

Parish News

Kington, Huntington & Titley

September 2022



SARGEANTS BUSES FOR KINGTON

From 1st January 2022

email: office@sargeantsbros.com
Tel: 01544 230481

Mill Street, Kington
Herefordshire
HR5 3AL

HEREFORD 461 via Lyonshall 462 via Eardisley

Journey times vary Kington to Hereford approx 65minutes

Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	461	463
Mon-Fri	0645	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710
Saturday	-	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710

Returns Railway Station, HEREFORD

	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461	461	461	461
								Sat/Hol	Sch		
Mon-Fri	0748	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1615	1700 1815
Saturday	-	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	-	1700 1815

LLANDRINDOD WELLS

Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0600	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
M-F Coll Hols	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
Sat	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810

Returns from Railway Station, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

	461	461	461	462	461	463	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0638	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1600	1708	1808 1850
Sat& Coll Hols	-	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1605	1708	1808 1850

KNIGHTON Route 41

Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

M-F		0610	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730
Sat		-	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730

Departs Bus Station, KNIGHTON

M-F		0642	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805
Sat		-	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805

TIMETABLES FOR ALL SERVICES AVAILABLE ON MOST BUSES
& OFFICE IN MILL STREET

Also available on www.sargeantsbros.com

THE KINGTON PARISHES



St Mary, Kington **St Thomas a Becket, Huntington**
St Stephen, Old Radnor **St Mary, Kinnerton** **St Peter, Titley**
www.kingtonparishes.org.uk

CLERGY

Rev Ben Griffith The Vicarage, Church Road, Kington HR5 3AG 01544 230525
Vicar's email: vicar@kingtonparishes.org.uk
Parish Office email: office@kingtonparishes.org.uk

Rev Denis Parry 33 Mill Street, Kington HR5 3AL 01544 230550
Rev Tony Jardine 9 Park Green, Kington 01544 239160
Rev Paul Buckingham The Cottage, Prospect Lane, Kington HR5 3BE 01544 231357

READER

Rob MacCurrach 33 Cutterbach Lane, Kington, HR5 3EH 01544 231848

CHURCHWARDENS

Kington Miss Ann Edwards 01544 230271
6 Headbrook, Kington HR5 3DZ
Mr Rodney Bowdler 01544 231501
Bridge House, Bridge St, Kington HR5 3DW

Huntington Mrs Christina Powell 01544 370655
Upper Hengoed, Huntington, Kington HR5 3PQ
Mr Peter Kelly 01544 370266
Greenfield Farm, Huntington, Kington HR5 3PZ

Old Radnor Mr Michael Jones 01544 370259
Weythel Farm, Old Radnor, Presteigne LD8 2RR
Mrs Rosemary Watkins 01544 230174
Dunfield Bungalow, Stanner Rd, Kington HR5 3NN

Kinnerton Mrs Ruth Jones: 01547 560207
Upper House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, LD8 2PE
Mrs Sue Thompson 01547 560333
Court Farm, Kinnerton, Presteigne, LD8 2PE

Titley Mr Dick Allford 01544 231052
Pinecroft, Titley, Kington, HR5 3RL

MAGAZINE EDITOR

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St. Mary's, Kington PCC is a registered charity and its number is 1185453

Letter from the Dean of Hereford

As we watch without much edification the final weeks of the contest for the leadership of the Conservative Party and observe the confrontational nature of the discourse it strikes me that this is a violent way to choose a leader. As I watch the playing out of events at Lambeth and in Ukraine and as I follow online commentary and dispute on all manner of things from The Commonwealth Games to the Women's football team and the latest garment espoused by the latest celebrity it strikes me that verbal violence is endemic. In almost every sphere, often sadly including the church, there is more rancour than unity, more vehemence than graciousness, more arguing than listening. We do verbal violence to each other almost as a matter of course. Sometimes it is the verbal equivalent of a load of thugs setting upon their victim and beating the holy carp out of him in broad daylight. Sometimes it is slow undercover poison, administered to destroy with sly violence someone's reputation.

We need to learn how to speak with courage and integrity - dare one say with Godly wisdom? The Book of Proverbs teaches "*sagacious discourse*" and well it might, for such discourse sustains the community. Whenever speech loses its integrity, so also do the relationships that uphold the community. Ask Boris. Or Kier Starmer.

Proverbs 15 has much to say on the subject. The very opening verse says "*a soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*" A soft answer might not be 'nice' but it will always be devoid of moralistic judgements and accusations and will be humanising. It seeks not to threaten or blame but to restore connection. Those who blast others with red hot anger deepen division to everyone's detriment. Moral outrage threatens relationships when it is allowed free reign. Those who listen to themselves, notice their anger and transform it into passionate care are likely to diffuse tension and foster connection.

Proverbs 15 gives us another tip. Wise speech is honest and accurate and shares knowledge with others. The best teachers communicate truth and cultivate morality. They exude honesty and accuracy.

We tell a lot of lies in the church- often to protect people's feelings. Lying, gossip, flattery and slander are all identified in Proverbs as negative. Intentionally obscuring the truth is an act that stems from disdain. Flattery is a form of lying. It is deceptive in its intent. Gossip may be accurate but it is spoken out of turn, inappropriately and without care and so fails to contribute to others' wellbeing. Slander aims to hurt directly; a little whisper, sowing seeds of doubt about someone's character, destroying their reputation is folly. Speaking before listening, sharing information without consideration of its impact, interrupting are all lethal and erode relationships and even erects barriers between us.

Our need for sagacious discourse is acute. Think of the venom spewed on line, the ad hominem attacks made on individuals by news crews, the malicious slandering of political opponents and the rapidity with which we vilify those who disagree with us and who we then label as enemies.

Proverbs has a lot to teach us about speaking with wisdom and compassion today. Why not read it and then try to apply it? I'll be trying it too.

Dean Sarah

View from the Vicarage

“Don’t Panic! Don’t Panic!”

Dear Friends,

As I look back one of the great pleasures of my childhood was growing up during what was a golden age of British television of the 1970s and 1980s. Admittedly, for much of that time the television in question was black and white, I can well recall the excitement of the arrival of our first colour television set. The signal was not always reliable, rather like our broadband connection in Aberedew!!

As a child, I can well remember sitting around the living room fire as a family watching a succession of, although we didn’t know it at the time, outstanding television. This of course was during the times long before subscription television services when audiences for Doctor Who, Blue Peter, the Generation Game and the like numbered in the millions. One of the jewels of that era of British television was “Dad’s Army.” I only need to hear the opening bars of the introduction to recognise it. Although I wasn’t alive during World War II, thanks to “Dad’s Army” I can immediately identify the sound of the All-Clear from the closing credits of this piece of televisual genius.

Many phrases from “Dad’s Army” have entered common parlance; I only need to say someone exclaim, “You stupid boy” and Captain Manwaring and Private Pike come instantly to mind. However, it is surely Corporal Jones’ famous line, “Don’t Panic! Don’t Panic!” which is the most well known and loved. Normally uttered when panicking is exactly what he was doing himself.

It seems to me that Corporal Jones’ advice was never more needed in our society than it is right now.

