

# The Parish Magazine

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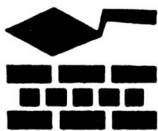
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## OUR RURAL DEAN, THE REVD SARAH DANGERFIELD, WRITES...

I wonder with what you associate the month of September? The start of a new academic year? The resumption of meetings? A seasonal piece of work? A holiday when the school's return? The changing colour of the trees? The beginning of rehearsals for a Christmas concert?



For me, September is a month I look forward to meeting up with the children in school after the summer holidays and meeting new pupils. I look forward to Harvest lunches and suppers (what a benefit to have five or more to go to!) because these are those special times when a village comes together to give thanks for what we have been given, and to remember and to share with others whose harvest is less than plentiful. I look forward to hearing what the choir has chosen to sing for Advent and Christmas. And yes, September is one of my two favourite months for two of my interests – walking and gardening.

This September such associations are somewhat confused. Things are not going to happen quite in the same way as they have before. All of us are having to think of how to do things in new ways – at work, at school, at home, and in church. We are living with uncertainty. Many are facing money worries. Some of the decisions which were already hard to make, can be harder with the effects of the pandemic. Yet, new opportunities are arising. To build upon the good things we have learnt in recent months. A time to re-think, to re-prioritise, and to look at the bigger issues in our personal lives and the life we share with others.

It is not surprising that so many people say how tired they feel. Thinking through complex stuff is tiring. It can be emotional too. Less surprising is that more people than ever are saying they pray. In this we recognise we do not have the power within ourselves to work things out for good, or the strength to do everything we feel responsible for ..... but God does, and God generously gives when we ask in prayer.

Prayer to me can sometimes feel like bringing to God a knotty mass of threads – and asking God to help me watch Him as He unravels them – not straight away – over time – and asking God to grant me the patience of waiting while He does.

Right now, lots of things can feel even more of a jumble than usual. In so many aspects of life – there are many things to think through afresh – it can feel like a maze of old and new – known and unknown.

Living prayerfully – trusting the moment to God in prayer – asking God to untie the knots to help us to see His ways, for they may not be our ways. Asking God to show us what is important and what is not important.

Paul in his letter to the Romans (8: 26,27) wrote:

*“The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”* Asking God to show us the seeds He has planted. They may be tiny like a mustard seed – but it is God’s seed – and if it is Gods and by His grace we work with it, whatever it is in our life – we can trust Him for its growth.

Prayer helps us to see things in ourselves and around us, in a different light. We begin to see and hear with the eyes and ears of God. Living prayerfully helps others to see through us, things in God’s light too. What we mean by His glory.

With every blessing,

Sarah, Rural Dean of Pershore and Parish Priest of The Five Alive Parish

## CHURCH WORSHIP CAN RESTART with important restrictions

Praise God, we are permitted to meet again. A number of services around Bredon Hill are now planned. Those in our parish in the next month will be...

**Sunday 30 August 10.30am with the Rev Allison Davies at St Giles, Bredon**

**Sunday 6 September 9.00am with the Rev Allison Davies at Bredon's Norton**

**Sunday 20 September 10.30am with the Revd Allison Davies at St Giles, Bredon**

Please note:

- On arrival, those attending will be asked to sanitise their hands
- For social distancing, many pews will be partitioned off
- There will be no singing at all
- There will be no shaking of hands, kisses of welcome, etc
- Face-masks must be worn.

## BREDON WI

### A WAITING GAME

Like so many these days, The WI is playing the waiting game. We would love to get back to our monthly meetings and our many other activities, but restrictions on numbers gathering and suitable venues mean that, at the moment, we cannot report a certainty, only conjecture. We may be able to meet on our third Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, but confirmation will have to wait until nearer the date.



We were saddened to hear of the proposed closure of Denman College, whose courses and visits have provided much pleasure to many of our members over many years. The non-availability of Cheltenham Town Hall means no big Autumn meetings and no Carol Concert in December. Unimaginable! Some vocal cords will be coated in rust. However, there is plenty of activity nearer home to compensate. You should just HEAR the clicking of knitting needles, and the turning of cookery book pages!

Viv Ebbage 773549

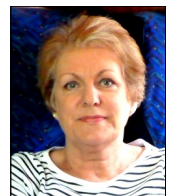


I'm sure you are like me and wondering how we have reached September already! In May I would have held the Annual Meeting for the Friends of St. Giles and listened to the excellent speaker I had lined up! Unfortunately, like everything else, it all had to be cancelled.

This also means that my committee have been unable to come around the parish collecting for the Friends. However, if you would like to contribute, please just call me and we can arrange something.

