

Bodenham Newsletter



December 2023 & January 2024

The **Post Office Van** is now in Bodenham Enterprise Park (Baches)

Mondays 12 - 1pm

Bodenham 2024



Calendar

BODENHAM 2024 CALENDAR

NOW AVAILABLE TO PRE ORDER

All the best pictures from this year's
Photographic Competition

Local Scenes

Taken by Local Photographers

On Sale at

Bodenham Christmas Bazaar

Saturday the 2nd of December

From 2pm until 4pm in the Village Hall

Or order by ringing:

Sandra or Rich Moule on 01568 797745

Jim or Pat Crane on 01568 797095

Lyn Pollard on 01568 797228

Don't miss out - order now!

St. Michael's Church

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you and yours well in this run up to the Christmas and New Year season?

In these darker winter months, lights shine out all the brighter. The season of Advent, beginning in December, looks forward and back to the coming of Jesus' light in the world at the first Christmas, and the difference his light can make in people's lives today.

The church tower at Bodenham Church is once again lit up over the next couple of months, dedicated to many loved ones and events. The church remains open until 6.30pm for those wishing to see the lights come on. We are also having a St Michael's Hospice *Light Up a Light* service at Marden Church on 3rd December at 2.30pm giving an opportunity for us to give thanks, and light a light for those we have loved and lost over this past year and in previous years.

Later in the month we gather for Christmas carols and our lively Crib Service / Living Nativity at the Parish Hall (22nd December at 4pm).

All times of light and joy. It would be great to see you at any of these services – a warm, and light filled welcome awaits you.

In these times there does seem to be a lot of darkness about, whether this is division and polarisation within our communities, or news of war and unrest in Ukraine, Israel/Palestine and so many other places. It feels as though, as individuals, we are very small candles in a sea of darkness, but following a family holiday that included a visit to Dungeness Lighthouse, I was reminded that the navigations lights are still measured in candlepower and that, gathered and focused, single lights can project a huge way.

There's a hymn that I love; it was written by the priest Robert Willis, who was once Dean of Hereford Cathedral and latterly became an internet sensation during lockdown, appearing in his Canterbury garden to lead services along with his very mischievous cat. His hymn, so full of hope, talks of turning to face the light in a world where people walk in darkness. The chorus goes:

*For the light is stronger than the darkness
and the day will overcome the night,
though the shadows linger all around us,
let us turn our faces to the light.*

I pray that you may know the light and peace of Jesus Christ this Advent, Christmas and beyond.

With every blessing

Paul



December 2023 Services for January 2024

3rd	4pm	Evensong	7th	4pm	Evensong
10th	9.30am	Holy Communion	14th	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	6pm	Service of Lessons and Carols	21st	9.30am	Holy Communion
22nd	4pm	Crib Service and Living Nativity at the Parish Hall	"	4pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
24th	11.15pm	Midnight Mass	28th	9.30am	Holy Communion
25th	10.30am	Family Service followed by optional Communion	"	4pm	Family Wild Church
31st	10am	Group Communion at the Amberley Chapel			

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council.

Two vacancies remain on the Parish Council, so please consider putting yourself forward.

The Parish Council precept.....

..... is the amount the Parish Council requests from Herefordshire Council every year and is the Parish Council's main source of funding. The amount each household pays appears on its council tax bill. The actual sum varies according to council tax bands. For 2023-24 the Parish Council requested and received £17500. The request for 2024-25 has will be finalised at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 6th December. Please come along, if you wish to hear the arguments and how the decision is arrived at. Bodenham's precept is about average for Herefordshire parishes. The Parish Council has no input to or control over the council tax, which is set by Herefordshire Council.

The lengthsman

The Parish Council's application to appoint a lengthsman for 2023-24 was successful, and Mr Richard Morgan was duly appointed. Richard has a list of regular tasks, but, residents can request other things for him to do - via the parish clerk, please.

The existing metal noticeboard opposite the school.....

..... has been spruced up. The new replacement noticeboard for the old wooden one has been ordered and should be installed in the near future.

Litter pick

The litter pick held on Saturday 11th November collected a large amount of rubbish, as ever, as can be seen in the photograph below.



The turnout was lower than usual (names not to hand, apologies to the pickers). Sheila and Jeremy Schwartz did the refreshments, which were excellent, ably assisted by Pam James-Moore. Our thanks to all three and to Balfour Beatty for providing the litter pick kits and collecting the rubbish. The next litter pick is on 16th March 2024.

Dogs

Please, if you walk your dog, clear up after it. Bagged dog waste can be placed in any public waste bin, such as the bin on the village green or the bins at the bus stops.

The C1125 through Bodenham Moor

The C1125 through Bodenham Moor has been thoroughly patched up and the numerous potholes between England's Gate and The Vault have been removed. The road is now ready for road safety markings to be done. No date is known yet.

