

Aymestrey Matters



Summer 2024

Parish Notice Board



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 20th July 12noon- Annual Aymestrey Fete

Saturday 3th August 11am Exhibitors- Produce & Flower Show 2pm viewing

Thursday 12th September 2pm- Whist Drive

Saturday 21st September 11am- Tabletop Sale

FUN QUIZ

New season starts
Friday 20th September

Normally 2nd Friday in the
Month

In the Parish Hall

8pm

Teams of up to 4
or come along and join in
anyway

Parish Council Meetings

held in the Parish Hall

7.00pm

4th Wednesday in the month

ALL Parishioners are welcome to attend

“Tea/Coffee in the Hall”

*Come and join us for the
weekly social event.*

*New to the area, meet new people,
have a chat, all parishioners welcome.
every Tuesday in the Parish Hall*

10.30am to 12noon~ish

Save the Dates

Whist Drive

12th September

Tabletop Sale

21st September

Both in the Hall

Film Night

Restarts October ~ 3rd Friday in Month

Food 7pm ~ Film 7.30pm

Carpet Bowls Monday Evenings

@

Parish Hall

7pm

All Welcome

EDITORS' PAGE

Summer time and it's the Fete! Let's hope the weather is kinder than last year; we've had the poor wet spring, so we've fingers crossed for a half decent summer and a great growing season, especially looking forward to the Plant & Produce Show on the 3rd August.

Local history is again featured, reflecting on the breath and depth of our Parish since the Iron Age. Along with marvelling at the beauty of our surroundings, we often feel how complacent we become that we live in such a fantastic rural retreat.

Unfortunately we didn't live here when the last 'Murder Mystery Night' was held, so it's great to see that Ian Banks is looking to organise another. Budding Thespians please see the adverts in this magazine and please step forward.

GratITUDE is due to Ian Goddard for all his hard work on the Parish Council, especially as Chair; he has supported the Hall and this magazine at all times; so we're pleased he's remaining as a Parish Councillor so we can all still benefit from his experience.

Denise & Martyn

*Please forward all articles, photos, notices and letters to
editor@aymestrey.org*

Thanks to Imogen Davis for this edition's lovely front cover

An Apology

In the last edition of this magazine we did an article on the new *Foot Health Clinic*, run by Angie Lennox, in the Parish Hall.

But we managed to put the wrong phone number ~
it should read 07977 108391

So a big sorry to Angie and to anyone who tried to ring on that wrong number.

Please use the clinic it would be a shame to lose this local facility for all
and remember it is cheaper than a home visit.

Next Clinic Monday August 19th why not call in and have a chat.

Church Notice Board

Decorating Aymestrey Church for Harvest Festival

St Alkmund, Aymestrey
Friday 4th October at 10am

All contributions of flowers, fruit and
vegetables from your garden would be
gratefully received

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

St John the Baptist and
St Alkmund, Aymestrey
Friday 4th October
at 6.00pm

followed by
HARVEST SUPPER
in the Parish Hall

HARVEST FESTIVAL

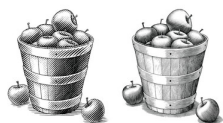
@

St Andrew's

Leinthall Earls

Sunday 20th October

6.30pm



Forest Church

**Aymestrey Church and Churchyard
9.30am Fourth Sunday of Every Month**

Come and join us for an outdoor service to
connect with nature and share our concerns for
the environment. We meet for about 45
minutes, starting with refreshments before a
time of prayer and worship.

Followed by activities on an outdoor theme for
those who want to be creative.

Future services:

28th July *Five Loaves and Two Fish*

No Forest Church in August

22nd Sept *Apples and Pears*

For more information contact:

wendy@mortimerscrosschurches.co.uk

Aymestrey and Leinthall Earls Churches

Rev. Julie Read

We celebrated Midsummer at Forest Church on Sunday 23rd; the time of the solstice (meaning sun stand still) and the time of the longest daylight. Originally a pagan festival, but the church began to integrate with it, and 24th June is the 'Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist' (to whom Aymestrey Church is dedicated). His birth, some 6 months before the birth of Christ, it marks his place as the one who goes before Christ to prepare his way. Midsummer was a holiday for the farm workers in the midst of harvest and as the Feast of John the Baptist linked with Midsummer, there were maypoles and fires lit. At the time that rushes were put on church floors to insulate and to keep the dust down, the whole community went cutting the rushes and bringing the rush cart into church changed the rushes on the floor. In Bishop's Castle, where I did my curacy (also dedicated to John the Baptist), there was cutting of rushes and a rush cart that was brought into church along with morris dancers and the song 'Green Grow the Rushes O' - which if you get underneath the words are references to certain constellations and also to the Bible with the 10 commandments, the 4 gospel makers etc.

We look forward to the Aymestrey Fete and the gathering together for its fun and games, races and stalls and an opportunity to bring the whole community together to celebrate its importance. By that time Rev Rosie will have been ordained priest in the cathedral (June 29th); which is the next stage of her journey and allows her to fly solo in the ministry of the church; to preside at the service of Holy Communion, and we are glad that she continues to grow in confidence and love as she serves in these parishes.



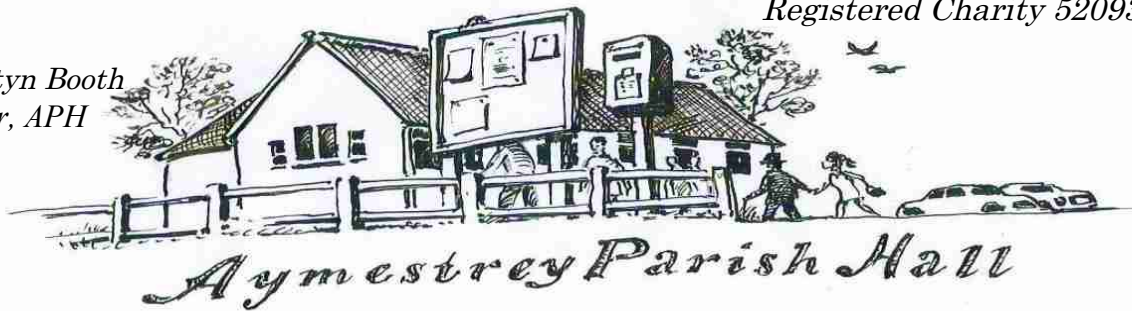
Well done Rosie.

I'm not sure whether the printing of this magazine will catch the next 'My Life in Music' which Rosie is running and will be on the 6th July at Aymestrey Parish Hall. It is a form of desert island discs with a nominated person (this time Stuart Hutchings) telling his story with his choice of music in conversation with Rosie and including where his Christian Faith has played a part in his life. I have found these evenings most moving and they have heartened me to hear about God at work in people's lives. It is a free event starting at 7pm and there is a meal as part of the occasion. This is the third of these (the other two have happened in Kingsland and Eardisland) and do come along to this, or the next one (they happen every couple of months).

We were sad to hear of the death of Letty Dunne of Leinthall Earls and send the Dunne family our love and prayers as they prepare for her funeral. Our thanks also for the wonderful 'peony days' at Gatley and the contribution to church funds from the teas and cakes that many people enjoyed. It is lovely when everyone pulls together for the good of the community and the much needed maintenance work on the two church buildings in our parish. Thank you.

Wishing you all well as we journey through the election and into the next chapter in the life of our country. May we be ones that encourage, help and inspire through these troubling times we live through.
Julie

*Martyn Booth
Chair, APH*



Aymestrey Parish Hall

Well finally, after almost five months of wrangling, negotiating and a little arguing, the work to repair the entrance and the badly damaged corner of the hall has been completed. At the last count 10 companies have been involved along the way, it's little wonder insurance premiums are so high! Importantly we have now regained our disabled access, so the hall is back to being open to all. I would again like to thank all the hall users for their understanding and patience during this difficult period.