We do have various projects for the church on the back burner so all contributions would be so gratefully received.

Joan Needham, Chair Friends of St. Giles Church  
01684 772689 or email : jrmandmj@gmail.com





## Flu Campaign Message from Bredon Hill Surgery

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will be running our **flu clinics** differently this year, in order to keep our patients and staff safe.

If you are eligible for a vaccination, you will be contacted by the surgery and asked to book in to one of our designated flu clinics. We plan to start our vaccination program, at the end of September.

As we get more information, we will keep you informed via our website.



## BREDONS HANCOCK'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

In 1998 the Trustees had the Charity Scheme governing the above Foundation revised by the Charity Commission so that they are able to pursue the distribution of income from the Trust.

This will enable the Trustees to make **small grants to further the education of persons under twenty five who are in need of financial assistance, who live (or whose parents live) in the Parish and who have at any time attended a school in the Parish (and for this purpose Bredon Hill Middle School and Prince Henry's School are included).**



The Trustees propose to make grants on an annual basis, initially to assist applicants in the purchase of books or essential equipment for their courses. Applicants are permitted to re-apply for the duration of their course. For the avoidance of doubt the Trustees will consider applications from those commencing an apprenticeship.

Any existing or prospective applicant who meets the above criteria is invited to ask the Clerk to the Trustees, Mr T M Foster, 48A, Bretforton Road, Badsey, Evesham, Worc, WR11 7XQ (telephone 01386 831314) email [timothymfoster@outlook.com](mailto:timothymfoster@outlook.com) for an application form.

The application list will close 30th September 2020 and the Trustees will determine the result of the applications as soon as possible thereafter and will notify the successful applicants accordingly. All applications will be treated in strict confidence by the Trustees.



## NO SOUP AND SANDWICHES THIS YEAR

It is really sad that this year, due to the current circumstances and uncertainty surrounding the Coronavirus outbreak, we will be unable to hold our annual Soup and Sandwiches event to raise money for St. Richard's Hospice and Bredon Community Care. I'm sure these charities would be grateful for any donation you may wish to make.



Carol Miller, Secretary of Bredon Community Care

## BREDON BOWLS – still enjoying the outdoor life

Despite the lockdown, the bowling club has managed to survive and has been open for Club events since mid-May. The Green has been popular for social bowling and used by over 90% of our members – all adhering to the health & safety requirements put in place by Bowls England.

We have also been able to run the Men's A & B league on Tuesdays and a Ladies league (Captain's v President's team) on Thursday evenings. The individual club competitions have also taken place during the season running up to the Finals at the end of August.

The Wilf & Hilda trophy was played for in early August on a very hot weekend. Jo provided a substantial BBQ to keep up our energy levels. The finalists – Richard Woodward & Maureen Harley; Lesley Wood & Roger Cooke contested the Trophy on the Club Finals Weekend. We had our first outside fixture against Suffolk Square (Cheltenham) which was very well supported.



Unfortunately the annual tour to Bournemouth has had to be cancelled but the 2021 tour to the Isle of Wight is already fully subscribed.

Despite the "Covid inconvenience", we already have had 6 new members so if you would like to try your hand at bowls, Richard Woodward (01684 772932) is willing to set you on your way; or phone our secretary Ian Day (07587168789) for more details.

Jill Marshment



## QUIZ from Inquizzitor no 1

- 1 What date is All Saints Day?
- 2 Which girl group had a number 1 hit record in 1997 with 'Never Ever'?
- 3 Which waterway connects the American Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean?
- 4 Upon which island did Napoleon Bonaparte spend his last days ?
- 5 Who wrote the 'Saint' series of novels, later serialised on TV with Roger Moore as the principal character Simon Templar?
- 6 Which Scottish Football Premiership club play their home games in Perth?
- 7 What brand name did Marks and Spencer use from 1927 until 2000?
- 8 Which English King was canonised by Pope Alexander III in 1161?
- 9 Near which town, on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1455, was the first battle of the Wars of the Roses fought?
- 10 To which Saint is Tewkesbury Abbey Church dedicated?



*To see how well you have done, please check your answers on the back cover*



## **Bredon Cricket Club**

The Covid-19 Pandemic has made this season most unusual for Bredon Cricket Club. Players must now arrive early for matches dressed in their full cricket kit. They need to bring their own food and drink; the days of fabulous cricket teas have passed, for the moment! Also, we need to personally sanitise after every six overs, including cleaning the cricket ball.

