

Bodenham Newsletter

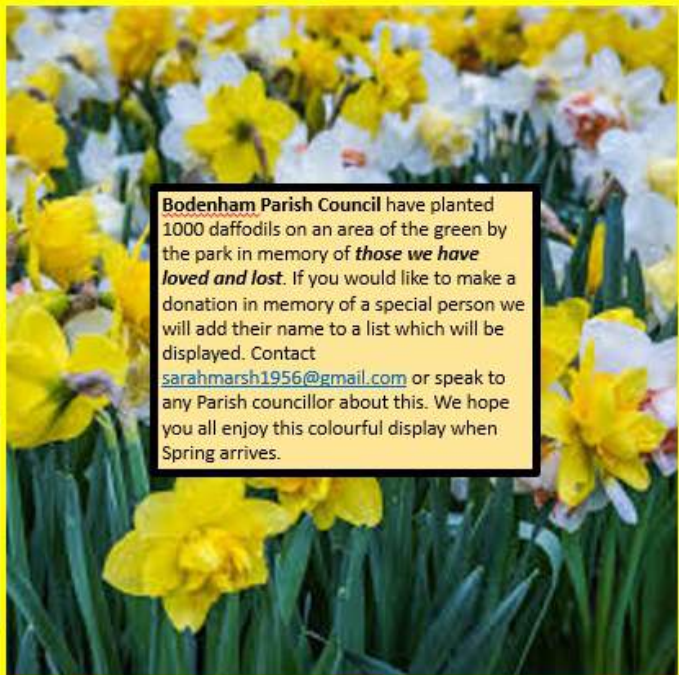
CHRISTMAS



December 2024 & January 2025



The Post Office Van is in
Bodenham Enterprise Park (Baches)
Mondays 12 - 1pm
Tel: 01885 482201 for information



Bodenham Parish Council have planted 1000 daffodils on an area of the green by the park in memory of *those we have loved and lost*. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a special person we will add their name to a list which will be displayed. Contact sarahmarsh1956@gmail.com or speak to any Parish councillor about this. We hope you all enjoy this colourful display when Spring arrives.

Christmas at St Michael & All Angels, Bodenham

Carol Service

Sunday 15th
December
6pm

CRIB & CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 22nd
December
5pm
at The Parish Hall

FAMILY COMMUNION SERVICE

Christmas Day
10:30am



Maund Churches



@MaundChurches

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The litter pick

..... held on **Saturday 9th November** was less well attended than usual, but a sizeable amount of rubbish was still collected, as the photo below shows, including nine full bags and some large items



Thanks are due to the pickers and caterers, who, in alphabetical order were:

Alec and Sharon Avery
Rebecca Burnill
Thelma Butcher
Chris and Robin Hemming
Sarah Marsh
Jenny Nicolson
Sue and Ron Pearce
Rhian Powell
Chris Smith

Thanks are also due to Balfour Beatty, who provided the litter picking kits and collected the rubbish afterwards.

The first litter pick in 2025 will be on **15th March 2025**.

Vacancies on the Parish Council

Cllr Elly Davidson Thompson has resigned from the Parish Council. Mr Mike Dunn has agreed to stand for co-option at the December meeting of the Parish Council. Three vacancies will remain, however, so please put yourself forward or approach someone, who you think might be interested in becoming a councillor, to put themselves forward.

Miscellaneous matters:

the Parish Council has still not been given a date for the installation of roundels and permissive white lines along the C1125. Wet surfaces, mud and loose clippings are to blame for the delay:

a further location point for the Speed Indicator Device has been approved and should be in operation soon. It is on the C1125 on the approach to Bodenham from the Hereford direction:

the pruning of the Millennium and Jubilee trees has been considered by the

Enforcement Officer at Herefordshire Council. His response was that the works are considered to be acceptable and that there will be no lasting damage to the trees. However, he added that he would write to the landowner to the effect that any further works to trees will need approval via a planning application.

A reminder.

The play equipment in the playground on the village green is for under-12s only - for reasons of insurance and wear and tear on the equipment.