A great many people in our own nation and beyond are indeed panicking right now as the cost of living crisis and the inflation which it has brought in its wake become ever more alarming. It is entirely right and proper to be concerned about the impact that extraordinary price rises of everyday items are having upon all of us and in particular upon the weakest and the most vulnerable. We should be concerned, we should be devising solutions to support those who will be most severely impacted but we should not be panicking, as many commentators and experts appear to be doing.

In Chapter 6 of St. Matthew’s Gospel, Christ makes it abundantly clear that panic is never the answer irrespective of what the question is. In verse 25 he tells us: *“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, not about your body what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?”*

I am confident that there are very few people who would have the temerity to disagree with Christ there. Our lives are worth incalculably so much more than the very finest gourmet foods and our bodies of infinitely more value than even the most expensive designer garments. While being aware of the truth of this, most people spend the vast majority of their lives worrying about precisely these things and the myriad of other things that contemporary western society suborns us into believing are essential for a happy and fulfilled life.

(continued overleaf)

Christ's reaction to this is to remind us about perspective, there is no place in the Gospel in which he criticises hard work or the desire to provide for our material needs but he does remind us that this should not and must not become the most important thing in our lives as he makes clear in Chapter 6 verse 33 of St. Matthew's Gospel: *"Seek first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness and all these things will be added to you."*

Christ reminds us that looking out and beyond ourselves and our immediate physical and material needs enables all aspects of our lives to have their proper perspective. Let's not forget that however tempting the inducements to acquire ever more things may be, all of us recognise that our possessions however wonderful they may be are not our real treasures. Our families, friends and neighbours are our real treasures.

As the cost-of-living crisis continues to spread its malign tentacles across our land, let's remember to truly appreciate the things and above all the people who truly matter. Let's give thanks to God for all the blessings of health, of kinship, of friendship, of nature and endeavour to remember Christ's words from the end of St. Matthew Chapter 6: *"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."* Or as Corporal Jones expressed it, "Don't Panic!"

With my love and prayers as always

Ben..

SOPHIE ROSE BRISTOW

It was a great joy on Sunday August 14th to welcome Sophie Rose, her parents Jo and Greg Bristow and many family and friends to St. Stephen's for Sophie's baptism. We welcome Sophie into the Lord's family and wish her, her parents, Godparents and all who attended, God's choicest blessings.



BRASSED OFF!

In the Kington Church news from last month's edition Ann expressed our thanks to Stuart Brain and Stephen Gilling for the tremendous musical evening with a difference that they provided for the Friends of St. Mary Kington. I'd like to echo that thanks and also to report that the evening raised the wonderful sum of £305.21 for the Friends of St. Mary's an excellent result.

Thank you to Stuart, Stephen and everybody else who contributed to such a memorable evening.

REORDERING AT ST. MARY'S KINGTON

After long years of dreaming and some excellent work by the St. Mary's Kington Fabric Committee, the work to reorder the North Nave of St. Mary's Kington is due to begin on September 19th and last for a fortnight at most.

Please be aware that there will inevitably be some restricted access to the Church during this time, please bear with us. It does mean that my long-held dream of being able to enjoy the Kington Harvest Lunch in the reordered church looks like being fulfilled this year! HOORAY!

Deanery Prayer Time

Tuesday 6th September

10.30-11.300 at St Mary's Church

Depending on the weather we may have an adventure outside.

All welcome to join us. Contact Trish 07791935955 for info.

Kington Community Lunch



12.30pm
Wednesday
21st September

If you would like a hot meal and company
please join us at the Parish House.

Contact 230683



Preloved

Consumption refers to the number of things we buy which are made from materials that come from the ground. This uses energy which has a lasting effect on our planet. If we use less and buy less we don't have such a bad effect on God's world.

So, give away clothes you don't use any more. Charity shops or friends will happily take them. Try not to throw clothes or toys away. Similarly, buying 'preloved' means we can often save

money and pollute less. If you like sewing try altering or making new clothes out of old.

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



Praying the alphabet

This month we are praying the letter P

We thank God for the gift of prayer and for His presences and power in our lives.

We thank God for our beautiful Powys, and we pray for our police, and for plumbers. God bless and preserve puffins and penguins.

We pray for our new prime minister, that they might gain a passion for the poor. We pray for families who are already living in poverty in our town. We pray for the local council, help them to make good plans to support families through the autumn and winter. Amen

If you find praying difficult try this link to help you get going. <https://www.24-7prayer.com/> and choose How to pray

If you would like anyone to pray for you or with you contact Rev Ben 01544 230525 or Trish 01544 231848

Kington WI

What a lovely day we had at the seaside! Our outing to Aberystwyth on 10th August was a great success ~ the sky was blue, the sea was calm, a cooling breeze blew in from the bay. The fish and chips were perfectly cooked and the ice creams were many flavoured and HUGE! If you enjoyed your day with us do come and join us again on September 14th in the Markwick Hall for an interesting talk on Herefordshire's Venture *Janet Forrest*

Kington Parishes Service Schedule for this month

*Dependant on Government announcements,
please see our website for up to date information.*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCho108zE6VUpNGQAmmfA9OA>

Sunday, 4th September : Trinity 12

Deuteronomy30; 15-end, Psalm 1, Philemon1-21, Luke 14: 25-33

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
6:00pm	Junior Praise	Old Radnor

Sunday, 11th September : Trinity 13

Exodus32:7-14, Psalm 51:1-11, 1Timothy 1: 12-17, Luke15: 1-10

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist(BCP):	Huntington
10.00am:	Family Eucharist and Baptism:	Kington
11.30am:	Family Eucharist and Baptism	Old Radnor
6:00pm	Evening Prayer	Kinnerton

Sunday, 18th September : Trinity 14

Amos8: 4-7, Psalm 113, 1Timothy 2: 1-7, Luke 16:1-13

10.00am:	*Morning Praise:	Kington
10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
11.30am:	Family Eucharist & Baptism:	Old Radnor

Sunday, 25th September : Trinity 15

Amos6: 1a, 4-7, Psalm 146, 1Timothy6: 6-19, Luke 16: 19-end

10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Huntington

All services at Kington are live streamed.



St. MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

Harvest Festival Time in Kington.

Yes, the celebrations we enjoy at harvest time will soon be upon us. At St. Mary's it will be on Sunday, October 2nd with a Thanksgiving Eucharist at 11.00am. followed by lunch at 12,30pm.

Our different plan for lunch last year seemed to be enjoyed so again we invite you to a plated, covered, Ploughman's Lunch together with drinks, following the service. To help with the catering please will you book your lunch by September 25th. This can be done by signing the list which will be in Church on Sundays the 11th, 18th and 25th of September, by telephone 01544 230271, or by emailing the Parish Office office@kingtonparishes.org.uk. An adult lunch will be £7.00, a child's £2.00. If you have any special dietary needs it will be helpful if you can tell us please

Our Harvest Charity this year will be Tear Fund and as always we shall welcome harvest gifts for sale on the Harvest Gift Table, proceeds from that going to Tear Fund.

We hope that we can look forward to sharing this time together, all are welcome. If you have any queries please ring me and ask.

Ann Edwatts



Messy Church

One of our highlights since the August Parish News was printed, was Messy Church Activity Day, something to which we all looked forward and rightly so. We were not in any way disappointed. What fun we all had. August 12th was one of those very hot days of 2022 summer and our tree shaded Churchyard gave great shelter for us to hold most activities there and of course proved an ideal spot for the splendid picnic organised by Eileen and Rosemary.

