

Dear Friends

In our house, July means the beginning of the Tour de France. We will follow the highs and lows of the world's biggest annual sporting event as it unfolds over 21 days and 2000 miles.

There is something compelling about watching endurance sport. It's about lasting the course; keeping on keeping on; digging deep and not giving up, mile after mile, hour after hour, day after day.

Perhaps this is why the Bible compares life to the great endurance sport of the ancient world; the marathon. This commemorated Pheidippides, a soldier who ran approximately 25 miles near the town of Marathon in Greece to announce the defeat of the Persians. Legend has it that he was so exhausted that after delivering the message he dropped dead (a feeling many have as they cross the finish line!).

How do you keep on going when it all seems too much? Hope is a big factor; for endurance athletes, that means having their eyes fixed on the finishing line and the prize that awaits.

I wonder what your hope is in, what will enable you to endure? For Christians, endurance is inspired by hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matt Rees

BROCKWEIR MORAVIAN CHURCH

Church Services for July 2018

Sun	1 July	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Holy Communion</i>)
Sun	8 July	6:00 pm	Rev Stuart Jackson
Sun	15 July	11.00 am	Joint Service at Hewelsfield Church (<i>No evening service at Brockweir</i>)
Sun	22 July	6.00 pm	Mandy Vaughan
Sun	29 July	6.00 pm	Chris Hewitt

REGULAR MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Tap Dancing

6.45-7.45 & 7.45-8.45 – Mondays in the School Room. 'Tap for Fun' classes for adults from complete beginners to intermediate levels. Please contact Deborah Stock on 07801 479269, email deborahstock@aol.com for more information.

Table Tennis

2.15 - 4.00 pm - Tuesdays & Thursdays in the School Room. Players of all abilities always welcome - for more information contact Jean Taylor on 01291 689565.

Charity Lunch - There will be no lunches in July & August. Normal service resumes on Thursday 6th September

Book Group - Please contact Heather Armstrong (01291 689326) for details.

Brockweir & Hewelsfield History Group

Normally on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Sunday School. No meeting in July.

Food Bank Collection

Donations for the food bank may be brought to services, charity lunches etc or left in the church porch at any time. We welcome your gifts of tinned and dried food, and also toiletries.

Ecumenical Welcome

 Because we are the only church offering regular public worship in the village of Brockweir, we invite all Christians in the local community to play as full a part as they are able [allowing for any continued commitments to their own denomination] in the life and fellowship of this congregation. We invite those of all Christian traditions, and those having no particular denominational affiliation, to worship and to share in Holy Communion with us, and to share in the ministry and mission of the Church in this area.

Minister: Rev Patsy Holdsworth, 35 Quarry Way, Emersons Green, Bristol, BS16 7BN, Tel: 0117 907 8994 email: Patsy.holdsworth@moravian.org.uk
Please note that Patsy's day off is normally on a Tuesday. Please try to only contact her in an emergency on that day.

Church Committee

Katie Groves-Bond	07814 431892	Jean Green	01594 530955
Heather Armstrong	01291 689326	Sue Groves	01291 689804
Carol Ostler	01291 689675	Judith Ashton	01291 689572
Philip Ashton	01291 689572		

Prayer Watch - Every moment of every day, somewhere in the world a Moravian is praying for the life and work of the church and for all humanity. This continuous prayer cycle started in 1727 and has been continued, almost unbroken, since then. Every congregation across the world is allocated a period of time, based on the size of their congregation, for their members to take part. This year, Brockweir has been allocated a number of hours in July - on Thursday 5th (12 noon to 3.0 pm.) & Friday 6th (midnight to 2.0 am.) A list of time slots is posted in the church and prayer notes will soon be available. Anyone is welcome to join in this time of prayer; you can pray in your own home and more than one person can be praying at the same time.

An Afternoon of Entertainment! Saturday 14th July at 3pm in the Sunday School Room:

Once again, the members of BADS have kindly offered to put on an afternoon of entertainment in aid of our Church Buildings Repair Fund. Please come along and join us for what promises to be another fun filled afternoon. Refreshments will be provided and donations in aid of the Moravian Church Buildings Repair Fund will be welcomed

Brockweir Community Fete, Sat 21st July:

The Moravian Church will be holding a tombola stall at this event. Donations towards this will be most gratefully received. Please contact Sue Groves 01291 689804

Taizé Service:

We will be hosting a Taizé style service on Saturday 4th August at 7.00 pm. The Taizé group is made up of people from the local community, and if you would like to learn the chants prior to the service, a practice session will be held from 5.00 - 6.30 pm. Refreshments will be served at 6.30 pm before the service proper starting at 7.00 pm. Even if you are not a regular churchgoer, or even a Christian, everyone is welcome to come and experience the peace of this unique style of worship.

St Mary the Virgin St Briavels & St Mary Magdalene Hewelsfield

All are most welcome to join us for worship, which is welcoming, relaxed and open to all. Join us to find what God's love could mean for you.

Both Churches are open from 9.00am until 4.00pm for those who wish to look around or find a space for quiet and reflection. More can be found on our website www.stbandhchurches.org.uk which gives up to date information.

For a wedding, baptism or blessing, or to request healing or other prayer please contact me, robert.simpson02@btinternet.com or 01594 560202 or our Reader, Mandy Vaughan - 01594 530844. I usually work Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and mornings on Wednesday and am available anytime for urgent requests.

We begin this month with **Food for Thought** as we reflect on what Jesus means when he says 'I am the good shepherd'. Join us for discussion, reflection, croissants and coffee, 10.00am in the School Hall. **Hewelsfield Flower Festival** runs from **Friday 6th to Sunday 8th, 11.00am to 5.00pm** with refreshments.

We conclude with a Celebration Service at 4.00pm on the 8th. Our service at Hewelsfield & Brockweir on the 15th is a shared service with the Moravians. It begins as usual at 11.00 am. Patsy Holdsworth is the preacher. On Saturday 21st there is a **Hog roast at Church Farm St Briavels**. There is entertainment, and tickets are £10 from Martin, Fiona and the Village Shop.

Our Services on the 22nd and 29th will be led by Rev Tony Lewis, formerly associate priest at Aylburton, Alvington and Woolaston. On the 5th August, David Rees will be sharing his understand of Jesus' Transfiguration. This means, for those who notice such things, that I am only preaching once, which gives you a rest from my preaching!

JULY SERVICES: PREACHERS AND THEMES:

SUNDAY 1st - Trinity 5: Being Family - 1. Around the Table! Mandy (Hewelsfield)

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
10.00 am	St Briavels School Hall	Food for Thought
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

3rd Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
4th Weds	10.30am	Communion
5th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 8th - Trinity 6: Fit for Purpose - 3. Play. David Treharne

9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
4.00pm	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Worship

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

10th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
12th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 15th - Trinity 7: Our Reactions - 1. Robert. Hewelsfield - Rev Patsy Holdsworth

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

17th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
18th Weds	10.30am	Communion
19th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 22nd - Trinity 8: Our Reactions - 2. Rev Tony Lewis

9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

24th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
26th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 29th - Trinity 9: Mental Wellbeing. Rev Tony Lewis

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Eucharist
11.00 am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Family Communion

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

31st Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
1st Aug Weds	10.30am	Communion
2nd Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 5th August - Trinity 10: Being Changed. David Rees

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	All Age Worship
11.00 am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	All Age Worship

MIDWEEK: St Briavels

7th Aug Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
9th Aug Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

We're a group of ordinary people, united by our belief in Jesus Christ and with a desire to follow him.

Our services are at 10am and 6pm. Our morning service is a family service when we have a "Sunday Club" for young children.

In our evening services we're examining what John, a friend of Jesus and one of his biographers, thinks you should know about the most influential figure in history. Why not investigate?

We meet for Bible study and prayer every Thursday (8pm, venue changes) and Tuesday (10:15am in the chapel).

On Sunday 1st July we hold, jointly with the parish church, our regular "Food For Thought" service. This is an informal service and families are particularly welcomed. We consider Jesus's claim to be the good shepherd – great for the smallholders amongst us!

