

# WHEATLAND NEWS

October 2021



*Saint Luke from the Lindisfarne Gospels - see 'Saint of the Month'*

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

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## Editorial

In the recent press reports we have heard about four civilians who have trained and become astronauts for a few days, journeying into the unknown – some of us are not such risk takers, however, since the arrival of COVID-19 and the series of lockdown we are all now required to step out and take risks. Life is never free from change and chance and sometimes we need to stop and wait to see what lies ahead. At the moment many of our Parishes are without an incumbent which is an anxious time for many of us while we wait to see what will happen to our services and how things will be sorted out for the future.

On a positive note following a meeting in August with Archdeacon Fiona we were given reassurance that work is progressing to look at a way forward.

Meanwhile thank you to Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean who is keeping us all informed and arranging cover throughout the parishes with the help of Revd David Poyner and Revd Val Smith and other clergy.

Enjoy the Autumn colours and the Harvest Celebrations taking place across the parishes of the Wheatland News.

Ed

Pedestal arrangement at St Giles's Church, Chetton



### November edition deadline!

**Please would you send all contributions for the November 2021 edition of WN to your contact, as below, no later than Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October.**

Brown Clee and Ditton Priors	Jutta Langham, 01746-712551 - rll.langham@btinternet.com
Aston Botterell, Cleobury North & Burwarton, and Wheathill & Loughton	Alison Greenan, 01746-787032 - greenan6qx@btinternet.com
Chetton	Pam Downing - pamdowning61@gmail.com
Highley	Revd Val Smith – revval14@gmail.com
Glazeley & Deuxhill	Marion Corfield - <a href="mailto:marion.corfield@talktalk.net">marion.corfield@talktalk.net</a> Revd David Poyner - <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
Billingsley	Revd David Poyner - <a href="mailto:D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk">D.R.Poyner@aston.ac.uk</a>
Stottesdon Benefice – Farlow, Sidbury, Middleton Scriven, Cleeton St Mary, and Silvington	Chris Tibbits - <a href="mailto:Chris@stottystores.co.uk">Chris@stottystores.co.uk</a>

# Diocese of Hereford



## October message from the Archdeacon of Ludlow

**"God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble."**

Last month marked the events of September 11 – it feels unbelievable that 20 years have passed since this major world event happened. For those who lost friends and loved ones, the memory is still raw and our prayers are with all those who grieve.

Most adults over the age of 30 will recount their story of exactly what they were doing and when they heard the news that fateful day. Just as generations before recounted their stories on hearing the news of the assassination of JFK and the death of Princess Diana.

For me, it was an ordinary Tuesday in a primary school I was teaching at in north London. At the end of the school day, as normal, I took the children downstairs to be collected. The usual hubbub was missing. Parents looked grim.

One said, "Isn't it awful, Mrs Gibson?"

I replied: "Isn't what awful? I've been in the classroom all day."

The collective response: "Planes have crashed into the World Trade Center in New York."

We gathered as a staff in the school hall and put on the TV normally used for BBC Schools programmes. We went home, not fully understanding what was happening.

I had choir practice that evening and went to the church hall as normal. None of us felt like singing, so we gathered in small groups and prayed. We comforted one another with words from the Bible: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

That was 20 years ago, and we all know what followed.

A generation has grown up since then, in a world marked by the events of that day. Other cataclysmic events have occurred too.

***And those words still hold true, as they always will: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.***

## AD Fiona



### **The Bishop's weekly video message**

Bishop Richard is back now, with a moving message about .... no, better you hear his words yourselves.

This message, and all his earlier messages can be seen:

On the [Diocese of Hereford website](#), together with a full transcript of his message

And on [YouTube](#)

# Information for all Parishes and their Churchwardens

## Lectioary for October 2021

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>
Trinity 18	Trinity 19	Trinity 20	Last of Trinity	All Saints' Sunday
Green	Green	Green	Green	White
Psalm 26 Job 1:1, 2:1-10 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	Psalm 22:1-15 Job 23:1-9 Hebrews 4:12 -end Mark 10:17-31	Psalm 104:1-10 Job 38:1-7 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	Psalm 34:1-8 Job 42:1-6,10-end Hebrews 7:23-end Mark 10:46-end	Psalm 24:1-6 Wisdom 3:1-9 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44

## The Nightingale Nursing Fund

Rosemary Abbiss writes:

The [Nightingale Nursing Fund](#) is a local charity which provides support to families who wish to nurse their relatives at home. We pay for home nursing care for patients during times of a medical crisis, when help is not available from other sources. We cater for all age groups. The Fund is available to patients registered with the Doctors Surgeries at Cleobury Mortimer, Highley, Ditton Priors and to Shropshire patients of Tenbury Wells medical centre.

The Nightingale Nursing Funds is holding its AGM at 7pm on Sunday 17th October at the Sports and Social Club, Cleobury Mortimer. This will cover two years as we didn't hold an AGM last year due to Covid. Everyone is welcome. The trustees will be elected for the coming year, and we'll be looking for fund raising ideas.