Activities were many and varied; a highlight of the afternoon was the arrival of the animals, donkey, goats, guinea pigs and rabbits.

Having had a great time with them we thought the day was over but how wrong we were. We were asked to go into St. Mary's and there we found another activity awaiting us, paper weaving to make a laminated place mat that the children could take home.

The Rev Ben closed the afternoon with thoughts about all we had enjoyed, including a hymn and prayers some of which the children had written, and finally our Messy Church Band thoroughly enjoyed a musical interlude and then it really was time to go home.

It was good to have so many families with us on that day and we hope to see you all again at our next Messy Church on Wednesday, September 14th at 3.30pm. Why not bring a friend with you, they would be very welcome.



Forward Diary Dates:

Friday, September 16th, a Concert in conjunction with Kington Walking Festival. We look forward to welcoming Ludlow Brass Band to St. Mary's Church for a Concert at 7.00pm

Friday, September 30th, Lady Hawkins' School Foundress Day Service will take place in the morning and this will be followed in the evening at 7pm. with a interesting talk about the history of the School given by local historian Allan Lloyd. This event is being organised by The Friends of St Mary's. Tickets to include wine and nibbles are £7.50 and will be available from Kington T.I.C. or can be purchased at the door on the night. Pupils and former pupils will be especially welcome.

As always Rodney and I send greetings to you all.

Ann Edwards



MESSY CHURCH

Come and join us for:

- Activities
- Songs
- Food
- Crafts
- Games
- Stories

Messy Church
at
St Mary's Church, Kington
Wednesday 14th September
3.30pm - 5.30pm
Activities, Stories
Songs, Music, Games
and a Meal together
All are Welcome

More Motoring Memories 1967-1971

Before the Baldock by-pass was opened during the summer of 1971 a one-way system was introduced along the High Street, allowing a steady northward flow of traffic. Locals would use the back streets to reach the northern route to the local villages, thus avoiding the one-way system.



While the Rector was on holiday in the early summer he had invited the Archdeacon of St Albans to take a service in Bygrave, a small village just north of Baldock and would I kindly assist him there. On arrival at our house I suggested that the Archdeacon might like to travel in my car in order to avoid the one-way system. When I pointed out the Rover 90 he said, "Only Bishops have Rovers." Was this a joke? It was certainly not a comment on my career prospects!

Shortly after I sold the Rover and relied on 'Mirabelle', now back in full running order. In those days I was always on the lookout for a bargain where cars were concerned. I had spied a Wolseley 14 languishing in a backyard. I managed to track down the owner and purchased the car for £15 (similar to the model shown in the photo). We towed the car home and set about putting it back on the road.

The black paintwork was very dull and required plenty of T-Cut and elbow grease. A new battery and water pump, and the car was ready for a journey to Melplash in West Dorset, joining Sonia's family in a rented cottage for part of our annual holiday.

The Wolseley had been standing for a long time. It was like driving a double-decker bus on square wheels. The beauty of the car was certainly in the eye of the beholder!

Our son Tim was only about fourteen months old, and there was a slight smell of fumes. Sonia and Tim decamped to her brother's car, and I was joined by my mother-in-law, who sat in the front seat suffering in total silence. We arrived safely at our destination and decamped to our holiday cottage.

Fortunately, the cottage was owned by the proprietor of a garage just next door. He kindly allowed me to use the pit to fit a new tail pipe and generally check the system. I am sure other motorists using older vehicles have experienced the same unscheduled start to a holiday carrying out essential repairs. In our experience, it set a precedent for future holidays. Returning home, I sold the car for £55.

Tony Jardine

The message of the miracles

**The miracles of Jesus
in the Gospel of John**

**with tea and biscuits
on Friday afternoons
at 4 pm**

Informal and relaxed

**Kington Baptist
Church**

Bridge Street



ST THOMAS à BECKET, HUNTINGTON CHURCH NEWS

Lower Gaer Open Garden:

After a heavy shower of rain during Saturday night, the next day was cool, bright and sunny. This being the first time we had opened the garden, I was a little apprehensive wondering if anyone would turn up – but I needn't have worried. All the "helpers" arrived to help set everything up and then at 2:00 our first visitors arrived and I started to relax. Throughout the afternoon the visitors kept arriving and by 5:00 we had over 90 paying visitors + a few children. I tried to speak to everyone who came, not only to welcome them but to find out where they had travelled from. Some came from Knighton, New Radnor, Lyonshall, Gladestry, Brilley and Kington and it was wonderful to see so many Huntington folk come along.



We made £455 on the gate (+ donations received from people who were unable to attend), which meant I could hand over £470 to Will our Church Treasurer. The tea/cake stall raised £197 and the plant stall raised £228 on the day, and I have sold additional plants since, giving a total of £256. £453 has so far been donated to the Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine.

A plant table is by our entrance gate to sell more plants, as there is still a good selection of plants available. This money will also be sent off to Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine. If you were unable to come to our open garden, but have a few gaps in your borders, then please do come and see if there are any plants that would be suitable.

Thankfully it was a perfect afternoon weather wise, which really made all the difference. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the afternoon and we have received so many wonderful comments about the garden.

Thank you to everyone who made and donated a wonderful selection of cakes. Much appreciation and thanks go to Lesley, Sandra, Chris, Bunty and Gordon who worked constantly throughout the afternoon providing the tea/cakes and doing all the clearing away afterwards. Also to Pippa and Gigi on the plant stall, Marilyn and Karen on the gate, Roger, Peter and Graham helping with parking, and Peter and Oli for bringing and taking away all the village hall chairs and tables. Without the help of everyone we could not have managed.



Susan Maiden

Kington Community Shop:

Thank you to everyone who helped with the shop, by generously donating items, helping set up/clear away and serving in the shop during our week - it was a great success!

We raised £1223.05 altogether, which is brilliant. Taking out the cost of the shop, £546.50 will go to the church, with the other half going to the village hall. Thank you also to everyone who called in to pick up a bargain, or to purchase some raffle tickets.

Pippa Lloyd

Reminder: Huntington Chase:

If you wish to participate in this very popular event, then there are still places available. The 11km course can be undertaken by either riding a horse, running, cycling, or walking. If you feel like wearing fancy dress then that makes it all the more fun for participants and spectators. As places are limited all places must be booked in advance. See poster below for full details.

Peter Kelly

The poster features a central graphic with silhouettes of a person on a horse, a cyclist, a runner, and a walker, all in motion. Below this graphic is a large grey rounded rectangle containing the text 'Huntington Chase' in a white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the title, the date and time 'Saturday 1st October 2022 at 12 noon.' are written in a bold, black font. The main text of the poster is in a smaller black font, providing details about the 11km course, booking information, and entry fees. A black box with white text on the left side reads 'Do not turn up on the day if you have nt booked.' At the bottom, there is a small disclaimer in a smaller font.

Huntington Chase

Saturday 1st October 2022 at 12 noon.

Ride, bike, run or walk-11km. course. Start Lower House Farm, Huntington, on to Gypsy Lane, Hergest Ridge, Gladestry, Stone House Bank and back.

Numbers will be strictly limited. email with name, contact number and made to **peterbkelly642@hotmail.com** to reserve your place.

