

Dear Friends

September marks a change in the year. Summer holidays are drawing to a close, the new academic year begins and autumn, 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness', is fast approaching. The few very hot days of early summer are a distant memory and the cooler weather gives us the energy to look forward to whatever the future will bring. It is like a new beginning.

Last September, I spent some time in the Cevennes. My son is working there, and on the Sunday morning he drove me into the little town of Anduze, so that I could go to church. I was surprised to see a large number of children standing in the church porch while their parents and other members of the congregation were going inside. All became clear when the crucifer, acolytes and servers came in, followed by all the children, who were carrying their huge, often brand new, school bags. They stood at the front with their bags and the priest gave them all a blessing. Several children then took a leading role in the service, reading Bible passages and prayers, before rejoining their parents in the congregation. The school bags, of course, were symbolic of La Rentrée, when all the schools in France start the new academic year. What a good way to make a fresh start with the support of parents, community and God's blessing to help them in whatever new paths they were to follow.

When we start something new - a job, a way of life, a place to live or a relationship - it cannot be anything other than helpful to know we have that kind of support. I was, with others, privileged to be at the wonderful service in Gloucester Cathedral, when David was made deacon at the end of June. I am sure the memory of that occasion, with the affirmation of his calling, will be a source of encouragement in his ministry when he will be preparing for his priesting next year.

We may think we have no new paths to follow, and are just carrying on as before, but we all do have a new day for which we can be grateful. One of my sons was absolutely awful to get up during the school holidays. He would be so grumpy that I often wished I hadn't bothered. If, however, I woke him up with a cup of coffee, he would discover the world was not such a bad place, and soon get up in a much more pleasant mood, looking forward to whatever the day would bring. Perhaps this teaches us something about the importance of starting well - a real change of lifestyle or the start of a new day.

In my Office book, there are these words, 'The night has passed and the day lies open before us, let us rejoice in the gift of this new day. Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O God. Amen'.

Margaret Cooling

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 live in insecure times. Our news is dominated by Climate Change and Brexit. Whatever our views, both demand action. The Bible begins with the story of Creation, which has at its heart the truth of God the creator giving us the responsibility of care for creation, both our human neighbours near and far and the natural world with which we live and which sustains us. He invites us to be his partners but, as humans, we rather do it our way; hence the problems. Jesus shared our world, came to restore these broken relationships and to model how to live in harmony with God, our neighbours and creation and to guide and empower us as we fulfil our responsibility. This cost him his life, 'All we, like sheep, have gone astray ... and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all'. Isaiah 53:6.

The themes of our worship this month are these relationships; and we end the month with our Harvest Festival Celebrations, which remind us of our dependence on Creation. Our Harvest Festivals are on Sunday 29th, with a Harvest Fish and Chip Supper in St Briavels Church at 7.00 pm on Monday 30th September.

SEPTEMBER SERVICES: PREACHERS AND THEMES:

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, ST BRIAVELS

SUNDAY 1st - Trinity 11: Love, Lowly, Lips. Mandy. Baptism at St Briavels

8.30am	BCP Communion
9.30am	All Age Worship & Baptism

SUNDAY 8th - Trinity 12: Let Go, Lift Up, Lay Foundations. Robert

8.30am	BCP Communion
9.30am	All Age Eucharist

SUNDAY 15th - Trinity 13: David Rees

8.30am	BCP Communion
9.30am	All Age Eucharist

SUNDAY 22nd - Trinity 14: Pray, Peace, Pardon. Robert

9.30am	All Age Eucharist & Healing
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SUNDAY 29th – Harvest Festival Faith Sharing

9.30am	All Age Worship
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SUNDAY 6th October - Trinity 16: Lonely, Loyal, Loved. Robert

8.30am	BCP Communion
9.30am	All Age Eucharist

MIDWEEK AT ST BRIAVELS

3rd Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
5th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer
10th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
11th Weds	10.30am	Communion
12th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer
17th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
19th Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer
24th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
25th Weds	10.30am	Communion
26th Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
1st Oct Tues	9.00am	Morning Prayer
3rd Thurs	9.00am	Morning Prayer

ST MARY MAGDALENE, HEWELSFIELD & BROCKWEIR

SUNDAY 1st - Trinity 11: Love, Lowly, Lips. Mandy

11.00am	Family Worship
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SUNDAY 8th - Trinity 12: Let Go, Lift Up, Lay Foundations. Robert

11.00am	Family Communion
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SUNDAY 15th – Trinity 13: David Rees

11.00am	Family Communion
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SUNDAY 22nd - Trinity 14: Pray, Peace, Pardon. Robert

11.00am	Family Communion
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SUNDAY 29th – Harvest Festival Faith Sharing

11.00am	Family Worship
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SUNDAY 6th October - Trinity 16: Lonely, Loyal, Loved. Robert

11.00am	Family Worship
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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 September 2019

Sun	1 Sept	3.00pm	<i>Western District Rally (at Bath Weston Church)</i>
Sun	8 Sept	6:00pm	Rev Jane Avery
Sun	15 Sept	6.00pm	Rev Patsy Holdsworth (<i>Holy Communion</i>)
Sun	22 Sept	6.00pm	Pat Allen (<i>Harvest Festival & Lovefeast</i>)
Sun	29 Sept	6.00pm	Malcolm Otton

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 Lunch - 12 noon in the Sunday School Room on 1st Thurs of the month. 5th Sept in Aid of Forest Pulse, 3rd October in aid of Great Oaks Hospice.

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.

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		

Coffee, Cakes and Chat

We will be holding a regular coffee morning on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Please come along on and join us on 19th September from 10.00 am 'til noon, in the Sunday School Rooms. You will be assured of a warm welcome.



BINGO!

Our Bingo sessions will be held on the second Wednesday of each month. Come and join us on 12th September in the Sunday School Rooms. Eyes Down @ 7.00 p.m. Refreshments will be served

ST BRIAVELS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

As schools go back, it's a time of change for lots of children and families. Our God remains unchanging and so does our message - it is possible to know God and have new life through Jesus Christ.

If you want to know more then I warmly invite you, whether Christian, seeker or sceptic, to join us at any of our services. These 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 Thursday (8pm, venue changes) and Tuesday (10:15am in the chapel).

Our next Coffee Morning is on September 3rd (10-12).

Every year we celebrate the harvest and give thanks to God for all that he provides. This year we will have our Harvest Service on Sunday 30th September at 10:30 – 11:30am, which will be followed by lunch at 12pm (not on Monday as in previous years). We'd love to see you at either or both of these. Funds raised will be split between local and international charities.

We are a collection site for the Forest Foodbank; a box is available for you to drop off non-perishable goods when the chapel is closed. Find out more here: <http://theforest.foodbank.org.uk>

If you would like to know more about us or if we can help you, then please get in touch. You can also visit our website where many of our messages are available for download: www.stbriavelscongregational.org.uk

Matt Rees. Pastor. 01594 530098

HEWELSFIELD AND BROCKWEIR PARISH COUNCIL

Summary minutes of meeting held on 6th August 2019

Present: Cllr. Fox, Cllr. Haythornthwaite, Cllr. Brundle, Cllr. Sinfield, Cllr. Harris, District Cllr. McFarling, 24 members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

Payments agreed:

Forest Equipment Services	Emptying Dog Foul Bins	£77.98
Lynda Skuse	Clerk salary & Expenses	£359.35
AEB Price	Strimming/Litter Picking	£160.00
Cllr. Fox	Purchase of Coconut Shy	£102.39

Issues raised by parishioners:

- Brockweir Quay
- Verges along Underhill
- Planning Application - Alexandra Bungalow
- Planning Application - Gregory Farm
- Flood prevention
- Enforcement Issues

Chairman invited Peter Shewell to present views on the development of land adjacent to Gregory Farm, which neighbours his farm and future dwelling. Mr Shewell gave a detailed response listing issues of concern. In the interests of presenting a balanced view, the Chairman read out a letter sent to FODDC by Martin Telling, owner of three properties neighbouring the development, which was in general support of the development with several issues to be noted. A show of hands from the public confirmed that a small number would like the proposal rejected: the majority in general support but with concerns.

P1129/19/FUL- Land Adjacent to Gregory Farm, Brockweir. Erection of 5 no. dwellings with associated gardens, landscaping, parking and works. Retention of existing Mill building as bat roost, with any essential repairs required for safety. Opening up of covered millstream. See article on page 7 for further details.

P1086/19/FUL- Alexandra Bungalow, Coldharbour Road, Brockweir. Variation of Condition 02 (approved plans) to allow for amendments to enlarge the approved access and removal of car turn table relating to planning permission P0160/18/FUL. Increase in access considerable; widens an exit onto a very narrow road on a bend with limited visibility causing concern.

Issues raised with the Enforcement Officer were reviewed and updated; most had a case number indicating that they were active and awaiting investigation.

The Quay needs clearing of mud and silt. AONB repeated its offer of volunteers to help with the initial clearance. It was agreed to produce an action plan for the initial clearance, and thereafter work would be the responsibility of a working party of parishioners and interested parties. A meeting would be called to engage potential volunteers in the working party.

It was agreed that the **issue of overgrown verges along Underhill** would be added to the list of outstanding issues currently with Highways.

There was no update on possible flood defences.

The site of the old well on Underhill is in need of maintenance. It was agreed to seek help from a contractor.

The Defibrillator was relocated to the telephone box. The telephone box to be cleaned and painted.

Councillors to attend a meeting about **the closure of the Wireworks Bridge, Tintern.**

Councillors expressed thanks and gratitude to Alison Macklin for all her support for the parish council over the past years, and for all that she had done for the shop and community.

Date of next meeting: 3rd September 2019 7.00pm The Loft

LAND ADJACENT TO GREGORY FARM

PLANNING APPLICATION: INFORMATION FOR PARISHIONERS

At the Hewelsfield & Brockweir Parish Council Meeting on 6 August (see minutes on page 6) Cllr. McFarling was formally asked to call the application to Planning Committee.

