

Dear Friends

March is usually thought of as the first month of Spring, as we begin to see the natural world around us reviving. I see this, as the willow tree outside my window begins to produce its furry flowers, a product of the longer days and stronger light; this light also showing up the cobwebs and dust not noticed in the more sombre, shorter winter light. The time for Spring Cleaning!

In the Christian calendar, this is the season of Lent, the old Anglo Saxon word for spring, as we remember Jesus' time of preparation in the wilderness. An opportunity for us to spend time on a little 'life' spring cleaning, refreshing and renewing the 'life in all its fullness', Jesus' gift to us as we put our trust in him.

A way of doing this is to use this ancient 'Prayer of Examen', either daily or weekly over this month, to reflect with God on our lives.

Remembering the day

Ask God to help you to see and to understand how his love has been working within you over this time.

Thanksgiving

Out of all the experiences or insights, what is the one experience that you feel most grateful for?

Sorrow and regret

What is the one experience that you feel the most sorrow or regret for?

A gift for what is next

Having reviewed this time, find a word, phrase or image to represent what you'd like to bring as a gift into what comes next.

Pray for the grace to move into the new day or week with love, faith and hope... for the grace to bring more of what gives us life... for the grace to continue to recognise God in our daily life...

May you know and grow in the blessing of God

Robert

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 01594560202, 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 Lent with an Ash Wednesday Communion with Ashing on 6th March at 10.30 am.

During Lent, our main Sunday Services will be a shortened Communion, followed by tea/coffee and the Bishop's Lent Series, Seeking Shapes for Living, which includes a short video from Bishop Rachael, a Bible passage and discussion, finishing at our usual time.

Seeking Shapes for Living

- offers a fresh way of exploring what is traditionally called a Rule of Life.
- is about the whole business of being alive - with ourselves, each other, and God.
- is a way of growth, transformation and flourishing.
- helps to hold us true to our beliefs, values and priorities.

Sunday April 7th is the Annual Meeting for Hewelsfield & Brockweir.

MARCH SERVICES: PREACHERS AND THEMES:

SUNDAY 3rd - Sunday before Lent: Prayer, Presence, Power. Rev. Tony Jones

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

SUNDAY 10th - Seeking Shapes for Living: Relating

9.30am	St Briavels	Communion & Lent Series
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Communion & Lent Series

SUNDAY 17th- Seeking Shapes for Living: Praying

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	Communion & Lent Series
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Communion & Lent Series

SUNDAY 24th - Seeking Shapes for Living: Working

9.30am	St Briavels	Communion & Lent Series
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Communion & Lent Series

SUNDAY 31st – Mothering Sunday. Seeking Shapes for Living: Playing

9.30am	St Briavels	Family Worship & Lent Series
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Worship & Lent Series

SUNDAY April 7th - Seeking Shapes for Living: Growing

8.30am	St Briavels	BCP Communion
9.30am	St Briavels	Communion & Lent Series
11.00am	Hewelsfield & Brockweir	Communion & AGM

MIDWEEK AT ST BRIAVELS

5th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
6th Ash Wednesday	10.30am	Communion with Ashing
7th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

12th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
13th Weds	10.30am	Holy Communion
14th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

19th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
21st Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

26th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
27th Weds	10.30am	Holy Communion
28th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

2nd Tues April	9.00am	Morning Prayer
4th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer



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

BROCKWEIR MORAVIAN CHURCH

Church Services for March 2019

Sun	3 Mar	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Holy Communion & Unity Prayer Day</i>)
Sun	10 Mar	6:00 pm	Rev Jane Avery
Sun	17 Mar	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>St Patricks Day</i>)
Sun	24 Mar	6.00 pm	Russell Doddington
Sun	31 Mar	6.00 pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Mothering Sunday</i>)

World Day Of Prayer Service - Friday 1st March, 2019 @ 10:30 p.m. at Brockweir Moravian Church. This year's service has been prepared by the women of Slovenia on the theme: 'Come—Everything is Ready!' All welcome — refreshments will be provided

Easter Breakfast - Following our 9 am service on Easter Sunday we will be serving an Easter Breakfast in the Sunday School Room. Whether you choose Bacon Rolls or Scrambled Eggs with Smoked Salmon, you will be sure of a warm welcome. There is no charge but donations to our building repairs fund would be gratefully received.

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 Green on 01594 530955.

Charity Soup Lunch - at 12noon in the Sunday School Room on 1st Thurs of the month. Thurs 7th March – In aid of Halfong Mission, India. 4th Apr in aid of Wupperthal Fire Appeal, South Africa.

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 March.

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		

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Winter draws to an end, daffodils poke their heads out and March heralds the arrival of Spring; whilst the weather may not have changed much, a warm welcome awaits at the chapel! Hope and new life are the very heart of what we believe is on offer to us through Jesus Christ. We invite you to come along, find out more and celebrate with us.

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

We meet for Bible study and prayer every Monday (8pm in my home) and Tuesday (10:15am in the chapel).

Coffee Morning returns on Tuesday 5th March, 10am.

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

Matt Rees, Pastor

Citizens Advice at St. Briavels Assembly Rooms

For free, impartial and confidential advice.

Drop-in sessions first Thursday each month

1.30 - 4 pm

For a fixed appointment please call 0300 330 9006 |



FROM ST BRIAVELS SCHOOL

An African proverb tells us 'It takes a village to raise a Child'. Developing links with all generations of our local community is so very important to us at St Briavels School. All our children, from sunflowers (Playgroup) right through to Year 6 would benefit and learn from spending time with different generations, sharing stories, rhymes, music, food, or just having a chat.

We would love to hear from you if you have a little time to spare and would enjoy spending time with our growing people. Why not give school a call on 01594 530531 to find out more.

The school would like to say a big Thank You to The Pantry and their customers for their kind donation of £35 towards our Playgroup.

St Briavels School are looking for an Evening Cleaner. Working on school site with another person from 4pm – 6pm, ensuring cleanliness of the interior of the school. Please contact Nicola Dutton at school on 01594 530531 if interested.

A FORTUNATE MAN: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF JEAN MOHR

The last weekend in March sees a unique photography exhibition make its way to St Briavels. The event follows on from last summer's weekend of exhibition, discussions and film screenings about the book A Fortunate Man (1967) by John Berger and Jean Mohr. That book is about "Dr Sassall" - who was of course in reality St Briavels GP Dr John Eskell – and his patients. Amongst many other things uncovered and recorded in June were the memories of "Dr John."