Highlights - not reported above - from the October Parish Council meeting.

- **The Parish Council** is considering possible replacements for the wooden posts on the verge in Church Road, which are rotting and which were installed in 2010 to prevent the parking of vehicles from damaging the verge.

'Bendy bollards' are no longer considered to be a possibility, partly because they are expensive and partly because people learn that they are bendy and can be driven over.

- **The 'white' gates at either end of the village** are very dirty. The Parish Council is working out how to make them white again. It isn't straightforward.

- **Only one planning application** had been received for consideration at the meeting, and the Parish Council made no objection to it. It was:

232911: Bodenham Manor:

Application for variation of condition 2 following grant of planning permission 180696 (Application for variation of condition 2 of planning permission

P162506/F. To enable alternative dwelling design to plot 1).

- **Cllr Baker reported** that no schools in Herefordshire are affected by Reinforced Aerated Concrete.

The Parish Council website

The Bodenham Parish Council website - www.bodenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk - is gradually being augmented and improved.



Parish Council meetings.....

..... **now** take place on the first Wednesday of every month at the Siward James Centre starting at 6.30pm. The agenda for a meeting will normally be posted on the noticeboards and on the website a few days beforehand. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend. The next meetings will be held on **Wednesdays 6th December 2023 and 3rd January 2024.**

Keep up to date with local issues - sign up for the mailing list

An increasing number of residents (50 now) are joining the mailing list, through which the Parish Council sends important updates to local residents by email with information about such things as roadworks, weather warnings and local events. If you would like to join the list, email Chris Smith at bodenhamccclerk@gmail.com. You won't be deluged with email, your personal details will not be passed on to anyone else and you can unsubscribe at any time.

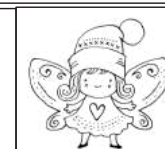
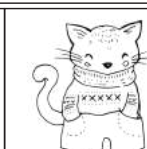
Potholes and other defects such as blocked drains

The Parish Council is still very concerned about potholes and other defects in Bodenham, but has little control over addressing the problem.

The system is that:

- the locality steward inspects all roads every month;
- if he finds a pothole, he marks it by putting a white line around it and logging it;
- it should then be filled within a month.

However, many potholes go undetected or emerge after the locality steward's monthly inspection, so, if you spot one, please report it at <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1> . If it isn't reported, it may not get sorted. The locality steward cannot spot all defects, such as block drains, so vigilance from and reporting by residents is appreciated.



Bodenham Parish Council May 2023- April 24

Cllr Jan Burgess	jandg.burgess@btinternet.com	01568 701911
Cllr Mike Dunn	dunntdbrat@aol.com	
Cllr Trudie Mills	trudie.a.mills@gmail.com	07968080826
Cllr Jemma Gromadzki	Jgromadzki-bodenhampc@hotmail.com	
Cllr Sarah Marsh (Vice-chairman)	sarahmarsh1956@gmail.com	07792662928
Cllr Liz Miller		07749912457
Cllr Tracy Morris (Chairman)	tracymorris9@btinternet.com	01568 797892
Cllr Ron Pearce	rpearce665@gmail.com	01568 797084
2 Vacancies		
Chris Smith (Parish Clerk)	www.bodenhamparish.org.uk	01568 797132
Cllr Bruce Baker - bruce.baker2@herefordshire.gov.uk - is the Herefordshire Councillor for the Hampton ward.		

BODENHAM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Services at the Chapel at 10.30am,
and by Zoom, unless otherwise stated.
Internet: <https://us04web.zoom.us/>
Code: 6602108192 Pswd 031617

SONGS OF WORSHIP

There will be no Songs of Worship during
December or January.

Services for December 2023

3rd	10.30am Worship Service - Val Turner
10th	9am Prayer and Praise 10.30am Worship Service - Richard Nield
17th	3.30pm Carols by Candlelight
24th	10.30am Fellowship Service and Communion
Christmas Day	10.30am Christmas Day Praise
31st	10.30am Worship Service Claire Hollingsworth

MEETINGS FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER

At the Chapel on **Thursdays 5th December and 2nd & 16th January**

At 10am to study the book of Romans

Contact: Len Day on 01432 880657

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study will be on
Tuesdays 5th December and 2nd & 16th January
at 10.00 to study

'Hebrews: An anchor for the soul.'

Contact Rebecca Burnill on 01568 797823

Services for January 2024

7th	10.30 Fellowship Service and Communion
14th	10.30 Worship Service Len Day
21st	10.30 Worship Service Ian Purcell
28th	10.30 Worship Service Mike Smith

Music and Craft Club

The next club dates are Saturdays
16th December and 20th January
from 10.00am for 1 hour.