Our Coffee Mornings raise funds for charities that we support and also provide a great chance to meet up for a chat. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee Morning Tuesday July 3rd, 10am to 12 noon

If you would like to know more about us please get in touch or visit our website: www.stbriavelscongregational.org.uk

Matt Rees, Pastor



FOREST OF DEAN QUAKER MEETING

We meet for Worship every Sunday at 10.30am in Staunton Village Hall (near Coleford.) There is a car park behind the hall. Contact me for more information.

Jen Cothier 01594 530348

HEWELSFIELD CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

'Song and Dance'

Friday 6th – Sunday 8th July
11am – 5pm daily

Refreshments will be served all day including light lunches from 12 noon-2pm.

We will close our festival weekend on Sunday 8th at 4pm with a Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving led by Rev. David Treharne and Mandy Vaughan.

We extend a warm welcome to all who wish to visit us over this weekend.



MEMBERSHIP OF THE BROCKWEIR AND HEWELSFIELD VILLAGE SHOP ASSOCIATION (BHVSA)

NOW IS AN ADVANTAGEOUS TIME TO JOIN THE BHVSA - 5% DISCOUNTS!

As a community association it is vital that local residents are well represented in the membership of the BHVSA and that they have the opportunity to contribute to and support the shop's aims and objectives for the benefit of the community.

Members become shareholders in the Brockweir and Hewelsfield Village Shop Association and have voting rights at the Annual General Meeting.

Members are entitled to a 5% Discount on meat, fish, bread, apple juice and the café, on production of a current membership card.

Annual membership subscriptions are due on 1st August each year.

There is a special offer for new members joining and paying the annual subscription during the three months before August 1st (1st May to 31st July) who will be entitled to membership until 31st July of the following year i.e. up to 15 months for the price of 12.

Individual Annual Membership: £15. Household Membership: £20

FILL IN A SIMPLE APPLICATION FORM AT THE SHOP AND BENEFIT AND CONTRIBUTE!

ST. BRIAVELS PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Meeting held on Monday, 11th June, 2018, at the Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels

Dementia Action Alliance (DAA) – Ruth Ward, Dementia Friendly Community Enabler for DAA, was welcomed to the meeting. She explained that the main aim of the group was to raise awareness and to make sure that everyone in the district living with dementia is respected and enabled to enjoy living in their own community, and for the wider community to understand dementia and help create a dementia friendly environment. DAA aim to help make community buildings and places more accessible. The Parish Council welcomed this initiative and agreed unanimously to join the local DAA and to organise training for Councillors and for representatives of Village facilities. This action links in to one of the PC's five priorities – to support elderly and vulnerable parishioners.

Annual Audit 2017/2018 – the Parish Council reviewed the detailed Internal Auditor's Report and approved the Annual Governance and Accounting Statements, which form part of the Annual Return to the external auditors.

St. Briavels Get-together – attendance was slightly less than last year but it still proved to be an interesting evening with reports received from 26 of the Parish's organisations. A delicious buffet was enjoyed at 'half-time'. The comments/suggestions received via the post-it notes will be considered over the next few months.

Litter Picking – everyone working to keep the parish litter-free, currently and over many years previously, was congratulated for their efforts – please see the letter in the 'Letters' section (page 11).

Japanese Knotweed Control Strategy – Councillors considered a proposal to eradicate Japanese Knotweed from the Parish. Please see the separate article in this edition of Village News (page 12) and look out for posters on the Parish notice boards.

Merchant Navy Day - following representation from parishioners, the Council committed to purchase a Red Ensign flag and fly it on Merchant Navy Day, which is on 3rd September this year.

St. Briavels Carnival - the Parish Council ran an information stall at the recent Carnival, that all agreed was a great day.

Remembrance Sunday – the Council received an update on progress regarding the special event to commemorate the Centenary of the end of the First World War after the Remembrance Sunday service. Look out for details in Village News.

Farmers' Market – pop along to see the Parish Councillor in attendance at each of the markets and have a chat. If you don't have time for a chat, there is a book on the stand where you can leave comments.

Next meeting – Monday, 9th July, 2018 at 19.00 in the Assembly Rooms, with planning applications available to view from 18.30 and Councillors available for you to raise any issues you feel the PC may be able to resolve. Full minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

Ursula Deighton, Clerk, St. Briavels Parish Council
Tel: 01594 516518E-mail: stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com

HEWELSFIELD AND BROCKWEIR PARISH COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 5th June 2018, in The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir.

Present: Cllr. Fox, Cllr. Bowen, Cllr. Sinfield, Cllr. Merrett, Cllr. Endersby, Cllr. Harris the Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public.

Two parishioners raised the issue of passing places being obstructed on Bailey Lane, making it difficult to use the road. Plus, the junction at Hewelsfield Road was obstructed by fallen trees. Mackenzie Hall committee meeting: members were very keen on the 20 is plenty signs for the parish. The area behind the shop had been offered as a site for storage containers for CIC. Problems with running water on to Quayside was the responsibility of the Public Rights of Way team, not Highways.

Ms. Georgianna Jayne PCSO introduced herself and gave a brief outline of the duties of the PCSO for the area.

Planning Applications

P0710/18/FUL – Caswell Farm, Brockweir, Chepstow.

Councillors had no comment to make on this application.

P0747/18/FUL – The Merricks, Merricks Lane, Brockweir, Chepstow.

Councillors had no comment to make on this application.

APP/P1615/W/17/3177951 – P1102/16/FUL – Gregory Farm, Brockweir

Representatives of the council would meet the developer on a very informal basis to consider next steps for the development.

Possible grant aid available to help with purchase of seated Perspex models to represent those from the parish who lost their lives in WW1, for display in the churches

Councillors agreed to help in any way with the **Village Fête**.

A draft outline had been produced suggesting a plan to create a **Village Archive**. A meeting will be arranged with interested parties to gauge interest.

The top of the bund had been cut back, but it was encroaching into the cobbled Quay. The drain fitted by Highways was ineffective. A working party will carry out work to tidy the bund.

PROW group meeting 20th June, 5.30 at The Loft. Jeff Wheeler of GCC would give information on footpaths in the parish and George Peterken would speak on the history of walls in the Hudnalls.

Planning consent at Ferry Farm. The Enforcement Officer had requested more detailed information about the site and Cllr. Bowen agreed to provide the necessary information.

The Parish Emergency Plan was officially adopted by the council.



Parish Council to purchase a replacement defibrillator to be sited at Hewelsfield Church. Brockbeat have agreed a donation to cover the costs.

One tender for cutting the grass verges had been received and it was agreed to accept this tender. Strimming banks and controlling litter would be continued by the present contractor.

Highways had confirmed that a **30mph speed limit** was already in force at the bottom of Mill Hill as there are the requisite three street lights. **A public meeting will be held in August** specifically to consider road safety issues in the parish.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 3rd July 2018 at 7pm, The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir

NOTE:

There will not be a Parish Council meeting in August, but we are proposing to hold a **public meeting to discuss road safety** in the parish and any other major issues that arise ahead of the meeting.

The meeting will be held on **7th August at 7.00 pm in The Loft**, Village Shop, Brockweir

Please come along and express your views, so that we can establish what road safety measures are deemed necessary, acceptable and feasible. We can then liaise with Gloucestershire Highways and the Police Authority to implement the agreed measures. It is hoped that a representative from RoSPA will attend the meeting to offer help and advice.



Church Farm Barn

St Briavels

21 July 5pm - late

Licensed Bar

Vegetarian alternative available

The Beaujoladies' Music

All proceeds will be used for urgent work to St Briavels Church

Tickets £10 from Brockweir Village Shop and St Briavels Pantry
Or call 01594 531151

THANK YOU

Over many years, individuals have litter picked around the St. Briavels area. More recently, an organised group have been meeting regularly to litter pick the village and connecting roads. The Parish Council would like to thank everyone involved in litter picking, as it is definitely making the Parish look better.

You could perhaps help by either joining the litter-picking group (phone number available at the back of magazine) or simply by picking up that plastic bottle, cigarette pack, crisp packet etc, on one of your walks.

Many thanks, once again, to all litter pickers.