This new exhibition focuses on the photographic aspect of the book, and is all the more poignant with Swiss photographer Jean Mohr having passed away in November. Twenty of Mohr's black & white prints taken in and around St Briavels for the book will be on display for the first time in the UK, due to them being generously lent by the Musée de l'Elysée in Lausanne. Alongside the photographs will be elements of the display from last summer, explaining some of the history behind the book and Dr Eskell. In the lead up to the exhibition a small team of photography degree students from the University of Gloucestershire will be on assignment in and around the Forest of Dean seeking to capture its working and social life today. The best of these photographs will be displayed alongside Mohr's pictures taken in the Forest in the 1960s. The exhibition will be on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st, and will be free entry, with refreshments available from the Assembly Rooms café. The exhibition is a partnership between Reading the Forest, St Briavels Parish Council, and the University of Gloucestershire.

Jason Griffiths. Principal Investigator, Reading the Forest
www.readingtheforest.co.uk

HEWELSFIELD AND BROCKWEIR PARISH COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th February 2019 at The Loft, Brockweir.

Present: Cllr. Bowen, Cllr. Fox, Cllr. Sinfield, Cllr. Harris, Cllr. Brundle and the Parish Clerk

Cllr. Bowen declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item A8 on the agenda – Amended Planning Application P1934/18/FUL – Land Adjoining Orchard Cottage, Underhill, Brockweir. Erection of a larger wooden storage shed.

Payments were agreed, and cheques signed as follows:

Payee	Service	Amount
Lynda Skuse	Clerk salary & expenses	£288.40
AEB Price	Strimming/Litter Picking	£80.00
Hewelsfield Against Quarrying	Donation	£150.00

A funding request from HAQ for £150.00 was approved.

P0307/18/FUL – Potential Tourism Site, Off Mill Hill, Brockweir NP16 7NW. It was noted that the determination date had been delayed until 1st March. The clerk was asked to continue to monitor progress of the application.

P1934/18/FUL – Land Adjoining Orchard Cottage, Underhill, Brockweir. Amended application. Erection of a larger wooden storage shed. Councillors queried the increased size of the structure for the stated purpose. The Clerk was asked to convey the comments to planning department.

The Environment Agency had provided an update on potential flood defences and confirmed that consultants will be in place and meetings with householders held in April 2019.

Councillors had examined a preliminary sketch of a possible development for the former oil yard site, although no formal application has been made to date. Councillors agreed that it was not possible to support the proposals until further discussions with the developer had been held.

A meeting to progress the Village Archive project is to be held in early March.

Discussions with the Shop and the Playground Committee about a representative from the council attending the meetings are ongoing.

The outcome of the survey of drains and grit bins will be sent to Highways. It was agreed that two additional grit bins would be purchased to replace damaged units. Cllrs. Brundle and Fox to determine the location of the larger bin which had already been purchased.

A parishioner had raised concerns about large numbers of tractors parking on the grass verges on Mill Hill during the first weekend in February. The weekend

Continued on next page...

event was organised by Wilderness and Expedition Medicine (WEMs) which is a society that aims to increase medical students and personnel exposure to medicine outside of hospitals and in the field. They had requested the use of the land behind the Moravian Church to carry out some exercises. As this land is in private ownership, this request was forwarded to the owner. Unfortunately, the request did not warn about the number of tractors, etc, that would be using the village roads. Parishioner comments were noted by councillors.

Funding information had been received for purchase of additional defibrillators which will be forwarded to Brockbeat.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 5th March 2019. 7pm at The Loft, Village Shop

ST BRIAVELS PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Meeting held on Monday 11th February, 2019 in the Assembly Rooms, St. Briavels

Every Four Years Local Council Elections are held and 2019 is THE year. If you are interested in working with and helping your community as a local Councillor, then please get in touch with any of the current Councillors or the Clerk for more information. Also, the Forest of Dean District Council (FoDDC) is holding an information event on Tuesday, 5th March between 4.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the District Council's offices in Coleford. The key dates for this election are as follows:

W/c 25th February – nomination packs will be sent to the Clerk and these will be available at the next Parish Council (PC) meeting on 11th March or from the FoDDC offices or at the event mentioned above.

The Notice of Election will be displayed on the PC notice boards by Tuesday, 19th March at the latest.

Nomination papers must be delivered in person (or by a trusted person) no later than 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd April, 2019 to the District Council offices in Coleford.

Statement of Persons Nominated – published on the PC notice boards by 4th April.

Uncontested Election – elected candidates will be notified by the Returning Officer.

Contested Election – Notice of Poll will be displayed on the PC notice Boards by 24th April.

Polling Day – 2nd May, 7am – 10pm. **Results ASAP** on 3rd May.

Grass Cutting Contract – the Parish Council awarded this contract for a three-year period, with the option to extend for an additional year, to Complete Landscape Gardeners, who submitted the tender that provided best value for

money.

Repair of Playing Field Boundary Wall – an advert has been placed in The Review with a deadline of the 28th February, 2019. Quotations for this work will be considered at the March meeting.

Stowe Hill Quarry – the Council approved a letter to be sent to the Senior Planning Officer, Gloucestershire County Council to reiterate its objection to the current application.

Post Box at Cold Harbour – this is now operational again after a year's long absence.

Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean event is due to take place between 22nd March and 23rd April and the Parish Council has been asked to sign up to this. If you would like to take part, please let the Clerk know and if there is enough interest, one or more dates will be organised. In the meantime, the Parish Council encourages everyone to pick up litter where safe and appropriate.

Next meeting – Monday, 11th March, 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms, with planning applications available to view from 6.30 p.m. 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 516518 E-mail: stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com

TRIP TO HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW

Proposed Date: Thursday July 4th

Leaving St Briavels at 8:15am

Coach ticket: approximately £13.00.

Day ticket: non-RHS members, £33.50; RHS members, £28.00 (There is a reduction if 20 or more non-RHS members attend to £28.00 per person).

If interested, please contact:

Mary Perryman (01594 530505) or Pat Cronke (01594 530059)

NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

THE HERBERT PROTOCOL

Are you looking after someone with dementia, and have concerns about what will happen if they go missing?

Symptoms of dementia can include confusion and disorientation, which make it difficult for the individual to know where they are going and why, and for search teams to locate them. You can help by signing up to the Herbert Protocol on their behalf, filling in significant details on a simple form which is handed to police when the person is reported missing. It includes things like previous addresses and special locations, such as a family grave, which may be a draw to them; hobbies and regular routines; photos and up to date description - sometimes hard to recall in the panic of finding that your loved one has gone missing.

Gloucestershire Constabulary is working with the Alzheimer's Society to promote this scheme, named after war veteran George Herbert, who died whilst missing and trying to return to his childhood home.

For more details visit our website: tinyurl.com/glospol-staysafe and fill in the form you will find there.

You could save a life!