This will be for primary school children (4-11),
and will have a Christian witness, alongside
general fun activities. If anyone is interested in
helping with this, please contact David Weber
at:

davidwebermusic@gmail.com

Cafe @ the Chapel

Each **Thursday** from 10.30am to 12 noon
Why not just call in
for a coffee and a chat.
Everyone Welcome!

Notice

**The water spout at Dinmore
has consistently tested as
unsafe for human
consumption.
Please Do Not Drink**



**BREEDERS OF ZWARTBLE
AND OUESSANT SHEEP,
PYGMY GOATS
AND ALPACAS**

SHEEP - pedigree zwartbles and ouessant lambs
Ewe lambs and castrated male

PYGMY GOATS - Nanny kids and castrated males

ALPACAS - Huacaya crias available

LIVESTOCK - Zwartbles & Ouessant sheep, Pygmy Goats & Alpacas

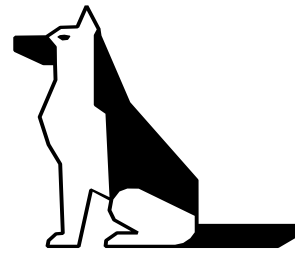


**2 Holiday cottages available
12 months of the year**

See website or contact us for more information

• www.wynnes.co.uk • info@wynnes.co.uk • 01568 797314

Hope Under Dinmore, Leominster, HR6 0PX • Off A49 - Through village centre and follow signs.



Handy Nanny Pet Services

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**Dog Walking
and
Pet Sitting**

www.handynannypetservices.co.uk

**Ring Alice on:
07771323330**

MARDEN VILLAGE STORES & POST OFFICE, HR1 3EW

*Independently Owned,
Supporting Local Suppliers*



Opening Hours


Monday – Saturday
07:00 – 18:00

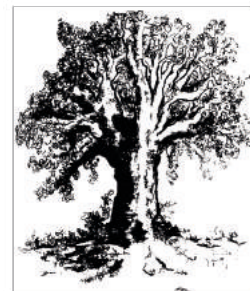
Sunday
07:30 – 12:30


Monday – Friday
09:00 – 14:00

Saturday & Sunday
Closed

OAK TREE FUNERAL SERVICES

*Independent Family Funeral
Directors, With Chapel of Rest at
Leominster Cemetery*



24 Hour Contact

Tel: 01568 250030

Email:

oaktreefuneralservices1@gmail.com

www.oaktreefuneralservices.co.uk

Travels with a Camera

from 2.15pm – 4.00pm
(suggested donation £3.50)
In aid of Ear Aid Nepal
(unless stated otherwise).

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**Tuesday December 12th**

**At 7.30pm**

**"Travels without a Camera"**

**"General practice - the joys, the pitfalls,  
the weird, the horrors."**

**Presented by Frank Ryding  
(in aid of Red Cross)**

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Wednesday January 10th

At 2.15pm

**'By steam train through Jordan & Syria'
visiting Petre, Jerash & Damascus.**

Presented by Dave Hill

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**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

