

# The Grapevine

No. 318

June/ July 2022



The well-decorating theme this year was **Literature**. Barnards Green Fountain spectacularly reflected C S Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*.

Printed copies of *The Grapevine* are available on request to the editor.  
*The Grapevine* can be found online in full colour

## Parish Organisations

### Parochial Church Council:

Rector: Rev. Gary Crellin 01905 830270 E: revgarycrellin@gmail.com  
Vice Chairman: Mrs Liz Palmer 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

**Parish Website:** [www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk](http://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk)

### Churchwardens:

Guarlford -

Madresfield - Mr Christopher Bennett, Hayswood Farm, Madresfield, 01684 891047; Mrs Liz Palmer, 33 Hall Green Close, WR14 3QY 01684 575914

Secretary: Wendy Palmer 01684 899223 E: wendy.palmer@outlook.com

Treasurer: Mr Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

### The Parish Councils:

Newland Clerk: Jacqui Barker, 114 Fruitlands, Malvern WR14 4XB 01684 567674  
E: newlandpc1@gmail.com

Guarlford Clerk: Mrs Gill Hollick, 2 Bamford Close, Guarlford WR13 6PF  
07816 533251 E: parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com

Madresfield Clerk: Mr David Sharp, 20 Farley Road, Malvern Link  
01684 573213 E: mrdasharp@btinternet.com

**Guarlford Website:** [www.guarlfordparish.uk](http://www.guarlfordparish.uk)

**County & District Councillor:** Tom Wells, 27 Upton Road, Callow End WR2 4TY 01905 831752 07702 996203 E: talwells@btinternet.com

Guarlford Women's Institute: 7.30, Guarlford Village Hall, second Tuesday in the month.

President: Di Rivers Tel ; 01684 572381

E: wifolk@guarlfordparish.uk

### Sport:

Madresfield Cricket Club Secretary: Peter Hughes, Holly Lodge, Madresfield 01684 572649

Madresfield Movement Club

Children's gym, dance, drama and ballet 01684 574378

### The Grapevine Magazine

Editor: Ms Cora Weaver, 4 Hall Green WR14 3QX E: cora.weaver@talktalk.net

Postal Distribution: Janet Lomas 07827 970600

Please send **donations and advertising fees** (cheques payable to The Grapevine) to the treasurer: Shelagh Thorne, 3 Chance Lane WR14 3QZ or online by bank transfer :

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## What's On in the Parish

**Meditation Group** meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2pm 01905 831048

**Tower Bell Ringers** every Monday at 7.30 in Madresfield Church.

**Guarlford W.I** every second Tuesday in the month at Guarlford Village Hall.

**Movement Club** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378.

**Parent & Toddler Groups** run daily in term time at Madresfield Early Years Centre 01684 574378 or Mrs Elaine Ward 01684 565714.

**Newland Parish Council** bi-monthly on Mondays in the Boardroom, Beauchamp Community, 7.30.

### Church Services

Each church notice board will have a list of services but you can visit the online calendar at <https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk>

If you have to dial 999 or 112 and cannot speak  
Dial 55  
You can be found from your dialling location.

### What's On in the Parishes

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### The Grapevine Timetable 2022

Edition	Deadline date	Collation date (Tuesday)
August / September	8th July	26th July
October / November	8th September	20th September
December / January	8th November	22nd November

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## WHERE TO FIND THE GRAPEVINE ONLINE

- \* [http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/vill\\_mag.htm](http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/vill_mag.htm) This site also displays past editions.
- \* <http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/news.htm>
- \* <https://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk/>
- \* [www.madresfieldschool.net](http://www.madresfieldschool.net)
- \* <https://www.beauchampstleonard.org>
- \* Google Guarlford in Worcestershire County Council's website.

**PLEASE NOTE** that, like hairdressers, butchers and European museums, Rev Gary's normal day off is **Monday**.



### A new QR Code for the Old Hills Malvern Churches

Chances are, you will have already seen these little boxes with strange looking black markings. They are quite out there at the moment. If you have a phone or a tablet, you can use it to scan this box - and if you do, it will take you directly to the Churches' website. No need to remember the www. address - scan and be teleported (or something) straight to the website. Give it a go.