Emily Midwinter, External Communications Officer,
Gloucestershire Constabulary, 01452 752207 | Group- 01452 754302
www.gloucestershire.police.uk

ST. BRIAVELS PEOPLES CHOIR

Do you enjoy singing? Maybe you have never considered singing before, or perhaps you heard the St. Briavels Peoples Choir singing at their Winter Concert and can't wait to join them! After a busy 3 weeks leading up to Christmas, the choir have been taking a well-earned rest. However, they start back again with their regular Sunday rehearsals on Sunday 3rd March at 7pm in The Assembly Rooms.

They are a very friendly group of people, some of whom read music, many who don't, but they are always pleased to welcome new members. If this is for you, or you are just curious to see what goes on at a rehearsal, then either come along on the night, or phone 01594 530421 for more details.

Louise Greening

GARDEN SOCIETY SPRING BULB COMPETITION

Friday 22 March, 7.30pm, Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir

In March, as well as a speaker, we have a Spring bulb and flower competition. Everyone is welcome to take part, whether you are a member of the Garden Society or not, but if you are not a member then there is a small entry fee to attend the meeting. Just bring along your entries on the night in time to set them up before the meeting starts at 7.30pm.

There will be 10 classes, which are:

1. 5 single daffodils
2. 5 double daffodils
3. 5 multi-head daffodils
4. 5 miniature daffodils
5. a pot of Spring flowering bulbs
6. 1 stem of a flowering shrub
7. 5 different Spring blooms
8. 3 heads of hellebore, floating on water, 1 or more variety
9. a pot of Spring flowers, eg primula, snowdrop, pansy
10. a novelty or something of interest, eg a flower out of season or an unusual bloom.

Only one entry per person per class is allowed. Certificates are awarded for 1st 2nd and 3rd in class, and a Cup is given for the Judge's favourite exhibit.

Sally Secrett

ST BRIAVELS LUNCH CLUB: THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2019

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 people 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.

Mary Perryman

SOFT (Sharing our Faiths Together) Meeting

SOFT meetings will be held in the Loft above the Village Shop on Wednesdays 6th & 20th March. We are a friendly, mixed faith group of people seeking to explore and understand the world around us. Our discussion topics range across a wide variety of subjects chosen by members in turn.

Anyone is welcome to just come along and join in, or if you would like more information please contact: Carol Stickland 01594 530882 or Sue Groves 01291 689804

There is no admission fee to meetings though we do request a contribution towards room rental and refreshment costs.

HEWELSFIELD CHURCHYARD

The churchyard over the years has been maintained by volunteers. We are in urgent need of your support to help tend and care for the grass, prune shrubs, weed the rose beds and pathway, cut back brambles and ivy. If you have a

News and Activities continued on next page...

spare hour to help on Churchyard Tidy Up Days, which will be held on the 3rd Saturday in every month, the church would be very grateful.

The dates are as follows from 10am - 1pm on March 16th, April 20th, May 18th, June 15th, July 20th, August 17th, September 21st and October 19th.

We look forward to seeing you if you are available for one month or every month, that would be lovely. Remember, every little helps.

Mandy Vaughan

NOSH AND NATTER

Judy's curry lunch is always popular and so it proved this year. The wonderful smell that hit us as we entered the kitchen made our mouths water and we were soon tucking in to meat or vegetarian curries, with all the extra side dishes. I don't think many of us ate for the rest of the day! What a feast! Thank you, Judy – and your helpers.

On Tuesday 12th March we will be meeting at Anne's house, Stanley Haven, Mork Lane, St. Briavels, GL15 6QE for Morning Coffee, 10.30 – 12.00.

We are extremely pleased to have had new members join us this year. All new members are very welcome. Nosh and Natter is a relaxed way to make friends and enjoy a little social time. If you are interested please do not hesitate to contact me on 01594 530524 or email siddonspauline@aol.com, or just turn up at the meeting!

Pauline Siddons

CALLING ALL GARDENERS!

It may still be winter but the bulbs are bursting forth, so Spring must be on its way, closely followed by Summer.

We are planning to have another Open Gardens this year. Two years ago the Open Gardens was a great success and much enjoyed by people from far and wide as well as from the village. It is dependent, of course, on having people who are prepared to open their gardens for the day. A variety of gardens from all corners of the village and the common would be ideal, so please give some thought to participating.

Gardeners work so hard to maintain such beautiful, innovative and varied gardens that it is a shame not to share the results of all that hard work with others who are so appreciative. A probable date will be Sunday 23rd June. There are always so many things on around the midsummer period but it is a good time for gardens to look their best, and hopefully we haven't clashed with too many other events.

In the meantime we will pray for another good summer - but not as dry as last year when gardens really struggled.

Anyone interested in opening their garden could contact me on 01594 531096 or email jeanmsheraton@icloud.com. Many thanks.

Jean Sheraton

BANK HOLIDAY COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning is not far away now, so please help us to raise money for Hope for Tomorrow Chemotherapy Bus, which gives patients an opportunity to have their chemotherapy within the Forest, as I know myself that the more you have to travel the more tired you get. Also the Great Oaks Hospice, which were a great help to us when Dad was so poorly. They were able to provide overnight cover, which gave us peace of mind and let the carers have a good night's sleep.

So we would love to see you all on Easter Monday (April 22nd) at The Pavilion, St Briavels from 10am to 12 noon.

Please, if you have any items suitable for the bric a brac, or bottles for the bottle stall, just drop them in my porch at 11 Castle Crescent, St Briavels. Thank you. I know Dad would be so pleased to think we are still having the Coffee Mornings, so drop in and see us.

If you want any further information please telephone me on 01594 530571.

Thanks. Adele, Tessa and Family

SPRING CLEANING?

There is a need for unwanted rucksacks. They will be filled with toiletries and food, etc, and taken to Calais for the many refugees there. So please search your cupboards for any hidden, forgotten or unwanted rucksacks. They could be left in the church and I will pick them up and deliver them.

Jean Sheraton

BROCKWEIR AND HEWELSFIELD VILLAGE SHOP ASSOCIATION

The BHVSA Annual General Meeting will be held in the Loft at the Village Shop on Saturday 27th April from 2.30 to 3.30pm. All shop members are very welcome. The Chair and Treasurer will review how the business has performed over the last year and share our plans for the coming 12 months. Members will elect the committee and vote on all resolutions.

New Committee Members - We would like to encourage new members to join the committee. If you are interested yourself, or know of someone else who might like to contribute to the management and development of the association, I will be very happy to supply further information and answer any questions. (josie_jenkin@yahoo.com)

Nomination forms are available in the BHVSA committee box behind the counter in the shop.