St. Briavels Parish Council

CHURCH STALL AT THE CARNIVAL

The PCC of St. Briavels Church would like to thank everyone who visited our stall, and especially those who bought raffle tickets in aid of our 'Pew Cushion Fund'. Many of you will know we have been raising money this last year for the project and have recently been able to order the cushions for half of the pews in the church. This raffle raised nearly another £100 towards the fund, which will now go towards the amount still needed to furnish the rest of the pews.

If you would like to donate to the fund, we would be most grateful, or remember, you may consider having a cushion dedicated to the memory of a loved one by making a contribution.

Thanking you for your continued support.

St Briavels PCC

SPEED OF LIFE

As I slow to 20mph, to conform to the '20s plenty' campaign in the village, I wonder at how difficult this is for me. It seems that today, the cult of speed, haste and impatience has invaded my life. Inventions such as the plane, car, computer, mobile phone and microwave increase the pressure to live faster. We now work fast, travel fast, eat fast, cook fast, walk faster, make decisions in a rush and multi-task. It's almost as if slowness has been written out of our culture, together with silence and solitude, which I increasingly hunger for. The need to do has hijacked the time to be. And as my son told me, " ..but patience takes too long!"

John Lane, in his marvellous book, "The Spirit of Silence" promotes the virtues of slowness, advising us to 'remove the wristwatch and become more mindful of the world around us; slow down, learn to gaze, slow down and listen, take longer over everything, eat without rushing, linger, drive within the speed limits and learn to do things for their own sake'.

In the pursuit of happiness, though the fast road may promise, the slow road will deliver.

Chris McFarling

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A

VILLAGE FETE

When: Saturday 21st July afternoon/evening 12.30-5 and 7.30-10
Where: Field next to the Brockweir Village Shop

We intend to have a Community Fête on the field - an old-fashioned family fun day, hopefully bringing all ages in the community together. Each community group in the area is invited to take a stand for their own fundraising e.g. Tombola, Hook a Duck. There will be no charge to have a stand and each group can choose where their takings go.

There will be a series of silly races – e.g. sack races, egg and spoon - some for adults, some for children and some group challenges. We also plan to have a couple of competitions like Bake Off. In the evening, we intend to have some Jazz, for which there will be a small charge. There will be a BBQ – or bring a picnic. All profits will go to charity.

If you have any queries please either pop into the shop to see me or contact me on 01291 689995 or email me at alisoninbrockweir@yahoo.co.uk

Alison Macklin & Sophie Hills

NOSH AND NATTER

We were a small group who met at Lawhill for a Vegetarian Lunch. Unfortunately, the sun decided not to appear so we sat indoors and chatted together. Tricia had made a wonderful Nut Roast, as well as a delicious Chocolate Cake. A big thank you also goes to Ann and Pauline who not only contributed to the meal but, together with Tricia, organised the clean up afterwards. What a team!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday July 10th at Court Cottage, GL15 6UL. We will meet for Morning Coffee between 10.30-12.00.

Nosh and Natter welcomes all ladies to these informal social meetings. If you would like to know more, please contact me on 01594 530524 or email siddonspauline@aol.com

Pauline Siddons

OUT DAMN KNOTWEED!

St Briavels Parish Council have adopted a Japanese knotweed eradication strategy for the parish. This weed is invasive and harms our native flora and fauna. If you 'Google' Japanese knotweed, you should be able to see pictures

of this plant. Please don't strim it, as it will become even more dispersed. The best time to remove it is at the end of the summer when the nutrients are returning to the root system. Use of target specific herbicides does the job, though it's probably best to use someone qualified.

The Parish Council are asking everyone to keep an eye out for this weed. If identified, we would like to hear from you with a phone call or email to the Clerk*, or to the Lead Councillor for Eradication (sounds alarming doesn't it?). If it's found on highway verges or Parish Council land, we will arrange for its eradication. If it's on private property please let us know as we may be able to discuss with the owners the names of local contractors who can help.

Now's the time of year to identify it and let us know. Happy knotweed hunting.

Chris McFarling

chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop, 01594 531225

*stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com, 01594 516518

CHURCH MOUSE LAUNDRY SOAP

As part of a fund raising process to refit the kitchen of the little church in Hewelsfield, we are selling items under the label of "Church Mouse Products". Our first easily available item is **Church Mouse Laundry Soap and is available in the Village Shop in Brockweir**. Our pitch for your custom is as follows.....

Church Mouse Laundry Soap Tested on farmers not animals

A laundry soap made from homemade coconut oil soap and washing soda by members of the congregation of Hewelsfield Church to help us raise funds for a new kitchen.

Our soap:

- Cleans well
- Has no unnecessary perfumes, bleaches or enzymes
- Is not harmful to septic tanks
- Uses re-purposed packaging where possible
- Is made locally
- Is suitable for Vegans

Try making a paste of a tablespoon of powder and water and brushing it into stains before washing. (Test for colour fastness on a part of the garment that doesn't show). Works well as a pre-soaker on hardworking clothes.

Unsuitable for an express wash as the soap takes time to dissolve.

News and Activities continued on next page...

SOFT (Sharing our Faiths Together) Meeting

Does an internet meme, news item, Sunday sermon, or a general observation on life, leave you wanting to discuss the subject in more depth? If so, why not come along to a SOFT meeting, where any subject can be talked about in a friendly, mixed faith group of people seeking to explore and understand the world around us.

We will be meeting at 7.30 pm in The Loft above the Village Shop on Wednesday 18th July and Wednesday 15th August.

We welcome anyone to our meetings and, although there is no admission fee, we do request a contribution towards room rental and refreshment costs.

For more information contact: Carol Stickland 01594 530882
or Sue Groves 01291 689804

AN ECUMENICAL EVENING SERVICE FOR ALL

A Taizé service will take place at 7pm on Saturday August 4th in Brockweir Moravian Church. Practice for a volunteer choir and instrumentalists will precede the service at 5.00 pm in the church. (We have 12+ volunteers already). Welcome to all at one or both services.

Taizé services offer a nice mix of contemplation and readings and use simple repeated chants from the world famous community, based in Burgundy.

Please come and share an hour with folk of all churches and of none, with small refreshments afterwards for all.

John Perryman

TINTERN WINE TASTING

Our June meeting was hosted by Elizabeth and Nick, who also provided the wines. These were a speciality of Elizabeth's, as they were from her home region of Jura and Savoie. There were two white and two red table wines, which were generally light to medium bodied and very enjoyable. Thanks to Elizabeth and Nick for being great hosts and providing very interesting wines not usually available in the UK. The highlight for some was to be able to taste Jura's famous Vin Jaune - a wine aged for over 6 years that develops a 'flor' similar to Sherry. For many an acquired taste, but I certainly enjoyed the opportunity and the wine. The evening finished with a drink that was a blend of Marc (a typically French spirit distilled from the pomace left over after winemaking) and unfermented grape must (or juice). It almost made the Marc palatable but Stan quite enjoyed it.

The July meeting, on Monday 2nd, is being hosted by Steph, who has asked that we taste Sparkling Wines on the river bank. For further information, please email me alan.hillard@gmail.com

Alan Hillard

FRIENDS OF MIKE PARRY

Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Monday 27th August in the Pavilion from 10 till 12 noon. The proceeds will be split between St Briavels Heartbeat (defibs) and the Air Ambulance. Please come along and support us if you can.

If you have any donations, please contact Adele on 01594 530571 or Tessa on 01594 530650. Looking forward to seeing you on the 27th.

Adele & Tessa

ST BRIAVELS LUNCH CLUB - THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2018.

We all meet at 11.45 for a glass of sherry and a three-course lunch at 12 o'clock in St Briavels Pavilion. We are a happy group of about 22 and are always pleased to see a new face. If you are new to the village and would like to join us please contact Mary (01594 530505) for more information. The three-course meal, sherry and coffee costs £5.50. There is also a raffle. We look forward to meeting you.

Can anyone help? We have been running the lunch club for over 12 years and our helpers have been wonderful. We really need some extra help if we want to carry on. The helpers start around 11am on the day, laying the tables, welcoming people with a glass of sherry, serve the food, wait on when necessary and clear the tables at the end. Helpers would be finished by around 1:30 pm. Helpers would normally be on the rota about three times every six months. For some people, the lunch club is the only opportunity they have to meet their friends. Please help us to continue.

