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NEWSLETTER



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AUGUST 2021

HOLY DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

At last, you might think, it's really summer. It's really holiday time. And with the widespread success so far of the covid vaccines, it's even time when some, though not all, feel safe to travel, and to go in search of the sun. 'Holidays at home' and 'stay-cations' (ghastly term!) have come into their own since last year, and many of us have rediscovered how to find renewal and refreshment without needing to go so far afield, as well as discovering the advantages of spending less money and doing less damage to the planet and its atmosphere into the bargain. (What did happen to all those plans to reduce air travel and fossil fuel consumption, talked about not long ago, and are these things still on our agenda? One can only hope so!)

However that may be, it's good at last to feel that we can all breathe a little more easily (literally) than we have done for a while. That in itself is a phrase which has taken on new shades of meaning during the last year or so, after the case of George Floyd in the U.S.A: perhaps as we come out of the darkest times we might spare a thought for those who still do feel stifled and oppressed in the countries and communities in which they live, and strive to make sure that our own communities, as far as possible, are places where everybody can thrive.

Returning to our theme – holidays, as everybody knows, started out as holy days, and holy days, the major religious feasts and festivals, including the celebration of local saints, were all 'holidays.' There is every justification in religious terms to believe that 'sabbath time', holy-days and holidays, are essential to human flourishing, and have been part of what are called 'the creation ordinances' from the start. Did not God, reputedly, rest, on the seventh day, having completed the work of creation, and are we not 'made in God's image,' reflecting God's truth and life and love, and needing indeed due rest and recreation so that we can go on doing so?

'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest awhile,' says Jesus in St. Mark's Gospel, to those who have been assisting him, 'for many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in a boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognised them, and they hurried there on foot and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, and began to teach them many things.' I was lucky enough recently to enjoy a few days by the sea, in a setting which made me think of just that story. On the other side of the estuary, a boat trip away, I knew from experience that there were the most beautiful sandy coves, peaceful beyond belief, if you get there at the right season of the year, and the right time of day. We didn't make it that far this year in the time we had, but could imagine the Gospel story being played out in just such a setting. The Sea of Galilee, you may know, is not so very different. Pray, then, for those in ministry of all kinds, and those who serve human need, in any way. May we, and they, find refreshment and renewal in these summer weeks, and help one another to do the same.

Happy holy days!

Your Rector
ROBERT WARD

From The Registers

Holy Baptism

26 June Octavia Lily Florence Alexandra Ellison Cradley

Matrimony

25 June Michael William Buckland and Meghan Louise Garfield Cradley

Funeral

5 July Pauline Short Cradley and Hereford Crematorium

Interment of Ashes

24 June Margaret Freshwater Mathon

29 June Geoffrey Ralph Cradley

5 July Ivy Marjorie Smith Cradley

Church Services in August 2021

N.B. In order to accommodate both the easing of restrictions and a continuing desire to provide regular services online and by telephone, some changes have been made to the schedule for August. Please check carefully, as some of the times and service details have been altered. *In particular, the live-streamed option on the fourth Sunday of the month will be at 6.00 p.m.* Arrangements will be kept under review in the weeks ahead, and up-dates issued in the weekly notices, online and on the pew sheet, as required.

FIRST SUNDAY	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion (CW) Rev Nicholas Menon	Mathon
August 1		Serviced Live-streamed simultaneously from the Rectory	
9th Sunday after Trinity	10.45 a.m.	Blessing of the Animals (Family 'Pet Service') Outside if fine	Cradley
	6.00 p.m.	Evensong	StorrIDGE
Wednesday 4	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW) (Said)	Cradley
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (said) Live Streamed from the Rectory	Cradley
SECOND SUNDAY	9.30 a.m.	Mattins	StorrIDGE
August 8	10.45 a.m.	Parish Communion (CW) Live Streamed	Cradley
10th Sunday after Trinity	6.00 p.m.	Evensong	Mathon
Wednesday 11	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW) (Said)	Cradley
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (said) Live Streamed from the Rectory	Cradley
THIRD SUNDAY	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)	StorrIDGE
August 15	9.30 a.m.	Mattins - Lay led	Mathon
The Blessed Virgin Mary	10.45 a.m.	Morning Service - Lay led	Cradley
Wednesday 18	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW) (Said)	Cradley
	6.30. p.m.	Evening Prayer (said) Live Streamed	Cradley
FOURTH SUNDAY	9.30 a.m.	Shorter Mattins	Mathon
August 22	9.30 a.m.	Mattins - Lay led	StorrIDGE
12th Sunday after Trinity	10.45 a.m.	Parish Communion (CW)	Cradley
	6.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Said) Live Streamed from the Rectory	
Wednesday 25	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW) (said)	Cradley
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Said) Live Streamed from the Rectory	Cradley
FIFTH SUNDAY			
August 29	*10.45 a.m.	Benefice Communion Service (outdoors if fine)	Cradley
13th Sunday after Trinity			

Church Services in September 2021

Wednesday 1	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (CW) (Said)	Cradley
	6.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (said) Live Streamed from the Rectory	Cradley
FIRST SUNDAY			
September 5	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion (BCP)	Mathon
14th Sunday after Trinity		Service live-streamed simultaneously from elsewhere	
	10.45 a.m.	Family Service	Cradley
	6.00 p.m.	Evensong	StorrIDGE

MATHON CHURCH

READERS

1 August	Mrs Armitage	Mrs Cutler
8 August	Mrs Seymour	Mrs Crouch
15 August	Mr Vivian	Mr Walker
22 August	Mr Crouch	Mrs Pugh
29 August	Benefice Service Cradley	

SIDESMEN

1 August	Mrs Seymour or Mrs Cutler	
8 August	Mr Crouch	
15 August	Mrs Walker	
22 August	Mrs Pugh	
29 August	Benefice Service Cradley	
	The Speaker on the 15 th August is The Reverend Nicholas Menon	

K.B.S.



MATHON CHURCH MATTERS

Thanks are expressed to the parishioners and friends who have made voluntary financial donations to the church during this difficult year and hopefully will continue to do so in future months.

There is to be a **Community Coffee Morning on Tuesday 24th August in Mathon Church and Churchyard, 10.30 am – Noon.** Please do come and join us. Cakes, books and plants will be on sale and there will also be a raffle – see separate notice.

Services continue to be held in Mathon Church following the usual pattern.

SP

DEADLINE DATE FOR PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Payment and advertisement to be received by 12th of the month prior to insertion.

CRADLEY CHAPEL

(Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion)



Services each Sunday at
10.30 a.m.

~~~~~  
Communion Service  
on the first Sunday of each month

~~~~~  
A very warm welcome awaits you.

STORRIDGE CHURCH FLOWERS

1 August	Mrs C Washbrook
8 August	Mrs C Washbrook
15 August	Mrs K Norbury
22 August	Mrs K Norbury
29 August	Mrs K Norbury

STORRIDGE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The winners of the July 100 Club draw were:

First	Pam Hurle
Second	Jean Horne
Third	Brenda Ann Bye
Fourth	Margaret Cross

If you want to see all the winners, they are all on our website www.storridgevillagehall.com.

If you would like to join the draw, look on the website for an registration form or contact me.

JACKIE WHITE
Secretary
jackie.white@hotmail.co.uk
01886 833802



STORRIDGE WI

For the June meeting of StorrIDGE WI we visited the gardens of Little Malvern Court.