Jo Jenkin, Company Secretary

ARE YOU THE OWNER OF A KEY FOUND IN A BAG OF MILK BOTTLE TOPS? The milk bottle tops are being collected for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Enquiries about the key to Deidre Sullivan (01594 530447) No other bottle tops, please.

In Praise of OLD Offenders!

It seems unfair to me that life's big achievements always seem to occur at the beginning of people's lives, and that nothing much of significance happens after age 25.

You see evidence of this in living rooms countrywide, where framed photos of the young in their Graduate/Doctorate gowns or No 1 Dress uniforms mark the successful conclusion to a significant phase in life, while in other homes the "smallest room in the house" is preserved as a shrine to endeavour, festooned with scrolls and certificates and the endless team photos where ranks of stripy jerseys occupy the middle ground between smooth shiny kneecaps and smooth hopeful faces, all gazing confidently into a bright, untroubled future.

But what then? What about our mature citizens? I have recently dreamed up a shrine devoted to me. It takes the form of a collection of framed Police Penalty Notices. Had I bothered to preserve them, I could boast an impressive collection by now. Over the years, they have dropped through the letterbox, containing all the gory details, accompanied by a photograph in glorious technicolour of me and my Faithful Defender snapped in various compromising positions in the Glos/Cheltenham area. My particular weakness is for BUS LANES! Here's Me plus FD going wrong way down a bus lane in Glos. docks. Here's US cutting in front of a bus in Cheltenham. Here's Ditto, lost to the wide in the labyrinth that is Quedgeley. Heady times!

These Penalty Notices attach a gentle invitation to attend what, in the Chinese

Republic, would be termed Driver Re-assignment Therapy, but are known locally as Speed Awareness Courses, and are, I imagine, open to all sorts and conditions of miscreant, whether of the Bus Lane, Illegal Parking or Speeding persuasion.

Mention of Speed brings me inexorably to my Friend And Neighbour, Speedy, (Poop! Poop!) Tweed of Tweed Hall, who was caught on camera not so long ago, proceeding Westwards through Tintern at a dizzying 33mph, and who received one of the above mentioned invitations.

I have nearly accepted one myself, being curious to find out how the whole thing works. I imagine it taking place in a gaunt Victorian hall in Central Gloucester (The Highways House of Correction) where offenders sit at long benches, sewing Airbags (Mailbags are so-o-o Nineteenth Century don't you think?). I somehow picture Speedy, sat at the bench next to – who knows? Prince Philip? swooping improper anecdotes and hooting with laughter. One can always dream!

Mentioning HRH reminds me that it was recently reported that the unfortunate lady, injured in the Sandringham incident, is expressing some dissatisfaction at the fact that she has had no further contact with Prince Philip. I would have thought that once would probably be enough for most of us?

Now, gentle reader, if you remember nothing else of what you see here, remember this! Tintern is to Boy Racers what Brexit is to Cabinet Ministers - Bermuda Triangle!

"I WANT YOU TO PANIC!"

For many, the words CLIMATE CHANGE act as a turn off. Like Brexit, we don't really want to understand and engage with the complexity of the issue, preferring that others deal with it for us. However, ignorance and avoidance will hinder, not help resolve these challenges.

For those of us who monitor the growing threat of climate chaos, recent events will go down in history. Amongst the growing movement known as Extinction Rebellion, young people are finding their voice. Thousands of school children came out on strike on Friday 15th February, taking a day off school to protest at the lack of serious action by powerful organisations to stop global warming quickly. They believed that the strike was of greater educational benefit – to the governments of the world to act with absolute urgency to this crisis.

Greta Thunberg, a 16-year old Swedish girl, ignited the issue with a clarion speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos. The speech, inviting us to panic, is as powerful as the speech by 12-year old Severn Suzuki at the UN Rio Summit in 1992. In both cases, the voice of a young person quietly and simply silencing our patronising excuses speaks truth to power.

I urge you to watch, listen and consider her words – this is our last chance to act together to save our future.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7dVF9xylaw

Chris McFarling chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

BADS PRESENTS: PETER PAN

A pantomime for all ages, telling the story of Wendy Darling who is loved by Peter Pan, who in turn is hated by the evil Captain Hook and his pirates.

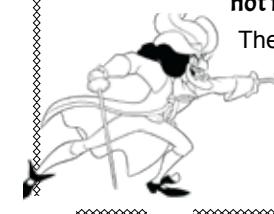
Watch the story unfold and join us in the MacKenzie Hall, Brockweir, on the following dates:

Friday 29th March, 8.00 pm, ticket price £10

Saturday 30th March, 2.00 pm, ticket price £3.50

Saturday 30th March, 7.30, ticket price £10

Tickets will be available from the Brockweir Village Shop, Brown's of Llandogo, The Pantry in St. Briavels and the Brockweir Inn. (Evening performances include hot food.)



There will be a bar available at the evening performances

This year we are supporting:
MacKenzie Hall (theatrical improvements),
Bridges Centre in Monmouth and
YoungMinds.



VILLAGE NEWS ACCOUNTS 2018, January to December

INCOME		EXPENSES	
News Sales	£2,240.20	Covers	£1,050.90
Adverts	£2,519.00	Printing	£1,195.44
Postal	£168.00	Typeset	£960.00
Donations	£13.60	Petty Cash	£47.00
Printing	£10.00	Donation	£206.00
NS&I Interest	£79.46		
Total	£5,030.26		£3,459.34
CASH ASSETS		Accumulated fund opening balance	
Barclays	£2,143.94	Barclays	£1,852.48
NS&I	£11,036.22	NS&I	£10,956.76
		Surplus income over expenses	£1,570.92
		Grants paid from 2017 Surplus income	-£1,200.00
Total	£13,180.16	Total	£13,180.16

The Editorial Committee is very grateful to David Wedel for checking these accounts. Joyce McKay. Treasurer

VILLAGE NEWS COMMUNITY GRANTS 2019

The Village News Editorial Committee received four applications for grant awards in January and an independent panel met to review them on 1 February. The panel was impressed with the quality of the applications but disappointed at the lack of applications from Brockweir and Hewelsfield, so hope there will be a wider geographical spread next year. Applicants have been informed of the grants awarded, as follows:

- Informal group led by Glenys Walker representing patients and medical staff - £300 to purchase a seat outside the doctors' surgery in St Briavels (full amount).
- St Briavels School - £650 to purchase equipment to improve sound system in school hall (full amount).
- St Briavels School - £450 towards development of a garden as the school's entry into 2019 RHS Malvern Spring Festival School Gardens Competition.
- St Briavels Church - £100 towards the pew cushion project.

