


The Parish Magazine

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June 2020

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Cover Feature

VE DAY 75th ANNIVERSARY LOCKDOWN STYLE

It was all going to be so special. All over the UK and almost all over the world, we had a wonderful reason to celebrate : **75 years ago** peace had broken out after six long, wearisome years of horrific war.



Bredon Churchyard

One of our senior St Giles' members, Denis Clay, was a small boy with his family outside Buckingham Palace that day, watching King George VI, the Royal Family and the Prime Minister Winston Churchill, amidst much cheering and celebration. He remembers the excitement very clearly. We were all hoping to be able to continue the celebrating in May 2020, as attempts were made to keep alive memories of the horror of war as well as the joy of it ending with the knowledge of victory wonderfully achieved.

All this was as a nation, in common with all other nations, we have been contending with another sinister enemy, a pandemic unlike anything we have encountered before, named *Covid-19 coronavirus*. The world had been put *on hold*. We were unable to go to church to thank God. We were even unable to meet together anywhere.

On Bredon churchyard's flagpole, the Union Flag was hung by Margot Dryden, who kindly lent us, as she has for many years, the flag which she inherited from her father on whose ship it was flying for the D-Day landings - making it especially appropriate this year. The photo was taken by our churchwarden, Peter Whitehead, who of course is a former army officer.



Bredon's Norton Church

At Bredon's Norton, there was a beautiful VE Day celebration flower arrangement by Kristina, in the entrance porch, to be seen by all who walked that way. The photo was taken by Mike Barrett. In both our churches, the occasion was appropriately marked, in an unexpectedly low-key way

When or if a community wishes to celebrate, it naturally assumes being together and has never previously experienced *social distancing*. The two things don't go together. The report by Viv Ebbage on Bredon WI (on page 12), is about sitting out in front gardens with teapots and home-made cakes, being thoroughly British and celebrating that way, as perhaps you and your neighbours did. We who live in Back Lane did just that. The four young mums on the lane, Beth, Sophie, Rachel and Jo invited us to enjoy a cream tea with scones and cakes which they made and delivered to us all in wearing fine dresses. We heard Vera Lynn singing away and we all joined in with *We'll meet again*. It was a lovely occasion, much enjoyed by us all. Thank you gifts raised over £100 for the NHS.



The atmosphere of togetherness, *socially distanced* as we were, made it a very special VE Day and we didn't feel deprived really. I had a strong conviction that our God who, 75 years ago, brought the UK safely through the peril of a world war, would deliver us from today's deadly peril of *coronavirus*.



Christopher Frith

BREDON RECTORY

A note from the Wardens

Below is an email communication from The Ven Robert Jones, Archdeacon of Worcester, explaining the recent decisions regarding the Bredon Hill Group of Parishes.

We understand that Bishop Martin Gorick and his family are hoping to move into the Rectory at Bredon in early June. However, this will be dependent on a number of factors not least the current COVID-19 crisis.

Bishop Martin is to be the new Bishop of Dudley and he will be daily commuting to his office in Dudley. His tenure in Bredon is uncertain at this stage but it is thought to be about 12 months.

We are sure that we speak for us all in extending a warm welcome to him and his wife Katharine to our lovely village.

Peter Whitehead & Mary Doney, Churchwardens, St Giles



Email from Archdeacon Robert:

Dear colleagues around Bredon Hill,

These are challenging and testing times, and so I hope that you are keeping safe and well.

One of the consequences of the lockdown has been to put on hold the appointment of a second priest to the Bredon group to work alongside the Revd. Allison Davies. The diocese remains committed to this post, and I intend to proceed with this appointment as soon as possible.

Another consequence, as you well know from your own church situation, is the hit to all our finances. Parish income has dropped, and will continue to do so as long as our churches cannot meet and events such as Open Gardens are cancelled. I know many are making every effort to encourage regular giving. In the diocesan context this means maximising the ability to pay clergy stipends, and your treasurers were invited to meetings to discuss this and their own finances a little while back.

This has in turn disrupted the acquisition of a house for the new Bishop of Dudley, who is consequently still living in Oxford. In some ways the lockdown has helped in this case, as he would not have been able to move or visit anyway. So with the kind agreement of the churchwardens of Bredon and the Revd. Allison Davies, we have decided to house Bishop Martin and his family in the Bredon Rectory for hopefully not more than twelve months. It is a vacant property, ready for an appointment already made, which he can occupy when restrictions are lifted and a move can be organised. We have another parsonage within the Group ministry, namely Elmley Castle, albeit on a short-term let at present, which would then be available for the appointment of the second priest.



