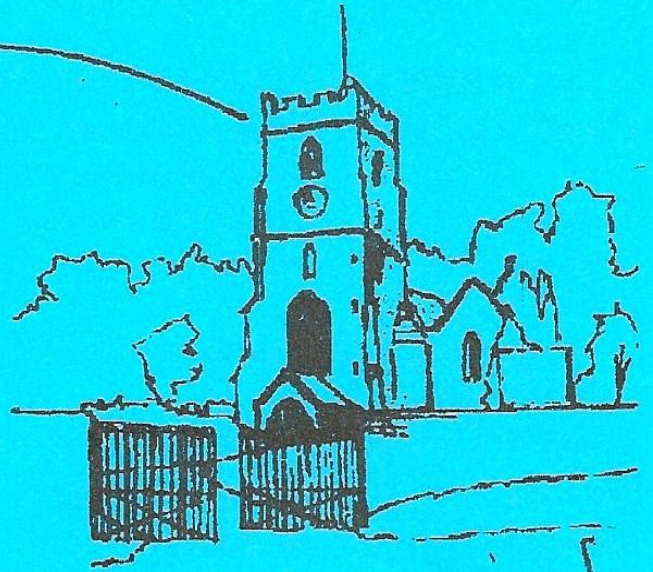
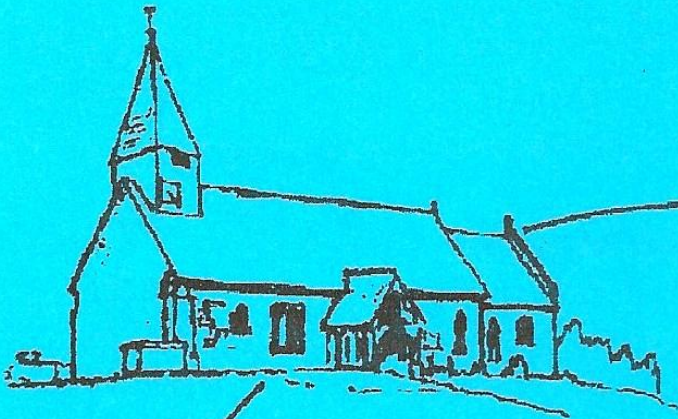
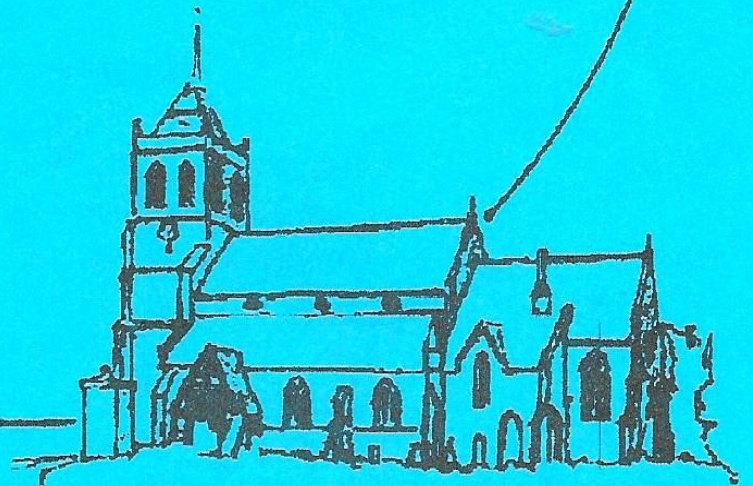


*July 2020*



The

Sphere.



*The Magazine for the Parishes of Alfrick with Lulsley,  
Leigh and Bransford, Leigh Sinton and Suckley*

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			STD code 01886
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	The Rectory, Suckley Road, Leigh WR6 5LE	email <a href="mailto:revannepotter@gmail.com">revannepotter@gmail.com</a>	
Curate	Revd. Jen Denniston	07783432017 or	853280
		email <a href="mailto:jendenniston@gmail.com">jendenniston@gmail.com</a>	
Parish Secretary	Alison Khan	07984 748059	
Parish Treasurer	Mrs Ina Steel		821777

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	Mr Stephen Osmond	884259
Secretary	Mrs.Judith Davies	884336
Treasurer	Mr.Philip Brown	07769 614021

### **LEIGH & BRANSFORD St.Edburga, Leigh/St.John the Baptist, Bransford**

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Secretary	Mrs. Judith Soper	832354
Treasurer	Mr John Drage	833178
Bell Captain	Mr Christopher Phillips	832230
Organist	Vacancy	
Chapelry Warden		

### **SUCKLEY Church of St.John the Baptist**

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	Mrs Liz Devenish	884787
Secretary	Mr. Richard Lewis	884552
Treasurer	Mrs.Diana Holloway	884665
Bell Captain	Mrs.LindaTaylor	884280

### **'The Sphere' Magazine**

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Coordinators	John Colley, Autumn Cottage, Sandlin	832964
Printing	Geoff Wright, David Fowler, & Ken Richards	

**Please send in articles for the Sphere NOT LATER than the 12th of the month.**

*All material published in The Sphere, including adverts, editorials, articles and all other content is published in good faith. However The Sphere accepts no liability for any errors or omissions and does not endorse any companies, products or services that appear in the publication.*

## Parish Worship

Some of our churches are opening for private prayer across our parishes having considered the transmission risks and the resources to deep clean. Suckley Parochial Parish Council has chosen not to open as they cannot open every day. Alfrick and Leigh PCCs have opted to open two days a week (allowing at least three days between openings) which means there is no need to deep clean.

**They are both opening Sundays 10.00am - 6.00pm and Wednesdays 10.00am - 6.00pm from 28 June.**

All the necessary precautions will have been taken including notices reminding anyone wishing to enter to pray (no sightseeing) to sanitise their hands, keep 2m distance, be aware of the one entrance, etc. There will also be a system of indicating where someone has sat to pray to protect anyone else coming in after.

All our churches though will be open for funerals with limited numbers. The number will depend on the calculations which have currently been worked out with 2m distancing between households.

We now await the Government's announcement around having services – and again the calculations of how many we can have in church will be the same as for funerals.

**Our Church continues to be alive and active but due to COVID-19 our buildings must remain closed except as above.**

**However, our worship, prayers and praise, alongside reflections and our care for each other continues. And so (until we meet again) ....May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore. Amen**

Even though we are not able to meet with you in person the clergy are available at the end of a telephone line so please feel free to contact us:

Rev Anne Potter (Team Vicar) 01886 832355 [revannepotter@gmail.com](mailto:revannepotter@gmail.com)

Rev Jen Denniston 01886 853280 [jendenniston@gmail.com](mailto:jendenniston@gmail.com)

Rev Becky Elliott 01886 812451 [revrebeccaelliott@btinternet.com](mailto:revrebeccaelliott@btinternet.com)

If you have an administration query please contact Alison Khan on 07984 748059 or [leighrectory@outlook.com](mailto:leighrectory@outlook.com) Please contact Alison if you would like to receive a regular weekly pew sheet by email.

For those of you with computers, iPads or other such 'modern technology' the team is continuing to find creative ways of offering worship through our YouTube: [wwrt](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwrt) live stream as well as keeping you informed through the website: [www.wwrt.churchinsight.com](http://www.wwrt.churchinsight.com) and A Church Near You

## The Sphere Magazine Latest

***(See also Sphere History updated from 2013 in a later page of this edition)***

*The Sphere* has been edited, printed, collated, and distributed by a small group of willing volunteers since July 1983. This process has worked well over the years, until the current coronavirus crisis when it has not been possible to produce paper copies due to government rules and advice.

Therefore, a digital publishing option has been explored with May, June and now July's editions being published with increased content and posted on the various parish community websites.