The panel members were again Corinna Arnold, Cath Baker and Peter Stickland. The committee is very grateful to them, both for agreeing to serve on the panel and for the extremely efficient way in which they carried out their task.

The Editorial Committee

PEOPLE POWER PLEDGES

The Hows, Whys, Lows, and Highs of Small Steps

My house doesn't smell of vinegar. Yours?

Considering how easy it sounds, the mental determination and perseverance required for me to buy vinegar and use it to clean my house was amazing. I suppose it would have been easier if I ordinarily had white vinegar in the house, but still. I suppose it would have been easier if I didn't have two small children. Really? I suppose it would have been easier if we lived in a city and I could just pop into a supermarket on my way home. What am I saying? My husband works next door to the supermarket.

Actually this is not my first time as a vinegar-user. I happened to be in Light Fantastic (the hardware store in Lydney) one day. I can't remember what I was going in for, but I noticed a collection of Dri-Pak cleaning products including a spray bottle of vinegar; I thought I would try it. The thing was, when I needed more, a trip to Light Fantastic wasn't on the cards; and anyway, buying a brand new plastic bottle each time I wanted vinegar to clean my house seemed a bit excessive. I have heard of shops that won't sell surface cleaner because they say it's too easy to make yourself, so I looked up some recipes online – half water half vinegar, essential oils if you want. It dries odourless and is anti-bacterial.

Next task: buy vinegar. I thought it would be easy, but at least four times I failed to get vinegar on the shopping list. Twice, I made specific vinegar-buying expeditions but ended up waylaid with other jobs. I was just around the corner from shops selling vinegar on more than one occasion, but with two small children to get out the car, into a shop, back in the car, and home in time to cook dinner, I opted out; again. That's at least eight times when I nearly completed my simple task of buying vinegar but didn't manage; surely a reflection on my incredible inefficiency. Would I ever manage?

My morale was getting low. But wait. I thought again. That's seven times that I have persevered, despite my success record to date, that's great. Surely if I keep trying then one day it will happen; and if I can do it once then it can only get easier. Well, I did it. I bought a glass bottle of vinegar, mixed it with water in the old spray bottle, and now I clean my house with it at a cost of 50p per bottle. The vinegar is great; or is it the satisfaction of having finally completed the simple task I set myself of buying vinegar and mixing it with water? Probably both, and happily so.

For more information on People Power Pledges, to get involved, or share your story, contact Rachel Slee: rachelslee@hotmail.com

TRY SWAPPING!

Disposable plastic water bottle £1/2

Re-usable, washable water bottle - about £6



ST. BRIAVELS & BROCKWEIR



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
 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. For more information call Bob Broughton 01594 530003.
 BROCKWEIR YOUTH CLUB - the club meets during term time. For further information please ring 01291 689 327 or visit: www.brockweiryouthclub.co.uk.
 MINDFULNESS MEDITATION GROUP First Wednesday of the month, 7-9 pm at St Briavels Assembly Rooms
 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.

COMPUTER & INTERNET SKILLS: 2pm - 3.45pm Assembly Rooms
 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 - 9.30-11am at Mackenzie Hall. www.wildwoodyoga.co.uk or call/message Kishe Redwood 07805 729893
 UNDER 5s PLAY CLUB - 11am – 1pm at the Pavilion.

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 meets at 7 pm at the Assembly Rooms every week.

MINDFULNESS COURSES IN BROCKWEIR & ST BRIAVELS

Mindfulness Meditation Day
Saturday 2nd March, 10-4pm
The Loft, Brockweir and Hewelsfield Community Shop, NP16 7NW
Cost: £30

8 week Mindfulness Course
Monday evenings
Starting on 4th March, 7-9pm
The Loft, Brockweir and Hewelsfield Community Shop,
Cost: £140.00

Mindfulness is a way of training the mind to be present in the here and now. The **weekly sessions** and at home practice will guide and encourage you through meditation to cultivate your mindfulness, paying attention to what is happening as it happens, and doing so with an attitude of kindness, acceptance, and non-judgement.

Mindfulness nurtures and deepens our understanding of our true self, and how we can respond to difficult emotions and experiences with greater wisdom and flexibility.

Over time we learn to live with greater happiness and vitality.

To book a place, please contact Diana on: 07952 548040
 Or visit: <https://mindfulnessforestandwye.co.uk>

DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

Walking for Health every Tuesday – meet at the Assembly Rooms, 2pm

1 Fri	Mariana-Art Gallery re-opens: Thurs-Sat & Mon	10.30am – 5pm	East St, St Briavels
1 Fri	World Day of Prayer Service	10:30pm	Brockweir Moravian Church
2 Sat	Produce Market	10am- 12.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
3 Sun	St Briavels People's Choir rehearsals start	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
3 Sun	Tintern Folk Session	7.15- 8.45pm	Rose & Crown, Tintern
5 Tues	Coffee Morning	10am	St Briavels Congregational Church
5 Tues	Hewelsfield & Brockweir PC meeting	7pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
6 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
7 Thurs	First Aid Course	9am–5pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
7 Thurs	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Church Schoolroom
7 Thurs	St Briavels Walking Group	1pm	Meet at St Briavels Church
8 Fri	Brockweir Events: Witches of Pendle	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
9 Sat	St Briavels Moat Society Working Party - all welcome	10am to 12pm	Castle Moat
11 Mon	St Briavels PC meeting (planning applications and councillors available from 6.30pm)	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
12 Tues	Nosh & Natter: Morning Coffee	10.30- 12pm	Stanley Haven, St Briavels
14 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Ch.
14 Thurs	PGP AGM & Smallholder Talk	7.30pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
16 Sat	Churchyard Tidy Up Day	10am–1pm	Hewelsfield Churchyard
19 Tues	St Briavels Senior Citizens meeting	12.30	Orepool, Sling
20 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir

20 Weds	WI meeting: Tulipmania	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
21 Thurs	Brockweir Bistro	7pm	Village Shop, Brockweir
22 Fri	Garden Society: Spring Bulb Show & talk: 'Epimediums'	7.30pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
24 Sun	WVM Concert: Students from WCMD	3pm	St Briavels Church
28 Thurs	St Briavels Lunch Club	11.45am	St Briavels Pavilion
28 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
29 Fri	Board Games Café	7 – 10pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
29 Fri	BADS presents 'Peter Pan'	8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
30 Sat	BADS presents 'Peter Pan'	2pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
30 Sat	BADS presents 'Peter Pan'	7.30pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
30/31 Sat/Sun	A Fortunate Man Exhibition: 11am-4pm (Sat) 10am-4pm (Sun)		Assembly Rooms, St Briavels

ADVANCE DATES

3 Apr	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
4 Apr	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Church Schoolroom
5 Apr	Brockweir Events: Harbottle & Jonas	8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
11 Apr	History Group: 'Beachley & the Great War'	7.30pm	Moravian Schoolrooms, Brockweir
20 Apr	Churchyard Tidy Up Day	10am-1pm	Hewelsfield Churchyard
20/21 Apr	St. Briavels Art Group: Art with Craft Weekend	1am-4pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
22 Apr	Bank Holiday Coffee Morning	10 - 12noon	St Briavels Pavilion
24 Apr	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
27 Apr	Annual Plant Sale	10.30am- 12.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
27 Apr	BHVSA Annual General Meeting	2.30- 3.30pm	The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop
6 Jul	Hog Roast in aid of the Friends of St Briavels Church		Church Farm, St Briavels



NEWS FROM THE BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP

Dear All

Question: When is a shop more than just a shop?

