to mark the Jubilee, the memorial bench to Sid Fry, former sexton has been repaired and the wrought iron gates to the churchyard are now resplendent in new black paint. Many thanks to all who have helped!

Follow Billingsley on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/> or our websites, [www.st-marys-billingsley.org.uk](http://www.st-marys-billingsley.org.uk) , <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/>

**David Poyner - Associate Minister**

Tel 01562-68638; email [D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk](mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk)

## Chelmarsh News

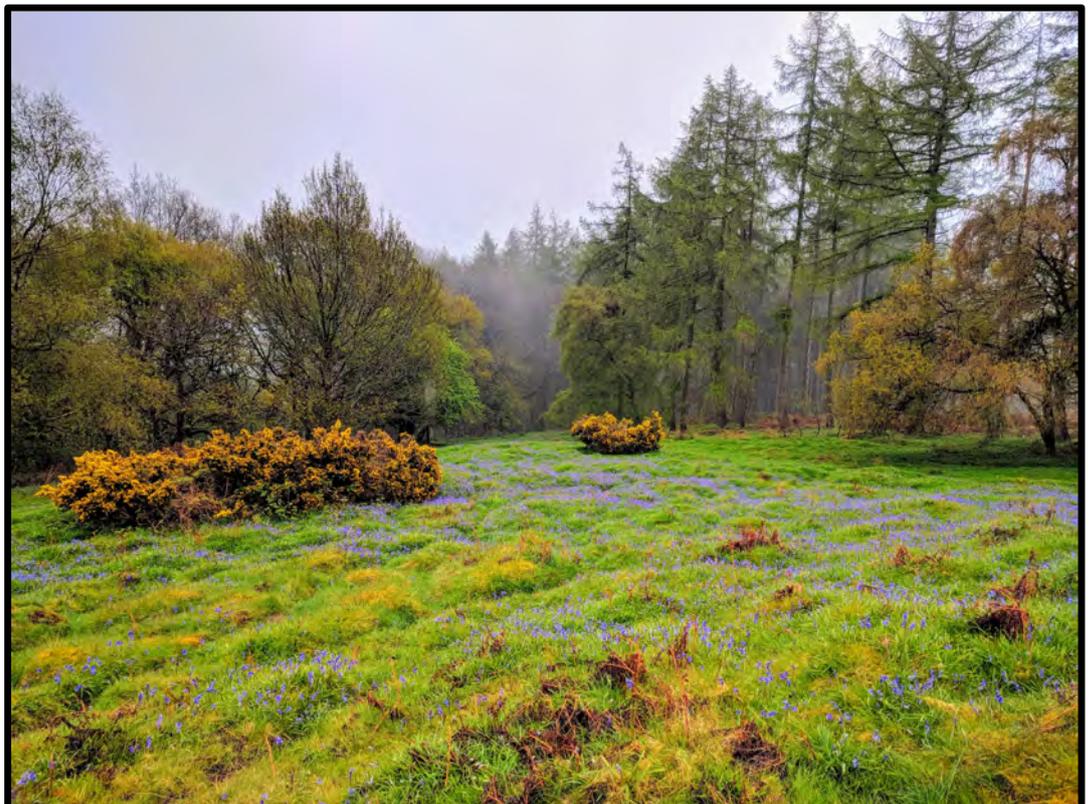
### **The 41<sup>st</sup> Chelmarsh Village Fete – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

A traditional village Fete, with coconut shy, Morris Dancers, pig roast, and lots of stalls – cakes, plants, books, white elephant, tombola's, games of skill, raffle, and more! New this year a Scarecrow Competition, a Gin Bar, and a Craft Village to showcase local skills and products.