Several donations for the daffodil fund

..... in memory of loved ones have been received, for which the Parish Council is very grateful. The names of your loved ones will appear on a list on the notice boards. If you wish to make a donation in memory of a loved one or for any other reason, please contact any councillor or the Clerk.

Complaints or suggestions

..... will be responded to by any Councillor or the Clerk, if they are contacted personally, by email or phone. Airing matters on social media is not helpful and can be hurtful to persons on Parish Council business.

Many thanks

.....to Roger While, the carpenter, who, as a favour to the Parish and for a nominal sum, kindly repaired the notice board next to the bullocks sculpture on the village green.

Retirement of the Parish Clerk

After more than 14 years as Parish Clerk, Chris Smith has decided to retire, though he will remain in post, until a successor is found or until March 2025, whichever is the sooner.

The next Parish Council meetings

..... will be on **Wednesdays 4th December 2024 and 8th January 2025 starting at 6.30pm** at the Siward James Centre.

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

The Parish Council website makeover

The Bodenham Parish Council website is www.bodenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk and has received an update/makeover. Comments welcome.



Parish Council continues

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

An increasing number of residents (51 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 bodenhampccclerk@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

From Hampton Court

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

Please Do Not Drink

Councillor	Email	Telephone
Cllr Jan Burgess (Chairman)	jandg.burgess@btinternet.com	01568 701911
Cllr Trudie Mills	trudie.a.mills@gmail.com	07968 080826
Cllr Jemma Gromadzki	jgromadzki-bodenhampc@hotmail.com	
Cllr Sarah Marsh	sarahmarsh1956@gmail.com	07792 662928
Cllr Liz Miller		07749 912457
Cllr Ron Pearce (Vice-chairman)	rpearce665@gmail.com	01568 797084
(4 Vacancies)		
Chris Smith (Parish Clerk)	bodenhampccclerk@gmail.com	01568 797132
Cllr Bruce Baker - Bruce.Baker2@herefordshire.gov.uk - is the Herefordshire Councillor for the Hampton Ward.		

Ellie Chowns - Green MP for North Herefordshire

Ellie Chowns MP's North Herefordshire constituency office is Leominster. You can contact her and her team at : - at 9, The Buttercross, Leominster, HR6 8BN - telephone number is 01568 630065

Ellie's email address is ellie.chowns.mp@parliament.uk

Ellie works in Parliament Monday to Thursday, and occasional Fridays. Usually she holds surgeries and has appointments and visits in the constituency on Fridays and Saturdays.

The preferred method of contact is via email.

The office is staffed 9-5 Monday to Friday. It's a working office for Constituency Office Manager, Gill Bullock, and Ellie's caseworkers. It's not where surgeries take place; these are held in locations around the constituency, with details to be found on the home page of Ellie's website.

St. Michael's Church

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, in mid-November, several memes are circulating social media about the dire consequences of playing Christmas songs before the beginning of December. Two things might be running through your mind at this moment. Is this going to be another vicar's letter about the festive season not starting until Christmas Eve? And possibly, what is a meme?

Dealing with these reasonable questions in order: I will do my best not to get too grumpy with you! And secondly, a meme is an image, video or piece of text, typically humorous in nature, that is copied and spread rapidly by internet users, often with slight variations. Some of you will remember a lost time gone by when, on entering a new office, you would be handed a sheaf of photocopied jokes, stories and pictures, and you would photocopy some of your favourites to share with your workmates. Memes are like this – though less blurry, circulated considerably faster and more likely to involve cats.

December marks the Christian season of Advent – waiting for the coming of the longed for Messiah. It is a time of preparation. We prepare our homes, work through our shopping lists, but also prepare our hearts to hear again that good news of the birth of Jesus Christ. The Christmas and Epiphany seasons follow, when a number of

notable “realisations” of who Jesus was and would be are recalled: from the Three Kings, the aged Simeon in the Temple and the disciples at Jesus' own baptism. News of Jesus' birth was transmitted by various means (*not* memes); by angelic voices and stars, followed by eager word of mouth.

This Christmas we will recall Jesus' birth, but also remind ourselves of the difference allowing Jesus to be born in our hearts might make to our lives. This is why we have a season of preparation, so that this good news, which first the angels told, shines all the brighter in the winter darkness.