**At 2.15pm**

**'National Parks for the USA' - the long  
way round from Denver to Phoenix**

**Presented by Mike Steadman**

~~~~~



**Would you appreciate a weekly phone call to cheer
you , or even a weekly visit, from a trained
volunteer?**

**The Volunteers of
Bodenham Compassionate Community
are here to help you.**

**Service available for Bodenham, Sutton, Marden,
Wellington, Morton on Lugg , Hope under Dinmore, &
Stoke Prior.**

**Just ask your GP surgery to refer you to
Bodenham Co-Co.**



**CARERS OF
HEREFORDSHIRE**

BODENHAM AND DISTRICT CARERS GROUP

If you are currently caring for a family member, friend or neighbour, even if that person does not live with you, **YOU ARE A CARER** and would be welcome to join the group.

Meetings are a mixture of information, relaxation, a safe space to talk about anything which worries you about your caring role, the opportunity for a laugh, a cry or a chat, and always tea and biscuits!

Our usual meetings are on the Third Monday of the month at the Chapel, Chapel Lane, Bodenham at 2pm. You don't need to come to every meeting, come on time or stay for the whole meeting – whenever and whatever time you have, you will always be welcome.

Monday 11th December (Note the earlier date) is our Christmas Wreath making session, this year we have to ask for a £5 donation towards materials. Even if you don't want to make a wreath please come along for some time out, a chat and a cuppa.

Friday 8th December is the Queenswood Walk - a walk through the wood followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the yurt. Meet at the shop from 10.30 ready to start off at 11. The person you care for, children and dogs are also welcome.

January 15 will be the New Year meal – venue to be confirmed.

February 19 back in the Chapel as usual.

For more information email me on majameshcl@gmail.com or ring me on 01568797096 (please leave a message if no answer) or contact Georgia at carersofherefordshire@outlook.com or 07921 803171



BODENHAM FORGE

Self-Catering Accommodation

Four charming properties situated on the banks of the River Lugg, in the picturesque village of Bodenham.

The Old Stables, The Smithy, The Hayloft and The Granary, all provide a double and twin bedroom, and benefit from ample off-road parking, free Wi-Fi and private fishing.

Accommodation is available to let for weekend breaks, holidays or longer stays.

Rated 4 Star Self-Catering Accommodation by Visit England

Bodenham Forge is a 2020

Travelers' Choice Award Winner with Tripadvisor.

Paul and Salma Courtney

01568 797144

www.theforgeatbodenham.com

BODENHAM TENNIS CLUB



Stuck for a Christmas gift? Why not consider purchasing a tennis membership - contact us via the details on our website for more information:

www.bodenhamtennisclub.co.uk

- 2 tennis courts (1 floodlit with tokens)
- Mixed club-nights every Thursday evening during summer months
- Coaching courses in conjunction with Tennis Hereford
- Men's & Ladies teams in H&W league
- Social events & tournaments
- Use of courts anytime via online booking system
- Entry into the Wimbledon ticket ballot

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



StAr ToTs FuN gRoUp

A fun relaxed group for parents, carers / grandparents to bring children from 0-4 years.

9.30am - 11.00am every Friday morning
(term time)

at St Michaels School Bodenham.

We have weekly themes/activities with a story time, squash and snack too.

Tea/coffee for the grown-ups as well.

£1 per child under 6 months Free.

HELD IN THE SCHOOL'S MAIN HALL

To book: Message StArToTs on Facebook

Please call Marie if you have any questions
07456698502



For families, dogs, and everyone who enjoys being outdoors.

We begin with refreshments in the porch, before an informal & interactive service in the churchyard.

4pm on the following Sunday

January 28th

CHRISTMAS IN BODENHAM

CRIB & CAROL SERVICE

FRIDAY 22ND
DECEMBER

4PM

The Parish Hall



FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30AM

St Michael & All Angels' Church

@MaundChurches

BODENHAM FLOOD GROUP



As Autumn moves to Winter and we are all starting to think of Christmas, the BFPG too tends to hunker down, hoping that the weather does not cause us to come out of hibernation too soon! However, that does not mean we are not doing stuff behind the scenes.

We have a few meetings lined up in the next couple of months with Balfour Beatty (BBLP) and Council reps on local issues as well as a Hereford wide Flood Group Meeting with BBLP, council reps, the Environment Agency and the National Flood Forum. We will report back in the New Year on anything that we think may be relevant to Bodenham. We have also been invited to be part of an external panel helping students at the New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering to understand the meaning of integrity in all its forms. Very exciting to be part of this!

There have been a few named storms in the last few months and Bodenham has so far escaped any major issues apart from minor disruption at the usual spots. We are ever grateful to our 'spotters' out and about who let us know of any issues as well as all our lovely volunteers who come out to help us keep Millcroft Brook as clear as possible. Without you all we would not be able to function.

Finally, as previously noted, there won't be another social/fundraising event this year, but we will be organising another Bingo night in 2024 – this time with a twist - and this could be anything! See the Save the Date below and keep an eye out for posters in the New year.

Meanwhile, do get in touch if you have anything you wish to impart to the BFPG or want advice or just want to join us!

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Christmas. See you all in 2024!

Bodenham Flood Protection Group Committee

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



Chair (meetings): Sadie Chambers 07572 169893
Treasurer: Rebecca Burnill 01568 797823
Secretary: Debby House 01568 797305