£15 entry to include soup and sandwich.
£5 for under 16's but to be accompanied.

Swan Inn will be open.

Prizes and fancy dress encouraged

Do not turn up on the day if you have nt booked.

Riders and cyclists to wear protective head gear. Riders must carry own PL insurance.
All to take own personal accident insurance if desired and to declare they are in good health and not suffering any medical condition or physical handicap which would affect their ability to take part safely in this event.

Huntington Parish Council.

Huntington Parish Council are looking for a new Parish Clerk to take over from the existing Clerk on 1st April 2023.

The Parish Council has five Parish Councillors and they usually have four Committee Meetings and an Annual General Meeting each year. For more information on Huntington Parish Council please refer to the Parish Website: huntingtonherefordshire.gov.uk where details of the Councillors, Clerk, Meetings, Annual Accounts and Planning Applications are available.

If you are interested in taking over the position of Parish Clerk please contact Michael Lloyd on 01544 370692 or email: michaelyew@hotmail.co.uk

Reader Writes

Jesus famously told his audience and those trying to catch him out in the matter of paying taxes to the Romans, “render to Caesar that which is Caesar’s and to God that which is God’s”. It would be quite wrong of course to be tempted into thinking that he is telling us as believers that politics and government were to be left to others; faith was somehow on a higher plain and to be pursued discretely and separately from the ugliness and strife of politics. No! Far from it; we are a revolutionary Church that cannot avoid becoming involved, and evidently so, in all aspects of the turbulent society in which we live out our faith.

It has been not a little dispiriting to follow the process of selection of the new Prime Minister by a tiny and unrepresentative cohort of party members. Those are the rules and such is politics. We must wait for a general election for everyone else to have their say. What must interest us is the policies and intentions of the successful candidate, who is almost certainly apparently Liz Truss. Government is pretty firmly in the hands of the right wing of the Conservative Party. All candidates took strong lines on Brexit, the Northern Ireland Protocol, immigration, law and order etc. And Liz Truss more than Sunak is determined to shrink the state, reduce taxes, and, oddly enough, increase spending. We all hope she succeeds but she’s begging to be accused of cakeism.

It is very seductive to complain that the state is over bloated; images of time-keeping civil servants and inefficiency are set against the lean competitive forces of market enterprise. Bonfires of EU regulations excite us, and task forces to disperse fat-bergs of inefficiency make us rejoice. Friends who are hosting Ukrainian refugees have astonishing tales of obstacles and obfuscation in various obscure redoubts of Home Office administration. But we shouldn’t be taken in. Our problems and the world’s challenges require stronger more joined up government rather than laxer government, and we unarguably need a much more connected international community of nations.

Among the many many issues shouting out for attention, here we naturally listen to the farming industry. I often buy organic butter simply to support dairy farmers; I’m lucky to have the choice. But leave the industry to the market and cut away as many regulations as possible, where would that leave the environment, water quality, nutrition and health, and family farms? Regenerative farming is an important movement taking the long term sustainable view, but it needs government to let it happen. Utilities cover a mass of issues requiring governments to protect long term interest from short term market imperatives. Think water; think power. And think, in a long worryingly dry summer,climate breakdown.

As the Archbishop argued powerfully in his Lambeth sermon, we are a revolutionary church. We rise up to engage in all these challenges because they are matters of justice, and not just in our own privileged country but across borders and continents. To do otherwise would be to become a corrupt and hypocritical church. Let those famous words from the prophet Micah inspire and motivate us. “*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.*” And I wish Ms Truss success for all our sakes!

Robert MacCurrach

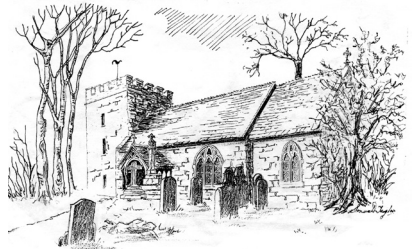
ST PETER'S CHURCH TITLEY NEWS

Village Fete.

The sun certainly shone on the righteous as for the first time in 3 years we had held our village fete. The weather was so hot that sadly we had to cancel the dog show and the parade of hounds. However this did not deter everyone who supported us and on behalf of everyone in Titley a huge thankyou.

Thanks to everyone who manned a stall and donated items for them. It was a little cooler in the hall and you could enjoy a famous "Titley Tea"

Around £2000 has been raised for the hall and church funds. Again many thanks for all your attendance and support.



Community Shop.

A final reminder that we are running the community shop during the first weeks of October. Please make one last effort to hunt out any items for the shop and ring Dick on 231052 to arrange collection.

Dick

Other Titley News

Congratulations to George Sweetman on being selected for Polands Rugby Football XV. He played as a second half substitute for their match against Belgium. He is about to take up a year's Academic Scholarship with the United States University of Washington, DC.

Roger and Barbara Pye celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 28th October last. They were married at Gladestry Church on 28th October, 1961.

One is reminded that Titley comes from the Welsh name Titli, as in the name Bryn Titli above Rhayader.

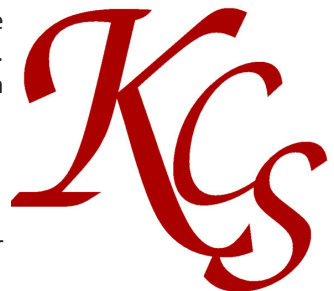
(Editor's note: The above three items were posted through my door with no mention of who sent them. I have included them on this occasion, but please note that in future only information that includes the name of the correspondent will be published.)

Kington Choral Society

We resume our rehearsals on 12th September. All are welcome to join us as we rehearse the Bach Magnificat. No audition. You just have to like singing. No subscription to pay until you have decided to stay. Just turn up

Venue: Titley Village Hall

Time: Mondays at 7.30pm



More information at <https://kingtonchoral.org.uk/> or phone Nick Cooke 01544 230805

Not a Proper Gardener (Part 22)

Giles and I took our elevenses up into the Hergest kitchen garden early one morning, before the heat of the day made being outside unbearable. It's so quiet and peaceful up there, and you can sit in the shade and



enjoy your refreshments without guiltily feeling that you ought to be pulling out the odd weed. Somebody else can do it. And that somebody is a friendly gardener who is happy to spend a couple of minutes to chat and answer a question or two. "No," she says, "only a watering can." And yet, surprisingly, the drought doesn't yet appear to have done much damage; the odd shower we have received must have done a bit of good. The brassicas they planted a few weeks ago were thoroughly watered in at the time and then left to fend for themselves, which they seem to have done very well. And the garden as a whole is as beautiful as ever. But there's another heatwave on the way.

Our own patch of vegetables and pots and soft fruit, has been receiving water each evening, mainly from cans, but also sparingly from the hose, used mainly to replenish the rainwater butts. So it's doing OK, especially the soft fruit – plenty of loganberries this year, but of all the others as well, including the less common boysenberries, Helen blackberries and wineberries. And soon, all being well, we shall be harvesting our mulberries.

The first tomatoes, greenhouse and hanging baskets, are ripening (this is the first week of August) and we're very much enjoying our mini-cucumbers from the grow-house. Greyhound cabbages and other greens are good, and the Red Flare cabbages are already hearting up nicely. And we've already enjoyed a couple of windfall eating apples (James Grieve and Discovery).