However, following a most pleasant social function to start the season which was very well attended by members, the leagues have started for our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>

and 3<sup>rd</sup> XIs. The original leagues have been significantly reduced in number and have been regionalised to ease travelling arrangements. Results have been mixed, but all players have realised how fortunate we are to have eventually started a very delayed season. The league fixtures will now continue into late September, with our last league matches on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September. We are again grateful for the use of the ground facilities at Birlingham Cricket Club for our 3<sup>rd</sup> XI, which is a development team for our aspiring junior players.

Our Junior teams are performing very well and enjoying their respective leagues. Through careful coaching, and interesting matches, great progress is being made in their cricket skills. Sadly, the "All-Stars Cricket Programme", for five to eight-year olds, and the new "Dynamos Programme" for eight to eleven-year olds have had to be cancelled for this season. We are extremely grateful to the coaches and parents who give freely of their time to help our youngsters hone their cricketing skills.

The pandemic has also seriously affected our Club's finances. We were most grateful to everyone locally who responded to our appeal for people to join as Members for this shortened season. The response to our appeal was outstanding and we managed to recruit over 160 members at a very reduced rate for this year. Thank you very much indeed to everyone for their support at this difficult time.

**Social Events.** To celebrate the return of cricket and the short season that we have enjoyed, we are holding an "End of Season" party at the Clubhouse on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020. We look forward to an enjoyable end to our shortened season. Our family bar has been opened on Thursdays after nets, on Fridays which are the Junior practice nights, on Saturdays during and after league matches and on Sundays when we have a variety of games.

**Bredon Cricket Club on-line.** Bredon Cricket Club is online:- [www.bredoncricketclub.com](http://www.bredoncricketclub.com). Follow us on [www.facebook.com/bcc](https://www.facebook.com/bcc) and @BredonCricket. The site is updated regularly; please look at the most recent news.



Derek Ebbage

## **Bredon Outward Bound Association**

<b>July Draw</b>	<b>£</b>
174 S Branchett	50
132 R Woodward	50
105 D Milliams	5
169 B Cutler	5
86 L Whittaker	5
28 J Diamond	5
149 A Chapman	5
11 T Washbourne	5



<b>August Draw</b>	<b>£</b>
159 K Falvey	50
80 S Abbott	50
194 C Scarrott	5
99 I Masters	5
90 G Onions	5
112 R Collins	5
34 S Smith	5
163 M Bird	5

Richard Cowley / Ray Lane

## THE GARAGE WHICH BECAME A SHOP IN LOCKDOWN

**Wendy Harrison**, of Back Lane / Perwell Close, came up with a bright idea of producing an article about an enterprise, based in Back Lane, which has received some attention in recent days and which deserves to be promoted. The idea was warmly received! Wendy writes...

These are indeed strange times, when very little is the same as usual.

One thing which hasn't changed is our custom to mark birthdays and anniversaries - but how do we get hold of cards when we are in lock-down?

In a crisis, **step forward Pam Frith**, Bredon's Back Lane's water-colour artist in residence.

Pam had already established the home production and sale of her cards and pictures by attending local markets and fund-raising events. All of her proceeds go to Umthombo, a charity working with street children in Durban, South Africa.

It is a long way from Bredon to Durban. The link came through Pam's son Daniel and his wife Sarah who worked for a period of time as volunteers for the charity. Daniel was Operations Manager, helping out in many different ways, whilst Sarah, who has a Masters degree in Forensic Psychology, made a valuable contribution.



Wendy, left, and Pam enjoy a coffee in Wendy's garden on a lovely summer morning, to discuss the article.

Eight years ago, Pam and her husband Christopher visited them in Durban, where they enthusiastically spent time in the Umthombo Centre. So impressed were they by the work done there, and by the success rate in truly setting young people on a worthwhile path in life, that on their return home, plans were made. Painting a huge variety of water-colours, followed by the production of cards and calendars featuring them, some rather *quirky*, others more traditional in style, began in earnest, and Pam's undoubted artistic talent continued to blossom.



The Card and Picture Shop in the Garage

All through these trying weeks of lock-down, from her garage Pam has sold cards for all seasons, local scenes, animals and birds, and much else, as well as a number of paintings, both originals and prints. To her delight, so far she has sent £2,260 from recent sales of paintings and cards to support the work of Umthombo.

There must be quite a few people in this area who can remember Margaret Firkins, as a direct and warm-hearted lady, one-time Churchwarden of Overbury, who was generous in giving her time to

help people in need. We should not be surprised then that her daughter, Pam Frith, is of the same ilk. Pam does not take her artistic skills for granted. She said she feels blessed that the gift she has been granted can be used to bring pleasure to many, and aid to underprivileged youngsters in faraway Durban.