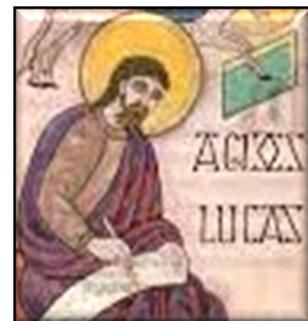
If anyone would like to know more about the Fund, please contact myself, Rosemary, on 01746 718451 or visit our website [www.nnfund.co.uk](http://www.nnfund.co.uk)



# Saint of the Month – October – Saint Luke

*By the Revd Mark Daborn*

At the end of next month, we enter the new Church year, and the Gospel readings for the year will be taken from St Luke, whose feast day falls on the 18th of this month. Luke is most prolific author in the New Testament; and, in case you are wondering, St. Paul comes second! To Luke is attributed not only the third Gospel, named after him, but also the Acts of the Apostles. The introduction to both of these books makes it clear that they were companion volumes, the first telling of the life and teaching of Jesus, the second telling of the work of the Holy Spirit through the Apostles.



Luke is thought to have been a Gentile, and the relationship between Jews and Gentiles is certainly one that is explored in his gospel. He also shows an interest in the crucifixion as sacrifice, beginning his story in the Temple, the home of Jewish sacrificial rites. This scene features the visit of the angel Gabriel to the priest Zechariah, who was to be the father of John the Baptist. This temple/sacrifice connection leads to Luke's symbol being the calf.

The Book of Acts is the only primary source we have for the early expansion of Christianity. In its early chapters it is concerned mainly with the deeds of Peter and the other disciples in and around Jerusalem, moving on to the brief career of Stephen the Deacon, the first Christian martyr.

But, from the story of his dramatic calling on the road to Damascus to the end of the book, centre stage is occupied by Saul of Tarsus, better known to us by his Roman name Paul. Luke's intended theme in Acts is to show the spread of the Gospel around the known world – meaning the Roman Empire. He therefore catalogues Paul's three missionary journeys around Asia Minor and Greece, and finishes the story with Paul's arrival in Rome. As a Gentile, and with the interest shown in his Gospel in Jesus' relations with Gentiles, Paul's mission to the Gentiles of the Empire was a natural story to follow.

But Luke was more than a historian of Paul's travels. As the narrative takes Paul from Troas in Asia Minor over to Philippi in Macedonia, it switches from the third person singular to the first person plural – suddenly, '...we made a direct voyage to Samothrace...' Not only was Luke using secondary sources for his information, but for some of Paul's journeyings he was apparently with him – including the last lap, described in admirable simplicity: 'And so we came to Rome.'

Paul makes reference in his own writings to 'Luke, the beloved physician'; it is most likely that this is the Evangelist, and gives us a background for him, as well as his relationship with Paul. As a doctor, he would be well-educated, Greek-speaking – and held in greater esteem in the Greek world than in the Roman, where doctors tended to be slaves and scarcely trusted!

Otherwise, we know little of him, which, I suspect, is as he wished. He was both historian and theologian, researching carefully where his own experience did not extend, and presenting his work to one named in both books as 'Theophilus', which means 'lover of God'. This may have been someone's actual name; or it may be a description for all those for whom he wrote – past and present.

**MD**

# The United Benefice of Brown Clee

**Rector: vacant**

*Please contact your Churchwarden, as below.*

*In emergency, contact Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean, on 01746-718127*

<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

October	Sunday 3rd		Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>
	Trinity 18		Trinity 19		Trinity 20		Last of Trinity		All Saints' Sunday
Ditton Priors	11.30	HF	09.45	HC	09.45	HC	08.30	HC	Wheathill Group Service HC 10.15
Cleobury North							11.30	HC	
Wheathill									
Loughton	18.00	HF							
Aston Botterell			18.30	HF					
Chetton			11.30	HC			09.45	HC	
Neenton					18.00	HF			
<b>HC - Holy Communion</b>					<b>HF – Harvest Festival</b>				

*We are asking those who wish to come to church without face coverings to sit in the front pews, and to wear coverings to enter and leave the building.*

## 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 too.

## **Ditton Priors News**

### **Cleaning Rota for October**

- October 3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs Jennifer Lowe & Mrs Debbie Jones
- October 10<sup>th</sup> Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Griffiths
- October 17<sup>th</sup> Mr. & Mrs. John Ballard
- October 24<sup>th</sup> Mr. & Mrs. Tony Brown
- October 31<sup>st</sup> Mrs Jutta Langham & Mr Steve Allen

### ***Marjorie Jones writes:***

On Sunday 5th September, as part of my Ride & Stride effort, I walked from Ditton Priors to Neenton via the gated road. It was a beautiful day and I arrived in time for the festival service at 4.30. A happy occasion and well worth my walk.

On Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>, I visited our small churches by car.

Many thanks to my sponsors – half the total will come back to our church.

### **Harvest Supper**

Tickets are sold out for the supper on Saturday 9th October. Report next month.

### **Benefice meeting**

The meeting at the end of August went well. The Archdeacon, Fiona Gibson, told us that the Diocese would like to rent out the vicarage for a six-month period, but we were given hope that we can advertise for a new vicar in due course.

### **Churchyard**

Just a little reminder that we need donations towards the maintenance of our two churchyards. Each year brings an increase in costs, and we welcome any contributions towards this.

The new churchyard is particularly challenging, requiring strimming, mowing and hedge cutting, as well as work on several graves that have gone quite wild. We are doing our best to get it all in tidy order.

### **Harvest Services**

Time for giving thanks for the bounties of the season with the traditional well-loved hymns. The group choir will be moving around the churches and we look forward to seeing you at your nearest church.