Recent users of the toilet facilities in the hall may have noticed changes to the lighting. We have replaced the older fluorescent lamps with LEDs, these being controlled by microwave sensors, so they should only be on when users are present. Hopefully this will reduce our ever increasing energy costs whilst also improving our 'green' credentials. We plan to review lighting in other parts of the hall to help reduce energy use further.

A Whist Drive in April, organised by Hazel Bows, was well received. We had four tables with players of varying experience, and there appeared to be almost as much laughter as serious card play. The next one will be on the 12th of September at 2.00pm, with hopefully more to follow.

The Bluebell Walk was blessed with fine weather, something of a miracle this spring. Seventeen walkers plus a selection of dogs walked up and around Yatton Hill, unfortunately the timing could have been slightly better as the flowers came into full bloom a few days later. There was compensation however with excellent refreshments on our return to the hall, - thanks to everyone involved.

June's 'Plant and Produce' sale was a great success with over £370 being raised for hall funds. There were four independent stalls plus an extensive one for the hall. Sales were brisk especially garden flowers; also the teas, coffee and cakes sold well - thirsty work gardening. Thank you to everyone who donated items for sale, Pauline Hammond and Dee Booth for their hard work organising the event and Rosemary Trapp for doing the refreshments.

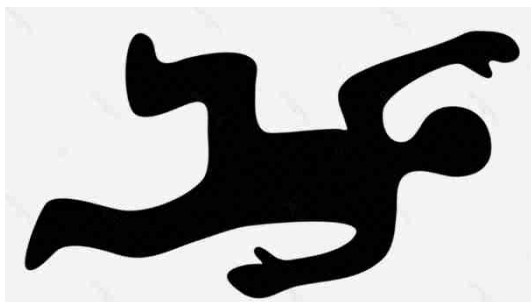
Events such as the Quiz and Film Night, take a well earned break through the summer, although other activities such as Pilates, Sequence Dancing and Carpet Bowls continue. Coffee Morning still runs on Tuesdays at 10.30am 'till about 12.00, everybody welcome, so come along for a chat, enjoy a cuppa and biscuit and on special occasions there might be cake.

Over the Summer the Fete and the Produce & Flower Show take centre stage but in September the hall gets back into full swing and we are already planning to run a

Tabletop Sale on 21st September; a great chance for you to raise cash from those rarely used items and a good opportunity to find a bargain!

I know I mentioned this in the last edition of Aymestrey Matters, but here I go again. Last year the hall ran a survey asking hall users and local residents what events they would like at the hall. One of the most requested activities was a Foot Health Practitioner and Annie Lennox now runs a monthly clinic at the hall. Considering how many actually requested this, the take up has been disappointing low, we ask if possible for people to support hall initiatives.

Martyn



Aymestrey - A Mystery at Thornbury Manor

Are you a budding actor or just like to dress up? The village hall is looking for participants in a murder mystery play that is going to be held at the village hall in the autumn. You

don't need to learn lines; you just need enjoy yourself!

If you would like more information please contact Ian Banks at me@ianbanks.me or 01568 770816

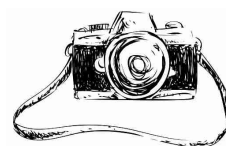
Aymestrey Calendar 2025

Don't Forget!.....

.....to continue taking those photographs which can feature in next years Aymestrey calendar, reflecting the seasons and local character of our beautiful parish.



Landscape format please.



Aymestrey Carpet Bowls ~ Summer Report

Well, that came as a surprise, especially to me! Shortly after writing up the Spring Report, our Captain for the past 9 years announced he was stepping down and I'm not sure how, but I am now the Captain.

So, I start this report with a big THANK YOU to Kiwi for his Captaincy and for all he has done for the Aymestrey Carpet Bowlers (and I hope will continue to do). To mark his time as Captain, the Aymestrey Bowlers presented Kiwi with a Laser Measure and an engraved Rum Tumbler.

Kiwi was very much instrumental in organising the North Herefordshire League's 'Annual Social Event' that was this year hosted by Aymestrey Branch; there was hot food, a bar and Kiwi had organised a Casino Night. A big thank you to all of those "volunteers" Kiwi coerced into helping run the night. All the local teams were well represented, and everyone went away happy. At the end of the evening Kiwi was able to handover £400 to the Midlands Air Ambulance Service!

In mid-June we held our annual prize giving evening and had a BBQ, this was a fun night, even the weather stayed fine. In addition to the winners announced in the Spring edition of Aymestrey Matters, the Pairs Trophy was won by Chris Richmond and myself, and the Most Improved Player Award went to Sue Kemp - so well done to all the winners.



Recently we were fortunate to receive a monetary gift from Breedon Quarry which has enabled us to purchase some new equipment, for which we are most grateful. We hope to be able to recognise their generosity in some way in the future.

Over the coming months we'll continue to meet on Monday evenings from 7pm, at the Parish Hall, for our regular informal evening of bowls.

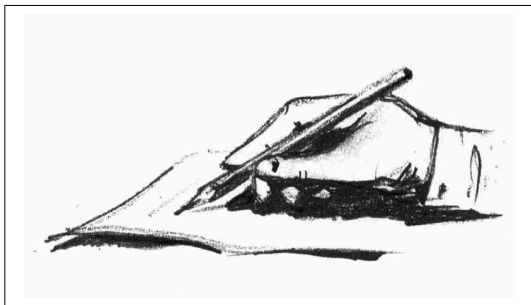
As I mentioned in the Spring Report, we would love to have new players join us, so why not pop along and try your hand at the game - I can vouch that no previous experience is necessary and the game is easy to pick up (all though some of us find it can take a while to become consistent!)

Peter Wright

WANTED:

New Players join us for Carpet Bowls at 7pm on Monday evenings.

Go on, give it try!



Parish Council

Parish Council doings and extracts from the Clerk's postbag.

At the May meeting of the Parish Council, Councillor Goddard confirmed that he would not stand for election as Chairman this year. Co-opted to the Parish Council on Wednesday 30th November 2016, Cllr Goddard was elected as Chairman on 26th July 2017, and each following year until April 2024. Councillor Goddard will remain a Parish Councillor – it is hoped for many years to come. He is warmly thanked for his leadership and guidance over the last seven years.

Councillor Waldron Chaired the May meeting, and as several Councillors were unable to attend, the office of Chairman will be considered again in June.

What is the Parish Council doing at the moment?

The Traffic Calming Scheme is moving forward, with members of the Working Group in touch with Officers at Herefordshire Council. The Group is working on costings in readiness for potential funding opportunities, and positive progress is being made. £1,000 of Traffic Calming ring-fenced funds has been allocated to the purposes of the Floral Group in Aymestrey village, part of traffic calming plans, and whether the pavement along the A4110 can be swept by the Lengthsman is being investigated. A new Working Group to assess potential proposals to reduce speeding at Mortimers Cross has been set up. If you are interested in joining this group, please do contact the clerk.

The Parish Council notice board at the Parish Hall is being repaired, and a new board is proposed for Covenhope, the original board having collapsed to the ground.

Public Rights of Way are being maintained by the Footpaths Officer, and an application will be made to Herefordshire Council for funding to replace certain stiles and gates on the network. It is also hoped that the steps below Pokehouse Wood can be repaired following a meeting with the National Trust, who offered to supply the timber needed.

The Parish Council meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month, except in August and December. Dates are as follows:- 24th July, August – no scheduled meeting, 25th September, 23rd October, 27th November, December – no scheduled meeting, 22nd January 2025, 26th February, 26th March, 23rd April, 28th May 2025. The Public are warmly welcomed to attend meetings and have the opportunity to speak during the Public Session towards the beginning of each meeting.