The following statement was sent to FODDC Planning Department:

- Overall plan is acceptable with issues still causing serious concern
- Design of houses an improvement on the previous application, but would have enhanced the site, and more in keeping with the surrounding buildings, if some were stone clad.
- It is stressed that the offer of ownership of the Old Mill has NOT been accepted by the community. There has been no consultation

with the developer as to how much restoration will be undertaken before handing over The Mill; future use and maintenance costs are unknown.

- Parking for the 5 houses seems ill thought through. Public opinion is that spaces offered to parishioners for sale will not be taken up. Concern how those spaces will be used in future, possibly becoming overspill parking for the pub, causing disturbance to residents. It may be more appropriate to make all parking for residents' use only. Parking spaces very close to a private dwelling; there is a wall shown on the graphics, but no detail of separation between parking spaces and the garden of that dwelling in the application. Separation must be planned.
- Traffic flow calculations do not appear to take into account additional spaces which, using those calculations, could see flow increased from 30 vehicles to 60 per day. Adding to the concern about increased traffic using the junction on to Mill Hill, which has limited visibility when exiting the site.
- Parking offered for public/walkers etc. at the top of the site could not be used for that purpose as it appears there is a covenant on that land stating it may only be used by residents of the site.
- Still grave concern about opening up the culvert using sloping natural earth sides. This water course carries storm water from the hills and has caused considerable flooding when it overflowed in the past. Natural earth sides would be very quickly eroded and lead to a substantial flood risk. The Parish Council commissioned a full flood/ water flow report from Hydrogeo, which was submitted for the previous application. This clearly shows risk. We ask that this report is taken into consideration and that, should the culvert be opened up, walls be used to avoid erosion of the banks.
- Site remains heavily polluted and appropriate conditions need to be attached to ensure this is dealt with. We suggest ongoing monitoring throughout development and full remediation undertaken.
- No details in the plans for street lighting and planting.
- The whole question of Biodiversity has not been sufficiently addressed. It is lacking in detail.
- There appears to be no communal area marked on the plans for refuse bins.

Lynda Skuse. Parish Clerk

ST BRIAVELS PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Vacancy - Following the resignation of Rev. David Rees, there is now a vacancy on the Parish Council (PC). Forest of Dean District Council (FoDDC) has been informed and if, by the end of August, ten electors have not contacted FoDDC to call an election, then the PC will be able to co-opt a parishioner to this position. Details will be posted on the PC notice boards at the end of August with a view to filling this vacancy at the October meeting. Thank you to David for his exemplary service to the Parish over many years.

Growing Healthy Communities Initiative - An afternoon of circus skills and activities was organised by the Parish Council on Wednesday, 7th August. Around 150 children, parents and grandparents attended and made the afternoon a huge success and great fun. A big thank you goes to Cllr. Glenys Walker, who was on hand to help and make sure everyone stayed hydrated, and to the Playing Fields Committee and Pavilion for hosting this event. Councillors will be discussing future provision of such events at the September meeting as one of the Council's five priorities – Youth Activities.

BT Telephone Boxes – Also to be considered at the September meeting, is the subject of the BT telephone boxes and the PC has already received several comments and suggestions for their use, should they be decommissioned. The Council recognises the importance of the boxes as part of the heritage of the Parish. Please get in touch, ideally before 9th September meeting, if you would like to comment on this issue, as the consultation deadline has been extended.

Next meeting – Monday, 9th September, 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms, with planning applications available to view from 6.30 pm 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.

E-mail: stbriavelsclerk@outlook.com

VILLAGE NEWS OCTOBER ISSUE DEADLINE

To all our contributors:

The deadline for the **October 2019 edition** of the Village News will be **Tuesday 17th September** for plain text submissions and **Friday 16th September** for boxed announcements and adverts.





THE LATE SONIA DAY

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who offered help and support during Sonia's illness. Sonia passed away on May 19th after a short battle against primary lung and secondary bone cancer on top of her 15 year kidney transplant.

Sonia was well known around St. Briavels, as she could often be seen walking her two, then three, wiry sausage dogs over the last 14 years. She was a colourful vibrant person who lived for her dogs and for her 'crafting'. She spent many happy hours sitting on the bench in the Castle Moat, chatting to other dog walkers and so I am currently restoring the bench as a memorial to Sonia, it should be re-instated in the next couple of weeks and I plan to have a remembrance afternoon, details will be published on Facebook page 'Sonia and Scarlett remembered' and you are all welcome to come along for a chat.

Thank you once again for all your support, she is truly loved and missed around the village.

Julian Day.

I AM TERRIFIED, BUT THERE IS HOPE!

For most of my adult life, I have listened to warnings about climate breakdown, and been anxious that world powers have ignored these warnings. Now, I'm not just anxious – I'm TERRIFIED! I'm terrified for my grandchildren's future on this beautiful planet. It is getting so urgent, and still governments around the world are ignoring the emergency. They are more interested in short term profit and greed than our basic survival.

But I have seen a glimmer of hope. That amazing teenager, Greta Thunberg, has started what will hopefully be a flood of protest against greed and denial, and Extinction Rebellion have shown how peaceful, non-violent, intelligent resistance can work – I can only pray, quickly enough. SO – two dates for your diary:

GENERAL STRIKE DAY – September 20th 2019 – this will be global

EXTINCTION REBELLION – Week starting October 7th – huge demonstrations being planned

If you have any ideas of how locally we can strive towards raising awareness of this crisis - I'm always ready to listen.

Gill Saunders. gillnick263@gmail.com 07835 959463 <https://rebellion.earth>



ST BRIAVELS PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT

In the accounts to 31st March 2019, St Briavels Parish Council (PC) had cash reserves of £70,331, which equates to nearly 3 times the annual precept. These reserves have been built up by increases in the precept paid by parishioners to cover potentially essential works required to the graveyard. It has now been established that these works are not required. The level of precept has not been adjusted accordingly, remaining at high levels and should be reduced. A review of the charges made in the annual council tax bills from 2011/12 to 2019/20 reveals that the increases in charges over the last 8 years total:

- St Briavels PC precept has increased by 76%;
- Forest of Dean (FODDC) and Gloucester County Council charges have both increased by 10%.

The large increase in the PC precept was justified and prudent, given the concerns surrounding the graveyard; however, a reduction in the precept is now in order.

At the last meeting of St. Briavels PC, the finance report indicated that circa £50,000 of the reserves was earmarked for "Projects". It would seem sensible to consult parishioners about this expenditure. One of the items planned is the lease of land at Whittington Close. This has been reported in the Village News with the only reference to expenditure being "... for a yearly peppercorn rent' ...". A review of the minutes, available on the St Briavels PC website, for the meeting on 5th April 2019 discloses that there are significant costs associated with this project:

- One off set up costs of £2,405; and
- Estimated annual running cost of £3,362 (14% of the current precept); and
- Lease terms of 25 years with a notice period of 2 years.

This is a major item of expenditure, which will commit PC resources for years to come. Why is the PC considering spending a relatively large proportion of its budget to:

- Benefit a relatively small number of parishioners?
- Maintain land which is the responsibility of other parties, including FODDC?

In conclusion, I would urge St Briavels parishioners to contact their local parish councillor and make their views known about:

- St Briavels PC precept: This should probably be reduced by circa 30% to adjust for historical above inflation increases; and
- Projects: How does the PC plan to spend these significant reserves?
- Whittington Close: What is planned, why and what other options are there?

The next St Briavels Parish Council meeting is at the Assembly Rooms at 7.00 pm on Monday 9th September 2019, where parishioners will have the opportunity to hear the facts first hand.

Andrew Plummer

BOWLS CLUB

Bowls Club will recommence on Wed 11th September at Mackenzie Hall, 2 - 4pm. Anyone interested in joining our group would be very welcome.

For more information, contact Bob Broughton - 01594 530003

ST. BRIAVELS PEOPLE'S CHOIR

The St. Briavels People's Choir have been taking a well earned break during July and August. After a very successful Summer Concert of popular show and traditional folk songs at the end of June, on what was one of the hottest days of the year, Pimm's with strawberries and cream were enjoyed by a loyal and supportive audience.

Rehearsals start again on Sunday 8th September in the Assembly Rooms at 7 pm. New members are always made welcome, and if you would like to join the choir, or even just come and listen to what we do, please come along to the rehearsal. All the songs are taught at rehearsals, so reading music is not essential.

Our next concert will be on Saturday 7th December at 7 pm. See you there!

Louise Greening

NOSH AND NATTER

We moved our American Supper to July this year, so all those on Children/ Grandchildren Watch during the Summer holidays could attend! This proved to have worked really well and we had a good turnout at Nicole and Martin's. The tables were all laid out outside (even though the weather had been changeable all day and Nicole and Martin had spent their time rushing chairs indoors to avoid the rain then rushing them out again!).

Everyone had brought food to share and plenty of drinks, so we spent a very sociable evening chatting and eating. I forgot the raffle, for which I apologise, but as time went so quickly it did not seem to matter! Once again I must thank Nicole and Martin for all their hard work and allowing us to use their garden which seems to get more beautiful every year. There is nothing better than sitting outside enjoying pleasant company. Thank you Nicole and Martin.

Our August get together was a coffee morning in Ann's home and it was great to see so many members. Apart from the delicious cakes, it was lovely for us all to be able to sit and chat either in smaller groups or one large group. As a bonus, there was enough cake to take some home at the end, either for our other halves or to enjoy later after dinner! Thank you, Ann.

In September, we meet for morning coffee between 10.30 – 12.00 on Tuesday 10th at Jo's house, High Meadow, Mill Hill, Brockweir, NP16 7NW. All ladies will be made very welcome. If you would like more information, please contact me at 01594 530524 or email siddonspauline@aol.com or just come along!