Once we were assembled the head gardener talked about the history of the garden and how in recent years parts of the garden had been redesigned and refurbished. The monks built the Priory in the 12th century. The five ponds were originally the Fish Ponds of the monks. The Church is also 12th century.

A giant lime tree which had stood for two hundred and fifty years suffered storm damage in the early years of the 2000s. Three new limes have been planted to one day take its place. Queen Victoria played under it in 1831 and Charles Michael Berington entertained his tenants and neighbours in 1865 on return from his honeymoon. This is still the home of the Berington family.

There are so many different areas of the gardens to enjoy – the topiary of the yew hedges, the pleached limes, a wildflower area complete with orchids, the gorgeous recently revamped rose gardens and lots of cleverly planted pots (ideas to take back home!). My description does not do it justice. Go to see for yourself and have tea and cake overlooking the stunning views. Enjoy – we did.

JOAN PROSSER
Secretary

Mathon Parish Hall

Every Friday
Mathon Parish Hall is open as:

‘Chit-Chat Coffee Stop’
10.30 a.m. until 12.00 noon

A place to relax, put your feet up from a hard morning’s shopping, or from the rigours of a hard week, and relax for a little while with a FREE cup of tea or coffee, and biscuits.

Why not arrange to meet your friends here?
Hopefully meet new ones?

Come and chat, exchange ideas and views on Mathon and anything else that takes your fancy!

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DYSON PERRINS CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

As the end of term approaches, it is somewhat cathartic to look back at one of the most challenging years I can recall. Each of our year groups are looking forward to an end of year reward trip during the last week of term. They very much deserve their day canoeing the River Wye, balancing the high ropes in the Forest of Dean, or the team challenges on offer at a local Outdoor Education Centre.

Whilst the academic year will no doubt be remembered for reasons related to covid, we set ourselves the goals of not allowing the pandemic to dominate our attention and maintaining our focus on high quality learning and experiences. Keeping year group bubbles apart from each other, creating one-way systems and students cleaning desks after each lesson was not something we would ever have thought necessary, but I am immensely proud of how our students and staff have taken on the challenge. As always, these challenges have also presented opportunities, and the conversation has now switched to which of these routines we want to keep in the long run due to the fact that they have proven beneficial beyond covid.

Some of the recent highlights in school this term include our new reading programme (please keep your donations coming), our revived House competition, culminating with a highly competitive Sports Day, and high uptake in extra-curricular activities. A group of our very able Year 9 students also undertook a research project this term, supported by Sixth Form students at Malvern College, where they presented in one of their lecture theatres.

I will finish by giving a special mention to our outgoing Year 11 and Year 13 students. The decision to cancel their examinations was difficult to deal with but they have responded brilliantly to the assessment schedule we designed in school. They should feel proud of their achievements when they collect their results in August.

Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to updating you on events at Dyson Perrins in the autumn.

Best wishes

MIKE GUNSTON
Headteacher

EVERGREEN CATCH UP

Where has this year gone? The months seem to be passing by so quickly, here we are, over halfway through and still no real signs of closure to the pandemic. It seems to me that it is something we shall have to learn to live with for a very long time.

Anyway onto better things to talk about. Are you all managing to get out to do a bit of shopping, or meeting up with a few friends, even if we do still have to wear our masks? I think we've all forgotten what everyone looks like.

I've managed to have a couple of short breaks away as you know, and meet up quite regularly with my friend for walks and occasional meals sat outside, on nice days of course. The Plough and Harrow along the Guarlford Road is a great place to go to for delicious food, where you can sit outside in very pleasant surroundings, and the Scotch Eggs at The Nest Newent Plant Centre are to die for, in a lovely orchard setting.

I'm sure you all remember Rev. Mark McCausland, vicar of Cradley Mathon and Storridge, who was a great friend of ours, passed away this year at a Nursing Home in Edinburgh. There is the interment of his ashes service at 2.30 pm at Leintwardine Church on 2nd October. Mark and his wife Betty lived there for many years and became integral members of the community.

Well, the garden is looking quite good, with prolific numbers of raspberries, the runner beans are covered in red flowers and beans are forming about an inch long. The pots are in flower and the beetroot are forming despite a few nibbles from the rabbits. The tomatoes look very poor, plenty of greenery but very few toms. I think a lot of people are having the same problems.

I must take this opportunity to congratulate the people of the village who opened their gardens to the public last weekend. Despite the very mixed weather, I think there was a steady stream of visitors. We enjoyed the experience very much especially finalising our visits with a delicious cream tea at Stuart and Pauline Diplock's house. Well done everyone for your efforts.

No news at the moment as to whether EVERGREEN will start up again in the near future, until then keep smiling.

And remember:-

"Yesterday is history
Tomorrow is a mystery
But today is a gift."

Speak soon, lots of love

CHRIS ORFORD
(Club Leader
01886 880387)

NEWS FROM THE TAX CHARITIES

Welcome to our June update, which this month has information on letters that HMRC are sending about 'tax avoidance' that your clients may be asking you for help with. In addition, some clients may also be receiving demands for the repayment of a loan that originated from a previous employment.

As always, we are here to help and if you or your clients have any burning tax questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

HMRC letter about 'tax avoidance'

You will be familiar with your clients working through umbrella companies and receiving often confusing paperwork that provides details of their pay. Sometimes these arrangements can result in the worker not having all the appropriate tax deductions taken from their pay. HMRC letters currently being sent are with the purpose of making sure that employees understand how they're being paid and take any steps that are needed. If your client receives this letter and asks for help, there is guidance at

<https://www.litrg.org.uk/latest-news/news/210527-received-a-letter-from-hmrc-tax-avoidance>.

You can also contact TaxAid, details below, if you need further help.

Remuneration by a loan from an employer - often called contractor loans and demands of repayment of the loan

For the last few years HMRC have been cracking down on 'disguised remuneration' anti-avoidance schemes with the contractor loan charge. The way these schemes work is that employers (again often using umbrella companies) pay their employees part in salary and part in 'loan'. The 'loan' was considered to be non-taxable and employees were assured it would never have to be repaid. However HMRC passed legislation which means that any of these 'loans' that were still outstanding at 5 April 2021 are taxable as earnings. HMRC have been pursuing taxpayers to pay tax on remuneration they have received in the past in the form of loans.

However we are now aware that some individuals are being contacted about the recall of these loans. The organisations recalling these loans are often based offshore and may be liquidators of the original loan providers or are often unconnected organisations who claim that the original provider of the loan has sold the loans on to them.

In the cases we are aware of, these organisations are issuing statutory demands in order to seek repayment of the loans. If these statutory demands are not dealt with appropriately and within the statutory deadlines it may be incredibly difficult for individuals to get these overturned. Therefore, it is vital that these are taken seriously and appropriate legal advice sought.

To access guidance on these statutory demands that originate from these schemes that provided remuneration, please see the guidance from the Low Income Tax Reform Group :<https://www.litrg.org.uk/latest-news/news/210525-contractor-loan-loan-recall-issue-faqs>. If you need further help please get in touch with TaxAid.

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Advisers' helpline:

0300 330 5477

Both lines are open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday

www.taxaid.org.uk

OPEN GARDENS 2021

The weather at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning was certainly not what the organisers would have wished for, but gradually during the morning the rain petered out and by the time the gardens opened at midday it was overcast and humid. As we toured the various gardens the weather gradually improved and after one or two half-hearted drops of rain, the clouds thinned, and sometimes parted, to give a warm, summery afternoon.