Area Reps:

The Moor Road: Andrew Maxwell: 01568 797946
Brockington Road North and cul de sac: Rebecca Burnill: 01568 797823
and Sue Pearman: 01568 797688
Brockington Road South: Adrian House: 01568 797305
Siward James: The Warden: Victoria Paterson: 01568 797412
Ash Grove Close: Rodney Minchin: 07794 466968
Ash Grove View and Road: David Harris: 01568 797575
Millcroft Road: Barbara Gibson: 01568 797643
Bodenham Village: David Ayshford Sanford: 01568 797549
Orchard Close: Mike Stephens 01568 797816
Maund Bryan: Philip Broomhead 01568 797167

BFPG Sandbag Key Holders:

Parish Hall Container: Secretary 797305
Chapel Lane Cage Key Holder: Mike Stephens 797816
Siward James Cage Key Holder: The Warden: Victoria Paterson: 797412

Church Sandbag Key Holders (now owned by the Church)

St Michael's School Cage Key Holder: Barry Wilson: 797013
St Michael's Church: Richard Collins 797434 or Sue Newbould 797848

Please note: the sandbags in the cages are for use during emergency flood incidents only. If you need sandbags for your property and can store them appropriately, please contact your Area Rep.

If you would like to raise any point or pose a question which you would like to have raised at a Committee Meeting (held bi-monthly), please contact the Secretary, Debby House on 797305 or secbfpg@gmail.com

The Minutes of the AGM will be circulated to Members; the AGM minutes will also be published on the Parish Website. Details of upcoming Working Party and Social events will also be posted in the Bodenham Newsletter, on the Bodenham Watch Facebook page and Bodenham NextDoor.

Christmas Riders Parade Sat 23rd December



Come and see Santa and his horsey helpers as they parade through Bodenham



Meet at the Parish Hall at 3.30pm to see the Parade arrive & stay for a while before departing around 3.45pm.

Or line the route to wave a Merry-Ho! as the Parade goes by.

Kindly organised and run by the KC Horse Riding School and Rescue Centre, Bodenham.

For details contact Lorainne on 01568 797776

BODENHAM GARDENING CLUB



Gardening Club

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm. Annual membership is £15 and for non members the fee is £3 payable on the door.

We have a Best Bloom competition each month with the overall winner for the year receiving a rose bowl to keep for the following year so bring along your flower to be in with a chance to win this prize.

The usual raffle, sales table and refreshments will be available.

Hello everyone,

Bodenham Gardening Club had a very interesting and inspiring meeting on the 7th November when our Chairman David Griffiths kept us entertained by making a Christmas wreath. He made it look so simple but said that in the run up to Christmas he would be making 200 wreaths over the course of two to three months in his greenhouse. He went through all the stages from collecting the moss, which was wired onto the frame, collecting the leylandii and on to the finishing touches of holly leaves and berries which were also wired.

Our next meeting on the **5th December is the Christmas Party** which this year is being held in the Parish Hall at 7.45pm for 8.00pm.

To start the New Year off we have the **AGM on Tuesday 2nd January** when subscriptions are due to be paid and a DVD will be shown.

The meeting on the **6th February** will be Frank Matthews from Frank P. Matthews which is one of the largest fruit and ornamental tree growing nurseries in the UK. He will be speaking to us about tree pruning.

The Committee would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and thank you all for your support.

SAVE THE DATE!

IT'S TIME TO DIG OUT THOSE DABBERS AGAIN!



Join us for an evening of Bingo with a **TWIST** – fun prizes, and of course, the usual raffle! All ages welcome!

Saturday, 17th February 2024

Bodenham Parish Hall

Look out for further details in the New Year!

To book your place, contact:

Rebecca by telephone at 01568-797823, or Debby on 07986814123 or by email at secbfpg@gmail.com

ADVANCE BOOKING IS NOT REQUIRED, BUT IS HELPFUL FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.

The evening is a fund raiser for the **Bodenham Flood Protection Group**. The proceeds will go towards the purchase and maintenance of the equipment for our stream clearing work. As always, we appreciate your support.



BODENHAM BADMINTON CLUB



Whether you are starting, returning or just curious, come along and join us for skills, fun and fitness through badminton.

For people who would like to play games, have a little development coaching and keep fit in a fun and friendly club that is open to all ages (*under 16's must be accompanied by a parent guardian*).

Wednesday evenings from 19.45- 21.45

Bodenham Parish Hall, HR1 3LB

For more information or to arrange taster session please contact Rob 01568 797 091



Girlguiding News

Congratulations to all the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who have earned awards this term. Isobel and Millie have Rainbow Gold Awards, Olivia and Chloe have Brownie Gold Awards and Skye has a Guide Bronze award. They have all worked very hard – well done girls!

We are all looking forward to our Christmas crafts and celebrations- look out for our Christmas windows in Marden Church.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Welcome to Sutton & Marden Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers– the fun starts here!

For Rainbows (Age 4-7) please contact Laura at Suttonrainbow@gmail.com

For Brownies (Age 7-10) please contact Katy at mardenbrownies1@outlook.com

For Guides (10 – 14) and Rangers (14 – 18) please contact Alison at mardenguides@outlook.com

Guiding is great fun for adults too! You could help us every week, or maybe you have a particular skill that you could share. If you would like to find out more, please contact Alison or Katy Alison Thomas – Guide Leader

Marden Branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 5th December at 7pm** in Marden Community Lounge.

