

The Parish Magazine

of Greater Whitbourne

**Edvin Loach • Tedstone Delamere • Tedstone Wafre • Upper Sapey •
Whitbourne • Wolferlow**

February 2014 60p

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Front cover photograph by Liz Matthews
'Upper Elmores in Mist'

Contributions for the magazine are very welcome and may be left at Whitbourne Village Shop or emailed to parish.magazine@yahoo.co.uk.

Contributions should be accompanied by a name and full address. Anonymity will be considered on request, but not provided automatically. Please note that the views expressed by contributors to the Parish Magazine are their own and do not represent the position of the PCC or any other body. The last day for submissions is the 10th of the month.

Advertising

Advertisements are intended for local service providers, retailers and clubs and should comply with the ethos of the Parish Magazine. Advertising rates are £5 and £2.50 for quarter and eighth page adverts respectively. Quarter pages are portrait format and eighth pages are landscape.

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Subscriptions

The Parish Magazine is available in the Churches at Edvin Loach, Tedstone Delamere, Upper Sapey and Whitbourne, and also at Whitbourne Village Shop. The price is 60p or £7.00 for an annual subscription, collected at the beginning of the year. To subscribe, please call Mr Andrew Kneen.

Note: All numbers are 01886 unless otherwise stated.

From the Rector

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) – 2 February

A certain young man was learning to drive. His instructor impressed upon him the importance of looking in the rear-view mirror so as to know what was going on behind his vehicle. The young man took this to heart a little too much and became so fixated on the mirror that had it not been for the stern voice of the instructor he would have piled the car into a fast-**approaching traffic island. Yes, it's important to know what's going on behind us but not at the expense of keeping our eyes open to what's happening ahead.**

Joseph, Mary and Jesus go to the **Temple in Jerusalem for Mary's** purification ritual and for the couple formally to dedicate Jesus to God. In the Temple Jesus and his family meet two elderly, devout Jews: a man, Simeon, and a woman, Anna. Both apparently spent much of their time in the Temple and both had prophetic gifts. Indeed, Luke, in his account is keen to emphasise the parallel between the two of them by **describing Simeon as "righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel" (v.25), while Anna, following her encounter with Jesus, "began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (v.38). These are people who plainly take the Temple with its ancient heritage very seriously; Anna, we are told, "never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day" (v.37). Yet**



unlike the Pharisees and other conservative Jews who Jesus frequently met later in his life, Simeon and Anna did not have their eyes fixed solely on the rear-view mirror but were looking forward with anticipation to what God would do in the days and years to come. Specifically God revealed to them that this little baby would be central in his plans.

As Christians we do well to follow the example of these Jewish prophets and take the ancient heritage of our Christian faith and the Church with the uttermost seriousness. So reading of the Bible, our oldest resource, ought to be a major part of our devotions and for some of us that will include mining the wealth of commentary on the biblical writings that has been amassed over two thousand years. But it is no use reading the Bible if we use it to hold our thoughts in the past. We need to ask what God is saying to us through its stories about our own time and about what is still to come.

Similarly, as Anna spent her time in prayer she was plainly not dwelling in **the past but looking forward to God's** future. So we too should nurture our prayer life, both individually and

corporately, but always with the aim of searching out how we may contribute to that future in our own time. In the same way the traditions of the Church are a useful tool to give our corporate worship and Christian life structure, but antiquity for its own sake can be a recipe for spiritual stagnation. We need to orientate our spiritual lives to the future, looking for what is still to come, rather than **living in what's past with our eyes** fixed on the rear-view mirror.

A very big thank you to all those who gave generous donations to the Tanga - in- Touch Christmas Appeal.

Thanks to your gifts 90 children will be able to go to school this year.

Parish News

Clifton upon Teme WI

The Clifton WI are starting their new year with a very full calendar; our new President, Penny Bowden, is putting the finishing touches to the programme for this year. The programme will be on the Teme Triangle website very shortly so if you would like to know what the WI are up to, or better still come along and see for yourself, you will be very welcome. Each month we have a speaker, subjects are very varied, from Dyslexia to wine tasting and flower arranging to a Himalayan experience, with much more in between. There is a thriving book club and cookery club and outings are arranged to try and accommodate as many members as possible. If you are looking for something new this year why not come along to the

Clifton Village Hall, 2nd Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm. February and March meetings are both on the 11th of the month. For further information please contact Penny Bowden 01886 812579.

Whitbourne Waits

A huge thank-you to all those who **attended 'Whitbourne Waits for Christmas' on December 21, and** donated so generously. After all expenses, we were able to send off a magnificent £200.19 to the Typhoon Haiyan Appeal. *Margie and Martin Wall.*

Whitbourne Church Carol Concert

St Richard's carol concert of music and readings on December 5th was a great way to start Christmas; the mulled wine, provided by Mr and Mrs Cunningham, was a lovely refreshment and was very much appreciated! Well done to everyone. Also well done to Shane and Jacob for their readings at Sunday services; both spoke very clearly and loud, thank you so much.

Best wishes to everyone for 2014.
Sylvia Garness.

Tedstone Delamere

Our Carol Service went well - not so many as usual and the handbells were very much missed. I do enjoy singing **with the 'Whitbourne Waits' and I** thought the concert went very well. We rang the handbells for 25 minutes **before the start of Whitbourne's Carol Service—it wasn't advertised so a lot** of the congregation were disappointed. Many thanks to John Griffiths and his son Jon for

trimming the Churchyard before Christmas - the daffodils are already coming up. Finally a warm welcome to Peter and Jane who are moving to Tedstone Delamere at the end of January. Please support the fundraiser on March 1st at Sapey Golf Club. *Kathleen Harris.*

Nursery School News

We would like to wish everyone a belated happy new year, and we are all busy and settled into the new term; the children have been celebrating Chinese New Year, dancing with a Chinese dragon, tasting Chinese foods and using chopsticks, all great fun.