One possibility for the future could be for some copies to be emailed to subscribers, reducing the number of hard copies produced, however *The Sphere* team realises there are many subscribers who prefer to receive a paper copy every month not least because some do not have access to the internet or a suitable hardware device to read the document on screen. Consequently, some printed copies will still eventually be produced and distributed, but it may be possible to reduce this number.

To try to determine how many that could be, please let your distributor know your preference or email your response to [dwfowler@waitrose.com](mailto:dwfowler@waitrose.com) (if possible before 14 July 2020 please) with a note of where you live so we can try to see the effect on the various delivery rounds.

**David Fowler**

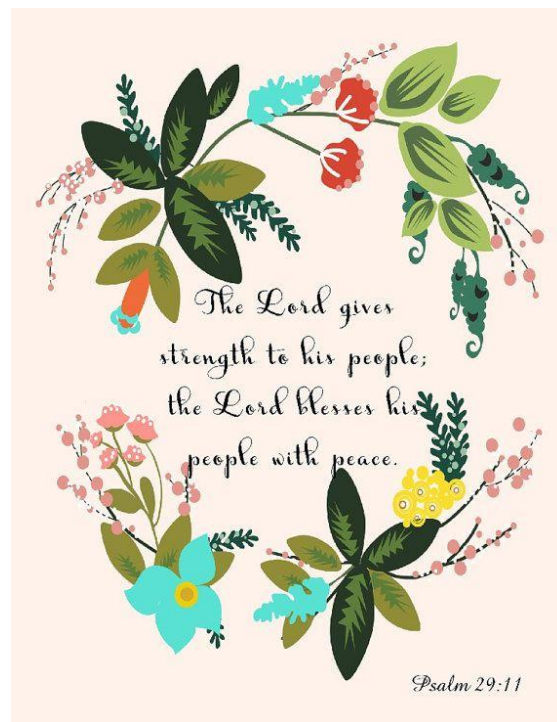
## From Rev Anne....

### Psalm 29

*Honour the Lord, you heavenly beings;  
Honour the Lord for his glory and strength.  
Honour the Lord for the glory of his name.  
Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness.*

*The voice of the Lord echoes above the sea.  
The God of glory thunders.  
The Lord thunders over the mighty sea.  
The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is majestic.  
The voice of the Lord splits the mighty cedars;  
the Lord shatters the cedars of Lebanon.  
He makes Lebanon's mountains skip like a calf;  
he makes Mount Hermon leap like a young wild ox.  
The voice of the Lord strikes  
with bolts of lightning.  
The voice of the Lord makes the barren wilderness quake;  
The Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
The voice of the Lord twists mighty oaks  
and strips the forests bare.  
In his Temple everyone shouts, 'Glory!'*

*The Lord rules over the floodwaters.  
The Lord reigns as king forever.  
The Lord gives his people strength.  
The Lord blesses them with peace.*



How do we feel when we find ourselves in the midst of a storm, when the thunder is roaring above us and when the lightning is flashing across the sky?

During lockdown we have had time to stop, think and to consider the way we live. Some people have discovered a new joy in gardening, cooking or just being quiet and enjoying nature. Others have struggled with the solitude and isolation, which has challenged them and their mental health. Amidst all the terrors of the storm the mind of David the psalmist was still and calm leading him to sing of the power and greatness of God.

Living here in the West Worcestershire countryside we are constantly reminded of the joys of nature and the wonders of new life. We have seen new life in the lambs in the fields and our farmers, for whom life has carried on 'as normal' they will have witnessed other new life – calves and crops. All this reminds us that God is at the very centre of creation and is all powerful, all seeing and ever present. This terrible virus that we are experiencing has enabled us to find new opportunities and ways of doing and being church; it has created a new community spirit and shown us new ways of praising and worshipping God wherever we are physically, mentally and spiritually.

However, many of us are looking forward to the time we can step inside our church buildings and worship, not only together in fellowship, but along with the cloud of witnesses who have gone before.

In the meantime God bless you and keep you and give you his peace.





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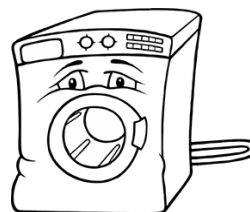
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## Our District Councillors “View from the Hills”

Another month in COVID-land, but life in Malvern Hills is starting to show some signs of normality. By the time you read this, we expect most shops to be re-open, though not yet – alas – our local pubs and restaurants. MHDC council meetings are recommencing, albeit virtually for the present and – we hope - with an absence of party politics at this continued time of threat from COVID-19.

Council services are beginning to focus more on recovery, though that will clearly be a long process. You can read more and find help about grants, charities and much else to aid individuals and community organisations on MHDC’s coronavirus web page: <https://www.malvernhills.gov.uk/community/coronavirus-covid-19-update>

This year, it will be even more important than usual to shop locally. Please support the village shops whenever you can. Think about shopping in the Malvern area, rather than defaulting to Amazon or eBay. Above all, please continue to act prudently. The pandemic is far from over.

We continue working actively on your behalf. If you need help, we can be contacted by phone or email as below. Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/rousewhatley>

Sarah Rouse: 01886 833653 [sarahrouse72@gmail.com](mailto:sarahrouse72@gmail.com)

Peter Whatley: 01886 884126 [peter.whatley@malvernhillsdc.net](mailto:peter.whatley@malvernhillsdc.net)

We wish you continued good health in the coming month, Peter Whatley

\*\*\*\*\*

### Citizens Advice Bureau

**I work in retail and my company says it's starting to look at how we might reopen later in the summer. This is making me so anxious, even though I don't have any special health issues. I'm going to wear a mask, but not all the customers may do so. I used to take the bus to work, I don't have a car and I think it's too far to cycle. And I'm not even sure if my kids will be back at school by then! The thought of returning to work is keeping me awake at night. Do I have to go back to work?**



It’s understandable you’re feeling anxious. However, the short answer to your question is yes, you do need to comply with any reasonable management request to return to work. The key here is “reasonable.” The government has published specific guidance for different businesses on the steps they can take to minimise coronavirus transmission. If you don’t think they’re complying, or are putting your health at risk, you should talk to them about this. Similarly, they should listen to your concerns about using public transport. You could, for instance, ask to travel at a quieter time of day. And the government has said that if you’re unable to work because of childcare issues your employer can continue to furlough you.

We would suggest approaching this as a problem that you and your boss can solve together. But if you do get a bad reaction, you could report your employer to the Health and Safety Executive. You should also get advice about your legal rights in this situation.

For further information and advice, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or see [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk).

\*\*\*\*\*

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## The Sphere Magazine Story (updated from March 2013)

In 1983 John Herbert was appointed Rector and decided to produce a Benefice magazine, giving it the title *The Sphere*. Prior to that, separate leaflets for each parish had been available - the one for Suckley being produced by Gwynneth Brookes, who became secretary to John Herbert. Three hundred and fifty copies of *The Sphere* magazine were produced. Articles and events of interest were typed up on *Gestetner* waxes by Edna Davis, printed by Graham Jaynes on an old machine in a shed in the Rectory garden, and this first copy was delivered free of charge for parishioners to sample news and views from the whole benefice. Edna was subsequently replaced by Val Cole, Wendy Howard and Cath Hall as the magazine continued. The Rector soon relinquished his overriding role and Peggy Johnson was called upon to act as Editor with Eric Johnson as Treasurer and extra assistance given by Tim and Shirley Ellis, and Joyce Cooper. Margot Lyons handled the advertisements. Peggy Johnson retired from her long reign as Editor-in-Chief when she moved to Derbyshire in June 2016. She is about to be 100 years old. John Herbert intended the philosophy for the magazine to be that of a non-profit making enterprise, with all contributors, typists, editors, collators and deliverers providing their services free. The price was to be kept low, only sufficient to cover the cost of materials and the maintenance of the printing equipment. The format was similar to the current production, beginning with a Service sheet and the Rector's letter. The names and phone numbers of PCC members for the three parishes were shown and later contact details for all the village organisations were added inside the back cover. The original cover was changed in 1995, with help from Sheila Wright, to one with a circle representing the Benefice (the Charles Grant drawings of the churches were simplified by Terry Ellard in February 2004). In 1992 John Herbert was appointed to Hallow Church and after an interregnum the Revd. Canon Michael Westall was appointed Rector in 1993. Michael Westall returned to Tanzania, and after an interregnum, the Revd. Andrew Bullock was appointed Priest in Charge in 2002. Revd. Anne Potter became the Team Vicar of the West Worcestershire Rural Team with special responsibility for Alfrick with Lulsley, Leigh and Bransford and Suckley Parishes and the Associate Priest for Crown East and Rushwick in 2015.