Pauline Siddons

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY and POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OPEN DAY

Saturday 14 September 2019 at Police HQ in Quedgeley, Gloucester, 10am - 3pm.

The event showcases our work and communicates the many ways that we keep people safe from harm. There will be representatives from all areas across the Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and many interactive displays and demonstrations. Our police dogs and horses will be at the event as well as the public order demonstration, which proved very popular last year. We also have some new attractions and exhibitors.

There will be a range of reasonably priced, local food suppliers at the event to cover all tastes. The event is free and parking is free at the nearby Park and Ride. Disabled parking will also be available on site.

Andrea Lamb

Campaigns & Engagement Team Leader

A JUICING WE WILL GO!

It might be climate warmed but this weather is brilliant for growing apples. My garden trees are well hung (if that's the right term) and I'm preparing for a great crop of mellow fruitfulness for juicing.

The apple press is booked for Sunday 13th October, at the Pavilion, in the afternoon, so there's a date for your diary, calendar or smart phone. Please let all your friends and family know, prepare to participate and share an enjoyable community apple pressing event.

Please note that this is a voluntary community event, supported by St Briavels Parish Council for local people. No commercial growers please.

Chris McFarling. chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

TEA AND CAKE ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2 PM UNTIL 4.30 PM

Come and join us at Hewelsfield Church for a cup of tea and cake. We will have a raffle, bric-a-brac and books and will be holding a Silent Auction.

One auction lot could give you a rare opportunity to bid on a Guy Taplin bird sculpture, which is in need of restoration. Now that's a chance of a lifetime!

This event is to raise funds towards urgent repairs replacing roofing tiles that have slipped. All are welcome.

If anyone would like to make a donation of any items to this event please contact me on 01594 530844.

Mandy Vaughan

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

I know some of you will not have been on your summer holidays yet, but I would like to remind you that Christmas is not far away. I have now received leaflets for both the family boxes and the children boxes to send abroad.

If anyone wants to be involved or provide anything for them, just contact myself or

Matt at the Chapel. We know what a difference these boxes make to everyone who receives them.

For further information, please give me a ring on 01594 530571.Thanks.

Adele James

Brockweir & Hewelsfield Local History Group

The Local History Group, now in its 20th year, will hold its first meeting of the new season on Thursday September 12th in the Moravian Schoolrooms, Brockweir.

This is a friendly get-together to discuss the way forward and look at any newly discovered photographs, deeds, documents etc.

We look forward to meeting any new “members” and will attempt to answer any of your local history questions.

So, why not join us on September 12th at 7.30pm in the Moravian Schoolrooms for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat? You’ll find us welcoming and very informal.

John Norman

ST BRIAVELS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Harvest Auction - This year, St Briavels Senior Citizens Club are holding their annual harvest auction at the pavilion St. Briavels on Saturday 7th September at 8.00pm. This promises to be a fun event, with our popular auctioneer Robert Cooke. The auction is our one fund raising event of the year and the club would very much appreciate your support. Everyone is welcome to attend. Produce is gratefully accepted.

Day trip to Swindon - St Briavels Senior Citizens Club day trip is to Swindon, for the steam railway museum or Lydiard Park. The coach will leave the square in St Briavels at 9am on Tuesday 17th September. Any club members who have not already booked their seats on the coach, could they please do so by 12th September with Sue Barnby 01594 530845. Many thanks

Sheila Brown

ORGANIC FRUIT & VEG * FRENCH BREAD & PATISSERIE * ORGANIC LAMB *
* RARE BREED PEDIGREE BEEF & PORK * FREE RANGE POULTRY & GAME * CHEESE
CHUTNEY * OLIVES * NUTS * CIDER * *EGGS * DELI * HERBS *
ST BRIAVELS LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET
Saturday 7th September
The Pavilion 10-12.30 pm
SAUSAGES * PASTIES * HONEY * BUTTER * FRUIT JUICE * CAKES * RESERVES*
INNOVATIVE VEGETARIAN & VEGAN FOOD * FUDGE * PLANTS * REFRESHMENTS*
SWEET & SAVOURY PIES * AUTHENTIC FRESHLY MADE CURRIES & INDIAN SNACKS

SOFT (Sharing our Faiths Together) MEETING



SOFT meetings will be held in the Loft above the Village Shop on Wednesdays 4th & 18th September.

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.

ST BRIAVELS LUNCH CLUB, THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 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 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 £7.50. We have unfortunately increased the cost (it has remained the same for a long time) There is also a raffle. We look forward to meeting you

Mary Perryman

OPEN GARDENS BROCKWEIR

The Patch and Cloud's Rest open their gardens under the NGS scheme on Sunday 15th September, from 1 to 5 pm.

The garden at Cloud's Rest is a mixture of roses and herbaceous planting, highlighted by a wide selection of Michaelmas daisies in September. The borders at The Patch contain a selection of 60+ repeat flowering roses, and a variety of perennials and shrubs.

Teas & cakes will be available at Cloud's Rest and there will be a plant sale at The Patch. Both venues have parking. All proceeds will go to charities.

Immy Lee & Jan Basford

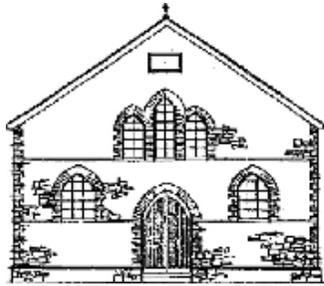
THE HISTORIC QUAY IN BROCKWEIR

Some time ago, a large amount of money was spent on the restoration of the Quay, and for a while it was an attractive part of the parish, attracting much interest from tourists and a sense of pride among parishioners. This historic Quay is an important site in our parish but it is looking decidedly untidy at the moment. It has been agreed that Wye Valley AONB volunteers will remove the build up of mud, silt and weeds from the Quay. Once this work has been

carried out, it will be our responsibility to ensure that the Quay remains clear of mud. To achieve this, I am asking for volunteers to assist with this task. I will draw up a Rota. I am also going to write to canoe companies to seek their assistance and to join the working parties.

The Parish Council have invested in a water pump that will wash away the silt when it has been cleared of the deep mud and weeds, but this is an ongoing problem and the work needs to be carried out regularly. If you can spare a few hours to be part of the working parties please contact me on 01291 689394. I will be holding a meeting on the 18th September at 7pm at the Loft and would ask volunteers to attend. I am managing this initiative with the support of the Parish Council and hope that the community will support it.

Lorraine Endersby



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.

AUTUMN 2019

Thursdays Sept 5, 12, 19, 26; Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; Nov 7	SILVER JEWELLERY (10 classes) £230 for 10 x 3hr sessions (Silver is not included)	Ann Skehel
Fridays Sept 6, 13, 20, 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, Nov 1, 8.	PAINTING AND DRAWING (10 classes) £220 for 10 x 3hr sessions, am or pm. 9.30am - 12.30pm and/or 1pm - 4pm.	Ann Hulme
Saturday Oct 26	FOUR SEASONS PHOTOGRAPHY - AUTUMN 9.30 - 12.30pm £25	David Broadbent
Saturday Oct 19	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

Brockweir Soapbox Derby

Road Closure: Saturday 21st September 2019

The fourth annual Soapbox Derby is soon to be upon us and is going to take place on Saturday 21st September 2019. All formalities are in place for the road closure of Mill Hill. This will be from below the Village Shop to the Junction of the Bridge with the A466.

Time of Closure: 07.00 - 18.30 hrs. The hill will be very busy with crews and machinery setting up the event, with traders and their stalls - THEIR SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT. Some minor movements may be allowed prior to 07.30 hrs - Please contact the organisers in advance if you feel that you fall into that category or have any general queries. We also ask that no cars be left on the hill.

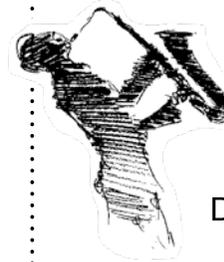
The event happens once a year and is in the interest of all the Brockweir, Hewlesfield and the surrounding community in fundraising and awareness, besides raising much needed funds for the various associations, clubs and establishments.

The children's event will be at the beginning of the event followed by the adult's competition. We therefore hope to see you all there for what should be a fantastic day again.

If you care to volunteer to assist with the day or part of it, your help will be welcomed - please contact: Adam Sinfield. All other enquires: hq@brockweirsoapboxderby.co.uk

Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

Keith Orchard (on behalf of Brockweir CIC)



JOHN-PAUL GARD TRIO

Join us for our famous monthly Jazz sessions in the Botanist Bar at the Royal George, Tintern - home away from home for the UK's finest Jazz musicians, with Dick Hamer - Sax/Flute & Bob Duck - Drums

Time: 8.00 Date: Friday 20 Sept, 2019

"When John Paul revs up his Hammond he fires on all four cylinders, thanks to flying feet on the bass pedals and a sincere love of the blues and gospel based organ styles of the 60s and 70s that eventually inspired the acid jazz revival."



WYE VALLEY MUSIC (ST BRIAVELS MUSIC SOCIETY)

Beethoven Rolls On

A brochure for the first 5 concerts in the society's 53rd season is enclosed.

The season starts on Sunday 15th September at 7.30 pm at the new theatre at Monmouth School for Girls. It will be the second recital in the Beethoven In Wales project, initiated by Rhyl Music Club, in which we welcome back **Mary Hofman** playing **Beethoven's violin sonatas** with pianist **Richard Ormrod**. This concert will feature sonatas 6, 7 and 8 and **a new sonata by Welsh composer Sarah Lianne Lewis**. Since graduating in 2007, Mary has pursued a varied career as an orchestral and chamber musician and teacher. She studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, in Cambridge and the US, where she gave many chamber performances. She has performed with the Endellion quartet and plays regularly with Ensemble Cymru.