### **St John the Baptist 100 Club results for September**

- £ 20 Richard Fox
- £ 10 Joyce Jervis
- £ 5 each to: Pam Dicer, Bobbie Jarvis, Helen Ceresa

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

The AGM for CNVH will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

CNVH remains open and available for hire, subject to any Government guidelines and Covid restrictions. For enquiries about booking and using the hall, please call 01746-787093.

## **Wheathill & Loughton News**

Services at Wheathill and Loughton

- ✚ Harvest Festival at Loughton – October 10<sup>th</sup> at 18.00.
- ✚ Group Service at Wheathill – October 31<sup>st</sup> at 10.15.

## **Burwarton and Cleobury North News**

Service at Cleobury North

- ✚ Holy Communion – October 24<sup>th</sup> at 11.30.

### **Lottery winners**

Here are the August lottery winners for Burwarton and Cleobury North:

- 1st Prize (£100) - Megan Radnor
- 2nd Prize (£30) - Jessica Radnor
- 3rd Prize (£20) - Walter Steele

## **Aston Botterell News**

### **Lottery winners**

<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £20 - Alan Jones</li><li>• £10 - Jane Watkins</li><li>• £10 - Paul Berry and Alison Greenan</li><li>• £5 - Jim Hurford, Wilf and Sue Pountney</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £20 - Des Dorrell</li><li>• £10 - Walter Steele</li><li>• £10 - Jean Howells</li><li>• £5 - Audrey Colebatch, David Goss</li></ul>

## Chetton News

From Pam Downing

### St Giles's Church and Parish

#### *Services for October*

- ✚ Sunday October 10<sup>th</sup>, 11.30 am, Holy Communion
- ✚ Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>, 11.30 am, Holy Communion

#### *Flowers and cleaning*

- Sylvia and Marilyn



#### **Harvest Festival – a brief report from a visitor**

Chetton Harvest service was a joyful occasion celebrating 'all is safely gathered in', the well-known hymn echoing this sentiment, and the church was beautifully dressed for the day. The talk by Paul Verney about the charity 'Send-a-Cow' highlighted the need for us to continue to support not only our own communities but also those in lands further away. More details in next issue of WN.



#### **Happy events in Church**

We have enjoyed two very happy events in Church recently.

Many congratulations to **Jack and Jessica Lewis** whose wedding was held at the end of August. It was a beautiful country wedding on a lovely sunny day and both were driven to the reception by a vintage tractor with trailer. Even dog Micky helped with the celebration by being with the bride and groom as they made their vows and occasionally joining in with a bark!

Then, **Isaac Edward Dickinson** was baptised in early September, another happy day for all concerned.

We are hoping to re-start social events, Covid permitting. We are holding a **Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning** on **Wednesday November 24th** 10.00am to 1.30pm, at Chetton Village Hall. We will have the usual stalls, bric-a-brac, cake, plants, collectables etc and we hope to include several gift stalls with ideas for Christmas. We hope you can join us for coffee, cake and chat.

#### **Hundred Club for September**

- £15.00 Charles Gill – no 38.
- £10.00 Helen Dunn – no 1.

#### **Chetton Village Hall:**

**Flix in the Sticks!** Wednesday 20 October, 7.30 pm "Military Wives" starring Kristen Scott Thomas. Refreshments available. **Pam's Pilates** 9.30 am on Monday. **Chetton Active Friends**, from 2pm on Monday. **Zumba with Lisa Beards**, 2.30 pm on Tuesday.

For further information please telephone Sue on 789239.

## **Neenton News**

*Bobbie Jarvis writes:*

September was an exciting month in Neenton with many varied activities which brought together the community spirit as we knew it pre lockdown. It was great to see so many people enjoying the opportunities to meet up with family and friends.

### **Songs of Praise**



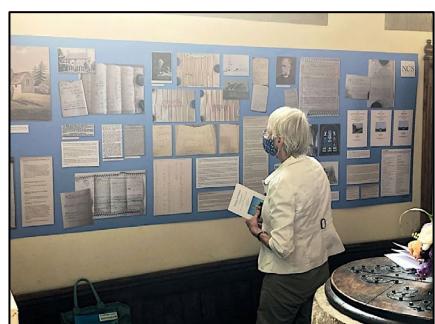
On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September the church was filled with people for the Songs of Praise to commemorate the rebuilding of the church 150 years ago and the addition of the stained glass memorial 100 years ago. It inspired us to give the church a thorough spruce-up, sweeping away the lock-down cobwebs and dressing every flat surface with fresh country flowers from The Ridges Farm. A huge thank-you to everyone who took part.

The celebration service was led by the Revd Mark Daborn, Rural Dean, with Dot Cartwright, Reader, leading the prayers and with Bishop Richard Jackson in attendance. All three were fully robed for the occasion.



During the service a commemorative granite plaque was unveiled by four local children who attend Brown Clee C/E Primary school, Rosie, George, Grace and William, under the direction of the Bishop.

An exhibition of the history of the rebuilding of the church and the details of the window, researched by Caroline John, was on show and continues to be available for anyone who may be interested.



The lusty (masked) singing of well-known and favourite hymns raised the roof and the Brown Clee Benefice choir sang an anthem during the service



Following the service light refreshments were served in The Pheasant with everyone enjoying the garden atmosphere.