So, I am pretty relaxed if hearing the familiar Christmas songs helps to prepare us... to get us in the spirit of the season. We hope very much to be back in St Michael & All Angels Church for our Christmas Carol Service on 15th December – look out for a grand sweep and polish morning before that, so that we are ready to “hail that happy morn” when Christmas finally arrives. (Do check out the details of our Christmas services elsewhere in this edition).

I wish you all an expectant Advent, joyous Christmas and peaceful New Year

Paul



FAMILY CRIB & CAROL SERVICES



Join us to sing your favourite carols as we tell the Christmas story together.

Come dressed as your favourite nativity character – shepherds, kings, Mary, Joseph, sheep, donkeys, angels, stars, and more are welcome!



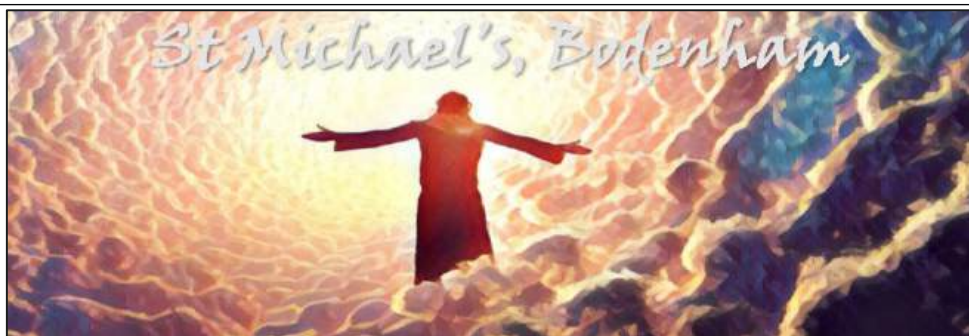
Sunday 22nd December - 5pm Bodenham Parish Hall

Monday 23rd December - 4pm St Nicholas Church, Sutton

Christmas Eve - 4pm Marden Church

A family-friendly service suitable for all ages and abilities.

We'll be moving around, singing, and making a joyful noise together.



Owing to flooding, please check on www.bodenhamchurch.com/services for latest locations and confirmation of timings:

Services for December

1st	4pm	Advent Service of Music and Readings at Marden
7th	3pm	St Michaels Hospice Light Up a Light Service at Marden
8th	10.30am	Holy Communion at Marden
13th	11am	Bodenham Moor Communion at Siward James
15th	6pm	Christmas Carol Service in Bodenham Church**
22nd	5pm	Family Crib and Carol Service Bodenham Parish Hall
25th	10.30am	Family Christmas Communion at Bodenham Church**
31st	10.30am	Gathered Communion at Amberley Chapel
** Please keep an eye out on notice boards and social media. Location may change if the church is not dry in time		

Services for January 2025

5th	3pm	Epiphany Carol Service at Sutton St Michael
10th	11am	Bodenham Moor Communion at Siward James
12th	9.30am	Holy Communion at Bodenham Church **
19th	9.30am 4pm	Holy Communion at Bodenham Church Evening Prayer (BCP)
26th	9.30am	Holy Communion at Bodenham Church

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

December	
1st	10.30am Worship Service – Chris Over
8th	9.00am Prayer and Praise 10.30am Worship Service – Ken Morey
15th	10.30am Worship Service – Steve Grisman
22nd	3.30pm Carols by Candlelight
25th	10.30am Christmas Day Praise
29th	10.30am Fellowship Service & Communion
January 5th	10.30am Worship Service – Bob Lilyman
12th	10.30 Worship Service – Speaker from Missionary Aviation Fellowship
19th	10.30am Worship Service – Richard Nield
26th	10.30am Worship Service – Steve Sully

Food Bank Collection

1st December

MEETINGS FOR BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

At the Chapel **Thursdays at 2.00pm**

Continuing studies in the Book of Acts

Last Study before Christmas **Dec 12th**

Resuming in the New Year on **Jan 9th**

Contact Len Day on 01432 880657

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Ladies Bible Study will be on

Tuesdays December 3rd and January 21st

at 10.00am

Dec 3rd meeting at 4 Berrington Drive
(Joan Weeks)

Jan 21st meeting again at the Chapel

Continuiong studies in Acts:

‘The Church Multiplies’

Contact Rebecca Burnill on 01568 797823

SONGS OF WORSHIP

**No Meetings in December or
January**

**Will resume at the Chapel in
February!**

Cafe @ the Chapel

Each **Thursday** from 10.30am to 12 noon

Why not just call in
for a coffee and a chat.
Everyone Welcome!