Richard made his first concerto appearance at the age of 10, was a semi-finalist in the Leeds International Competition at the age of 19 and went on to win prizes at other international competitions, including the Rubenstein and Tchaikovsky competitions. An acclaimed soloist, he has performed concertos with the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Philharmonia Virtuosi and the Czech Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra. Richard and Mary live in the mountains of North Wales with their two daughters.

Admission for the public is £15, £12 for members and £2 for students. Booking may be made on-line at www.wvm.org.uk. Enquiries can be made to the message line at 01291 330020 or by email to info@wvm.org.uk.

Beethoven's sixth violin sonata is the least often performed, perhaps because it seems a rather understated work, the most Mozartian of Beethoven's violin sonatas. In complete contrast, the seventh sonata is intense and dramatic. Beethoven's choice of the key of C minor is significant, for this is the key that he used for his most impassioned works – the Pathétique sonata, the Fifth Symphony, and the Coriolan overture amongst others. The eighth sonata contains a slow movement based largely on a warm and beautiful melody of a kind that Beethoven wrote only rarely.

The new sonata by the young Welsh composer, Sarah Lianne Lewis (b. 1988) is inspired by Beethoven's seventh sonata, written at a time when he was despairing over his increasing deafness. Her work is a reflection of the effect that deafness had on Beethoven's art. She uses motifs from Sonata No 7 but slowly manipulates them over time so that, even though the same "notes" are played by the end, the effect is completely different, masking the original pitches and exploring the idea of what our ears can hear.

The Beethoven in Wales project, of which this concert is a part, aims to provide a window into the work of local music societies. It has been generously supported by PRS Foundation's Women Make Music, the Colwinston Foundation, Ty Cerdd and Gwyneth and Tony Peters. The third and final concert in the series will be presented in May 2020.

Keith Norman

THE HOUSE IS ON FIRE!*

So you've seen the figures, you've heard the reports of doom and disaster; the end of civilisation, floods, droughts, uninhabitable heat and social unrest with millions migrating to survive. And carbon dioxide emissions from increased fossil fuel and forest burning is the enemy No.1, as it ratchets up its parts per million (ppm) in our fragile global atmosphere to 412 this month.**

And since the mini-disasters - temperature records, flooding up north and power cuts down here - are relatively small local events (or in other countries, so they don't really count), they register for a day and then are gone; so we do little and assume others are working on the problem and scientists and governments are on the case. And while they talk and strategize and target 2050 (plenty of time), and all the while claiming this is the most important threat we've ever known, extremely powerful tipping points and feedback loops are being triggered now. The report from a balmy 30 degrees Greenland with ice melt is unprecedented, the staggering amount of forest under fire in the Siberian taiga, where the methane is (was) held in the permafrost now thawing, shocking. Some people can't handle this and switch the TV or radio off to make it 'go away'.

There is a fear that climate change will be so frequently mentioned that people will become immune to it and, like Brexit, will ignore it, not engaging; just wanting it finished so that we can all get back to a predictable, normal world (whatever that was). The greatest challenge we face then, is not whether we CAN save the world for future generations - although that window of opportunity is rapidly closing - but whether we WILL. For that involves everyone of us putting aside our differences and working as though this was an emergency common to all of humanity, and putting the global home fire out today, not tomorrow when it'll be too late.

The number to watch is the CO2 ppm.** Only when that number begins to come down will we know that whatever we are doing or not doing, we stand a chance.

Chris McFarling chrismcfarling@phonecoop.coop

* *No One is too small to make a Difference* by Greta Thunberg

** <https://www.co2.earth>

The GREAT FUN Fruit & veg SWAP SHOP!

* EXCHANGE * DONATE * RECEIVE *

Community Café, St. Briavels Assembly Rooms, Tues & Thurs Afternoons: 1.30 - 4.30pm

Everybody is welcome from all neighbouring parishes – the more the merrier!

swapshop@st-briavels.com / 01594 530950



PARISH GRASSLANDS PROJECT

www.parishgrasslandsproject.org.uk

The Parish Grasslands Project's interests have evolved over the years to encompass most aspects of the environment...

...but, when we were founded nearly 20 years ago, our original mission was limited to supporting wildflower meadows locally. In recent years there has been an increasing national focus on the role of meadows. As well as giving a massive boost to biodiversity, they play a vital part in combating climate change, as they are very effective at locking-up carbon. However, since the 1930s some 97 per cent of this important habitat has been lost in the country.

At the PGP we have been encouraged this year to have received five inquiries from local residents keen to receive advice about how they could restore or establish wild flower meadows on a variety of sites. This led us to choose meadow restoration as the subject of our meeting at the Mackenzie Hall on Saturday October 12, starting at 2pm. Four excellent speakers will be on hand, who between them have a wealth of experience on the subject. Caroline Hanks organises the very active Hereford Meadows Forum, which has been involved in several

creation and restoration projects. Sue Holland has worked for many years for the Herefordshire Nature Trust and has experience of the long-term course of some of their early meadow restorations. David Whittington is a member of Monmouthshire Meadows Group and has been restoring his own floodplain meadow. Bruce Langridge works at the National Botanical Garden of Wales in Carmarthenshire, where several meadows have been successfully restored using a variety of methods.

As is the case at all our meetings, admission is free and open to members and non-members alike, and tea, coffee and most importantly cake will be served during the interval. This promises to be a particularly interesting meeting. Meadows play an important role in creating the landscape that surrounds us, and it will be fascinating to learn more about the tasks to be undertaken to increase their number in our parishes.

Mike Topp

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 01594 823937



NEWS FROM THE MACKENZIE HALL



Proposed Nursery School at the Village Shop Loft

You may have heard that a full-time private nursery school has been proposed for the Loft at the Village Shop. The Mackenzie Hall Trustees are the landlords of the Village Shop and as such the Village Shop committee has sought the permission of the Mackenzie Hall Trustees to lease the Loft, Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 6.00pm, 50 weeks of the year, for the purpose of a Montessori kindergarten.

The Trustees' view on the proposal is neutral. It is not for us to dictate what the shop does or does not do, as long it falls within the scope of the lease agreement with the shop and the legal duties of the trustees.

The Trustees are very keen to see the shop prosper. It is a wonderful and unique asset for the village and we fully understand that the nursery would bring in valuable revenue. There are two important considerations that must be addressed:

1.) As landlords, the Hall Trustees are responsible for the safety and well-being of everyone using the building and land. To this end, we have asked for the following documents:

- Fire safety certificate including details of evacuation procedures in case of a fire.
- Highways Safety report
- Health and Safety Reports
- Change of use agreement from FOD District Council.
- Relevant Insurance certificates

2.) The proposal must be for the benefit of the community and not be considered a nuisance to neighbours. To this end, once we have the correct documentation in place, we will conduct a survey amongst local residents to assess community opinion.

Brockweir Christmas Market - The Brockweir annual Christmas Market will be held on the **23rd November**. Stalls are still only £15 each and are going fast, so be sure to contact Barbara to book your table for this perennially successful event.

Barbara French, on behalf of the Mackenzie Hall Trustees.
barbara@brockweirvillagehall.co.uk

THE BIG VILLAGE QUIZ

The Mackenzie Hall are holding our own
Quiz Night on Friday 4th October, 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Just turn up on the night as a team or as individuals, maximum 4 per team.
Cost per person £3.00. Prize for the winning team. BAR and SNACKS

DIARY DATES - weekly/regular activities

Mondays

ZUMBA TONING WITH JO: 9:15-10:15am - Mackenzie Hall Brockweir.

CUB SCOUTS: (8-10½ year olds). 6.00-7.30pm. St Briavels Pavillion.

Emma-Jayne, 07807 068296, stbriavelsscoutgroup@outlook.com.

ADULT TAP FOR FUN: 6.45 - 7.45 improvers+ / Intermediates; 7.45 - 8.45 Beginners. Moravian Church Hall. Call Deborah: 07801 479269.

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.

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, 3.00 – 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 Wednesdays, Mackenzie Hall. Re-starts 11 September. For more information call Bob Broughton 01594 530003.

BEAVER SCOUTS: (5¼-8 year olds). 5.00-6.00pm. St Briavels Pavillion. Emma-Jayne, 07807 068296, stbriavelsscoutgroup@outlook.com.

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. All welcome. Please call Diana on 07952 548040 for new venue details.

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.

SCOUTS: (10½-14 year olds). 6.00-8.00pm. St Briavels Pavillion. Emma-Jayne, 07807 068296, stbriavelsscoutgroup@outlook.com

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: 9:00-11.00am - 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.

BOARD GAMES CAFÉ – Last Friday of the month, 7-10pm at the Assembly Rooms, St Briavels

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.