Mrs Maggie Brown. Clerk. clerk@aymestrey.org 07398 222 310

Notes From The Marsh

Marsh 25th February – 15th June 2024

Cloud Cuckoo Land

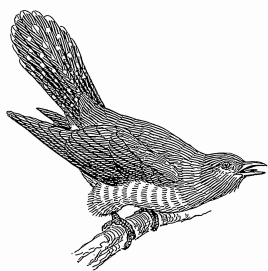
Well, yes – cloud and rain have come relentlessly down over this valley most of the spring, but yes, the Cuckoo has been heard twice, echoing from Yatton Hill on 7th and 11th May.

However, are we in Cloud Cuckoo Land as far as migrants are concerned? No songs from Willow Warblers, though Chiffchaffs have chuffed their way in; as far as I'm concerned, no sightings of Whitethroats or Garden Warblers – and there are precious few Martins.

(Back to the Greeks just briefly – Cloud Cuckoo Land took shape in a comedy by Aristophanes where birds were persuaded to create a city in the sky; these days, it usually implies that someone is living in a fantasy world – rural living soon takes that out of you!)

Cuckoos have a rather contradictory reputation. On the one hand, they call to announce the end of winter; the Anglo-Saxons called the Cuckoo 'the guardian of summer'. Some Romans believed these birds could protect against plagues – hazy on that concept? On the other, they are behind a word we don't use much in modern English – they were associated with 'cuckoldry' or marital infidelity – a Shakespeare song describes the call as "*unpleasing to a married ear*".

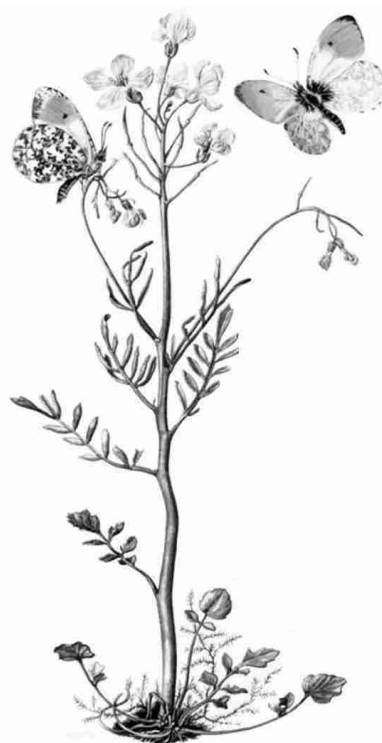
So, what's the reality of the bad press about the Cuckoo? One of the major problems is the behaviour of various members of the Cuckoo family: brood



parasitism. Lay your eggs in the nest of some other bird – usually some other species – and let them get on with rearing your offspring. Understandably, this has resulted in negative judgments on Cuckoos – they're lazy, they're deceitful, they're parasites. Still, looking at it from a less anthropomorphic viewpoint, if it's one strategy for survival of the species; it's crafty but chancy. Eggs mimic the egg of the host bird, but some hosts such as Reed Warblers are better at recognising a fake egg and turving it out. The adult cuckoo's striped markings mimic those of the Sparrowhawk – this can scare off the nest-owners, but it can also trigger mobbing behaviour from a group of smaller birds.

Nor is the Cuckoo the only beast to follow this strategy. Recently our local bee-man kindly showed me an unusual bee, caught in a poly-tunnel. As an amateur on bumblebees, I guessed it was a cuckoo, a big red-tailed bee with dark wings – so was pleased to get it right; a Hill Cuckoo Bee, now also known as the Red-Tailed Cuckoo; its host the Red-Tailed Bumblebee. A few days later, I actually met another female (no, not human – a real bee) cruising round the garden. In other words Cuckoo Bees and Ruby Wasps (seen in my garden) and Large Blue butterflies (reintroduced in Southern England and still rare) are all 'social parasites' on other insects. You might prefer to call them 'anti-social'! Something slightly similar can happen with some ducks, as Eiders and Goldeneyes will lay eggs in their neighbours' nests, though as far as I know they don't get rid of the neighbours' eggs.

So, you can make up your own mind about the behaviour of cuckoo species, evil or otherwise -but do Cuckoos really spit? – honestly, their manners seem appalling. Not to worry, Cuckoo Spit can't be blamed on the bird, it's actually camouflage for the larvae of the Common Froghopper; the larger Red-&-Black Froghopper is also common in my garden – but without the spit. How about the Cuckoo Flower, always known at home as the Ladysmock? - be careful, it belongs to the fairies! Fortunately for Yatton Marsh, it's quite fond of wetter meadows; associated with the Cuckoo as it flowers when the bird arrives, it's an important food plant for the Orange-tip Butterfly.



It's good to relate that quite a few of these butterflies went flitting past me, first sighting on 20th April together with Blackcaps warbling and Goldfinches tinkling; my cat took a swipe at a Peacock on netting, but fortunately got it wrong. Otherwise, though, there are not that many butterflies in evidence – a few Holly Blues have whizzed over my head, the usual Speckled Woods have been seen on the copse edge, a Brimstone or two in mid-May with a perfect Red Admiral sunning itself. Several unexpected visits from a female Beautiful Demoiselle, bronze-winged with a glorious metallic green body – fingers crossed for more plentiful splendid summer visitors!

Susanna Checketts



Extracts from Newspapers of the Past

Fishing Gazette - Saturday 09 October 1886

THE LUGG AT MORTIMER'S CROSS.

SIR, - I observe that one of your recent correspondents had good word for the Lugg; will you kindly allow me to follow suit.

The other day a friend and I had the privilege of fishing four days on the Shobdon Court Club Water. The stretch of water thence up to Aymestrey is a short two miles, but quite enough to occupy a careful fisherman a whole day. We first came to a long sheet of dead water, and then to some pools. We found it very difficult to get any fish out of the first. The grayling were extremely shy, and would not look at a floating fly ; but we managed to coax some good trout with that tempting bait. The flies we bought at Leominster were not of much use. One morning I tried a spider imitation of the Willow, which I got from Sellers, of Ashbourne, and it proved to be just the thing. I met my friend returning quite disheartened ; but on putting on one of these Willows, he soon began to be busy. The body is blue fur ribbed with either yellow or orange silk (rather thick silk), and a dark dun hen's hackle. I got nine brace that day ; my friend got a noble grayling of 1½ lb. The rise began about 2 p.m., when the little Pale Blue came down the water very thickly. The fish rose fast all over the river about 2.30, but as that most delicate fly is most difficult to imitate, we were often baffled. I had some by Holland, with detached hair bodies; but, though I took one or two trout with them, the grayling would not look at them.

Notwithstanding that the river was very low and clear, we had fair sport ; it was certainly teeming with fish. I daresay in April it is a paradise to the trout-fisher who is so fortunate as to be able to spend a little while in that lovely valley. In breaking a branch to get my fly, I found on it an old cast. The gut was thick, the fly (a Coch-a-bonddu) was large. I think this suggests heavy trout in spring.

Farewell, charming Lugg ! friend of nigh thirty years. There are few pleasanter streams in this fair land of ours. Farewell Green Insect and Red Tag, Willow and Pale Blue. I Though life's serious work crowds the mind, ye take good care to peep into the workshop.— I am, &c.,

Highbury. W. J. C.