Mary Perryman

To all our contributors...

The deadline for the August 2018 edition of the Village News is:

Midday, Tuesday 17th July

**Send your contributions to
editors@villagemag.co.uk**



PLEASE NOTE: The above deadline is fine for normal editorial pieces, letters, news and activities, etc. But if you are sending in **EVENT ADS** that require a display box, images and layout (like this ad), which take longer to create than normal text, then please submit your copy **at the latest on the Friday BEFORE the deadline** (which is always a Tuesday), preferably sooner. This allows time to check any details with you and make any changes needed, which is not possible after the main deadline.

ST BRIAVELS CARNIVAL

The village woke to bright sunshine on June 9th, Carnival Day in St Briavels. The sunshine stayed with us and the crowds came out in force to make this a really special day for our village.

The procession made its way through the village, led by ladies from St Briavels WI, who were celebrating 100 years of the Suffragette movement and 75 years of the WI in St Briavels. There was also a vintage lorry owned by the Parry family 58 years ago and a rare breed horse. The standard of floats and fancy dress was again exceptional. Thanks go to all entrants for the preparation, effort and hard work that's involved.

This year's prize winners were:

Float section -

1st prize: and winners of the Edward Page Memorial Cup for their wonderful attention to detail and a very worthy message, were St Briavels Early Years, with "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle".

2nd prize: St Briavels School Key Stage 2 with "Journey of the Wye".

3rd prize: St Briavels School Key Stage 1 with "The Seaside".

Group Entry - 1st prize: and winners of the Janet Parry Memorial Cup, were St Briavels WI.

11 – 18 years - 1st Prize: Penny Adams and Millie Connor as Ab Fab.

7-10 years - 1st prize: Noa Chesney as Matilda.

Children under 7 -

1st prize: George Bird as Gansta Granny.

2nd prize: and winners of the Dyke Stephens memorial cup, were Alfie Goodyer and Dillah Chesney as "Harry and Meghan".

3rd Prize: Bobby Goodyer as the Hungry Caterpillar.

Adult Fancy Dress - 1st Prize: Won by Gae Jones for her wonderful Suffragette costume.

The family of John Charlton kindly donated a cup in his memory for this year's Carnival. John was a great supporter of the Carnival and treasurer for many years. He was always there on Carnival day, helping out on the gate and sponsored our Grand Draw for many years. He is sadly missed, so it's lovely that Liz and his family have given us a lasting memory. The cup was won by Dimity for her amazing recycled costume.

We were fortunate to have sunny weather all afternoon, and hundreds of people turned out to support us. We were entertained by Alistair and Janice as "St Briavels Pirates", Morris Dancers, a Zumba Flash Mob from Wye Valley Zumba and Djabot Drummers. There was plenty to do and see around the field and children were entertained by the fair rides, Craft activities, Bouncy Castles and Races.

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make the day possible. Special thanks to our helpers, sponsors and those who kindly donated Raffle prizes. In recent years, we have made significant improvements to the facilities on the Playing Fields. The proceeds of this year's event will be used for their continued upkeep and improvement. We do not yet have a final total of funds raised, but we anticipate a profit of around £2500. Thanks again to all those involved.

St Briavels Carnival Committee

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

CENTENARY ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR 1

This year, Remembrance Sunday will have special significance, as this day will be the centenary anniversary of the end of World War 1. To commemorate this very special day, the Parish Council has set up a Project Group whose objective is to mark the Centenary of the end of World War 1 on Sunday, 11 November 2018. The aim is to have "a dignified and respectful celebration of the Centenary of the end of the war, acknowledging the sacrifice of the armed forces and civilians within the Parish of St Briavels in World War 1 and subsequent wars."

A special service will be held at the Memorial Gates of the Playing Fields, followed by a commemoration at the Assembly Rooms lasting about an hour, with tea and cakes and wartime music. We are assembling an exhibition showing what St Briavels village looked like in World War 1 (& World War 2). So, if you have any information or pictures, please contact us. We also want to collect and record for posterity the stories of people who are living in St Briavels now and remember what it was like living through a time of war. You may know someone who was an evacuee, in the forces, in the Land Army, working in a munitions factory or a prisoner of war, etc. Your story may be about World War 1 but it can also be about subsequent wars and may relate to other parts of the country, e.g. the Blitz, and you don't have to have lived in St Briavels during the war as long as you live here now.

We want to record the war time memories and voices of St Briavels parishioners to find out what it was like living through a war. Our idea at the moment is to interview and record these stories as a permanent record (but only with the story teller's permission), as time is slipping by since wartimes. We are hoping to enlist the help of local schoolchildren in this project, so that the younger generation can understand the sacrifices that were made.

If you have any memories or stories that you are willing to share personally, or if you know of anyone who might have, please can you call Liz Stuart on 01594 530346 or Pam Plummer on 01594 530008.

Pam Plummer

ORGANIC FRUIT & VEG * FRENCH BREAD & PATISSERIE * ORGANIC LAMB *	
* RARE BREED PEDIGREE BEEF & PORK * FREE RANGE POULTRY & GAME * CHEESE	
CHUTNEY	SAUSAGES
* OLIVES *	* PASTIES
* NUTS *	HONEY *
* CIDER *	* BUTTER
* EGGS *	UIT JUICE
* DELI *	* CAKES *
* HERBS *	RESERVES *
INNOVATIVE VEGETARIAN & VEGAN FOOD * FUDGE * PLANTS * REFRESHMENTS *	
SWEET & SAVOURY PIES * AUTHENTIC FRESHLY MADE CURRIES & INDIAN SNACKS	

ST BRIAVELS LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET

Saturday 7th July

The Pavilion 10-12.30 pm

WYEDEAN SCHOOL ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING COURSES

AUTUMN TERM 2018

AT THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, EAST STREET

Painting and Drawing

Suitable for beginners to advanced. Starting with some basic drawing, you will move on to develop your Watercolour and Acrylic painting techniques. Bring your own materials (advice at first session). **Start:** 17 Sep. **Length:** 9 wks **Mon:** 2 - 4 **Cost:** £70

French for Absolute Beginners

This course is suitable for complete beginners. Learn the basics such as greetings, introductions and key holiday vocabulary. **Start:** 24 Sep. **Length:** 8 wks **Mon:** 11.45am -1.15 **Cost:** £68

Brush Up Your Basic French

This course is suitable for those who wish to learn French and consider themselves as 'rusty' beginners. The main aim is to increase confidence in conversation situations and to extend length of conversation. **Start:** 24 Sep. **Length:** 9 wks **Mon:** 10-11.30 **Cost:** £75

Painting and Drawing Day Workshop

Suitable for all levels. You know what it's like - just as you get going, it's almost time to stop! This is a chance to get to grips with the subject. Flowers are recommended; or if the weather permits we may work outdoors. Bring lunch and your own materials. Drinks are available. **Start:** 23 Oct. **Length:** 4 hrs **Tues:** 10-2 **Cost:** £25

AT ST BRIAVELS PAVILION, COLEFORD ROAD

Italian for Beginners

This course is suitable for students who have never studied the language before or for those who studied Italian years ago and need to refresh their knowledge of the language. It will cover topics such as restaurants, directions and verbs, using fun/games/role play in a relaxed atmosphere, together with an insight into the Italian culture and - why not? - also a bit of slang. **Start:** 24 Sep. **Length:** 8 wks **Mon:** 10.30-12.30 **Cost:** £77

Italian – Intermediate

This course is suitable for students who have studied Italian for 2/3 years or who have a qualification at AS level. The course will consolidate grammar structures whilst introducing new grammar rules. Conversation will be at the centre of the course, together with other activities. Italian magazines and newspapers, real life listening, movies and recipes will be used during the course. **Start:** 24 Sep **Length:** 8 wks **Mon:** 12.45-2.45 **Cost:** £77

For further information: Download the Autumn Term ACL Brochure + enrolment form (from 25 June) www.wydean.gloucs.sch.uk (Go to 'Community', then 'Adult Learning' then 'Courses available') Or, contact the School Office on 01291 625340 (answerphone during School Hols. Please leave a message/contact number). Post off your enrolment form and payment, with your email address or SAE (if you wish for a receipt) during the holidays to: Wydean School & Sixth Form Centre, Beachley Road, Sedbury, Chepstow, Glos NP16 7AA

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

BARLEY RISOTTO WITH GREEN VEGETABLES

- 1 tsp oil
- 10g butter
- 1 chopped onion
- 2 garlic cloves chopped
- 200g pearl barley (rinsed)
- 1 litre vegetable stock
- 100ml white wine
- 400g tender sprouting broccoli or beans or mushrooms, or any vegetables you fancy, cut into small chunks
- 100g runner beans or French beans or peas (or a mixture of all three) to finish.