MUSIC AND CRAFT CLUB

At the Chapel on **Saturday Dec 7th & Jan 11th**
from 10.00am for 1 hour.

All primary school chlidren (4 - 11) are welcome!

Contact David Weber at
davidwebermusic@gmail.com

Travels with a Camera

The Shroud of Turin

at the Chapel
on Tuesday, 10th December
at 2.15pm

In 2010, Justin Robinson took his camera and travelled to Turin, Italy to photograph the most mysterious object in the world during a rare public exposition. The Shroud of Turin is a fourteen foot long strip of linen cloth bearing the faint image of a crucified man.

Justin Robinson is a member of the British Society for the Turin Shroud and works as a historian in the coin industry. He is looking forward to sharing his research with the group and invites everyone to come and unlock the secrets of this fascinating mystery.



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. 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.

First of all, a big **Thank You** to **Joanne**, our local Chiropodist, and her colleague, **Heidi**, for giving up their time to do a very relaxing **Reflexology** session for the Carers Group helping people to unwind and relax.

On December 9th we will be having our **Christmas Wreath** making session, again please let me know if you would like to make a wreath to ensure we have enough material. (The wreaths cost £5 to make – subsidised from the profit from the Craft Sale.) Even if you don't want to make a wreath do still come along because there'll be Christmas refreshments!

The **Queenswood Christmas Walk** and refreshments at the Yurt will be on **Friday December 13th** so meet as usual at the Café around 10.30.

Our New Year meal at Kenchester Tea Rooms will be on January 20th. You need to book so please let me know if you will be coming.

The Carers' Christmas Tree which so many of you worked on is on display at **The Courtyard** – it's amazing so please go and have a look and thank you to everyone who contributed the knitted/crocheted green squares and decorations.

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.



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



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



Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust

In April the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust awarded £72,500 in grants to PCCs for works from mundane, but essential repairs to church walls,

to adding features to churches to make them more community friendly. We are very keen to support those churches that are working hard to maintain the church for future generations. This could not happen without hard working PCC members (have you thought about joining?) and the generosity of donations to the churches, the Trust and supporters of our events.

Saturday 7th December Octavo Much Marcle
Church 7pm.

See our website for more details

www.hhct.co.uk



BODENHAM 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.

The Gardening Club held a very enjoyable evening on the 5th November when Mike England gave an illustrated talk about his last year's gardening successes and failures.

It was a very light hearted presentation and I am sure we can all relate to the problems he suffered.

The next meeting on the **3rd December** is the Christmas Party in the Parish Hall which commences **at 7.15pm.**

To start the New Year, the meeting on the **7th January is the Annual General Meeting** when subscriptions are due for the following year. Following the AGM there will be a slide show featuring the Spring Flower Show, the visit to Berrington House and the Summer Show.

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 coin operated)
- Mixed club sessions every Thursday evening (during summer months) & Sunday mornings
- Coaching 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!

BODENHAM BOWLING CLUB

We continue with our Short Mat season in Bodenham Parish Hall at 2 – 4pm on the first and third Wednesday in the month until March 2025.

Our thoughts are turning to the next outdoor season in April and there are many plans to be made in preparation for this and maintenance of the green which continues throughout the year.

We take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year and don't forget, if you fancy a game of Short Mat just come to any of our sessions to find out more.



Jean Fryer. Secretary.
01568 797338



BODENHAM FLOOD GROUP



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

**Road liable
to flooding**

We are pleased that due to a grant from the West Mercia Police Commissioner Road Safety funds, we have received new signs noting **'Road Liable to Flooding'**. These signs will be posted on the four roads which lead to the Millcroft Rd / Ketch Ln intersection.