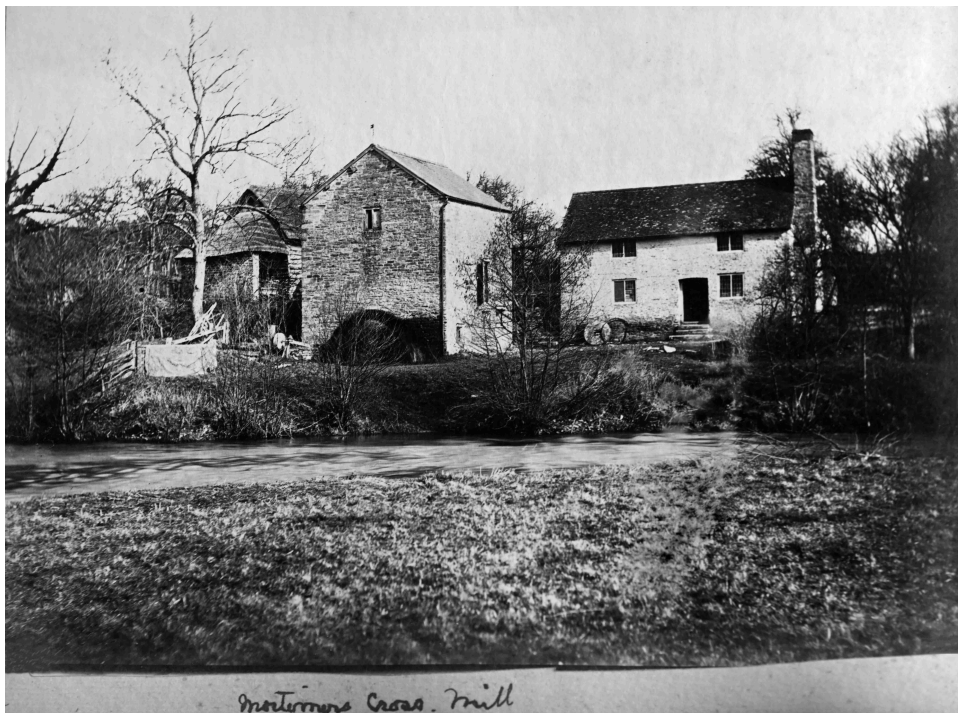
Leominster News and North West Herefordshire & Radnorshire Advertiser - Friday 14 February 1908

MORTIMER'S CROSS.

A very successful pigeon shooting match took place at Mortimer's Cross on the 11th inst. Many well-known shots were present, and a lot of grand birds were trapped. Colonel Russell, Messrs. Halstead and F. Webster were the principal winners. After the shooting the company sat down to a capital dinner provided by Host and Hostess Berry.

Supplied by Mike Snoswell

Old Pictures of Aymestrey Parish



The photographs featured, are both from Mortimer's Cross. The top one is of the pub and the sign says the landlord was Richard Roberts; the lower one shows the mill.

Thanks go to Nicola Kearton for supplying us with these.

Mortimer Ward

Carole Gandy

Let us hope that summer has finally arrived and that our farmers will be able to recover from the appalling spring.

The traffic calming measures for the village of Aymestrey have now been agreed by Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty so that sometime during this financial year when the road is resurfaced the agreed markings will be put in place.

We will be given plenty of notice so there is no fear of the “Tarmac Fairy” descending upon Aymestrey without our knowledge.

Barry and I continue to attend the monthly quiz but we still don't do very well. We are looking forward to the fete in late July and who knows we might actually win something.

We have, as a result of ‘Levelling Up’ money from the Government been able to purchase a number of 1 bedroom properties in the City which will be offered to 18 – 25 year old young people who are in danger of becoming homeless. These young people will be supported by our staff to learn the various skills needed when transitioning into adult life. Once that has been achieved they will move on from the property into permanent accommodation, as it becomes available.

I recently attended a conference on Domestic Abuse which was open to various groups including hair dressers, nail technicians, barbers and those people who often are the ones that can spot potential ‘DA’, through chatting to their clients and need to know how to start a conversation about what help is available, if someone is in a bad relationship.

I also visited the Dementia Centre at Leominster which is held behind the Old Priory, open Monday – Friday 10 – 4 pm and is for those recently diagnosed and those with mild dementia. I had a wonderful time with lots of laughs playing Jenga, I have to say I was not terribly good. I would recommend this centre to anyone with a likely partner, friend or relative to go along and see for yourself the good work that is taking place and if you want any further details please do not hesitate to give me a ring.

Having had afternoon tea with a group of our unpaid carers, a real opportunity for me to really understand the challenges unpaid carers face, it has supplemented the knowledge I had already gained from going out as an observer with some of our Adult Social Workers. The opportunity as Cabinet Member for Adults, Health & Wellbeing has opened up opportunities for me to meet with some wonderful people, doing some amazing work.

I was pleased to see the award of the Recyclables and Waste Collection Contract to FCC Environment, our existing contractors, following a thorough and robust procurement process. The new contract, which starts on 1st September for an initial term of eight years, represents continuity of service for residents and businesses. Although there won't be any changes to collections initially, the new arrangements include a number of innovations, enhancements and the flexibility to respond to changes over the term of the contract.

Carole





Saturday 20th July
From 12 noon

With the kind permission of Mr and Mrs Hurcomb the Fete will, once again, be held at Yatton Court, in the Fete field, over the bridge at the north end of the village. Opening at 12noon and the ***entrance to the car park, is again at the lay-by, near Bath Cottage***. A pedestrian entrance will be by the lodge, NO CARS THIS WAY (except exhibitors and disabled parking).

There will be the usual stalls including produce, tombola and plants along with games including coconut shy, duck race and frog in the bog, also a variety of craft stalls and demonstrations; the Teme Valley Young Farmers; a Raffle with the usual fantastic prizes and a Vintage Tractor Display alongside the MG classics.

Refreshments in the form of a Bar, the famous Tea Tent as well as a Burger Stand.

Arena events will include Children's Games, Fun Dog Show (see schedule) and the Tug of War competition (with prize money), open to teams of 6 from villages, clubs, etc.



Vintage Tractors will display in the arena from around 1.00pm followed by the Classic MGs, with Children's Games starting approximately 1.30pm with the Fun Dog Show starting about 2.30pm. The Duck Race at approx. 3.30pm followed by the Tug of War. The Raffle will be held at 4.30pm.

Entries for the art and craft competitions (schedule overleaf) will be accepted from 10am to 11.00am and will be judged by the start of the Fete.

Donations / Contributions needed and gratefully received for the stalls -

Produce Stall – cakes, preserves, garden produce etc.

Plant Stall – plants of all kinds please

Bottle Stall – all your spare bottles

Bric-a-brac Stall – books, puzzles etc.

Tombola Stall -miscellaneous gifts

please take to Parish Hall 10.00am 12noon please on Tuesdays 9th and 16th July, and on Friday 19th July 5.00-6.30pm

OR

to the stall on fete morning 10-11am

*Fete Preparations -Volunteers most welcome
Please meet @ Fete Field 6.00pm on Thursday 18th July*



Saturday 20th July

Arts & Crafts Schedule

Food and drinks

The entrant with the most points accumulated from Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will win the Joyce Pugh Cup for cookery

Class 1 - An un-iced carrot cake.

Class 2 - A loaf of bread (any recipe)

Class 3 - Three flapjacks on a plate

Class 4 - Two sausage rolls on a plate

Class 5 - A home-made fruit or alcoholic beverage

Class 6 - A jar of sweet preserve

Class 7 - A jar of savoury preserve

Class 8 - Three eggs on a plate (judged on uniformity and yolk appearance)



Handicrafts

Class 9 - A handmade item, any material/s except wood

Class 10 - An item of knitting or crochet

Class 11 - A piece of cross-stitch or embroidery

Class 12 - An item hand crafted from wood

Class 13 - A drawing or painting on a subject of your choice



Floral Art

Class 14 - An arrangement of 3 single fresh flowers and foliage

Class 15 - A miniature floral arrangement of fresh flowers (max 6 inches x 6 inches)

Class 16 - A table centrepiece incorporating fresh and/or dried flowers and foliage

Junior Section

Please state age on all exhibits

Class 17 - A Lego model, not from a kit

Class 18 - An animal made from fruit and/or vegetables

Class 19 - A drawing or painting of a wild animal or bird

Class 20 - Three home baked and decorated fairy cakes on a plate

Class 21 - A poem about the Weather



Rules for Exhibitors of Arts and Crafts

1. All Exhibits **MUST** be the work of the Exhibitor. *Items entered previously will not be eligible.*
2. Entrance fee by donation please.
3. All exhibits to be staged on the day of the show, 10.00 - 11.00am.
4. Judging will start at 11.15am. The marquee will be reopen shortly after 12 noon.
5. The judges' decision is final.
6. No exhibit may be removed before 4pm. Items not collected will be disposed of after 4.45pm.