But a garden is not exempt from nature red in tooth and claw, and we are part of nature, which is why I am currently on a course of antibiotics, having been stung or bitten by a horsefly. At first I thought little of it, apply a little anti-histamine cream and forget about it. But no, a few days later the red weal became infected, and a painful, irritating, spreading rash followed. And then, a day or two later, a second spot made itself known, also on my left leg, the first in the crease at the back of the knee, which made using the stairs painful. Never mind, as they say, Worse things happen at sea!

The horsefly is also commonly known as gadfly, gad meaning spike. The female uses that spike's two pairs of sharp cutting blades to stab you and then, with a sort of sponge-like sucker, draws out the blood which she needs as protein for her eggs; and in some cases, not so much in humans, as she goes from victim to victim, she can even incidentally transfer disease. If you want to learn more about this creature, look it up in Wikipedia. There's plenty more there as Emma discovered. One settled on her hand, but she successfully brushed it off. Perhaps it's the blossom which attracts them to the garden, for apparently they also feed on nectar; which means they may, by spreading pollen, be partly responsible for the soft fruit we're enjoying.

So they're not wholly bad. And that reminds me of the time I once saw a wasp catch a cabbage white butterfly. What happened next taught me that we are not the only creatures that are a mixture of good and bad: It's called Integrity.

Integrity

I watched a wasp,
a wicked black and yellow stripy thing
with sharp and vicious sting,
attack, then corner and decapitate
a butterfly, whose delicate white wing,
from head and thorax quickly severed,
soon ceased its fluttering.

O deed unkind, I thought, to kill
a creature of such innocence and beauty!

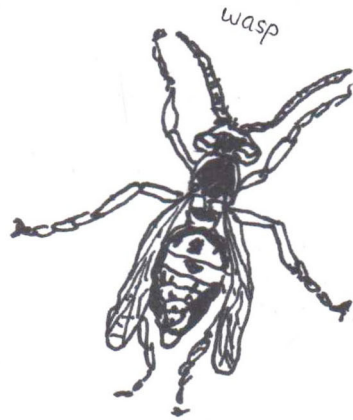
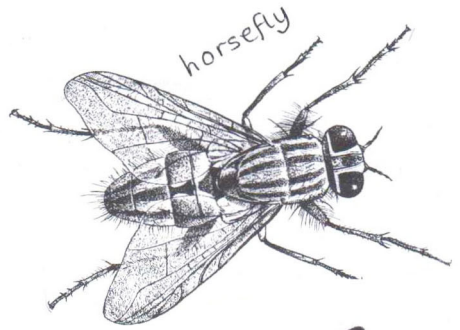
But then I called to mind
the caterpillars which infest
and decimate my cabbage patch:
O good wasp! Thou art truly blest
to rid me of this common garden pest!

Which set me wondering:

Where was the good God saw
in nature, red like this of tooth and claw?
Perhaps before the Fall it was not so:
wasp lived in harmony with butterfly
and cabbages were left unharmed to grow?

She sucked no nectar from that flower,
her white-winged image to pollute;
nor did the wasp,
who ravages my orchard plums,
taste the forbidden fruit
which in the stomach turns so quickly sour.

So they remain as if unfallen, good,
innocent in integrity, amoral,
to whom, for shame,
I have no business to apportion blame,
with whom, no right to quarrel!



Denis Parry.

Community Shop Dates

31 Aug - 6 Sept	KADOS
7 - 13 Sept	Llangunllo Church & Village Hall
14 - 20 Sept	Kington Horse Show
21 - 27 Sept	Kington Primary School
28 Sep - 4 Oct	Whitney Church



Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley & Michaelchurch Village Hall

Thursday 8th September: The Duke (cert 12A), 7.30 pm, Tickets £5

In 1961, Kempton Bunton, a 60 year old taxi driver, stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly. What happened next became the stuff of legend. An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage. Starring Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren.

Thursday 6th October: Elvis (cert 12A), 7.30 pm, Tickets £5

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Baz Luhrmann's musical drama about the life and music of Elvis Presley, seen through the prism of his complicated relationship with his enigmatic manager, Colonel Tom Parker. From Presley's rise to fame to his unprecedented stardom, the film is set against the backdrop of the evolving cultural landscape and loss of innocence in America.

Doors open at 7pm. Don't forget to bring your own refreshments! Tickets for all films are £5. Advance booking only - please book and pay for your tickets online at pay-brilley.co.uk

Live performance 'Dracula in Space'

Friday 30th September:

Bowjangles present 'Dracula in Space' live show. 7.30 pm, age range: 8+

Bowjangles is an irreverent, anarchic group of genre spanners, bringing music, theatre and comedy together in a way you've never seen before. In this brand new show for 2022 the intrepid foursome are blasting off into outer space to meet a mysterious benefactor whose proposition seems a little too good to be true. But what happens when their lead violinist starts to act a little strangely? The award winning, internationally acclaimed quartet proudly present their new sci-fi horror musical comedy (WARNING: Contains scenes of graphic violins).

Doors open 7pm. Bar will be open. Advance booking only - please book and pay for your tickets online at pay-brilley.co.uk

KINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

next meeting

THURS 15th Sept @7.30pm

Extending the seasons in your garden without replacing all the plants

with Victoria Logue

Competitions vase of mixed garden flowers, longest runner bean. 3 tomatoes
venue Masonic Hall

AUTUMN COLOURS COACH TRIP Sat 15th Oct 2022

To Llangollen for canal cruise in the Dee valley and over the Aqueduct
Coach and boat £33 Please book by 15th Sept 2022 D W Phillips 230683

News from the Museum – H.M.S. Gentian - Adopted by Kington

In 1942 Kington was told by a representative from the Government's National Savings Group at a Council meeting, to raise £25,000 for a motor torpedo boat. Leominster and Bromyard were expected to raise enough to fund a corvette. We might be a small town, but very competitive and it was finally agreed the Town could raise £55,000.



Did Kington raise such a large sum? Yes, we did! Under the banner of “Kington Does It Again” a staggering sum of £59,472, more than enough to fund a corvette, but also two tanks and the great satisfaction of not being out done by Leominster and Bromyard.

H.M.S. Gentian was a Flower Glass corvette, forming the bulk of convoy escort ships in the Atlantic with a crew of 85 Reservists, except for key positions. The Captain was from the merchant fleet. The local charities, churches and schools would provide the crew with knitted gloves, socks and perhaps balaclavas. The children would write letters and send cards to the sailors, making it a true adoption, not one on paper.

The ship joined her first convoy, sailing from Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1940, arriving safely in Liverpool. She sailed mainly from Liverpool to Canada on 72 occasions – a well-used ship, also a couple of Gibraltar convoys. Nearing D-Day, she was used in the landings on Sword Beach.

Held in the museum is a wooden plaque and a shield from the shipyard. After giving such gallant service, she was scrapped in 1947 at Purfleet.

Wendy Jones Secretary

Get to know your Tablet – a free workshop for beginners

At Leominster Library

10.30am to 12.30pm, Tuesday 6th September

Learn how to use your tablet, understand the buttons and symbols, connect to the internet, and learn about ‘apps’.