Twelve gardens were billed as being open, but, sadly, the owners of one garden had to self-isolate, so only eleven gardens made it to the public gaze. And what an amazing variety those gardens were: small gardens full of colour and interest, medium-sized gardens with interesting shapes and hidden corners, and larger gardens which seemed to go on for ever.

There were four gardens open in and around Oaklands, and it was interesting to see how different in size and shape each garden was, although they shared stunning views of the Hills, and a riot of colour in their flower beds.

One garden has a woodland walk, a colourful wildflower meadow and even a talking tree, while another has a thoughtfully placed bench looking across a well-stocked border to the Hills beyond. Each of the smaller gardens manage to tuck in little, but bountiful, vegetable gardens as well as providing variety and interest in their flower beds.

Also at this end of the village two more gardens were open. Firstly, we visited a mature cottage garden which provides a delightful haven from the bustle of modern life, before coming to a restful garden with a well-tended lawn where we were invited to enjoy a glass of Pimms.



After the walk up towards the Church and the older area of Cradley, the allotment provides a complete contrast with its array of green vegetables, testament to the hard work and green fingers of the owner.

The slopes on this side of the village provide two very different terraced gardens. One boasts a delightful formal paved area, contrasted by borders which are awash with cottage garden flowers, an interesting topiary and a large lawn.



The other slopes away from its house quite sharply, and the structure of the outbuildings add interest to the bold colours of the well-tended borders (see front cover).

The contrasts continued as we visited our final two gardens. A mature garden showcases a number of large, old, deciduous trees, giving a cool, woodland feel to the borders of large shade-loving shrubs, while around the house the rose garden gives a splash of bright colours.

At our final destination, we wandered around the neatly trimmed lawns and admired the vegetable and herb gardens before sinking into patio chairs to enjoy a cream tea.



Thank you everyone who opened their gardens to give us such a wonderful afternoon of interest.

JAN AND IAN DAMPNEY

ON THIS DAY

August 1st 1900: The Michelin tyre company published its first *Michelin Guide*. It was intended to encourage motorists to use their cars more and therefore need to buy more tyres.

August 4th 1693: "The night they invented Champagne" - according to tradition this was the day Dom Perignon invented the champagne process.

August 7th 1840: Parliament passed legislation forbidding the indenturing of child chimney sweeps.

August 8th 1968: "Let us begin by committing ourselves to the truth, to see it like it is, to find the truth, to speak the truth and live with the truth. That's what we'll do", said Richard Nixon as he accepted the Republican Party's nomination to stand for President.

August 8th 1974: Richard Nixon announced his resignation from the office of President after being forced to admit his complicity in the break-in, by members of his party, to the Democratic Party HQ in the Watergate building in Washington in June 1972.

August 9th 2020: Alexander Lukashenko, President of Belarus and ally of Vladimir Putin, declared himself the winner of the presidential election with 80% of the votes cast. Opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya was thought by most observers to have been the winner with 60-70% of the vote but she was forced to flee to exile in Lithuania.

August 10th 2017: A Huntley & Palmer fruit cake, left in a hut in the Antarctic by Captain Scott's polar expedition, was tested more than 100 years later was tested and found to be "almost edible", whatever that means!

August 11th 1984: "I have signed legislation that would outlaw Russia for ever. We begin bombing in 5 minutes." President Reagan was doing a sound check in preparation for a radio broadcast.

August 15th 1811: "Every country has the government it deserves" – Joseph de Maistre, a French philosopher who was convinced of the need for the supremacy of Christianity and the absolute rule of both sovereign and pope. He also insisted on the necessity of the public executioner as a negative guardian of social order

August 17th 1957: Philadelphia Phillies baseball player Richie Ashburn hit the ball into the crowd, hitting spectator Alice Roth and breaking her nose. He then batted the ball into the crowd again, hitting her for a second time while she was on a stretcher receiving medical attention

August 18th 2019: President Trump confirmed his interest in buying Greenland from the government of Denmark. Trump cancelled his planned visit to Copenhagen after their reply to his offer was "nasty".

August 23rd 1911: Prime Minister Herbert Asquith held a secret meeting to discuss strategy in the event of Britain going to war against Germany.

August 26th 2013: All 25,000 applicants to the University of Liberia failed their entrance exam.

August 27th 1883: Krakatoa, a volcano on the Indonesian Island of Rakata, erupted throwing debris 50 miles in the air, making a noise that was heard more than 2000 miles away and creating a 120 ft tsunami. Possibly as many as 40,000 people died as a result. 32 hours later there was a noticeable rise in the level of the English Channel. Krakatoa is still dangerous – its most recent eruption in December 2018 killed 400 people.

August 29th 1904: The American team won 21 of the 23 track and field events at the Olympic Games held in St Louis. This may have been partly due to the fact that few overseas teams competed – American athletes made up more than 90% of the competitors.

August 30th 1963: The "hotline" – a direct connection between the White House and the Kremlin went live. It was agreed that it would only be used in emergencies, not for routine intergovernmental communication. It was first used in 1967 when Lyndon Johnson used it to inform Soviet leader Alexei Kosygin that he was considering sending US aircraft into the Mediterranean area during the Arab-Israeli 6 day war.

IAN THOMPSON

Cradley Mathon & Storridge TEENY TOTS play group



welcomes parents or carers and little ones
(age 0-5) to stay and play.

**Thursdays at Storridge Village Hall
10.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon.
(£2 per family, includes a snack)**

Occasionally meets at Cradley School.

Come and join in!

For information please contact:

Rachel: 07790890183

Annie: 01886 880964

CRADLEY CHURCH



SUNDAY SUMMER CREAM TEAS



**11th July ~ 29th August
3pm ~ 5pm**

Everyone Welcome

THE DAUGHTERS OF COP

"Lois!" and after a short pause, "LOIS!"

"Yes, Ma'am," panted a flustered policewoman, as she tumbled into the office.

"Lois, where the devil are my tickets to the opera?"

"There is no opera any more, Ma'am. Under the restrictions it's impossible to stage."

"What are you blathering about, sergeant. Only this morning I placed two tickets for 'Aida' on my desk... or was it 'Nixon in China'; now they're gone. Lois, who is that female personage sitting before my desk? The thief, no doubt about it!"

"That is Miss Marble, Ma'am. You were talking to her only five minutes ago. Perhaps, if you ease off on the Dubonnet..."

"You mean: perhaps if I help myself to another drink. Where's that Babycham?"

"About twenty years past its sell by date, Ma'am."

At which point Detective Inspector Edwina Moose tripped over her own feet, made an unpleasant mess on the carpet, and lost consciousness.

My visit to the infamous Inspector – who, by her own lights, is the foremost police detective in the Wye Valley Constabulary – was to consult her on the increasingly menacing threats being directed towards my person. Well, intoxication is in no manner funny; even if the mild alcoholic poisoning that follows most certainly is. Allow me to shift forward to the following morning when, much to my surprise, the Inspector and her sidekick, Sergeant Lois, appeared on my doorstep. I ushered them into the drawing room.

"Miss Marble," began a haggard Inspector, "I assume such inconveniences as you report are the common lot of an interfering busybody like yourself: are they not?"

"Indeed, they are..."

"Not so loud, if you please," begged the Inspector.