In 2012, Pam is succeeding in getting Umthombo boys to enjoy painting watercolours



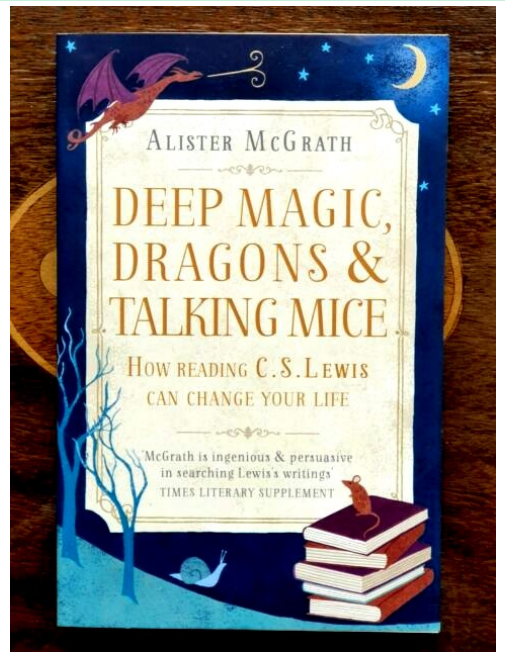
**Book for September 2020****DEEP MAGIC, DRAGONS & TALKING MICE****How reading C S Lewis can change your life**

by Alister McGrath

Alister McGrath invites us to imagine a conversation with Lewis in a pub or perhaps as tutorials, where the great questions of life are freely debated. What would Lewis say to someone trying to cope with grief? Or needs help to cope with life's hard knocks? What is the meaning of life?

Lewis believed in 'story' as a medium to convey meaning and understanding. Hence Narnia is created, and the seven novels of the series became the best-known of his works. McGrath tells us they were conceived during the late forties when Lewis' world was falling to pieces, both for his own career and the sad state of England in the aftermath of war.

In the first novel "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe" we are introduced to the land of 'Narnia' which is a parallel world, not of humans, (though they had heard of them) but of all kinds of other beings - some of them able to speak! These were all under the oppressive rule of a 'white witch' and it was always winter there. Into this environment four children are mysteriously inducted (through a wardrobe) and are soon embroiled in the battle. The entry of a redeeming lion called Aslan sees the situation firmly reversed. It was a world in which Lewis skilfully replicates, in principle, the situation of the real world that we inhabit; a warfare between Good and Evil.



Alister McGrath

Quote;

*Human beings are meaning-seeking creatures. Deep down within all of us is a longing to work out what life is all about and what we're meant to be doing. Whether it's the university student wondering what subject to study or the Christian seeking God's will or the armchair philosopher contemplating his or her purpose in the world, most of us want a reliable foundation for our lives and are asking questions that relate to it. Why am I alive? What is this life about? What is at life's core? What is my relationship to the physical world and the others around me? Is there a God, and what difference does it make?*

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Book introduced by Derek Cain



Derek Cain

**QUOTE. . . UNQUOTE** from Gloria Cain

Both Tolkien and C.S. Lewis wrote great stories because they could paint a happy ending... because they knew that ultimately there would be one. We feel the world is broken... because it is.

We long for someone to rescue us ... and he has. We look forward to a day when things will be put right... and they will be.

Michael Ots. What Kind of Hope?



## SELF ISOLATION IN A RURAL PARISH

After forty years in Bredon, I thought I knew them all ..all the pathways. I had walked every right of way in the parish at least once, but not, as it happened, during the first week of May. 'Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?' gives us the impression that Shakespeare considered summer to be the premier season of the year, and of life. Leaving that aside, having being born several centuries ago, he could never have witnessed that unforgettable scene from the top of the railway embankment in Kinsham.



The familiar wave of the Malverns, Bredon Hill and the Cotswold escarpment were all in their place, while before and below me stretched 800 metres of golden meadowland alongside the Carrant Brook. Never had I walked here at this particular time of year. In winter it had been flooded with muddied water yet, in this week of May, it was transformed into a sunlit carpet of countless millions of buttercups: the goldfields of Kinsham.

This was not my only discovery. Thanks to dog-walking friends, I learned of a pathway with curlews in the early spring, yellow water lilies later on along the river bank, and of a timeless scene above the Avon of the beckoning spire of St Giles, silhouetted on its promontory.

Still, we really cannot blame Shakespeare, for 'Shall I compare thee to a *springtime* day?' doesn't quite cut the mustard, and certainly not ours in Tewkesbury. Even so, when the time comes to cast our mind back over the year, the month of May might turn out to have been more like summer than summer itself.