Bring your own tablet

Book at Leominster Library or 01432 383 290

or leominsterlibrary@herefordshire.gov.uk or www.hfdslibraries.eventbrite.com

Facebook Basics – a free workshop for beginners

At Kington Library

2pm to 4pm, Tuesday 27th September

Learn how to check privacy settings, connect with people you know, post updates and comments, and view public pages.

Bring your own smartphone, tablet or laptop

Book at Kington Library or on 01432 260600

or kingtonlibrary@herefordshire.gov.uk or www.hfdslibraries.eventbrite.com

Michaelmas

Before September goes her way
she opens wide a young man's eyes
to see how Michael fills the skies
with heaven's Angelic Host this day,

This first verse of a longer poem recalls a lovely story to be found in the Bible (2 Kings 6). Every time the King of Syria tried to attack the King of Israel his plans were leaked by the Prophet Elisha: the King of Israel got wind of them and escaped. When the King of Syria discovered who the culprit was and that he was in Dothan, he sent a huge army by night and surrounded the city. So when Elisha's young servant got up early in the morning to make a cup of tea for his master, he was horrified by what he saw. *"Alas, my master, what shall we do?"* he cried. But Elisha simply raised his hands in prayer: *"O Lord, I pray thee, open the young man's eyes that he may see."* That arrow prayer was immediately answered, the young man's eyes were opened and he saw that the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire protecting them both. You can read the happy ending for yourself.

This was quite a good example of what we call an arrow prayer, used by one who is in a desperate situation. And of course, most folk say that's just a lot of superstition; things like that don't happen today. Or maybe they do. Perhaps God still uses his ministering angels as it claims in the psalms and as we assert whenever we pray the Eucharist prayer which mentions *"angels and archangels and all the company of heaven."* Open our eyes!

One such answered arrow prayer was recounted to us by John Williams who, with his wife, lived at Scanner. They are both recently deceased and assuredly now part of the *"company of heaven."* John told us how, when he and his wife were working in Africa, they were one day driving up a steep and very narrow road in a remote hilly area. On their right the land fell away in what was almost a precipice, and as they drove carefully up round a hairpin bend one rear wheel slipped over the edge and the car was stuck. No help was in sight, and all John could do was offer up a desperate arrow prayer. Imagine their wonder when they felt the back of the car being lifted back onto the road!

The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews says that *"some have entertained angels unawares."* And I think he or she was right. Many of the encounters we read of in the Bible were with angels not at first recognised, and that's how it most likely is for us. One of the most delightful stories illustrating that is to be found in the Apocrypha. It's called *"Tobias and the Angel"*. It tells how Tobias and his little dog, set out on a long journey to Media to retrieve some treasure for his blind father Tobit who appoints a guide called Azarias to accompany and protect his son. The three (Tobias, Azarias and the dog) have many adventures on the way and especially when they reach their destination where the young man falls in love with Sarah, the daughter of the house.

Unfortunately, this young lady is cursed by the demon Asmodeus who has already killed off seven of her bridegrooms during their wedding night. As Tobias, number eight,



goes into the bridal chamber, Sarah's father is already outside, in anticipation digging his grave. But alleluia! Azarias works a miracle, burning the gall of a fish they had caught on the way, the smell of which banishes the demon (to Egypt!) in the nick of time. Tobias marries Sarah and they return home with the treasure, mission accomplished. Only then, as Azarias cures Tobit's blindness, is his true identity revealed. He is the angel Raphael. A delightful tale. Tobit and his son had certainly *"entertained an angel unawares!"*

But more seriously, have any of us ever had such an experience? Have you or I ever entertained an angel unawares? been rescued, for want of a better word, by someone who has turned up out of the blue at a critical moment, come to our aid and then apparently disappeared without waiting for thanks? I think I may have done more than once:

Most recently, a few years ago when Giles and I were exploring Water Break-its-neck (just beyond New Radnor) We, foolishly perhaps, climbed up by the very slippery path to get above the falls and, having enjoyed looking down, seeing and listening for a couple of minutes, continued along the path until it fades out at the top of a fairly steep, and on that day, slippery slope down the other side, dotted with trees. Nothing I could say or do would persuade Giles to come descend. *"I'll stay here,"* he insisted. What could I do? He certainly would never go back down the slippery path we had climbed, and he simply would not go on. Then, suddenly, as if from nowhere, a man and woman were there. Each took one of Giles' arms and walked/slid him safely down the slope. Without waiting for a word of thanks, they simply went on their way. Had I not entertained angels unaware? Certainly they had been angels to me.

Happy Michaelmas.

Denis Parry

PUBLIC JUICE PRESSING

Bring Out Your Apples!

Saturday 24th September

Kington Market Hall

10am to 3pm in Place De Marines

Bring washed apples & clean containers
Take away your own delicious juice
Help others & taste the difference!
For small amounts - up to a couple sacks
If you've a lot of fruit - borrow the kit
For use at home or community events



Kington Local Environment & Energy Network (KLEEN) - www.kingtonkleen.org.uk
Contact: Jon Cooke 01544 231977 or 07776 236823 email: kingtonkleen@gmail.com

Walking through and Near Kington through Time

It is again the season of walking and festivals, and it is useful to look at Kington's connections by ancient pathways locally, which were part of some long distance sources of faith, trade and ancient settlements.

The earliest truly ancient tracks were the "Salt Ways", but the nearest to Kington passes east-west. Just north of Presteigne towards New Radnor, there is an ancient "Saltford".

The oldest surviving routeway through the Kington area is of Celtic origin, and runs northwards across the Island in the Arrow towards Bradnor Hill Fort, the only remains being Stoney Lane up towards the Church, which it subsequently had to bypass along Castle Hill Lane. The Romans laid many built roads, especially east-west in our area, and one seems to have passed south of Kington, via Bollingham, towards the road from Hereford going north (Watling Street).

Christianity had been introduced by then, and was strongest in West Wales, and their missionaries used the Roman roads where possible, aiming at the West Midlands - Leominster in particular. Later Hereford became a centre of the church, and subsequently, pilgrims began the tradition of visiting Holy Sites, and those aiming for St David's used the route via Bollingham.

As flooding of the River Arrow was a problem during Norman and early Saxon times, it had to be crossed upstream, and the whetstone on Hergest Ridge - (not a glacial deposit, but a proper route marker) was used in two directions. One went towards Old Kington via the present Ridgebourne Road, and another aligned with a prominent hill behind Weobly, which showed the direction in which to cross the Arrow. This passed the site of the later Hergest Court, of Early Norman times, and then crossed the river at Broadford (Broad Crossing), and went uphill via a hollow way alongside Picadilly Road. In later times this became a route used by cattle drovers using Pound Farm as a stopover. It then passed Bollingham Chapel going south via Holy Well to pick up the Roman Road west from Hereford. So pilgrims for St David's going west, and for Hereford going south, could use a hospice (St Giles) at Bollingham, and many of these buildings are still recognizable in West Wales.

When the Normans arrived to take over Kington, they found a useful crossing point over the flood liable Arrow at Broadford, where it intersected with an old Welsh missionary route from St David's, aiming at Leominster, the remains of which here are Mill Street, High Street, Duke Street, Victoria Road in Kington crossing the Back Brook at Sunset where, as at many other such crossings, there was a chapel still denoted by the ancient lane named Church Lane by the first inhabitants of Norman/Anglo Saxon Kington.