### Financial Help for Those in Need

The **Madresfield Relief in Need Charity** is an ancient charity for the benefit of those living in the ancient parish of Madresfield with Newland. The charity is overseen by *the Charity Commission* and managed by local trustees including Rev Gary Crellin.

The Covid pandemic has made life very tough for many. The trustees would like to help anyone within our parishes who needs support during this very challenging time. If you would like to apply for financial support, please contact Rev Gary Crellin through the contact details below.

**All applications will be treated in strict confidence.**

**To make an application please contact:**

Rev Gary Crellin, The Vicarage, 31 The Greenway  
Colletts Green, Powick WR2 4RZ  
Email: [revgarycrellin@gmail.com](mailto:revgarycrellin@gmail.com)



Gill Hollick in Guarlford has been donated this litter-picking trolley. It's wonderful. We were starting to struggle as there are far more glass bottles than there used to be. This is Allan (pictured left) at the end of Northend Lane. We usually keep to our own area but was driving down Mayfield Road last week and was horrified at the litter on the driver's side of the road. We decided we had to clear it. When we got there, we thought someone must have been there before us as there was far less at the top end. Even though it started to snow, we still managed to fill two sacks.

Usually, people wave out of cars at us or open their windows and thank us. On this particular day, someone stopped, opened her window and said, 'You two must be mad.' Charming. [from Marguerire Barnewell]

## ADOPT-A-STREET

You may see folk with blue sacks ,wearing **high viz. jackets** on your travels around the Malvern area. They have joined the ADOPT-A-STREET project, a Malvern Hills District Council scheme.

There seems to be an epidemic of litter everywhere - including cans, bottles, plastic bags, food cartons, coffee cups, sweet wrappers, face masks, doggie bags and car tyres. If you can spare some time, four times a year or more, you can volunteer to **ADOPT -A-STREET** or area of land. The council supply blue refuse sacks, litter-picking devices, gloves and a high viz waistcoat and off you go. The bags are taken away by your own bin men.

My husband and I have collected over 30 bags since Christmas 2021. Any help is appreciated. If you would like to join, in contact Malvern Hills District council ADOPT-A-STREET .Hope to see you out there and help to make our area more beautiful.

I've just signed up to pick up the litter between Guarlford Church and Hall Green. (Ed)



## Old Hills Caterpillars

### **Knitted Bible Exhibition 1st to 8th April, St Peter's Church, Powick**

Stories of the Bible brought to life through knitting! That is quite a sentence and a difficult concept to explain.

When Kay and I visited a church near Evesham last summer, what we saw was so unexpected and unique we knew we wanted to bring the exhibition to St Peter's. Our difficulty was to explain to people the idea and that we could fill our church building with knitted characters.

We planned, publicised, made souvenirs, brought drinks, biscuits, and Hot X buns, produced refreshment rotas, booked groups and schools, and prepared for the largest event that St Peter's church had hosted for many years.

With over 600 items, bunting, Open The Book props, and flowers, together as a team plus friends we set up the exhibition and decorated the church.

Despite the weather being against us, the church was full of colour, inviting and offered warmth to everyone who visited us from near and far - from the end of the church drive to Malvern and St John's;

from Malvern Priory and Worcester Cathedral to Coventry and Manchester. Over the next eight days, over 670 people came through the doors: as individuals, with schools, scouting or guiding groups, walking groups, friends or visitors just passing. With the Lady Chapel set up as a café, we kept the kettles on and served Hot X buns and biscuits.



It was a wonderful week, watching delighted faces as people explored the exhibits and seeing the children chatter excitedly as they explored the knitted animals and characters, but especially excited when they found the lost sheep or saw the lion through the bars of the den or counted the multiple breeds of animals going two by two into the Ark, or counting the apples on the tree in the garden of Eden or finding a sheep (accidentally) in Zacchaeus's tree, a child asking the question 'is Jesus buried here?' and lastly but beautifully exclaimed by a child when he saw the Open The Book ladies (who for the last two years have sent videos into schools instead of being in person in assemblies), in church to read a story to the school children say 'they are real people'!