Meanwhile, in the latter half of June, the linseed fields of Lower Westmancote are turning themselves sky-blue, reminding me of the final work of John Moore's trilogy: The Blue Field. If only the oak tree, planted in his memory in the same village over half a century ago, were not looking so neglected. Sparked off by the repeat of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* on BBC 4, I actually began to read and appreciate the sense of Elinor, the sensibility of Marianne, the steadfast faithfulness of Captain Wentworth and the folly of Emma. At long last, P and P is off the shelf and, if it had not been for the lockdown, when would I ever have found the time?

If Jane Austen is now really being read, Monty Don's 'Gardeners' World' is being watched *and* listened to. With pencil and paper in hand, I have noted down this and that recommendation. Purple dead nettles are already in growth. Astrantias are planted, giving star-like flowers until the end of October, and the plant of the century, winner of the Chelsea Flower Show, 2013: Rozanne, the blue geranium is beginning to flower, pleasantly complementing the whites and pinks. Now, all that is needed is to await the group of newly arrived Nandinas, known as 'Firepower', to live up to their name in the autumn.



For those of us fortunate enough to be surviving lockdown and self-isolation, thanks, let it be said, to the support of others, there *are* some real positives, and, as my mother would gently remind us during the long years of rationing, 'we must count our blessings.'

Noel Slaney

## SYLVIA HARRINGTON'S RECIPE FOR SEPTEMBER

### Raspberry Meringues with Elderflower Cream -serves 4

#### For the meringues

4 egg whites  
225gms caster sugar  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
1 teaspoon cornflour  
1 teaspoon vanilla essence]  
2 x 125grms punnets raspberries

#### For the Elderflower Cream

170grms mascapone  
2 tablespoons icing sugar  
2 tablespoons elderflower cordial  
Preheat oven 110c gas ½ line 2 baking sheets with baking parchment



- Whisk the egg whites with a pinch of salt until stiff.
- Gradually add the sugar whisking until you can stand a spoon in the mixture.
- Add the lemon juice, cornflour and vanilla extract and fold in the raspberries.
- Place heaped tablespoons of mixture on the prepared baking trays.
- Bake in oven for about 1hr 30 mins or until crisp and dry to the touch and they lift off the paper easily.
- Meanwhile mix together the mascapone, icing sugar and elderflower cordial. Chill until needed .
- To serve sandwich together two raspberry meringues with a spoonful of the elderflower cream.
- Dust with icing sugar

*Repeated from July in case you missed it*

## Bredon and Bredon's Norton Parish Council



### Your Local Lockdown Heroes

The coronavirus lockdown has seen a surge in charitable work, community groups and people simply looking out for each other, whether friends, family, neighbours or strangers.

Bredon Parish Council would like to recognise those who have gone above & beyond during the Covid-19 pandemic. We would like to say "Thank You" to all those who assisted the vulnerable members of our local community.

If you would like to nominate a person, business or organisation, (up to 2 nominations) including a short description of what they have done during the pandemic to deserve your vote, then please vote online using the following link to our survey:- <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9XJ7J3R> or send your nominations by post to the Clerk, Bredon Village Hall, Main Road, Bredon, GL20 7QN before the end of September 2020.

### Footways

There has been a lot of feedback regarding the footways in and around Bredon, especially as during lockdown everyone was using them more.

We've spoken to our County Councillor, Adrian Hardman, who is our direct contact with Worcestershire County Council who have responsibility for most footways, though not all. The feedback had some interesting facts that we thought would be good to share with our parishioners.

The County Council has a limited budget to spend, spread across many villages and towns. There is a priority when it comes to footway spending, which when explained makes logical sense.

County is rolling out a programme to upgrade footways with an emphasis on usage, hence footways close to local services - church, shops, pubs, and areas with a higher density of houses are prioritised. This explains why Church Street, the Main Road and Blenheim Drive are more often maintained. Rural Interconnector footways, like the ones to Westmancote and Kinsham, have a lower priority.

Other footways e.g. Queensmead don't fall under the remit of County Council or the Parish Council which adds to the confusion.

### Ken Brown's Obituary

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the death of Kenneth Brown on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020, aged 84. Ken and his wife Sally, moved to Bredon in 1999, with Ken being elected to Bredon Parish Council in May 2003 and he served until April 2011. He was the Chairman from October 2008 to April 2011.

The Parish Council would like to recognise the good work that Ken did for our community while he served on the Parish Council. Most significantly was the purchase in 2010 of the Playing Field Site and the associated buildings and facilities e.g. the Village Hall and the Sports Club facilities. Prior to this, the Parish Council had leased all these facilities from the Hancock's trust. The money for the purchase was borrowed from the District Council and was co-incidentally repaid in full earlier this year.