Answer: - When it's a community shop.

The shop sells loads of great products but it also offers lots more valuable services that the community can take advantage of.

Post - you can post letters and parcels for anywhere at the shop. We also sell stamps and can provide you with customs forms, and airmail stickers. You can do special delivery and signed for from the shop, with post going daily at 3.30pm and 11am on Saturdays.

You can arrange to have parcels dropped off at the shop by drivers who cannot get up to your home or when you know you are not going to be around. Ideally, let us know beforehand so if you don't pick it up the same day we can remind you.

Book swap - there is always something to read, swap, or borrow or buy. Any books you donate go on the shelves to be lent out or taken to a charity shop.

Local artists get the chance to display their work and this not only generates sales but makes the shop look particularly attractive.

We have a notice board - posters for local events and information are free and business notices are 50p per week or £2

PS: If you're interested in attending a first aid course, we are running one at the shop on 7th March £75 (discount for other voluntary groups in the parish)

per calendar month.

We sell tickets for most local events. If you would like us to be a location to sell tickets for your event, please ask me. At present, we have three different events that we are selling tickets for.

We also hold maps of local houses so delivery drivers, ambulances and social services can find you.

We can help with providing discounted goods for local events. We can even offer catering!

Then, there are all the other less quantifiable things we do: being a hub for the local grapevine; knowing who's ill or who might need us to drop something off for them or provide them with some takeaway soup; providing wifi when yours is playing up; colour printing pictures of grandchildren; photocopying; giving charities a venue for stalls, like charity Christmas card or plant sales for Gwent Wildlife Trust; or sometimes just being a shoulder to cry on or a place where everyone knows your name!

And, of course, we sell the Village News for everything else you need to know about the community!

Alison

ART IN THE CAFÉ: 'The Integrity of Nature' - Jenny Joice

Please Note: Susan Peterken's exhibition continues to 10th March

During March and into April, Jenny Joice, an established artist who lives near Chepstow will be exhibiting a diverse range of paintings and drawings in oils, pen & ink and carbon pencil. Having left school by the age of 16, she spent several years studying classical art at the renowned Florentine studio of Nerina Simi in the tradition of the great masters. After spending a while at the Parisian Academy of the Impressionists, she ventured further afield to develop her artistic skills amidst the tribal peoples of Southern Africa. Finally returning to East Anglia to exhibit, teach and undertake portrait commissions, she settled down and raised her family.

Of the direction in her work she says; 'Nature has been a significant influence on my life. I spent much of my childhood enjoying the countryside and wildlife of East Anglia. And throughout my life, I've also been driven to question just how and why things happen, and indeed to being creative and making things happen, whether through painting and drawing or by helping people find fulfilment in their lives or, just lately, through experimenting with the art of glass fusing. At the turn of the century, my pastoral interests led me to the Brecon Beacons in South Wales and ultimately to the Wye Valley, where I rediscovered my passion for art, and once again have taken up pencil and paintbrush. More recently, however, I've discovered an enjoyment for working with transparent glass. Much of the creative process of warm glass fusing takes place within the kiln. It is this interplay of the nature of the glass, with its potential and limits that present the real challenge with what finally emerges from the kiln.'

Since settling in Wales I've enjoyed learning about the amazing riches of arboreal species amidst the forests of Dean, Wentwood and Westonbirt, their wonderfully expressive humanoid nature, each with a personality telling their own unique story.'

ALL CHANGE ON THE CAFÉ WALLS!

The lively exhibition programme, which cheers up the Café walls and always provokes critical comment from café volunteers, is looking for fresh talent! Organised by a little group of enthusiasts, we have recently lost the skills of Rebecca Weissbort, who having been involved since the beginning has moved on to volunteer at bigger art institutions 'over the river'. Sadly, in 2018 we also lost the late Annie Charlton, who used to write creatively about the artists for this publication. Photographer Colin Molyneux retired and now concentrates solely on producing the Village Calendar. We thank them all for their creative help over the years. So if you are keen to be involved in the visual arts or are an artist, amateur or professional and would like to join in this committee then please do get in touch.

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

Spaghetti Alla Carbonara (Thin spaghetti with bacon and cream)

2 tbsp Vegetable or Olive Oil
3 cloves garlic, peeled and slightly crushed
1oz butter
6ozs lean bacon cut into 4 inch strips
½ glass white wine (optional)
12ozs quick cook spaghetti
3 egg yolks
3ozs freshly grated parmesan or cheddar cheese.
5fl ozs single cream
Seasoning

Heat the oil in a pan and sauté the garlic until deep gold in colour. Add the bacon and butter until the bacon starts to become crisp. Pour in the wine and reduce. Remove from heat. Cook pasta until "Al dente". While it is cooking, take a warm serving bowl and mix the egg yolks, cheese and cream and season with salt and pepper. When the pasta has cooked, drain it and toss it in the bowl with the egg yolk mixture. Quickly re-heat the bacon, add it with the juices to the pasta. Toss all together. (The heat from the pasta should cook the egg yolk to form a coating) For a variation use whole eggs and omit the cream. serves 4/5

Mary Perryman

WHATS ON... AT ST BRIAVELS PAVILION

YOGA CLASSES - Tuesdays: 9.15 -10.45am UKELELE CLASSES - Tuesdays:

6 - 7pm SCOUTS - Thursdays: 6 - 8pm

UNDER FIVES SOFT PLAY - Fridays: 11am-1pm

For info. contact Jill on 01594 530035

★★★★★ Feel free to bring your own wine, drinks & snacks. ★★★★★	Film Night Friday 8th March Charlotte Rampling Domhnall Gleeson The Little Stranger "One of the most original British horror films" Independent Tintern Village Hall 7.45pm Tickets £4.00 15s & under £2.50	★★★★★ Information: tinternvillage.co.uk or phone 07774 726860 ★★★★★
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WYE VALLEY MUSIC (ST BRIAVELS MUSIC SOCIETY)



**The next Wye Valley Music Society concert will be on:
Sunday 24th March at 3.00pm in St Briavels Church.**

This will be a performance by top-ranking students of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD). This year, the programme (set out below) includes works by nine composers and features no fewer than eight musicians: two outstanding pianists and two exciting piano trios.