ST BRIAVELS SCHOOL TERM DATES: 2019

Autumn Term 2 September – 25 October / 4 November – 20 December

DIARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER			
Walking for Health every Tuesday – meet at the Assembly Rooms, 2pm			
3 Tues	Coffee Morning	10am	St Briavels Congregational Ch.
3 Tues	Hewelsfield & Brockweir PC meeting	7pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
4 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop B'weir
5 Thurs	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Schoolrooms B'weir
5 Thurs	St Briavels Walking Group	1pm	Meet at St Briavels Church
7 Sat	Produce Market	10am-12.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
7 Sat	BADS: Moravian Entertainment	2pm	Moravian School Rooms Brockweir
7 Sat	St. Briavels Senior Citizens Harvest Auction	8pm	St. Briavels Pavilion
8 Sun	St Briavels People's Choir: rehearsals start	7pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
9 Mon	Cub Scout meetings begin	6-7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
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-noon	High Meadow, Mill Hill
11 Weds	Bowls Club recommences	2 - 4pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
11 Weds	Beaver Scout meetings begin	5-6pm	St Briavels Pavilion
11 Weds	Bingo	7pm	Moravian School Rooms, Brockweir
12 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
12 Thurs	Scout meetings begin	6-8pm	St Briavels Pavilion
14 Sat	St Briavels Moat Society Working Party - all welcome	10am to 12pm	Castle Moat
14 Sat	Tea & Cake	2-4.30pm	Hewelsfield Church
14/15 Sept	Heritage Open Weekend: open to visitors	11am-4pm	St Briavels Castle
14 Sat	Mummers performances	11:30 & 3.00	St Briavels Castle
14 Sat	Ride & Stride – Gloucester churches jeanmsheraton@icloud.com		01594 531096
15 Sun	NGS Open Gardens	1 - 5 pm	Cloud's Rest & The Patch, Brockweir
15 Sun	WVM: Beethoven in Wales, second concert	7.30pm	Monmouth Girls' School
17 Tues	St Briavels Senior Citizens: Day Trip to Swindon	9am	The Square, St Briavels

18 Weds	Brockweir Quay Meeting	7pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
18 Weds	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	Village Shop, Brockweir
18 Weds	WI meeting: Severn Freewheelers	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
19 Thurs	Coffee & Cakes	10am-noon	Moravian School Rooms, Brockweir
20 Fri	Garden Society: Plants of the Season	7.30pm	St Briavels Pavilion
21 Sat	Church Tidy-up Day	10am-1pm	Hewelsfield Churchyard
21 Sat	Brockweir Soapbox Derby: Mill Hill Closed	7am-6.30pm	
21 Sat	Harvest Auction	8pm	St Briavels Pavilion
22 Sun	Harvest Festival & Lovefeast	6pm	Moravian Church, B'weir
26 Thurs	St Briavels Lunch Club	11.45	St Briavels Pavilion
26 Thurs	Walk & Talk Group	2pm	Meet at Hewelsfield Church
27 Fri	Board Games Café	7-10pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels
29 Sun	Harvest Festival & Lunch	10.30 & 12	St Briavels Congregational Ch.
30 Mon	Harvest Fish and Chip Supper	7pm	St Briavels Church
ADVANCE DATES			
2 Oct	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
3 Oct	Charity Soup Lunch	12noon	Moravian Schoolroom
4 Oct	Quiz Evening	7.30pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
5 Oct	Brockweir Events: The Drystones	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
12 Oct	PGP: Restoring wild flowers to meadows and pastures	2-5pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
12 Oct	Wye Valley Music: Trio Damira	7.30pm	St Briavels Church
13 Oct	Apple Day		St Briavels Pavilion
16 Oct	SOFT meeting	7.30pm	The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir
17 Oct	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10 to noon	Moravian Sun. Sch. Rooms
19 Oct	Brockweir Events: Johnny Coppin	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
2 Nov	Craft Fair	10am-3pm	St Briavels Church
16 Nov	Brockweir Events: The Great Cabaret Safari	7.30 for 8pm	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
23 Nov	Brockweir Christmas Market	10 - 4	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
7 Dec	Christmas Lunch (over 60s)	12noon-3.00	Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir
7 Dec	St Briavels People's Choir	7 pm	Assembly Rooms, St Briavels

ST BRIAVELS WIND TURBINE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND

Apply by 31st November 2019 - you could receive funds to help your community project take shape

The St Briavels Wind Turbine Community Resilience Fund has allocated over £80,000 to date to help build social and environmental resilience in St Briavels and surrounds. The project has been proud to support projects such as: the Zero Waste Village Initiative (installing a waste food digester at Wyedean School); The Gardening Society Bee Fund; the burgeoning St Briavels Cricket Club; improvements to the Assembly Rooms, Pavilion, Playing Fields, Mackenzie Hall; ongoing funding towards a roving village handyman service; school projects, health initiatives, and various activities supporting the community - including our youngest and oldest residents.

Applications for more long-term projects that will benefit the community are now actively encouraged, with deadlines of 31st November and 31st May each year. The fund criteria and application form can be found at the Resilient Energy Great Dunkilns web page <https://resilientenergy.co.uk/REGD>. Funding may be awarded to support development of advanced or early stage projects that aim to create a lasting legacy. For an exceptional idea it's possible that all the funding available in one round could be allocated to one project, or with future commitments of the intention to support subsequent stages of development. The application process is competitive, with allocations made by the Advisory Panel based on merit, including the level of community benefits from the funding requested. There is potential for the Community Resilience Funds to be used as match funding, thereby increasing the fund's positive contribution. In addition to addressing current community needs, the fund aims to help the community address longer term challenges – eg, responding to climate change, or how best to meet strategic needs. If you have an idea – why not get in touch with The Resilience Centre (01594 529688) to see if it could be eligible for support.

With the continued involvement of its founders (St Briavels farmer Anthony Cooke and The Resilience Centre), the project has made recent structural changes. It is now part of a community benefit society, which also owns and operates the Alvington Community Turbine. This is expected to result in increased funds for community benefit in the longer term - a second fund is planned from society surplus, which aims to help combat fuel poverty and seed fund other community initiatives.

There will be a new opportunity to get more directly involved in the project through a Community Share Offer planned for October 2019. Local residents will be able to purchase shares for a minimum £50 subscription - becoming members of the society and having a say on how it operates, according to the registered rules. Members support the environmental and social aims and receive a modest financial return in the form of members' interest. Request a personal notification of when the Share Offer goes live by sending an email to REGD@theresiliencecentre.co.uk or check for web page updates and an online link to the Offer document.

Sue Clarke. Secretary, Resilient Energy Great Dunkilns



NEWS FROM THE CASTLE

Summer reflections - Well, as the days close in again, it is time to reflect on the Summer gone by. August has certainly lived up to its reputation for being the second wettest month, with some terrific rain showers. One graced the start of our first week of Summer Camps but we didn't let it dampen our enthusiasm. We once again welcomed a number of young people from military bases all over the country on a week long adventure holiday, funded by the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. They had a fabulous time rock climbing, caving, mountain biking, gorge scrambling and kayaking in various locations around the Forest and surrounding area, making new friends and facing new challenges with a big smile.

Heritage Open Weekend - On Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September we are taking part in the annual Heritage Open Days event. We are just one of a number of activities and events in the wider Forest of Dean and Wye Valley area over a 10 day period. So look out for leaflets and advertising for other interesting sites to explore. We hope you will include us on your list. We will have archery, free Castle tours, crafts and plenty of cakes, plus, on Saturday 14th September, two performances by the Mummers (at 11:30 and 15:00). We hope to welcome you through our gates between 11:00 and 16:00.

Fun facts about September...the name comes from the old Roman word "septum" meaning "seven" because in the Roman calendar (until 153BC) it was the seventh month. Romans believed that the month of September was looked after by Vulcan, the god of fire and forge. The September birth stone is Sapphire, representing loyalty and trust and protecting those close to you from harm.

Linda Harrison. Manager

8 week Mindfulness Course

Monday Evenings

The Loft, Brockweir Village Shop

Cost: £140

To book a place, please contact Diana on: 07952 548040

Or visit: <https://mindfulnessforestandwye.co.uk>

BADGER CULLING UPDATE

What a month of peaks and troughs for news on badger culling and Bovine Tb.

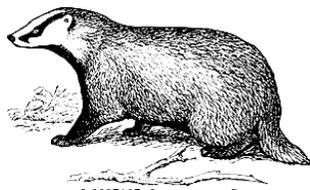
First, I was almost lulled into a sense of false wellbeing with no reports of activity in our parishes. Then it emerged that the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) is considering ten new badger cull zones for this year, and an announcement on which zones have been selected is due later this month, allowing culling to commence early in September. We are still at risk!

Then research and discussion (largely between me, myself and I) confirmed that there is indeed a register (called TB Advantage) of the degree of resistance to Tb carried by individual bulls of different breeds. This could allow farmers to choose to breed natural resistance traits within their herds. But this 'breeding tool' is available, not compulsory - farmers and breeders are to be encouraged to use it. Research in Wales has involved 59 herds identified as suffering 'chronic Tb breakdown'. Reports from August 2019 show that 21 of those herds have gone clear of Tb using cattle measures only. On farms where badgers were killed to address the problem, none have gone clear. Are DEFRA learning from this?

Having acknowledged that years of badger culling was not effective in reducing Tb in their cattle herds, Ireland have turned to investigating vaccination to reduce the disease in badgers and maybe indirectly further eliminate them from much of the discussion. Since 2017 they have reported success, including an oral BCG vaccine which may be given as baited food in the wild rather than expensive 'capture, treat & release'.

Interesting progress of a kind all round, without even mentioning the real possibility of being allowed to vaccinate the cattle, which is currently not allowed, but obviously, all this won't do much good sitting on the dusty shelves of academia.

Keith Childs



WYEDEAN SCHOOL ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING COURSES

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Courses at St Briavels Assembly Rooms and The Pavilion, St Briavels

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:** 23 Sept. **Length:** 10 wks. **Mon:** 2 - 4 **Cost:** £85

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. **Tues 29 Oct.** 10-2pm **Cost:** £25

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:** 23 Sept. **Length:** 9 wks. **Mon:** 10-11.30 **Cost:** £75

AT ST BRIAVELS PAVILION, COLEFORD ROAD

Italian for Beginners Year 2

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:** 23 Sept. **Length:** 8 wks. **Mon:** 10.30-12.30 **Cost:** £80

Italian – Advanced

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:** 23 Sept **Length:** 8 wks. **Mon:** 12.45-2.45 **Cost:** £80

For further information ring: 01291 625340 (Term Time) or visit the website: www.wydean.gloucs.sch.uk (Go to 'Community', 'Adult Learning', 'Courses available' and download the Autumn Term 2019 brochure)

★★★★★ Feel free to bring your own wine, drinks & snacks. Teas, coffees & ice cream on sale. ★★★★★	Film Night Friday 13th September Fisherman's Friends "Embraces you like a warm sweater." Mark Kermode Tintern Village Hall 7.45pm Tickets £4.00 15s & under £2.50	★★★★★ Information: tinternvillage.co.uk or phone 07774 726860 ★★★★★
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We have booked some great acts for the coming season at the Mackenzie Hall. So make sure to keep this information somewhere safe so you don't miss out. Have a look at the artists' websites to try before you buy - you won't be disappointed!

SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2019. THE DRYSTONES www.thedrystones.co.uk.

The Drystones are a young duo from Somerset whose recent arrival on the folk scene is making waves. Combining traditional music's timeless union of fiddle and guitar with a range of Indian instruments and technical wizardry they have broken boundaries to produce a rich mix of ancient and modern sounds,

which are eminently danceable. They will be performing tracks from their recent album 'Apparitions'. Nominated for the 2018 Radio 2 Young Folk Musicians of the Year, when you hear them you will understand why. *'Indecently talented'*-MIKE HARDING

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2019. JOHNNY COPPIN www.johnnycoppin.co.uk.

Gloucestershire legend Johnny Coppin is a singer/songwriter, composer and poetry anthologist. Formerly with the folk/rock band Decameron, his solo albums include 'Forest and Vale and High Blue Hill' (songs of Gloucestershire), Edge of the Day - a collaboration with world-famous writer Laurie Lee, 'Force of the River', 'A

Country Christmas' and many others. His clear voice, together with his ability to write fine songs makes his music essentially English in character, whilst having universal appeal. *"Strong clear vocals, songs of substance and impressive arrangements"* - DAILY TELEGRAPH.

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2019. THE GREAT CABARET SAFARI* www.shooshoobaby.co.uk.

The 'effortlessly funny' female duo ShoShooBaby has been appreciated by audiences throughout the world, earning them a reputation for their excellent singing and musicianship. Expect watertight harmonising on a wonderful array of razor-sharp original cabaret songs, alongside music by

Queen, Louis Prima, Ennio Morricone and the Proclaimers. The musical saw, zither, harmonium and kazoo are just a few of the instruments that feature in this eclectic and creative show. *'What sets them apart is their musical wit and superb harmony'*. SCOTSMAN.

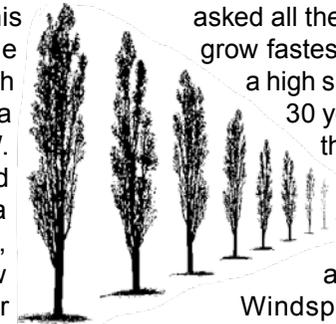
Adrian Birch

Doors 7.30 Performance 8.00. Advance tickets £10 from Brockweir and Hewelsfield Village Shop, brockweirevent@gmail.com or Adrian Birch on 01291 689812. £12 on the door. Refreshments available but BYO alcohol. See also www.brockweirvillagehall.co.uk. *Supported by Air in G.

The Poplars are Felled!

I have a theory that every rural district requires a local eyesore, its purpose being twofold, first to emphasise the charms of the surrounding landscape and, second, to give the locals something to disapprove of.

I hit on this theory when I took a group of land management students to visit the woodlands of a Cotswold friend, Mr John Workman. His father, a timber merchant, having done well out of buying standing trees for not very much and then selling the sawn timber for quite a lot, had invested the difference in purchase of the land on which the timber had stood. In time, Mr Workman became a notable woodland owner, and the first thing a landowner requires is an AVENUE, and so it was that an avenue of Scots Pine was planted along his drive. As time passed, the Pines started to crowd each other and would require a thinning. Meantime, Mr W. had acquired his second essential need, namely a Land Agent, a Mr Perkins, fresh out of College! Now follows a transcript of their conversation



"Perkins!" says Mr W. one morning. "Yes, Mr Workman?" "I'm going away for a while, and I would like you to mark a thinning in The Avenue." "Very good, Mr Workman....er...how many trees exactly should I take out?" "Oh," says Mr W. airily, "take out 50%." "Very good, Mr Workman, etc etc,"

Ten days later, the owner returns, to find that the entire left hand row of trees has vanished, making it Britain's

first one-legged avenue (or perhaps, not an avenue at all?) "Great Scott! Perkins! What possessed you?" "Well, Mr Workman, you did say to take 50%! And, to this day, a thin line of straggly Pines limps across the Cotswold AONB skyline. They do say that strings of Polo ponies have been known to shy violently on passing the drive entrance, while a sharp intake of breath can be heard from every tourist seeking the birthplace of Laurie Lee.

Gentle reader, I inflict this digression from matters local because we could ourselves boast – until recently – a landscape Blot to vie with any in Gloucestershire. High above St Briavels, at Windspeed Hall, 30 years ago, the then householders decided to plant a shelterbelt. They asked all the right questions: What trees grow fastest? Poplar! What trees make a high speed hedge? Leylandii! Now, 30 years on, comes a windy day, their creation is (was!) famous for showering motorists and pedestrians with branches of impressive girth. Sensing a problem perhaps, Squire

Windspeed took decisive action. Suddenly the roadside belt swarmed with winches, chippers and more tabards than you could shake a stick at. A week later the mighty edifice was reduced to a pile of that magical commodity, Biomass!

This leaves us with one problem. Where now can we source an eyesore? The answer is simple! Come to Hudnalls Industrial! There you will see my Solar Panels gleaming provocatively in the summer sunlight. Enjoy!

NEWS FROM 1st ST BRIAVELS BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Thank you to everyone who came to our Family Sausage Sizzle at the end of July. It was great to see the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts having so much fun, and we raised enough money to buy two new six-person tents. Just in time, as we'll have a large group taking part in the District Cub Camp in September! We were delighted that some of the former St Briavels Scouts, Venture Scouts and Leaders joined us at the Sausage Sizzle too. It was wonderful to see photos of activities and camps from the 70s and 80s.

Any volunteers?

During July we ran taster sessions for all three units. We have lots of new starters joining us in September, and it's looking like Beavers and Cubs are going to be especially busy. Could you spare any time to help us during sessions or behind the scenes, either on a regular or occasional basis?

- **During sessions** – if you have an hour or two free on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday evening, we'd love to hear from you. It's always great to have an extra pair of hands to help with group activities. Or if that's not your thing, help setting up and sorting out refreshments is very welcome too.
- **Behind the scenes** – as our number of members grows, so does the admin! We keep track of everyone's attendance and progress towards badges, as well as organising activities and events. If you could spare a couple of hours to help with the paperwork once in while, please get in touch.
- **Occasional help** – as well as our regular, weekly volunteers we have a great team of people who just help out with special events, visits or activities when they can. We often need a higher adult-to-child ratio for activities like hiking and water days, and when we're camping it's great to have a support team to help prepare food while the leaders run activities.

You'd be joining a friendly team, and we'll carry out the necessary DBS check for working with children at no expense to you, plus we'll organise any training if it's needed. We're all volunteers with busy lives outside Scouting ourselves, so we appreciate any time you can give and won't pressure you into taking on more!

Benefits of volunteering - People volunteer for all sorts of reasons, from making new friends to giving something back to the community. It can help develop confidence, new skills or a sense of purpose, and if you're job hunting it always looks good on your CV! But most importantly, our volunteers have a great time doing things they enjoy. If you'd like to get involved, or find out more about volunteering opportunities, you can reach me on stbriavelsscoutgroup@outlook.com or 07807 068 296.

Emma-Jayne Williams, 1st St Briavels Group Scout Leader

Weekly Meetings:

Beaver Scouts (5¾-8 year olds) - Wednesdays, 5.00-6.00pm

Cub Scouts (8-10½ year olds) - Mondays, 6.00-7.30pm

Scouts (10½-14 year olds) - Thursdays, 6.00-8.00pm

Scouts



Does your dog take good photos?

Well never mind, we're sure *you* do, so why not submit them to the Village News for our covers next year?

You don't need a fancy camera or special skills. If the subject matter of your photos has something to do with the landscape, buildings, events or people of our parishes, we want to see them

There is a full explanation of how to submit your photos together with guidelines and help for submitting them on the Village News website, www.villagemag.co.uk or email covers@villagemag.co.uk for help.

Note that because we print the whole year's covers in advance in early December, we need your submissions by early November.

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY
SUBMITTED PHOTOS - KEEP THEM COMING.



NEWS FROM THE BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP

Dear All

Despite the prevalence of emails and virtual cards, there is nothing nicer than a real card dropping through the letterbox (although it mainly seems to be bills coming through mine). **We have a full range of cards at the shop for every occasion.** There are cards for wedding anniversary, get well soon, good luck. There are funny cards, beautiful cards, sarcastic cards, local image cards, wildlife cards, cards suitable for all ages. We can also provide a pen and sell you stamps. We have even been known to write the card if someone needs us to. We can send your card to anywhere in the world. Post goes daily at 3.30pm Monday to Friday and 10.30am on Saturday. We can provide airmail stickers and customs declarations. We also offer special delivery and recorded delivery. We accept parcels up to 20 kilos and up to

From the Business Manager

This parish is amazing for many reasons. It's supportive, dynamic, and has a huge heart of people who are prepared to get involved in making their community a great place to live. It is also very good at communication and so many of you will already know that I have decided after 15 years to step down as Business Manager.

I shall be leaving at the end of September. I am looking forward to seeing you all in my other capacities in BADS and BEST, as well as at other community events. Nothing can stay the same and so I am sure there will be some exciting changes ahead for

a metre in length. 'What more could you want from a postal service?' I hear you cry. The volunteers are happy to help you with your postal queries but it is your responsibility to pay the right amount for the letter and parcels. If you want to learn more about our postal service please ask Sue. She is responsible for ordering stamps and we have them in a range of denominations up to £5.