There were many more projects and decisions Ken was involved in, but far too many to mention here. But what a legacy to leave our community.

### Planning Applications

**The Parish Council's role is only advisory. For more details, please refer to [www.wychavon.gov.uk](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk).**

**For consideration by Wychavon:**

**W/19/02468** - Offices and Premises Rear of Old Croft Farmhouse, Rectory Lane, Bredon's Hardwick. Change of use of 'the bam' from storage/office use to a dwelling annexe to the main house and alterations to listed buildings. **PC has no objections subject to the conservation officer.**

**W/20/01335** - Southcroft Cottage, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton. Replacement of gable end first floor bay window and wooden surrounding frame. **PC has no objections.**

### Date of Next Meeting:

#### Monthly Parish Council

*Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September*

takes place in Bredon

Village Hall at 7:15pm

This meeting will take place virtually, please contact the Clerk for access to this meeting.

## A FORTUNATE MAN by SAM WILKINSON

Looking back I have had my fair share of disasters: loss of a wife and son, business nearly going bust and second wife's long illness, but there always seemed a change to long periods of happiness to follow. I had adapted to a single existence and Joyce was content in the care home and all was well until the start of the year when a stroke left me lying on the floor.

This was when the good fortune started, I slid down to the bathroom floor without injury and I had my emergency button with me. The ambulance arrived in less than an hour and I was in hospital within half an hour. The NHS was first class in their care over the several week stay in hospital. When the time came to depart, they made sure that I had a suitable home to go to, providing a hospital bed and bathroom furniture together with three carers to look after me for six weeks.

My other good fortune is to find myself among such wonderful neighbours. Having carers is one thing; they do an excellent job but, friendly as they are, it can never be the same as years of friendship. I am eternally grateful to all who have stood by me through this difficult year and I would like to say a sincere thank you.



*Sam coping so well after his stroke and then a fractured pelvis, now enjoying getting out a bit in a wheelchair*

## ST RICHARD'S HOSPICE FUNDRAISERS

The arrival of the Covid19 disrupter meant that only tiny amounts of money were finding their way into the needs of running our Hospice. Big summer events and challenges could not be held, but the Hospice fundraising department came up with an **accessible and flexible challenge; to cover 100 km over about 4 weeks, by any means of movement: walk, run, skateboard, row.....CYCLE!** Derek Ebbage hauled out his old bike, cycled all the way to Kemerton and back, realising that he ought to have a more modern bike!

This was just the inspiration he needed to encourage his gentle progress from a round trip to Kemerton to long rural jaunts over south Worcs. The 100km soon became 100 miles, as supporting sponsors rallied to the call, and the power of technology became obvious. Facebook seems to have access to an enormous population. From a teacher at The Havel School in Berlin came the message "Good on you, Derek. You were a great Headmaster!" from 26 years ago. Such was the response of Derek's legs and the continuous flow of sponsorship that he has raised an amazing **£1320**, which is a wonderful response. Many thanks to all who gave him such support when cricket and swimming are (temporarily) things of the past. It's been fun!



Viv Ebbage

## UNEXPECTED TREASURE.



Rosalind, who lives up the road from me, knocked at the front door, carrying a large silver flower vase. She had been taking advantage of our enforced extra home hours by clearing out shelves and cupboards, and here was something with some writing on, for which maybe I could find an appropriate home. Somewhat puzzled and decidedly intrigued, I polished it into the best sparkle possible and was able to read the inscription running around the base:  
*Presented to St Giles Bredon by the Bredon Members of the Mothers' Union March:25:1926*

The Mothers' Union was founded on March 25 (Lady Day) 1876, fifty years before that presentation to St Giles, so next year we shall fill the silver vase with a multitude of colourful flowers, and celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the M.U. I wonder if anyone has any memories of this (pictured) vase, which now lies cosily inside St Giles Church. Thank you, Rosalind for finding it for us - a most unexpected treasure, indeed.



**In loving memory of  
ERICA SHERGOLD HUGHES  
19<sup>th</sup> January 1931 – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Erica, or as many of you will know her as Sue, was quite a country girl at heart. She will be remembered as the devoted wife of John, mum to Diana, Antony, Jane, Roger and Clare and also a proud grandmother and great grandmother. The family she leaves behind are certainly her legacy, and she will live on through the influence she has had on all these lives.

She was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1931 at 7 Church Row, Overbury, where she became the little sister to Richard (Dick) Cranton. During her schooling, she went to live in Andover with family and went to Andover Grammar School.