She pulled out a bottle of pills, and glanced around for something to help them down. I offered to get her a glass of water, but on my return found her swigging the dregs from a bottle of Baileys left over from Christmas.

"Inspector, will you kindly replace your mask while inside my home," I requested.

"And how then am I supposed to swallow my aspirin, tell me that?" she retorted.

Replacing the bottle on the sideboard from whence she had filched it, she elbowed a Meissen porcelain shepherdess: well, I had never been fond of it. Thence she meandered to the fireplace; my heart was in my mouth, for on the mantle were some of my most precious possessions.

"Right then, Miss Mumble, tell me all," the Inspector demanded abruptly.

I explained about the daily deposits of doggy-dooos on the drive, and the same wrapped in black plastic persistently appearing in my wheelie bins.

"Oh, come now, we all get that: don't we Lois?"

"Not me, Ma'am," returned the sergeant.

"Huh! Clearly, nobody thinks you of any significance. Last autumn I found a hardened bag of cement in my bin; took me months to shift it. Back complaints to this day. Now come on, Miss Murbles, surely there's more than that."

I went on to relate the weed-killer on my prize Dahlias; the animal entrails left on the front doorstep, and the advert in the local newspaper announcing a murder was to take place in my cottage at a precise date and time:

the hordes of sightseers posed a considerable inconvenience.

"Happens all the time, Miss Wimple. You should take it in your stride," was the Inspector's advice.

"But there's worse. I awoke three days ago to find the severed head of my beloved cat, Durbridge, placed beside mine on the pillow. Somebody must have broken in during the night..."

"Nonsense! That sort of thing is par for the course. I awoke only last week to find my entire record collection of grand opera scattered about the lounge, and all so badly scratched as to be unplayable. Mind, I did have a heavy evening of it. What's the name of the cat currently inserting its talons into the stocking clad legs of my sergeant?"

"Oh, that's Durbridge. Turned out they got the wrong moggie."

"Criminals, ay: not the brightest bunch," and, after tossing back another handful of pills aided by a draught from her hip flask, "There must be more."

"My dear friend, Dr Hilda Witless, seems to have been kidnapped. I haven't seen her since Christmas. There's no answer when I phone, and her house seems deserted whenever I pop round. It's not like her at all; usually she's hard to shake off."

"Yes, that is sinister. I've had the same thing with several of my friends lately: seem to have vanished into thin air." She belched rather loudly, before asking, "So, have you any idea of who's doing this?"

"Well, it could be a certain rector's wife I know of."

"What, here in St Mungo Moss? I'm told she's a charming lady."

"No, not here; somewhere else."

"Oh, her! We've got her under constant surveillance, and as far as we can tell she's too busy conducting a turf war with the Russian mafia to waste time on the likes of you."

"Well, there is always my former partner, Marleyarty."

"In the clink; has been for years."

"But he has funds: those strongboxes."

"All empty: we've seen to that." She glanced out of the window towards the smart vintage sports car in which she'd arrived.

"Then I'm stumped: who'd want to hurt a harmless soul like me?"

But the Inspector appeared to have lost interest, asking her deputy, "Which is the best drinking den in this odious backwater?" And, on being informed of the only establishment still extant, "I hope your purse is heaving with credit cards, Lois, I appear to have come out without the readies."

Pursuing the Inspector to the Turk's Head, I found her already in dispute with a waiter.

"Look, you guys, this is a restaurant: alcohol is only served with a meal."

"No, you look, Sunshine! We are police officers; I want a treble port and lemon, and a lager shandy, and I want them now! Moreover, we aren't guys, we're dolls."

At which the Inspector floored the waiter with a smart jab to the jaw. She turned to me, and I hastily backed away.

"Miss Marble, I believe your persecutors are residents of this village. Just look at the way they behave: no respect for the law. I reckon we need look no further."

contd on p11

contd from p10

She was a woman of her word. The entire staff team of the Turk's Head were taken into custody, charged with contravening a range of discrimination laws.

"Definitely not Woke: eh, Lois?" said the Inspector.
"Are you sure about this, Ma'am?"
"Am I ever wrong, Lois?"
"Frequently, Ma'am."

Despite the arrests, yet another pile of poop was decorating my drive this very morning. However, this time I obtained video evidence with my new security camera. Who'd have thought it: I was positive Hilda had been kidnapped.

Contributed by:
MISS JUNE MARBLE

always delighted to give due credit to the professionals.



PUPPIES FOR SALE

Our much-loved miniature Goldendoodle has had her first and only litter of six gorgeous F1B puppies, five girls and one boy. Mum Ellie has a superb temperament and a wonderful nature, and the pups are very outgoing and used to all the usual household noises and other dogs. Mum is an F1 black miniature Goldendoodle and dad is a chocolate miniature Poodle with a fantastic temperament and an excellent health record of clear DNA health tests

Puppies have been wormed at 2, 4, and 6 weeks and will be wormed again at 8 weeks. They will be vet checked, microchipped and will have their first vaccination. They will also come with 4 weeks free Pet Insurance.

We have become very attached to our puppies and want them to go to the most loving homes so please do not be offended if we ask a few questions of your lifestyle and commitment to our puppies. The puppies will be ready to leave on the weekend of 17/18th July. Holidays will be honoured if required with no extra charge.

Puppies pictured above, left to right

Girl: Apricot and Cream (Reserved)
Girl: Cream
Boy: Chocolate

Puppies pictured below, left to right

Girl: Black with white chest flash
Girl: Black with white chest flash and one white paw
Girl: Black with white chest flash and three white paws

Please email unabryn@outlook.com for further details.

TOM



POEM FOR THE GIRLS

I'm normally a social girl,
I love to meet my mates.
But lately with the virus here
We can't go out the gates.

You see we are the oldies now,
We need to stay inside.
If they haven't seen us for a while
They'll think we've upped and died.

They will never know the things we did
Before we got this old.
There wasn't any Facebook
So not everything was told.

We may seem sweet old ladies,
who would never be uncouth,
But we grew up in the 60s –
If you only knew the truth.

There was sex, and drugs, and rock 'n' roll
The pill, and miniskirts.
We smoked, we drank, we partied
And were quite outrageous flirts.

Then we settled down, got married
And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana
Who on earth did we become?

We didn't mind the change of pace
Because our lives were full.
But to bury us before we're dead
Is like a red rag to a bull!

So here you find me stuck inside
For 4 weeks, maybe more,
I finally found myself again,
Then I had to close the door!

It didn't really bother me,
I'd while away the hour,
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no b----y flour!

Now Netflix is just wonderful,
I like a gutsy thriller.
I'm swooning over Idris,
Or some random sexy killer.

At least I've got a stash of booze
For when I am being idle.
There is wine and whiskey, even gin
If I'm feeling suicidal!

So let's all drink to lockdown
To recovery and health,
And hope this b----y virus
Doesn't decimate our wealth.

We'll all get through the crisis
And be back to join our mates.
Just hoping I'm not far too wide
To fit through the flaming gates!

Contributed by
CHRIS ORFORD

STIRRINGS AT CRADLEY CHAPEL

On Friday 25th June this year the Chapel doors were opened and there was a lot of movement inside. The Chapel seemed to be waking up at last after its long Covid enforced sleep. On the following morning, not so very bright but fairly early merry pink and white bunting was being tied to the railings either side of the steps. The gates were flung open wide and small heavily blossomed trees were placed either side. Then all went quiet for a few hours.