We now have Chase Milk in returnable Glass Bottles. Pay £2.20 for a litre and get £1 back when you return the rinsed bottle and top to the shop.

We are looking for an administrator for our Facebook page. If you enjoy spending time online and can think of interesting snippets to put on our webpage and Facebook site, we would be delighted to hear from you. I know how difficult it can be to think of fresh things - this is my 180th article for Village News!!

the project that will ensure it continues to thrive and survive. It has been my privilege to manage your shop on your behalf and to see it grow and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support of a really special enterprise.

Thank you to all the customers, committee members, suppliers but particularly to the wonderful volunteers who have been such fun to work with, despite giving me my first grey hairs! I look forward to seeing you all in the shop when I am on the other side of the counter.

Alison

ART IN THE CAFÉ

Vic Knight Photography: 19th August - 29th September 2019

"My name is Randolph Knight, although people call me Vic, my third name. I could tell you why, but the story is too long to write here. I live in Longhope, near May Hill, with my wife. I was born in Alderton, near Tewkesbury, although my father and his father were both born in The Forest of Dean.

"I love photography – the opportunity to capture a scene or a moment in time is a great feeling. As a Christian, it enables me to connect with my Creator and His creation. Being able to spend time watching a sunset develop, mostly on my own, is a wonderful moment. Although, I do remember standing quietly in the dark of night on a hillside near Corfe Castle, waiting for the sunrise to hit the ruins. As the sun came up, I looked round to see five or six other photographers all doing the same thing.

"Really, I'm a frustrated artist, with little or no skill with brush and paints. However, by using my camera, computer and various "painting" software, I can at least attempt to cope with my frustration. (I'll leave you to judge how well I've done)

I am mainly self-taught. My learning journey (which I'm still on) has been trial and error, books, magazines, advice and guidance from friends. For a few years, I was a member of the Forest of Dean Camera Club. During that time I was fortunate to win the "Photographer of the Year" competition. I've held exhibitions at Tintern Old Railway on several occasions, once at The Dean Heritage Centre and for two years had a permanent gallery at Cottonwood in Newnham-on-Severn. For a couple of years I had my own Wedding Photography business. I've produced books, including one in collaboration with my mother-in-law, who is a poet.

"Some of the images are printed on handmade paper on an old A3 inkjet printer to give a more authentic "painterly" feel. Each sheet of handmade paper is different from the next, so the outcome is never assured. But the process and anticipation of what is revealed is exciting.

"I hope you find as much enjoyment in looking at my images as I have in producing them."

Try swapping...!
Try swapping...!
Try swapping...!



ST. BRIAVELS & BROCKWEIR
ZERO WASTE
VILLAGE INITIATIVE

Try swapping...!
Try swapping...!
Try swapping...!



Green electricity and gas
Its not necessarily more expensive.
There are various websites to help you choose a supplier and switch, including
moneysupermarket.com & greenenergy.org
Or phone moneysupermarket on 0800 177 7087

PLANTS OF THE SEASON

After our summer break, monthly meetings resume on 20 September, 7.30pm at St Briavels Pavilion, when we welcome Paul Green, owner of Greens Leaves, a specialist plant nursery in Gloucestershire. As we move into autumn, Paul will introduce us to plants of the season.

His talk will be a practical demonstration, using lots of real plants, not slides. It will be, he says, 'a good all-round talk, showcasing what is looking good (rarities / new varieties included). Merits / vices of the plants, propagation, pruning & best use in the garden are covered.

Paul will bring plants for sale. All welcome. Visitors £5

IN MY GARDEN

Annuals - Every year I like to grow a few different annuals in containers and make the most of the packets of free seeds I get with my favourite magazine. This year *Cynoglossum amabile*, *Nicotiana langsdorfii* and *Rudbeckia 'Cherry Brandy'*, all freebies, have flowered for ages but they don't seem to be very popular with my garden's insects, so probably not ones I would buy to grow again.

The seeds I have spent money on this year are different varieties of *Cosmos*. I know they're attractive to pollinators as well as to me and with my favourite pure white *Cosmos*, 'Purity' I thought I'd give a few more a try. 'Rubenza' is a lovely claret colour and although not quite as tall as 'Purity', still has that elegant *Cosmos* habit of growth. But as for the others, what a disappointment! 'Xanthos' was just a wimp and 'Antiquity' may be free flowering but at what cost, short and squat, sitting in their pots like typical old fashioned bedding plants, not what I wanted at all.

The great advantage of annuals is that they only live one summer. So next year I can try other things more to my taste, although last year's *Tagetes* has come back with a vengeance, adding insult to injury by peppering the antique dusky pink *Cosmos* with spikes of mustard yellow and vivid orange. Perhaps that will be the saving grace of the *Cosmos* I don't like. So highly bred it won't come back next year!

Cheryl Cummings

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

Looking at what I wrote this time last year, I was struck by how similar this August has been to 2018, although even wetter, I think! Gardens are very green after all that, much needed, rain but some plants look rather tired and 'gone over' – more like September than August. Once again, I've had to do a lot of cutting down to restore a bit of order in my perennial borders. Thankfully, the hydrangeas have not only coped with the downpours but clearly enjoyed them, and tender plants, watered and deadheaded regularly, just get better.

Keeping the garden going into September is a challenge and tender plants and late flowering shrubs provide invaluable freshness, colour and interest. They're certainly compensating for sad, soggy seedheads at the moment!

Lots of forward planning and preparation to do this month:

- Cover your pond with netting before leaves start to fall
- Protect your winter crops from bird damage
- Order bulbs, perennials, shrubs and trees, ready to get them in the ground while the soil is still warm
- Sow fresh seeds and seeds of biennial plants to overwinter for earlier flowering next year
- Make a start on dividing and transplanting, towards the end of the month
- Clean and tidy your greenhouse ready to move plants in for the winter next month

Find detailed guidance and more on our website www.wyegarden.com



Christine Haines

THIS MONTH'S RECIPE

Strawberry Ripple Ice Cream

It is not essential to freeze the fruit in advance but the ice cream will set quickly if you do. Any soft fruit can be used instead of strawberries. For a raspberry ripple ice cream, rub the raspberries through a sieve after pureeing to remove the seeds. Try peaches, apricots, blackcurrants or mangoes. This ice cream can be made without yogurt if you want a purely fruit based dessert.

Serves 4.

- 150g frozen strawberries + 2 bananas (peeled) cut into chunks and frozen.
- 2 tbsp icing sugar (optional)
- 250ml coconut flavoured Greek yogurt

Purée the strawberries, bananas and icing sugar in a food processor.

Place the yogurt and puréed fruit in a container with a lid. Put the lid on and place in a freezer until it is frozen (about 30 minutes).

If it has frozen really hard, leave out of the freezer for about 15 minutes before serving.



Mary Perryman

PEOPLE POWER PLEDGES

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

"There's lots of things we do at The Pantry to help us all live a little greener. Two of the most impactful things we have instigated are introducing the Borrow a Bag scheme and promoting glass milk bottles.

"We started off with carrier bags, which are advertised as degradable. We thought we were being good. We paid quite a lot for them and gave them away for free. Then we were made aware that they are not so good after all. We didn't do anything about it for a while, partly because we had loads of them in stock. Then we researched it and discovered that not only are they not biodegradable, they are worse than that, they break down into tiny microparticles of plastic. So we decided to sell paper bags instead. They were very expensive for us to buy and very expensive for our customers, even without a mark-up. Almost everyone thought the paper bags were a very good idea, until one day we watched as a milk bottle covered in condensation slipped through the now wet paper bag and smashed all over the road.

"So we changed to our Borrow a Bag scheme. We have cloth and carrier bags that anyone can borrow; we ask people to return them when they can. Most people don't actually use the scheme, now the vast majority of customers bring their own bags. It has been interesting how it seems to have been a useful nudge in encouraging behaviour change, prompting people to remember their own bag. Those who do use it bring the bags back. Lots of those are kids who come to collect milk on their bikes; even tourists are posting bags back through the door when we're closed.

"When Mary and I started there was one customer who ordered three glass pint milk bottles per week. That gradually grew to about 12 per week over 18 months. Then we watched the Attenborough documentary and decided we could do better. So we started a campaign via word of mouth and on our Facebook profile. I don't suppose it's right to say that it went viral, so let's just say it was very successful, to the extent that we now sell on average 290 glass pint milk bottles per week, which is equivalent to more than 7000 one litre plastic bottles per year. We even have tourists who come in and enquire about the milk bottles and, if they are here for a few days, order milk in glass bottles for the duration of their stay.

"When you include the bags, the bottles, and also the compostable pots, the compostable coffee cups, and the local produce that arrives in returnable containers, we have achieved an amazing reduction in plastic."

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

ST. BRIAVELS & BROCKWEIR

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ADVERTISEMENTS

BARKING MAD LYDNEY are looking for dog lovers to care for friendly dogs whilst their owners are away. Please contact Lucy on 01594 372194 or lucy.callaway@barkingmad.uk.com for more information.'

ACE ACCOUNTS - friendly, local accountants based in Brockweir. For all bookkeeping, payroll, accounts and tax needs. Contact us on 01291 680296 or info@ace-accounts.org

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www.mindfulnessforestandwye.co.uk

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CHIMKNEE SWEEPS - Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps member. HETAS approved sweep, Fully Qualified. Fully insured. Certificates issued. Clean and dust free. Bird Nests removal. Stove Maintenance. Call Jordan on 07498 310712 or 01594 832820

MATHS TUITION - Year 6 to University Undergraduate including SATs, GCSE, BTEC and A level. Highly experienced Mathematician and tutor. Contact: Dr Mark Mitchelmore (MSc, PhD, CMath, MIMA) on 07555 200143 or mark.mitchelmore@yahoo.co.uk (references available)

GCSE & A-LEVEL MATHS - Tuition from a very experienced, friendly & approachable tutor. Contact Rosie: rosie.amadia@gmail.com or find me at <https://rosie-meakin.business.site>.

