

Bodenham Newsletter



March 2024

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

Mondays 12 - 1pm

Hereford Police Choir Young Musician's Bursary 2024



ARE YOU A YOUNG MUSICIAN WITH ASPIRATIONS TO MAKE A CAREER IN MUSIC?

If the answer is yes, Hereford Police Male Choir want to hear from you, as you are on their Wanted List, as a candidate for the choir's prestigious Young Musician's Bursary, worth £1000. The second, third and fourth placed musicians also receive a financial prize. The photograph above shows last year's finalists including the 2022 bursary winner pianist Joshua Graesser.

To be a candidate you must be aged 14 to 22, living in Herefordshire or Worcestershire. Your application, or a request for information, should be sent to Alison Houlbrooke, Musical Director of the choir: aehoulbrooke@gmail.com

Include the following details: name, age, address, e-mail, telephone no., Musical experience, qualifications and the name and email address of your music tutor. Also indicate how you would use the bursary to help achieve your musical or singing ambitions. A shortlist will be selected by an independent panel and invited to take part in adjudications, including individual performances and interviews at Holy Trinity Church, Whitecross, Hereford on April 6th 2024. The bursary established to mark the Police Choir's 50th anniversary in 2007, is sponsored by the Becket Bulmer Fund and the Clive Richard's Foundation. The winner will also be invited to perform at the choir's annual concert on June 29th 2024.



Mother's Day Gift Fair

SATURDAY
9 MARCH '24 FROM 11-2 P.M.

@ Bodenham Parish Hall
HEREFORD HR1 3LJ

FREE ENTRY
ALL WELCOME 😊



St. Michael's Church

Dear Friends,

I hope this finds you well? This year everything seems to have happened so quickly – Easter on 31st March is about the earliest this festival can be. It seems like only yesterday that we were taking down the Christmas lights, and we shall begin the Easter weekend still on Greenwich Mean Time!

Many of our lives seem to be lived at great speed too now, with technology, longer working hours or grandparent responsibilities conspiring to necessitate a hurried dash from one thing to the next. The amount of *control* we have over the busyness varies, but the Christian season of Lent encourages us to clear a little space in our diaries if we can, to take stock and to journey with God. Whether you are moved by faith or not, it is always good to allow yourself some time to reflect on life's bigger questions and your part in them.

This is really at the heart of "giving something up for Lent" – not to get a little thinner, in time for the seasonal chocolate egg feeding frenzy, but to create time and space to reconnect with ourselves, with those that matter to us and perhaps also with God.

As you read this, I will have begun my extended study leave and will be training for my "long walk." This 650-mile walk, from Canterbury to the Italian Alps *will* be a time when I give up a number of

home comforts, but more importantly a time when I will slow down. I am hugely grateful to have this opportunity to gently loaf through Europe. It draws me closer to Japanese theologian Kosuke Koyama's view on God's speed, not ours. In his book *Three Mile an Hour God*, Koyama writes:

"Love has its speed. It is a spiritual speed. It is a different kind of speed from the technological speed to which we are accustomed. It goes on in the depth of our life, whether we notice or not, at three miles an hour. It is the speed we walk and therefore the speed the love of God walks."

This is the speed of the resurrection, which happened on that first Easter Day. The Good News of Jesus rising from the dead spread slowly, but inexorably all around the Roman Empire and beyond; showing that love had won and will always win.

I'm looking forward to spending a little more time at this speed. If you'd like to read more about my progress, take a look at my blog: loafingpilgrim.blog There are links here to ways in which to support me too if you feel so moved.

In the meantime, whatever speed you are travelling, may you have a blessed and loving Easter.

Best wishes, Paul



Services for March 2024

3rd	4pm	Evensong
8th	11am	Bodenham Moor Communion at Siward James
10th	9.30am	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday
17th	9.30am 4pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer (BCP)
24th	9.30am	Palm Sunday Communion
31st	9.30am	Easter Day Communion

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council

Following the cancellation of the February Parish Council meeting, there will be a meeting on **Wednesday 6th March at 18.30** at the Siward James Centre:

the agenda will be published on the website and copies put on noticeboards a few days before the meeting:

The meeting after **6th March** will be on **Wednesdays 3rd April and 1st May**. The latter is the Annual Meeting. It will start at 18.00.