This was to be a really special day for Cradley and its small Chapel hidden away down Chapel Lane and all was still quiet until 2.30 pm, when people in extremely smart clothes started to arrive and climb the steps and enter the chapel. There was a lot of searching for named seats socially distanced and when they sat and looked the Chapel was a riot of flowers.

This was also a very special day for two local people, the wedding day of Liz Francois and Arthur Hull. This older couple had had their wedding postponed four times because of Covid and decided to just go ahead with the allowed Covid restrictions in place.

While the Groom waited the bridesmaids arrived, four little ones wearing bright pink net skirts and white leotards and four older ones wearing ivory full length dresses with a large bright pink flower attached. Meanwhile in Upper Westfield a very large white car resplendent bedecked with pink and ivory ribbons arrived. It was a Rolls Royce no less, driven by Arthur's son. It was so large he had a job to manoeuvre it in our small lane. It was now the bride's turn to appear dressed in a long gown of ivory and a small hat style headdress carrying a beautiful bouquet of silk flowers.



Music at the Chapel was allowed only for entry, exit and while signing the register; the bride entered to *This is My Moment* by Martine McCutcheon and the register was signed while Hank Marvin played *Moon River*, Then Arthur and Liz Hull exited to *The Wonder of You* by Elvis Presley.

As we were driven away to our reception at the Colwall Park Hotel some of the neighbours in Chapel Lane came out and waved flags for us and the Rolls Royce.

Why was this a special occasion for Cradley Chapel? Because it was only the second wedding held there in the 200 years since it was built and the first one there for the Pastor Ken Hart.

LIZ HULL

PLANNING AN EVENT?

To avoid clashes of dates and venues, please remember to check the diary at the back of this *Newsletter*

Mathon Parish Hall Management Committee

Hire Rates

Mathon Parish Hall

** Minimum booking two hours

	Per Hour**	Per Day
Mathon Residents/ Organizations	£7	£55
Cradley or Storrige Residents/Organizations	£8	£65
For those outside the three villages	£9	£75

Commercial bookings by negotiation

The fully centrally heated hall with disabled access consists of a large well equipped kitchen, a spacious hall with a seating capacity for ninety, toilets including disabled toilet, and a large easily accessed car park for approximately thirty cars.

Linen service (additional charge).

Tables and chairs available to hire out.

To check availability and make a provisional booking, please contact the Booking Secretary on 01886 880824

or email mar.ainsco@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM MATHON

PARISH COUNCIL meeting

14th JULY 2021 At 7.30 pm

www.mathonparishcouncil.co.uk

Herefordshire Councillor

Co Cllr Tony Johnson reported that at the moment the majority of Herefordshire Council staff are still working from home with some having to self isolate. This has caused some problems with response times. Herefordshire rivers have been highlighted in the media as having very high levels of pollution.

A side issue to this is one of housing. The Water Authorities can stop house-building, but Herefordshire Council has a ten year house-building target to meet set by central government. Building targets in some of the Herefordshire market towns were not mitigated by water pollution or by being in an AONB area when the targets were allocated.

As the Hereford By-Pass project is not going ahead, land which would have been created for building is now not available, putting further pressure on house-building in other areas. The Council is also having problems with agreeing valuations with landowners for the compulsory purchase of land following the completion of the City Ring Road.

Malvern Hills Trust

Dave Baldwin was unable to attend the meeting, but had sent in a report. Due to Covid protocols MHT have been struggling to find venues for meetings which could accommodate a full Board meeting with public attendance. It is hoped to hold hybrid meetings (i.e. meetings in person, but with an on-line transmission to allow the public to observe) and meetings with providers of these facilities are taking place with a view to programming some meetings from the end of July/early August.

The Board is still awaiting answers to some questions raised regarding the Mill Lane Easement Application which is holding up progress of the matter. An Easement application has also been received to serve a single existing residential property on the west side of the hills by the Wyche Free Church. An Ash Tree survey had been undertaken in mid-June. Ash dieback disease has produced another suite of trees with safety concerns, totalling about 50 trees. A working group paper will be presented to the next Board meeting.

Following completion of the purchase, vehicular access to the Purlieu site has been secured and plans are under way for improving fencing and access on the site.

Mr Chris Rouse (who attended the meeting) reported that MHT is trialling livestock movements using collars on the animals and GPS Tracking.

Village Green

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Gigaclear re providing new topsoil for the green after further trench work had been completed for Superfast broadband.

The Cliffe Arms

A plan of action following legal advice was considered by the Council. The Clerk to make further enquiries.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 1st September 2021 at 7.30 pm

DIANA TAYLOR

Clerk to Mathon PC

Tel: 01684 569430 E-Mail:

dtaylormathonclerk235@gmail.com

9, Lambourne Avenue, Malvern, Worcs WR14 1NL

CRADLEY SURGERY NEWSLETTER

Dr Patsy Dye

Dr Chris Spruce

August 2021

England's Chief Nurse has reminded the public that everyone accessing or visiting healthcare settings must continue to wear a face covering and follow social distancing rules.

Covid restrictions will end in many settings in England from Monday 19th July 2021 However, Public Health England's infection prevention control guidelines and hospital visiting guidance are set to remain in place for all staff and visitors. That means NHS visitor guidance will stay in place across all health services including hospitals, GP practices, dental practices, optometrists and pharmacies to ensure patients and staff are protected.

Staff, patients and visitors will also be expected to continue to follow social distancing rules when visiting any care setting as well as using face coverings, mask and other personal protection equipment.

The NHS will continue to support staff in ensuring that the guidance is followed in all healthcare settings.

Choice of GP Appointments

We are trialling a choice of appointments for our patients since the easing of some restrictions. We are able to offer telephone or Face to Face appointments with the doctors. These appointments can be booked on the day with the Duty Doctor if urgent, or, if routine, then we can pre-book with your preferred GP. Our receptionists will still need to ask some brief questions about your symptoms.

Covid Vaccination Boosters

Watch this space. As yet we have no information about how these will be delivered.

FLU SEASON IS ON ITS WAY

Yes, we'll start reminding you about flu jabs soon. Yes, we know its summer!

Website

We are constantly updating our website and you may find this a useful first port of call for information relating to opening times and the services we provide etc.

Stay Safe

DR PATSY DYE



JUNE 2021

How to claim a tax refund - Do I need a form?

In last month's Tax Tips we wrote about how to check your end of tax year figures and whether or not you had paid the right amount of tax and if not, how HMRC would issue at some point tax refunds or tax bills.

However, there are refunds that you can claim during the tax year, which are called "in year repayments". This means you do not have to wait until the tax year is over. To claim, you would have to fill in the appropriate form. This is usually for reclaiming tax deducted from lump sum pension payments or the interest paid with PPI payments.

Pension lump Sums

Many people choose to take their pensions as "lump sums". Since 2015, these pensions can be paid out under the "flexibility rules" or could be paid out under the "Trivial Commutation" or "Small Pot" rules.

All pension lump sums usually have a 25% tax free element, and the remaining 75% is classed as taxable income.

The pension provider would operate an emergency tax code and for the vast majority of the time, this will deduct more tax than you would be liable to pay.