The most popular exhibit that the children liked was Noah's Ark, but I think one of the most stunning exhibits was the Last Supper on a stripped altar and the Crucifixion. Both very simple but poignant without words.

I have privileged over the eight days. I was in church at every session and have welcomed nearly everyone and spent time chatting to many people. It has been quite a profound experience seeing the church full of life and God's spirit, whether it had 1 person or 60 chattering children.



I thank every person who has been involved in this event and everyone who visited us and the knitted creations. The exhibition is now moving onto a church in Whitehaven in Cumbria and will carry on touring Great Britain. I am glad we welcomed it to Powick and all who came to visit.

Vicky Whitehouse, Chair of Old Hills Caterpillars,  
01905 831996

[vickywhitehouse@teckserv.co.uk](mailto:vickywhitehouse@teckserv.co.uk)

## Madresfield C.E. Primary School – spaces available

**Madresfield C.E. Primary School** is located in the heart of Madresfield village. We provide a diverse and creative curriculum with an emphasis on developing the children's social and emotional wellbeing so that they thrive in their learning. Due to some families moving away from the area we now have a few places available in school. If you are interested in finding out more, or know of anyone who may be, please get in touch with us on 01684 573620.



Mrs Michelle Waits, Head of School

On April 14th, Maundy Thursday, we had the privilege of meeting **Don Smith** with his wife Cherry and his cousin Chris. Don and Cherry now live in Wales, and they had come to Guarlford to revisit some of the places that Don knew as a child in 1940, when he was evacuated to Guarlford from Selly Park, in Birmingham. Don has had a long and successful life, and he still recalls the time he spent in Guarlford. You can read on the Guarlford parish website the account he sent us some years ago:

[www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember\\_evacuees\\_don\\_smith.htm](http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember_evacuees_don_smith.htm)

Don said that the children gathered at Selly Park Junior and Infants School, and then they travelled by train to Malvern, where a coach brought them to Guarlford. He recalls being taken into a hall and given something to eat and drink, before all the foster parents arrived to collect the children. He was selected by Richard and Alice Harrod, the licensees of the **Plough and Harrow**, of whom he became very fond.



Don Smith, aged 6



Left to right: Don's wife Cherry, Don and his cousin Chris outside Guarlford Church in April.

Living conditions in this rural village were rather different from what Don and the other children were used to in Birmingham. There was no electricity or gas supply to the house, so lighting was with large paraffin lamps, which were lowered down from the ceiling to be lit. A large black wood and coal-fired range was used for cooking; drinking water came from a well in the back garden, while there was a rainwater tank for other uses. In his memoir, Don recalls that washing was quite an experience, as the water contained things like the larvae of midges, and when the water was boiled the bodies had to be

skimmed off before washing in it, something echoed in many reminiscences of Guarlford until the 1950s. However, for a city boy, the freedom of living in the country was brilliant; there were many other advantages, and Don loved living here. Don, Cherry and Chris visited the present day Plough and Harrow and he found it much changed.

Chris has a family connection to Guarlford's own author and playwright, **Leslie Halward**, also originally from Birmingham, who lived in Clevelode Lane and has left wonderful descriptions of life in the 1930s and 40s.

See [www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember\\_halward.htm](http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember_halward.htm)

Another person evacuated as a child was **Reg Bevan**, who visited us in 2005 with other evacuees for the launch of our first village history book, *The Guarlford Story*, bringing with him his own memoir:

See [www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember\\_evacuees.htm](http://www.guarlfordparish.uk/remember_evacuees.htm)

We have been so lucky to be able to record all these reminiscences of a very different time, and it is good to hear that the country people of Guarlford were so welcoming to children uprooted from their homes in the face of danger in wartime.

Angus and Rosemary McCulloch

## GUARLFORD W.I NEWS



Time and events move on apace and, following the success of our first zoom talk, one member reported that to 'see' fourteen members 'it almost felt as if she had been out'. On the strength of this success a provisional programme was set up for 2021.

In March, Gill Hollick gave us a very informative talk on what is happening locally to **help Malvern reach carbon neutral by 2030**. We discussed ways in which members can support this initiative including the planting of a tree to commemorate our 80th year.