MOBILE FOOT CLINIC - Hannah Davies, SAC Dip RFHP. Fully Qualified and Registered. Nail Trimming, Thickened Nails, Fungal Nails, Corns, Callus, Cracked Heels, Ingrown Toenails, Diabetic Care. For an appointment please telephone 07493 054585.

FOR A BLOOMIN' WEED FREE GARDEN or for any other gardening needs you may require give us a call at the Young Ones Gardening Services on 01594 531426 / 07702 810924 / 07711 392204 and we'll be happy to help you. References can be supplied if requested.

RHS QUALIFIED GARDENER with over 14 years experience. Specialising in pruning, border renovation, garden design and the management of larger gardens. Physically fit and hard working. Call Alex Corfield on 07868 722477.

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LOCAL HANDYMAN - honest and hardworking. Home and garden, repairs and maintenance, painting and decorating. For free estimates and advice please call Chris on (01594) 531225.

NEW HATHA YOGA DROP-IN CLASSES - suitable for beginners and experienced Yogis at Llandogo village hall on Saturdays 10-11am (£5). All welcome -please bring your mat (limited number available in class). For more information email Claudia.ClaudsYoga@gmail.com

YOGA @ ST BRIAVELS ASSEMBLY ROOMS with Ali Rose - 'create space in body, breath and mind'. Tuesday mornings, Thursday evenings & once a month Saturdays. www.yogawithalirose.co.uk for details / 07883 678629

YOGA with Kische Redwood CIYT 2004. Tuesdays 9.15am, The Pavilion, St Briavels. Fridays 9.30am, Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir. Start your day the lyengar way! www.wildwoodyoga.co.uk 07805 729893

ADULT TAP DANCING FOR FUN in the Moravian Church School Hall. Mondays 6.45pm Improvers + / Intermediates, 7.45pm Beginners. New beginners welcome. For more information call Deborah on 07801 479269 or email deborahstock@aol.com

ENJOY LEARNING MUSIC with John Hurley, CT ABRSM. Tuition given for piano, electronic keyboard, saxophone, clarinet, music theory and aural. Beginners & restarters welcome. Exams optional. Enhanced DBS certificate. St.Briavels 01594 530890.

The **October** issue deadline is midday on **Tuesday 17th September**
(Adverts and boxed events to be submitted the Friday before)

Editorial: all contributions should be sent to: editors@villagemag.co.uk, or contact any of the Committee Members:

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Views expressed within 'Village News' are those of individual contributors, and are not necessarily those of the magazine or its committee members. We reserve the right to amend, edit or refuse any articles.

Advertising: all requests should be sent to: advertising@villagemag.co.uk

Classified: 3-line adverts £3 per month - Display: 1/4 page adverts (A7) £5 monthly, minimum of 3 months. Advertising subject to availability and adverts must be paid for before printing. All cheques payable to: Village News.

Magazine subscriptions: take out an annual subscription for £3.60 by calling Sally Secrett on 01594 530539, email: subscriptions@villagemag.co.uk

OUR PARISH CHURCHES

St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels and St Mary Magdalene, Hewelsfield

Associate Parish Priest:	Robert Simpson	01594 560202
Priest in Charge:	David Treharne	01291 760034
Licensed Lay Reader:	Mandy Vaughan	01594 530844
Churchwardens: St Briavels	Jerry Maltman	01594 530799
	Martin Pagnamenta	01594 531151
Churchwardens: Hewelsfield	Gary Lewis	01594 833020
	Pauline Siddons	01594 530524
Hon. Secretary: St Briavels	Jean Sheraton	01594 531096
Hon. Secretary: Hewelsfield	Pearl Bradney	01594 531075
Hon. Treasurer: St Briavels	Roger Clewett	01291 680436
Hon. Treasurer: Hewelsfield	David Wedel	01594 530633
Organists:	Martin Pagnamenta	01594 531151
	Louise Greening	01594 530421
	Jane Benson	01291 689703
Electoral Roll Officer: St Briavels	David Rees	01594 530443
Electoral Roll Officer: Hewelsfield	Marion Harrison	01594 530264
St Briavels Congregational Church	Pastor: Matt Rees,	01594 530098
Brockweir Moravian Church	Rev Patsy Holdsworth	0117 9078994

TO BOOK OUR VILLAGE ROOMS

Assembly Rooms, St Briavels	Karen Cockfield	01594 530950
Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir	Laura Beddis	01291 689604
Pavilion/Playing Field, St Briavels	Jill Skidmore	01594 530035
School Hall, St Briavels	School Office	01594 530428
The Loft, Village Shop, Brockweir	Alison Macklin	01291 689995

DOCTORS' SURGERIES

WYE VALLEY PRACTICE

St Briavels Surgery (including out of hours)	01594 530334
Trellech Surgery (including out of hours)	01600 860302

WYEDEAN PRACTICE

Tintern Surgery (including out of hours)	01291 689355
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USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES

Brockweir & Hewelsfield Parish Council	www.hewelsfieldandbrockweirpc.org
Brockweir, Hewelsfield & St Briavels Garden Society	www.wyegarden.com
Brockweir Village Shop	www.bandhvillageshop.co.uk
Brockweir Youth Club	www.brockweiryouthclub.co.uk
Mackenzie Hall, Brockweir	www.brockweirvillagehall.co.uk
Parish Grasslands Project	www.parishgrasslandsproject.org.uk
St Briavels Assembly Rooms	www.st-briavels.com
St Briavels on Facebook	www.facebook.com/StBriavelsWatch
St Briavels Parish Council	www.stbriavels-pc.gov.uk
St Briavels School	www.stbriavelsprimaryschool.co.uk
The Loft at Brockweir	www.theloftatbrockweir.co.uk
Wye Valley Music	www.wyevalleymusic.org.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE (non emergency calls)	(UK dialling only)	101
Police Community Support Officer	Pete Timmins	01452 753804
Email: peter.timmins@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk		
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Field Officer (Chrissie Parkes)		01452 753784
ELECTRICITY	(Power cuts)	08006 783 105
GCC HIGHWAYS	(for potholes etc.)	08000 514 514
GRASS ROUTES BUS SERVICE		08000 858 015
MP (Forest of Dean):	Mark Harper	01594 823482
COUNTY COUNCILLOR (Sedbury)	Patrick Molyneux	01594 529174
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR	Chris McFarling	01594 531225
(St Briavels, Hewelsfield & Brockweir, Alvington) chris.mcfarling@fdean.gov.uk		

PARISH COUNCILS:

St Briavels	(Chair) Piers Chivers	01594 530552
	(Clerk) TBA	
	(Snow Warden) Glenys Walker	01594 530198
	(Footpaths) John Hurley	01594 530890
Hewelsfield & Brockweir	(Chair) Adam Sinfield	01291 689213
	handbpcadam@outlook.com	
	(Clerk) Lyn Skuse	01291 680053
	www.hewelsfieldandbrockweirpc.org	
	(Footpaths) Mary Harris	01291 689668
ACTION4OURCARE	Pam Plummer	01594 530008
BADGER CULLING CONCERNS	Keith Childs	01291 689319
	madgettsbadgers@gmail.com	
B.A.D.S	Immy Lee	01291 689512
BROCKWEIR BOWLS CLUB	Bob Broughton	01594 530003
BROCKWEIR EVENTS	Adrian Birch	01291 689812
BROCKWEIR EVENTS SOCIAL TEAM	Cath Baker	01291 689331
BROCKWEIR TABLE TENNIS	Jean Green	01594 530955
BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP	Alison Macklin	01291 689995
BROCKWEIR YOUTH CLUB	Barbara French	01291 689327
CHURCH BELL RINGING	Paul Bergdahl	01594 530623
COMMUNITY WELLBEING AGENT	Richard Skinner	01594 812447
	(Village Agent)	07927 051328
GARDEN SOCIETY	John Gooder	01291 689979
HEWELSFIELD against Quarrying	Bob Brown	01594 530147
HISTORY GROUP	John Norman	01291 689418
HOBOS HEDGEHOG RESCUE	Rosie Bishop	01594 531439
MACKENZIE HALL TENNIS CLUB	Ayse Rugg	07766 719950
	Rosalind Eaves	07854 676526
NOSH & NATTER	Pauline Siddons	01594 530524
PARISH GRASSLANDS PROJECT	Sally Secrett	01594 530539
PLAY AREA COMMITTEE	Sarah McLellan	01291 680092
ST BRIAVELS ASSEMBLY ROOMS	Karen Cockfield	01594 530950
ST BRIAVELS LITTER PICKERS	Paul Lounds	01594 530573
ST BRIAVELS LUNCHEON CLUB	Mary Perryman	01594 530505
ST BRIAVELS MOAT SOCIETY	Sue Davis	01594 531460
ST BRIAVELS PEOPLE'S CHOIR	Louise Greening	01594 530421
ST BRIAVELS EARLY YEARS	School Office	01594 530428
ST BRIAVELS SCHOOL headteacher	Sarah Helm	01594 530428
School bell ringing out of hours contacts:	David Rees	01594 530443
	Chris McFarling	01594 531225
ST BRIAVELS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB	Sheila Brown	01594 530676
ST BRIAVELS W.I.	Betty Bennett	01291 680018
WATER EMERGENCY		0800 7834444
WILD BOAR / DEER problems:	Tim Hill	01452 830389
WILD BOAR / DEER problems	Barry Hutchinson	07773 332467
WYE VALLEY MUSIC	Keith Norman	01594 530419
WALKING FOR HEALTH	John Hurley	01594 530890
YHA	Linda Harrison	01594 530272

Emergency out of hours number 03006 660132

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