This term we have also been looking at the winter weather and making snowmen pictures We are now heading towards our spring activities, where we explore new life and hopefully get outdoors more each day.



Nativity Play at Tiblands Nursery

Children also join in weekly with Sarah Smith, our music lady, who visits on a Friday to deliver the children a structured session of listening to the beat of the music, learning new songs and performing for parents at the end of term.

We are open from 8.00am-5.30 pm daily and throughout the holidays; please contact Trish Garness on 01886 821394.

Organ recital, St Peter's Church Bromyard

On Saturday 8th March there will be an organ recital on the newly-refurbished organ at St Peter's. The recital will be given by Dr Roy Massey, former organist at Hereford Cathedral, and there will be no charge. The programme will be based on that which Dr Massey gave in 1978 in the church, when the last work was carried out on the organ. There will also be refreshments during the

interval and an opportunity to talk to the organ builder, David Gallichan.

Those who sponsored a pipe during the organ appeal will also be able to collect their certificates. We are hoping for a full church for what looks like being a great occasion in the life of Bromyard.

David Kemp

The Village Shop: Looking forward in 2014

Since the new village shop opened its **doors in February we've had a bumper year.** Our pop-up café in October was a great success but the pinnacle was the Christmas Fair. The marquee was bursting with stalls offering food and gifts, and we sold umpteen turkeys. Our range of wines, beers and ciders has attracted growing sales and now we have our own Man in the Moone beer. The result is that we reached our sales target for the year with weeks to go.

Visually, the most striking change since February 2013 has been the greening of the shop site. The allotments have been 100% occupied by local residents, the orchard is growing and the verges around the shop itself are coming into their own. A lot of people have laboured hard to achieve the transformation from what looked like the Somme last winter to a tiny Garden of Eden.

But that was last year; what of the future? 2014 will be consolidation year. We are going to build on the initiatives we began in 2013. We expect that we will be reporting to the Lottery that we have achieved virtually all the targets we agreed in our funding application.

What customers like and dislike

First, the customers. We will spend more time listening to customers and working out how to meet their needs. Of course, there are certain restrictions; we can never compete with supermarkets on price, especially for multiples (buy one get one free).

We asked you to fill in a questionnaire in return for a £5 money off voucher. 46 customers mostly from WR6 shared their views of the shop with us and these are the headlines.

- 50% visited the shop weekly, 25% daily or most days
- average spend was £12.20 a week
- 83% found service quality excellent or very good, none thought it poor
- most people were happy with our opening times – four customers wanted earlier or later closing
- only 43% thought the quality/price ratio was excellent or very good; most thought it good or fair
- a slightly larger proportion – 46% - was impressed with the range of goods stocked; a similar percentage thought it good or fair
- when we asked what would encourage people to use the shop more the most frequent responses were: a better range of fruit and vegetables kept better, lower prices, and a café area.
- what customers liked most about the shop was friendly and helpful volunteers, the attractive environment, the sense of community they felt when they visited and the **shop's convenience**
- what they liked least was expensive goods and poorly kept or out-of-date produce, remarked on by eight customers.

There were lots of suggestions for improving the product range such as smaller tins of soup, tins of fish, organic milk, fresh fruit juice and local hand-made items suitable for gifts.

Over the next few weeks, the Shop Committee will be digesting the results of the questionnaire. Since this **survey was carried out, we've improved** the ordering and keeping of fruit and vegetables and we are now re-designing the displays, which should enable us to further improve the quality of the produce. We also intend to be better prepared for a **repeat of last summer's heatwave that** caused so much damage to chocolate, fruit and vegetables.

Support for volunteers Volunteers are vital to the success of the village shop and we are pleased to say that more and more people have come forward to work in various capacities. I recall - before the original shop opened - someone in the village **doubting whether we'd ever get** enough people to help. Well, in all the years since the beginning, we have covered just over 6000 shifts, without fail. In 2014 we will strengthen the training and support we offer volunteers.

Our suppliers It takes time but we have been steadily building a local network of suppliers and their turnover. There are too many to mention but we are proud of our relationship with Lamings, the Bromyard bakers, Green Cow Kitchens, Ansteys Cheese, Mill Orchard juices and Bartonsham Dairies. Fish in a Box are less local **and their produce certainly isn't but** they have built up a local clientele for their wonderful range of fresh fish. Around 40% of our turnover is from local produce and we are pleased that we are helping to strengthen local food production. *Martin Yarnit*

CURRY/LASAGNE

EVENING

at Sapey Golf Club

7.30 pm

Saturday 1st March

David Beale entertains

Proceeds to :

Tedstone Delamere Church

Saltmarshe & District Hall

The First Responder

Tickets £13

From Kathleen Harris

Tel. 01885 483681

Small Ads

For Sale: Large desk (flat-pack) and matching filing cabinet (£20). Also standard office-type metal two drawer filing cabinet (£10). Excellent condition. Call Mark Powell on 01886 821121.

The Small Ads Small Print. A non-commercial service for readers of the magazine. Cost—£1 per month. Adverts limited to 25 words plus a contact phone number/email address. Please email your advert to the Editor at par-ish.magazine@yahoo.co.uk.

Whitbourne Neighbourhood Development Plan

Not just a housing issue.