In April, Jennie Cameron led a bluebell walk over Dripshill to view the glorious bluebells. A magical, if very cold, morning accompanied by a lovely smelly, muddy dog.

The April meeting took the form of an online talk by Carroll Murphy about a charity that repairs and refurbishes old tools before sending them to countries in Africa. A very worthwhile cause. This was followed by a Divine free trade chocolate tasting evening which involved a lot of snapping, sucking, laughing and giving marks out of ten. A spring time treat for members!

May saw us resuming our small groups for **tea and cake in the garden**, so lovely to meet friends we often hadn't seen in the flesh for many months.

In June, **Guarlford WI will reach its 80th birthday** and to celebrate this important milestone Carroll Murphy has very kindly offered her beautiful garden for our birthday garden party. Mindful of our carbon footprint, this event will have scrumptious cakes and tea but will be paper and plastic free. Bring on the washing up bowl and the tea towel in a good cause.

July 5th is **NHS Day** and we are looking to mark this occasion with a display of its history and teas in the village hall.

There are plans for a talk by a NGS speaker, '**I'm not much good at gardening**', in August and we hope to hold our bi-annual Craft and Produce show in the village hall in September if the roll out continues to plan. Local visits will be planned as rules are lessened and more areas and attractions are opened – all we need is some warm, dry weather.

We have recently learned of the sad death of **David Ashcroft**, the husband of Judith Ashcroft, a long-standing and well-respected member and past President of Guarlford WI. Our thoughts are with her and her family.

Thinking of the wider community, we are aware that many charities are having greater calls on their services, not least, **The West Mercia Women's Aid**. Not difficult to appreciate how circumstances can easily deteriorate during lock down and travel restrictions. We have donated £100 and it is hoped that a representative will come to speak to us later in the year and discuss any other ways we could be of help.

We held our first face to face – suitably distanced – committee meeting this month. Zoom is wonderful but there is nothing quite like seeing and chatting for real and sharing a cuppa from the same pot.

With the amazingly successful, rapid roll out of the various vaccines, children back at school and the lifting of restrictions, we hope we can soon invite members old and new back to meetings. We can dare to dream.

Sue Orgill

## UPDATE FROM GUARLFORD VILLAGE HALL

Over the past two months, support for Guarlford's village hall has continued to grow. Although there is still a long way to go to reach the fundraising total of £150,000, it has been very heart-warming to see so many people turning up to support the events organised by the Village Hall committee. On 30th April, 67 people enjoyed a super evening at the hall as they exercised their little grey cells with a **fun quiz**, which had been very ably set by **Mr Richard Edwards** of Penny Close. Everyone agreed how lovely it was to see the hall spring into life with so many local people all enjoying each other's company.

Over £600 was raised for hall funds which will all go towards the regeneration project.



The next event to be held in the village hall will be a **first aid and defibrillator training event** on 18th May 2022 at 7.00 pm. This event has been arranged by Guarlford Parish Council and will be free to attend. Refreshments will be provided by Guarlford Village Hall. There is no need to book, just turn up on the evening but if you would like more information please contact the parish clerk [parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com)

In June, to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the village hall is joining with Guarlford Parish Council to organise a street party. This will be held in Penny Close and will be a bring and share picnic. If you have any ideas or suggestions for activities you would like to see in the village hall, the Trustees would be delighted to hear from you.

The Trustees are continuing to seek grant funding and are always keen to make Guarlford village hall available for anyone wishing to book the hall for hire. If you would like more information either on hiring the hall, the activities and events or supporting the Trustees contact the Secretary Gill Hollick on **07816 533251**

### GUARLFORD PARISH COUNCIL AND GUARLFORD VILLAGE HALL

Invite the residents of Guarlford to:

#### THE PLATINUM JUBILEE PICNIC STREET PARTY

PENNY LANE & PENNY CLOSE, GUARLFORD

SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1pm - 5pm

Bring food for yourself and extra to share if you can

*(Don't forget your cutlery, drinks and glasses!)*

**Make a crown at home** and bring it with you, there will be a prize for the best one.

**RSVP** to: [parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkguarlford@gmail.com) or [guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:guarlfordvillagehall@gmail.com) tel 07816 533251

1pm Welcome by Parish Council Chairman Mike Huskinson outside the village hall

1.15pm Bring and share picnic – tables will be set up in Penny Close

Toilets available in the village hall

Games will be set out throughout the afternoon, eg Hook a Duck, Hoopla etc.