- Entertainment throughout the afternoon with ukulele band, dancers, clown and juggler. Excellent home-made teas in the Hall.
- Free parking and well signposted.
- Adult admission halved this year, to £1, children under 16 free
- At: School Lane. Chelmarsh, near Bridgnorth, WV16 6BA
- 2.00pm till 5.00pm Saturday 9th July 2022
- Further information from the website [www.chelmarshparishhall.co.uk](http://www.chelmarshparishhall.co.uk)
- Or Geoff Price - 01746-862104

### **Plant Sale Saturday 18th June 11am till 4pm**

We are planning to hold this in the churchyard from 11am till 4pm with refreshments, and inside the church we would like to have a display of Gardens on a Plate with a light-hearted competition for two categories - adults and children. We are inviting all of you to join in and add to the display. It would be brilliant if some children could make gardens too. There will be small prizes for the most popular efforts in each category.



# The Stottesdon Group of Parishes

**Rector: Revd Mark Daborn**

The Rectory, Stottesdon, Shropshire, DY14 8UE

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

Days off – MONDAY and THURSDAY

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## June Message

*“I baptise you with water, he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire”*

Symbolic ceremonies are very important. This month we celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The coronation ceremony which took place in 1953, consisting of anointing and crowning, is just about as ancient as monarchy. It is a visual display of someone being set aside for a special and sanctified purpose. Our Queen has carried out that purpose for seventy years.

Amazing.

I'm never quite sure whether I'm a monarchist or a republican. My republican sentiments, I must state straight away and firmly, are to do with the burden placed on heirs to the throne from birth, a burden which is lifelong and in which they have no choice. And in which they have to behave. How the Queen must have longed to say what she really thought about some of the fourteen Prime Ministers that have served her during her long and faithful reign.

But these ceremonies have a lot of power in their symbolism. The marriage service is full of important symbolism in the words and the actions; ordination of deacons and priests, baptism and confirmation – they all contain a lot of food for thought. And food is nourishing.

I've celebrated quite a lot of Christenings over the last year or so, as we have come out of close lockdown and begun to gather properly once again for these important ceremonies. They are, on the whole, relaxed and informal affairs, without strictures on photos and videos, and usually with lots of children running around or eating the service sheets. But at the heart of them is the baptism, in which we identify with Christ as beloved children of God. That's quite a thought.

John the Baptist's words, which I have set at the top of this article, take us on beyond the splashing on of water, towards a complete transformation. John is our Saint of the month for June, so this might provide us with our early summer food for thought.

As we celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, we give thanks for the devoted and faithful service of the Queen. As we give thanks, though, we might remember where all authority comes from, and the Spirit who gives strength to those who serve.

Mark Daborn

# Stottesdon Benefice Group News

<b>St Mary, Stottesdon</b> CHURCHWARDEN Clare Tibbits: 01746-718007	<b>St Giles, Farlow</b> CHURCHWARDENS Joan Evans - 01746-718619 Nigel Savage-Bailey - 07989-308599	<b>Holy Trinity, Sidbury</b> CHURCHWARDEN Andrew Sierakowski - 07934-714149
<b>St Mary, Cleeton St Mary</b> CHURCHWARDEN Sue Dolphin: - 01584 890583	<b>St John, Middleton Scriven</b> CHURCHWARDEN vacant – so your contact is Revd Mark Daborn - 01746-718127	<b>St Michael, Silvington</b> CHURCHWARDEN Annette Metcalfe: - 01584 890161

## Churches in May

The Revd Mark Daborn writes:

Online services will continue to be recorded that you can pick up where and when may be convenient for you, either on the Stottesdon Benefice website, on the Benefice Facebook page, or on You Tube, which you can always find on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGgHa2CCJs8k9gfRwzkYrtg>

## Services in Stottesdon Benefice Churches for June

### June 5th - Pentecost

10:30 Jubilee Celebration

Group Songs of Praise Service at Stottesdon

### June 12th - Trinity Sunday

09:00 HC Cleeton St Mary

10:30 HC Stottesdon

18:30 EP Silvington

### June 19th - First after Trinity

10:30 IW Stottesdon

11:30 HC Sidbury

### June 26th - Second after Trinity

09:00 HC Silvington

10:30 HC Stottesdon

16:00 EP Cleeton St Mary

### July 3rd - Third after Trinity

09:00 HC Farlow

10:30 HC Middleton Scriven

18:30 ES Stottesdon

HC – Holy Communion

IW – Informal Worship

EP – Evening Prayer

ES - Evensong

## From the Stottesdon Benefice Registers

There were no entries to record as this edition was being prepared.