*Bishop Martin Gorick,
the new Bishop of
Dudley (assistant
Bishop in the Diocese
of Worcester)*

This is far from ideal, but a practical way forward in difficult times. We remain committed to a second post to exercise a ministry around the Hill in the same way that Allison does presently, and recent much-loved clergy did most effectively. That will, of course, be best configured and discerned locally. At a later date, I would dearly love to attract a third priest as a house-for-duty post, depending on how we weather the financial storm.

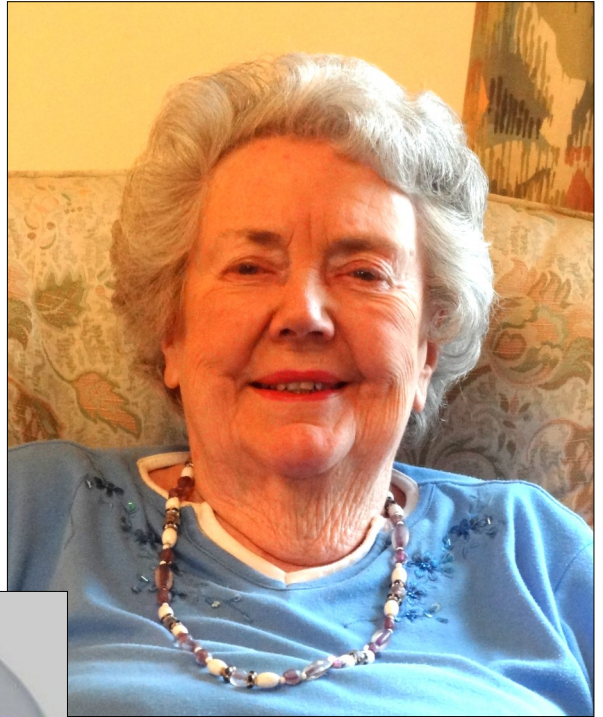
I will have a chance to talk this through with you as wardens during our phone conversations at the Visitation, and ask for your forbearance as we take decisions in times of lockdown. What none of us know is when or in what way the lockdown will be ending, nor when we will be able to open our churches again for public worship. Let us be the people of hope we are called to be, and may God bless you in all you do for the sake of his Kingdom.

With best wishes,

Robert Jones, Archdeacon of Worcester

CONGRATULATIONS MARION!

On Thursday 4 May, **MARION RALLS** will be 100 years old. We pray that she will have a lovely day, despite the lockdown, as she enjoys her extended stay with her daughter, Judith Mickle and her husband David. May there be many wonderful memories and we know that she will be most grateful for all the good ones, especially to God whom she worships and serves regularly. *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* could be an appropriate hymn for Marion and her many friends to be singing, May the restrictions of the lockdown not spoil her great day or inhibit her too much! Judith has kindly written the article below about her mother to mark her Centenary.



Marion at her grandson's wedding, several years ago

Marion Ralls, born 4th June 1920 in Bradford

Marion was the only child of John and Clara Braithwaite. John was a Musician and music teacher, who also owned a shop selling sheet music, and they lived above the shop.

Sunday mornings they worshipped at The Methodist Chapel, and later on hosted a large extended family musical evening, when the mahogany shop counter was detached and laid on the steps down to the cellar, making a wonderful slide for the children.

Marion loved dancing and was involved in many theatrical performances in Bradford. Fortunately, her Mother was a dab hand at making costumes, the Gypsy Rose Lee outfit being quite a triumph!

They had holidays in Scarborough until her Father died when Marion was a teenager. Then she and her Mother had to downsize. They took in lodgers; her Mother went out to work and Marion cleaned the house.

She trained as a teacher and went to work at the Private School she had attended as a child.

During the war, Marion was in a reserved occupation, but volunteered for Air Raid Duty in the evenings. She also did Land Army work in her Summer holidays. Bradford suffered one air raid during the war and Marion was at the Cinema at the time. She eventually arrived home in a bedraggled state the following morning to a furious telling off by her Mother for being out late!

It was during Land Army work, picking apples on a farm in Kent with a friend, and living in a tent, that Marion met her husband, Roy. He was a Captain in the Army, and he and another Officer

invited Marion and her friend out on a date – the date was Dinner in the Officers Mess. The girls had to send a telegram home to ask for their evening dresses to be dispatched for the following day. They arrived just in time and the Commanding Officer sent his car to pick them up.

After they married Marion and Roy moved to Birmingham, and then to North Worcestershire. They had a daughter, Judith, and Marion returned to teaching.

She joined the Halesowen Business and Professional Women's Club and later became Chairman.

When they retired Marion and Roy moved to Bredon to be near Judith and family.

She threw herself into life in Bredon, became a keen member of the congregation at Bredon Church, later joining the Local Ministry Team and becoming a Church Warden.

Eileen Fryer introduced her to WI, and after some years on the Committee, she became Chairman.