Geoffrey Wright is first shown as one of the printers in 1993. Graham Jaynes was the principal printer and Stan Cope was also one of the team. The magazine at this time was printed in the vestry of Alfrick Church, still using the *Gestetner* machine. Graham died in 1999 and Stan in 2001 since when various others have helped Geoff with the printing on a part-time basis. Eric Johnson remained as Treasurer until his death in 2001 when Biddy Hood took over this post. The advertisement managers have changed with time. C. Rowland took over from Margot Lyons followed by Richard Howard and Lou Cox, then Jonathan and Ginnie Wilkinson, before David and Daphne Fowler took over in 2015.

David Fowler joined *The Sphere* team in 2011 and now covers the Alfrick & Lulsley and Suckley sections. Each month Brenda Collins and Mildred Griffiths assembled a team of collators. Technology leapt forward with time. An improved (and much cleaner) printing machine was procured and most copy is now received as email attachments and put into a standard format using word processors.

Over the years the circulation of the magazine steadily increased until reaching 820 copies each month and many more voluntary deliverers are required. The price has hardly increased at all, still excellent value for 11 monthly copies. The number of advertisements also increased, though the pages required for them are kept in proportion to the news pages. The magazine does make a profit but, in keeping with John Herbert's intentions, part is given to the three parish churches and to deserving charities each year - sufficient being retained to cover machine maintenance and replacement when necessary. John Herbert would have been gratified to see that, 30 years on (as at 2013) his Benefice magazine grows in strength each year. It provides a two-way voice for both social and church events, lists contact details for local churches and societies, and the advertisements are increasingly popular as well as being a lucrative income.

*The Sphere* provides a rare and valuable link between the parish boundaries. With your contributions it will continue to evolve - a relevant, interesting and informative voice for the three parishes.



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This will be a short service with lots of singing and praising God. We will be giving thanks for all the community, and especially those who have been caring for others, keeping the shop running, delivering shopping, collecting prescriptions and so on for those shielding.  
The service will be followed by Afternoon Tea (in little boxes). Please bring your own chair or picnic rug.  
Social distancing between households will apply.



## Alfrick Show 2020

The committee of the 69<sup>th</sup> Alfrick and Lulsley Show announce their decision, with heavy hearts, to cancel this year's show scheduled for 5 September. This is in line with organisations, up and down the country, cancelling events which attract crowds of people. Since social distancing is likely to continue for many more months and the uncertainty around the spread of coronavirus, including predictions of a second wave in the autumn, the committee felt there was no choice.

After seriously considering the implications in taking responsibility for the safety of the village, and the folk that may have attended the show, the committee felt the requirements that needed to be put in place proved to be prohibitive.

However, we are looking forward to a bonanza of a show on **Saturday, 4 September 2021** as we go into our 70<sup>th</sup> year. Keep the date and we sincerely hope we will be able to meet again on the showground for another great community show.

Website address: [www.alfrickandlulsley.org/show](http://www.alfrickandlulsley.org/show)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Community Choir

We continue to run online rehearsals every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm, with a recording available the next day for those who couldn't make it. These are complete rehearsals with warm-up exercises, often some sight-reading or something educational, at least one piece that we work on, and time to chat afterwards. Everyone's welcome, but it's best to get in touch beforehand so that we can send you the link to the online meeting. Being online there are no geographic limitations, of course, so there's no problem taking part if you don't live in the area.

Each rehearsal is complete and self-contained, and we use different and varied material each week.



Often there's a piano performance from Lucas at the end – often live, and sometimes featuring more than one of Lucas at once, playing duets with himself!

There's more information about what we're doing on our website:

[www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com](http://www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com)

**Keith Bramich** (07771 600776)

**Alfrick & Lulsley Community Car Scheme:** This voluntary service covers all residents of Alfrick & Lulsley who need transport to local medical appointments, or to take or collect prescriptions to or from Knightwick Surgery.  
Drivers are: Pam Lowe: 833362; Ro Morpuss: 832622; Hilary Simmons: 832611  
Please start telephoning from the left and give as much time as possible.  
Our drivers reserve the right to refuse any request that they consider inappropriate.



“The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.”

**Albert Schweitzer**



For more information on booking the Village Hall please visit our website at: [www.alfrickandlulsley.org/hall-make-booking/](http://www.alfrickandlulsley.org/hall-make-booking/) Please send your queries by email to [info@timesaversconcierge.co.uk](mailto:info@timesaversconcierge.co.uk) Or phone: Adrian Biggs on 01905 312456

The village hall remains closed and at present there is no indication as to when we will be allowed to re-open. The hall is licensed in the same way as theatres, cinemas, etc., as a place of public entertainment (we have to comply with the same rules on fire safety, emergency lighting and so on) so we don't expect to be able to re-open until these venues start up again.

We have, with the help of MHDC, successfully applied for a government funded business interruption grant which will provide us with

financial support during closure. We have used the extended period of the hall closure to carry out work on the hall electrical system, whilst the hall was in regular use it was difficult to allocate enough time for this work without causing inconvenience to regular hall users. There is also some internal painting scheduled during closure. As soon as we are allowed we will open the hall again, in the meantime we are doing what we can to maintain the hall in good condition.

**Richard Steele, Chairman**

**Alfrick Players:** We were of course disappointed not to be able to stage our production of *The Noble Spaniard* by W. Somerset Maugham which was due in Alfrick Village Hall in the middle of May. With continued uncertainty over the future in respect of theatre performances generally, it is very difficult to plan ahead so this is just to let you know that we haven't let this wonderful play go and are anticipating putting it on in Alfrick next May around the time we do most of our shows. So 2020 may just have to be a lost year for Alfrick drama!



**Slowly Round the World 2:** Sadly, the second talk on my westbound trip was a casualty of the lockdown but just to let you know that, as soon as circumstances permit, I plan to reschedule something in Alfrick Village Hall again. I have used some of this recent time to work on the film of the trip so might be able to include this as well. It is a small point of good fortune for me that I did the trip last year - who knows what might have happened if I had been trying to do it this year, or perhaps found myself in some remote country as lockdown hit...! **Alan Soper**



\*\*\*\*\*

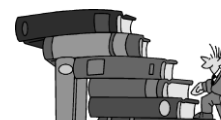
**Aspects of Alfrick:** We wanted to let you know that until the 'lockdown', plans were in place to have *Aspects of Alfrick Open Gardens 2020*. As events progressed with COVID 19 it became clear that this would not be possible and we took the decision not to run. Thank you to our open gardeners who had indicated that they were available to open this year, it is a shame that our visitors will not get to see the great work that they have put in to prepare their gardens. We will keep the government guidance under review so that any future dated event, which we hope will be in 2021, will ensure the safety of our open gardeners, volunteers and visitors. If your garden has blossomed during lockdown and you would be interested in opening your garden in the future, to help raise money for charity, please contact:



**Bridget Lewis** 01886 832659 or email [AspectsofAlfrick@outlook.com](mailto:AspectsofAlfrick@outlook.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Alfrick Educational Charity:** was created out of the sale proceeds of Alfrick Primary School and has now been in existence for over 30 years. It provides grants for educational purposes to residents of Alfrick, Lulsley and Suckley and for schools serving the children of those Parishes.