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

The **deadline for the July 2022 edition** (Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing **on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**. Thanks!

## Stottesdon News

*Clare Tibbits writes:*

### **St Mary's 100 Club**

Congratulations to our May winners: Peter & Barbara Johnson, Clare & Chris Tibbits, Leslie Tandy.

### **Diary Dates**

- The annual Stottesdon/Chorley vs Kinlet **Cricket** will be on Jubilee Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June
- Our **Summer Fete** from about 4pm on Friday 1st July on the School Field will be a celebration of **Stottesdon C of E School's 150th anniversary!!**
- Stottesdon Village **Open Gardens for N G S Charities** will be on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

### **St Mary's Church: "Past, Present and Future" Heritage Project**

As you may have already gleaned from the extensive coverage in BBC News-online, on Radio Shropshire and other media, including The Shropshire Star Journal – we were recently authorised to promote and celebrate the fabulous news of the really significant Heritage Fund grant being awarded by The National Lottery to St Mary's.

Together with our contribution ('match funding') this will enable a major programme of roof and drainage repairs together with improvements to church lighting and heating and a variety of community activities and new volunteering opportunities. More on this on pages 27 & 28.

### **Stottesdon & District WI ... is now back in earnest and welcoming new members**

*Marian Wootton reports:*

Twelve members gathered in May to learn and perform a traditional English folk song under the lively tutelage of local professional Angela Kazimierczuk. Angela led us through initial warm up exercises, stressing the importance of posture, holding the head level, thus projecting the voice when standing or seated. We hummed note sequences, shaped mouths to 'la', then worked our way through the phrases of 'The Nightingale'. Our attention was drawn to annunciation of vowels and diphthongs, and we were all then able to cope melodically with words and breathing intervals, producing a rather lovely effect when singing the verses.

Angela's engaging approach gave confidence to less able singers (myself included) to join in beside those with greater expertise. Sessions like this are great fun, but also a help to those of us with less musical experience to gain some appreciation of the elements of choral performance.

'Quilling' is the activity for our next meeting on Wednesday 15th June at Chorley Village Hall. Visitors are welcome, as always.

## Silvington News

**Annette Metcalfe writes:**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am for Songs of Praise at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

Other church services in the coming weeks are on

- ✝ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Evening Prayer at 6.30 pm
- ✝ Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Holy Communion at 9.00am.

## Farlow News

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

Holy Communion will next be celebrated at St Giles' church on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 09.00.

## **Melville Jubilee Tea**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June – All welcome!

## Sidbury News

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am for Songs of Praise at St Mary's, Stottesdon.



**Melville Methodist  
Church  
Oreton**

**Cream Tea  
On 25th June 2022  
3.00p.m-5.00p.m  
Celebrating Her Majesty Queen  
Elizabeth 2nd Platinum Jubilee**

**Adult and Children's Competition**

Adults and Older children write a poem about the Queen  
Children under 7 and pre school create a picture of the Queen  
**Prizes in each category**

Entries received at Melville on Wednesday 22nd, between  
4.00 and 6.00p.m  
All entries displayed on the Saturday

Everyone welcome

The Communion Service this month will be at 11.30 on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June. All welcome!

## Cleeton St Mary News

**Gill Jordan writes**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June we are all invited to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am for Songs of Praise at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

## Other services in June:

- ✝ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Holy Communion, 9.00am
- ✝ Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Evening Prayer 4.00pm

## 100 Club results for April:

- £20 to Diane Broome No 68
- £10 each to Keith Bowen No 89 and Trevor Broome No 49
- £5 each to Hannah Morgan No 110 and David Wadham No 29.