The four sign posts will have a second fold up sign which reads **'Flood - Road Closed'** and will be displayed when necessary. We have a growing list of volunteers located near each sign who will be our *Bodenham Sign Flippers* when called upon. If you would like to volunteer to be on call to flip a sign

open, please contact us at: secbfpg@gmail.com. With many volunteers, no one person need be called upon repeatedly.

In addition to these signs and in cooperation with the Parish Council, we have also applied for another pot of funds with the Hereford Council to **work on problem drainage areas** around the village. There are six key areas involved from The Moor to Ketch Lane to the old village involving ditches, drains and under bridges. We are awaiting the application results.

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP



Chair: Sadie Chambers 07572 169893
Treasurer: Rebecca Burnill 01568 797823
Secretary email: secbfpg@gmail.com

Area Reps:

The Moor Road: Andrew Maxwell: 01568 797946
Brockington Road North and cul de sac: Rebecca Burnill: 01568 797823

Brockington Road South: Vacant

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: Chair/Treasurer (see above)

Siward James Cage Key Holder: The Warden: Victoria Paterson: 797412

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.

Now for a bit of fun...



Join us for an evening of **BINGO** – fun prizes for a line and a full house and of course, the usual raffle!

All ages welcome!

Saturday, 25th January 2024

Bodenham Parish Hall

Doors open 6:30pm / Eyes down 7:00pm

Cost: £5 per person to include approx. 8 games and refreshments

To book your place, contact: Rebecca by telephone at 01568-797823 or by email at secbfpg@gmail.com Whilst advance booking is not essential, it is helpful for planning purposes.



StAr ToTs FuN gRoUp

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

9.15am - 10.45am 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 family under 6 months Free.

HELD IN THE SCHOOL'S MAIN HALL

To book: Message StArToTs on Facebook

Please contact Cherise if you have any questions
on 01568 797241 or our
admin@st-michaels.hereford.sch.uk



The Bereaved by Suicide Service offers support to anyone who has been bereaved or affected by suicide. Regardless of when the suicide took place, we can help to support you. The service is free, confidential and tailored to your needs.

Phone: 01432 800867

Email: hre.bbs@victimsupport.org.uk

www.victimsupport.org.uk/bereaved-by-suicide-services

Our national Supportline service is available 24/7 on:
08 08 16 89 111

A service by:
VS VICTIM SUPPORT

Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Integrated Care System

NHS
Herefordshire and Worcestershire



Bodenham Parish Hall Management Committee wish to announce with pleasure that the very popular

BODENHAM FOOD FAIR

is set to return to the hall on

Saturday 21st June 2025

This will only be possible with the usual wonderful help and support of villagers. If you would like to know more or offer some time in the planning, setting up or helping on the day please contact Jo & June on 07493 724 537, EMAIL: bodenhamparishhall@hotmail.com

We look forward to your help & support.

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

We are run by volunteers with many skills, and we'd welcome you if you'd like to come and help. A brilliant resource for community groups wanting to spread word of their events and individuals that simply have an idea they want duplicated.



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 bodenhamparishhall@hotmail.com or 07493 724 537

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 'Wing it' pizza & wings van	08.30- 16.30 term time 18.00-19.00 19.30-21.30, 1 st Tuesday 17.00 Onwards in car park
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 Laura's Core Fitness Emma's pilates Fish & Chip van	14.00-16.00, 2 nd Thursday 11.30-12.30 18.30-19.30 17.00 onwards in car park
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 Food Fair – 21st June 2025

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.

The hall has had a busy couple of months with lots of events both organised for the public and private parties. The folk concert was well attended and the Christmas Market run by Siri was very well attended. The Church bazaar took place at the end of November as did the great initiative of pre-loved children's clothes and toys sale organised by a parishioner. We have a busy December already booked and look forward to seeing many villagers in the New Year.

News for 2025 – see notice elsewhere in the Newsletter with reference to the ever popular Food Fair and its planned return 😊

Have you any free time & like the idea of helping the community? We still have space on the committee if anyone would like to help out.