It will be a Christmas Quiz evening.

Attendees to bring a small plate of food or similar to share.

There will be a raffle and HWT sales table.
Cash only.

Free entry to celebrate the end of our talk season and Christmas.

For more information contact: Mary on 01432880107 or Jess jessicatidball60@gmail.com
Herefordshire Wildlife Trust 01432 356872
www.herefordshirewt.org
enquiries@herefordshirewt.co.uk Queenswood Country Park and Arboretum, Dinmore Hill, Nr Leominster, Herefordshire. HR6 0PY

BODENHAM LEISURE CLUB

Unfortunately Bodenham Leisure Club will be closing at the end of December 2023 and our last meeting will be as follows:-

BODENHAM LEISURE CLUB

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

14TH DECEMBER 2023

THE ROYAL OAK

The coach will leave the Parish Hall at 11.30 am. This notification only applies to the members who have booked and paid for the Luncheon.

BODENHAM BOWLING CLUB

Short mat continues in the Parish Hall on 1st and 3rd Wednesday in the month from 2 – 4pm. As we become more confident and proficient at the game we are challenging other clubs to friendly matches, some come to us in Bodenham and we travel to others, which becomes quite challenging in new surroundings with different mats. Our short mat season ends on 20th March after which we look forward to the beginning of the outdoor season in April.

It just remains for me to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and look forward to the first game of the New Year on 3rd January (not 10th as shown on the membership card).



Jean Fryer –
Secretary.
01568 797338



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Property Maintenance - inc Garden Repairs

Gutter Repair, Replacement & Cleaning

**NACS Gold Master Sweep,
insurance certificate provided**



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Email: info@tolleyhomeservices.co.uk

Website: tolleyhomeservices.co.uk



Telephone: 01432 830111
500 yards past Wellington School
(Next door to Wellington Social Club)

Open 7 days/week
Monday to Saturday 7am – 7pm
Sunday 8am – 4pm
Bank Holidays 8am – 4pm

The Post Office runs alongside the shop times

We stock fresh, local produce and an extensive grocery selection at prices to suit everyone's pocket.

*Gluten Free Zone

*Pocket Money Toy section

*Artisan Bread delivery every Saturday

*Home-made cakes delivered weekly

*Daily delivery of fresh, bakery bread

* Traditional Butcher delivery twice weekly

The team look forward to welcoming you in store.

Find and follow us on Facebook under
Wellington Village Stores



RT Building Services

General Builder & Property Maintenance

Small extensions, brick and block work

Driveways / Block Paving ~ Plastering

All types of roof constructions ~ UPVC
Fascia Boards

Guttering and Cladding ~ Plastering

HARD LANDSCAPING

Natural Stonework, Patios, Rendering and
Decorative Walls

Courtyards and Fencing

For a Free Estimate Call

Ray Taylor, Wellington

T: 01432 830145

M: 07917 132294

'Feel Good for Life' at Hereford Leisure Centre - a series of physical and social activities for people living with dementia, loneliness and depression.

The following sessions will run on Thursdays
between 11.30am and 1.15pm:

14th December

11th January

18th January

The sessions will comprise 45 minutes of light physical activity (seated exercise and the option to use the Toning Suite, which will be closed for our exclusive use) followed by social/reminiscence activities such as arts, crafts, quizzes and games over lots of tea, coffee and biscuits. We are asking people to complete a registration form ahead of their first session and that can be found online, here:

<https://haloleisure.org.uk/feelgoodforlife/>

Sessions will be priced at just £2.50 and carers are invited to join in for free.



Bodenham Parish Hall – regular groups & events information

The Parish Hall is a registered charity (number 520936) and all proceeds from its hire go towards upkeep and maintenance. We welcome groups or individuals who wish to hire the Hall for parties or other events, please see Parish website for venue details.

To contact any of the below groups/users or to enquire about booking the Hall; please email the booking team (June and Ann) on j.stephens62@btinternet.com or phone 01568 797 932

Monday	Julian's Tai Chi jukemp67@gmail.com Megan Baker House Emma's Pilates Fusion	10.00-11.30 08.30-16.30 term time 18.30-19.30
Tuesday	Megan Baker House Emma's Pilates Bodenham Gardening club	08.30- 16.30 term time 18.00-19.00 19.30-21.30, 1 st Tuesday
Wednesday	Julian's Tai Chi jukemp67@gmail.com Marden Arts & Crafts Fiona H's Yoga Bodenham Badminton Club Bodenham Bowling Club	10.00-11.30 14.00-16.00, 4 th Wednesday 18.00-19.30, alternate weeks 19.45-21.45 14.00-16.00, 1 st & 3 rd Wednesday, October-March
Thursday	Marden WI Bodenham Leisure Club Emma's pilates	14.00-16.00, 2 nd Thursday 14.30 -16.00, 3 rd Thursday (until end of 2023) 18.30-19.30
Friday	Sophie's yoga/fitness Emma's Pilates Megan Baker House Hereford Amateur radio club	09.00-10.00, 6-week blocks 10.30-11.30 12.00-16.30 term time 19.00-21.30, 1 st Friday, Nov-Feb
Saturday	Alanya Belly Dance	13.00-15.00, twice monthly
Sunday		

Events planned for 2023:

Hereford WI Christmas Fayre – 25th November

Church Christmas Bazaar – 2nd December

Garden Club Christmas Party – December 5th

Burley Gate school bingo – 8th December

Crib Service – Friday 22nd December, (at the Parish Hall) – **The Carol service will be at the Church 6pm Sunday 16th December.**

Annual Riders Parade – 23rd December

The fish and chip van in the hall carpark every Thursday evening.

More events may be added and of course, other events, not organised by the Parish Hall but taking place there, will be happening. All of these events are open to all and we hope that we will see you there! Please check out our Facebook page 'Parish Hall Bodenham', lovely picture of the sun shining through the windows on our homepage.