## Middleton Scriven News

Ann Constable writes:

### Church services:

Having had our regular service a week early on 29<sup>th</sup> May, we are all cordially invited - on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June - to join with friends and neighbours from around the Benefice for a Group Service Celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 10.30am for Songs of Praise at St Mary's, Stottesdon.

At the **recent AGM**, thanks were given to Secretary Sally Yates and Treasurer Andy Johnson for all their work and the PCC were delighted that they were re-elected this year. Thanks were also given to Mark for all his support over the past challenging year.

### Community Events:



A successful coffee morning and plant sale was held in May, raising **£225**. On a glorious spring day, it was great to see lots of neighbours meeting up, enjoying the tea/coffee in the warm sunshine. Thank you to all who supported this and to those who donated plants or produce.

The **next coffee morning** is on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June 10-12 in church.

**The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration in Middleton Scriven** will be on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30 when everyone is invited to a **Community Tea Party**, with free tea and coffee,

plus glass of bubbly to toast Her Majesty. **Please bring** a plate of savoury or sweet food to share. Reply to Ann, with indication if you are bringing sweet or savoury and how many people are hoping to attend. Red, white and blue theme.

Join in decorating the village for the Jubilee celebrations too!

## South East Shropshire Community Noticeboard

### **Brookes Mobile Library ...**

...has fortnightly stops in villages and hamlets all over The Wheatland News area – from Chetton to Farlow, from Cleeton St Mary to Chelmarsh, from Stottesdon to Cleobury North. Details are on the Library service pages at [www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/libraries)

Just like the regular Library branches, at the Brookes Mobile Library you can sign up as a member for free, borrow books and DVDs, order specialist books from other libraries and a host of other services. Just hop on at your local stop and ask the librarian....

### **Cleobury Country Farmers Market ...**

...is “under and around the crooked spire” at St Mary’s Church, Cleobury Mortimer, on the THIRD SATURDAY of each month from 09.30-12.30. Features local producers of plants, meats, cheeses, vegetables, rapeseed oils, gins, cookies, crafts and more.

Free town centre car parking and well worth a visit. Details: Clare 01299-272300.

### **Community-run Local Library services**

FREE membership, access to Books, DVDs, Computer workstations and more!

- HIGHLEY at The Severn Centre 01746 860000. Open 7 days a week from 9am.
- CLEOBURY at The Cleobury Country Centre 01299 272301. Open 6 days a week.

### **Our Local Food Banks**

Both these are **always** in need of donations of foodstuffs and other goods, of money to sustain their services, and of volunteers’ time. Find them on Facebook or call 07960 285520 for BRIDGNORTH or 07519 885943 for CLEOBURY MORTIMER.