.....

Could the Winners of the Joyce Pugh Cup for Cookery from last year please return it to the Competition Tent on the day or before if possible

.....

Now Recruiting: **FIT STRONG MEN and WOMEN**



YOUR FETE NEEDS YOU

(Wimps also required)



The Fete needs volunteers for setting up on Thursday 18th July (meet at Fete Field 6.00pm) and on the Saturday morning. Help also needed for clearing up on Sunday am. If you are willing and able please come along.

The Produce and Flower Show

will be held on

Saturday 3rd August

at the Parish Hall, from 2pm



20th July 2024
Fun Dog Show
Starts at approx 2.30pm



Rules

1. This is a fun show first and foremost
2. The Judges' decisions are final
3. The competition is judged under local rules as determined by the judges (Not Kennel Club!)
4. All dogs to remain on a lead

Classes

1. Best Looking dog or bitch
2. Best young handler (under 12 years)
3. Musical sits - like musical chairs. Dogs must sit on command when the music stops. No touching
4. Best biscuit catcher
5. Best in Show (chosen from winners of the above classes)



Polite and Important Notice

Out of consideration to other visitors to the Fete and to the livestock that will graze the field later **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG.**

Dogs must be under control at all times, preferably on a lead.

AYMESTREY VILLAGE SCHOOL

1516 – 1965

by Chrissie Lawson and Nicola Kearton

The village school in Aymestrey is thought to be one of the oldest in the country and until it closed in 1965 it educated generations of children in this parish. It was founded by a William Onneslo, of whom very little is known, during the time of Henry VIII. The running of the school, situated in the centre of the village near the pub, was overseen by a group of local landed trustees and funded by 11 acres of land rented out to local farmers. This produced an income which paid a sexton to teach the children.

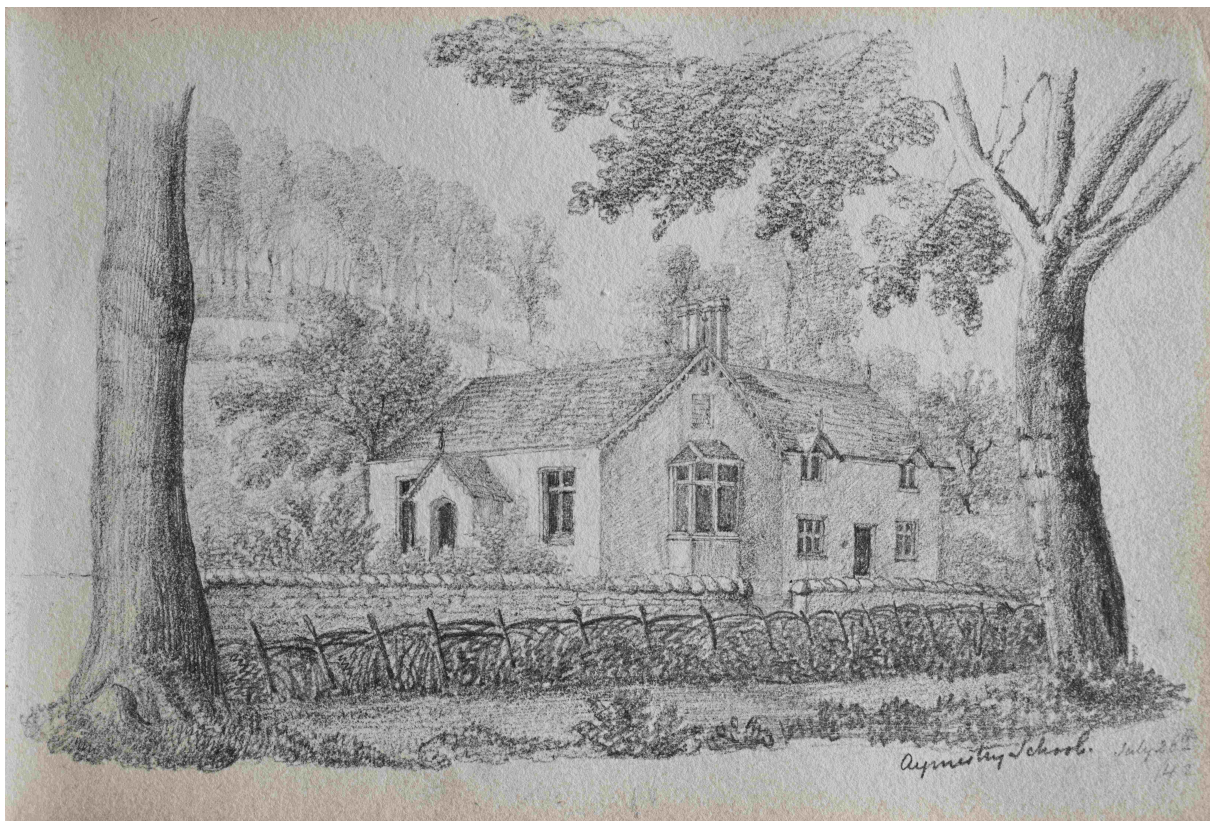
During the 18th century, the school had fallen increasingly into neglect, although individual vicars made efforts to teach the children themselves and to provide food and even clothing. In 1710, the school house had burned down and the building inhabited by the sexton became dilapidated and unsuitable; the children were even being taught in the school porch. In Aymestrey, the position of sexton tended to be passed down through the same family. For example, Francis Wall, who inherited the position from his father-in-law, held this position from the age of 25 until he died aged around 84 in 1838. The sexton's principal role was to dig the graves, maintain the churchyard and act as parish clerk. Questions had been long raised as to the competency of the aged Francis as a teacher, but it was felt that he could not be deprived of the income.

Following vigorous fundraising by the then curate Rev. Thomas Taylor Lewis, a new school room was finally built in 1831 and the adjoining sexton's house replaced, ten years later, by a 'neat convenient substantial cottage' for the use of a schoolmaster or mistress. Once Francis Wall had died, Lewis saw it as vital to appoint a qualified teacher who could implement the new curriculum which was being introduced nationally. Judging by the quantity of correspondence available in the Hereford Archives and Records Office, he felt passionate about the importance of widening access to education and saw that it was necessary to separate the role of teacher from that of sexton and parish clerk. Lewis objected to the Onneslo Charity, originally set up with the sole purpose of educating poor children, being used to fund the roles of sexton and clerk, roles in other parishes which were funded through parish rates or tythes. He eventually got his own way but not without considerable ill feeling. In January 1835, the Vicar Rev Landon, worried about increasing the financial burden on parish funds, wrote that "*the school is a hobby horse which you like to ride but you must forgive me if I do not get up behind you*".

Continued over....

In the late 1830s, the boys and girls were taught on alternate days with a Sunday School on Sundays in accordance with the National Plan. All children of labourers were to be taught reading for free, but there were fees such as Arithmetic ~2d, Reading and Writing ~4d etc., depending on ability of parents to contribute. Children had to pay for their own 'Writing books, slates, pens and inks'.

By the 1900s an Education Department was in place to pay teachers a salary and there were school inspectors overseeing progress. A report in 1902 stated there were 76 children in regular attendance, although in the summer many children took time off school to help with the harvest. By the time of the First World War, the average attendance had dropped to 44 children. The population in the parish had been decreasing for a number of years partly due to widespread agricultural depression. In 1962 there were only 20 children attending the school and its eventual closure in 1965 timed with the building of a new school at Wigmore.