The tax that is actually due is dependent on any other income taxable income within the tax year. Therefore, only a calculation of all your taxable income for the tax year will give you the final liability and whether or not a refund is due. If a tax refund is due, and you don't want to wait until the tax year is over then you would need to complete a **form called a P53Z – Flexibility accessed pension lump sum repayment claim form**. This form asks you to complete the information on all your expected sources of taxable income so that HMRC can calculate the refund due. The easiest way to get the form would be to access it from HMRC's website www.gov.uk.

A lot of people now decide to take their pensions as withdrawals, choosing to take money out as and when they want to. If just one lump sum payment is taken in the tax year which still leaves some money in the pension pot and if the same circumstances as above apply then the form to complete to reclaim the tax paid is called a **P55 - Flexibility accessed pension lump sum repayment claim form**. This can also be accessed from HMRC's website.

If the pension lump sum is taken under the Trivial Commutation rules or small pot rules these pensions will have tax deducted at the 20% basic rate of tax. If you are already a basic rate taxpayer on your other taxable income, such as other pensions, employment, self-employment, foreign or rental income, then the deduction of 20% at source may then in fact be correct and no refund would be due. However, if you do not have any other income or your other income falls below the tax free personal allowance, which for the new 21/22 tax year is £12,570, you would be able to claim back some or all of the tax using a **form called a P53 – Claiming back tax on a lump sum**. This form can also be found on HMRC's website and is available to download.

Have you had PPI payments?

If so, then part of your settlement would include interest which would be taxed at source at 20%. Once again, this is something you may be able to claim back before the tax year is over. Primarily this is covered by the Personal Savings Allowance (PSA) of £1000 for basic rate taxpayers and £500 for higher rate taxpayers. However, there are also other allowances that may apply such as available Personal Tax Allowance, or the 0% savings rate for those on lower incomes. The calculations of the interest would also include interest from other sources such as savings accounts, building society accounts, NS&I bonds etc, but not including ISAs. The form to claim this type of refund would be an **R40 – Claim for repayment of tax deducted from savings and investments**.

Tax Help offers guidance over the phone with the completion of these forms, so if you are on a low income and need some help, then you can contact Tax Help for Older People on 01308 488066.

This article is by Tax Help for Older People Registered Charity no 1102276 (Scotland no SC045819), offering free tax advice to older people on a low income who cannot afford professional help.

Cradley Church

Summer Serenade

A graphic illustration of a treble clef on the left, with several musical notes of various colors (green, blue, purple, yellow, red) floating upwards and to the right, following the curve of the staff lines.

**Enjoy an afternoon of music by
our talented local musicians**



Followed by strawberry cream tea
(optional extra)



Sunday 22nd August
3:00pm

Tickets £8

(Under 16's FREE)

Available from:

Ian Bailey ☎ 01886 884682

Julia Maclagan ☎ 01886 880402

AUGUST ASTRO

From the heavens above to modern and future technology.

I start with what is visible in the sky during darkness which currently is a very short time around 1 a.m. Summer Time.

Looking to the north, the sky is brightest as the sun is only just below the horizon. Sometimes one can see noctilucent clouds (high enough to be partially illuminated by sunlight) in that direction. As a result of climate change, they are now more prevalent, the air being higher, to be cold enough for water droplets to condense out. With the temperature difference between the equator and the poles reducing from global warming; the Jetstream, (the atmospheric equivalent of the gulf stream) at hundreds of kilometres an hour is slowing much more. It meanders, just like a river does when at slow flow it speeds down a slightly inclined flat plane. So, this high air current from the South, across the Atlantic drags in air either side from Arctic, Siberian to European to Atlantic, over us, causing far more erratic and wetter weather; you may have noticed!

From 11 August for a few nights, we have the Perseid meteor shower. An annual event, when the Earth crosses the stretched out orbit of the tail of comet Swift-Tuttle. The tiny dust sized particles hit the upper atmosphere at orbit speed around 30 kilometres per second, and vaporise with ionising streaks, appearing to radiate from their orbit direction, which is in the constellation of Perseus. Every other year it is drowned out by moonlight, but this year is favourable.

In my recent articles I tried to explain black holes ... During the short nights and into autumn, the Milky Way is getting more overhead and is glorious through binoculars; especially the region of Cygnus, the northern cross. It has many open clusters of stars and concentrated globular clusters either side and wonderful colours from stars at different surface temperatures. Halfway between the middle star and the beautiful coloured southern binocular double star Albireo (gold and blue), is the first black hole that was detected. It is an unseen object at 6000 light years distant, (a collapsed star), now known to be 21 times the mass of the Sun (I reckon that corresponds to 120 kilometres across) where the escape speed exceeds that of light; a coupled twin star is seen as wobbling about apparently nothing, i.e. orbiting about it, a strong clue!

First suggested by the UK astronomer, it was subject of a famous long-lasting bet between Stephen Hawking (black holes / A Brief History of Time etc.) and Kip Thorne (Nobel laureate, work on the gravitational wave interferometer – see below, and responsible for the accurate simulation of the black hole in the film *Interstellar*) as to whether it was (KT) or wasn't, (SH, who lost).

There is a very bright unresolved source of X rays, presumably from a higher temperature accretion disc around it, another big clue! that was detected in the 1960s with sounding rockets to get above our atmosphere (that blocks X rays). I do have a beautiful picture of that whole constellation with millions of tiny point stars also showing dark lanes between which are due to carbon dust



The detection of a massive black hole consuming a neutron star was BBC headline news last month. It was detected by the three upgraded extremely sensitive very long baseline laser interferometer systems, that can measure vibrations a fraction of the size of a neutron. I have already referred to mergers of black holes, in doing so momentarily emitting massive amounts of energy through gravitational waves, that vibrate the universe incredibly slightly. Also, recently the merger of two neutron stars, again identified in direction, which gave a visible signature in a galaxy far-far away. The combination of a black hole and a neutron star is a first, and fits the model expectations. This is all a new window on the universe causing much rethinking of our understanding.

Last month I described the basic nuclear process that powers the Sun which is responsible for all energy and life on earth which we take for granted. One of the most important processes without which we would not be here. It is the same primary reaction in all stars. For those much more massive than the Sun, when the hydrogen to helium fusion reaction is depleted, with loss of pressure there is an initial core collapse, then if it reaches a temperature of 150,000,000°C, three helium atoms rarely meeting together instantly form carbon, and then similar processes make heavier elements. It is the factory for all the material that we are made from.

Even more massive stars go on to create iron, which absorbs energy rather than releasing it, causing total collapse of the star which bounces off its compacted core as a supernova. About one per 400 years per galaxy. The remaining core becomes a white dwarf star about the size of the Earth. Massive ones collapse further to become neutron stars, about the

contd. on p17

contd. from p16

size of a city, discovered by Jocelyn Bell from Cambridge in radio wavelengths in the 1960s. Neutrons have no electric charge so do not repel each other and so can compact hugely more than otherwise. If the remaining neutron star exceeds much more mass than that of the Sun, it further collapses into a black hole, so it is a natural sequence.

Affordable generation of electricity in the future requires us to create the hydrogen to helium fusion process on Earth in a controlled way, long attempted. The problem is the huge temperature required which through magnetic containment the electrically charged hydrogen gas is prevented from hitting the walls of the container which would melt it. A recent news UK Engineering breakthrough might make it commercially feasible.