There are still three vacancies on the Parish Council. Please consider standing for co-option. meetings

Litter pick on 16th March

The next litter pick is on **Saturday 16th March 2024**. The usual arrangements apply, namely:

- meet at the parish hall for a 10.30 start;
- equipment will be provided;
- stay for soup, buns and tea/coffee afterwards.

Lugg Valley Young Farmers will participate. Please spread the word about the litter pick, even if you can't come yourself, because the turn-out last time was rather disappointing.

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.

Highlights from recent Parish Council meetings.

Because there has not been a Parish Council meeting since the last Newsletter was published, there are no highlights!

Potholes and other defects such as blocked drains

Although the worst sections of the C1125 have been resurfaced, the Parish Council is still very concerned about potholes and other defects in Bodenham, especially since Herefordshire has been declared to be the pothole capital of England. However, the Parish Council has little control over addressing the problem other than to report potholes, which anyone can do.

The system is that:

- the locality steward inspects all roads every month;
- if he finds a pothole or is alerted to a pothole by it having been reported, 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> or on <https://www.fixmystreet.com>. If it isn't reported, it may not get sorted. The locality steward cannot spot all defects, such as blocked drains, so vigilance from and

reporting by residents is appreciated. If you have difficulty in reporting a pothole, please contact any parish councillor or the parish clerk.

The Parish Council website

The Bodenham Parish Council website is www.bodenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

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 bodenhampcclerk@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.

NOTICE

The water spout at Dinmore has consistently tested as unsafe for human consumption.

Please Do Not Drink

Bodenham Parish Council May 2023- April 24

Cllr Jan Burgess		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 Ron Pearce	rpearce665@gmail.com	01568 797084
3 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.



Palm Sunday – 24th March

9.30am

Communion and Palm Sunday Procession at Bodenham

11.15am

Palm Sunday Communion and Procession at Preston Wynne

4.00pm

Wild Church at Bodenham

Tuesday of Holy Week – 26th March

6.00pm

Holy Week Prayer at Amberley

Maundy Thursday – 28th March

6.30pm

Holy Communion at Felton

Good Friday 29th March

10.30am

Family Workshop at Preston Wynne Village Hall

3.00pm

Last Hour Meditation at Marden

Saturday 30th March

6.00pm

Easter Eve Vigil and Communion at Preston Wynne

Easter Sunday 31st March

9.30am

Easter Day Communion at Bodenham

Leominster & District U3A (Learn, laugh and live!)

We are a social group of retired and semi-retired individuals who like to further their particular interests, make new friends and meet like-minded people.

Monthly meetings are held at the Baptists Church Hall Leominster at 2pm with a Speaker followed by refreshments.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 19th March will be our AGM. We have many interest groups who meet in members homes. Groups include Art, Garden Visits, Family History, Pub Lunches, Reading, Languages, Walking and Writing and many more.

The Speaker at our April Meeting will be **Rosemary Violette to talk about Violette Szabo, G.C..** We look forward to perhaps meeting you there.

Members pay an annual fee, non-members £2 a meeting.

We have arranged a Coach Trip to Bristol for Wednesday 15th May. Leaving 8.30 am from Leominster returning approximately 6pm. Cost £20 or £25 for non members. Or coach to Bristol plus visit to SS Great Britain with Guided Tour £39.35 or £44.25 for non members.

If interested please email Adrian.garai53@gmail.com with your name and contact telephone number. Payment will be taken nearer the time.

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

Services for March 2024

3rd	10.30am Worship Service - Simon Harris
10th	10.30am Worship Service - Bob Lillyman
17th	10.30am Worship Service - Bob Lillyman
24th	9.00am Prayer and Praise 10.30am Worship Service Jim Scott
31st Easter Sunday	10.30am Worship Service and Communion - Peter Lefroy-Owen

GOOD FRIDAY MARCH 29th

There will be a short time of reflection and
meditation from 3.30pm.
This will be followed by refreshments including
Hot Cross Buns.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study will be on
Tuesdays 5th & 19th at 10.00am to continue
the study in
'Is Easter Unbelievable?'
Contact Rebecca Burnill on 01568 797823

Cafe @ the Chapel

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

SONGS OF WORSHIP

Wednesday March 27th
at 2.15pm

"The Songs of Worship" meeting for all who love
making a joyful noise unto the Lord!!
(regardless of whether you think you can sing or
not !!).

MUSIC AND CRAFT CLUB

The next club date is **Saturday March 16th**
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.