In any future plans for the parish of Whitbourne there seems to be a total focus on housing to the exclusion of all else. So what if we are an ageing population. Eventually we all will have to move on one way or another! The properties so vacated can then be purchased by whosoever wishes to purchase them, the old or young. The existing housing stock would appear to meet the market requirement of supply and demand by the fact that any houses that do come up for sale take time to sell.

Of equal importance, if not greater, is **the future plan for Whitbourne's environment** and how we are to promote and preserve its wildlife, trees, hedges, and so on. The fact that the dormouse is an endangered species, with the hedgehog quickly following, even the hare in declining numbers, should be of concern to us all. Surely, this is a message for action. Obviously, the key is with our local farmers whose cooperation would be essential in any plan of conservation.

Grants are available for rural schemes as part of CAP and, it is reported, with little interest being shown from Herefordshire. Could this be a possibility to fund a focused programme of conservation? Just think, Whitbourne as a hot spot for the dormouse or the water vole, or a meadow of wildflowers! *Colin Richmond*

Andrew Kneen writes:

In the last issue, I wrote that the Neighbourhood Development Plan gave no figures for the natural growth in population and dwellings that it was planning for. I have since found **them in Herefordshire Council's Core Strategy**. This document determines development in the county for the next twenty years. A Neighbourhood Development Plan, like the one proposed for Whitbourne, is subordinate to it and must fit in with it. The Core Strategy plans for a 15% increase in households in Whitbourne over that time. I have counted 297 households in Whitbourne, in round numbers 300. 15% of 300 is 45, so the Neighbourhood Development Plan should include sites for 45 new dwellings.

45 dwellings cannot be fitted into ten, unidentified, vacant plots within the settlement boundary at Meadow Green and seven intended barn conversions plus another fourteen, possible in principle, if redundant in the future, barn conversions.

Yet the Core Strategy states that a Neighbourhood Development Plan **(NDP) must "conform with the strategic policies in the core strategy and should not be used to promote a lower level of development."**

If an NDP does not promote the planned level of development in the Core Strategy, anyone may apply to build on a site of their own choice, and, if it fits in with the Core Strategy, Herefordshire Council would have no grounds for refusal.

For instance, the current application to build two houses on the Live and **Let Live's garden and car park states: "the Local Planning Authority confirmed that although the pub car park lies outside the settlement boundary, the Council is currently failing to provide a 5 year housing supply. It concluded that residential development abutting the village boundary is considered acceptable in this instance."**

As there have been four new dwellings from the conversion of farm buildings at Poplands and one infill house at Meadow Green in the last five years, it would appear that farm conversions and infill do not count in assessing housing supply.

Barn conversions and infill cannot provide 45 dwellings, so the Neighbourhood Development Plan should plan for them elsewhere.

The Core Strategy says: "residential development will be located within or adjacent to" existing settlement boundaries. That is, at, next to, or near Meadow Green. If the Stocking Field below Acreage is the wrong place, suitable alternatives should be chosen. They might be several smaller sites. The Core Strategy does not demand one estate of forty-five houses built in one go, but an average of two to three houses a year. In this way the Parish Council could guide development. It cannot forbid it.

Members of the Parish Council have worked very hard to draw up this plan and we are grateful for their efforts on our behalf. However, I urge the Parish Council to think again. Amend it to produce one that both preserves the interests of existing

residents, as the Parish Council has tried to do, and conforms, as it must, with the Core Strategy of Herefordshire Council. *Andrew Kneen*

A reply to Andrew Kneen

May I reply (though more briefly) to the comments of Andrew Kneen in the January and February issues?

His appreciation of our hard work is very welcome but I must confess that otherwise we seem to find little common ground.

To take in order the numbered paragraphs in his first piece:

1. It is the government – not the Parish Council – who have decided that the present planning mechanism is imperfect. An NDP is a means that the government have provided to help us play a part in planning our future. The Parish Council feels it should grasp this opportunity.

2. A declaration of principle is precisely that, not a mathematical formula. To call for exact numbers is unrealistic and futile.

3. The settlement boundary, as Andrew Kneen correctly states, is not meant to define the built-up area **"for all time"**. **But neither is the NDP to last "for all time"**. Like the Herefordshire Core Strategy, it applies for a limited period as the draft NDP makes clear, to anyone who is prepared to read it with care.

4. **Bannercroft. "No landowner", says Andrew Kneen, "can be expected to release land for affordable housing at less than the market price without being compensated by planning per-**

mission for a large number of houses for sale.”

The recent history of Whitbourne proves otherwise. The late Edward Evans released the land for Banner-croft at less than the market price without any such compensation. Is there any ground for supposing that the present management of Whitbourne Estate is less public-spirited than he was?

5—7. Andrew Kneen believes that the various sites for housing proposed by the NDP are not feasible. If the NDP is adopted, he predicts, there will be **“very few or no dwellings, a stagnant village with an ever-ageing population.” A grim prospect, but in our view simply alarmism.** Whitbourne has reserves of energy and imagination that the last twenty-five years have amply demonstrated; the evidence is visible on every hand. These qualities will not suddenly disappear. Since he favours precise figures, perhaps Andrew Kneen will disclose how many dwellings in the NDP would be appropriate, in his opinion. A sufficient number? How many is that? And where, precisely, should they be built?

As to the second piece, he seems unaware that where possible all the proposals in the NDP are co-related to the appropriate proposals in the Core Strategy.

Moreover, the working party has been advised throughout by a dedicated member of Herefordshire Council Planning Department. Does Andrew Kneen seriously contend that such an advisor would encourage the Parish

Council in proposals contrary to the Core Strategy?