The Trustees will consider applications from students attending further educational courses during the academic year 2020/21 and are under the age of 25 at the start of their course. Also, grants are available for projects by those schools serving these parishes where there is no other source of funding available. The trustees meet twice a year and have a policy of helping eligible students (as above) who are pursuing tertiary education in one form or another, usually by grants for the three years they are at university or college, but have also helped those in apprenticeships or similar. The grants given to local schools were mainly to Suckley School, but some small sums have been given to other schools where there are children attending from these parishes.

*Applicants for grants should apply in writing (not by email) not later than 30 September 2020 to the Clerk: A. G. Duncan, Bewell, Alfrick, Worcester, WR6 5EY.*



Our community shop has been open every day (10.00am to 4.00pm weekdays, 10.00 to 12noon weekends) since lock-down, providing a safe and friendly place to go shopping for provisions. We know that our customers have been most appreciative of the efforts our volunteers and staff have made to access supplies of excellent foodstuffs where other shops have struggled! We also understand that an increasing number of people are missing being able to come in and browse so in this fast-changing world where nothing is certain at the moment, we very much hope that the shop will be open to a maximum of **two** customers at any one time as you read this. We are taking small steps and trialling different ways of working with new safety measures in place, always in line with current Government regulations and guidelines. You will still be able to ask for a shop volunteer to shop for you, if you're not yet ready to enter the shop yourself. Now that you can enter the shop again, you'll be able to see the extent of our lovely new stock! We are indebted to our local suppliers and continue to be most grateful to them for supplying fresh bread, eggs, cakes, honey, salad leaves, herbs and vegetables, beer and cider. As summer has arrived, there's a regular supply of local fresh fruit as well, of course. As for the dried goods...we've rarely been out of flour, pasta or sugars!

The Post Office has also been open every weekday with reduced hours, thanks to our brilliant volunteers, and has been constantly in demand, which is good to know.

Sadly, our Café has been closed since late March, of course, and we miss our manager and the lovely smells of baking and coffee emanating for the

kitchen. We also miss our regular social gatherings in the Café and the customers and friends who we have got to know over a cuppa and cake or a bacon sandwich. We look forward to being able to operate the Café in some capacity as soon as possible and are looking for feedback from our customers at the moment to help us plan ahead. As you read this, there should be simple questionnaires available in the shop for customers to take away and complete. We have been thrilled with the generous response of the community since we became a collection point for *Worcester Food Bank*, on behalf of our parish churches. It's an initiative which we certainly plan to continue for the foreseeable future.

Finally, we are trying to make the community shop, and information about what's going on there, as accessible as possible to everyone in the community. Do keep an eye on our *Facebook* page (Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop) which is updated regularly for all the latest news. Please do share with others and leave comments too (nice ones, of course!). Our website ([www.alfrickshop.co.uk](http://www.alfrickshop.co.uk)) has also been undergoing a transformation and, while still a work in progress, we urge you to take a look at it and find out more about our values, services, history and hopes for the future. We're most grateful to our IT volunteers for their work on this. If you wish to contact the shop, you can do so by phoning 01886 832362 or by emailing [alfrickshop@gmail.com](mailto:alfrickshop@gmail.com) or by leaving a message on Facebook.

So, do come and see us! We look forward to welcoming you, as always, and providing the services you need.

Best wishes from the shop

**Vicky Gatley**, Volunteer

## **WORCESTER FOODBANK NEEDS YOUR HELP TO HELP OTHERS**

### **Coronavirus emergency list**

Tinned potatoes

UHT 1 litre fruit juice

1 litre UHT milk

Cracker biscuits

Fray Bentos meat pies etc

Tinned meat - ham, spam, corned beef,

**Extras:** Tomato sauce, Brown sauce, Mayonnaise, Cooking oil

Shampoo, Deodorants, Washing Powder (small), Toilet Rolls, Shower gel/soap for men, Anti-bac Spray, Shaving foam and razors, Nappies sizes 5 & 6.

**Please place your food donations, wherever they have been purchased, into the basket outside Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop from where they will regularly be taken to the Foodbank.**

**Rev Anne Potter** [revannepotter@gmail.com](mailto:revannepotter@gmail.com)

(Non-perishable foods are welcome, including bars of chocolate)

Smash

Cooking sauces for rice and pasta

Sandwich paste

Peanut butter

Jam

Tinned fruit - single fruit such as oranges, grapefruit etc

Sponge puddings

Coffee (small jars)

Rice pudding, tinned custard

Tinned spaghetti, e.g., Hoops,

etc.

## Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Normally this would be a report from the May meeting of the Parish Council, but the virus shut-down has led to the cancellation of the last three parish council meetings. The Council is now practising using ZOOM software to provide video conferencing and plans to hold the meeting using this on **23 July**.

The council's accounts for the last financial year have been confirmed by the external auditor and will be available for viewing after the July meeting. A notice will be put on our website with the dates and times they are available: <https://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/> then click on Alfrick.

**Planning and Environmental Matters:** The latest



Radar Speed report covering Alfrick and Lulsley for the period 20 April 2020 to 31 May 2020 shows that traffic counts and speeds over 50 mph have reduced

dramatically during lockdown. Some 45% of all measurements show vehicles breaking the 30mph limit, most at about 37mph. The highest speed recorded was at Swan Orchard, over 55mph at 06.35 on 28 May 2020.

\*\*\*\*\*

## A Sad Tale from Garth Lowe

This relates to the nesting attempts of a pied flycatcher which is a migrant bird from North Africa. Last year a pair turned up and used a box at the end of the log pile successfully fledging the brood. All the birds were ringed as I have a licence from the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). These birds are now quite uncommon in the county so it was a wonderful event to take place on our doorstep. This species has nested at the southern end of the Malverns but none appeared to breed there last year.

This year on exactly the same day in April that the male turned up last year, a female arrived, unusual as the male normally selects a site and sings regularly to attract a wife. Last year it was a week before a female arrived. This year she stayed around and in just two days built a nest in the same box still with no signs of a male! The first egg was found on the 30 April and by 6 May six eggs had been laid and a few days later she was incubating them.

Having this bird turn up again, it seemed highly unlikely that another female just chanced upon a desirable box situated in woodland on a slope

## Committee on New Public Facilities

This held a brief ZOOM meeting on 3 June and work is progressing on defining the layout of the new facilities - a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) with enhanced tennis court, a children's play area and adult exercise facilities on the Playing Field.

## Emergency Help for those in quarantine due to the Coronavirus pandemic

We are continuing to provide help for those in difficult circumstances and have dealt with requests for some help and information. Anyone needing support should contact the clerk who will arrange for help to be available.

## Lulsley Broadband Project

Together with Cllr R Ashton the clerk has discussed this with the *Openreach* area manager and is close to defining those who will get a new fibre to the premises (FTTP) in Lulsley. If you are not in touch with the clerk on this and want to enjoy faster broadband now is the time to sign up before the list closes.