MEETINGS FOR BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER

At the Chapel each **Thursday (except 28th)**
at 2pm

To study the book of Romans

Contact: Len Day on 01432 880657

TRAVELS WITH A CAMERA

**Bodenham Chapel hosts presentations on
Tuesday of Wednesday afternoons from 2.15
until approx 4pm with a short break for
refreshments.**

**Donations are to Ear Aid Nepal unless
specified.**

Wednesday 6th March

"Where Am I? - Part 2"

Can you identify these day trip destinations
from the photos?

Presented by Cathy Crowther

~~~~~

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

"Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan"

presented by Audrey Nunn

(in aid of Linda Norgrove Foundation)

~~~~~

Ear Aid Nepal is a Herefordshire (Marden) based
Charity that has been established to promote good
ear health and treat hearing disability in Nepal.

<http://www.earaidnepal.org/>
Charity No. 1152225



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

OPEN TUES & FRI 10 - 3

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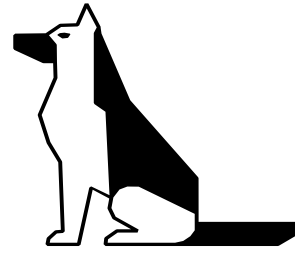


**2 Holiday cottages available
12 months of the year**

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.



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YOUR PET DESERVES THE BEST

**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

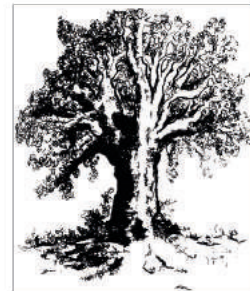


Monday - Friday
09:00 - 14:00

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

Summer Fete June 2024

Summer's coming...the storms will have passed and hopefully it will be warmer and drier!

The Bodenham Village Summer Fete Committee 2024 is now busy organising the event and is looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on Saturday 29th June at the parish hall.

We are looking for willing volunteers to help with baking cakes, serving refreshments, running the games, manning the car park etc.. If you have the time and would like to help support the village fete, please get in touch with us. We would love to hear from you!

Without the support of volunteers it would be impossible to have the summer fete which is organised to bring the community together for an afternoon of fun and hopefully raise some funds for local good causes.

See you then...

The Bodenham Village Summer Fete
Committee 2024

Contact: glynn.jones62@icloud.com



Don't throw your broken items away, let us see if we can repair them?

1st Saturday of the Month - 10.00am – 1.00pm

In Marden Links Parish Hub

(between the mini-market and Streets Hairdresser)

We have a team of volunteer repair experts on hand who are keen to repair:

- ☐ household goods ☐ tool sharpening ☐ electronics ☐
- ☐ toys ☐ garden tools (excluding ones with petrol engines) ☐
- ☐ electrical appliances ☐ furniture/wooden objects ☐
- ☐ clothing/textile repairs ☐ ceramics and much more ☐....

Enjoy a drink, homemade cake and a chat while you wait

To book: www.marden-links.org/repair-cafe/
or email: repair.cafe@marden-links.org

Bagged Potatoes

10kg & 25kg

Great value, bargain prices

Locally grown

Based in Marden, Herefordshire

Collection or Delivery available

Contact: Emily 07539743261

(Check out our Facebook page/group
'Spudalicious')

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



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.



BODENHAM TENNIS CLUB

Sign up for the new season!

We welcome new members of ALL standards.

- 2 x recently repainted tennis courts (1 x floodlit)
- Mixed club nights every Thursday evening, from April to September
- Junior & adult coaching in conjunction with Tennis Hereford (subject to minimum numbers)
- Men's & Ladies teams entered into the local H&W tennis summer & winter leagues
- Social events including Winter Blues steak & bowl evening at The Grove, Leominster
- Mixed doubles round robin tournament & fun day
- Membership includes use of courts anytime, & as often as would like, via online booking system
- Entry into the Wimbledon ticket ballot

For more information, please visit our website:

www.bodenhamtennisclub.co.uk

& follow us on Facebook

The courts are situated behind the Parish Hall in Bodenham, HR1 3LB.



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

Spring Plant Fair



24th April 2024 10.30am - 4.00pm

BROXWOOD COURT

nr Pembridge HR6 9JJ

A special day for gardeners!

Discover beautiful, interesting and unusual plants. Meet producers of garden-related products and explore the stunning and rarely opened Broxwood Court garden and arboretum. Specialist horticultural talks from 1pm.