Charlotte Kwok, piano

Bach: Prelude & Fugue in A Book 1 No. 19
Beethoven: Sonata in G op.14 no.2 (1st movement)
Tchaikovsky: March (Song of the Lark) from 'The Seasons'
Chopin: Fantasy-Impromptu Op. 66
Berkeley: Concert Study in E flat

Charlotte Kwok, who played for us memorably last year, is an 11 year old pupil at Y Pant Comprehensive School and holds two scholarships at the RWCMD Junior Department, where she studies piano and violin. Charlotte started to learn the piano at the age of four and at age seven was the youngest ever winner of the National Urdd Eisteddfod piano solo competition. Past performances have included a solo recital hosted by the HRH Prince of Wales in the Ballroom at Buckingham Palace!

Cheryl Tan, piano

Mozart: Sonata in D K576

Cheryl was born in Singapore and studied the piano from the age of three. At sixteen, she was awarded her LRSM and also began her studies at Wells Cathedral School. She went on to read Music at Oxford University, where she graduated with First Class Honours.

Concordia Trio

Schumann: Piano Trio in G minor Op.110

The prize winning Concordia Piano Trio (Jose Matias, Matilde Viegas, Deva Rossi) was formed in November 2017 at RWCMD. They are passionate about chamber music and were selected in 2018 to participate in the McGrenery Music Prize, a competition for outstanding chamber groups.

WCMD Piano Trio

Rachmaninoff: Trio Elégiaque in G minor Op 5
Ireland: Fantasy Trio in A minor

The trio consists of Mark Loveday, violin, Angharad Jones, cello and Sarah Vella, piano. During his time both as an undergraduate and postgraduate student, Mark has been the recipient of many exciting opportunities, leading the RWCMD Gala Orchestra performing for the 70th Birthday of HRH Prince Charles, and performing with the RWCMD String Soloists.

Angharad Jones is currently in her final year studying cello and has been principal

cellist of the RWCMD Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. She has played with a number of quartets and is also a keen pianist accompanying instrumentalists, singers and choirs. Sarah has obtained LCCM and LRSM Diplomas and given various solo and chamber recitals/performances in distinguished venues. She is currently reading for a two-year Masters programme at RWCM.

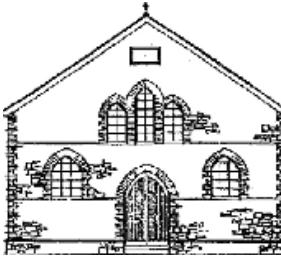
Do join us for this exciting event - your chance to hear today a wonderful group of musicians who are already turning out to be the stars of tomorrow!

Booking on-line at www.wvm.org.uk is recommended but admission will also be available at the door. Tickets are £12; £10 for WVM members; and £2.00 for students.

Mike Haines

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.



SPRING 2019

	SILVER JEWELLERY (10 classes - cont.)	
THURSDAYS Mar 14, 21, 28	1.00 - 4.00pm £230 for 10 x 3hr sessions (Silver not included)	Ann Skehel
FRIDAYS Mar 1, 8, 15, 22	PAINTING & DRAWING (10 classes - cont.) 9.30 – 12.30pm and/or 1 - 4pm £220 for 10 x 3hr sessions, am or pm	Ann Hulme
SATURDAY April 13	FOUR SEASONS PHOTOGRAPHY - Spring 9.30 - 12.30pm £25 per session	David Broadbent
THURSDAYS April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	SILVER JEWELLERY (10 classes - NEW) 1.00 - 4.00pm £230 for 10 x 3hr sessions (Silver not included)	Ann Skehel
FRIDAYS April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	PAINTING & DRAWING (10 classes - NEW) 9.30 – 12.30pm and/or 1 - 4pm £220 for 10 x 3hr sessions, am or pm	Ann Hulme
SATURDAY April 27	PLAY WITH CLAY FOR A DAY 9.30 – 4pm £50 for one-day workshop	Val Welham

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

PARISH GRASSLANDS PROJECT

www.parishgrasslandsproject.org.uk

Looking after meadows will be one of the principal themes at our meeting at the Mackenzie Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 14 March.



We have assembled a number of local smallholders who will give individual accounts of how they manage their fields, meadows and woods. They will talk about their relationship with their holding and tell us some of the things they have learned in the course of looking after their land. No two of the speakers use their land in exactly the same way, so it promises to be an interesting meeting. There will be opportunities to ask questions. We will continue the meadow theme at our October meeting with a session on meadow creation and restoration. This month's meeting will include our AGM, and as usual we will do our best to complete the official business as quickly as possible so that we can move on to the speakers. All are very welcome to attend, whether PGP members or not. If you haven't already attended one of our meetings do consider coming along. They always produce something new and interesting to be learned. Hot drinks and our legendary cakes will be served during the interval.

Nearly two years after the idea was first mooted at one of our public meetings, at last the community orchard project has some positive results to show. We had a number of work parties in January and February, during which we prepared the ground, planted six apple trees and constructed tree guards in the patch of land generously offered to us by the members of the St Briavels Playing Field committee. A big thank you to them for enabling the dream to finally become a reality. Thanks also to Robert Boyle of Carrob Growers at Llangunville Farm Nursery, Llanrothal, Monmouth, for his help in selecting suitable varieties to provide successive cropping. Of course this is just the beginning. We will announce further work sessions to look after the trees shortly, and we are always glad of some help. Watch this space.

Mike Topp

ORGANIC FRUIT & VEG * FRENCH BREAD & PATISSERIE * ORGANIC LAMB *	EES
* RA	AGES
CHU	STIES
* OLI	Y *
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* CIO	UICE
* E	IES *
* DE	VES *
* HE	NTS *
INN	
SWEET & SAVOURY PIES * AUTHENTIC FRESHLY MADE CURRIES & INDIAN SNACKS	

ST BRIAVELS LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET
Saturday 2nd March
The Pavilion 10-12.30 pm

BROCKWEIR, HEWELSFIELD & ST BRIAVELS GARDEN SOCIETY

SPRING GARDEN BEAUTIES!

On 22 March, we welcome back Sally Gregson, to talk to about the delicate and beautiful species, Epimediums, some of which may now be enhancing your spring garden. Sally is a nurserywoman and author of 'The Plant Lover's Guide to Epimediums' (Timber Press). She will talk about widely grown species and forms, and introduce us to beautiful new species from China and recent new hybrids. She will bring plants for sale.