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the exercise and the sense of wellbeing" Gill*



Bodenham Parish Hall update:

This fantastic local amenity is run by a small group of local volunteers who make up the 'Parish Hall Management Committee'. The aim is to maintain the hall for the use of the community and enable it to continue providing a space for leisure activities as well as parties and community support.

The new windows in the main hall are in place and they look great and were done very quickly with minimal disruption. Many thanks to the bowls group for moving their day to enable us to do this.

Next on the agenda is to fund a much-needed upgrade of the toilets! To do this we are looking at approximately £25,000. The committee are looking into funding sources including applying for available grants, however any fundraising ideas or support would be gratefully received. Our accounts look good at present £26,000 – however that will depreciate to £21,000 after the windows and as a charity we are expected to maintain at least £15,000 in the bank to cover annual running fees of insurance, fuel, general maintenance etc.

We have space on the committee for 2 new members and are inviting members of the local community who have an interest in continuing the maintenance and preservation of this venue. Enthusiasm and interest in the hall and the role is all that is required.

For further information contact our secretary, June, on j.stephens62@btinternet.com



Bodenham Parish Hall:

Bodenham Parish Hall in Hereford is owned by the parishioners of Bodenham. It is run by the Bodenham Parish Hall Management Committee and the Parish Council act as Trustees of the deeds. Registered charity number 520936.

Booking team: Ann & June, 01568 797 932.

J.stephens62@btinternet.com

Find and follow us on Facebook; Parish Hall Bodenham

From 1st April 2022 the hall hire fees are:

Main hall **£12.50 per hour.**

Meeting room **£7.50 per hour**

Stage only **£7.50 per hour**

Party/dance (6pm-midnight) **£160.00, additional hours at £12.50 per hour.**

Wedding **£280.00 full day. Additional hours day before/after charged at hourly rate £12.50**

Children's parties (under 14years), concerts', music evenings, bingo, jumble sales etc all charged at **£12.50 per hour for main hall.**

Use of the field adjacent to the hall is a negotiated rate dependant on use.

Bodenham Ramblers Walks

December - January 2024

For further information see our **website:** bodenhamramblers.org

Walks take place every ten days on Sundays and Wednesdays alternately, unless otherwise stated. If you would like to join a walk, please contact the walk leader. Our Strollers group, for members who no longer do the walks, usually meets monthly for morning coffee and a stroll.

Date	Description	Miles	Start	OS Map Grid Ref	Leaders
Sunday 10th December	Malvern Hills - rolling countryside with steady climbs and descents	4.5 mls 8 stiles	10.30 Start - park & lunch at Farmers Arms, Wellington Heath	Exp 190 711 402 HR8 1LS	Steve 07387 345059
Wed 20th December	Breinton , easy walk over fields & quiet lanes. Mulled wine & nibbles in car park at end of walk	4.5mls	10.00 Start - Breinton Springs National Trust car park	Exp 189 472 396 HR47PG	Wendy 01432 272031 07896304828
Sunday 31st December	Lower Lyde: Close to Hereford, North side. Good views, one steep hill	4.5 mls 3 stiles	10.00 Start - park Kenchester Water Gardens, (on road or in car park if permitted)	Exp 202 504 441 HR1 3AB	John 01432 830183 07759 466455
Wed 10th January	Putley Green: woodland & farmland, flat & fairly easy	5.5mls 10 stiles	10.00 Start – park Putley Village Hall (small space, if pos share car)	Exp 189 652 375 HR8 2QN	Sarah 01432 830974 07596 241807
Wed 10th January	Strollers Programme Aylestone Park	1 to 2 mls	10.00 Start - Park & drinks at The Swan, Aylestone Hill	HR1 1JJ	Pat 01432 270570
Sunday 21st January	Weobley & Ledgemoor fairly flat, easy countryside & orchards	4.5 mls 4 stiles	10.00 Start - park St Peters Church bottom end of village	Exp 202 402 518 HR4 8SD	John 01432 830183 07759 466455

We are a friendly group who enjoy getting out for some exercise and exploring the beautiful countryside, around us. We walk at a comfortable and relaxed pace, using the local network of long-established, public rights of way. These are shown on Ordnance Survey maps and the Definitive Map of our County's Public Rights of Way is available from Herefordshire Council.

Do you know we have a detailed map, of public rights of way around Bodenham, in Bodenham Parish Hall? We are thinking of replacing it with a new map that looks less archaic and is more likely to get noticed – we would be interested to hear from you if you have a view about this or a suggestion. Contact: Jo Weightman on 01568 797989 or email: bodenhamramblers@gmail.com

MACS

Members are reminded that there is no meeting in December so our next meeting will be in January on Wednesday th 24th. This will be our AGM which will begin with a short business meeting. Then members are invited to bring along anything that they are working on or just to come along and have a catch up. This is always a good opportunity to see the crafts that others are doing and perhaps pick up ideas and tips. If you have a problem which may have arisen with your own chosen craft another member might be able to help or you may come across a craft which you hadn't thought of trying before and you can find out more.

If you would like to come as a visitor, you will be given a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing members and visitors alike at Bodenham Parish Hall on Wednesday 24th January at 2.00pm.

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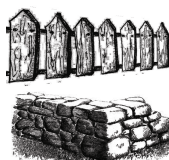
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#### Training:

We offer **FREE mental health awareness training** to anyone living or working in or with the farming community in Herefordshire.