Lunch and refreshments on sale all day.

Entrance £7.50 per person on the gate (no advance sales). No Dogs. Only assistance dogs are allowed in the gardens.

All proceeds to The Cart Shed Charity (Reg Charity no 1167802)

Tel: 01544 318 231

www.thecartshed.co.uk



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.

The next meeting will be **March 18th** at the Chapel and this time **Nickatie Morgan** will talk about the therapies she offers and give us some tips on relaxation

Besides the group meetings, general events also organised by Georgia and Corrine include – a walk through **Queenswood on the 2nd Friday** of the month – meet by the shop between 10.30 & 11;

Crafty Carers at Blue Diamond Garden Centre - 3rd Friday
10.30 in the café;

Gardening at Hinton Community Centre, 4th Friday, 10.30, and a weekly Zoom coffee morning on Wednesdays.

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 FLOOD GROUP



BFPG News March 2024

Here we are at the start of Spring already. Not much to report this month; we continue to work closely with Bodenham Parish Council, Hereford Council/BBLP and other flood groups to share best practice and to try and find practical solutions to flood issues within our village.

By the time you read this we will have had our Bingo and Bakes evening on 17th February. Obviously as I am writing this before the event I cannot tell you how much we made! However I would like to thank you to all of our supporters for attending, donating prizes and/or bakes to make the evening go with a swing. Apart from our regular members who always kindly support us, we also received prize donations from the following businesses:

- England's Gate
- Storm Hairdressers
- Asda Hereford
- Wye Valley Brewery
- The Courtyard
- Beefy Boys
- Morrisons Leominster.

We are grateful for each and every donation.

The next Newsletter will contain the proposed schedule of working parties for 2024, but the general plan is to start mid to end of April through to around September. Once a fortnight on a Saturday morning – so if you can spare a couple of hours for a bit of exercise, some chat and hard work, please do consider joining us.

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!

secbfpg@gmail.com

**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
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 Aysford Sanford: 01568 797549
Orchard Close: Mike Stephens 01568 797816
Maund Bryan: Philip Broomhead 01568 797167

BFPG Sandbag Key Holders:

Parish Hall Container: Secretary 797305
Siward James Cage Key Holder: The Warden: Victoria Paterson: 797412 and the Secretary 797305

Orchard Close/Chapel Lane Sandbags:

Cage Key Holder: Mike Stephens 797816

Church Sandbag Key Holders

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 or nearest Cage Keyholder.

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.

LEOMINSTER COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE

We are a printing resource that is cheaper than any other locally.

5p for A4 b/w 20p for A4 colour

(A basic example of our affordability)

We offer the ability to print up Newsletters, Posters & Magazines/Booklets.

No job too small and able to meet large orders too.

Located in the Community Centre (old school), School Lane (off Church Street), Leominster.

We are open 9.30 - 1pm Mon - Friday

Call in, phone 07398 712939 or email leoresource@yahoo.com

to see if we can help.

We are run and staffed by volunteers with many skills, and looking for a couple more to fill gaps of retired colleagues.

It's a brilliant resource for both community groups wanting to spread word of their events and support, as well as individuals that simply have an idea they want duplicated.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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,

The Gardening Club meeting for February invited Frank Matthew's to give us a talk about Tree Pruning which was very interesting and showed us where we were going wrong.

For the meeting on **5th March** we have Pat Crane giving us a talk about Flower Arranging. If anyone has seen her in action she is extremely creative and interesting in her talks. Please do come along and enjoy an hour or two in her company.

The meeting on the **2nd April** is entitled Gardeners Question Time with club members sharing hints and tips.

Looking further ahead on the 2nd April we have the Spring Flower Show so there is plenty of time to plan your exhibits to make this the best show ever.



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



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

☐ **A reminder about our Easter Family Bingo on Friday 8th March at Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall. Eyes Down 6.30pm – see you there!**

How many of you used to be a Brownie or a Guide? Did you used to do Interest Badges – probably Cook, Craft, First Aid, Camper or Agility. Girlguiding has come a long way since then and the girls can now do badges for Mindfulness, Vlogging, Human Rights, Construction, Recycling, Space, Upcycling, Campaigning and Zero Waste. The old skills haven't been forgotten though- there are still badges for Baking, Collecting, Book lover, Fitness, Backwoods cooking and Whittling.