One of the highlights for the children and several adults was the departure of the Bishop on his Harley Davidson!

## Ride and Stride

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September heralded an interesting day for the Ride & Stride organised by the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust.



It was great to see so many people visiting our church and by coincidence, brought together a couple who had not seen one another for many years!

Dot Cartwright in her car and Andy Farthing accompanied by wife Debbie and Freddie (the lovely cockapoo) in his chariot took part.



*It was all a bit much for Freddie!*



Thanks to all those who sponsored Dot and Andy and to The Down Inn, The Boyne Arms and ProTyre, Bridgnorth for their continuing support for this event. The money will be equally divided between the SHCT and All Saints church, Neenton. Total raised will be confirmed next month.

## Neenton Fete and Duck Race

The Annual Duck Race and Fete was held on Saturday 18th September and what a day that was! The ducks were sponsored for their swim in the Rea Brook and we were blessed with a fine day.

The Pheasant garden was full with people, the children enjoying the bouncy castle in between having fun on the tombola, skittles and the other stalls and taking a carriage ride drawn by Julie's delightful ponies in the adjoining field.



*Excitement at the finishing line as referee John Pickup is about to snare the winning duck!*





The BBQ seemed even more popular than ever, with Alan, aided by Liz, playing the role of chef, and spending the whole afternoon cooking delicious burgers and sausages over his charcoal barbie.

The cake stall was busy too, offering cakes for sale in boxes, much easier to handle than large cakes and could be eaten while walking around! The treasure map tested the knowledge of the French countryside and the raffle had some very interesting prizes.



The Crockery Throwdown on Beech Green proved to be so popular people were lined up over the green and into the road.



Chris with his guitar entertained us throughout the afternoon with songs old and new and some Celtic music.

Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way from organising, set up, taking charge of stalls, etc, to clearing up at the end of the day. Thanks also to Ian, Harvey and Oscar for setting up the Duck Race course and retrieving the thousand ducks after the event before they set off to freedom towards the River Severn!



***The takings before expenses*** were over £1880, resulting in the best Duck Race and Fete we have had for many years. Donations have been sent to the Heart Foundation and Little Explorers. Thank you to everyone who supported us in any way. The final figure will be printed in next month's Wheatland News.

## Forthcoming events in Neenton

**Harvest Celebration** – Sunday 17th October at 6pm. Donations of tinned, dry food or other items suitable for sending to the Food Bank after the service can be left in the porch of the church on Friday 15th October. The talk during the service will be given by Mr Paul Verney about the charity ‘Send a Cow’ and the collection during the service will be for this charity. Come along and sing the well-known harvest hymns and celebrate our beautiful countryside, the fertile land which produces so much, the hedgerows with the fruits they produce and those who work in it.

Our services for the foreseeable future will be taken by visiting vicars. Please contact Bobbie Jarvis, Churchwarden for details or if you are in need of a visit from a member of the clergy. 01746 787093.

## Thank you

To all the people who have helped to clean and prepare the church and churchyard for these events.

## All Saints' Tote

September winners:

- Dawn Moreton, Melvyn Stackhouse

The new year has started with our first draw in August 2021 – please give outstanding subscriptions of £12 to Sue Hale, Dot Cartwright or Bobbie Jarvis.

## Lost & Found

The ring found in the church in July has still not been claimed. If anyone has lost this please contact Bobbie Jarvis.

## The Pheasant at Neenton.

### *Opening times:*

The Pheasant will be closed for planned maintenance from 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October inclusive, reopening on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Other than this, the opening times remain the same:

- Wednesday/Thursday 12 noon - 3pm, last food orders 2.30pm, 6pm last food order 8.30pm
- Friday/Saturday 12 noon open all day, last food order 8.30pm
- Sunday lunch 12 noon



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.

## **Guy Fawkes**

Watch this space next month for details of our annual fireworks display! We look forward to seeing you.

# Severn Valley Group of Parishes

<b>Rector: Revd Mike Harris</b> The Rectory, Highley, Day off – THURSDAY	<b>Revd David Poyner, Curate</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

### October services:

- ✚ Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Highley - Holy Communion, 10.00am
- ✚ Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Chelmarsh – Holy Communion 10.00am
- ✚ Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Billingsley – Harvest Festival 6.00pm
- ✚ Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Glazeley – Holy Communion 10.00am
- ✚ Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Billingsley – Holy Communion 8.00am
- ✚ Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Chelmarsh – Morning Prayer 10.00am
- ✚ Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Highley – Family Service 11.00am



A happy scene from a memorial stone in the churchyard of St Michael's Aldbourne - C.J

## Glazeley

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

The sun shone and the birds were singing for our Harvest Festival Service held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September. It was nice to be able to sing once again.

The next service is on 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021 at 10.00am



### **MARGARET ANNE GABB (ANNIE)**

15th February 1943 - 18th January 2021

It was a beautiful day for the Remembrance service of Mrs Margaret Annie Gabb from Woodlands Hall, Glazeley, on Friday 17th September, which was actually held in a marquee in the grounds of Woodlands Hall.

Annie, as she was known as, sadly passed away last January. She was a valued member of Glazeley Church and was always ready to help at the different events – especially the Carol Service.

Donations collected at the Memorial Service were divided between Kidney Research, St Peter's Church, Chelmarsh, and St Bartholomews Church, Glazeley.