Fry onion and garlic. Add the barley, then pour on the wine. When most of the wine has evaporated add the stock in small amounts, stirring regularly, making sure the barley does not stick. In a large pan bring some water to the boil and add the chopped vegetables. Simmer for three minutes. Drain and reserve the liquid. When most of the liquid has been absorbed by the barley (check if tender- if not add more liquid) add the cooked vegetables and mix. Season and add some grated parmesan and shredded basil.

Mary Perryman

BADS BEST BITS!

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Are you a dedicated follower of BADS? Do you want to see the highlights of the last 12 years again? Now's your chance!

We have compiled the best bits in a 2 hour DVD. And yes, there were that many! We will show the DVD after our brief AGM.

Please come and join us on Saturday July 7th, at 7.00 pm in the Assembly Rooms in St. Briavels.

The AGM will be followed by an American Supper, after which the DVD will be shown. It's a 'bring your own drink' event.

Please let us know if you are coming by sending an email to Immy Lee: immylee1@hotmail.com.

DIARY DATES - weekly/regular activities

Mondays

ZUMBA TONING WITH JO 9:15-10:15am - Mackenzie Hall Brockweir.
TABLE TENNIS: 7.30 - 9pm (except 2nd Monday of the month). Assembly Rooms. St. Briavels. No need to book, all levels welcome. Good exercise and great fun. tabletennis@st-briavels.com.
ADULT TAP FOR FUN: 6.45 - 7.45 improvers+ / Intermediates; 7.45 - 8.45 Beginners. Moravian Church Hall. Call Deborah: 07801 479269.

Tuesdays

YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: 9:30-11am. Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. 07883 678629. simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk
COURTYARD CAFE: 1:30-4:30. Assembly Rooms - hairdresser, seamstress services, "Pop- up" shop: French bread/patisserie.
ST. BRIAVELS "WALKING for HEALTH" walk every Tuesday for approx. 1 hour. Starts 2pm, Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels. Call John for more info - 01594 530890.
KNITTERS GROUP meets every Tuesday, 2 – 4. 30 at St Briavels Assembly rooms. For info contact Claire@nissel.co.uk
OPEN MIC and NEW Wye Valley Acoustic Music Club at the Rose & Crown, Tintern, every first Tuesday of the month. For more info call Adrian on 01291 689812.
ZUMBA GOLD WITH JO at 7-8pm St Briavels School Hall
GET CREATIVE CRAFT GROUP meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, from 7.30 until 9.00pm at the Loft, Brockweir Village Shop. chrissybirch@ymail.com
ZUMBA WITH JO at 8:15-9:15pm, Fitness, St Briavels School Hall

Wednesdays

COMMUNITY VINYASA YOGA 9-10 am, Assembly Rooms, St Briavels, Lorna Kennedy 07793 381849 lornayoga@me.com www.lornayoga.com
ECSTATIC DANCING 9.45 am -11.30 pm Mackenzie Hall
FRIENDLY ART GROUP Most Wednesdays, 10am-1pm Assembly Rooms. Call Ann Kilminster on 07980 978348.
PILATES: 2-3pm. Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. For info call: 01291 627243 / 07787 193302.
BROCKWEIR BOWLS CLUB: 2-4pm Wednesday afternoons. Last meeting 30 May. Meetings resume in early September. For more information email Trevor Williams. fishthw@gmail.com
BROCKWEIR YOUTH CLUB - the club meets during term time. For further information please ring 01291 689 327 or visit: www.brockweiryouthclub.co.uk.
SOFT MEETING. On two Weds each month. 7.30pm. The Loft above Village Shop.

Thursdays

COURTYARD CAFE: 1:30-4:30. Assembly Rooms - hairdresser, seamstress services, "Pop- up" shop: French bread/patisserie.
MIXED CIRCUITS CLASS: 6:30pm at Mackenzie Hall
YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: 7- 8:30pm, Assembly Rooms. 07883 678629 simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk.
ZUMBA WITH JO, 'Zumba Strong', St Briavels School Hall, 8.15pm - 9.15pm
ST BRIAVELS WALKING GROUP - monthly walks. John Hurley 01594 530890

Fridays

TEA AND TOTS: 9:00-10.30am - term time only, Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. For more information please visit our Facebook page: St Briavels Tea and Tots.
IYENGAR YOGA - Re-starts in September at a new time: 9.30-11am at Mackenzie Hall. www.wildwoodyoga.co.uk or call/message Kishe Redwood 07805 729893

Saturdays

YOGA WITH ALI ROSE: Once a month, last Saturday of month, 9.30-11.00am Assembly Rooms, St Briavels. 07883 678629. simplyalirose@yahoo.co.uk
ZUMBA WITH JO, 'Toning', St Briavels School Hall, 9.00 - 10am.

Sundays

ST BRIAVELS PEOPLE'S CHOIR will meet at 7 pm at the Assembly Rooms after the summer break on September 9th.



**Based in the Wye Valley,
Your Local Choice for
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Access Platform available for hire.**

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www.treesandgrounds.co.uk**

DIARY DATES FOR JULY

Walking for Health every Tuesday – meet at the Assembly Rooms, 2pm			
1 Sun	WVM concert: Carismático Tango Band	7.30 pm	Drill Hall, Chepstow
2 Mon	Tintern Wine Tasting		alan.hillard@gmail.com
3 Tues	Coffee Morning	10am-12noon	Congregational Church, St Briavels
3 Tues	St Briavels Senior Citizens Day Trip	9.30am	
3 Tues	Brockweir & Hewelsfield PC meeting	7pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
5 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
6 - 8 Fri-Sun	Flower Festival 'Song & Dance'	11am - 5pm	Hewelsfield Church
7 Sat	Produce Market	10am-12.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
7 Sat – 14 Sat	FAR Open Studios		Mariana-Art Gallery, St Briavels
7 Sat	BADS AGM & Social Evening	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels
8 Sun	Service of Celebration & Thanksgiving	4pm	Hewelsfield Church
9 Mon	St Briavels PC meeting (planning applications and councillors available from 6.30pm)	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
10 Tues	Nosh & Natter: Morning Coffee	10.30-12.00noon	Court Cottage, GL15 6UL
12 Thurs	St Briavels Walking Group	1pm	Meet at St Briavels Church
14 Sat	Moat Society Working Party - All welcome	10am to 12noon	Castle Moat.
14 Sat 15 Sun	The Friendly Art Group Summer Exhibition. <i>Free Entry</i>	10am to 4pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
14 Sat	Drama & Music Entertainment Afternoon	from 3pm	Moravian Church, Brockweir
14 Sat	Sevenoaks Shakespeare Co. 'The Tempest'	7.30pm	St Briavels Castle

15 Sun	Sevenoaks Shakespeare Co. 'The Tempest'	2pm	St Briavels Castle
17 Tues	St Briavels Senior Citizens	12.30pm	Orepool, Sling
18 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
18 Weds	St Briavels WI meeting: 'World Wide Treasure Hunt'	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
19 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
21 Sat	Brockweir Community Fête	12.30 - 5pm 7.30 -10pm	Children's Playing Field, Brockweir
21 Sat	Friends of St Briavels Church: Hog Roast	from 5pm	Church Farm, St Briavels
22 Sun	Guided Walk	2.30pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
26 Thurs	St Briavels Lunch Club	11.45am	St Briavels Pavilion

ADVANCE DATES

3-12 Aug	Summer Sale		Mariana-Art Gallery, St Briavels
4 Aug	Taizé Service	7pm	Brockweir Moravian Church
7 Aug	Hewelsfield & Brockweir PC - Public Meeting	7pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
15 Aug	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
21 Aug	70 years of the YHA		St Briavels Castle
27 Aug	Bank Holiday Coffee Morning		St Briavels Pavilion
11 Nov	Remembrance Sunday – Armistice Day Centenary Celebration		

Are you going to any of the above events?