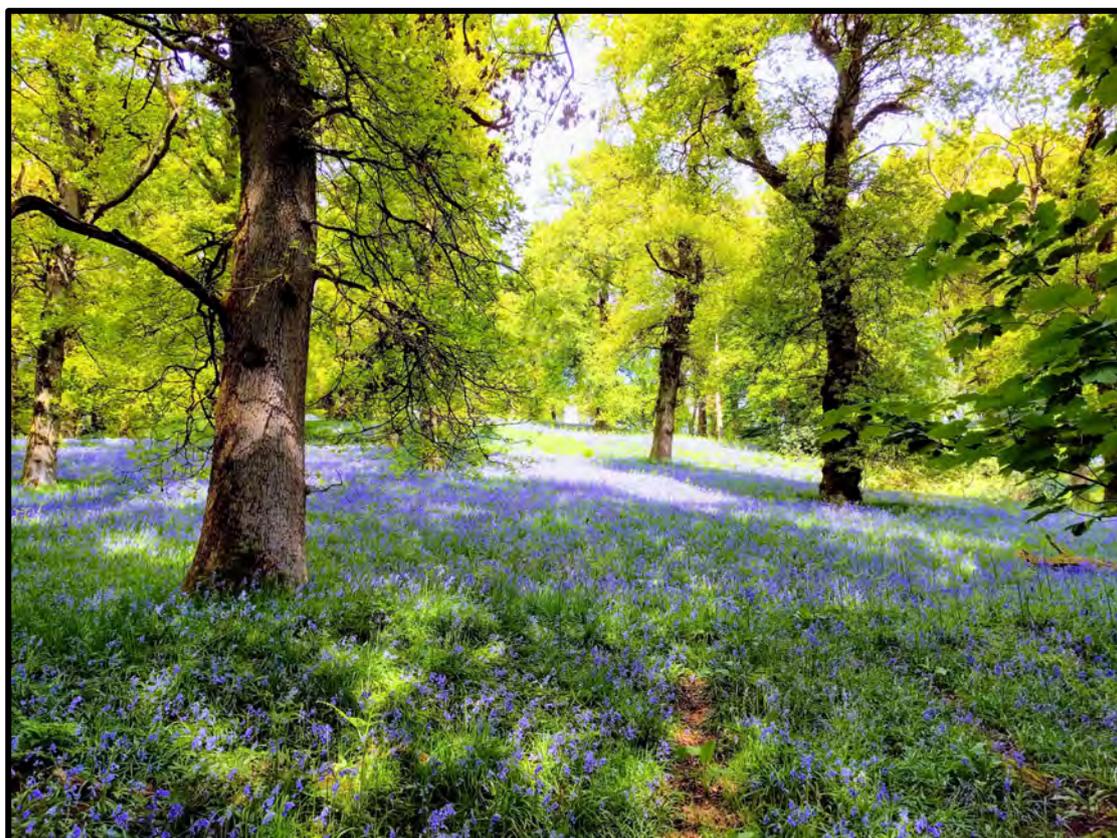
### **Stottesdon & District Women’s Institute**



Has resumed its monthly meetings at 7.30pm on the THIRD WEDNESDAY each month, generally at either Farlow or Chorley Village Hall. A new and varied programme of entertaining talks, crafting and events is being arranged – contact Helena 01746 718012 or Clare 01746 718007 for more details.

# Wheatland Diary

Thur	2	June	Start of 4-day Queen's Jubilee Celebrations – various across the WN area.
Fri	2	June	Neenton Jubilee Celebration at the Pheasant – live music from Cooper and Davis.
Sat	4	June	Start of Churches Count on Nature Week – see page 5
Sat	4	June	Middleton Scriven Jubilee Community Tea Party – 2.30.
Sun	5	June	Annual Stottesdon / Chorley vs Kinlet Cricket Match
Sun	5	June	Aston Botterell Jubilee Picnic– see page 12
Tues	14	June	Deanery Gathering, including item on Safeguarding – location to be determined.
Wed	15	June	Stottesdon & District WI – Quilling – at Chorley Village Hall.
Sat	18	June	Chelmarsh Annual Plant Sale – 11.00am till 4.00pm in the Churchyard.
Sun	19	June	Wild Orchid Wander OPEN DAY – Wheathill – See poster on page 13
Sat	25	June	Melville Jubilee Tea – 3.00 – 5.00 – see page 22.
Fri	1	July	Light-hearted Quiz Night at The Pavilion, Ditton Priors, 7.30pm – see page 10
Sat	2	July	Ditton Priors Church Fete – 12.00 noon, in and around the Church
Sat	9	July	41 <sup>st</sup> Chelmarsh Village Fete – 2.00 – 5.00 at School Lane
Sun	10	July	Aston Botterell Songs of Praise – 4.00 pm
Sat	16	July	Ditton Priors Sponsored Walk – from the church at 11.30
Sun	17	Jul	Stottesdon Village Open Gardens for NGS charities.