And so to Offa's Dyke. This crossed the Arrow well down from Kington, and headed off for foreign places like Lyonshall, so that will have to do.

John Rerrie



Kington Walking Festival

Are you taking part in the Kington Walking Festival during the weekend of 17th - 18th September? Why not add a visit to the Kington Art and Craft Market to your walking programme on the Saturday?

September Crossword

Across

1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders — in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)

4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)

7 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. — here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)

8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)

9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)

13 'It is God who works in you to will and to — according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)

16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)

17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and — down' (Matt 5:1) (3)

19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8) 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)

25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)

26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)

27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

1 'Whoever finds his life will — it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)

2 'My lord the king, let the — — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4) 3 O raid (anag.) (5)

4 'If two of you on earth — about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5) 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)

6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)

10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with — judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5) 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)

12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)

13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)

14 'Each one should — his own actions'(Galatians6:4)(4)

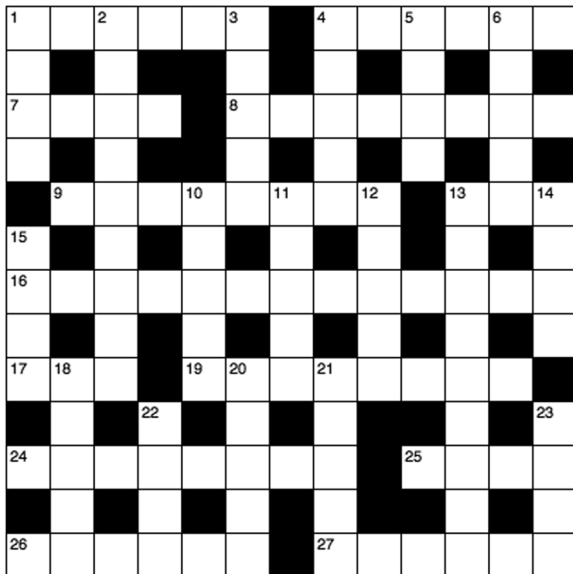
15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)

18 'But I am afraid that just — — was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)

20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, — Watts(5)

21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis 46:17)(5) 22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)

23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)



Solution to August Crossword: ACROSS: 8, Prince of Peace. 9, INF. 10, Unmarried. 11, Gulag. 13, Treason. 16, In aid of. 19, Arena. 22, Calvinist. 24, Pad. 25, Moses and Aaron. DOWN: 1, Spring. 2, Sinful. 3, Scourged. 4, Commit. 5, Spur. 6, Matins. 7, Feed on. 12, Urn. 14, Erastian, 15, Own. 16, Income. 17, At last. 18, Friend. 20, Empire. 21, Adding. 23, Inst.

Waste not, want not

In these days of galloping inflation, where we all need to try to make good use of our resources, I thought I would share with you my latest economy. No, I'm not suggesting that we all eat dog food, but I am referring to the surprisingly well made foil tins that contain our dog Bailey's dinner.

Bailey has two of these 150g tins a day, as well as a lot of other food including scrambled egg, pasta and sausage, so she

doesn't go short, but we end up with about 60 of these tins in an average month, and I felt they ought to be recycled in our kitchen and not just put in the recycling bin.

After washing and drying them thoroughly I have so far found three uses for them. The first time I lined them with shortcrust pastry which I blind baked before adding a chicken, leek and mushroom quiche filling, and I subsequently baked them six at a time on a baking tray. Then I experimented with using them for fritatas with cooked potato in the base instead of pastry, and I have also used them for making individual sponge puddings.

The foil containers are a very handy size for a single portion, and if I want to freeze them, I keep the contents in the tins and just wrap them in cling film. The tins are much stronger than the usual ones that you can buy, and provide a lot of protection in the freezer or if they are used for a packed lunch.

It seems as if they can be used over and over again, so we are still accumulating them at a steady rate, but if anyone would like a dozen or two, please contact me on 231780 and I'll be happy to hand some over.

Freda Lymath



The Friends of St Mary's Church, Kington
present

**A Talk by Local Historian
Allan Lloyd**

"The History of Lady Hawkins' School"
at

St Mary's Church, Kington

Tickets £7.50

to include wine and nibbles

available from Kington T.I.C. or can be purchased at the door

Kington Arts and Craft Market

Saturday 17th September 9:30am – 3.30pm

Kington Market Hall and Place de Marines

Kington Saturday Arts and Crafts Market is open again on Saturday 17th September 2022 from 9:30 - 3:30pm at Kington Market Hall and Place de Marines. Once again, we are excited to present a wide range of beautiful, hand-made cards, gifts and crafts to suit all tastes, ages and budgets. All stalls feature genuinely handcrafted products, which at the time of going to print includes:

Cards for all occasions Pottery Handcrafted ironware
Alpaca wool products Wood Turning Knitted, woven & crocheted garments
Art Papercrafts Basketry Wax melts Sewn products
Wide range of different crafts

With the long hot summer turning to Autumn, and the evenings drawing in, why not treat yourself to something new and beautiful for your home? You're sure to find lots of ideas, plenty of inspiration and a genuinely individual selection of original items at Kington Craft Market. We are pleased to support local artists and craftspeople, and have something for everyone: the perfect hunting ground for all your gift and home decor needs . . . or even for making an early start on the Christmas shopping!

and . . . Christmas is Coming!

Dates for the Craft Market from now until Christmas are:

Saturday 15th October
Saturday 19th November (Christmas Market)
Saturday 26th November (Christmas Market)
Saturday 10th December (Christmas Market)
Saturday 17th December (Christmas Market)

Anna King - AK Crafts anna@akcrafts.co.uk 07977 978676

Kington Trefoil Guild

We are holding our much awaited Macmillan Coffee morning on **Friday 30th Sept 10-12 at Shelia Diggory's house, 40 Headbrook , Kington**. We would love to see as many of you as possible to share coffee and biscuits with us. Sit and chat with friends and treat yourself to some home produce goods which will be on sale. It has been a while since we held our last one so we are eager to boost the funds for Macmillan so put the date in your diary and receive a very warm welcome from your local Trefoil Guild. Covid rules to be observed and if you have any signs of Covid please do not attend as there will be a considerable number of vulnerable people present.

Thank you in anticipation

Nancy Wheatland Chair Kington Trefoil Guild



News from Theodora A pore lone lorn creetur

8/11/2008

Dear me. I am alone on Theodora. Margaret's mother has broken her wrist and she has gone down to Benenden to be a ministering angel. I have to confess it is a bit lonely on the boat but I do have terrier Holly for company, whom I haven't mentioned in these chapters. She was a mongrel and rather strange looking. Think fox like head and ears, border terrier fur around the withers (Do dogs have withers?) and Jack Russel around the back end with a longish sticking up tail. I would like it better if I were boating but for the moment I am just staying put in Worcester and hoping that Margaret will be returning early next week. If the situation requires that she stays on then I will bring Theodora home myself. The Tardebigge flight is ahead of me there are thirty locks on that and about thirty before I get there. What fun!!

I have to confess that as the time draws close for the end of the trip I am beginning to wonder what it will be like returning to dry land. We have both enjoyed the adventure so much and have kept so healthy that we hardly want to stop. I wonder if we would like to live permanently afloat. I think that I would but Margaret is certain that she would miss the garden!