If so, why not take a photo of it and send it to us for next year's Village News Covers?

Or do you have some lovely views of the area? A historic postcard of our parishes? Photos of local wild life or flowers?

Please send them to covers@villagemag.co.uk, or email for technical help. Full submission details can be found on our web site www.villagemag.co.uk



NEWS FROM THE BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP

Use your Café Loyalty Card. If you haven't got one, ask at the till. Then you can claim a free drink every 10 times you pop into the café.

Did you know that we have some new loose ingredients for you to buy as much or as little as you need, including pasta, couscous and rice.

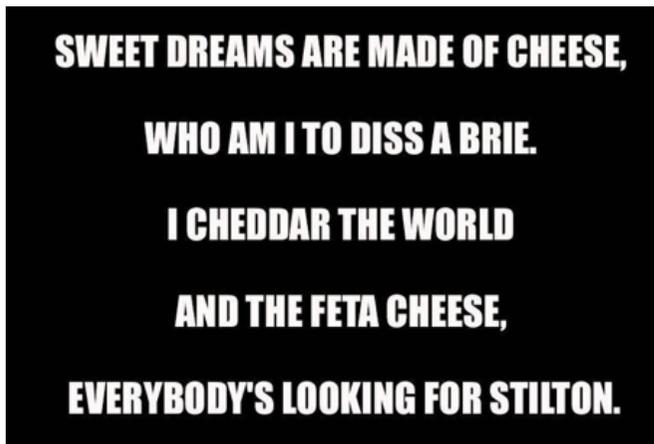
'Smashing Cheese, Gromit.' I used to work with Nick Park in my dim and distant past and this quote is pretty accurate. Although here at the shop we don't usually have Wensleydale, we do have a smashing range of local cheeses. These include Tintern, with chives and shallot, Yfenni, which has mustard seeds and ale and makes the most divine cheese on toast, Perl Wen, a Welsh style Brie and Perl Las, a creamy blue cheese. We also have a range of waxed cheese from Blaenavon Cheddar. My personal favourite is the whisky and ginger but there is a range from plain to exotic. These are a great gift for any of your

visitors or a great item to take on a picnic. We also have Hereford Hop which was a customer request, and, from further afield, Dorset Red, which vegetarians in particular tell me gives the same hit of smoke as a bacon butty. It's certainly a popular one. From abroad, we have a Parmigiano Reggiano and Mozzarella from Italy, French Goat Log, Greek Feta and Halloumi. We also carry the more standard ranges of Philadelphia, Cheddar and Stilton. If you are crackers about cheese, pop in! If you want a cheese board made up for a special occasion, please ask.

Meanwhile, writing this has made me hungry. Now where is that French stick?

Alison

P.S. hope to see you at the fête on the 21st!



With Apologies to Annie Lennox and David A. Stewart!

ART IN THE CAFÉ

EXHIBITION OF WORK BY JANE BROOKS, 2ND JULY – 13TH AUGUST 2018

Jane Brooks, artist and printmaker, has both home and studio in the village of Pen-y-Fan, near Monmouth. She has lived in the Wye Valley for over thirty years, although she hails originally from Dorset.

Even as a small child she found herself drawn to sketching the world about her, on a daily basis. Her family, feeling that she needed a more practical career, encouraged her to become a nurse, rather than to pursue a career as an artist, and although she complied, she did not find the work congenial.

Later in life, and in her 30s with her sons growing up, Jane was able to study at the Newport School of Art and Design and obtained a B.A.Hons degree in Graphics, specialising in Printmaking. She then lectured in Art and Design at Coleg Gwent, later taking on employment as Gallery Manager in Monmouth (Great Atlantic Art Gallery) and as a Retail and Gallery Assistant (Contemporary Craftsman and Line of Fire galleries).

She retired in 2012, although continued to produce her own work, which has been extensively exhibited over the years. This has allowed her to gain a well-deserved, and growing reputation as a very talented artist.

Jane's prints have been shown in the New Leaf and Line of Fire Galleries, Monmouth, as well as in galleries in Salisbury, Derbyshire, Bristol, Cardiff, Abergavenny, Chepstow, Cornwall and many others. Last year, she showed her

latest work through Far Open Studios.

Jane uses traditional printmaking techniques, but the product is contemporary and semi abstract. She prints on to both fabric and paper, using either monoprint or collagraph. This flexibility of technique allows wide scope for making expressive and imaginative marks - also controlled lettering and line when needed. Often there is a "crossover", and techniques employed when printing on paper, are transferred to printing on cloth.

For this current exhibition the "one-off" prints are primarily on to paper. They often include lettering from quotations or poetry which has inspired her, particularly the poetry of John Clare and Alice Oswald.

Jane has always loved solitary, meditative walks in the extensive natural landscape of the Wye Valley which surrounds her. Her sketchbook accompanies her, and she gathers natural items - for example sticks, leaves, twigs - whose texture and form she incorporates into her work. She has a deep sense of "spirit of place", and depicts this in lyrical and often poignant designs which reflect the seasons and their changing effect on landscape.

This will be an exciting exhibition, which will bring new aspects of Jane's work to public view. If you are inspired by her work, be aware that in 2018 /2019 she plans to hold local workshops, where she will teach the techniques of her craft to those interested.

Annie Charlton



NEWS FROM THE CASTLE

A Storm is Brewing ... but fear not, we are not planning a real deluge, just the sounds of lightning entering stage left and thunder stage right during our two performances of Shakespeare's "The Tempest"!

We are excited that it is almost time to welcome back the Sevenoaks Shakespeare Society for their annual tour of Shakespeare at the Castle. Performances are 7.30pm on Saturday 14th July and 2pm on Sunday 15th July. Advance tickets for adults are

£12 or £15 on the gate, and just £5 per ticket for all under-26s. YHA is a charity that focuses on helping young people (classed as under-26) to enjoy new experiences. We hope to welcome many of you

through the gates over the weekend. The direct line for booking tickets is 01594 530272. If we are away from reception please do leave us an answer-phone message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Investment Work Approved ... in the last edition we were still awaiting permission from English Heritage (Scheduled Monument Consent) to complete our delayed winter investment project. We are thrilled to announce that approval has been given, and throughout July and August we will be finishing the work. Externally, we will have a new "YHA" sign and in the car park a screen around the bins. This latter project

should greatly enhance the visual appeal of the Castle from the roadside and has been long in the planning, so we are looking forward to seeing it in place! Inside, there will be visual improvements to the grounds with a new look to the archery range, and



the bedrooms in the Castle will be brought into the modern age with more electric sockets to cope with the ever-increasing electronic requirements of our guests.

Happy Birthday, YHA St Briavels ... we are amazed (how the time has flown) that we will officially celebrate 70 years of the YHA at St Briavels Castle on August 21st 2018. We would love to hear from you if you have any old photographs or stories relating to the YHA and the Castle during those 70 years. Please either pop in, call 01594 530272 or email stbriavels@yha.org.uk

Linda Harrison, Manager



WYE VALLEY MUSIC (ST BRIAVELS MUSIC SOCIETY)

**Time to Let Your Hair Down:
The Carismático Tango Band**

The Society's 2017/18 season takes us to South America and the modern tango, performed by the inspired **Karen Street**, one of the UK's leading exponents of the accordion, and her equally talented tango band, **Carismático**, delivering music full of energy, passion and robust romance. **The Carismático Tango Band concert is on Sunday 1st July at 7.30 pm in the Drill Hall, Chepstow.**

The concert will be a very lively evening of irresistible Argentinian passion and musical virtuosity. Carismático is a tango ensemble concentrating on the brilliant, emotionally charged compositions of Argentinian composer Saul Cosentino and his mentor, Astor Piazzolla. Karen Street writes: "Having my own tango band

is something I have thought of creating for many years. By chance, Saul Cosentino made contact and sent me some of his music to play. I was so enthused I knew I had to finally put together my ideal tango band... I have recruited some of the cream of British musicians to play with me – so here it is!". In addition to music by Cosentino and, of course, Piazzolla, there will be pieces by Varela, Gardel, Biagi and Nazareth, together with compositions by Karen Street herself. Interval refreshments will have a South American twist.