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one,

I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways

Of happy times and laughing times and sunny days

I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun

Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

Joyce Grenfell

## **JUNE DAVENHILL**

It is with sadness that we have heard June Davenhill passed away on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Although June lived in Pelsall, West Midlands she still loved her little cottage at Glazeley and supported our church for many years. She played the organ at our services but was also well known for organising and leading the Carol Services held at Christmas.

She will be sadly missed and our thoughts go out to Rachael, Jill and Neil and families.



**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)

## **Billingsley News**

**The Revd David Poyner writes:**

Billingsley Colliery closed in September 1921 and our monthly evening service marked this event, with a brief talk about its history and also the memories of George Poyner, who started work for the Highley Mining Company in 1942 and knew many who worked at Billingsley. George is one of the very few who can remember the coal industry before the mines were nationalised in 1947. It was also nice again to be able to have refreshments after the service.

Our final evening service for this year will be on Sunday 10th October. This is our harvest festival and Bonnie Garvey will be speaking about our international charity this year, [Singakwenza](#). Bonnie helped to register the charity. It works with the disadvantaged communities in KwaZulu Natal (South Africa) to train black women who run informal creches for the children of agricultural workers; to teach, enable and empower them to provide early years education in a fun way. They also run waste workshops to teach the women how to make toys and materials for learning from waste, e.g. to make skipping ropes out of bread bags and counters out of bottle tops. Due to the very difficult circumstances in KwaZulu Natal, the charity is currently providing fortified porridge for the children in their programme, and to take home. It is for this specific initiative that any funds raised from Harvest Festival will be used. We hope that you will join us for our Harvest Festival in Billingsley if you can, to celebrate the achievements of a remarkable charity and support their current initiative.

Also on **Saturday 9th October**, Ellen McConnell will be holding a **Coffee Morning** and bric-a-brac sale in aid of church funds at her house, Fairview, in Billingsley. All are welcome.

<https://www.facebook.com/BillingsleyChurch/> , <http://www.stmarys-billingsley.org.uk> , and  
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/10415/>

**David Poyner**

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



## **Chelmarsh News**

### ***Eleanor Haddon writes:***

First of all, sincere apologies from the usual organisers of the ***Harvest Supper*** for the cancellation of this great community event for the second year running. Unfortunately, Covid restrictions have made hosting the event unworkable. We are very sorry.

### **Rev. Mike Harris's retirement - Sunday 12th September**

We send Mike and Moira our very best wishes as they move on to the next phase of their lives in retirement. We thank you both for your support and guidance over the past six years, and for your dedication and friendship. We hope your retirement will be long and happy.

Mike held his last service in the Benefice at Chelmarsh on Sunday, and this was followed by a sumptuous Bring and Share lunch at Chelmarsh Sports and Social Club, where a presentation of gifts from the parishes was made.

### **Visit by the new Archdeacon of Ludlow - Wednesday 8th September**

Fiona Gibson was appointed earlier in the year, and, to familiarise herself with her "patch", she attended a Benefice PCC meeting of all four parishes in Chelmarsh Parish Hall. She said she would voice concerns expressed about the increase in admin and responsibilities carried by volunteer workers in dealing with Safeguarding, at the next Diocesan meeting. She also said that the current financial position would mean a reorganisation of Clergy, with an impact on every parish, going forward. She also expressed a wish to take a normal service of Sunday worship in the parishes in the future.

### **Advance Notice**

Remembrance Service - Sunday 14th November

### **From the Register**

#### ***Holy Matrimony***

**28. 8. 2021 - Christine Fagan and Hedley Morris Roberts.** We send this couple our very best wishes for their happiness in their future together.

#### ***Funeral***

**3. 9. 2021 - Pamela Joan Hughes.** Our sincere condolences go to Pam's family and friends at this sad time.

### **Church Cleaning**

Wednesday 27th October at 2.30 pm approx.

We would welcome any new volunteer cleaners: many hands make light work! Just turn up at the approximate time and the jobs can be shared out.

### **Chelmarsh Friends**

A notice will be posted on Chelmarsh Parish Hall Website with details of the date Friends will resume, hopefully once restrictions are lifted.

### **Chelmarsh Walking for Health**

Chelmarsh Walking for Health meets every Monday from the Village Hall at 10am. Walks are available at two levels – a short walk and a longer walk lasting 1½ to 2 hours.