This drawing, of the new school in 1842, is by Elizabeth Jane Woodhouse Lewis, wife of the Rev. T.T. Lewis, Curate of Aymestrey. The schoolroom is shown to the left with accommodation for the schoolmaster to the right. After the death of her husband in 1858, Elizabeth became a trustee of the Onneslo Charity herself and helped support it financially until she died in 1874.

Some interesting facts

1875 – children were cautioned against throwing stones at the newly constructed telephone wires!

1877 – a harmonium was hired and later purchased

1879 – there were 81 children on the register but there was a constant change of teachers and of these children only 25 attended regularly

1880 – reports state that the children “read better than in former years” but arithmetic was “defective throughout”

1882 – Miss Mary Batten was employed as mistress on £40 a year

1884 – it was reported that “the foundation has been well laid and the future of this school looks brighter than it has done for years, if only the Managers can work up attendance”

1887 – school closed after a measles outbreak

1888 – a new ceiling and wooden dado were constructed in the classroom due to lack of space

1897 – there were 88 children including 35 infants attending the school, “Good work being done. Writing should be better. Recitation too hurried. Geography substituted for Grammar in Standard III and upwards. Creditable beginning with Drill. Singing rough”.

1911 – school closed after a scarlet fever outbreak

1916 – during World War I, children picked and sent 48 lbs of fresh foxglove leaves to Hereford to be dried. The leaves were used to extract digitalins for the treatment of heart disease.

Further reading: Muriel Tonkins excellent article “Onneslo’s Charity School, Aymestrey, 1516–1965”, *Woolhope Club Transactions*, volume xxix, 1967, pp93–103. Margaret Turner, “The Rev T. T. Lewis and the Wall family of Aymestrey in the early 19th century”, *Herefordshire FHS*, April 1999, pp184–189.

If anyone reading this has any memories or photos that they would like to share it would be fantastic to find out more about day-to-day experiences of school in Aymestrey. Please contact the Editors of *Aymestrey Matters*.

Thoughts from a Retired Gardener

Jim Logan

For a gardener to write fondly of Wood Pigeons is unusual perhaps but I've become mellow, and here, being surrounded mainly by arable fields the pigeons that live and nest in my garden usually travel elsewhere to feed on grain, rape or fallow according to season. My small vegetable plot is of little interest to them and easily protected in any case.

I'm watching a Wood Pigeon now though my bedroom window not 15ft away, it's plucking morsel's very delicately from the foliage of a Damson tree, it isn't tearing at the leaves so I suspect that the morsels of food are the small green caterpillars that are skeletonizing some of the shoots. I wasn't aware that caterpillars were part of a pigeons diet.

It is a beautiful bird in this bright morning light, tasteful shades of grey blending subtly to plum on its plump breast and with white neck patches. Neat but not flashy.

If they were less common they would surely be held in some esteem, but they are VERY common especially in the winter when flocks of migrant birds arrive here from the continent. These beautiful creatures are viewed at best as banal and at worst as vermin.

The pigeons that live here in my garden, year round, behave like city park birds, they will alight to drink at my pond ignoring my presence only yards away. They swagger and display on the ridge of the cottage roof, dipping and bowing in courtship, fluttering over each other to change places, soaring and clapping wings to show off. Away from the garden they must behave like rural birds always nervous and fearful of the threat

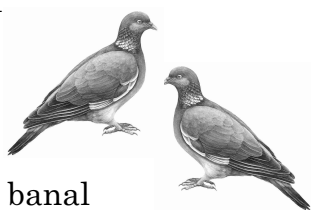
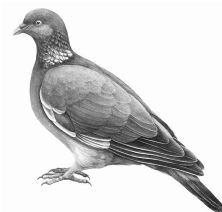
posed by humans, hawks and foxes, always out of shotgun range.

The dreamy cooing of Wood Pigeons starts with the dawn chorus and continues on and off until dusk; I love it. The background soundtrack to much of my working life and of many pleasant hours spent fishing park lakes on languid summer days. Nowadays it lulls me into a totally unproductive state of daydreaming.

Wood Pigeon crooning is good for the soul, it should be available on the NHS for those who cannot access it as easily as we country dwellers. It might even calm the warmongering tendencies of our world leaders.

My relationship with Wood Pigeons has not always been so convivial of course. When I worked in the kitchen garden they and Pheasants were the bane of my life. Many of the crops had to be fenced and netted and to enter the garden in the morning to the frantic clattering of wings never bode well especially if a bird had found its way under the netting and was trapped. I never had the heart to kill them.

I think that Wood Pigeons must be quite feisty in defence of their eggs and young because they seem to be remarkably successful breeders despite the flimsy nests and all too obvious white eggs which must be easily located by the Magpies and Grey Squirrels that plague the smaller birds. The hatchlings, usually one or two 'squabs' are ugly creatures looking like miniature Dodos squatting on their draughty raft of twigs nest. There are always several nests in my garden often quite low and accessible. Pigeon squabs must have been an easy source of meat for commoners in the past given that there are several clutches through spring, summer and into autumn. The aristocracy had their stone



dovecotes to supply eggs and squabs, these were stocked with Rock Doves which have homing instincts and are happy to live in a colony. I'm sure that out of necessity the lower classes would have made the most of what was available to them in the hedgerows and spinneys.

So in conclusion Wood Pigeons are of course a serious pest to some types of horticulture and agricultural. Personally I've grown to like them but then I am a retired gardener and can now afford to have eccentric opinions.
Jim

Aymestrey Parish Commons Association



UPDATE SUMMER '24

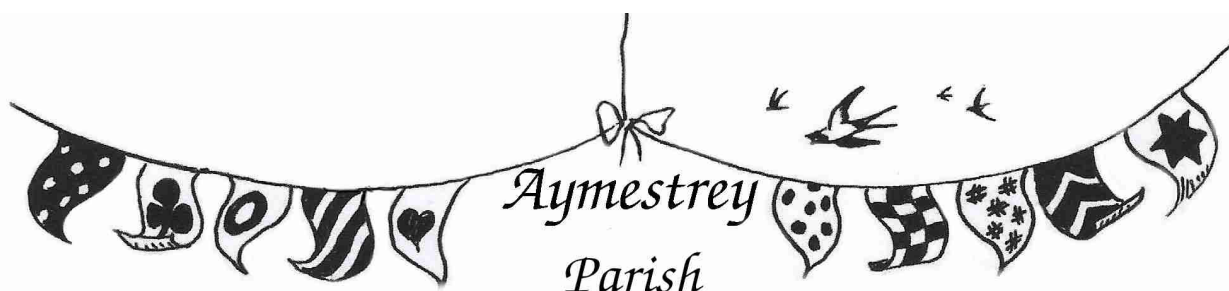
It was decided, last year, to plant a Red Oak – *Quercus rubra*, to mark the coronation of King Charles III, so a little belatedly, on the 12th March, our tree warden, Richard Hammond, and I did just that. The site chosen was the north eastern corner of Yatton Marsh Common, just as the road turns towards Leinthall Earls, and although the tree is a little drowned by the necessary tree guard, in years to come it should be a fitting landmark.

On Yatton Hill Common, a new path roughly following an old deer track, has been cut eastwards; it leaves the path running south from Yatton Cottage, and meets the path which runs from The Hole to Croft Ambrey Hillfort. It meanders around quite a lot, but this means it is a gentler ascent to the top of Yatton Hill. The Bracken was over five foot tall in places and also quite dense; so it was a challenge for our work-party, but it's now open and hopefully plenty of footfall will keep it clear.

Walking this route at this time of year gives me a hint of the birdlife found on the common, only yesterday, Saturday 22nd June, I encountered four species of warbler, including Blackcap and Greater Whitethroat, there were also Stonechats, Tree Pipits and many Linnet. Not only the wildlife but the glorious and far reaching views; from the Shropshire Hills and Clee Hill to Wales and Hay Bluff make this one of my favourite places to be.

If you can, I urge you to get up there and check it out for yourselves.