#### Social Events:

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'Taking the bull by the horns' to tackle Mental Health in the farming community

Registered charity number: 1191461

WeAreFarmingMinds



## Marden Gardeners

The Marden Gardeners start their new 2024 Programme of Speakers and Events with Stephanie of Löv Leaf in Hereford. She will be talking about the "Benefits and Care of Houseplants" and then give a demonstration on making a macrame plant hanger.

The talk is on Saturday 20th January and starts at 2pm in Marden Community Centre and includes refreshments - a raffle will be held as well. Members are free and visitors are £3pp.

Why not join the Marden Gardeners Association this year! Our Annual Subscription rate is only £15 a year and includes an amazing array of professional speakers with a variety of topics, outings, and plant sales. Whether you are just starting your garden, or are an experienced gardener, we're sure you will find something of interest. Generally, we meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm, but due to dark winter evenings, we hold our January and February meetings on a Saturday afternoon.

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Our speaker at the November meeting was Rebecca Farkas who gave us an illustrated talk about her childhood growing up in the circus. When she was a baby her parents worked for Hoffmans Circus. As she grew up they worked for other circuses including Gerry Cottle's Circus, her father as ringmaster and her mother, who had been a teacher, teaching the children of the performers as they toured. During her teenage years she worked and performed with some of the circus animals which led to a lifelong love of horses. It was a fascinating talk about a very different way of growing up. She was warmly thanked by Marcia Willmott.

Our December meeting on the 14th is our Christmas meeting when there will be party food and seasonal festivities. Members are reminded that we shall be collecting contributions for the local food bank at the meeting. On Thursday 11th January Mandy Cooper will be telling us about Neal's Yard and their products. Both meetings will be held at Bodenham Parish Hall from 2.00 to 4.00pm.

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## A Visit from St. Nicholas

By Clement Clarke Moore

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all  
through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with  
care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be  
there;  
The children were nestled all snug in their  
beds;  
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their  
heads;  
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's  
nap,  
When out on the lawn there arose such a  
clatter,  
I sprang from my bed to see what was the  
matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.  
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen  
snow,  
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below,  
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,  
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny rein-deer,  
With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
I knew in a moment he must be St. Nick.  
More rapid than eagles his coursers they  
came,  
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them  
by name:  
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now Prancer and  
Vixen!  
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donner and Blitzen!  
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"  
As leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to  
the sky;  
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew  
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas  
too—  
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a  
bound.  
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his  
foot,

And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes  
and soot;  
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,  
And he looked like a pedler just opening his  
pack.  
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples, how  
merry!  
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a  
cherry!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,  
And the beard on his chin was as white as the  
snow;  
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,  
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a  
wreath;  
He had a broad face and a little round belly  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of  
jelly.  
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of  
myself;  
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head  
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his  
work,  
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a  
jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;  
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a  
whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a  
thistle.  
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of  
sight—  
*"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a  
good night!"*





# Christmas at St Michael & All Angels, Bodenham

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Christmas Eve  
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## From the Editor

**Wishing everyone a Peaceful  
and Happy Christmas Season**

Looking forward to 2024 the next newsletter is the February issue and the deadline is 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Thank you to all our contributors, and advertisers for filling the pages and the volunteers at Leominster Resource Centre, who print the pages, especially Eve who works so hard to make sure that the Newsletter is ready on time.



For more details about advertising or notices contact me at:

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Or visit: [bodenhamnewsletter.co.uk](http://bodenhamnewsletter.co.uk)

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2 - 4 PM

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