# October Molecule of the Month – Ozone

By David Poyner

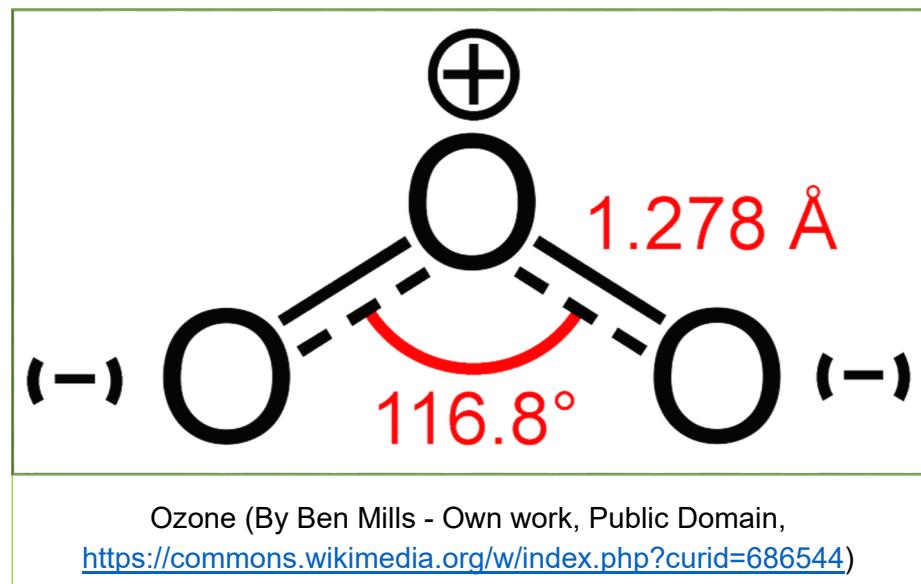


Recently, portable ozone generators have featured in the news; the Welsh Government is paying for 1300 such machines developed at Swansea University to be placed in classrooms to kill airborne Covid viruses.

## **What is ozone and how might it work?**

**Ozone is a form of oxygen**, the gas that we breath in the atmosphere to keep us alive. Most oxygen in the consists of two oxygen atoms combined together to form a molecule that should strictly be called dioxygen, but which everyone simply calls oxygen. It has the well-known chemical formula  $O_2$ . A single oxygen atom is chemically unstable; for those who recall chemistry from school, it has six electrons around its periphery but actually needs eight for stability.

When two oxygen atoms come together they can each share two of their electrons, so both atoms are surrounded by eight electrons. However, it is also possible for three oxygen atoms to come together to produce a (fairly) stable molecule and this is what happens with ozone; it has the chemical formula  $O_3$ .



Ozone was first noticed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when scientists first studied electricity. The electricity was produced as sparks; effectively mini-flashes of lightning and after this had been done, it left a sharp smell around the apparatus. This was ozone; the name is from the Greek word for an odour and it was first properly identified by Christian Friedrich Schönbein in 1839. In more recent times, it has been associated with portable generators; for some it is forever associated with fairground machinery.

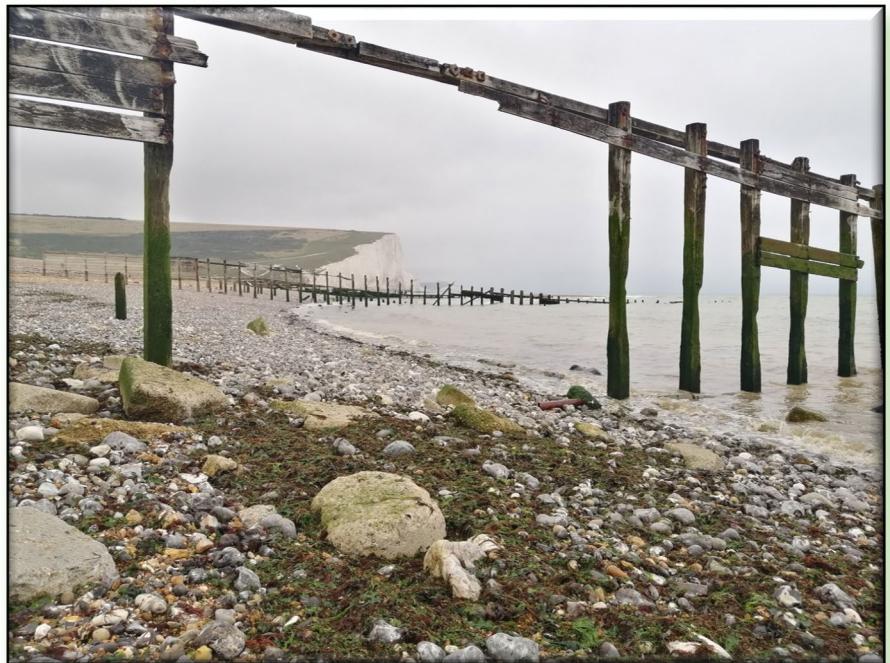
Christian Friedrich Schönbein, the discoverer of ozone  
(Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=403731>).

## ***In popular imagination it is also***

### ***the smell of the seaside;***

the faint hint of bleach on beach where the seaweed has just been exposed. This is in fact due to other chemicals coming from the seaweed, but the smell is similar. Also, at least in the advertising for coastal resorts, ozone was considered to be healthy; one of the benefits of breathing the fresh sea air. In fact it has been known for a century or more that it is toxic if breathed in at too high concentrations. It is far more chemically reactive than oxygen; it will attack the outside of cells causing them to become leaky and ultimately to die. It also breaks down into even more reactive chemicals

known as free radicals, which kill cells in similar ways.



**Ozone found itself in the news in the 1970s** when atmospheric physics made a rare foray into the media. High in the atmosphere is a thin layer of ozone. This is essential for preservation of life as it absorbs dangerous ultraviolet light from the sun, which would otherwise break apart DNA, our genetic material. It was noted that the ozone layer was getting thinner and, in some places had totally disappeared; the “ozone hole”. This was traced back to chemicals called CFCs; chlorofluorocarbons, used as propellants in refrigerators. These were banned and the ozone layer has now been restored; an interesting example of how action can be taken to safeguard the environment.