Marion was one of the first volunteers to help at St. Richards Hospice at their original little house in Worcester. She and Janet Raper would go there for a day once a month bringing lunch and tea for the patients and staff.

She also was a volunteer with Bredon Community Care, and helped on the Wheelchair Bus.

Marion, whenever she was asked to help with something, would almost always answer "yes". From looking after grandchildren, dogs and even an injured deer on one occasion, her default position was "yes". Always volunteering to make cakes, teas, help at Fetes and fund raising. Some Village Children had a nickname for her, "Mrs Teapot".

For almost 30 years she has suffered from Macular Degeneration, but she never let that stop her from enjoying life to the full, always saying there were a lot worse off than her. She still enjoys the Community Lunch, WI Meetings, Church on Sunday, Coffee mornings, and is very proud that she hardly ever needs to see a Doctor!



BREDON OUTWARD BOUND ASSOCIATION MARCH AND APRIL DRAWS

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 73J O'Gorman 5
 35S Petts 5
 114M Evans 5
 68L Attewell 5
 126M Petts 5



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 198B Willy 50
 209R Honey 5
 120L Woodward 5
 77G Walsh 5
 125M Cluer 5
 142P Green 5
 40J Hosken 5

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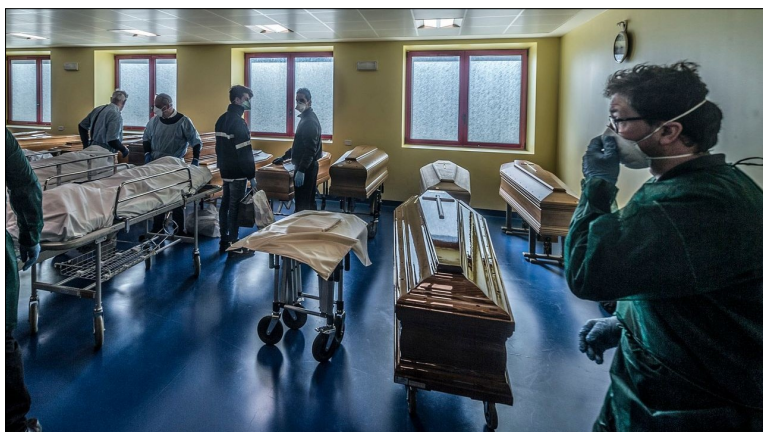
From Dr. Julian Urban, a 38 year-old serving in a hospital in Lombardy, Italy
 Passed on to us by Derek Cain

LIGHT IN A DOCTOR'S DARKEST NIGHTMARE

Never in my darkest nightmares did I imagine that I would see and experience what has been going on in Italy in our hospital the past three weeks. The nightmare flows, and the river gets bigger and bigger. At first, a few patients came, then dozens, and then hundreds. Now, we are no longer doctors, but sorters who decide who should live and who should be sent home to die, though all these patients paid Italian health taxes throughout their lives.

Until two weeks ago, my colleagues and I were atheists. It was normal because we are doctors. We learned that science excludes the presence of God. I laughed at my parents going to church.

Nine days ago, a 75-year-old pastor was admitted into the hospital. He was a kind man. He had serious breathing problems. He had a Bible with him and impressed us by how he read it to the dying as he held their hand. We doctors were all tired, discouraged, psychologically and physically finished. When we had time, we listened to him.



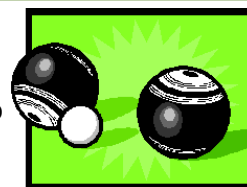
We have reached our limits. We can do no more. People are dying every day. We are exhausted. We have two colleagues who have died, and others that have been infected. We realized that we needed to start asking God for help. We do this when we have a few free minutes. When we talk to each other, we cannot believe that, though we were once fierce atheists, we are now daily in search of peace, asking the Lord to help us continue so that we can take care of the sick.

Yesterday, the 75-year-old pastor died. Despite having had over 120 deaths here in 3 weeks, we were destroyed. He had managed, despite his condition and our difficulties, to bring us a PEACE that we no longer had hoped to find. The pastor went to the Lord, and soon we will follow him if matters continue like this.

I haven't been home for 6 days. I don't know when I ate last. I realize my worthlessness on this earth. I want to use my last breath to help others. I am happy to have returned to God while I am surrounded by the suffering and death of my fellow men.

BREDON BOWLING CLUB

So far we have had no news of the reopening the club for friendly roll-ups or club matches. Hopefully we will be given guidance shortly.



In the meantime, we have to report the deaths of two of our older members. Each was given a tribute clap when their hearses passed the bowling club, at walking pace. This was the only way in which we could show our respects at this time. There was a good turn out of members and others at each.