2.30pm Cutting the celebration cake and toast to Her Majesty The Queen

3.00pm Morris Dancing by Appleyard and SoXsighted

4.00pm Scavenger hunt

4.30pm Prize awards and close.



## NEWLAND NEWS



Summer approaches or so we hope. Gardeners are funny people: the weather is either too dry, too hot, too wet or too cold. According to the Met Office, this April has been the driest in for ever.

Easter has passed for another year, Easter eggs eaten and services attended. I did rather enjoy the Saturday night service complete with candles and holy water. St Leonards looks good in the dark with candles burning and low-level lighting, all very atmospheric. Jesus's entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday is shown in the frescoes on the north wall of the chancel.

The plants bought recently have been a mixed success but this one from Morrisons is rather fun. One of our neighbours had to look up the name; it is Ranunculus. I just think of it as a pom pom flower.

The BBC news informed me that the Road Traffic Act had been updated and drivers have to give way to pedestrians crossing the road at junctions; when the driver is turning in the pedestrian has right of way. Cyclists also have right of way over drivers at junctions. Now it appears most drivers are not aware of this as they are still behaving as they always did. Except the one delivery driver who, while I was waiting to cross by the island, stopped, allowing me to cross the road. Very good and nice to see someone has taken note of the change in the law. It was not very well publicised so I wonder how many other drivers/pedestrians are aware of the changes.



The pom pom flower

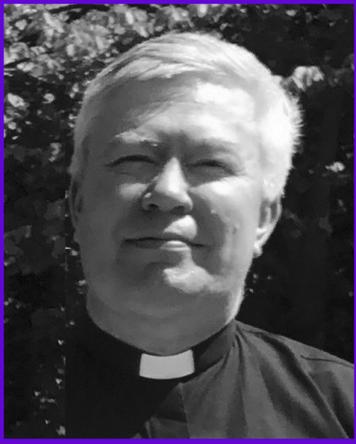
A while ago, I was musing on the creation of a second class of people who do not use online services and how they risked being left behind. Recently, I discovered that in Great Malvern library you can book an appointment with the staff and they will help you to access online Worcestershire County Council services, such as bus pass renewals. Pleased to see the council is thinking about all their customers, not just those of us online.

Other news is that from 1<sup>st</sup> May the bus timetables are changing and there are no 44 buses running on a Sunday and the evening service finishes at 6pm.

St George's Day passed without much notice again this year. Is it because he has only been our patron saint for the last 600 or so years? Edward III changed the patron saint of England to St George in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, because he was a martial saint, rather than Edmund the Martyr who was a peaceful saint. St George was never in England and has no direct connection to us. St Edmund was a king of East Anglia who refused to renounce his faith after he had been captured by the Vikings in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and they executed him. His saint's day is 20<sup>th</sup> November and he was buried in Bury St Edmunds monastery, now St Edmondsbury Cathedral. I think we can all see how the town acquired its name.

[www.beauchampstleonards.org](http://www.beauchampstleonards.org)

Jane Tinklin



## VICAR'S PASTORAL LETTER JUNE 2022

Dear Friends

Welcome to the summer. I am writing this at the beginning of May. It's still nice outside the vicarage window but I am very conscious, and I am about to tempt fate here, where have the April Showers got to? The ground around the farm fields and by-ways is very parched and cracked and I know the farmers, and maybe our gardeners, are after rain. But the sun is here, for now. So let's give thanks - even if it's only to top up our vitamin D levels.



This is a time, when the sun rises the highest, we behold the beauty of warmth and sunshine in its fullest. C S Lewis said, *'I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.'* And it is true, by means of the sunlight, we witness the wonders of God's creation. And we witness new life as well as light and long days to enjoy it.