From observing the stars, we better understand the structure of nature. This has resulted in the modern electronic technology that we take for granted. Malvern theatres has just shown a production of "Copenhagen", a discussion in 1941 between two famous physicists about the nature of the atom and indeterminacy. The opposing attitude scientist's behaviour was influential on the war outcome; a popular but somewhat baffling play about so-called particles of nature, from classical thinking as spinning little balls to more abstract moving or static waves, say like water on a pond, with no precise location or time, and the significance of the observer. The latter was the issue which we now accept. Using exotic particles, we are making huge advances in medical imaging and diagnostics; to kill cancer cells is one example.

From the heavens above, I hope to give you an insight, and answer common questions of why things are what they are, possible life elsewhere and more.

CHRIS BADDILEY

EXCERPTS FROM PARISH MAGAZINES CRADLEY PARISH MAGAZINE SEPTEMBER 1897

Our Parish Church

The Service for Men upon Sunday, July 15th, was well attended. More, perhaps, might have been present if it had been at a somewhat later hour than 3pm, but the Bishop of Hereford's time during the day was so much occupied that no other could be arranged. As it was, attendance was good.

Our Parish Schools

These will have been closed for the holidays during the hop-picking season before this month's number of the Magazine is issued, and will re-open early in the month of October.

Queen's Jubilee Commemoration Entertainment

We have much pleasure in saying that the surplus, after payment of all expenses relating to the above, enable the Committee to give 8d apiece to all of the children in the Cradley Boys' & Girls' School, of whom there were 135, and to place it to each one's account in the Post Office Savings Bank, by means of the School Penny Bank. We hope that the parents of those who have thus become possessed of a Savings Bank account will do all they can to encourage them to keep it and add to it. It would be, indeed, a worthy outcome of our good Queen's Jubilee Celebration here if the 135 children had been started in a way which might lead to their becoming thrifty men and women.

Storrige (St John's)

The Bishop of the Diocese held a Confirmation in St John's on Sunday, 15th August. A large congregation had assembled and the candidates were arranged on either side of the Church, immediately in front of the Bishop, who addressed them, giving sound, practical advice for their everyday life and urging them upon the duty of publicworship.

Baptism

August 1 Gladys Victoria, daughter of Charles and Catherine Elizabeth West

Burials

July 21 Thomas Jones, aged 21
July 25 Richard Jones, aged 56
August 4 Alice Mary Philpotts, 19 days

Contributed by
JOAN PROSSER
Member of Heritage Group

DON'T FORGET!
Hard copies of advertisements and articles should be placed in the post box attached to the left hand side wall of **The Butchery, Bosbury Road, Cradley.**



A
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Saturday 25th September
On the Church Lawn
2pm-5pm

Come and enjoy a great day out for all the family.

After a long and difficult year, in a spirit of optimism, some community fun and entertainment is being planned to bring us back together with an afternoon which we hope will have something for everyone.

Stalls galore !

Bar, Music, Teas, Entertainment, etc. Come and try your hand at water dowsing!

Last few market stalls are still available free of charge to any club, society, or organisation wanting to take part.

If you would like to book a stall or run an attraction, please contact Jan Dampney:

✉ **jan@dampney.plus.com**

☎ **01886 880316**

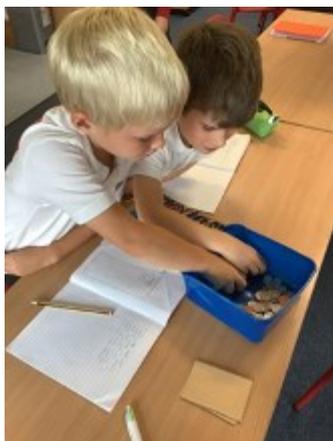
Further Details to Follow



CRADLEY SCHOOL

Class 2

In June Class 2 were busy writing a thank you letter to Luke, the man who brought in his Birds of Prey. The children counted out 66p in change to buy a second class stamp to post their letters. They took a walk to the village post office and bought their own stamps from the postmaster. They then posted their letters in the post box. They cannot wait to see if Luke replies!!



Forest School

The children have had a wonderful time in Forest School since half term including taking part in Forest School Club with Mrs Gleaves and Miss Baynham. They've been learning how to light fires, bug hunting, playing in the mud kitchen, building dens and generally having fun with their friends!!



Class 3 trip

Class 3 went on a trip to Hartlebury Castle on Tuesday 6th July to learn about life in the Victorian times and look at fashion from different periods. We began the day in the Victorian Schoolroom where we learnt all about what it was like to go to school in 1898. We got to write on chalkboards, play with Victorian toys and had to follow strict rules. We spent the afternoon looking round the castle and museum where we got to see old toys, 1920s clothing and the 1950s exhibition.



Class 5 trip

On Thursday 15th July Year 6 had a wonderful time gaining confidence and team building skills at the Green Spider Climbing centre in Hereford, followed by a delicious Dominos on their return, kindly paid for by FoCS.



KS2 Production

This year the KS2 production was Joseph. The children all took part with great enthusiasm and pulled off a fantastic performance which we are hoping to have available on the school website soon.





FoCS – Friends of Cradley School

As we write this, our FoCS team are busy making arrangements for a fun day for the children on 16th July. Due to Covid restrictions, we have been unable to have a summer fair this year, but we're delighted that thanks to the generous donations and sponsorship from local companies - Your Name On It, Kendeen Plastics, Market House Café & Gin Bar (Ledbury), Anna Akashic Healing, and Cradley Village Shop, we are able to arrange some inflatables and other treats for the children after such a challenging year. We're also grateful to Marks & Spencer Malvern, Ledbury One Stop, and Morrisons Malvern, who have kindly donated some drinks and nibbles for the day too. The school would like to buy some new laptops, and money raised will go towards FoCS helping to fund these and other extras for the children throughout the year.

We have missed being able to hold our usual fêtes and discos for the children over the last 18 months, but thankfully managed to make apple juice in September, design Christmas cards (in October!), held an Easter colouring competition and a fun day – all within the restrictions and class lockdowns. All this could not have been done without our generous contributors, the school staff – with special thanks to Rhi and Mrs Jones, and of course the energy and never ending help of our amazing team of FoCS volunteers.

Message from the Governors

Dear Parents

Firstly, a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Jones and all of the staff at school for your co-operation, perseverance and care for the children and families of Cradley School. It has been a time of highs and lows but everything has come together to get us through the year.

We thank those who are leaving, in particular Laura Symonds in Class 1 for getting stuck into the role – we will miss you. Rosie for your willingness to help in any aspects of school – thank you and happy retirement. And especially to Alison Paton. Alison has been a passionate and committed teacher for over 20 years at Cradley. She has been integral to our English curriculum, led the choir and put on spectacular plays with our Year 6 children. She has been an integral part of our school community and we thank you so much Alison for the years of dedication. The school will not be the same without you. We wish you a very happy retirement.

A final thank you to you, our parents and families. It has been a turbulent year with plans constantly changing. Thank you for your endurance with home learning, your patience with the changes and your support for our staff.

We wish everyone a happy, relaxing and safe summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you back in September for a new term. We will welcome new members of staff and face new challenges but we will succeed to be the best we can be, together.