In any event, the NDP must be submitted in the first instance to Herefordshire Council, who will swiftly return it to the Parish Council if it requires amendment. *Maureen Williams*

Whitbourne Garden Society

Following a successful and very enjoyable **Gardeners’ Question Time** in September, Whitbourne Garden Society invites you to come along to a talk about **“Growing Veg.” on Tuesday February 18th at 7pm, Whitbourne Village Hall.**

There is no charge for this evening. Refreshments are provided and plants will be available for sale.

Bring along a daffodil or two for a **“Best daffodil in Whitbourne” competition. (Two categories: Over 9” and under 9”!)**

Bring along some questions too!

Further information available from Christine Battrum 01886 821307.



Letter from the Dean of Hereford

Bishops of Hereford - a varied bunch!

Later this month, a new bishop of Hereford will be chosen and his name submitted to the Prime Minister and thence to Her Majesty the Queen. We **probably won't know the name until** April and we expect an inauguration of his new ministry to be no earlier than September.

Whoever our new bishop is, he will enter into a long and distinguished heritage. **He will be 'neck and neck'** with the archbishop of Canterbury, that is, he will be the 105th person to hold the position. Canterbury dates the first of its 105 archbishops from 597, when Augustine was appointed and Hereford dates its bishops from 676 when Putta moved to Hereford from Rochester.

Our new bishop will join a long and varied line. Among them there have been canonised saints - like Thomas Cantilupe (1274-82) and those like Robert Bethune (1131-48), who just missed being made a saint!

There have been builders - Athelstan (who rebuilt the cathedral after its destruction by the Welsh in 1055) and Losinga (1079-96) and Reynelm (1107-15), who were responsible for the Norman cathedral.

There have been bishops who spoke little or no English, like Peter Aigueblanche (1240-68) from Savoy in southern France.

There have been pastoral bishops like John Stanbury (1453-74) who built new residences for the vicars choral, and James Atlay (1868-95), famed for **his appearances in Kilvert's *Diary***.

Some bishops have even been dubbed **as 'heretics'** - witness the great outcry when Renn Dickson Hampden was nominated in 1847 and Hensley Henson in 1917 - both, in their ways, were considered far too liberal for Hereford!

Some bishops have held the See for many years - James Beauclerk (descendant of Nell Gwyn) was bishop for 41 years in the 18th century, while Augustine Lindsell, Matthew Wren and Thomas Field were all bishop of Hereford for just a few months, in the years 1634-6. Some bishops have been eccentrics - Francis Godwin (1617-33) wrote a book on how to fly to the moon while others were scholars - Richard Mayhew (1504-16) was first President of Magdalen College Oxford.

Some had a great sense of humour - Charles Booth (1516-35) left instructions in his Will that, after his funeral, **there should be a huge dinner of 'ten fat oxen, thirty fat sheep and ten calves', while Herbert Westphaling** (1586-1601) is said never to have smiled!

The list could go on, to say nothing of the many bishops who simply and faithfully carried out their ministries and are not particularly noted for any great work or eccentricity.

As a diocese, we simply pray that God will send us a bishop who is a person

of prayer, vision and love and that he will enjoy being part of Hereford's 'rogues gallery' – some of whom I've mentioned above!

Please especially remember in your prayers the members of the Crown Nominations Commission who meet towards the end of February – we need the support and encouragement of those prayers as we seek to hear **and understand God's will.**

With my prayers for you all. *Michael Tavinor, Dean*

Upper Sapey Church Rescue

The Parish of Greater Whitbourne includes six former parishes, but two of the churches have been made redundant. We now have four – Edvin Loach, Tedstone Delamere, Upper Sapey and Whitbourne. We share the Rector, who lives in Whitbourne.

Church buildings, like any other, are in continual need of maintenance and sometimes expensive repairs. Some funding is available, but it always involves long and complicated application forms, finding more grant-giving bodies and also local fund-raising efforts. All our churches are historic **and interesting; we don't want to** lose any more.

Upper Sapey church needs urgent repairs. These will be expensive.

The nave is subsiding gently into the boiler room below. The building appears to be coming apart at the seams. The architect estimates that a sum well in excess of £100K will be needed. If these repairs are not done, the building is in danger.

Some money might be available – the Heritage Lottery Fund is the best bet.

They will not give 100% grant. More fund-raising will be needed.

But ... we stand a better chance of HLF funding if there is a social aspect to our application. How could the church be used socially?

They do not like to give money to churches which are used only once a month. Churches should be used for other purposes – coffee mornings, community meetings, mother and **toddler groups...?**

The Diocesan Advisory Committee is meeting at the church in mid- February.

They will tell us what we are and are not allowed to do. We need to get our ideas straight by then. We want to consult the community to find out what they want.

Can you help?

Do you have ideas, expertise, time to spare (even if it is only an hour now and again)? Contact the Upper Sapey Churchwardens (Carol & Ian Evans Fisher) or the PCC Secretary, Brenda Allan (01886 821450).

Please come to a meeting - after the service on Sunday 9th February. The Service begins at 11 a.m. , the meeting follows

at
around
11.45
am.

*Brenda
Allan*



VALENTINE'S DANCE

AT SALTMARSHE AND DISTRICT HALL

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

Doors open 7.30pm Dancing begins 8pm

MUSIC BY SHAMUS



Tickets £10.00 to include bread and cheese available from:

Di Yarnold 01886853512 / Rhoda Page
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All Proceeds for Saltmarshe & District Hall

Charity No: 520981

Saltmarshe & District Hall AGM

Monday 17th February 7.30pm

Everybody Welcome

Please come and support your

Local Hall!