Through fun, friendship, challenge and adventure we empower girls to find their voice, inspiring them to discover the best in themselves and to make a positive difference in their community.

helps all girls know that they can do anything!

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

BODENHAM BOWLING CLUB

Not long now before we can enjoy bowling outdoors on our green at Siward James, hopefully the weather will be kind to us. We will be signing on and paying our membership fees at the end of our final short mat game in Bodenham Parish Hall on 20th March.

The green will be open for our first game on Saturday 20th April at 1.30pm for 2pm start and anyone interested in joining us is welcome to come along to find out more.



Jean Fryer –
Secretary.
01568 797338

EASTER FAMILY BINGO

In aid of Sutton St Nicholas Rainbows and Marden Brownies & Guides

Friday 8th March	Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall
------------------------------------	--

Doors open 6.15 Eyes Down 6.30pm
£6 a book, Specials £2
Prizes! Refreshments & Raffle

For more information email suttonrainbow@gmail.com

Country Paws

DOG GROOMING

MARDEN, HEREFORDSHIRE

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📷 @COUNTRY_PAWS_HEREFORDSHIRE

📍 COUNTRY PAWS DOG GROOMING, HEREFORDSHIRE

Bodenham Ramblers March 2024

All 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
Sun 3 rd Mar	Ballingham: field edges, tracks, woodland, riverbank, quiet roads. Some modest hills, 5 stiles	5.5	10.00am Start - park at Kilforge Farm; lunch at 'Cottage of Content' nearby (563 310, HR2 6NG)	Exp 189 561 322 HR2 6NE	Chris 01432 649606 07471 077071
Weds 13 th Mar	Shobdon: includes one steepish hill and 4-5 stiles	5.5	10.00am Start - park & lunch, Bateman Arms pub (if eating tell John by 3 rd March)	Exp 203 402 620 HR6 9LX	John 01432 830183 07759 466455
Weds 13 th Mar	Strollers Programme Wye riverbank near Hampton Bishop - no stiles	1 -2	10.00am Start - park to stroll at <i>The Bunch of Carrots</i> pub. 11am for coffee/tea	Exp 189 550 382 HR1 4JR	Pat 01432 270 570
Sun 24 th Mar	Lucton: fairly easy, part riverside, part countryside, 3 - 4 stiles.	5	10.30 Start - park at Lucton School. Picnic Lunch	Exp 203 438 650 HR6 9PN	John 01432 830183 07759 466455

We are a friendly group with members all over Herefordshire, and beyond, who enjoy getting outside for some exercise, regardless of the weather, exploring the beautiful countryside around us.

This winter, walk leaders have had to work hard to find paths that are not too muddy or closed with damaged bridges or other barriers. Like our roads, our long-established public rights of way need constant maintenance.

To help Landowners and Parish Footpath Officers keep them open, Herefordshire Council has recently appointed a Volunteers Development Officer to set up a county network of volunteers willing to help. Interested volunteers can contact Stephen Organ on: 01432 383671 or stephen.organ@herefordshire.gov.uk

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To find out more, or to join Bodenham Ramblers, contact:  
Jo Weightmand on 01568 797989, Wendy on 01432 272031  
or Ron Pearce on 01568 797084

**website:** [bodenhamramblers.org](http://bodenhamramblers.org) – **email:** [bodenhamramblers@gmail.com](mailto:bodenhamramblers@gmail.com)

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## Councillor Bruce Baker Hampton

As you may be aware the minority Conservative administration (of which I am part) took charge of the Council in May 2023. Unfortunately significant overspends and unrealistic budgets in previous years had left the Council finances in a precarious state with little room to manoeuvre. Our challenge was to address a predicted annual deficit of some £28.8 million and we have done this by finding over £19.5 million in savings and efficiencies in conjunction with a 2% rise in the Adult Social Care Precept and a 2.99% rise in Core Council Tax. Whilst the increase in Council Tax is regrettable, a failure to do this now would have seen us on a very dangerous path indeed. You only need look across to Birmingham, where a 10% rise in Council Tax is being suggested, to see what happens where a Council fails to keep control of their finances. This budget also addresses the black hole in the Council's medium term financial forecast and will hopefully put us on the path to lower Council Tax rises in future years – something I am sure we can all agree is overdue. The challenge will now be delivering this budget without overspends and to help with this we have introduced new spending controls including a ban on all spending over £500 without senior officer sign off.