John Holloway of Bredon's Hardwick, was probably our oldest member and a character of the club. He enjoyed his bowling, despite being hampered by poor sight.



Rita Sowerbutts had lived in the Bredon area most of her life. She joined the club in 1968 and played at all levels of the sport. She represented the club in county matches and took part in the National finals at Leamington. She also ran the popular Saturday Whist Drives for many years.

Jill Marshment

BREDON CRICKET CLUB



We have received further information and been instructed by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) that all cricket, in every aspect, is suspended until further notice. A range of options to begin cricket later in the summer is being modelled for various contingencies.

For the fourth year, we had planned to incorporate the “All-Stars” programme for five- to eight-year olds into our summer of cricket. We have heard from the ECB that the kit will be posted to all parents who have applied; also, a “2020 Activity Booklet” will be posted to parents of all past and present participants.

We were also to begin the first introduction of the “Dynamos Cricket” for eight- to eleven-year olds. The ECB is posting out information to parents about initial training with home activities for this initiative; it launched the “Dynamos Cricket Application” with 18 different skills’ videos and interactive quizzes for children to get active at home.

“The HUNDRED”-100 Ball Cricket was due to be introduced this year, with teams based on areas and cities. The ECB has now decided that The Hundred will not now take place and will be introduced in 2021.

We are sad to announce the death of Bob Portch, who was a member of Bredon Cricket Club for many years and served on our committee for a good number of years. He took a great interest in supporting the Junior Section of our club, and his two sons, Henry and Tom, both enjoyed success in our junior and senior teams. Bob was a quiet man who was always willing to help in many ways for the benefit of the Club. All our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Our stalwart and committed groundsman, Adam Gallagher, has been working hard at keeping the outfield and square in excellent order. It is essential that when, and if, cricket starts this summer, we can open for business immediately. We are, however, concerned about the security of our premises; the Club is locked down and no one can use it at present. If, on your recreational exercise walk or cycle ride, you see someone at our lovely ground, please let us know.



Derek Ebbage

Bredon Hill (after A.E.Housman)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. In summer time on Bredon,
The noise won't go away.
The village is complaining,
They hear it night and day.
The M5 motorway.</p> | <p>2. Here on a Sunday morning
My love and I would come
And hear the engines revving
And feel the tyres thrum
Wales and Birmingham.</p> |
| <p>3. And I would cry in anguish.
Upon my bended knees
Oh, end this evil uproar!
Let all commotion cease.
And help us find some peace</p> | <p>4. 'For traffic south to Bristol
Returns from Bristol too.
The carriageway is dual:
A great hullabaloo
In one unending queue'.</p> |
| <p>5. One moment's inspiration
Sufficed to save the day.
A trip to Boots The Chemist
Has ended my dismay
In an ingenious way.</p> | <p>6. Now, when I climb Bredon
No noise will trouble me.
I've had two ear-plugs fitted
And shall gaze tranquilly
Down Severn to the sea.</p> |



theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

BREDON WI

Do not think that, just because we are not going away anywhere, you do not need a catch-up from the WI. Many people enjoyed last month's on-line version of our Parish Magazine, so here we go again. The WI members are good at keeping in touch, even though, at the moment, we are denied our monthly gathering. Scrabble skills are weakening, and the absence of croquet and skittles sessions means there are more sightings of WI ladies striding purposefully along favourite footpaths around the village, keeping the bodies in tip top condition!

We enjoyed the local celebrations of VE Day, sitting in front gardens with teapots and a selection of WI home made cakes. Some areas could even listen to 1940s songs amid all the bunting and shouting across the roads. It was not what we had planned way back in January, of course, but nonetheless a meaningful memory. So many music fests, fund-raising events, etc. have had to be cancelled that it was an extra pleasure to enjoy VE Day, though I should point out that VE does NOT refer to me. President Joan Needham is busy compiling fairly regular Newsletters for us, which provide amusement and information. Through this, we learnt of the death of Bidy Denvir, for many years a member of our WI, and a well-known figure around Bredon, as she and John resolutely trod the footpaths. We will miss her.

We are still hopeful about the Christmas concerts in Cheltenham Town Hall on 2nd December. Don't book yet! We hope to rearrange the trip to SS Great Britain in Bristol, but, hey, that's all in the future. Keep smiling. [Great advice! Ed]



Viv Ebbage 773549

SYLVIA HARRINGTON'S RECIPE FOR MAY



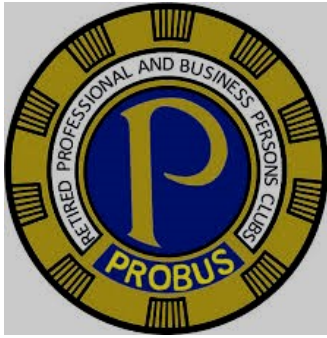
Pasta and Fennel Salad

Makes a large mixing bowl full
- ideal to serve with a BBQ

8oz cooked pasta
1 fennel
1" fresh ginger grated
1 yellow courgette
1 green courgette
1/2 red pepper
2 oz sun dried tomatoes
4 oz red kidney beans drained
4 oz cooked or frozen green beans
French Dressing



Chop up all the ingredients. mix together and add dressing.