The meeting will also include our Spring Bulb Show – see page 10 for further information 7.30pm at Mackenzie Hall. All welcome. Visitors £5

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: ANNUAL PLANT SALE 2019

Saturday, 27 April at St Briavels Pavilion, 10.30am – 12.30pm

Our annual plant sale has a well-deserved reputation for providing high quality plants at sensible prices: shrubs, annuals, vegetables, perennials and grasses, plus seeds, pots, books, information and advice. Not to be missed!

We are always delighted to receive donations for the sale - mature plants that you no longer have room for, surplus young vegetable and annual plants. Bring them along to the Pavilion from 7pm on 26th April or from 8am on 27th. Donations of seeds, produce, garden tools and gardening books are also most welcome. Please label all plants clearly. Thank you.

If you'd need plants or other items to be collected, please ring Anne Downes on 01594 531266.

IN MY GARDEN - The Almanac

My daughter's gift to me of this year's almanac took me right back to memories of my grandpa, for whom his almanac was a constant companion. I might not need to know the tide times at Dover or when the sun will set in Inverness or Padstow but I can work out that by the end of this month it will be light by seven and not dark again until just before eight. Over twelve hours of daylight - what a cheery thought!

If I organise myself, I have at my fingertips the dates I need to sow, plant seedlings and harvest according to the phases of the moon. I have a reminder to look out for hedgehogs coming out of hibernation and, as I look for activity from my beehives, I am told that this month the queens will be busy laying eggs to replace the workers lost over winter. Of course, any information we need is now at the click of a mouse, but not so for my grandpa, for whom this little book was his bible. In my lifetime, we have lost our close ties to nature's calendar and I read my almanac with a mix of curiosity, nostalgia and a sense of comfort. No matter how much technology changes our way of life, our precious planet will continue to turn and March will always be welcome as the hours of darkness and light equalise and we look forward to the longer warmer days of Spring.

Cheryl Cummings

THE ANSWER LIES IN THE SOIL

For those of a certain age, my title will conjure up Kenneth Williams' comic creation, Arthur Fallowfield, in the classic, Beyond Our Ken (1958 - 64). Half a century later, it's no laughing matter. We now know that a healthy soil is the foundation on which our survival rests. It is the key factor in producing healthy plants and nutritious vegetables. Paul Williams and Marion Stainton, our speakers in January and February, invited us to consider the importance of knowing our soil and how to improve its health and productivity.

Paul's talk provided us with a myriad of facts and figures about soil. Did you know, for example, that a centimetre of clay soil can be rolled out to cover a much larger area than one of sandy soil, because its particles are much smaller in comparison? Although heavy clay soil is not an ideal medium for growing vegetable in raised beds, the subject of Marion's talk, when mixed with well-rotted compost and manure, it provides invaluable water holding capacity. In her talk, Marion gave us a comprehensive overview of gardening in raised beds. Key ideas we took away: the importance of careful planning and preparation; using good quality materials; grouping vegetables in beds, which makes providing the right conditions easier; and, vitally, annual feeding of the soil with mulches of compost and/or manure. Finally, as our chairman concurred in his vote of thanks, raised beds save the busy gardener a great deal of work!

Christine Haines

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

So far, a milder February than last year, with plants already gearing up for growth. March is the official start of Spring but winter usually bows out reluctantly and snow remains a possibility! The longer days make time for some serious gardening activity - but don't be in too much of a rush to root out all the weeds you missed in the autumn, until you can follow on with a good layer of mulch once the soil warms.

- Plant onion sets and early potatoes
- Sow hardy annuals, lettuce, parsley and sweet peas. Tomatoes and cucumbers can be sown this month, if you have a propagator or heated greenhouse
- Complete the tidy up of your borders and divide and re-plant the perennials you ran out of time to deal with in the autumn.
- Plant out Autumn sown hardy annuals if conditions are right
- Plant deciduous shrubs, climbers and roses but wait until late March to plant evergreen shrubs and trees
- Prune late summer flowering shrubs and clematis, standard and bush roses; take out every third stem of Dogwood and Willow
- Steal a march on the slugs and protect emerging shoots but avoid slug pellets containing metaldehyde (which are soon to be banned)

See our website www.wyegarden.com for our full programme, meeting reports, garden advice and more.

Christine Haines



Thomas Ford Concert on Saturday 16th February:

This was a concert for blues aficionados and wannabe guitarists by one of Europe's most respected practitioners of the authentic delta blues style of the 1940s and 50s.

A shy and unassuming young man with a shambling stage presence is transformed when a guitar is in his hands. He played many of the classics by Son House, Muddy Waters, Big

Bill Broonzy and a number of his own compositions with a driving slide electric guitar technique accompanied by a foot pedal drum, wailing harmonica and rasping vocal accompaniment that elicited whoops cheers and applause from the 50 strong audience, most of whom went away having experienced something truly unique.

Adrian Birch

8pm Friday 8th March: Witches of Pendle.* www.dawnstate.co.uk

A spellbinding new play inspired by the true story of the Pendle Witches. It's 1615 and Magistrates, Potts and Nowell, are on a mission to arm their countrymen against a plague of devilish outsiders. Until now their chief weapon has been Jennet Device, youngest of the Pendle Coven whose testimony condemned her entire family to the noose. But now Jennet

has grown up; her eyes are starting to open and, tonight, heads will roll. Dawn State Theatre Co combine haunting music and bold theatricality to bring the heart-breaking story of Britains's most notorious witch hunt to life in a new play by Gareth Jandrell. For audiences aged 12+. "Chilling and heart-breaking, this is the best kind of history lesson" Scotsman.

8pm Friday 5th April: Harbottle & Jonas.* www.harbottleandjonas.com

Harbottle and Jonas combine the rich traditions of folk music with original and contemporary interpretations, using a blend of closely intertwined vocal harmonies. Each song has been carefully written and researched, and is accompanied with a great story and a good deal of humour, however macabre the content may be! Their songs cover a range of social, political and historical

issues. They also sing about the family, the Devil, Malcolm and Grimsby. Their music is original and unique and performed with integrity. Each performance establishes a warm rapport, engagement and interaction with the audience "Stunning song-writing and heart-rending arrangements" Americana UK. "Damn fine" Mike Harding. BBC Radio 2.

Advance tickets are £10 and will be available from the Brockweir & Hewelsfield Village Shop about 4 weeks before each event or from Adrian Birch brockweirevent@gmail.com Or 01291 689812. £12 on the door. Doors Open 7.30 Performance 8.00. Refreshments available. BYO alcohol. * Event supported by Air in G

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