18/11/2008

Right, Nick, get a grip and stop feeling sorry for yourself. The wonders of modern communications technology mean that with the push of a few buttons you can speak with anyone you choose.

Grip has been taken and as soon as it was decided that Margaret would not be back for the foreseeable future I got Theodora on the move. She was in the basin at Stourport on Severn when I said goodbye to the love of my life. You may recall the route home. The next part was down to Worcester via the Severn and then on to the Birmingham and Worcester Canal via Diglis. This was accomplished on the 5th November and there I stayed until the 10th. The long haul back alone was started and very nice it was to be on the move again. The weather was rainy but that did not matter. I was moving.

The first duty was to return the DVD's that I had rented. Blockbuster was $\frac{3}{4}$ mile up the canal so I chugged up there and nicely lined myself up to go alongside just behind Staples. There was a sort of boingy collision and the bow sprang away from the bank like a frightened gazelle. I had discovered a shopping trolley close to the bank. I moored up, fished the trolley out of the canal with the boathook, and trundled it around the side of Staples to the front door and left it in the foyer. The young gentleman on the nearest checkout received news of the return of the shopping trolley with a disappointing lack of surprise. I suppose that this is a regular thing there. Anyway, I wonder how long it was before the trolley, resplendent in a coating of algae, was removed for a quick pressure washing. It was, except for that, in good condition and they cost about £100.

The DVD's returned, I carried on up the cut and by the 12th I had done another 42 locks. Stoke Prior and Tardebigge locks single handed hold no fears for me! Holly was a companionable canine and was happy to trot up the towpath investigating scents and sounds in the usual manner and easily visible in an orange buoyancy aid. That was up and down the lock flights. She sat on the stern with me in the lockless sections. The next big flight was at Lapworth, a mere 15 narrow locks. The big test was to be the Hatton flight 21 broad locks. That promised to be testing

The Grand Union which I joined on 14th was quiet. All the way up the Worcester and Birmingham I had seen about two boats on the move and one of those was a British Waterways workboat but the Grand Union was rather busier. I saw three boats on the same day! One of them was going the same way. I just caught sight of her stern as she left Shrewley Tunnel ahead of me. The next time I saw her she was taking on water just above Hatton Top Lock. I saw the steerer, a youngish looking lady.



"Hello", I said.

"Good morrow, sir", said she.

"Art descending yon locks betimes?" quoth I.

"Marry, what is that to you?" she retorted.

"If thou and I were to breast up," said I, "we could conquer Hatton flight in, if not a trice, then in a shorter time than each of us alone."

"I have no experience of breasting up," said she, "but you seem to be well versed in such matters so I am willing to put myself and my craft in your care. I wot not that it might be interesting."

Theodora and Pipistrelle were joined fore and aft to lie alongside one another and Goodwife Hutt, for that was her name, steered the two boats towards the first lock where I was busying myself by opening the gates. In this way but one person was required to steer the boats while the other was free to wind paddles up and down and open gates.

An even greater boost to our speed was achieved when Helen's friends appeared to help. What a treat! By the end of the day we had done nineteen of the locks. Another of Helen's friends was to help with the last two on the following day. At nine o'clock we set off and the next two lock were soon done. Helen was to remain above the two Cape Locks but such was her and her friends' kindness that they walked down to the next locks and helped me through them.

This may well be the penultimate issue of the journal. Theodora is nearly home. So near and yet she cannot return until some time after 5th December. There is a stoppage at Watford which was not on the list when we planned the route back so I will have to beg a lift from no.1 son. I suspect that I will be back within ten days.



There is nowhere like England! What a joy to approach Braunston at sunset with the gold of the leaves and the church spire silhouetted on the horizon.

Good night.

Nick

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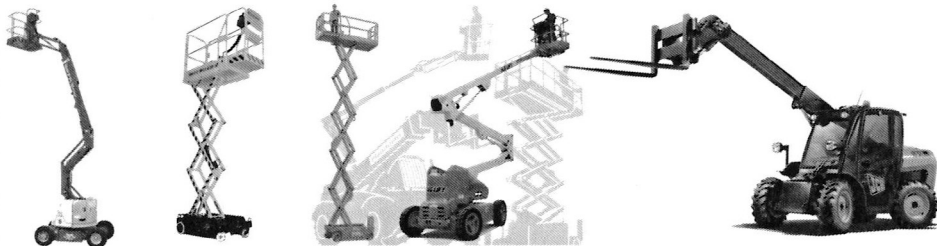
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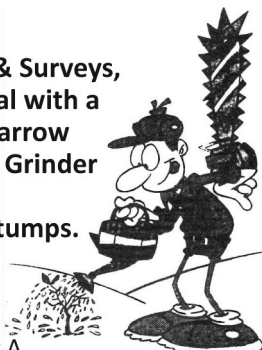
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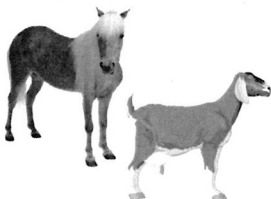
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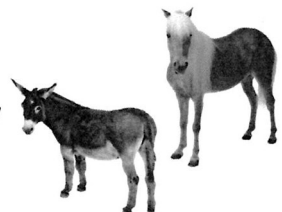
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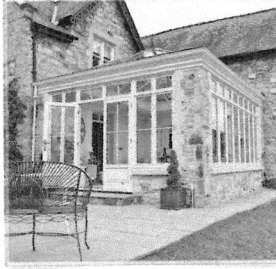
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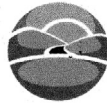


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Fri 2 Sept	4pm	Start of "Miracles" at Kington Baptist Church
Tues 6 Sept	10.30 - 11.30am	Deanery Prayer Time at St Mary's Church
Thurs 8 Sept	10.30pm - 12.30pm 7.30pm	"Get to know your Tablet" at Leominster Library Flicks in the Sticks at Brilley Village Hall
Sat 10 Sept	9am - 6pm	Kington Show
Mon 12 Sept	7.30pm	KCS Rehearsals start again at Titley Village Hall
Wed 14 Sept	2pm 3.30pm - 5.30pm	Kington WI Messy Church at St Mary's Church
Thurs 15 Sept	7.30pm	Horticultural Society meeting at Masonic Hall Cut-off date for October Parish News
Sat 17 Sept	9.30am - 3.30pm	Art & Craft Market at Kington Market Hall
Wed 21 Sept	12.30pm	Community Lunch at the Parish House
Sat 24 Sept	10am - 3pm	Apple Pressing at Place de Marines
Tues 27 Sept	2 - 4pm	"Facebook Basics" at Kington Library
Fri 30 Sept	10 - 12noon 7.30pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning at 40 Headbrook Live Theatre at Brilley Village Hall
Sat 1 Oct	12noon	Huntington Chase
Sun 2 Oct	12.30pm	Harvest Lunch at St Mary's Church

MATERIAL FOR THE OCTOBER 2022 PARISH NEWS

by

15th September please

to

The Parish News Editor

Arrow Weir House, Kingswood Road, Kington HR5 3HD

or email: freda@sparkiesofkington.com

Note: The cut-off date is always the 15th of the previous month