**So what is the connection with Covid prevention?** Because ozone is so reactive, it will not only kill our cells, it will kill bacteria and viruses. Viruses in the air are more susceptible to it than we are; so a concentration that is safe for us to breathe will be fatal to Covid. There is some discussion as to how effective the generators will actually be in a large room; good air-conditioning is probably as, if not more effective. That perhaps is one of the benefits for meeting in a draughty church...

**DRP**

# 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)  
Day off – THURSDAY

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## October Message

*Remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy*

I am writing this month's message well past the deadline because I have just come back from holiday. I would just like to make this clear: I have not been on leave; I have been on holiday!

What is the difference between 'leave' and 'holiday'? I suppose that taking annual leave sounds like an earned entitlement, whereas being on holiday sounds like going off for a day's fishing when everybody else is working. Certainly, when people are away having time off, the automated e-mail message tends to read 'I am on annual leave'. To say 'I am on holiday' sounds too much like having fun!

But, actually, we in the Church, should be upholding the use of the word 'holiday', because it comes from 'holy day'. It begins with the Sabbath, the one day a week that was ordained for rest and refreshment, the day when no work should be done – the day when Jesus got into so much trouble for doing things like miraculous healings and allowing his disciples to pluck grains of corn when they were hungry!

Fast-forward to the Middle Ages, and 'holy days' were the only chance of people getting a break from their labour in the fields; this is perhaps why fairs were held around Saints' Days – St Audrey's Fair in Ely, St Peter's Fair in Shrewsbury – so that the local people could have time off to enjoy themselves. It actually got to the stage that the number of official Saints' Days had to be cut at one point, because there were too many of them eating into the working year, and the peasantry were at risk of having too much time off from working the land!

Our notion of a holiday as an extended time off work – a sort of long Sabbath – is a recent concept and came along with easier travel when the railway network was built. Then the cotton factories of Lancashire could be closed for a week, whilst the workforce travelled to Blackpool or the north Welsh coastal towns of Rhyl and Llandudno. The rest – package tours, cruises, Disneyland etc. – is, as they say, history.

We are beginning a season of holy days now, which takes us through to one of the most important holy days of all at Christmas. October is the time of Harvest Festivals, a drawing of breath as the year's food supply is gathered; and November sees All Saints' Day before bringing us into the preparations for Christmas.

The Summer Holidays are now behind us, schools and colleges are back at work and the work of the farmers – which never really stops – is at full pace. But let's remember that, even through these busy times, there are still 'holy days': days of rest, refreshment and reflection. Days to set aside to be at peace in God's presence.

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, Cleton 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 October

*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 Stottesdon Benefice Facebook page, or on YouTube, which you can find on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGgHa2CCJs8k9gfRwzkYrtg>

The churches remain open for private prayer during the day.

## Services in Churches for October

*We are asking those who wish to come to church without face coverings to sit in the front pews, and to wear coverings to enter and leave the building.*

October	Sunday 3rd		Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>		Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>	
	Trinity 18		Trinity 19		Trinity 20		Last of Trinity		All Saints' Sunday	
Cleton St Mary			09.00	HC			16.00	HF		
Farlow	18.30	HF								10.30
Middleton Scriven							18.30	HF		Group for All Saints at Farlow
Sidbury					16.00	HC				
Silvington			18.30	HF			09.00	MP		
Stottesdon	10.30	HF	10.30	HC	10.30	IW	10.30	HC	16.30	AS

HC Holy Communion	HF Harvest Festival	MP Morning Prayer	IW Informal Worship	AS Evening Prayer for All Souls
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## From the Stottesdon Benefice Registers

30<sup>th</sup> September: Stottesdon: Funeral Office for Kath Hall RIP, formerly of Glebe Drive.

If you, 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.

## Lectionary for October 2021

Please turn to page 5 to find the Lectionary.

The deadline for the November edition (Stottesdon Benefice and Parishes) is to get copy to Chris by first thing **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October.** Thanks!

## Silvington News

*Annette Metcalfe writes:*

The harvest is safely gathered in and at the time of writing we are enjoying a spell of warmer, sunnier weather.

And so thoughts turn to the **Harvest Festival** - and this year we have been made especially aware of the state of our planet and our stewardship responsibilities. The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) will take place in Glasgow in November. Ahead of this, the leaders of the Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Anglican Communion have asked people to pray for world leaders as they address the urgent need for global cooperation and try to find sustainable answers "for the future of our common home." They have stated:

**"We must decide what kind of world we want to leave to future generations.  
We must live differently; we must choose life."**

## Services in October

- ✚ Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - HARVEST FESTIVAL at 6.30pm.
- ✚ Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> - Holy Communion at 9.00 am.
- ✚ Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> - Group Service for All Saints, 10.30 at Farlow

All welcome.

## **Cleeton St Mary News**

*Gill Jordan writes:*

### **Our services for October will be:**

- ✚ Holy Communion at 9am on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>; and
- ✚ Harvest Festival at 4pm on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ✚ Everyone will also be very welcome at the Group Communion for All Saints at Farlow, at 10.30am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **September 100 Club results:**

- £20 – Chris & Sam Howells No 82;
- £10 – Paul & Nigel Porter No 53;
- £5 – Celia Brown No 8 and Tony Gilbert No 63.

## **Farlow News**

### **Church services**

- ✚ Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.30pm. All welcome.
- ✚ Group Service will be held here at Farlow on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 10.30am. All parishes will be welcome.