When the sunshine moves into our hearts, the impact is equally impressive. Tom Baker, my all-time favourite incarnation of Doctor Who, put it very nicely- he said on a blog: *'Strive to have sunshine in our hearts each day as it will greatly improve our outlook.'* Our outlook is regularly battered by the storms of life. Coming out of a pandemic is one thing; dealing with family bereavement is another. So many of our parishes have experienced bereavement in the last two years but carrying long term illnesses or experiencing recent ailments or dealing with relentless ructions in the family or church(es) are just as challenging.

**The longest psalm in the Bible, psalm 119** covers it aptly too: *'My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees (or commands).'* Really? Can any suffering truly improve our outlook?

We grow though the challenges we face in our life: in our shared ministry in these villages, as we meet in our families, communities, work and wider environment. It is not so much what happens to us, but what we do with such challenges which determines the result and outcome. It is a fact of human nature that learning and growth, development and change require a process, and so often the most important changes take place within the framework of struggle or a wrestling of circumstances. Maybe It was that point that led the Psalmist to write that verse and HM The Queen for reflecting on her *Annus horribilis* in 1992 but has continually strived to serve us all so well despite her recent challenges and her ensuing frailty.

Who says that rows, disagreements and backbiting doesn't go on in these villages, let alone the churches? Such dialogue, however necessary, painful or insightful, flush out deep-seated prejudices or opinions, that with prayer and good nature, we can work to change. In overcoming the challenges we face in our lives, we become more rounded and formed. It might hurt at the time, but we learn and become stronger. I am not sure where I got this phrase, but I do love it- *the world around us is like an emery stone on which we sharpen ourselves revealing lessons through our adversities.*

Things that strike into our lives make us bitter or better, according to the way we respond. I know through the process of change happening necessarily within the church, the future can make people bitter or dig in for a fight. But for our churches to remain, we need to transform:

not remain museums to the past which I fear some are at risk of so doing. We need to remember we are a living faith, so let's live!

If we live or work with people who seem to do a perfect job of irritating our spirits, then this can become a cage or a challenge. How we handle the challenging person or people, or just challenge, decides whether it is a groaning point or a growing point. That's a good way of defining the agenda for the incoming trustees for our church councils across the parishes, I think.

St Francis of Assisi said, *'A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.'* Doubt, fear, anxiety, worry and resentment are examples of shadows that disrupt our outlook. Although there are many ways of winning over these negative emotions, the most important point to remember is that we are God's children and His personal responsibility. Nothing that happens to us can outwit God's loving provision for each of us.

I am inclined to agree with an unknown author who said: *'We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty.'* We need to become a sunbeam to others too and be driven to do good all around us starting with our family, community, schools, and helping our vulnerable residents in and beyond this parish. The internal rays of sunshine become infectious, spreading from person to person until the sunshine flourishes in the hearts of our village residents or church congregations.

I finish this letter, littered with well-intentioned quotes or soundbites, with a lovely quotation from Hans Christian Anderson to ponder until the next magazine edition: *'Just living is not enough,'* said the butterfly. *'One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower'*. Stay blessed with love.

Rev Gary



**So Many Children!** by Barbara Hill *ALM (Pastoral)*

In 1939, much to Britain's credit, she accepted many Jewish children to her shores. We now refer those children as the **'Kindertransport'**\* children. They were the children of heart broken parents who sent their loved ones on trains across Holland and Belgium hoping and praying for their safe arrival in England, thus saving them from the fearful fate of Nazi Germany. The courage of those parents to say good bye to their much-loved children, not knowing if or when they may ever see them again, can only really be appreciated when one is a parent oneself. Those 'Kinder Transport' were the lucky children as so many were unable to flee to a safe haven. Very many of the parents and children compelled to stay behind under the evil tyranny perished, therefore many of these families were never reunited. Some Kindertransport children, having so few surviving kin folk, stayed here and become British citizens. Records show very few returned to their original home lands. Most made successful lives and contributed greatly to their adopted country. As the years rolled on, there are now few of the original children still alive to give first-hand accounts of that epic journey.