## Useful Community Contacts

<b>Brown Clew Walkers</b>	Meeting Place for walks - Ditton Priors Church. 01746-712662
<b>Burwarton &amp; District WI</b>	Meets in Cleobury North Village Hall. The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2.30pm. Contact 01746-712466
<b>Little Explorers Pre-School, Ditton Priors</b>	Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. Contact Wendy Lloyd 01746-712506 / 787549
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Garden Club</b>	Meets on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm. Contact 01584-823723 for details of topic and venue
<b>Burwarton &amp; District Wives Group</b>	Meeting 8pm 1st Wednesday of the month. Contact Debbie Jones 01746-712421 or Gill Severn 01746-712231
<b>Chelmarsh Crown Green Bowling Club</b>	Welcomes old and new members. Contact Sue Jackman 01746-862850
<b>Chelmarsh Indoor Short Mat Bowling</b>	Welcomes old and new members. The sessions are every Tuesday evening from 7.30-10.00pm. Further details Sue Jackman 01746-862850
<b>Chelmarsh Parish Hall</b>	Available for hire - booking@chelmarshparishhall.co.uk
<b>Chelmarsh Jubilee Club</b>	Parish Hall 01746-86525 Jean Davis
<b>Chelmarsh Walking for Health</b>	Monday 10.00am except Bank Holidays. Parish Hall. Eleanor Haddon 01746-862884. 2 levels of walking available
<b>Chelmarsh Friends</b>	Meet every 2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Jenny Green 01746-862191
<b>Cleobury North Village Hall</b>	Enquiries to 01746-787093 please
<b>Tae kwon-do</b>	Chelmarsh Parish Hall Tuesday evening. Suitable for children & Adults. Neil Morris Thursday 5.45pm. 07969-996055
<b>Chelmarsh Parent &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Every Tuesday during term time 9.30 – 11.30 Chelmarsh Parish Hall. Contact Pam Baker 07846-692323
<b>Chetton &amp; Gazeley WI</b>	Meets in Chetton Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of the month 7.30pm Sam O'Sullivan 01746-868225
<b>Chetton Folk Dance Club</b>	Meets Chetton Village Hall, last Wednesday of month except August Tel. Janice Burton 01584-823802
<b>Chorley Village Hall</b>	Available for Hire (fully equipped kitchen, digital projection equipment and large screen) contact Jenny or Charlie on 01746-718437
<b>Short Mat Bowling</b>	Every Monday & Thursday 2.30 – 4.30pm at Cleeton & Silvington Village Hall, October to end of April. Pam 01584-89261
<b>Cleeton &amp; Silvington V H</b>	Zumba - Thursdays 6.30pm 7.30pm all year Ula 01584-890200
<b>Fun &amp; Fitness for 50+</b>	Cleobury North Village Hall - low impact fitness programme working the whole body every Tuesday 10.00 – 11.15am. Contact 01584-823640
<b>Ditton Priors Art Group</b>	Village Hall Wednesday morning (except Christmas) 9.30 – 12.30pm all welcome Various visual art forms eg Water Colour, Oils & Acrylics. Mrs Denise Davies 01746-712521 or Bob Williams on 01746-712662
<b>Short Mat Bowling</b>	Ditton Priors Village Hall Every Tuesday afternoon 2.00 - 4.00pm Wednesday 7.30-10.00pm except the second Wednesday in the month when it will be Thursday at 8.00 – 10.00pm. Everyone is welcome - try at no charge. Contact 01746-712157
<b>Ditton Priors Local History Group</b>	The Local History Centre, next to the Willows Café, opens 12.00-2.00 on Saturdays, and at other times by arrangement. Contact 01746-712850
<b>Ditton Priors Parent &amp; Toddlers Group</b>	Meet in the Pavilion, Playing Fields, Ditton Priors Thursday 9.30 -11.30 am everyone welcome for a coffee and play.
<b>Ditton Priors Book Club</b>	Jenny -01746-712665
<b>Knowle Sports Club</b>	Second-hand sales held every first Saturday of the month, 7.30am – 11am proceeds to Children's Football Field 01584-890644
<b>Stottesdon Gateway Nursery</b>	Pre-school, holiday club and wraparound sessions. An integral part of Stottesdon Primary School, Contact 01746-718769
<b>Stottesdon &amp; District W.I.</b>	Meets in various venues on the 3rd Wednesday in each month details from Helena Hale 01746 718012 or Clare Tibbits 01746-718007
<b>Stoke St Milborough Dance</b>	Mike 01746-712774 - Betty 01746-77515
<b>Domestic Abuse Hotline</b>	Telephone Number 08448-044999