## **Sidbury News**

### **Church services**

- ✚ Holy Communion will be celebrated at 4pm on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

## **Middleton Scriven News**

*Ann Constable writes:*

### **Forthcoming Church Services**

- ✚ Harvest Festival is on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at 18.30
- ✚ We are invited to join the Benefice Communion for All Saints at St Giles, Farlow, at 10.30 on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>.

Everyone is most welcome at these services.

### **Community events:**

Thank you to all who supported our even busier coffee morning held in September and to Rachael Timmis for hosting.

Our next Community Coffee Morning will be on Saturday 9th from 10.00-12.00. Come and meet up with friends, all are most welcome. Produce and homemade items for bring and buy stall.

## **Stottesdon News**

Clare Tibbits writes:

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

Congratulations to the winners in the September draw – Tony & Alison Williams, David & Jill Powell, and Jo & Meg Williams.

**Bridgnorth Food Bank** continues to accept monetary gifts via Internet Banking and this a very easy way of getting your donation direct to those in desperate need of help. To give online, please use the following details – Bridgnorth Community Trust, sort code 20-85-46, account 73700445, and quote 'Food Bank' as the reference.

**Community Apple Day** will again be held at St Mary's Church, from 12.00-16.00 on Sunday 10th. Bring along any Apples or Pears for 'scratching and pressing' – and good containers to take your juice home for drinking or cider-making. Subject to demand, guided tour (see WI article below) around the heritage treasures in church available.

### **Stottesdon Benefice Pilgrimage 2021**

The [fundraising page on JustGiving.com](#) is still open to receive you donation or sponsorship monies in aid of the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust and our six churches (monies are shared 50/50).

**Go to [JustGiving.com](#) and search for Stottesdon Benefice** – (or just follow this link)  
Then add your donation or sponsorship monies. Thank you!

### **Stottesdon & District WI**

The September WI meeting was a tour around St Mary's Church, Stottesdon. Our very own Clare was the historian and expert guide for the evening, and we were enlightened with fascinating information about the long heritage of the church building – followed, of course, by the obligatory tea, coffee and refreshments.

St Mary's Church is a Grade 1 listed building (one of only 9,320 such in England!) - and that means it is of great national importance. Although it is first mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) we believe that St Mary's was started well before the Normans arrived because there is Saxon stonework in the old west wall (now inside the tower). This stone 'Tympanum' has a rough carving of a face and what appear to be monkeys upside down. The actual meaning of the carvings is not really known for sure.

St Mary's also houses a wonderful and intricately carved Norman Font made from a single piece of stone and still in use after over 30 generations. Other features include medieval floor tiles and some wonderful stained glass.

The tower contains four bells recast in 1752 by Abel Rudhall of Gloucester and the clock (1855) by Joyce of Whitchurch. The clock has an identical, albeit smaller scale, 'turret mechanism' as the famous clock we all know as Big Ben.

Around 1620, 40 years before the plague pandemic devastated London, the Jacobean added a splendidly carved wooden pulpit and, more recently still, the Arts & Crafts rood screen was added to the chancel arch in 1901.

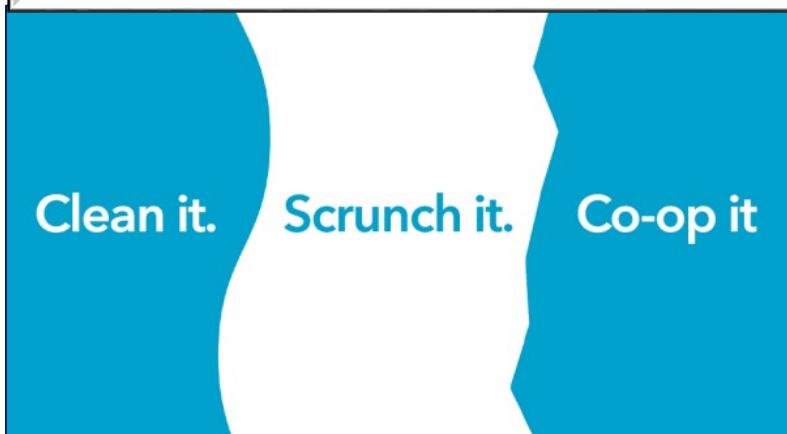
Over the centuries, there have been many extensions and alterations to the building, and this, it seems, explains why the pointed arches on the south side of the nave do not match the older, rounded Norman arches opposite!

***Visitors to the Community Apple Day on Sunday 10th will have an opportunity to take a similar tour, depending upon demand for this .... pop along and ask Clare.***

### **Future WI meetings**

On Wednesday 20th October at 7.30pm we have Oliver Welsby at Chorley Village Hall to share some learning and techniques around “Mindfulness”. For more details please call Helena (01746 718012) or Clare (01746 718007).

**As Eco-churches, we seek to lead by example on more Eco-friendly ways of living, such as dealing with ‘rubbish’ and ‘recycling’ – so we are pleased to headline a stunning new initiative from The Co-Operative.**



*A new way of recycling  
Soft Plastic Packaging is  
now at  
Bridgnorth Co-op*

- the container is next to the in-store ATM

For more details visit

[www.coop.co.uk/environment](http://www.coop.co.uk/environment)

## Useful Community Contacts

<b>Brown Clee 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
<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 WI</b>	Meets in Ditton Priors Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7.15pm 01746-712473
<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