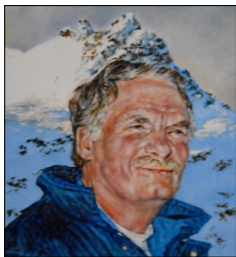


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(except during lockdown)*

<http://probusclub.net/tewkesbredon/>

Our weekly Probus Club On-line Newsletter goes from strength to strength. Our members have really embraced the idea of keeping in touch during the lockdown and we are receiving contributions every week from members on a variety of subjects. One thread that seems to have stimulated many memories is the subject of old cars, particularly “my first car”, usually Morris 8’s or similar old bangers which despite being usually terribly unreliable have a sentimental place in their owners’ memories. It is so heartening to see these articles generating readers’ own experiences and so keeping the thread going. We also have an “Items for sale” section (sometimes free – anybody want a free wine rack?) and we have now introduced a visual brain-teaser for readers to guess the member from an old photograph of themselves as a young boy. Every week we have a quiz to further tease our brains, we have feature articles on an eclectic range of subjects and we include colour pictures and videos to make the Probus Newsletter a much awaited highlight to our members’ Tuesday mornings.



Probus’ new chairman. Ken Whittaker, who lives in Bredon. A photo of an oil painting, Ken’s leaving present from the Merchant Navy.

Even though we are a group of (dare I say) “mature” men, we are all enthusiastically embracing today’s technology to ameliorate the temporary loss of our weekly face-to-face meetings.



Chris Brown

*I am not sure that we **all** are enthusiastic about embracing technology, but many are! Mentioning no names! Ed*

FROM THE INQUIZZITOR

- 1 On May 4th of what year was the Battle of Tewkesbury fought?
- 2 Which TV soap featured a pub called The Rovers Return?
- 3 Which team was the losing finalist in the 2019 FA Cup Final?
- 4 In which year was the troubled Apollo 13 launched?
- 5 Civitas in Bello et Pace Fidelis (Town Faithful in War and Peace) is the motto on the coat of arms of which English city?
- 6 Democrat Bill de Blasio is the mayor of which US city?
- 7 What fish is smoked to make a kipper?
- 8 How many petals does a pansy have?
- 9 In what country was Frederic Chopin born?
- 10 Who is generally accepted as being the inventor of the bicycle as we know it – was it
(a) Charlie Farley, (b) Jacob Marley, (c) John Starley, or (d) Walter Raleigh?



You can check your Inquizzition answers on page 20

COMPUTER MATTERS

by Jim Verrechia, a Bredon Computer Doctor



Here are a few thoughts to consider this month. A bit of a 'stuck record' this time as some of the points I discussed last month are still relevant ...

Broadband Issues

If some of you think you've noticed a drop in your Broadband performance in the last few weeks the Speed Test giant - 'Ookla' are saying that for most people this is not generally the case. However, if you are using a budget Broadband service and you have a high 'contention' ratio of say - 50:1 then there *may* be some loss of speed, especially if all your neighbours are 'working from home' and using Zoom (!) But before you get in touch with your service provider it makes sense to swap out your Broadband filters, definitely run some speed tests and maybe do a virus scan (if it's a PC that you have noticed is slowing down.) Then, and only then, as a last resort call your ISP and get roped into a having a new router and a spanking new 18 month contract...



Window 10 Updates

Microsoft has now announced that the *Feature Update* to Windows (Version 2004 – also called 20H1) will be rolled out from the 28th May. If your laptop will not shut down, or takes a while to start up, it is likely that this update is in progress. You can also force this by going to 'Settings' – 'Update and Security', but only if the update has hit our shores.

"Oh no – not Zoom again?"

Since my last article regarding Zoom security issues I have had a number of PCs in for repair. In one case I had to re-install Windows, on others I've got away with a combination of virus scans and system restores. All of which would have been unnecessary if another mainstream communication tool had been used. Meanwhile Zoom has hit back saying that they are dealing with the problem, but when will they do this? As I write this The 'One Show' is also telling folk to follow the rules below...

- ◆ Always Create a new user ID and Password for each meeting
- ◆ Create a waiting room in the app so that a user will be able to enter the meeting only when the host gives him permission to do so
- ◆ Disable the 'Join' feature before hosting your meeting
- ◆ Allowing Screen sharing by the meeting host only
- ◆ Disable the "Allow removed participants to re-join"
- ◆ Disable the file transfer facility
- ◆ When all participants have joined, lock your meeting.
- ◆ Never use the recording feature.