## Headline Summary

### Volunteering and Community Activities

These are designed to enable residents, supporters and visitors to have fun participating, with friends and neighbours, in the project and in so doing to develop new skills and interests; with opportunities for everyone to explore and share new heritage insights and to renew a sense of ownership of the heritage (which has been at the heart of the village for at least 40 generations of baptisms, weddings and funerals!).

There are three overarching themes:

**BUILDING CAPACITY** – defining volunteer roles and undertaking recruitment; devising and delivering training; and upskilling folk to help lead guided tours, and activities as diverse as biodiversity surveys and family history research:

**MAKING HERITAGE ACCESSIBLE** – telling the heritage 'stories' and providing interpretation which is easy to use (in digital and

print formats, accessible on site and remotely); as far as practical, managing emotional or physical barriers to participation in events; volunteer-led monthly tours – offering the opportunity for participants to learn more through interactive Q & A with their guide. 'Behind the scenes' insights through ad hoc tours and a digital Explorer Trail over Wi-Fi (with video shorts of less-accessible places, such as the bell chamber and roof);

Possibility of 'Hard Hat' tours to view the building work and meet the craftsmen.

**DEVELOPING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS** – through time and energy devoted to all the above, plus invitations to all join events such as the Harvest Festival, the Apple Day, the Open Gardens teas, a summer Churchyard picnic; an annual celebration of our volunteers (in national Volunteering Week in June); the national 'Churches Count on Nature' wildlife survey each summer; and organising workshops on subjects of interest such as devising Family Trees.

Our grant from The Lottery Heritage Fund includes monies to help deliver the three themes and their supporting activities:

One example, neatly linking all three themes, is the plan for hands-on tile making demonstrations, and a visit to the Jackfield Tile Museum at Ironbridge, the site where we believe St Mary's 'new' floor tiles were manufactured in 1878!

For more information and to register your interest in this exciting project:

please email [chris@stottystores.co.uk](mailto:chris@stottystores.co.uk) or call us on 01746 718007

*With our grateful thanks to Lottery Players all around the UK!!*

Chris and Clare Tibbits for Stottesdon PCC

May 2022



## 1. Community engagement:

Volunteering and community activities - providing new opportunities for more people to spend more time exploring and understanding the heritage of St Mary's church - are core outcomes for our Lottery Heritage Funding.

## 2. The Investment ....

The project value is almost £400,000, and this funding is now in place:

- 70% from Lottery players via the Heritage Fund = £271,500 and
- 30% from donations, volunteer hours, VAT-grant = £119, 000



## 3. Repairs (the photos show the extent and condition of the roof)

At 85% of the overall cost, the repairs will go a long way towards removing our Grade One Listed building from the "Heritage at Risk Register":

- replace the roofs (above the Nave, North Aisle, Porch and Chancel)
- replace the rainwater guttering, downpipes and drainage channels
- eradicate the dry rot from under the organ and west-end floor.



## 4. Lighting and Heating improvements

- upgrade lighting using carbon-efficient LED's and new 'feature lighting' to properly illuminate our Treasure Trove of heritage artefacts – like the Saxon Tympanum and the Norman font.
- improve the high-level heating units, add some under-pew heaters (Nave) and complete a wholesale 'tidy-up' of the electrical wiring and switchgear.

## 5. Further Plans

Fundraising, like 'painting the Forth Bridge' is unrelenting, to finance:

- better facilities including a new 'servery' and an 'off-grid' toilet [since there is no mains drainage on site] and also to fund
- the remaining heritage conservation priorities (the Wrickton Aisle south roof, further stonework repairs and preservation of the fine stained glass.

*With our grateful thanks to Lottery Players all around the UK!!*