SHOP OPENING TIMES

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Late night Thursday till 7pm

Saturday 9 - 3 Sunday 10 - 1

WINDOW CLEANING

12- or 6-weekly cleans

Contact Shaun

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News from QE College

Year 11 students at QE are celebrating another excellent set of early GCSE results in English and Maths. These already put us ahead of the likely national figure for this year and matches that for the same time last year, which resulted in our being second in the county. Well done to all our students for such excellent effort, and for being such delightful young men and women.

Congratulations to Mrs Griffiths, Deputy Headteacher at QEHC, on her appointment as a School Improvement Advisor for Herefordshire Council. This is indicative of the respect in which she and, indeed, QEHC are held. She will be leaving at Easter. We wish her every success in her new role. The governing body are now well into the process of appointing a new Headteacher and other member (s) of the Senior Leadership Team. This will ensure a smooth transition at the end of this academic year.

On Monday 24th February the Central Band of the RAF are visiting the school to give a performance to our talented musicians at 1.30pm. Invitations have gone out to local Primary Schools and other schools with close links to QE to join us in what promises to be an amazing event.

Students raised £1100 during the last week of term during their Annual Christmas Wassail. This was the eighth Wassail and contained music by students in the Wind Band, Steel Bands and Choir as well as solo items from their talented instrumentalists and singers.

The money raised will be divided equally between Acorns in Worcester and the International Girl Guiding Charity trip to Mexico. In the summer 2015, Katie Lloyd, one of the musicians, and eleven other girls from across Herefordshire have been selected to go to Mexico to do community and charity work for 2 ½ weeks. Katie was put through an **'INTOPS' charity process** with Girlguiding along with 150 other girls in Herefordshire and was selected to be in the final 12. In order to go, the girls must raise £2700 each at the least to cover the costs of the trip and the school was delighted to help her out in this way. *David Kemp*

Open Gardens for St Michael's Hospice

If you have ever visited an open garden or held an open garden day yourself you will know that they provide a wonderful opportunity to show off your gardening skills, meet new people and raise funds for a good cause. 2014 is the 30th anniversary of St Michael's Hospice and as part of our celebrations we are looking to hold 30 open gardens.

If doesn't matter whether your garden is big or small, if you would like to get involved we'd be delighted to hear from you. Perhaps you'd like to join together with neighbours and hold a village open garden day instead?

The Fundraising team at the Hospice can offer you advice, help you advertise your event and provide practical support on the day. The money you raise will help your local hospice con-

tinue providing care and support to patients and their families in Herefordshire and the immediate surrounding counties, who are living with a life-limiting illness. For more information and to register your interest please call the Fundraising Team on 01432 851000.

Volunteer at Berrington Hall

Do you have a special skill, historical knowledge or simply bags of enthusiasm? Join the team at Berrington Hall and bring our stories to life for visitors across the house, garden and parkland. Volunteering with us you can make friends, have fun, help create wonderful days out for visitors and enjoy a 20% discount in our shops and tea-rooms. There are plenty of ways to get involved, from room guides to rangers and conservation to catering, and we even need people to drive our buggy.

To find out more call Chloe Reynolds on 01568 615721 or email chloe.reynolds@nationaltrust.org.uk



Berrington Hall

Conquest Theatre

Book online at www.conquest-theatre.co.uk or box office 01885 488575

NEW: NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE BROADCAST.....now booking for War Horse - King Lear - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time (see website for full details).

Live on Stage

Feb 6/7/8 7.30pm Norbury Players present Boeing Boeing, a traditional farce involving an airline pilot with three fiancées and lots of doors!!!

Feb 22 7.30pm Folk in the Foyer featuring Kings and Folk with Horizon Lights

Films @ Conquest

Feb 21 8pm Le weekend - comedy

NEW Feb 26 7pm Bromyard Film Society - Berberian Sound Studio
Feb 28 8pm Sunshine on Leith based on the stage production with music by the Proclaimers - feel good factor!

Live Broadcasts

Feb 2nd 3pm Bolshoi Ballet - Lost Illusions

Feb 12th 6.45pm Royal Opera House - Don Giovanni

Feb 16th 3pm Bolshoi Ballet - Jewels (encore)

27th Feb 7pm NT Live **WAR HORSE**

Stop press: Remi Harris Trio May 17th now booking

Royal approval for George Bevan

Since George Bevan was in touch with the Prince of Wales in the Summer and following the Prince's interest in George's hedge-laying, he



Photo by Paul Lack

has, at the Prince's suggestion, now begun teaching his skill to young school leavers – at present mainly on the Welsh borders - but using the Midlands Style.

So far, he has taught at four schools and the pupils have shown great interest and enthusiasm. This training will provide them with valuable experience and should enable them to find future employment in various aspects of agriculture, such as contract work and assisting farmers. Farmers who employ such youngsters could be entitled to a Government grant. Any farmer who might be interested in this scheme should con-

tact George directly on 01886 821276. Similarly, any young people who have left school or are about to do so could apply to George for [free](#) lessons. At a time when unemployment is high among the young, this could provide an invaluable opportunity for them to earn money in the future. Hedge-laying can only take place during the middle Winter months so now is the time for them to apply!

The Annual Whitbourne Hedge-laying Competition (or “Fun Day”)

Every year we provide the opportunity for people who have never done so before, to try their hand at laying hedges. They are provided with the tuition and advice of experienced hedge-layers who are always interested in passing on their skills.