Please contact Geoffrey Brewin (Clerk to the Council) and Richard Ashton (Councillor):

[geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com](mailto:geoffreybrewin@waitrose.com)

01886 821386 or 0789 0023 24

[r.a.ashton10@gmail.com](mailto:r.a.ashton10@gmail.com)

01886 821340 or 0787 9651 583

typical of the hilly west of Britain, where they are more common. As they are quite small and active



when out in the trees seeing if there was a ringed leg was too difficult to establish. Still no signs of a mate but there was a slight chance she had strayed and found one to fertilise her eggs and as the males can be bigamous this was a possibility. The suspense and fingers crossing for the next two weeks occupied our thoughts. By Sunday 23 May it looked very doubtful a hatching would take place so the bird was carefully lifted and checked. Sure enough it was the same bird as last year. She was placed back again and continued to sit till 29<sup>th</sup> but seemed to be spending more time off the eggs! She was last seen on the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup> sitting in the box, but by early morning she had slipped away as quietly away as she had arrived.

**Elaine Kite** is the **Citizens Advice** Community Liaison Volunteer for Alfrick, contact 01886 884435, or email: [elainekite@btinternet.com](mailto:elainekite@btinternet.com)

Elaine can discuss your enquiry, clarify your concerns and refer on to CAB for specific advice. So do please get in touch.



## Busy Bees

There is always something going on in the countryside! Recently we were in the garden when I was amazed to see the air was full (and I mean full) of insects flying around. I could hear them buzzing, and realised it was a swarm of bees. They began to settle in our crab apple tree, and about half an hour later had gathered into a swarm about 15" long and 12" diameter hanging from a branch. We phoned a neighbour who keeps bees, for advice, and later he came round with his bee-keeping outfit and equipment. He explained that a colony of bees had probably become very big and split, so part of it had flown off to find another home, most likely with the old queen. The bees were calm and non-aggressive as they were just looking for a new house.



With his bee-keeping protection on he puffed some powder over the bees to keep them calm, then cut off the small branch to which the

swarm had attached itself. He put the bit of branch and the swarm in a large cardboard box which he put on the ground. He then left it for about ten minutes as the bees still flying round went into the box to be with the swarm - quite amazing but they have a 'herd instinct'. When most of them were in the box he taped it up, collected all his equipment and put the box of bees on the back seat of his car.



He thought there were about 15,000 bees in this swarm and when I asked what he would do with them and he said that he could add them to his hives at home. This was fascinating to watch - but neither of us has ever seen bees swarm before. I was relieved our neighbour drove the short way home still wearing his protective clothing, just in case any bees escaped in the car!

*Daphne Fowler*

## More bits and pieces from the wildlife world around and about

While sitting at the PC I'm looking jealously at the large cherry tree outside my window loaded with ripening but diminishing numbers of big juicy red cherries. The tree is currently a huge food source; sadly not for us - we're left with not-quite-ripe ones. All manner of animals have been feasting: - female blackbirds feeding cherries to their young on the ground, males carrying away cherries from high up and noisily trying to defend them from other males. Likewise with crows and magpies. Further within the tree and on the rambling rose branches, various tits have been hopping around feeding on aphids. Underneath on the ground, we've also seen at least three squirrels and a rat enjoying the feast, and unseen overnight there is badger evidence and of our resident hedgehog. It's been a good year for young birds being fed by their parents at our peanut and seed feeders: large numbers of blue tits, great tits, goldfinches, house sparrows, robin and a first for us, two nut hatches feeding a juvenile.

The warmth and now the rain have encouraged more butterflies, moths and of course aphids - blackfly again on our broad beans competing with us for food, and plenty of red and black ants emerging from tiny holes dotted about our lawn, along cracks in paving slabs and from large

mounds in the rough grass around the garden. The tops of these anthills in wildflower meadows often have different grasses and plants from the surrounding meadow, usually small rock-type plants adapted to drier warmer, sandier places. Back to moths: on our unmowed grass verge (saved from the flail mower) earlier, in April we saw scarlet tiger moth caterpillars munching comfrey leaves and very recently, the moths themselves including a couple mating on the leaves. These strikingly colourful moths are similar in size to medium-sized butterflies, having iridescent blackish or navy-blue wings with cream, yellow and red blotches when at rest, opening in flight to reveal bright scarlet. In our garden, to my dismay I observed the now annual destruction of most of the Solomon's seal leaves by vast numbers of smallish grey caterpillar-like larvae of the Solomon's seal sawfly; at least they don't kill the plant. Walking along our lanes I have been looking for long stretches of grey, silky webbing protecting ermine moth caterpillars eating their way through hedgerow hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle and other leaves; again the hedges recover. Look out for these strange massive webs. The attractive silky ermine-like small moths emerge later in the summer.

*Carol Bradley*

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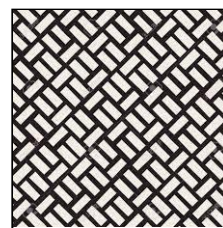
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# Suckley: St John the Baptist Church



**Suckley Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS) is setting up a Crowd Funding Page with *Spacehive* to support better the socially isolated of Suckley. Look out your old iPad - it could be very useful!**

With help from the Parish Council the GNS will produce a new-generation GNS info folder for every household. Local businesses and other useful local contacts please dream up an A5 size flier to be enclosed in our new folder, and these folders will be distributed to every household.

We are at present also working on a digital support system, using a small 'bank' of old but usable iPads to lend to those who don't yet have digital connectivity. We have a handful of 'Digital Champions' to support and enable the lonely and socially isolated to connect with local life via an iPad - like the local 'church services' that can be watched with YouTube. SO:

- Look out your old iPads for us please
- Join the Digital Champions. The training is online DIY, free and very useful. The useful responsive **Platform** support line is there to help too. See: [www.digital-champion.co.uk](http://www.digital-champion.co.uk)
- Email [suckleygns@gmail.com](mailto:suckleygns@gmail.com) and let us know how you'd like to be part of this rewarding Suckley asset for the vulnerable.

## Suckley Good Neighbour Scheme says, "Keep alert" and "THANK YOU"!

We're here to help on **01886 840480** and [suckleygns@gmail.com](mailto:suckleygns@gmail.com) on Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm. It is thanks to the many new Volunteers that a lot of stay-home folk have their *Suckley PO* shopping brought to their door regularly at present. Julian and Mark now have lots of fresh fruit and veg, as well as their usual stock. If you would like an order delivered or put by to collect, please phone the GNS on **01886 840480** between 10.00am and 1.00pm Monday to Friday for delivery after 5.00pm



**01886 840480**

the next day. *Knightwick butchers'* meat orders deadline is 1.00pm on Tuesdays!!

**Suckley Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS)** is available to Suckley residents, and our volunteers will try to help if someone is in need of assistance. In these present challenging times, it could be that someone would appreciate a phone call, maybe for advice, or even just a friendly chat on the phone. Several volunteers have been trained by *South Worcestershire Citizens Advice*, and all our regular volunteers have been screened by the *Disclosure and Barring Service*. So please be alert to those living nearby, and if you feel it appropriate remind them that the **Good Neighbour Scheme is here to help on 01886 840480** and [suckleygns@gmail.com](mailto:suckleygns@gmail.com)

## Suckley Community Car Scheme

This voluntary service covers all residents of Suckley who need transport to local medical appointments, or to take or collect prescriptions to or from Knightwick Surgery. Drivers are:

Caroline Mitchell: 884070; Rosemary Harward: 832289; Jill Hammonds: 884221

Please start phoning from the left and give as much time as possible.

Our drivers reserve the right to refuse any request that they think to be inappropriate.



Throughout this edition of *The Sphere*, you can find various quotations by Albert Schweitzer which can be particularly appropriate for these present times. They have been kindly provided by Anne Lewis.

*"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."*

## Broadwas Croquet Club: Lawns Update

Is it really only a few months since we were worrying about our water-logged lawns and wondering when we'd be able to start dealing with the moss and preparing the lawns for the new Croquet Season? Then suddenly, out of the blue, we had to apply the brakes, lock up the pavilion, close the lawns and ride out the ensuing storm.