MB



Produce and Flower Show

Saturday 3rd August

Held at the Parish Hall, viewing from 2pm



Rules

1. All Exhibits – MUST be the property of the exhibitor and grown on their land.
2. Entrance fee by donation please.
3. All exhibits to be staged on the day of the show, between 11.30am and 1.00pm. Refreshments available.
4. Judging will start at 1.00pm and opened for viewing at 2pm.
5. The judges' decision is final.
6. No exhibit may be removed before 3.00pm. Items not collected by 3.30pm will be disposed of.



Could the Winners of the Cups for Best in Show, Rose Cup and Steven Price cup from last year please return to the Hall on the day or before if possible



Produce and Flower Show Schedule

Saturday 3rd August, 2024

Vegetables and Fruit

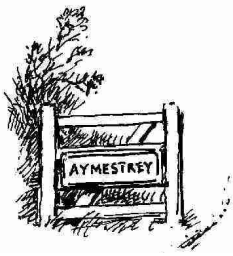
- Class 1 - 3 white or red potatoes (washed) on a plate
- Class 2 - 2 courgettes on a plate
- Class 3 - 3 runner beans on a plate
- Class 4 - 5 dwarf or French beans on a plate
- Class 5 - 3 onions on a plate
- Class 6 - 3 beetroots with 3-inch tops on a plate
- Class 7 - 3 carrots with 3-inch tops on a plate
- Class 8 - 1 cucumber on a plate
- Class 9 - 3 tomatoes on a plate
- Class 10 - a selection of salad items (max 3 types) on a plate
- Class 11 - 3 stems of rhubarb
- Class 12 - a selection of soft fruit (max 3 types) on a plate
- Class 13 - an amusing vegetable



Flowers

- Class 14 - a single rose in a vase
- Class 15 - a vase of my garden perennials, mixed
- Class 16 - a flowering house plant
- Class 17 - a jug of flowers from my garden
- Class 18 - a vase of 5 sweet peas (any colour)
- Class 19 - a vase of 3 dahlias (any variety)
- Class 20 - a hand tied bunch of fresh herbs
- Class 21 - the best cut flower in my garden (in a vase)
- Class 22 - the best scented flower in my garden (in a vase)
- Class 23 - a vase of foliage (up to 5 varieties)
- Class 24 - Aymestrey Matters mystery seeds





Traffic Calming in Aymestrey Parish

June Update



With many, many thanks to Carole Gandy, I am very pleased to announce we have finally received an official response to our Traffic Calming Proposals which we submitted in February this year.

The astounding part is – with a few exceptions - everything will go ahead and in fact, we are going to have road re-surfacing (including road narrowing etc), by the end of the year. This is fantastic news and very exciting....

Here's a snippet of what has been promised:

“The proposed resurfacing scheme will cover the extents between the existing gateways / speed limit terminals, and (if possible) it is hoped we can utilise the red pre-coated chips in the Hot Rolled Asphalt to give the same appearance as the A417 Ashperton (not Stretton Grandison as that was red surface dressing which is a slightly different material / process).

We will also include the following as part of the works:

- *All edge of carriageway lining to provide an “inset” narrowing design.*
- *All roundel locations will be subject to a buff coloured patch and application of centralised speed limit roundels.”*

The main thing we are categorically not having, is any chicanes or extensions to the 30mph limit. Herefordshire Council says:

“We will not be including any works around extension of the existing speed limit TRO or provision of the priority working “chicane”, and will not support those elements given the “real world” practicality of how they would actually perform, combined with significant associated costs required when undertaking such work”.

This is sad news, but we can upgrade the gates (in their existing locations), which is a compromise. There are a couple of other things we can't have, such as the deer heads in the hedges and the decorative bands across the roads, but it seems we're OK on the rest.

The Traffic Calming Group will now push ahead on raising funds for the rest of the traffic calming measures (those not involving Herefordshire Council). With any luck Aymestrey will have all agreed Traffic Calming measures in place by next summer.

To keep you better informed of exactly what is happening, we will have a traffic calming stand at this year's Aymestrey Village Fete. Here, as well as more in-depth information, you'll be able to volunteer to take part in the Floral Display Group, the Tidy Village Group or fundraising should you so wish. We will also welcome anyone wanting to sign up to sponsor any of the Aymestrey traffic calming measures - such as a statue or a sign.

Lastly, I am very pleased to announce, we have had a meeting with Breedon Quarry who has pledged support and involvement in our traffic calming measures. Breedon has already sent personnel to survey the speed of the Breedon trucks through the village and is going to be road-sweeping the village for us on a regular basis. More initiatives are planned and we will have more information at the Aymestrey Village Fete Traffic Calming stand, so come and have a look at what we're up to.

Phew – it's all happening!

Alison Archer

Aymestrey Good Neighbour Scheme

Our volunteers are ready to support you by helping with everyday tasks such as:



- Fetching prescriptions
- Occasional lifts to the doctors or hospital
- Shopping and running errands, such as posting a letter
- Practical tasks around the house such as changing a light bulb or hanging a picture
- Help with forms or letters
- Help with a computer
- Calling for a chat

If you need a volunteer then please call us on 07942 257541.

Leave a message if there is no reply and one of our volunteers will call you back.

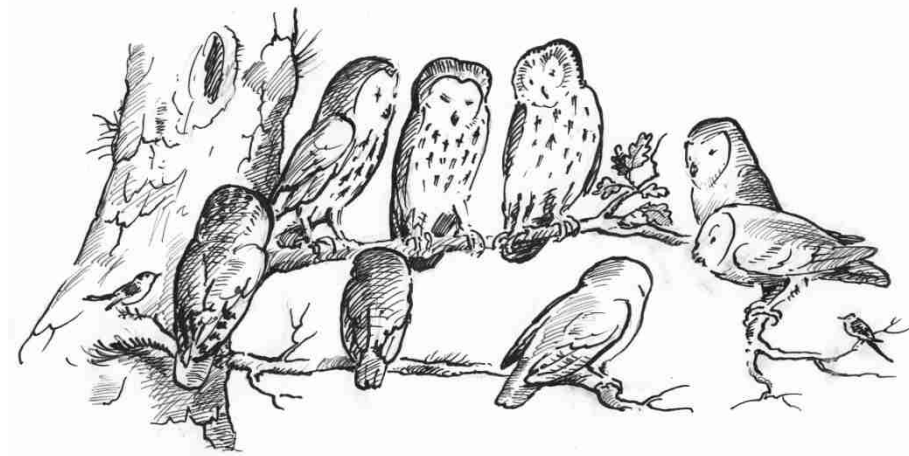
Aymestrey - A Mystery at Thornbury Manor

Are you a budding actor or just like to dress up? The village hall is looking for participants in a murder mystery play that is going to be held at the village hall in the autumn. You don't need to learn lines; you just need enjoy yourself!

If you would like more information please contact Ian Banks at me@ianbanks.me or 01568 770816

PARISH PEOPLE

Here are some details for people in the parish you might need to contact



PARISH COUNCIL

Chair

Dan Hurcomb
hurcombdc@gmail.com

Clerk

Maggie Brown
clerk@aymestrey.org
Tel: 07398 222 310

Members

Ian Goddard 770251 - Helen Hamilton 709155
John Probert 708484 - Domenica Dunne 07966103698
Eleanor Waldron - Mike Snoswell (both via Clerk)
Nicola Luscott nicolaluscott@live.co.uk

Special Responsibilities

Lengthsman: Yatton Farm Services Footpaths: Dave Dunn 770224
Tree Warden: Richard Hammond rjhammond500@btinternet.com
MMP Patient Rep: Pauline Hammond pauline.hammond500@btinternet.com 708044.