If all that seems a bit much, then ask yourself a simple question - "Should I still be using Zoom?"

TeamViewer

Following my article last month I have had some considerable success fixing issues where the person I am helping had installed TeamViewer. So I very much recommend you take a little time to install this – just in case you are using Zoom! See the article from last month's Parish Magazine to help you with the installation of TeamViewer.

That's it. I hope these articles help you survive the lockdown.



Bredon and Bredon's Norton Parish Council



Planning Applications

The Parish Council's role is only advisory. For more details, please refer to www.wychavon.gov.uk.

For consideration by Wychavon:

W/20/00702 - Home Farm, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton. Erection of Agricultural Building (Retrospective) **PC has made general comments.**

W/20/00681 - The Coach House, Back Lane, Bredon. Change of use of a single room which includes bedroom, kitchen and bathroom, to be used as guest accommodation separate from the main dwelling. **PC has made general comments.**

W/20/00321 - Southcroft, Manor Ln, Bredon's Norton. Replacement of window. **PC has no objections.**

W/20/00749 - 3 Kinsham Close, Kinsham. Demolish existing conservatory and toilet. Erection of part single, part two storey rear extension. **PC has no objections.**

W/20/00780 - Hunters Gate, Lower Lane, Kinsham. Single storey side and rear extension. **PC has no objections.**

W/20/00804 - 33 Blenheim Drive, Bredon. Proposed single storey rear extensions and porch to front. **PC has no objections.**

W/20/00816 - 10 Russet Close, Bredon. Two storey side extension. **PC has no objections.**

Date of Next Meeting:

Monthly Parish Council

Monday 8th June

takes place in Bredon

Village Hall at 7:15pm

If we are still social distancing, this meeting will take place via Zoom, please contact the Clerk for access to this meeting.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

Although the infection rate is coming down, the virus has not gone away and we all still have a responsibility to keep each other safe. Please follow social distancing rules and stay at least 2 metres apart.

Children's Play Equipment and MUGA – these remain closed but our playing fields are open.

Household Recycling Centres - these are run by Worcestershire County Council. Some have opened but with restrictions. To find out more about visiting a Household Recycling Centre during the coronavirus outbreak, please check before you set off:-

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LetsWasteLessAndRecycle>

The full list of services affected is available at www.wychavon.gov.uk/coronavirus. Any changes will be published on that page.

Chairman re-elected

Chairman, Nick Bradley, was elected chairman for another 12 months. The Council would like to thank him for all his hard work and commitment to the Parish Council, and look forward to his leadership going forward.

Please drive carefully

During Lockdown, nature has returned in numbers closer to the roads and houses. Please take care driving as a number of deer have been seen crossing the roads.

Also, with Social Distancing still being followed, there are likely to be more cyclists and pedestrians walking on the road, trying to avoid other people on the pavements. Please drive cautiously.

Happy 100th Birthday

The Parish Council would like to wish **Marion Ralls** a very Happy 100th Birthday on the 4th June 2020. Marion is currently living with her daughter Judith and son-in-law David, in Bredon's Norton during this Covid-19 lockdown and we are sure they will make it a memorable day for her.



BREDON BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

– Wednesdays (term time) Bredon Village Hall. 10:00-11:45

by Cassie Woodcock

As lockdown continues, we hope that everyone is staying safe and well. If anyone has any ingenious ways to keep a toddler occupied for more than 5 minutes then please feel free to share on our Facebook page! We have seen so many acts of kindness and creativity around the village, but a particular shout out goes to 'Ted' at Avon Cottage. The time and dedication put into Ted's daily activities has been much appreciated by all. What an amazing way to keep our spirits up - thank you! It has also been lovely to see so many children (and adults!) raising money for our fabulous NHS.



The clap for carers continues to be a weekly highlight. The sounds of cheers and clapping (and I think we once heard bagpipes?!) show what a great community we have here. It's been a real feature for our kids, with the post 8pm bedtime being almost as exciting as the banging of their saucepans!

We are still looking for volunteers to come forward with the running of the group from September. We are unsure as to when we will be back, but want to hit the ground running once we are. If you think this is something you might be interested in then please get in touch.



Cassie Woodcock

We will update our Facebook page with any news, but in the meantime, stay safe and take care.

Our Facebook page is Bredon Baby & Toddler Group or email us at bredonsteppingout@googlemail.com. Cassie can be contacted on 07990 973495.