Thank you, Robin, Jo, Ian, June, Ann & Ron. *For further information contact our secretary, June, on the hall email: bodenhamparishhall@hotmail.com or 07493 724 537*



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, 07493 724 537.

bodenhamparishhall@hotmail.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 & Events - Winter 2024

Walks start at 10.00 am unless otherwise stated and include a coffee stop and usually a pub lunch unless otherwise indicated.

Prior contact with walk leader is advised in case of changes or for further details.

Guest walkers welcome!

The schedule includes a 'Strollers Programme' consisting of short walks on the second Wednesday each month, commencing 10.00 am, with coffee etc at 11.00 at some specified venue.

Date	Description	Miles & Stiles	Start	OS Map Grid Ref and P'code	Leaders
Sun 1st Dec	Yarpole, Bircher Common, Croft Estate - lanes, fields, common and woodland. 2 Stiles	5.5-6 miles	10am start. Park and lunch at the Bell, Yarpole (pre-orders required)	Exp 203 468 649 HR6 0BD	Stephen 07789 217491
Wed 11th Dec	Lower Sapey - pasture fields, woodland, along streams. A bit hilly. Some stiles	4 miles	10.00am start. Park at house nr disused church. Lunch at Lion Inn, Clifton-on-Teme	Exp 204 699 602 WR6 6HE	Chris 07471 077071
Friday 13th Dec	Christmas Lunch		12.30pm for 1pm. The Three Horseshoes, Little Cowarne	HR7 4RQ	Contact Ron Pearce 07703 567982
Sun 22nd Dec	Awaiting Details		Awaiting Details		Awaiting Details
Wed 1st Jan	Malvern Hills. Up to Herefordshire Beacon/British Camp. Steep in places	4 miles	10am start. At Wyche Cutting by covered bus stop and toilets, park on W Malver Road or Beacon car park. Lunch at Wyche Inn.	Exp 190 768 437 WR13 6DQ	Sarah 07596 241807
Sun 12th Jan	Bagwyllydiart and Garway somewhat hilly. Up to Garway Hilltop. Fabulous views. 13 Stiles.	4.1 miles	10am start. Park at Bagwyllydiart Farm. Drive to Bridge Inn Kentchurch for lunch. (numbers required).	Exp 189 444 269	Annie 07798 780244
Wed 22 Jan	Awaiting Details		Awaiting Details		Awaiting Details

This schedule can also be found on our website: <https://www.bodenhamramblers.org/home>

or email: bodenhamramblers@gmail.com

For any information regarding the walks programme or any proposed new walks to add to the programme please contact Chris on 01432 649606 or 07471 077071

or contact: Mandy on 01432 769142 or Wendy on 01432 272031

or, (for strollers only), Pat on 01432 270570

or email: bodenhamramblers@gmail.com

A Grid Reference is provided to locate the parking and start of each walk on the Ordnance Survey map, (it's the numbers at the top and bottom of the map that come first in the Grid Reference). Contact one of the above if you need assistance.

However the post code should suffice in most cases



Girlguiding news –



Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies

Sutton Rainbows and Marden Brownies & Guides are all busy getting ready for Christmas with Christmas crafts, parties and a visit to see Moana 2 at the cinema. Look out for our Christmas trees in Marden Church.

Marden Guides were very pleased to be awarded 1st place in the Marden Scarecrow competition with our Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Guide leader scarecrows. Well done everyone!

We have all sorts of adventures in the pipeline for next year- watch this space!

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

Volunteering with Girlguiding is very rewarding and great fun. If you would like to join us please contact mardenguides@outlook.com and we can find the best role for you. You could help a new generation of girls know they can do anything!

If you or your daughter would like to join us you can register your interest on the Girlguiding website <https://girlguiding.org.uk> - just click on 'Volunteer' or 'Register a child' and fill in your contact details.

Or contact our local groups directly for more information:

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

Alison Thomas – Guide Leader

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MACS (Marden Arts and Crafts)

Members are reminded that we do not meet in December so our next meeting will be in **January on Wednesday the 22nd**. 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 cuppa and a catch up. This is always a good opportunity to see the crafts that others are doing, perhaps pick up ideas and tips or sort out a problem which may have arisen with your own chosen craft.