The date for this coming year's competition is 1st February 2014 and will take place at The Grove Farm, Suckley Road, Knightwick WR6 5QQ.

Everyone is welcome from far and near and there will be plenty of refreshments including hot drinks – and also a cake stall. We are looking forward to this event and keeping our fingers crossed for the weather!

George Bevan

Venue for the this year's hedge-laying competition



Report of the Meeting of the Parish Council: Tuesday 7th January 2014

At the opening of the meeting Cllr Freeman asked CSO Annette to speak briefly. She asked everyone to be aware, as there had been a catalytic theft in Acreage, and reminded everyone that the number for non-emergency calls was now 101.

Councillors were asked to consider three planning applications:

No. P133131/F Live and Let Live, Whitbourne, Worcester, WR6 5SP

Proposed change of use from public house to residential detached dwelling to include some demolition works. Site for 2 no. building plots within site curtilage with some matters reserved. Application type: Planning Permission

The Chairman asked for a proposal to open the meeting: Proposed Cllr James, seconded Cllr Cummins, ALL IN FAVOUR. The Chairman suggested each party involved should be allowed ten minutes to address the assembled people, but it became obvious that this was not practical and those that had attended needed to hear all points of view as fully as possible.

Mr Bull the Architect spoke on behalf of the applicants - Mr and Mrs Barnes. He gave a summary of the process of the site so far (which he had distributed prior to the meeting). At the conclusion of this opening resume he suggested that if it appeared that the pub could be viable the application

would be withdrawn for three months to reassess.

Mark Haslam from CAMRA then spoke and explained that CAMRA was not about preserving pubs, but about making sure that the right pubs stay open. He was here to observe and get public opinion.

Bob Barnsley spoke on behalf of the Whitbourne Village Shop Association Ltd and as an individual and expressed concern about the lack of consultation re: community pub and closure.

As many residents wished to put forward their points of view they are summarised below in the order they were voiced:

Concern over the practicalities of making a community pub actually happen and exist.

The Live and Let Live was viable before it had been taken over by Enterprise Inns.

Concern about the three months reassessment - why this particular time frame?

Consultation with the village to date had been vague and the village felt it had not been consulted.

Who had attended the meeting from the community to talk about the pub/community pub?

Would the Wheatsheaf suffer and then become unviable if there was competition?

There was a suggestion that if the three-month period of reassessment took place there should be some liaison with CAMRA.

Why had there been the leap from Enterprise Inns ownership to asking for community ownership - why not ask for a leaseholder?

A Community pub would only work if the community owned it.

What would be the impact on the shop with the loss of the pub car park? Shop - would be OK as it does have an opportunity to extend over right of way.

Retention of commercial facility important - have not explored every possible avenue to keep this going

Concern that if there was a three-month break and then the planning application was resubmitted - the whole process will have to be gone through again.

Public houses must be retained if they are valued. The amount of people at this meeting shows it is valued.

Planning process should be seen through to its conclusion.

There is an obligation in planning law to retain all facilities of core parishes especially those accessible easily and safely without motorised transport.

The Chairman then closed the meeting for the Parish Council to consider their response to the planning applications in the light of all they had heard.

Cllr Cummins proposed that the Parish Council strongly oppose the application for change of use, Cllr Cupper seconded.

The Parish Council voted on opposing the planning application P133131/F for change of use: seven in favour (Cllrs Freeman, Cummins, Cupper,

White, Archer, James, Westacott); one abstention (Cllr Haddock).

Whitbourne Parish Council opposed this planning application

The Chairman asked the Clerk for names of Councilors to be taken.

No. 133035/O Live and Let Live, Whitbourne, Worcester, WR6 5SP. Site for 2 no. building plots with some matters reserved. Application type: Outline

Cllr Cupper proposed that the Parish Council oppose the application, Cllr White seconded.

The Parish Council voted on opposing the planning application 133035/O for building plots: six in favour (Cllrs Freeman, Cummins, Cupper, White, James, Westacott); one against (Cllr Archer); one abstention (Cllr Haddock)

Whitbourne Parish Council opposed this planning application

Cllr Cupper expressed a concern about highway safety if this site did become residential and Cllr James asked that if it was retained as a pub the removal of the decking at the front might be considered in order that noise and antisocial behaviour be cut down.

No. P133323/L Woodlands House, Whitbourne, Worcester, Herefordshire, WR6 5RZ. Natural swimming pool with associated facilities. Application type: Listed Building Consent

Cllr Cupper proposed this application be approved, Cllr White seconded, ALL IN FAVOUR

Whitbourne Parish Council supported this planning application.

14/13 To discuss ownership of land at the Old Ford and legal implications.

The Chairman asked for a proposal to open the meeting to the public. Proposed Cllr Cummins, seconded Cllr James. APPROVED BY ALL.

Mr Larkin made a statement and asked that this be attached to the Minutes of the Meeting:

'I wish to make the following statement: It is a private land issue. If the Parish Council can demonstrate any legitimate legal interest, could they kindly notify us, as soon as possible. It would have been a common courtesy to inform us of this agenda item, as we had been incorrectly told otherwise.

Matters are already in-hand after a meeting at the Land Registry, Telford, which took place on 16 December, 2013. They confirmed neither Herefordshire Council nor Whitbourne Parish Council had any identified interest in the land.

We do have 18th & 19th Century documentation which will be available for the Land Registry to examine in detail.

Mr Larkin

Please note: All the hard-standing area, adjacent to the brook, was created by Charlie James, a former owner and roadman, for access purposes, vehicle parking and storage of his road materials (his yard). The hard-core came from stone from dismantled buildings from Ford Cottage land.'