ST RICHARD'S HOSPICE FUNDRAISERS

by Viv Ebbage 773549



Although the fundraising is pretty dormant at the moment, please don't throw away those bags of clothes and books and hats and glasses which you cleared out at the start of Lockdown. Your Charity shops will have open arms once they are allowed to re-open, and we have two lovely St Richard's shops in Tewkesbury. Income thus raised is a very important addition to our Hospice funds.

Some of the Hospice
GIRAFFES



Remember the Giraffes a couple of years ago, standing tall in Worcester? A wonderful idea which appealed to thousands, and raised thousands. Sponsored by local companies, the month-long exhibition was superbly organised and produced an amazing final total. Now, another chance; this time, life sized **ELEPHANTS** (and some little ones) will be on display. Expect much enjoyment. More information soon.



and **ELEPHANTS** to follow

BREDON PLAYGROUP by Tracey Ford

At the time of writing, we have been in lockdown for some time and are missing our playgroup children so much.

We have however managed to keep in touch with each other by email, phone and through our closed Facebook group – which is available for parents and carers of Playgroup children.

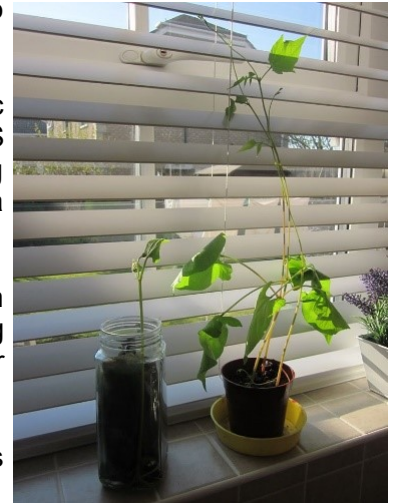
It's so heart-warming to hear what the children have been getting up to. Those with siblings at school, were desperate to get involved with activities like their brothers and sisters. One child sent us an exercise video to share with her friends, who were all delighted to see her and join in. Other exciting adventures include hurdling, gardening and building dens. Some children have learnt to ride their bikes and one child made a lovely fairy house from a milk bottle carton. The children have all been excited to receive Star of the Day awards for their achievements.

Our staff have continued to read favourite stories, sing songs and do phonic sessions for the children – all by video. Each child has been sent a NHS Certificate of Achievement, thanking them for staying at home and helping to save lives. They were all so pleased to be told they were making a difference.



How wonderful it was to see so many children contributing to the VE Day celebrations by making their own flags and signs, then joining their neighbours in their front gardens.

We are following all of the Government guidelines for the safety of all of our children and staff.



Take care everyone and stay safe.



Tracey Ford



One day
we will
have our
playground
back!

BREDON IN LOCKDOWN



In lockdown, we lose some things [above] and we gain some [below]

Many thanks to Nicky, Rob and young Frankie Davies from Avon Cottage, Church Street, for brilliant daily Teddy tableaux. Ted's photos by Tricia Martin, collage by Laura Haines-Gill



Book for June 2020

WHERE IS GOD IN A CORONAVIRUS WORLD? by John C. Lennox

Hot off the mark, our writer Oxford Professor of Mathematics, John Lennox, has produced this modest sized book on the current pandemic. In sharing his profound thoughts on this world threatening affliction we get the benefit of his extensive scientific, historical and theological knowledge.

Perhaps the heart of the matter is found in chapter 4 where it poses the challenging question;

“How Can There be Coronavirus If There is a Loving God?”

John Lennox addresses this question under 3 headings; First, the nature of viruses in general; second, humanity; third, what the Bible says about why things are the way they are.

Astonishingly the density of viruses, as found in a well-stocked lake, is about 10^8 per millilitre. Luckily for us there are many different types, and only a tiny fraction of these can do us damage. Lennox tells us how it is that the good viruses are essential to the survival of all living creatures.

HUMANITY

An essential part of our [humanity](#) is the gift of a free will. This gives us a capacity to do good, or do evil. The implications of this are spelled out here very fairly, showing that the Bible declares that God has given us true responsibility, while remaining sovereign.

WHY THINGS ARE THE WAY THEY ARE?

This takes us to show how the endowed human freedoms were first abused. Lennox points us to events recorded in early Genesis where a disagreement with God over the nature of life and the serious possibility of death took place. We learn that such discord is bound to retain a serious malfunction in the world. Even human endeavours to do well have mixed results at best.

EXTRACT

Evidence of Love

We need convincing evidence of the goodness of God's character if we are to trust him. I would therefore ask you at this point to listen to the core of Christian teaching [John 3 v16] - whether you are familiar with it or whether it is new to you.- and to try to understand it before concluding that belief in God is inconsistent with the existence of the Coronavirus, or any other pandemic, disease or fracture in the natural world.



Reviewed by
Derek Cain

ISBN 978178485691 ©Copy right John C. Lennox, 2020. Publisher the good book co.