If you would like to come along as a visitor, you will be given a warm welcome. We look forward to seeing members and visitors alike in Bodenham Parish Hall on January 22nd at 2.00pm.

Wendy Steadman 01432 880203



WI MARDEN

Get your glad rags on and festive hats ready for our Christmas Party meeting on Thursday 12th December which will be an entertaining afternoon of games and party food. Once again we are asking for donations to the Hereford Food Bank so please bring your items to the meeting.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Thursday 9th January when our speaker will be Kate Bristow from the Midlands Air Ambulance. In her talk, entitled "Saving Lives by Saving Time", she will be telling us about the work of this important organisation. Both of the above meetings will be, as usual, in Bodenham Parish Hall starting at 2.00pm.

Moir Thomas 01432 880143

Interested in Wildlife?

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust have several groups nearby with interesting talks and useful information about the beautiful and fragile animals that share our area.

Verging on Wild – talk given to the Leominster Branch of the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust.

Our roadside verges are an important habitat for plants, small animals and insects when managed well. However when councils ran out of money, management of the verges stopped and they became overgrown with brambles, nettles and rough meadow grass that crowded out the other wildflowers and reduced diversity. Unfortunately in some cases landowners or their contractors start cutting in the spring with repeat cuts in the summer so that few plants have a chance to set seed; summer flowering plants, many of which typify our beautiful hay meadows, are disappearing from our verges.

In 2018 three ladies got together to find ways of halting this decline and set about finding the 'lost' roadside verge nature reserves. Suzanne and Sally, who helped form Verging on Wild (VOW), were the guest speakers at an October Branch event. Their survey had revealed that of the original 33 designated reserves only 16 were in any condition to be restored. Not deterred they continue to examine verges with other volunteers to find if more could be nominated on the grounds they contain rare plants indigenous to Herefordshire. The great news is the recent reserve designation of land by the Cadbury roundabout following the discovery of

15 indigenous species. It joins four more nearby verges; two along the A49 (at Stockton Cross and Dinmore Hill), one near Hampton Court and one along the A44 heading to Bromyard.

VOW is now affiliated to Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and working to encourage Herefordshire Council, Parish councils and their contractors to follow the best practice guidelines which can be summarised as "cut less, cut late". They put out signs encouraging landowners "do not cut yet" but sadly these are sometimes ignored or even torn out. "Verge Guardians" keep a watch on each reserve and they are helped by other volunteers to do signage, monitoring and management. Our Branch has been inspired to get involved in this local work and perhaps you might want to join us!

Our Festive Social on 13th December will celebrate our first year as a branch of the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and meet members and friends. Our venue is Cawley Hall, Luston with great facilities and plenty of parking; find it on Eye Lane, HR6 0DS, mango.media.interest. Starting at 7pm, we have a quiz for you, a light supper, entertainment from a Ukrainian choir with a festive raffle. Tea and coffee will be available but you can BYOB. The cost is £8 and we would appreciate early booking by emailing LeominsterAreaBranch@gmail.com

Queenswood Country Park Set to Spark Christmas Magic with Grotto and Winter Trails

Queenswood Country Park & Arboretum invites you to experience a magical blend of festive fun and relaxation while getting out and exploring nature. With its ancient woodland, seasonal events, and opportunities to unwind, Queenswood is the perfect place to escape the holiday stress and embrace the joy of the season.

Benefits of Time in Nature this Winter

A winter walk at Queenswood can help reduce stress, boost your mood, and improve overall health. The arboretum and woodland provide a perfect antidote to the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

Spending time among ancient broadleaf trees like oaks, beeches, and maples can have a grounding effect, helping you to feel calm and centred. The natural light filtering through the canopy improves energy levels, particularly during the shorter days of winter. Even a short stroll can leave you feeling recharged.

Woodland Grotto and Festive Adventures

Of course, Christmas at Queenswood wouldn't be complete without some seasonal magic! On 21st and 22nd December, the much-anticipated Father Christmas's Woodland Grotto is back, offering a unique festive experience. Guided by elves, families will follow a trail through the woodland to discover Father Christmas in his cosy grotto, warmed by a roaring log burner. Throughout the weekend, there's a jam-packed array of family-friendly fun to enjoy, including story-telling and Christmas crafts.