Ward Councillor

Carole Gandy 01568 780583 carole.gandy@herefordshire.gov.uk

PARISH HALL

Chair: Martyn Booth 07748604215
Bookings Secretary: Pauline Hammond 708044 or 07796590266

CHURCH

Reverend Julie Read 708255.
Churchwardens: Meg Thorpe 07943046450. Stuart Hutchings 01547540511, 07961117050

AYMESTREY MATTERS

Editorial Team editor@aymestrey.org
Denise Booth 07434621260 Martyn Booth 07748604215

Aymestrey Website: www.aymestrey.org Ian Banks 770816 webadmin@aymestrey.org

Mortimer Medical Practice

News from the Patient Participation Group (PPG)



Staff update:

Dr Verity Oloro has joined the practice and talks are ongoing with a further two GP's.

There have been a few changes in the dispensing teams with some staff moving on, but posts have hopefully been refilled.

Surgery closures:

There are 2 dates for your diaries when the surgeries and dispensaries will be closed from 12pm for training purposes. The reception phone will still be manned for emergencies.

These are Wednesday 17th July and Thursday 17th October.

Missed appointments:

In the 4 months up to 15th May 2024 there were 466 missed appointments over the 3 surgeries. This equates to 10 days of lost appointments. Please can all patients check that the surgery holds up to date phone numbers.

A brief survey was done asking why patients failed to attend and the main answer was "I forgot"

Appointments can be cancelled via the patient access web site or by phone.

Fiona Harper, Practice Manager, is looking into a system whereby it can be made easier for someone to cancel an appointment, rather than hanging on the line to speak to the receptionist, further details if anything is sorted.

Flu/Covid vaccinations:

Flu clinics will **not** run until October this year as the health board says this will give better coverage over the main flu season.

Vaccination will be by appointment only. Please do not arrive early for your appointment, or if you do, please wait outside or in your car until your time slot, this reduces the number of people gathered inside.

Every person is allocated to a list for each vaccinator so please don't be annoyed if someone appears to be "jumping the queue". It maybe that someone feels unwell and so needs a little extra time. The staff on hand will be monitoring this and will help to reduce any back log whenever possible.

PH

CITIZENS OF AYMESTREY PARISH!

YOUR FETE NEEDS

YOU

Wanted - Volunteers!



The Fete needs volunteers for setting up on Thursday 18th July (meet at Fete Field 6pm) and on the Saturday morning. Help also needed for clearing up on Sunday am. If you are willing and able please come along.

DATES FOR DIARIES

2024

When	What	Where
Mondays 7.00pm	Carpet Bowls	PH
Tuesdays 10.30am to 11.30 am	Tea/Coffee in the Hall	PH
Thursdays 8.00pm	Sequence Dancing	PH
Thursdays 9.30am to 10.30am and 10.45am to 11.45am	Pilates	PH

July

Sunday 7 th 11am	Holy Communion BCP	Aymestrey
Sunday 14 th 11am	Holy Communion BCP	Aymestrey
Saturday 20 th 12noon	Aymestrey Fete	Fete Field Aymestrey
Sunday 21 st 3.30pm	Holy Communion CW.	Leinthall Earls
Wednesday 24 th 7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting	PH
Sunday 28 th 9.30am	Forest Church	Aymestrey

August

Saturday 3 rd Exhibits 11.30am-1pm	Produce & Flower Show ~Viewing @2pm	PH
Sunday 4 th 10.30am.	Benefice Service	Aymestrey
Sunday 11 th 10.30am	Benefice Service	Eardisland
Sunday 18 th 10.30am	Benefice Service	Leinthall Earls
Sunday 25 th 10.30 am	Benefice Service	Kingsland

September

Sunday 1 st 10.30am	Benefice Service	Kingsland
Sunday 8 th 11.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	Aymestrey
Wednesday 7 th 7.00pm	Aymestrey Parish Commons Assoc Meeting	PH
Thursday 12 th 2.00pm	Whist Drive	PH
Sunday 15 th 3.30pm	Holy Communion CW.	Leinthall Earls
Friday 20 th 8.00pm	Fun Quiz Night	PH
Saturday 21 st Doors open 11.00 am	Tabletop Sale	PH
Sunday 22 nd 9.30am	Forest Church	Aymestrey
Wednesday 25 th 7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting	PH
Sunday 28 th 4.30pm	Benefice Choral Evensong with Cathedral Choir	Kingsland

October

Friday 4 th 10.00am	Decorating church for Harvest Festival	Aymestrey
Friday 4 th 6.00pm	Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Supper	Aymestrey then PH
Sunday 6 th	No Church Service	
Friday 11 th 8.00pm	Fun Quiz Night	PH
Sunday 13 th 11.00 am	Holy Communion BCP	Aymestrey
Friday 18 th 7 for 7.00pm	Film Night	PH
Sunday 20 th 6.30pm	Harvest Festival	Leinthall Earls
Wednesday 23 rd 7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting	PH
Sunday 27 th 9.30am	Forest Church	Aymestrey



Wild Garlic Pesto Workshop (6th April 2024)

The relentless rainfall leading up to Saturday 6th April had certainly put the workshop in jeopardy; but Sue & Steph realised that when the day dawned, dry and windy there was every chance that the eight folks booked in would have a golden opportunity to enjoy a short walk and forage to pick wild garlic. Returning to the Hall for refreshments, sampling garlic pesto cheese scones then venturing into the kitchen to watch a pesto making demo before creating their very own jar of freshly made pesto to take home. There was lots of chat and sharing of recipe ideas and the Hall succumbed to the intoxicating aroma of wild garlic. Sue and Steph are now looking for other ideas for future Saturday morning kitchen sessions. *SD*



H.Art Week ~7th Sept – 15th Sept 2024 ~ - Woollen Tree

Just a little note to let you know that Sue at Woollen Tree will again open her Weaving studios as part of H.Art Week '24. Come and view (and buy?) some exclusive hand woven, hand knitted accessories & homeware along with natural dyed, hand spun work and wood turned items. As well as demonstrations of weaving and spinning throughout the day, this year there will be an opportunity for you to try your hand at weaving on a loom.



Last year we were very pleased to welcome many from the Aymestrey Parish to our studios, and we hope to see you again this year.

Our studios at Hillside Cottage, will be open daily from 10:30am to 5:00pm. To find us is easy, we're the 1st house on the left up Bacon Lane (opposite Aymestrey Parish Hall) - we have parking space for a few cars, but if necessary you can park in the Parish Hall's Car Park - please remember to make a donation in the Hall's letter box.



Whist Drive

Thursday
12th September
2pm

Aymestrey Parish Hall
£3 per person

Cash Prize



Light Refreshments inc.
All Welcome

Table -Top Sale

Saturday 21st September
11.00am- 2.00pm
in the Parish Hall

Your chance to sell those
unwanted treasures, second hand
items and make money

£5 per small table or £10 large

Come and buy quality
goods from local people.

Cake stall on behalf of PCC.

Refreshments available

Book a table. Dee ~ 07434 621260

Asthma?
Visual Impairment?
Cancer?
Epilepsy
Stroke?
COPD?

Parkinsons?
MS?
Dementia?
Heart Disease?
Any other?

Diabetes?
High blood pressure?
Hearing loss?
Mental health?

Do you have a long term health condition?

Tell us about your personal experiences of using local health & care services by scanning the QR code and completing our short online survey or go to the website below

www.healthwatchherefordshire.co.uk/key-projects



healthwatch
Herefordshire

Living with a **long term health condition** can be difficult to manage in the community, if this is something that you are experiencing, we want to hear from you.

We need to know which services you are finding useful and suggestions as to which other services, groups or assistance you may find beneficial in the future.

Healthwatch Herefordshire
is your health and social care champion.

As an **independent statutory organisation** we have the power to make sure NHS leaders and other decision makers listen to your feedback to improve standards of care. Every area in England has a local Healthwatch. The Department of Health and Social Care fund our work, giving money to local councils to commission an effective Healthwatch service.

Healthwatch Herefordshire 01432277044
info@healthwatchherefordshire.co.uk
www.healthwatchherefordshire.co.uk