Kindest regards

ERYL COPP AND LARA TAYLOR
Co-chairs of Governors

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

Send articles and enquiries to

Editors@cmsnewsletter.org.uk

Send advertisements and notices to

Adverts@cmsnewsletter.org.uk

**NEWSLETTER
COPY DEADLINE DATES**
Advertisements/notices: 12th of the month
(Except December: 9th of the month)
Articles: 16th of the month
(Except December: 12th of the month)



CRADLEY WI

At last a 'real' meeting! Our July meeting was a garden meeting in Judi's garden. 28 ladies met for a socially distanced catch up, and my what a catch up it was! Over strawberries and cream washed down with Prosecco (plus soft drinks of course) we enjoyed each other's company. Even the garden thrush who tried valiantly to make its voice heard couldn't overshadow the buzz of WI ladies chattering. It was a beautiful evening in beautiful surroundings. Thank you to Judi for allowing us to use her garden.

We were pleased to welcome our new members and also some visitors. Committee member Lynne had devised a challenging quiz which had us all racking our brains for the answers, where the clues were actually in the round theme. Well done to Jan and Anne who scored the most points, and thanks to the Lynnes for creating the entertaining quiz .

Members were invited to put entries into the WI produce show which we are hoping will be held in the village hall at our August meeting. Members had been sent the schedule ably devised by Sue and Lesley. National raffle tickets were on sale and our Pennies for Friendship jar was back on the table collecting small change for Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) We are to start collecting used postage stamps again to be donated to Parkinson's U.K. Some sort of normality is returning.

The book club will meet again in July and our August lunch club is planned to go to the restaurant at Ralph Court Gardens, Bromyard. As they require a deposit, members were asked to pay a small amount when putting their names down.

President Maureen asked for help at her open garden on 7th August which is to support both Herefordshire Federation and Cradley WI. (see poster on page 17). Maureen will also be downsizing her garden and household items in a garage sale, the proceeds of which will go to her sister's charity TripleB care projects in the Philippines . Homemade cakes and jam will also be available to purchase along with refreshments. Readers, please come along and support us.

Members left the meeting with a pretty reusable bag with information on this year's NFWI resolution 'to raise the awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer' , and a packet of Lynne's delicious homemade Welsh cakes.

Our next meeting is Thursday 5 August 7.30p.m. in the village hall (covid restrictions permitting) , new members and visitors welcome, contact me for more details

MAUREEN SULLIVAN
President Cradley WI.
01886 881045

Maureensullivan60@gmail.com

CRADLEY CHURCH OPEN GARDENS

The Open Gardens Weekend was a great success despite the sometimes inclement weather.

180 programs were sold and in combination with the raffle and stalls over £2400.00 was raised for the Church.

A huge thank you to everyone, who provided their garden and their hospitality over the weekend.

Everyone enjoyed the chance to explore our wonderful village and socialise with people that they have not seen for a long time.

CHRIS ROBERTS
Treasurer.

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	11.45 a.m.	FitSteps
	1.30 p.m.	Tap
	2.30 p.m.	Ballet
Tuesdays	9.20 a.m.	Pilates
	10.30 a.m.	Tap
	11.30 a.m.	FitSteps
	1.50 p.m.	Silver Swans Ballet (over 55's)
	3.00 p.m.	Belly Dance
Wednesdays	9.30 a.m.	Modern Jazz Dance
	10.35 a.m.	Ballet
	11.45 a.m.	FitSteps
	12.50 p.m.	Flamenco
	2.00 p.m.	Ballet
	3.00 p.m.	Pilates
Thursdays	10.00 a.m.	FitSteps
	11.15 a.m.	Silver Swans Ballet (over 55's)
	*2.00 p.m.	Silver Swans Ballet (over 55's)
	*8.00 p.m.	Zumba Class for Mums
Fridays	10.30 a.m.	Silver Swans Ballet (over 55's)
	11.45 a.m.	FitSteps
Saturdays	*8.45 a.m.	Zumba Class for Mums
Sundays	8.45 a.m.	Pilates
	10.00 a.m.	FitSteps

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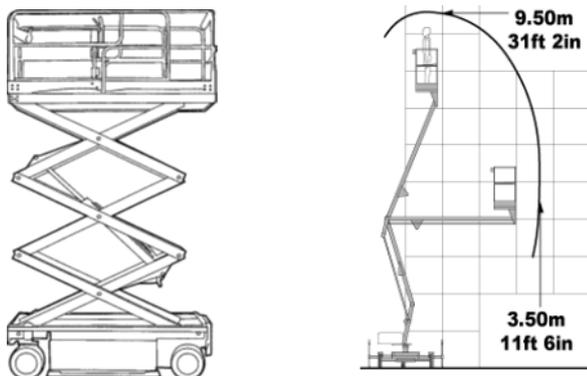
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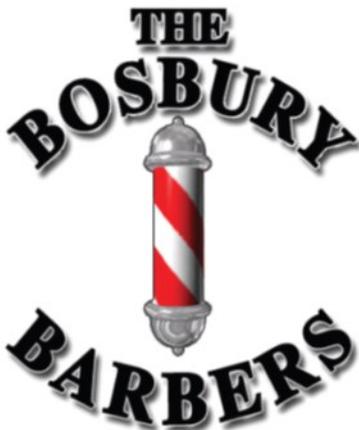
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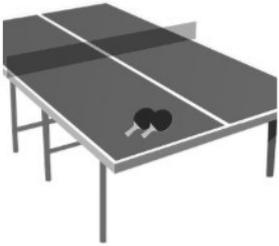
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THREE VILLAGES DIARY OF EVENTS



The diary is up and running again! Please let us know if you are planning an event or resuming your activities so we can include your dates.

AUGUST

Sun	1	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Cradley Church and Churchyard, until 5.00 p.m.
Thu	5	7.30 p.m.	Cradley WI meeting in Cradley Village Hall
Sat	7	10.00 a.m.	Open Garden at Wood End Cottage, Bromyard Road, WR13 5JW until 4.00 p.m.
Sun	8	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Cradley Church and Churchyard, until 5.00 p.m.
Sun	15	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Cradley Church and Churchyard, until 5.00 p.m.
Sun	22	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Cradley Church and Churchyard, until 5.00 p.m.
Tues	24	10.30 a.m.	Coffee Morning (with stalls) at Mathon Church and Churchyard until noon
Sun	29	3.00 p.m.	Cream Teas at Cradley Church and Churchyard, until 5.00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Thu	2	7.30 p.m.	Cradley WI meeting in Cradley Village Hall
Sat	18	TBA	16 th Annual Cradley Produce Show Cradley Village Hall
Sat	25	2.00 p.m.	A Community Celebration on the Church Lawn until 5.00 p.m.

OCTOBER

Thu	7	7.30 p.m.	Cradley WI meeting in Cradley Village Hall
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NOVEMBER

Thu	4	10.00 a.m.	Cradley WI meeting in Cradley Village Hall
Sat	22	10.30 a.m.	Mathon Church Christmas Fair at Mathon Parish Hall until noon

DECEMBER

Thu	2	7.30 p.m.	Cradley WI meeting in Cradley Village Hall
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Please keep your articles, event notices and reports coming in. Please, whenever possible, email your contributions to the editorial team at: editors@cmsnewsletter.org.uk. We will be printing and delivering the printed version of the *Newsletter* as usual unless the Covid situation worsens. Additionally, it continues to be accessible to online subscribers at cmsnewsletter.org.uk

Please send all advertising bookings and enquiries to the advertising team at: adverts@cmsnewsletter.org.uk

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Editorial Team: Robert Colledge, Antonia Musgrove, Ian Thompson.
The editor of the August issue will be Ian Thompson.

Compilation Team: Barbara Davies, Pauline Diplock, Jackie White



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Rector: The Revd Robert Ward, telephone 01886 880438
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