I am in the middle of reading this little book[62 pages]. Very readable, beautifully written, highly recommended. There will be a few copies in church. Only £2.50. Ed

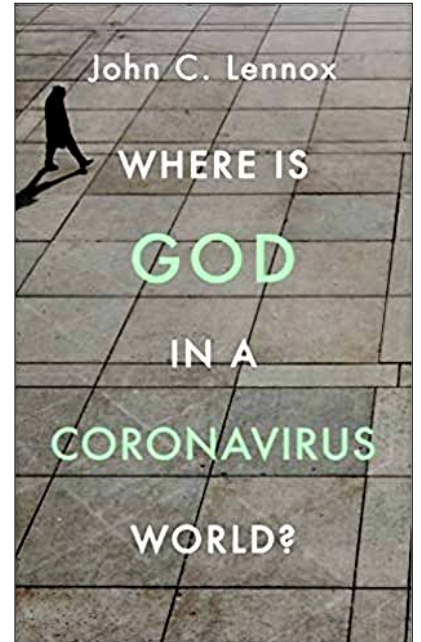
Quote...Unquote from Gloria Cain

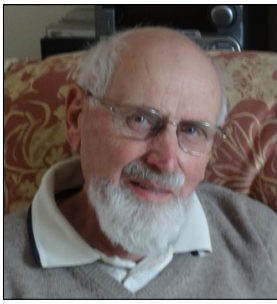
“A book on suffering which says nothing about heaven is leaving out almost the whole of one side of the account.

“Scripture and tradition habitually put the joys of heaven into the scale against the suffering of earth, and no solution of the problem of pain which does not do so can be called a Christian one. We are very shy nowadays of even mentioning heaven. We are afraid of the jeer about 'pie in the sky'... but either there is 'pie in the sky' or there is not.

If there is not, then Christianity is false, for this doctrine is woven into its whole fabric. If there is, then this truth, like any other, must be faced... ”

C. S. Lewis





SAM MUSING

SAM WILKINSON is making really good progress, well looked after by Magda, his carer. He is looking forward to his 98th birthday on 12 June. His wife, Joyce, is in Ashchurch View Nursing Home. He muses this month about a salutary experience two years ago.

ODD JOBS

Stripped off ready for a shower, I pulled the ceiling switch and nothing happened. The switch had failed and so I called the electrician from a group in the local directory and I was happy to find that they could come the next day. I should have been suspicious when first he wanted to check the house circuit and appeared to be more interested in checking the distribution board than getting on with the job. There seemed to be endless reasons for going out to his van and staying a long time in it.

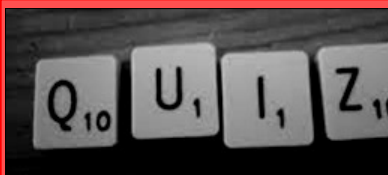
Eventually he removed the switch and found that it had seriously overheated due to a poor connection. At the same time, he disconnected a wire that he said should not be there. He then said that he had finished and went out to his van for ten minutes after collecting £150 which included £39 for the replacement switch which could be bought locally for £15. He did add that the shower did not work because he had disconnected the pump and he would have to come back another time to fix it. He took the opportunity to try to sell me a test of the house electrics for £750.

I was left with no option but to call another electrician; this time the fee for the visit was £125 plus the cost of materials. He was a pleasant chap who could not explain why the wire had been disconnected. Perhaps by modern standards it should have been heavier. However, it could be replaced in a few minutes which he did and all was well.

This meant that replacing a £15 switch had cost me £275 so that simply by disconnecting that wire he had more than doubled what had been an exorbitant price in the first place. The company seemed to be well set up and reliable but with that small action and not putting it right at the time they would have made another £150 for the second visit for a task that could be done in 15 minutes.

I wish I knew how you could avoid such a trap because we have to depend on experts offering their services. Do it yourself would be a solution but the majority of us would not be very happy about delving into the electrics or plumbing in our homes. A recommendation from a friend is the ideal because even what appear to be reputable organisations may be tempted to bend the rules in these modern times. The man who completed the job for me was a plumber and electrician from Malvern.

OUR NEXT MAGAZINE will be the summer holiday, July/August issue. Items for inclusion should go, please, to Christopher Frith, the editor, by **Friday 12 June** Send them to cicfrith@gmail.com or Cover Point, Back Lane, Bredon [01684 773164] We intend to resume printing paper copies again, as soon as possible.



QUIZ ANSWERS

the quiz is on page 13; please try that first!

1/ 1471; 2/ Coronation Street; 3/ Watford; 4/ 1970; 5/ Worcester; 6/ New York; 7/ Herring; 8/ 5; 9/ Poland, (later lived in France – so French Polish, I suppose?) 10/ John Starley.



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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 to 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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