It was also during 1939 that the British government of the day devised a plan that all children living in large cities or sensitive areas would be better served if they were evacuated out to rural areas to escape what would inevitably be targets for bombing and destruction. Parents who could afford to pay the little extra to the government's subsidy were encouraged to send their children to

\* 'Kinder' is the German word for 'children'

rural boarding schools, including Malvern. These children were known as the 'The Evacuees'. The evacuation of city children was a voluntary scheme. No families were compelled to send their children away. At first, there was just a trickle of movement during what was known as the 'phoney war'. As the war progressed, British families were also doing the most unselfish act of placing their children on trains to undisclosed destinations or in some cases on ships bound for Canada or Australia. Most of the children were welcomed by their hosts, but unfortunately some were not. There was a small, monthly grant for the host and some were more interested in the monetary side, or to have an extra pair of working hands, rather than the welfare of the child. Fortunately, most of the unsuitable hosts were weeded out and children placed elsewhere, where many of them spent a better life than that which they had left behind in the towns and cities.

Volunteers from the **WRVS, Red Cross, Civil Defence** and churches organised the movement of kinder and evacuee children and monitored the situation throughout the war years; a war time social service one might say. Many of the children had relatives in rural area and spent the war years with them. However, it was not easy for the hosts of traumatised children some of whom, sadly, became orphans during their time away from home.

Recently, a former evacuee, albeit very old now, visited Guarlford church. In his twilight years, he wished to visit once again the places that generously sheltered him during the war. His visit evoked my own memories of my evacuation, with my mother, to my grandmother in Wales. We lost our home and family members and stayed there.

In 1956-7, Britain yet again gladly accepted children fleeing the fighting of the Hungarian Uprising. My mother was host to a young boy, and he returned to Hungary after the hostilities. Several others stayed here, raised families and become valuable citizens. In our very recent history Kenyans, Syrians, Afghans and others have also sought refuge in our compassionate country.

How terribly sad that history over such a short span of time is placing children and mothers in such a situation yet again. I am confident that, once again, the United Kingdom will step forward and give help in any possible way to those whom find themselves reliant on others for their very being.

Please join with me and pray for peace and God bless the brave people of Ukraine

## **A Special Service for pre-schoolers, their parents & carers**

You are warmly invited to join us at the

### **PreSchoolers' Service**

in St Mary's Church, Madresfield

from 1.30 to 2 pm on Tuesday 12th July

when the theme will be ***The Good Shepherd***

Do come along, sit on the carpet, sing songs and listen to a story.

You will be very welcome.



## FUNDRAISING DURING LENT AND UKRAINE

Thank you to the villages across our parishes for responding so well to the Ukrainian appeals. As well as a large amount of donated goods, we raised over £750 for **Teams4U** and an additional £200 for the **Disasters' Emergency Committee (DEC)**. \* The Knitted Bible collection was split to include a donation to the Ukrainian appeal too.

The donated goods were part of a 100-tonne delivery organised by Teams4U - a charity that the parishes support each year via the Christmas Shoebox Appeal. Having an established logistics operation and experience of the post-Brexit customs regulations (even for refugee aid) helped get our donations to where they were desperately needed. So, where it go and did it get there?

Our humanitarian aid went to **Suceava, Romania**, approximately 20 minutes from the southern border with Ukraine. Here a team from the university, which is acting as a refugee holding area, packed it up for distribution to refugees in arriving across the border in Romania or indeed it went across the border, either to displaced people or directly to conflict zones.

Part of the aid goes to **Sange Pentru, Romania**, also based in Suceava, who send it into the occupied territories in the east of Ukraine.

*'I think the situation in Ukraine is unknown. Our partners, and the organisations we are working with, are doing an amazing job, without tiring. At this moment, it is purely a relief response. Keeping children, families alive, and supporting them with their basic needs.'* (Dave Cooke, Founder of Teams4U)

Understandably, the Lenten collections for **Sightsavers** (across GMN Parish) and **Mission Morogoro** (Powick Parish) took a hit because of Ukraine. Over £200 was raised for Sightsavers and £47.42 for Mission Morogoro. Most of that came from the Easter Assembly at Callow End School. Thank you if you donated in any way.