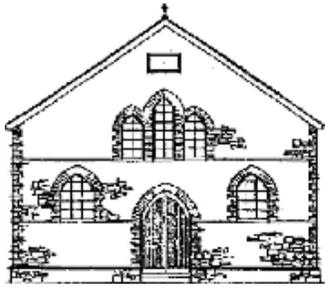
Admission to the concert is £18 for the general public, £15 for Wye Valley Music members and £2 for students, to include the interval refreshments.

Keith Norman 01594 530419

The programme for 2018-19 is almost finalised. Performers will include the young pianist, **Natalia Williams Wandoch**, the Welsh group **Ystradivarius**, the welcome return of **Tranquillo** (featuring local flautist **Sarah Waycott**) and the violinist **Mary Hofman** with the pianist **Richard Ormrod** (part of a cycle of Beethoven sonatas being played right around Wales). The Christmas entertainment will be provided by **Nos Misere Homines**, a one-to-a-part vocal ensemble of outstanding young singers. More details next month.

Memberships invited: our membership year runs from 1st August to 31st July; join on-line at www.wvm.org.uk for £15 per person, giving reduced entry to concerts (12 in total) during the next year.

Enquiries can be made to our message line at 01291 330020 or by email to info@wvm.org.uk.



WYE VALLEY ARTS CENTRE, LLANDOGO

Beginners and improvers are very welcome on all the courses as all will enjoy the individual attention which the tutors can give to small groups of students. There are 1, 2 and 4 and 6 day courses. Please ask for further details. We hope you will find an opportunity to come to The Wye Valley Arts Centre to enjoy our beautiful inspirational surroundings, the perfect creative environment.

JULY

THUR 5	SILVER JEWELLERY (cont) 1.00 - 4.00	Ann Skehel
SAT 7	4 SEASONS PHOTOGRAPHY 9.30am to 12.30pm Second of 4 seasonal workshops. £25 per session	David Broadbent
SAT 14 - Sun 15	PAINTING & DRAWING - 2 DAY COURSE 9.30am - 4pm Cost - £50 per day	Ann Hulme
MON 16 - THU 19	PAINTING & DRAWING - 4 DAY COURSE 9.30am - 4pm Cost - £50 per day	Ann Hulme
SAT 28	SCULPTURE WORKSHOP - CLAY 9.30am-4pm	Val Welham

AUGUST

THURS 9	MAKE A SILVER SPOON - 1 DAY WORKSHOP 9.30am - 5pm Cost - £52 (Silver is not included - £25 to £40 per spoon)	Ann Skehel
SAT 18	PAINTING & DRAWING - 1 DAY WORKSHOP 9.30am - 5pm Cost - £50	Ann Hulme

Tel: 01594 530214 Email: info@wyearts.co.uk Web: www.wyearts.co.uk



PARISH GRASSLANDS PROJECT

www.parishgrasslandsproject.org.uk

During 2018 we have added over 70 species to the list of wild plants known to be growing wild in Hewelsfield & Brockweir and St Briavels parishes, but there are many more that are still "missing".

Using the list of 484 species that grew wild here 100 years ago, according to the Flora of Chepstow (published 1920), we have so far found 337, which means that 147 are still missing. However 26 species have been found wild which were not known locally 100 years ago (e.g. Indian Balsam, Red Valerian, Japanese Knotweed), so the total count of wild species at the time of writing is 363. No doubt some more will be found, but by the end of the year it seems likely that well over 100 will remain missing. If this turns out to be the result, it means that, on average, more than one wild plant species has been lost from the local parishes every year for the last century; and some of the compensating gains have been a mixed blessing.

However, we must not jump to conclusions before we have done our best to locate the missing species. Many, frankly, are inconspicuous or difficult to identify, but a few are easy to spot. Shown below is a list of 10

recognisable species that were here 100 years ago, but which have yet to be found in 2018.

If anyone finds any one of these "missing" species, please send a message to the PGP at survey@parishgrasslandsproject.co.uk or to gfpeterken@tiscali.co.uk. If you want to check what they look like, Google the Latin name and look at the images.

The work of the Community Orchard Group continues. We are currently investigating the possibility of taking on a number of sites in the two parishes, ranging in size from two or three trees to more substantial numbers, and operating on an "on trust" basis rather than with legally binding agreements. To this end, next month a number of us will be visiting a project near Cardiff which operates on that basis.

George Peterken

★★★★★★

Bring your own wine, drinks & snacks.

Teas, coffees & ice cream on sale.

★★★★★★

Film Night

Friday 13th July

The Post

Streep, Hanks and Spielberg working together for the first time. It's been worth the wait!

Tintern Village Hall 7.45pm

Tickets £4.00 15s & under £2.50

★★★★★★

Information:
Andrew Reid
andrew.reid@huntermillerreid.co.uk
or phone
07774 726860

★★★★★★

10 recognisable species that were here 100 years ago, but which have yet to be found in 2018.

- Aspen, *Populus tremula*
- Common Broomrape, *Orobanche minor*
- Wayfaring-tree, *Viburnum lantana*
- Bird's Nest Orchid, *Neottia nidus-avis*
- Bell Heather, *Erica cinerea*
- Lousewort, *Pedicularis sylvatica*
- Common Toadflax, *Linaria vulgaris*
- White Bryony, *Bryonia dioica*
- Poppy, *Papaver rhoeasa*
- Hemlock, *Conium maculatum*

Livestock! The facts!

I've recently read a book called "The Secret Life of Cows". It struck me as an odd title for a book till I remembered one summer day some years ago when I watched the Chatsworth herd being turned out into the Park after a winter of confinement in the estate's yards and buildings. What a joyous event, both for cattle and for spectators! An explosion of feminine high spirits and exhibitionism that seemed to combine Garden Party with Ladies' Day at Aintree Races. Secret, my eye!

It's a surprising book that prompted me to stand back and look a bit more carefully at much that goes on under our noses. A few seasons of shepherding on the Common taught me that, under their inoffensive fleeces, even sheep will harbour some of the darker life forces that help to keep our newspaper presses rolling. This was brought home to me forcibly one morning when I discovered our stock ram, Gaylord Screwsby, lying stiff and cold in the field. His rival, a Herdwick thug called Wiglaff, had nimbly vaulted a stockproof fence and with a well-judged run, decked Gaylord.

A novice fisherman, assembling his tackle for the first time, could be forgiven for putting "Landing Net" at the head of his list. Think positive! The same idea may have occurred to our organic neighbours, the Teeny Weeny Land Girls, when they decided to upgrade from poultry to the breeding of improbably named rarebreed



sheep. Their first recruit, a Collie dog, having as yet no outlet for his youthful zeal, would spend the day rounding up poultry, and I have an indelible memory of a Silkie pullet, stalked by said Collie, retreating haughtily while over her shoulder she favoured him with some truly shocking language. Strange feather duster poultry Silkies may be, but for sheer force of character they are matchless. I have become risk averse with age, and now cannot decide whether I would rather test an electric fence with my bare hand or thrust that hand under a broody Silkie to count hatchlings. I wince at the thought! But, if you take the time to listen to her, you may hear the fearsome mum-to-be at day 20 of incubation, crooning quietly to the unborn chicks. Pre-natal science.

As for our cockerels, it's easy to write them off on account of their "little weaknesses", (Fighting, Womanising, Crowing) but I reckon there is much to admire in their character as well as their stunning outfits. When Reynard raids our hen roost I always get the impression that the cockerel has stood in the way and "taken one for the team", and when I watch his quieter moments he always stands back and lets the girls have first crack at the treats I throw them. A proper gent.

And what's all this about cockerels crowing, anyway? To me, recently bereaved, it's as if all the clocks in the house have stopped. Get a life, you lot!