The Clerk was asked to seek clarification from Herefordshire Council but it was AGREED that the land should be left as it is - common land for the common use. Unless someone tried to claim it in the future when it would be discussed again.

Members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings. Date for next meeting: Tuesday 4th March.

Mary Seldon (Clerk) 01885 482543 or 077234 23354. whitbournepcclerk@gmail.com

John Taylor writes:

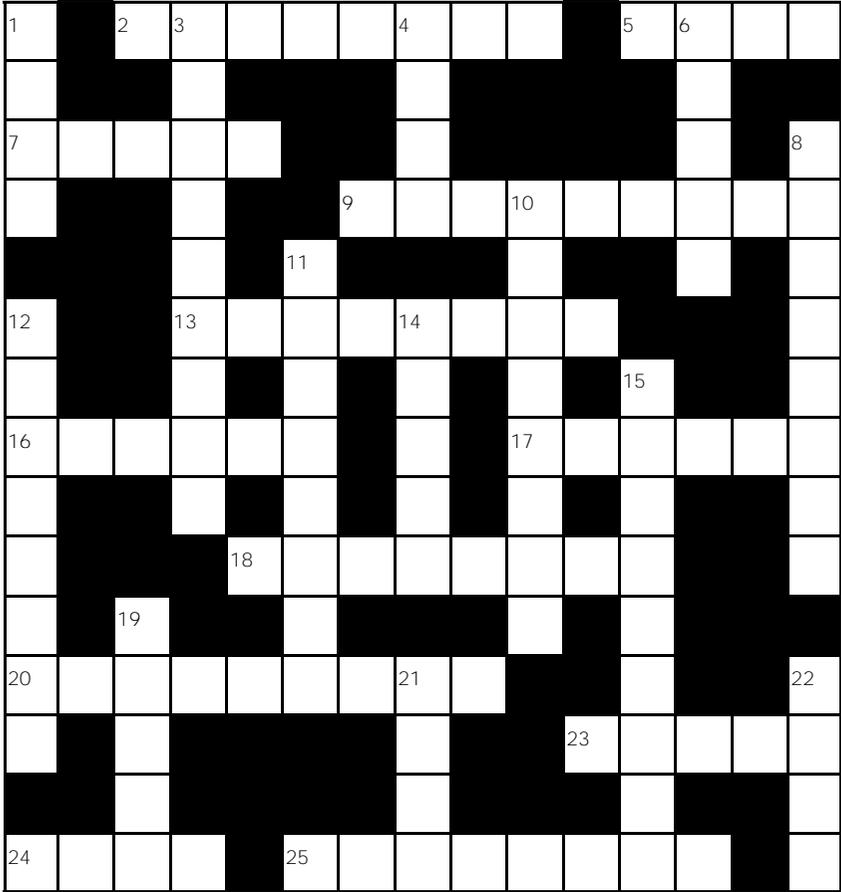
I was not at the meeting of the Parish Council last evening when the future of the 'Live and Let Live' was discussed but, from all reports, an important principle was reinforced: The Parish councillors are our representatives, not our rulers. I write with experience as a Parish Councillor in another place. *John Taylor.*

A Poem : 'Wishes'

When I was a child I must confess
I was a day-dreamer, with imagination
I was blessed
I wished I could fly like the birds in the sky
Or be a princess dressed in cloths so fine
I wished I was rich to give money to the poor
And wished for a handsome prince at my door
I wished I could swim, but was afraid of water
I wished I could sing on stage and not falter
I wished to get married and live happy ever after
Well, at least I got that right with five children here-after!

By Shirley Whittall

Crossword No. 21 (Compiled by Lord Threadneedle of Whitbourne)



Across

- 2. Sea-based farm (8)
- 5 and 12 Down. Genuine Class, act or? (4, 8)
- 7. Secret one (5)
- 9. Western-bound band of air (3, 6)
- 13. Flowing back, levels normalise (8)
- 16. Kindle (6)
- 17. One every 60 minutes (6)
- 18. It won't hold water (8)

- 20. Tomb after a Labyrinth, perhaps? (9)
- 23. Fire-starter (5)
- 24. Brodie or Harlow (4)
- 25. See 10 Down.

Down

- 1. Shortened thigh muscle (4)
- 3. Digit's end? (9)
- 4. The Duck in 'Peter and the Wolf' (4)

6. Whitened oak (5)

8. Timely purple stone (8)

10 & 25 Across. Donovan's shining
hero (8, 8)

11. Quirkily varied (8)

12. See 5 Across.

14. Lunar goddess (5)

15. Simian soldier? (9)

19. Verdi's forte (5)

21. Roasted rear (4)

22. This school's a mess! (4)

Solution to crossword No. 20

Across. 1. Bringsty Common ; 6. Hellenistic ; 9. gainsay ; 11. trek ; 12. taxi ; 13. ash ; 14. react ; 15. thwart ; 16. flattery ; 19. heretic ; 21. buss ; 22. histrionics ; 24. kingpin ; 25. Friary.

Down. 2. ice ; 3. galea ; 4. costa ; 5. neglect ; 6. Hogarth ; 7. nines ; 8. cathartic ; 9. Gilgamesh ; 10. yerba ; 13. aitch ; 15. thwart ; 16. FORTRAN ; 17. rebus ; 18. quick ; 20. inner ; 23. sup

At a glance

Sunday 9th February. Upper Sapey Community Meeting in church after the service. Service 11 am. Meeting 11.45am. Discussion about how to save the church building. All welcome.