After the draft budget was published in December, Herefordshire Council received news of additional funding from the Government and we have allocated this to (Strategic Housing (£1 Million), Leominster HSAZ (£300k) and support to the Voluntary Sector (£200k) amongst other things. A number of us also raised the vital role that Parish Council's and local communities play and I am pleased to say we won the argument for more funding to be spent in this area. This will see the appointment of a Funding / Grants Officer to support Town and Parish Councils (£56k), an increase in the Lengthsman Scheme (£250k), the creation of a new Public Rights of Way Scheme (£250k) and the creation of a new Drainage Grant Scheme (£450k). On a personal level I am delighted that this money will be spent at a local level and not with Balfour Beatty or other Council contractors.

Alongside the Revenue Budget we passed minor amendments to the Capital Budget which thanks to a re-scoping of priorities in December will see additional funding to establish new employment land across the county helping to attract inward private investment and create better paid jobs to the county alongside £10 million for resurfacing our road network. The actions taken over the last few months have moved this Council on to a much firmer financial footing by refocusing its attention away from the much lamented schemes of the last four years and to getting back to delivering on residents priorities.

Finally for this Council round up, there are two items on the horizon at Herefordshire which I think will be of particular interest to Parish Councillors. Firstly the Roads / Bypass strategy which will be discussed by the Cabinet in the coming weeks and secondly the end of a tender process for a new highways maintenance framework. Whilst the latter may sound dull it is one of the most significant changes we have made as it will allow us to spend the additional highways funding outside of our Balfour Beatty contract as many of you have been clamouring for over a number of months / years.

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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 2024:

Bodenham Fete (organised by the fete committee) Provisionally 29th June
Church Christmas Bazaar – Saturday 30th November

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.



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.

Have you any free time?

Do you like the idea of helping the community?

Are you interested in the Parish Hall?

Would you like to join our committee?

We have space on the committee for 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. Thank you, Robin, Jo, Ian, June, Ann & Ron. *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.



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 FRIDAY 20th SEPTEMBER
 FRIDAY 18th OCTOBER
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Marden Gardeners

Spring really feels like it's on the way now!
 For March we return to our Tuesday evening meetings in the Marden Community Centre.

On the **12th of March** we will welcome Robin Pearce who will give us a talk on "Ornamental Grasses and Ferns".

As many of you know, these are some of my favourite plants, of which I have many in our front gravel garden. So I am really really looking forward to this talk!

Our meetings start at 7:00pm. Non-members are £3pp which includes refreshments. And we always have a monthly raffle.

Everyone is welcome! OR why not join the Marden Gardeners for only £15 per year?

ADVANCED DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - OUR ANNUAL PLANT SALE WILL BE HELD SATURDAY 11TH MAY 10-NOON.

"The last fling of winter is over....The earth, the soil itself has a dreaming quality about it. It is warm now to the touch; it has come alive; it hides secrets that in a moment, in a little while, it will tell." -Douglas Culross Peattie

THANKS DOUG!

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Sutton St Nicholas Village Hall,
 Bayley Way, HR1 3SZ.

Refreshments will be available, including cakes and wine, and there will be a Raffle.

Contact Judy Stevenson 01432 880748 richandjudy93@gmail.com or Jane Keating 01544 318310 suttonwallscg@gmail.com for more details. See a synopsis at <https://www.suttonwalls.co.uk/events-and-involvement>

MACS

Spring will be in the air at our next meeting when Sandra Hockly will be joining us to show us how to make paper flowers.

Please bring a pair of paper cutting scissors with you for this hands-on session, all other materials will be provided.

If you have not been to one of our meetings before you're very welcome to come and join us and make some cheerful blooms.

We look forward to seeing members and visitors on

Wednesday 27th March at 2.00pm in Bodenhams Parish Hall.

Wendy Steadman

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

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[f WeAreFarmingMinds](https://www.facebook.com/wearefarmingminds)



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WI

Our next meeting, which is our Annual Meeting, will be held on Thursday 14th

March in Bodenham Parish Hall, when we shall be reviewing the past year and choosing a new committee for the coming year.

Members are reminded to arrive at 1.45pm so we can be settled by 2.00pm, when the meeting will start with our usual fish and chip lunch.

We look forward to seeing you.

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Saturday	6.00am to 9pm

From the Editor

The next Newsletter is the double April 24 issue.

The deadline is 18th March 2024.

For more details about advertising or notices contact me at:

email: susan@bodenhamnewsletter.co.uk

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