Could we find a way to keep our furloughed lawns in reasonable shape whilst making sure we took a safety-first approach to lockdown? With invaluable financial support from two generous local Parish Councils, we were able to identify and fund a specialist gardening contractor, Martin Warefield of Lower Broadheath who agreed to cut our lawns and the outfield under the watchful eye of our lawns guru, John Steel. This has paid huge dividends in that we've wasted no time over the past few weeks in preparing our lawns for play as soon as the *Ministry for Sport* and our own Governing Body, the *Croquet Association* deemed it safe to do so. Members are now entitled to play both singles and doubles, but with strict rules in place including proper distancing and copious hand-sanitizing points located around the ground. We're beginning to feel the Club coming alive

again though league games and internal competitions remain on hold for the time being.

So, if you were thinking of coming up to the ground, don't worry. It won't be long before we've knocked the lawns into shape, particularly with a bit more rain, so we can smooth out any winter lumps and bumps. Then we can get back to winning tournaments and extending a warm welcome to prospective new members to join us in playing what is, arguably, the happiest, healthiest and certainly one of the most enjoyable sports in the country. We'll bring you news of when we can invite new members to join the Club just as soon as possible as well as the reduced cost of subscriptions for the remainder of the season. Meanwhile, thanks again to the two local Parish Councils for their timely and generous contributions: we couldn't have done it without you.

If you'd like some preliminary information, please contact our Club Secretary, John Guy on 01905 748192 and he'll be happy to explain where we stand currently on membership and playing facilities.



\*\*\*\*\*

## Pickers Wanted

**Stocks Farm** is recruiting for the 2020 apple harvest from the **end of August to the middle of October** and you could help. We harvest nearly 6.4 million of dessert apples, 540 tonnes of cider apples and enough hops to brew 46 million pints of beer from our 200 acre farm. We are in beautiful countryside with rolling hills and gorgeous views in the middle of the village of Suckley, Worcestershire. Everyone is very friendly and welcoming and if you like beer, there are a couple of local pubs, and a working brewery, here on the farm!

We work hard throughout the year to grow and supply the very best apples and hops in the industry, maintaining a strong partnership with our retailers and breweries is high on our agenda. We are members of the *Assured Food Standards* and compliance with audits is all part of our daily life.

Do you have the same drive and ambition and wish to receive a good salary for your hard work? We are looking for **apple pickers** for the 2020 apple harvest.

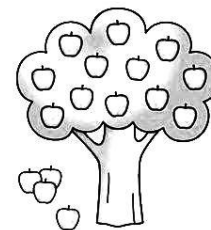
If you are on a Gap year, are a university student or if you are just looking for some part-time work, and/or want to work hard to get cash in the bank, then this will suit you.

Please contact Jo Williams on [jo@stocksfarm.net](mailto:jo@stocksfarm.net), or call 01886 884202 to discuss the job in more detail.

### Apple Picker Requirements:

- good communication skills
- works well as part of team
- ability to work long hours with a degree of flexibility to cope with changing weather conditions
- ability to follow policies and procedures
- an eye for detail for quality fruit
- good level of physical fitness

For more information and all details on pay, hours of work and everything else you need to know about working here please call **Jo Williams on 01886 884 202 or [jo@stocksfarm.net](mailto:jo@stocksfarm.net)**  
Closing Date: 31 July 2020



## COVID-19 in Low Income countries – Domestos and Lifebuoy to the rescue!



Our news is full of COVID-19, and the mood is one of optimism here in the UK. In Africa and other Low-Income Countries, the mood is one of fear of this strange plague about which rumours abound. “Is it true you can cure the virus with black tea?” “Would it help to burn certain roots and inhale the smoke?” A [Medair](#) Volunteer was pleased to find that explaining about correct hand washing and not shaking hands or gathering in

groups lifted the mood and people felt more confident because they could easily do those things.

The spread of COVID-19 has increased the sense of fear in communities, particularly in resource limited settings. Hand washing is a key component to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but in low income countries access to hand washing is limited. <https://doi.org/10.1289/EHP7200> and there is a high correlation between the risk of dying from COVID-19 and poor access to safe drinking water and safe sanitation. <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.06.08.20125864v1>

The recent headline *DfID merges with the Foreign Office* could be a tragedy for low income countries and for the UK – *DfID* has been a world leader in the fight against poverty and in seeking vaccines for Covid and many preventable diseases. The CEO of [Oxfam UK](#) said, “It is scarcely believable that at a time when decades of progress are under threat from COVID-19, the prime minister has decided to scrap *DfID* – a world leader in the fight against poverty.” CEO of [Bond](#), representing international development organisations said, “Scrapping *DfID* now puts the international response to COVID-19 in jeopardy and, at a time when we need global cooperation, risks a resurgence of the disease both abroad and here in the UK.”

Here is a link to see *DfID*’s current projects: [DfID website](#)

- For example this one being led by *Unilever*’s *Domestos* bleach and *Lifebuoy* soap, which have been driving large scale hygiene behaviour change programmes for decades.

The programme will reach up to a billion people worldwide, raising awareness and changing behaviour, to make sure people are washing their hands with soap regularly and disinfecting surfaces.

It is backed by funding of £50 million each from the Department for International Development (DfID) and *Unilever*. The programme will provide over 20 million hygiene products in the developing world, including in areas where there is little or no sanitation.

Such support is vital to stop the spread of the disease in the developing world and will also limit its further potential spread in the UK. Tackling the disease in developing countries will also reduce its potential future impact on the global economy and travel.

How can we help practically? [Toilet Twinning](#) helps directly. By “twinning” your toilet YOU are providing the funds to set up a sanitation project in the area of your chosen toilet providing not only the toilet but hand washing facilities and training ([TearFund](#) is the partner organisation setting up the [projects](#) ).



For more information contact **Anne Lewis** ([annelewis@doctors.org.uk](mailto:annelewis@doctors.org.uk)).

## Conquest Theatre, Bromyard, Background Continued



As the theatre construction continued, gradually it started to look, to us, something like a theatre. In reality it was just a bare shell, no fixtures or fittings of any sort. We had an open day so people could come along and see

what it may be like and didn't really expect many to come along, but one bright chilly Sunday around 250 people came to see us. They were taken in groups around the building and offered hot drinks at the end! This was six months before we finally opened the doors for the first night performance.

Now the members started to get busy, decorating and doing all manner of jobs. We had a brilliant electrical person who designed and made the entire stage lighting rig and spent hours threading cables here and there from the control room to the stage. We had local man to design and build the metal frame that is over the stage that supports the lighting, and carries the tracks for the various stage drapes. He also designed and built a brilliant spiral staircase that allows access from the control room to the stage and although he had never made one before it fitted perfectly and still to this day is as good as new. Stage drapes were made by another local man from *Finishing Touches*. But carpeting; now there's another thing!

The carpet that is in the theatre is the original and wearing remarkably well considering the number of feet that have walked over it. *Brinton's Carpets* in Kidderminster supplied it and it was apparently an "end of roll" carpet from that designed for a cruise ship - no wonder it has lasted!

The auditorium was completed first to enable the seats to be installed. This was done by a professional company - who had taken the 100 seats from the original *Conquest Theatre*, re-covered them, and then found a further 50 that were made in a similar period and refurbished them. Meanwhile the time was drawing ever nearer to the opening of the theatre. The first play was being rehearsed on the stage, amidst all the noise and mess of construction and fitting out.

Finally the opening night was here, but in the hours before, just like the old tin shed theatre, "decoration" was still taking place!

Then with just two hours to spare all of us dashed off to get changed and ready for the opening performance.

Tuesday 10 December 1991, a misty and cold evening, but an auspicious date as it was the opening night of the new *Conquest Theatre*.