Sunday 16th February. Bromyard Trip Club runs a trip to Brooklands Museum and the Concorde Experience. Anyone interested call Lynne on 01886853680.

Monday 17th February. Saltmarshe & District Hall AGM at 7.30 pm. Everybody Welcome. Please come and support your local hall

Tuesday 18th February. Whitbourne Garden Society invite you to come along **to a talk about "Growing Veg." at 7pm, Whitbourne Village Hall. Further information available from Christine Battrum 01886 821307.**

Saturday 22nd February. Bromyard Trip Club runs a trip to York railway museum. Anyone interested call Lynne on 01886853680.

Monday 24th February. The Central Band of the RAF will be coming to Queen Elizabeth Humanities College in Bromyard to give a concert to our musicians and invited musicians from neighbouring schools. Time: 1.30 pm.

Saturday 1st March Curry/Lasagne Evening. 7.30pm at Sapey Golf Club. Tickets £13 from Kath Harris, Tel 01885 483681.

Saturday 15th March Safari Supper in aid of Whitbourne Playing Fields. Please contact Stella Oakey (01886 821330 or email stellaoakey@hotmail.com) or Maureen Williams (01886 821189).

Wednesday 19th March. Bromyard Trip Club runs a trip to the Lotus car factory, Norfolk.. Price £65. Anyone interested call Lynne on 01886853680.

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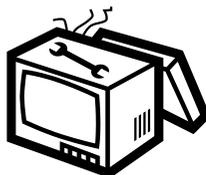
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Janet Knight: 821619

Gillie Stormonth Darling: 821918

Susie Tetley: 821432

Asimina Smith: 821435

Current charge: 25p per mile from **driver's door to driver's door**. The service covers all residents in the Parish of Greater Whitbourne. Please give as much notice as possible when you need transport. Our drivers reserve the right to refuse a request if they feel it is inappropriate. Volunteers are always welcome: please ring Gillie Stormonth Darling on 821918. Updated Feb 2014.

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Church Rotas

Flowers and Brasses

2nd February	Mrs D. Haddock
9th February	Mrs D Haddock
16th February	Mrs K Cunningham
23rd February	Mrs K Cunningham
2nd March	Mrs M Meadows
9th March	No flowers
16th March	No flowers
23rd March	No flowers
30th March	No flowers

Any queries relating to flowers, please contact Mrs Ann Taylor on 821744.

Sidesmen—Whitbourne

2nd February	Mr J. Ransley
9th February	Mrs S. Bland & S. Cole
16th February	Mrs M. Kneen
23rd February	Mr J. Cummins
2nd March	Mr C. Short
9th March	Mr J. Allan
16th March	Mr J. Ransley
23rd March	Mrs S. Bland & S. Cole
30th March	Mrs M. Kneen

Parish Communion Readers—Whitbourne

2nd February	Mrs B. Allan
9th February	Mrs S. Dodd
16th February	Sir N. Harington
23rd February	Mr J. Allan
2nd March	Mrs M. Kneen
9th March	Mr J. Bland
16th March	Mr C. Short
23rd March	Mr J. Howell
30th March	Mrs S. Bland

Church Cleaning—Whitbourne

1st February	Mrs G. Stormonth-Darling
8th February	Mrs A. Howell
15th February	Mrs M. Kneen
22nd February	Mrs E. James
1st March	Mr J. Allan
8th March	Mrs E. & Miss L. Badger
15th March	Mrs A. Evans
22nd March	Mrs G. Stormonth Darling
29th March	Mrs A. Howell

Upper Sapey

Feb/March	Carol Evans Fisher/ Helen Miles
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Coffee - Whitbourne

2nd February	Mrs E. Badger & Mrs P. Ransley
9th February	Mrs W. Cummins & Mrs S. Dodd
16th February	Mr and Mrs J. Bland
23rd February	Mrs A. Evans & Mrs M. Schoonenberg
2nd March	Mrs A. Taylor & Mrs M. Williams
9th March	Mrs E. Badger & Mrs P. Ransley
16th March	Mrs W. Cummins & Mrs S. Dodd
23rd March	Mr and Mrs J. Bland
30th March	Mrs A. Evans & Mrs M. Schoonenberg

Any queries relating to flowers, please contact Mrs Ann Taylor on 821744. Anyone wishing to be included in the cleaning rotas can contact Carol Wilde on 853491 (Upper Sapey) or Myrtle Kneen on 821707 (Whitbourne). New volunteers for any of the rotas are always welcome.

If the dates shown for the rotas are inconvenient and you are not able to change with anyone else on the list, please let Myrtle Kneen know on 01886 821707. Thank you to all those who put so much effort into keeping our Churches running smoothly.

Church Services

Sunday 2nd February Candlemas	8 am	*Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
Sunday 9th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	11 am	Holy Communion, Upper Sapey
Sunday 16th February	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	11 am	Holy Communion, Tedstone Delamere
	3 pm	Holy Communion, Edvin Loach
Sunday 23rd February	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
Sunday 2nd March Sunday before Lent	8 am	*Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
Sunday 9th March 1st Sunday of Lent	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	11 am	Holy Communion, Upper Sapey
Sunday 16th March 2nd Sunday of Lent	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
	11 am	Holy Communion, Tedstone Delamere
	3 pm	Evening Prayer, Edvin Loach
Sunday 23rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent	9.30 am	Holy Communion, Whitbourne
Sunday 30th March Mothering Sunday	10 am	Family Communion Whitbourne

The Holy Eucharist will be offered at Whitbourne every Wednesday at 10.30am.

* denotes Book of Common Prayer.