\* DEC - Disasters' Emergency Committee (The conglomerate of UK Charities that coordinate cash donations for global calamities)



## Your Church Councils

Each parish had its annual church meeting for the parishioners in April. Copies of the accounts and the annual report are available from the vicar or from the parishes' website – [www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk](http://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk)

Your churchwardens for the next year are:

**Powick and Callow End** - Amy Dunn and Janet Chill (supported by Frances Betts and Ken Harris at Callow End)

**Guarlford and Madresfield with Newland** - Christopher Bennett and Elizabeth Palmer (Madresfield). Still no warden at Guarlford - we are into the sixth year of this vacancy now, sadly. If you are interested in supporting your church in Guarlford by providing local presence and leadership, please contact the vicar.

## THANK YOU GUARLFORD.

You contributed £500 towards the total sum of the Old Hills Benefice, 26th March Ukrainian Appeal. Donations of blankets, sleeping bags, toiletries and food stuffs are now on their way to the Polish-Ukraine border. A late contribution of £100 has also been sent to Disasters' Emergency Committee .

Thank you too, The Guarlford and Madresfield Churches Lenten Appeal for 2022 also sent £200 ( gift aided ) to the Sight Savers Charity Chippenham.



### Your Church Is . . .

Where your **PARENTS** bring you to be Baptised.  
Where your **FRIENDS** bring you to be Married.  
Where your **RELATIVES** bring you to be Buried.  
Why not try coming on **YOUR OWN** sometime ?  
**YOU WILL BE WELCOMED.**

## Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen

A special service will take place on Sunday 5th June 2022 at Powick Church (for the parish), Madresfield Church and Guarlford Church to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

See the church services on page 21 (online *Grapevine* only) for further information.

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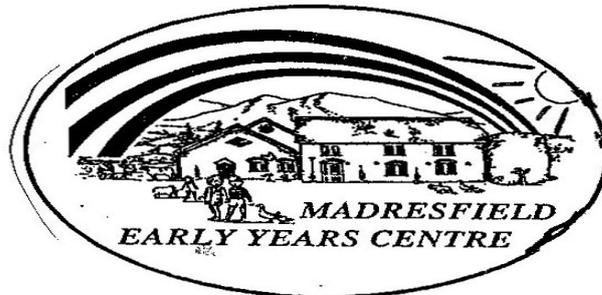


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Copy for the next *Grapevine* should be with the editor by **8th July 2022**.

## **Education**

### Madresfield C E Primary School

Head of School: Michelle Waits Tel:01684 573620

Email: office@madresfield.worcs.sch.uk

### Friends of Madresfield School

Chairman: Angela Pountney Vice Chairman: Pippa Rose East

Secretary: Milly Fleming Treasurer: Hannah Hollick Press Officer: Tracy Williams

### Madresfield Early Years Centre www.meyc.co.uk 01684 574378 (9am-2pm)

Mrs Alice Bennett 01684 574378

\* Madresfield Parent & Toddler Club; Tuesdays 11-12; Gymini classes throughout

Wednesdays \* Holiday Play Schemes \* After School Collection & Care

•Babies to PreSchool Care 8am-6pm daily

## **Social**

Madresfield Club : Secretary, Mrs Jo Morgan 01684 573363

Bell Ringing: Practice Mondays, 7.30 at Madresfield Church

Geoff Titmuss 01684 572495

## **Countryside Matters**

Tree Wardens: Rev. Peter Hughes (Guarlford)

Parish Path Wardens:

Newland - Mike Everitt, 4 Rectory Lane, Madresfield WR13 5AB

01684 560927

E: landm@mikeeveritt.plus.com

Madresfield - Mike Everitt (as above) and Martin Thorne, 1 Rectory Lane, Madresfield, Malvern, WR13 5AB - 01684 564133

E: martinthorne380@btinternet.com

Guarlford - David Fellows, Green Fields, Rectory Lane, Guarlford 01684 574243

Malvern Hub: for reporting abandoned cars and flytipping 01684 862151

### Malvern Hills Trust

Chase representative: Graeme Crisp 01684 560476

Newland representative: Tom Yapp 01886 833122

Guarlford representative: David Fellows

Community Support Officer: PCSO Martin Butcher