For families looking to add an extra layer of adventure, the Hidden Elf Trail invites you to explore the wintry woodland in search of cheeky elves hiding in the trees. It's a fun and engaging way to encourage children to spend time outdoors while enjoying the festive spirit. The trail is available throughout December.

Warm Up and Shop with Purpose

After exploring, the Woodland Café offers a cosy retreat. From hearty soups to indulgent hot chocolates, there's something to please everyone.

Don't forget to stop by the Queenswood Gift Shop, to pick up thoughtful gifts for your loved ones

- Charity Christmas cards, supporting wildlife conservation.
- Local produce like jams, chutneys, and handmade treats – great for hampers!
- Stocking fillers for children, including puzzles, toys, and nature-inspired goodies.
- An extensive range of wildlife books, perfect for the nature lover in your life.

Every purchase helps support the conservation efforts of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust. Pop along on 12th December to enjoy late-night shopping and a Christmas choir!

Marden Gardeners

In January, we will welcome Rowan McGonegal as our first speaker in our 2025 programme. She will be talking about growing and using medicinal herbs. Rowan makes and sells ointments and creams which she will bring along to sell. Rowan also teaches Japanese Woodcutting in her Ledbury studio which features her herbs and flowers, and will bring along some of her lovely cards and prints to sell.

The session is Saturday January 18th from 2-4pm and will be held at the Marden Community Centre. This is a regular session for the members of the Marden Gardener's but visitors are welcome to join us for £3pp. There will be refreshments and a raffle.

We have a fantastic programme set for 2025. If you love gardening and are eager to learn, why not consider joining the Marden Garden Club? We're not the snooty Latin types - we just love gardens and plants of all kinds.

We generally meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm - (with the exception of January and February meetings held on Saturday afternoons), at the Marden Community Centre. Come and see what we're all about!

Marden Branch of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

The Marden Branch year has ended and the next meeting will be in March 2025 Tuesday 4th at 7pm in Marden Community Lounge. The talk will be about trees by Nick Dunn

There will be the usual raffle and HWT sales table. (Cash only).

Recommended donation: £2.50 members and £3.50 non- members

The Christmas gathering has been booked for Wednesday 18th December at 12noon. If you require a roast it will need to be booked beforehand.

**For more information contact Jess
01568797227 or mail to
jessicatidball60@gmail.com**

There are many Christmas events happening at 'Queenswood' so have a look and join in for great fun for all ages.

**Herefordshire Wildlife Trust
01432 356872**

www.herefordshirewt.org

enquiries@herefordshirewt.co.uk

**Queenswood Country Park and Arboretum,
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Jessica Tidball Chair Marden Branch.



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Social Events:

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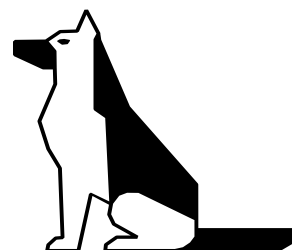
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## CHRISTMAS HOPE & LIGHT



### Church Lights

This year's Lighting of the Church Tower will be held from

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025 inclusive. If you would like to commemorate a special anniversary, birthday, event, or just remember a loved one by sponsoring a date during this time, then please contact:

Karilyn Collins:

[karilynandrichard@googlemail.com](mailto:karilynandrichard@googlemail.com)

Sarah Rogers:

[bodenhamchurchwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:bodenhamchurchwebsite@gmail.com)

The Church tower will be illuminated from approx. 4.30pm to 10pm for your loved one and access into the church will be available by prior arrangement for those wishing to light a candle, say prayers or gather as a family. Thank you for your continued support of this event.

# 2025 Happy New Year!



Well that was quite a year!

**WISHING EVERYONE A  
RESTFUL AND JOYFUL CHRISTMAS  
AND**

**A HAPPY AND PEACFUL NEW YEAR 2025!**

The next edition is February 2025 and the deadline for contributions is 18th January.

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