On leaving school, Erica trained as a nursery nurse at Birmingham Children's Hospital. Then after the war she went to work at a convalescence home which was attached to the children's hospital, but was called Red House in Overbury. She would socialise as a member of the Overbury Young Farmers and it was here that she met her future husband John Hughes. The young couple were married on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1951, at St Faith's Church Overbury. They started married life living at Manor Farm, Westmancote, as John was a farmer. They were both proud to welcome three children on this farm, Diana, Antony and Jane. The family moved to Hillsbrook in Bredon, in 1958 and it was here that the family was complete with Roger and Clare who were born here. This remained the family home until 1990 and then Erica and John had a bungalow built in the ground to live in until 2017.

Erica was a strong character and was never afraid to express her opinion. It might not have always been what you wanted to hear, but she would be honest and you knew where you stood. This quality helped her throughout her time as an active member of the Bredon Community, as she was:

- Member of Bredon Parish Council  
Bredon Village Hall Committee
- Bredon Norton Amateur Dramatics Group
- An avid knitter and dress maker

For many years, Erica was the lollipop lady and dinner lady at Bredon Hancock's Primary School and she was known for taking no messing from drivers or the children!

Erica was also a proud gran to nine grandchildren – Katy, Gemma, James, Gary, Richard, Tracey, Rachel, Alistair and Nicola. They enjoyed running around the grounds at Hillsbrook and making fond memories of her and a proud grandad. But she was even more grateful to be a great grandmother of eight who made her smile and laugh so much.

She will certainly be missed, but she can rest in peace knowing that she made a difference to the lives of her family and Community / Parish, and will be remembered with love and respect.

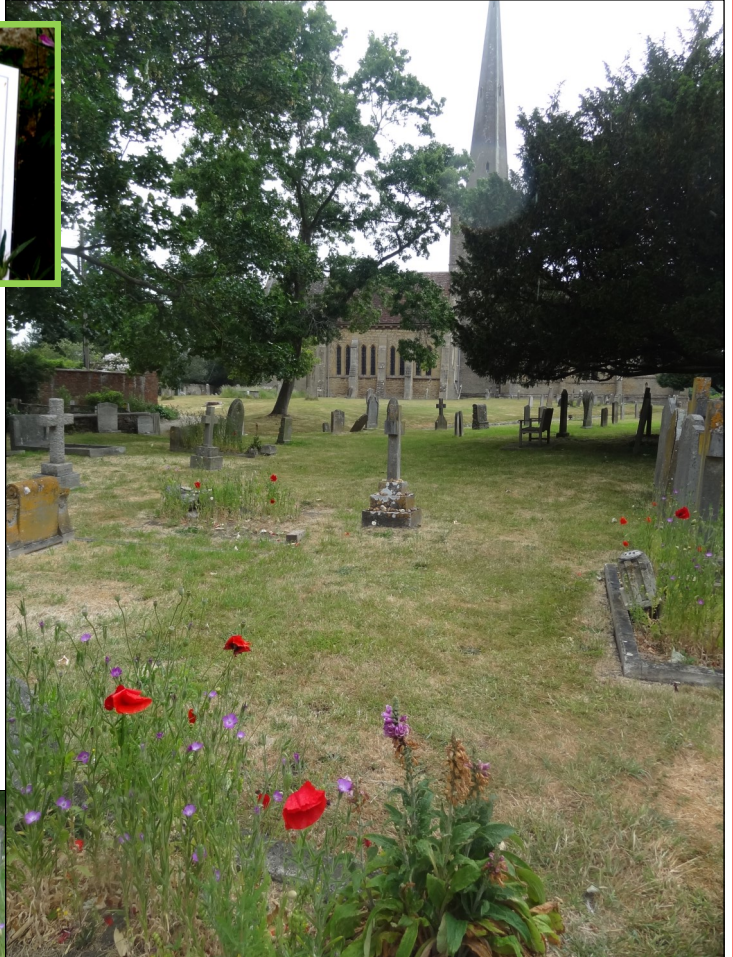
The family especially Clare and Gemma would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all friends and neighbours for the cards of condolences, words of comfort, kind support and sympathy shown during their recent sad time.

Please raise a cup of tea and a piece of shortbread in Erica's memory or, if you prefer, have a small port and *After Eight* as these were firm favourites too!

Donations in her memory were for the Air Ambulance.