Audience members were offered champagne and a happy atmosphere ensued with high expectations of the opening production which was a comedy entitled *Out of Focus*. Suffice to say it was a sell out and a big success. Such a contrast to the old tin shed that we had before. But we still hold very fond memories of that building that started us on the road to what we have today.

\*\*\*\*\*

The next Suckley Parish Council Meeting is to take place on Monday **13 July** at 7.30pm via **Zoom**

**DIANA TAYLOR, Clerk to Suckley Parish Council, email: dtaylorsuckleyclerk@gmail.com**

## Pottering

*(With many thanks to Elaine Drage for this timely contribution)*

How sweet it is to potter -  
Be busy but at rest -  
To stand or stroll or totter  
About the little nest  
And do a simple job or two  
That you have meant for months to do -  
Move some books from here to there,  
Paint a table, mend a chair  
Or nail that carpet on the stair -  
How sweet it is to potter.

How sweet it is to potter  
Like rabbits in a wood-  
One doesn't feel a rotter  
For one is doing good.  
How thrilling when the fit begins -  
The hunt for nails or drawing pins -  
How lovely when the job is done  
To contemplate another one  
And when it can't be found, what fun -  
How sweet it is to potter.

How sweet it is to potter  
At any idle chore  
When lying on the blotter  
Are letters by the score?  
And while one sweeps or mows the sward  
The telephone should be ignored -  
Yes - when you hear that horrid bell  
Just sweep another leaf and yell  
"I'm pottering - you go to hell!"

How sweet it is to potter.

*Ken Halsted*



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# Leigh and Bransford

## ST.EDBURGA, LEIGH

The Churches have been in lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic. No church services have been held, but other means of worship being provided via [wvrt.churchinsight.com](http://wvrt.churchinsight.com) or Facebook page: [worcesterwestruralteam](https://www.facebook.com/worcesterwestruralteam)

The format of the pewsheets has been changed and gives more details of all that the wvrt team are doing. Contact Alison Khan on [leighrectory@outlook.com](mailto:leighrectory@outlook.com) or phone her on 07984 748059 if you want to be put on the email distribution list.



\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Edburga, Leigh Events

Sadly we have been unable to have our Sunday afternoon cream teas in the churchyard here in Leigh. Coronavirus has meant both the Tithe Barn & St Edburga have been closed. We would love to think that we might be able to serve teas for a few Sundays through the summer months. Until then, keep safe.

Jean & the Tea Team.

### Parish Worship

Even though we are not able to meet with you in person the clergy are available at the end of a telephone line so please feel free to contact us:

Rev Anne Potter (Team Vicar) 01886 832355 [revannepotter@gmail.com](mailto:revannepotter@gmail.com)

Rev Jen Denniston 01886 853280 [jendenniston@gmail.com](mailto:jendenniston@gmail.com)

If you have an administration query please contact Alison Khan on 07984 748059 or [leighrectory@outlook.com](mailto:leighrectory@outlook.com)

We are also offering worship through our youtube [wvrtlivestream](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvrtlivestream) as well as keeping you informed through the website [www.wvrt.churchinsight.com](http://www.wvrt.churchinsight.com) and A Church Near You.

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Leigh and District Gardeners' Club

As of course I am sure you would all expect, our July visit to Pear Tree Cottage in May visit is off. However, it is lovely to see that some of you are sharing your questions and beautiful photos of your gardens or daily exercise in our local area on our Facebook page. We welcome all members to join this. If Facebook isn't an option, please don't hesitate to keep in contact by email. We would be pleased to receive any questions, points of interest and photographs, we will forward any that you wish with other members. One question I have, does anybody know how to deter moles from my raised beds??

Please take care and stay safe,

Marian and Steven Kent.

\*\*\*\*\*

### \*\*Citizens Advice - Community Liaison

**Lillian Somerville** is your **Citizens Advice** Community Liaison Volunteer for Leigh, Bransford and Leigh Sinton. You can contact her by phone (**01886 833526**) or email ([lillian@aubretiacottage.org.uk](mailto:lillian@aubretiacottage.org.uk))



**Leigh & Bransford W.I.**

Although Leigh & Bransford W.I. because of the Covid 19 virus has been unable to have meetings or sub group meetings quite a number of us have been keeping in touch by email.

Denise who runs our Embroidery and Knitting Group has been emailing photos of some of the work she has completed which include two pairs of socks and a couple of cross stitch patterns. A few in the group emailed photos of projects they were starting or that had been outstanding and now had been completed.

Roy who teaches our Art Group has been very keen to keep those in the group focused on producing some work. He suggested that we could look at Fauvism artists and Pointillism painting technique as inspiration. He has been sending us regular emails to chivvy us along and also to show us how he is progressing with his own painting projects. We have been sharing with the group our own efforts, always receiving positive feedback from Roy.

Book Club members have arranged a socially distanced garden meeting next week to discuss which books everyone has been reading.

Ann has been sending out a monthly Quiz for us all to have a go at. These have been great fun and quite challenging too.

We are looking forward to the time when our W.I can meet up again.

Shelagh Willis, Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

**Leigh & Bransford Parish Council**

Thank you again to all the volunteers that stepped forward to support the community Covid-19 response. Several volunteers are now kindly picking up litter whilst out on their daily walks – a very welcome contribution to keeping the parish tidy, especially after the postponement of our annual parish litter pick. Please let us know if you would be interested in doing this in your local patch - we would be happy to provide the necessary equipment.

Please contact the chairman on 01886 833844.

Road resurfacing is due to take place between the Bank House roundabout and Leigh over the coming weeks. Please take extra care and be mindful of pedestrians and other road users when driving on this stretch of road, particularly as we gradually come out of lockdown and there are more cars on the road and people out and about. Our two VASs are also now fully operational which we hope will also help to slow down traffic at key locations.

Over recent days we have seen some very heavy and persistent rain, which has highlighted locations with drainage problems. We have reported those we know about, but would be grateful if residents could let us know of any problem areas they are aware of. We are also in peak growing season, so would ask that people kindly keep an eye on their trees and hedges and make sure they are not obstructing the road or footway or obscuring visibility.

As Covid-19 restrictions around meetings ongoing, parish council meetings continue to be held virtually by telephone conference. Residents are always welcome to join us, so please get in touch for details of how to participate. Parish council virtual meetings (subject to change – please see noticeboards and website for arrangements) are scheduled for 28th July, 22nd September & 24th November at 7.00pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

“In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.”

*Albert Schweitzer*

**CORONAVIRUS – COVID-19**  
**LATEST UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE LEIGH AND BRANSFORD**  
**MEMORIAL HALL: JULY 2020**

**1. The latest situation – some limited reopening of the Hall may be possible in July subject to strict hygiene regimes and social-distancing conditions being in place**

At the time of writing (mid-June) the Hall Trustees expect Step 3 of the UK Government’s plan to get back to normal (called *Our Plan To Rebuild*) will allow for village halls to reopen (subject to strict conditions being in place) from Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July. The Trustees are currently working through the guidance and requirements to conduct the necessary risk assessments and adjustments needed to ensure compliance. *However, it is already clear that with no immediate change likely to reduce the social distancing 2 metre rule, hires for more crowded events such as parties, wedding receptions and other informal social gatherings will not be permitted until later.* We already know that for many of our regular groups, especially those designed for young children like Brownies and Rainbows, or attended by older and retired people, their meetings will recommence only when a greater level of public confidence returns about safely mixing indoors with others outside their ‘bubble’. And this may be some, indeed many, months off.

That said, the Trustees are busy understanding and making the necessary preparations in order to comply with the stringent reopening conditions. The work involved suggests that it is unlikely the Hall will be ready to open on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July but the Trustees hope to be ready for some limited re-opening – subject to revised conditions of hire being in place – later in the month.