Action4OurCare have had confirmation that a final version of the Statement of Values and Principles (SVP) has been agreed by all parties and we have been assured by NHS England that all our red lines have been met. This final version is in the process of being presented to Local Health Boards and Clinical Commissioning Groups along both sides of the border and it will then be signed off at Government level in England and in Wales. The aim is to complete this in July 2018. We understand that Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group will discuss the SVP at their next Board Meeting in June 2018.

The arrangements outlined in the Statement of Values and Principles (SVP) are, in fact, already happening in practice for most cross border patients living in Gloucestershire. This is also the case for some patients living in Shropshire and Herefordshire. Nonetheless, it is very important that the SVP is formally signed off at Government level as soon as possible, as it enshrines in writing our legal entitlements and ensures that we can never again be subject to the situation that arose 5 years ago.

We can also confirm that discussions have started to make urgent cancer referrals through the Referral Assessment Service (RAS) as well as routine secondary referrals.

Action4OurCare's next task is to work with NHS England and Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure that patients have all the information that they need about cross border arrangements. This means changing local and national websites, amending Frequently Asked Questions as well as some patient leaflets. These websites and leaflets need to point patients to a quick and open complaints procedure if things go wrong. It also needs to tell them what to do if a patient does want to move to an English registered GP, although this is less likely to happen as patients' legal rights to choice etc are now being met if their GP is using the RAS. One of the main problems when this issue first emerged was that patients who complained found themselves stuck in no man's land and Action4OurCare needs to ensure that this cannot happen again.

Pam Plummer. Chair for and on behalf of Action4OurCare

SUMMER PLEASURES

We take a break from regular meetings in July and August, to enjoy a visit to gardens in Wiltshire in July, and a social evening at our annual American Supper in August. Meetings resume on 21 September, at Mackenzie Hall, when Victoria Logue will demonstrate 'Practical Propagation: Seeds, Cuttings & Beyond'. All welcome – visitors £5.

BEDDING REINVENTED

No-one in the audience for Laura Wilgos' talk, 'A New Take on Bedding' at our May meeting, would have guessed that she was actually something of a beginner as a speaker. She was confident, well-informed, well-organised and entertaining.

Laura began with a brief history of the use of bedding out in large private gardens, to create the ordered and colourful schemes beloved of Victorians. Such schemes continue to influence much public gardening in the UK today. For most of us, however, the formality of traditional bedding is at odds with contemporary taste for a more naturalistic look to our borders. Laura asked us to re-think the concept of bedding to include a wide range of annuals and tender plants that are immensely useful in our gardens. Hardy annuals bring colour early in the year, before perennials get going, and tender plants prolong the season into autumn, flowering until the frost cuts them down.

We were inspired by beautiful images and by Laura's enthusiasm for her subject. If you want to produce plants for your 2019 garden at minimum expense, the best time to sow hardy annuals is in the autumn, allowing them to develop good roots before you overwinter them somewhere frost free. Cuttings can be taken from tender plants through the summer months, to grow on for the following year. Worth a try!

Christine Haines

IN MY GARDEN

On warm still evenings, as dusk approaches, I like nothing better than to take a cuppa out into the garden, settle down in a comfy chair and await the fly-past of the bats. To keep me company as I wait, a few birds call to say goodnight before bedtime and the fragrances of evening become more noticeable than those of the day - the flowers of nearby honeysuckle and white campion are surprisingly sweet. I had thought they would be a magnet for moths, which in turn would have attracted the bats, but it's the red valerian which is covered in dozens of particularly fast flying moths, difficult to identify - their wings are just a blur as they speed from flower to flower.

Along with the honey, bumble, mining, masonry and all the other little solitary bees visiting my garden, they reassure me that, despite the devastating losses our wildlife continues to suffer, all is not yet lost.



As the seasons change, so do the creatures visiting. At the moment, my garden is absolutely alive with bees of all kinds and, as a reward for my amateur attempts to identify them, I was thrilled recently to see and photograph a male long horned bee foraging among the cat mint. Now found only in a few locations and rarely inland, for this rare species to visit my garden is a privilege and confirmation of my belief that if I provide nature with a place of refuge, it will come.

Wonderful to see such a rare bee, but I do hope that he makes himself scarce before the bats come out!

Cheryl Cummings

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

The roses in our garden – and I hope in yours – are having a glorious time. In fact, most plants are so much happier than they were this time last year, after a proper winter of rain, frost and snow. However, despite some heavy rain and overcast days, we are having a dry early summer yet again. So, regular watering of vegetables and newly planted trees and shrubs is essential. Pots need your attention, too, as they dry out very quickly. Watering leaches nutrients from the soil, so keep them well fed to make up for this. Even if you are short of time, make sure you prevent annual and perennial weeds from seeding. Pull them out of borders and hoe vegetable beds, so that you disturb the soil as little as possible.

- Water responsibly: use a can rather than a hosepipe and rainwater before tap water (except on greenhouse raised seedlings)
- Deadhead repeat flowering roses and perennials to keep the show going
- Keep the surface of your pond clear of algae and weeds and top it up, if necessary
- Increase humidity in your greenhouse on hot days by pouring a few cans of water over the floor surface
- Give your houseplants a holiday in a sheltered and partially shaded spot outside. They will appreciate it!
- Prune shrubs that flowered in June, to encourage new fresh growth for next year's flowers
- Cut back strawberry plants after you've enjoyed all their fruit. Feed them and let them re-grow for the rest of the summer, keeping them moist
- Keep lettuce going for weeks by picking only outside leaves, rather than the whole plant. It will regrow several times. Try growing mixed leaves for variety of taste and appearance

Find more detailed guidance notes for July, our annual programme and more on our website: wyegarden.com

Christine Haines

Hewelsfield Church congregation veterans will remember with affection George Buchanan, who died in Cornwall in June. He reached the ripe old age of 95 after starting with a challenging childhood in North Wales in the 1930s. His life is well worth relating for the wider audience.

He was the son of parents in a travelling theatre company, and sent to be fostered for stability for him, which turned out to be far from it. He was often bullied, hungry and humiliated, hidden from school authorities, and at 13 was sent out to work, all earnings confiscated by his foster-mother, and unable to read and write. He started working in a garage, where his life-long love of cars began, and learned to drive at 14. From there the only way was up, and he learned to box and to dance, driving taxis and more car maintenance. So when he was called up for War duty at 19 he was well equipped.

In the Welsh Fusiliers, he took on maintaining vehicles and other military hardware. He shook Churchill's hand when awarded "Best Kept Vehicle". Then on to brave the horrors of the Normandy beaches, after which he was awarded "Oakleaf clusters" for his part in driving across a live minefield. Peace was declared when he was in Northern Germany, followed by marching up the Champs-Élysées for the celebrations in Paris, then back to the peace-keeping force in Dusseldorf. When demobbed, he tracked down his parents in 1946 in Bristol and was welcomed by family and friends as the prodigal son. Mum taught him to read and write and "talk posh"!

George returned to car maintenance, then to his other emerging love of gardening with an appointment for maintenance at Badminton School on The Downs, Bristol. This soon escalated into self-employment as a landscape gardener based in North Bristol, marriage and three children.

They later settled in North Wales, but when his wife Doris sadly died of cancer when only 59, George moved down to the Forest for more gardening work, despite his hearing deteriorating - no doubt an inheritance from the Normandy minefields. As time went on, he met Doreen Capps in Alvington, which blossomed into marriage in 1988. Then a move to the outskirts of Bream and moulding a new half an acre of garden from scratch.

At Hewelsfield Church, George was meticulous with the southern Churchyard, which he groomed to near a lawn for a decade. He gifted the Hearing Loop to the Church. When Doreen sadly died in 2004, his children persuaded him to go and live nearer them - they all lived and worked in Cornwall and The Scillies. Another new garden in the village of Mount to be polished by him from scratch, after his move away from us in 2006. Many new local friendships sprouted, especially Kathleen, who looked after him particularly when age brought recurrent illnesses for him.

George – we will not forget you and your near-century of hard work for our Country.

Paul and Babs Bergdahl

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