*Erica Hughes with great grandchildren, Victoria and Edward*



## A THOUGHT ABOUT PEOPLE WE FIND DIFFICULT

Jesus never prayed for God to remove difficult people from His life. If He had, there would have been nobody left.

from Word for Today, for 7 August 2020

### Sylvia Harrington's Recipe No 2

#### Damson and Almond Cobbler

Serves 6

1kg damsons washed and destalked  
 85 g white sugar  
 85g light muscavado sugar plus 1  
 tablespn  
 115g plain flour  
 100g ground almonds  
 3 level tspn baking powder  
 1 pinch of fine salt  
 85gms cold unsalted butter roughly  
 chopped  
 6fl oz buttermilk or full cream milk with  
 1teaspn lemon juice  
 2-3drops almond essence or extract  
 15gms flaked almonds  
 1-2 litre ovenproof dish

oven 200c gas7

Gently simmer damsons for a few minutes with the white and brown sugars ---taste --you may need more according to your taste and place in dish.

Combine the flour ground almonds baking powder and salt in a food processor and whizz for a few seconds and add the butter and whizz again until mixture looks like breadcrumbs.

Pour in the buttermilk or the milk and lemon juice and the almond essence. Process again until the mixture forms a claggy mass. Remove the blades and scrape the mixture on them into the bowl.

Using your fingers and a spoon dollop tangerine sized heaps on top of the damsons --there should be enough to do eight little cobbles. Finish with scattering the flaked almonds over the top and the remaining tablespoon of muscavado sugar.

Place the dish on the middle shelf in the oven and cook for 20-30 mins until the cobbles have risen and a lovely golden brown and the damsons are bubbling.

Remove from oven and leave to cool for about 10 mins and serve with thick cream or creme fraiche or custard.

### Not the Cote d'Azur but Kemerton Nature Reserve



Each sunflower is singing with the psalmist: *Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.*



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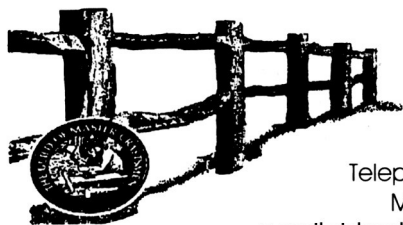
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# OVERBURY

## ENTERPRISES

On the surface Overbury encapsulates much of what might be the archetypal peaceful, country estate, including lambs playing in rolling parkland, Cotswold stone cottages and a beautiful village hall. So, it may come as a surprise to discover how much goes on here.

Yoga, concerts, art classes, a nursery school and after school club, in addition to a huge variety of local small businesses from stud, to IT, designers and artisans. The village is home to a vibrant school, church and sports clubs.

Conderton Manor Farmhouse is now open and welcoming guests, and our full fibre premises expanding to serve more and more

residents and businesses. Our Overbury Estate Office is the administrative hub which supports the farms, building, gardens, forestry and Grasshoppers nursery teams.

Whether you want to use the full fibre network at the Old Village Shop for some coworking in the week, take part in a wellbeing or fitness class or enjoy the miles of public footpaths around Bredon hill, there is something for everyone.

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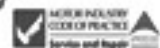
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## CENTENARIES Viv Ebbage writes...

Fancy **Bredon celebrating two century birthdays** within weeks of each other. The legendary **Marion Ralls** was first to get there, followed by the lovely **Henry Ducker** (father of Elaine Lane) a bit later. We had planned a secret combined celebration lunch in church, on a Sunday half way between the two dates, but along came Covid19, and all changed. Social distancing did not put off the many who knocked on front doors and sang their hearts out. "Happy Birthday" rang out around the village. Fancy being born in 1920! It makes me feel quite young!



**Marion Ralls**  
100 on 4 June



**Henry Ducker**  
100 on 7 July

Many congratulations to Marion and Henry, along with much love from many people.

If any readers were unable to see our tributes to Marion and Henry in our on-line issues in June and July/August, They can still be seen by going to [www.bredonparish.com](http://www.bredonparish.com)

Below are a selection of photos in Blenheim Drive, when Birthday greetings to Henry were *ringing out around the village*.



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### **THE NEXT PARISH MAGAZINE will be for October 2020**

**DEADLINE : Wednesday 12 September** for material to be included.

All items to be included should go to the editor, Christopher Frith, by that date please [bredonparishmaged@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bredonparishmaged@hotmail.co.uk) or Cover Point, Back Lane, Bredon [01684 773164]

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#### **QUIZ ANSWERS**

*First see the questions on page 8!*

1/ November 1<sup>st</sup>; 2/ All Saints; 3/ St Lawrence Seaway; 4/ St Helena; 5/ Leslie Charteris;  
6/ St Johnstone; 7/ St Michael; 8/ Edward the Confessor; 9/ St Albans; 10/ St Mary the Virgin

**THE COVER PHOTO**, Portrait of Bredon, previously shown in black & white on our Dec/Jan cover, was taken by Rick Cook. The quilt hangs in Bredon Village Hall.