We will continue to provide updates about our timetable for reopening the Hall and on the revised conditions of hire caused by Covid-19, on the homepage of our website :

[www.leighandbransfordhall.co.uk](http://www.leighandbransfordhall.co.uk)

You can also contact us by email at [info@leighandbransfordhall.co.uk](mailto:info@leighandbransfordhall.co.uk) with any hire or other Hall-related queries you may have.

**2. 1<sup>st</sup> Leigh Scouts’ new 25-year lease now in place**

In spite of the difficulties and disruptions Covid-19 has caused to business as usual, I am delighted to report that the Hall’s solicitors have now completed the work on drafting the new 25-year lease for 1<sup>st</sup> Leigh Scouts’ continued and exclusive use of a portion of the Hall’s land. Timely completion of the lease was important not only to formalise and secure their tenancy until 2045, but also because being in possession of the new lease now enables them to trigger the next stage in their plans to build brand new facilities on the plot. As trustees we wish them, the leaders, volunteers and members every success in their new enterprise. Having had sight of their plans, we know how the new build will benefit and inspire all the girls and boys, and all the young women and young men who currently belong to 1<sup>st</sup> Leigh Scouts – and all those who will follow them down the years. A small sign of renewed hope and optimism for a new and brighter future post Covid-19.

Once again, thank you all for your continuing support and please, stay safe!

Jon Gamble  
Chair of Trustees of the Leigh and Bransford Memorial Hall

\*\*\*\*\*

“The only way out of today's misery is for people to become worthy of each other's trust.”

*Albert Schweitzer*



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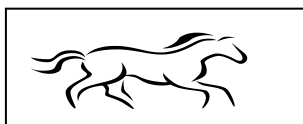
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# VILLAGE INFORMATION

STD 01886

## ALFRICK-w-LULSLEY

Website at - <http://www.alfrickandlulsley.org/parishcouncil>

VILLAGE HALL Booking on line at [www.alfrickandlulsley.org](http://www.alfrickandlulsley.org) or for information and advice email [info@timesaversconcerge.co.uk](mailto:info@timesaversconcerge.co.uk) or phone Adrian Biggs at 01905 312456

PARISH COUNCIL - 4th Thursday 7.30 pm.	Clerk Mr.Geoffrey Brewin	821386
RVS THURSDAY CLUB - Alt Thursdays 2.00 pm	Contact Mrs.Newitt	884784
RVS Representative	Mrs J.Cooper	832444
AGE UK	Contact Brenda Collins	833358
ALFRICK PLAYERS	Contact Alan Soper	832354
PILATES GROUP - Village Hall Tues 5&6 pm email sallyp88@btinternet	Sally Porter	821654
W.I. - 2nd Wed at 7.30 pm.	President Carol Boughton	884210
ALFRICK & LULSLEY SHOW - 3rd Monday 8.00 pm	Contacts Linda Fishwick and Anne Potter	832617 832355
TENNIS CLUB - Membership.	Dympna Jardine, 4 Crews Hill Court, Alfrick	830085
GARDENERS' CLUB - 3rd Thursday.	Mrs.Marion Kent	832537
TABLE TENNIS – Mondays 6.00 to 9.30 pm	Contact Richard Steele 821777 Sue Adams	830190
COMMUNITY CHOIR	Contact Keith Bramwich <a href="http://www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com">www.alfrickcommunitychoir.com</a>	07771600776

## LEIGH & BRANSFORD

Website at <http://www.leighandbransford.org.uk>

MEMORIAL HALL - Booking & Keys:	<a href="http://www.leighandbransfordhall.co.uk">www.leighandbransfordhall.co.uk</a>	
HALL COMMITTEE - Memorial Hall 7.30 pm 3rd Tuesday in January then every other month.		
AGM 3rd Tuesday in May. Chair: Jon Gamble - <a href="mailto:j_e_gamble@hotmail.com">j_e_gamble@hotmail.com</a>		
PARISH COUNCIL - Memorial Hall 7.30 pm 4th Tues in Jan, March, May, July, Sept, Nov		
Clerk to Council Mrs.Jackie Barker 114 Fruitlands, Malvern WR14 4XB		01684 567674
Footpath Warden	Gary Mellor	288370
PRESCHOOL Sherridge Road Leigh Sinton Open 8.30 to 3 pm	Katie Wiggins	07854 477445
W.I. - Memorial Hall 1st Tuesdays - 7.30 pm	President Mrs Angela Dancer	833737
BOWLS (Indoor) Memorial Hall - Mondays 7.30pm-9.30 pm	Mrs.C.Hall	832650
Knit & Natter - Royal Oak 2-4 pm last Thursday of the month		
MALVERN MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE L/S	<a href="http://www.malvernmarialarts.co.uk">www.malvernmarialarts.co.uk</a>	833033
TAE KWON DO Weds 6.30 -7.30 pm.	Julian Burton	07770 822033 833033
BOXFIT/CIRCUITS/WING CHUN/TAI CHI/QIGONG Kev		07725 161178 830175
PILATES - Tuesdays 9 - 10am	Di Fox	07775 795670
BranchesDayOpportunities 10am–3pm Mon-Fri	<a href="mailto:jesshibbert@hotmail.com">jesshibbert@hotmail.com</a>	07572 398095 833382
SCOUT HUT 1st LEIGH SCOUTS		
Explorer Scouts Thurs 7.00-9.00 pm (14-18)	Stuart Diplock	880078
Scouts Fri 7.00-9.00 pm (10-14)	Matthew Cooper	884277
Cubs Tues 6.45-8.15 pm (8-10)	June Etheridge	01905 425793
Beavers Wed 5.30 - 6.45 pm (6-8)	Joanne King	833925
1st LEIGH GUIDES Mondays 7.30-9.00 pm	Mrs.Valda Cane	833115
BROWNIES - 1st Leigh - Wednesdays 6.00 - 7.15 pm	Mrs Kaye James	832304
RAINBOWS - Thursdays 6.00 - 7.00 pm	Ann Osborne	833480
AGE UK	Contact Margaret Hamilton	833412
WREKIN SPIRITUAL CAFE 1st Wed 11am - 1pm	Contact Clair McDonald	884888
LEIGH & BRANSFORD BADGERS FC - Senior Coach Bosko Medakovic		07979 725196
LEIGH & BRANSFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL	Head Mr Stuart Bill	832342

## SUCKLEY

Website at <http://www.suckley.net>

VILLAGE HALL	Keys/booking	Steve Boughton	884210
PARISH COUNCIL	Clerk Mrs Diana Taylor		01684 569430
SUCKLEY PLAYING FIELDS	All weather pitch for football or tennis.		
	Bookings:	Mr C Luton	884558
	Two Football Pitches	Mrs C Luton	884558
	Skateboard Area	Mr P Beaumont	884550
SUCKLEY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY	Contact Nessa Haworth		884383
LADIES KEEP FIT Tuesdays 11-12 noon	Carol Boughton		884210
BELL RINGING - 1st, 2nd, 4th Weds 7.30-9.00 pm	Captain Mrs Linda Taylor		884280
SUCKLEY SCHOOL	Church Lane	Headmistress Mrs Sheila Marshall	884283
GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME			840480
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Leigh & District Branch	Contact Shirley Tasker		832669
	Last Friday in March, July, September and November at 2.30 pm in the Bear & Ragged Staff		
WEST MERCIA CONSTABULARY	Emergency 999	Other matters	0300 333 3000
	PC 3381 Sarah Ransome-Williams CSO 6494 Tracey Caldwell CSO 6481 Collin Davies		
	Local Policing Team Kempsey/Alfrick based at Upton Police Station		



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Mon to Fri 10.00am – 4.00pm  
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k Holidays 10.00am – 1.00pm  
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Facebook: Alfrick and Lulsley Community Shop

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